

Decision under Delegated Powers

Officer Requesting Decision

Tracey Stone, Project Manager Cleansing and Open Spaces

Officer Making the Decision

Matthew Bradford, Head of Cleansing and Open Spaces

Recommendation

To remove the provision of Bring sites managed by the Council at the earliest opportunity; this is estimated to be September 2018.

Reason

The collection of recycling from Bring sites is a repetition of service provided by the doorstep collection of recycling materials.

The savings made by removing this service would offset some of the lost income associated with the implementation of the Recycling Credits Direction Notice received from LCC.

Bring sites can attract fly-tipping through residents using the locations to dispose of non-target materials. This can make bring sites unsightly locations within our communities.

Commercial waste producers are thought to use the Bring Sites to dispose of their waste illegitimately, rather than through compliant methods.

Authority for Decision

Section 8.3 of the Constitution gives delegated authority to manage the Council's refuse collection, recycling and street cleansing contract and undertake associated fleet management responsibilities.

Decision and Date

APPROVED



14/6/2018

MATT BRADFORD
HEAD OF CLEANSING AND OPEN SPACES

Background

The Council provides 70 Bring sites across the Borough where residents can take recycling and reusable materials. Some of the sites are Council owned while the rest are privately owned and host recycling banks at the request of the Council.

These sites have historically offered additional recycling facilities to households including paper/cardboard, glass and can banks.

The Council received a Recycling Credits Direction Notice from LCC on 8th September 2017 detailed in the Cabinet report of the 19th October 2017. The motivation for this change is to offset some of the loss of income from the Direction Notice.

Whilst exploring options for savings within the existing Environmental Services Contract it was found that the removal of the operational element of two Tasks (Emptying and Cleansing of Bring Sites – Task 13 and Task 19) from the current contract wouldn't have a negative impact on the service provision.

All items currently collected from Bring Sites are accepted as part of the fortnightly doorstep collections, making this a duplication in provision of service. It is anticipated that the impact of removing the Bring sites will not be significant for residents.

The provision of bring sites is a discretionary service and kerbside recycling collection provided by the Council satisfy current regulations for the provision of services.

Following clause 22.1.2 of the contract, which requires the contractor to provide an estimated revised cost for the changes requested, Serco came back with a saving of £19,640 per annum based on the operational costs. Any other costs associated with these Tasks will be reallocated to the rest of the contract Tasks. This proposal has been verified by the Head of Service.

The Council will communicate the changes to residents through its normal channels like the local press and through social media. Signage at bring site locations will give residents 28 days' notice prior to the removal of the site. Enhanced street cleansing will take place for 28 days following the removal of the bring sites to account for any materials left after the removal of the bring banks.

Financial Implications

The removal of the operational element of this service through the current contract will achieve a saving of £19,640 per annum. The saving for 2018/19 is estimated to be £11,457 based on the implementation timescales.

Risk Management

Risk Identified	Likelihood	Impact	Risk Management Actions Planned
Increase in fly tipping	Possible	Moderate	Information will be provided at sites where banks are removed advising of alternative recycling options. Regular inspection/ cleansing of the areas affected will be arranged for 1 month after removal
Decreased recycling levels	Unlikely	Insignificant	Affected recycling materials are collected as part of the fortnightly kerbside collection service.
Increase in customer complaints	Possible	Minor	The provision of bring sites is a discretionary service and a kerbside recycling collection service is provided by the Council.

Key Decision:

Yes

Date included on Forward Plan

16th May 2018

Background Papers:

None