

Cabinet – 22 April 2009

Contracts for Treatment, Recovery and Final Disposal of Municipal Waste Contract and Household Waste Recycling Centres & Transfer Station

Portfolio: Councillor Rachel Walker, Environment

Service: Street Pride

Wards: All

Key decision: Yes

Forward plan: Yes

1. Summary of report

This report is to inform members of the need to re-tender Walsall's existing arrangements for waste disposal.

Contracts were awarded in January and March 2006 for the disposal, treatment and re-processing of Walsall's waste along with the management of the household waste recycling centres and transfer station.

Contracts were awarded for a term of five years with the opportunity to extend contracts for up to a further three years.

The official end date for the contracts are 31 March 2011 and, in order to procure future contracts in accordance with Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU) and European procurement rules consideration must now be given to commence the contract tendering procedures to allow sufficient time to prepare, tender and award contracts.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To authorise officers to commence the procurement process for the Treatment, Recovery and Final Disposal of Municipal Waste, and to report back to Cabinet for further decisions as required at key stages of the tendering process.

3. Background information

- 3.1 As a Unitary Authority, Walsall Council has the responsibility for both waste collection and waste disposal. As a Waste Collection Authority (WCA) and Waste Disposal Authority (WDA), Walsall Council has a number of statutory obligations. These include:

- (i) A duty under Section 45 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (EPA 1990) to collect household waste and, if requested, commercial waste within Walsall.
- (ii) Responsibility under Section 48 of the EPA 1990 to arrange and provide places for the disposal of waste collected by Walsall Council within its function as a WDA.

Current arrangements for main disposal streams up to 2011 are as follows:

Landfill	Biffa Waste Management
	Sita
	Cory Environmental
Green Waste Composting	Jack Moody
	Biffa Waste Management
MRF – Materials Recycling Facilities	Greenstar
	Virador

4. Resource considerations

4.1 Financial:

Funding of waste disposal will be reviewed once the outcome of the tendering process is known and this will be reflected in the subsequent report to Cabinet. The preferred contract would have to demonstrate best value for money for the Authority.

4.2 Legal:

Legal and procurement advice will be taken throughout the tendering process to ensure probity. We have established a project team for the contract procurement and sought initial advice from Corporate Procurement and this approach has been agreed with them.

4.3 Staffing:

None arising from this report.

5. Citizen impact

The contracts will enable the council to secure sustainable means of waste disposal and landfill diversion in order to meet national targets and attempt to minimise costs to council tax payers in relation to landfill tax escalations.

6. Community safety

None arising from this report.

7. Environmental impact

Landfill waste produces landfill gases which contribute towards global warming and have significant negative impact upon the environment. Walsall Council is committed to reducing the amount of biodegradable waste sent to landfill. Recycling and composting are very important in meeting the challenge of diverting waste from landfill. The re-tendering of these contracts will enable us to explore more sustainable environmental means of waste disposal for the future.

8. Performance and risk management issues

A decrease in the amount of municipal and household waste is essential as the UK is under a legal obligation under the European Landfill Directive to make a significant reduction in the amount of biodegradable municipal waste (BMW) sent to landfill. LATS came into effect in April 2005 and sets allowances that all Waste Authorities must adhere to or pay fines of £150 per tonne. Walsall needs to seek more sustainable means of waste disposal in order to meet its obligations for the medium term.

Walsall's targets are detailed in below.

Year	Allowance (tonnes allowed to be land filled)
2009	56,218
2010	49,961
2011	43,703
2012	37,445
2013	35,839
2014	34,233
2015	32,627
2016	31,020
2017	29,414
2018	27,808
2019	26,202

9. Equality implications

None arising from this report.

10. Consultation

Initial consultation with all current providers has taken place through contract review meetings and annual price reviews.

Background papers

None.

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Jamie Morris
Executive Director

9 April 2009



Councillor Rachel Walker
Portfolio holder

9 April 2009