



Vibrant and Sustainable City Scrutiny Panel

8 December 2016

Time 6.00 pm **Public Meeting?** YES **Type of meeting** Scrutiny
Venue Committee Room 2 - 3rd Floor - Civic Centre

Membership

Chair Cllr Ian Angus (Lab)
Vice-chair Cllr Christopher Haynes (Con)

Labour	Conservative	UKIP
Cllr Mary Bateman Cllr Val Evans Cllr Bhupinder Gakhal Cllr Keith Inston Cllr John Rowley Cllr Zee Russell Cllr Caroline Siarkiewicz Cllr Tersaim Singh	Cllr Andrew Wynne	Cllr Malcolm Gwinnett

Quorum for this meeting is three Councillors.

Information for the Public

If you have any queries about this meeting, please contact the democratic support team:

Contact Earl Piggott-Smith
Tel/Email Tel: 01902 551251 or earl.piggott-smith@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Address Democratic Support, Civic Centre, 1st floor, St Peter's Square,
Wolverhampton WV1 1RL

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Some items are discussed in private because of their confidential or commercial nature. These reports are not available to the public.

Agenda

Part 1 – items open to the press and public

Item No. *Title*

MEETING BUSINESS ITEMS

- 1 **Apologies**
- 2 **Declarations of interest**
- 3 **Minutes of the previous meeting (29 September 2016)** (Pages 3 - 6)
[To approve the minutes of the previous meeting as a correct record]
- 4 **Matters arising**
[To consider any matter arising from the minutes]

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 5 **Draft Budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2017/18 - 2019/20** (Pages 7 - 16)
[Mark Taylor, Assistant Director Finance, to present report on savings, redesign and income generation proposals in 2017/18]
- 6 **Waste Management Strategy Consultation** (Pages 17 - 42)
[Andy Jervis, Head of Public Protection, to present report on waste management strategy consultation]

Vibrant and Sustainable City Scrutiny Panel

Agenda Item No: 3

Minutes - 29 September 2016

Attendance

Members of the Vibrant and Sustainable City Scrutiny Panel

Cllr Ian Angus (Chair)
Cllr Mary Bateman
Cllr Bhupinder Gakhal
Cllr Christopher Haynes (Vice-Chair)
Cllr Keith Inston
Cllr John Rowley
Cllr Zee Russell
Cllr Caroline Siarkiewicz
Cllr Tersaim Singh
Cllr Andrew Wynne

Employees

Chris Jones	Senior Development Officer
Colin Parr	Head of Governance
Earl Piggott-Smith	Scrutiny Officer
Susan White	Section Leader
Steve Woodward	Head of Service Public Realm

Part 1 – items open to the press and public

Item No. *Title*

1 Apologies

Apologies were received from the following member(s) of the panel:

Cllr Val Evans

2 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest reported.

3 Minutes of the previous meeting (30 June 2016)

Corrections

Cllr Keith Inston apologies were not recorded for the meeting.

That the minutes of the meeting held on 30 June 2016 be approved, subject to the correction, and signed by the Chair.

- 4 **Matters arising**
Cllr Angus queried the late withdrawal of an agenda item for the panel meeting. Colin Parr, Head of Governance, explained that reasons should be given when a report is withdrawn and agreed to contact the relevant employee to provide a response.

Resolved:

Head of Governance to contact service for a reason for the late withdrawal of the report and to advise the panel.

- 5 **Reclamation of Lunt Road/Queen Street Wasteland (next to Bilston Town Football Ground) (Bilston East Ward)**

Cllr Angus advised the panel that the lead petitioner Graham Hodson had given his apologies as he was unable to attend the meeting as planned.

Susan White, Service Lead, briefed the panel about the background to the petition. The Service Lead advised that Council has taken enforcement action against the land owner in response to complaints about fly tipping which had resulted in the site being recently cleared. The Council will continue to monitor the site to check that it is being maintained. The Service Lead advised that the Council were not aware of the specific complaints detailed in the petition before it was submitted.

The public protection team will take appropriate action to investigate complaints. The team continue to have discussions with owner of the land about the site.

The panel were reassured that the public protection team will continue to monitor the situation.

Resolved:

The panel to receive an update report from the service lead in six months on any issues with complaints about the site from residents.

- 6 **Children's Play Area at West Park**

Cllr Angus welcomed the petitioner Ms Montana White and explained that the process would follow the protocol as detailed in Appendix 2 of the meeting papers.

Ms White, petitioner, gave a short introduction to the reasons for submitting a petition about the children's play area at West Park. Ms White explained that she is a member of National Citizen Service and as part of the scheme participants were asked to undertake work that benefits the local community.

The issue of play provision in West Park was highlighted as issue for local parents with disabled children who could not use some of the equipment. Ms White suggested that parents would like to see changes to the play equipment – for example, adding back supports to swings to make it more accessible to more children. In total 113 people signed the petition. The petition was also posted on social media and has had a lot of positive responses to the issue highlighted.

Steve Woodward, Head of Public Realm referred to Appendix 3 in the papers which detailed the Council response to the issues raised in the petition. The Head of Public Realm explained that the play area had been partially refurbished with the aim of making all the equipment as accessible as possible for a range of children to use.

The Head of Public Realm explained the policy towards the selecting of play equipment and the consideration given to finding the balancing to giving children a challenge, and ensuring the Council meets its responsibilities to make all play equipment compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act 1995.

The Head of Public Realm explained that the Council will aim to enhance play provision across the City when funds allow. Typically play equipment is normally replaced after 15 years of use and decision will be made about either changing or upgrading the equipment. The Head of Public Realm explained that the public are consulted about planned changes, for example, residents were asked for their views about the plans when Ashmore Park was being refurbished.

The panel queried the provision of play equipment across the City. The Head of Public Realm responded that not all parks have the same level of play equipment. The aim of the service is to get a blend of play equipment and to refresh equipment that is safe.

The panel discussed the provision of play equipment generally and the facilities available in community centres that disabled children could use as alternative to the provision in the park.

The Head of Public Realm commented that the Council will look for possible funding opportunities to meet the cost of improving play provision. For example, S106 grant funding has been used to support improvements of play equipment in Ashmore Park.

The panel discussed the Council policy towards the buying play equipment and how issues such as cost and longevity are considered. The Head of Public Realm commented that these issues are considered and also how the needs of disabled children will be met, but agreed that it is a challenge.

The panel discussed the provision of specialist play equipment across the City in parks, open spaces designed for disabled children and also in special schools. The panel discussed how parents with disabled children can be told about the play provision that is available in their area that they could potentially use.

The panel queried the groups consulted about plans for replacing play equipment and specifically if families with disabled children were contacted to get their views. The Head of Public Realm explained that the access officer would have contacted known groups to ask for invite them to comment on the plans. The Head of Public Realm commented that there have been a lot of positive responses from the public to the changes.

The panel queried the possibility of meeting the concerns of petitioners by following up the idea of making small changes to existing play equipment to make it easier for disabled children to use. The Head of Public Realm explained that the Council has to comply with the manufacturer's installation requirements and cannot make modifications as suggested.

Ross Cook, Service Director, City Environment, thanked Ms White for bringing the issue to the Council and suggested that it might be useful to meet members of the landscape scheme to get better understanding of the factors considered when replacing play equipment.

The panel thanked Ms White for attending the meeting and for her excellent presentation.

Resolved:

1. The panel to receive an update in six months on the Council's response to the issue highlighted in the petition.
2. The service to give due regard to the needs of disabled children when considering replacing play equipment and to consult with relevant groups.
3. The service to suggest ideas for raising awareness of the provision of play equipment in different sites across Wolverhampton.

The meeting closed at 18:51



Vibrant and Sustainable City Scrutiny Panel

08 December 2016

Report title	Draft Budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2017/18 - 2019/20	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Peter Bilson City Housing and Assets	
	Councillor Steve Evans City Environment	
Wards affected	All	
Accountable director	Keith Ireland, Managing Director	
Originating service	Strategic Finance	
Accountable employee(s)	Mark Taylor	Director of Finance
	Tel	01902 554410
	Email	Mark.Taylor@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report to be/has been considered by		

Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Panel is recommended to:

1. Provide feedback to Scrutiny Board for consolidation and onward response to Cabinet on the Draft Budget 2017/18, in particular those elements that are relevant to this Scrutiny Panel, including specifically:
 - a. the Budget Reduction and Income Generation Proposals summarised at Appendix A.
 - b. the Financial Transactions and Base Budget Revisions summarised at Appendix B.
 - c. the other underlying assumptions to the 2017/18 Draft Budget as detailed at Appendix C.
2. Approve that the Scrutiny Panel response be finalised by the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Scrutiny Panel and forwarded to Scrutiny Board for consideration.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek the Panel's feedback on the Draft Budget 2017/18 including the related Budget Reduction and Income Generation Proposals, Financial Transactions and Base Budget Revisions and underlying Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) assumptions that was approved by Cabinet to proceed for formal consultation and scrutiny stages of the budget process, as appropriate, on 19 October 2016.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 At its meeting on 19 October 2016, the Cabinet considered the Draft Budget for 2017/18. Cabinet approved this as the basis for budget consultation and scrutiny over the forthcoming months.
- 2.2 The Cabinet report recommended that Budget Reduction and Income Generation Proposals amounting to £13.5 million in 2017/18 proceed to the formal consultation and scrutiny stages of the budget process. The Proposals that fall within the scrutiny remit of this Panel are shown at Appendix A.
- 2.3 The Cabinet report further identified that £10.0 million of Financial Transaction and Base Budget Revisions be incorporated into the 2017/18 Draft Budget. The Revisions that fall within the scrutiny remit of this Panel are shown at Appendix B.
- 2.4 Included at Appendix C is the other underlying assumption that impacts on the 2017/18 Draft Budget, that falls within the remit of this Panel, for example inflationary, demographic and pay related pressures.
- 2.5 It is important to note that any budget reduction and income generation proposals approved as part of prior year budget setting processes have already been scrutinised and approved by Cabinet and are therefore, already included in the MTFS.
- 2.6 As detailed in the Cabinet report, the 2017/18 Draft Budget will be considered by Scrutiny Panels during the November/December round of meetings and the feedback from those meetings will be reported to Scrutiny Board on 13 December 2016, which will consolidate that feedback in a formal response to Cabinet on 18 January 2017. The feedback provided to Scrutiny Board will include questions asked by Panel members, alongside the responses received. Cabinet will take into account the feedback from Scrutiny Board when considering the final budget setting report in February 2017, for approval by Full Council in March 2017.
- 2.7 In order to limit the volume of paper used as part of the budget reporting process, the Cabinet report has not been appended to this covering report. Panel members are instead requested to bring their copy of the Draft Budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2017/18 - 2019/20 report, which was circulated with the 19 October 2016 Cabinet agenda. Detail of all the Council's individual proposals, including the latest to be considered by Cabinet on 19 October 2016, can be found on the Council's website at: <http://www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/budgetsavings>

3.0 Proposals relating to the work of this Panel

- 3.1 Included in the Draft Budget strategy are budget reduction and income generation proposals and financial transaction and base budget revisions relating to the remit of this Panel. These are listed at Appendices A and B. The Panel is requested to provide and record its comments on these proposals, for submission to Scrutiny Board and then Cabinet.
- 3.2 In addition to commenting on these specific proposals, the Panel may also request additional information or clarification in relation to the budget and MTFS. Any such requests will be noted separately, either for consideration by the Panel at a future date, or for information to be forwarded to the Panel members concerned.
- 3.3 The proposals relating to waste and recycling will be reported in further detail in a separate report presented at this meeting.

4.0 Financial implications

- 4.1 The financial implications are discussed in the body of the report, and in the report to Cabinet.
[MH/11112016/Z]

4.0 Legal implications

- 5.1 The legal implications are discussed in the report to Cabinet.
[TS/11112016/E]

5.0 Equalities implications

- 5.1 The equalities implications are discussed in the report to Cabinet.

6.0 Environmental implications

- 6.1 The environmental implications are discussed in the report to Cabinet.

7.0 Human resources implications

- 7.1 The human resources implications are discussed in the report to Cabinet.

8.0 Schedule of background papers

- 9.1 Draft Budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2017/18 – 2019/20, report to Cabinet, 19 October 2016

Budget Reduction and Income Generation Proposals by Cabinet Portfolio

City Housing and Assets

Details	2017/18 £000	2018/19 £000	2019/20 £000
Facilities Management As the hard and soft facilities management activities have been consolidated within the Corporate Landlord service delivery model there will be further opportunities to generate efficiency savings, as well as increased income generation. These will be identified through a customer-led review of services provided to the council and schools as well as external customers.	(500)	-	-
Commercial Estate Income Through the implementation of the Strategic Asset Plan, effective data management and continuous challenge of the commercial portfolio, the following can be achieved: accelerated letting of new properties, additional income from former HRA (Housing Revenue Account) shops, reduction in rent arrears and increased recovery of bad debts, robust management and monitoring of void properties to minimise loss of income and recovery of service charges and to challenge/maximise and redefine the use of the Strategic Consultancy Partnership ensuring value for money in estate management.	(500)	-	-
Corporate Landlord Review Phase 2 Detailed reviews undertaken into service areas within Corporate Landlord, as part of a wider service development plan, indicate additional savings may be available by removing current vacant posts. These reviews are supported by officers in Procurement, Business Change and Transformation and will ensure staff structures remain relevant and efficient to deliver the Corporate Landlord service delivery model. It is anticipated that improvements in processes, systems and centralised data will ensure that any post reductions are viable and without risk.	(100)	-	-

Appendix A

Budget Reduction and Income Generation Proposals by Cabinet Portfolio

Details	2017/18 £000	2018/19 £000	2019/20 £000
Review of Homelessness & Tenancy Sustainment Services To improve the customer journey for homeless applicants and people at risk of homelessness through the redesign of front-line housing functions. The proposals will also strengthen the Council's strategic housing function enabling it to respond to the increasing level of street homelessness, benefit changes and pressures on council and other affordable housing, through effective strategies and commissioning.	(100)	(100)	-

Budget Reduction and Income Generation Proposals by Cabinet Portfolio

City Environment

Details	2017/18 £000	2018/19 £000	2019/20 £000
<p>Reduce Leisure subsidy To reduce the subsidy of the leisure facilities operated by WV Active by a further £500,000. This will be enabled by targets for increasing membership, reviewing all club hire agreements and of all current activities, together with the introduction of new activities and maximising income generation opportunities. This will be supported by the continued transformation of WV Active, focussing on the customer journey and improving the whole customer experience.</p>	(500)	-	-
<p>Review of Waste & Recycling In view of a government grant ending from April 2017, and subject to consultation, the proposal aims to reduce the cost of the kerbside waste collection service. The main areas of focus are:- - frequency of collections - feasibility of continuing a food waste collection service - potential of charging for the collection of garden waste - bin types, colours, usage.</p> <p>The final proposals for a revised service will take the findings of a comprehensive public consultation and an Equalities Analysis into account.</p> <p>Any changes to the current service could be implemented on a phased basis from April 2017 onwards. This is dependent on both the consultation and negotiations with the current provider.</p> <p>Transition from the existing service to a new service will require the establishment of a project team to implement the new arrangements and deliver the public communications required to advise residents of the changes. Investment in new bins may also be necessary.</p>	(600)	(300)	(300)

Appendix A

Budget Reduction and Income Generation Proposals by Cabinet Portfolio

Details	2017/18 £000	2018/19 £000	2019/20 £000
Environmental Service Efficiencies A comprehensive review will be undertaken of all environmental service functions including parking services, highway maintenance, pest control, parks activities and Bereavement Services in order to identify budget reduction and income generation opportunities. These proposals are likely to impact upon current maintenance standards across these key front line services by reducing frequencies of maintenance and, in some cases, ceasing some maintenance activities completely, although mitigation will be considered by utilising more effective data to revise current working patterns and practices, however, we are not reviewing the frequency of the grounds maintenance and street cleansing services.	(500)	-	-
Review of Transport/Fleet An external review has been undertaken of the operation of the Council's vehicle workshops and passenger transport fleet, including staff travel. It has identified potential efficiency savings through reduced staff travel costs, reduction in the size of the Council's vehicle fleet, a reduction in external vehicle hire together with improved parts and spares procurement. As well as efficiency savings, some of the savings will be delivered through reducing the demand for services in line with our strategy to promote independence.	(500)	-	-
Highways Management Use of surplus generated in 2015/16 and to introduce the planned third phase of bus lane enforcement.	(750)	500	-
Active Management of Car Park Usage To review car parks in the City by increasing the turnover of spaces. This will encourage motorists to adopt short term parking throughout the day. In turn this should discourage long term commuter parking, and maintain sufficient spaces for shoppers.	(200)	-	-

Appendix A

Budget Reduction and Income Generation Proposals by Cabinet Portfolio

Details	2017/18 £000	2018/19 £000	2019/20 £000
Savings in Regulatory Services through Agile Working Delivery of efficiencies associated with the implementation of agile working techniques and methods within the City Environment; Public Protection (Formerly Regulatory Services) Service.	(100)	-	-
Develop Commercial Opportunity for use of Existing Facilities at Northcote Farm This proposal involves the creation of a facility suitable for (amongst other things) the holding of post-funeral wakes following a cremation or burial at Bushbury Crematorium. The savings target of £100,000 is based upon predicted income levels.	(100)	-	-

Appendix B

Financial Transactions and Base Budget Revisions

City Housing and Assets

Details	2017/18 £000	2018/19 £000	2019/20 £000
Utilities and Rates from surplus/disposed buildings	(400)	-	-
Removal of inflationary allocation for Carbon Reduction Commitment	(31)	(31)	-
Adjustment to assumptions regarding Council Tax growth in base	(211)	(211)	(211)
Adjustment to assumptions regarding New Homes Bonus growth	(150)	(150)	(150)

City Environment

Details	2017/18 £000	2018/19 £000	2019/20 £000
Removal of Inflationary allocation for Landfill Tax	(144)	(144)	-

Appendix C

2017/18 Draft Budget Assumptions

Details	2017/18 £000	2018/19 £000	2019/20 £000
Budget Growth			
Inflationary Pressure – Waste Management Partnership	164	164	-
Inflationary Pressure – Waste Disposal Contract	142	142	-
Inflationary Pressure - Grounds maintenance and street scene budgets for South West Contract	73	73	-
Inflationary Pressure – Carbon Reduction Commitment – linked to Financial Transaction and Base Budget Revision above.	31	31	-
Inflationary Pressure – Supplementary increase in Landfill Tax announced by the Government – linked to Financial Transaction and Base Budget Revision above.	144	144	-
Inflationary Pressure –Leisure PFI costs are anticipated to rise in line with energy costs nationally.	90	92	-



Vibrant and Sustainable City Scrutiny Panel

08 December 2016

Report title	Waste and Recycling Strategy Consultation	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Steve Evans Environment	
Wards affected	All	
Accountable director	Ross Cook, City Environment	
Originating service	Public Protection	
Accountable employee(s)	Andy Jervis Tel Email	Head of Public Protection 01902 551261 andy.jervis@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report to be/has been considered by	Place Leadership Team: Ongoing item SEB: Ongoing item	

Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Panel is recommended to:

1. Consider and provide views and comments on the options for the reconfiguration of the waste and recycling service as presented as part of the Council's budget consultation exercise.

Recommendations for noting:

The Panel is asked to note:

1. The progress toward the development of a new Waste Strategy for the City.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to present the options for the reconfiguration of the waste and recycling service to achieve Council savings targets and identify opportunities to address some of the issues affecting performance of the waste services in recent years.
- 1.2 Scrutiny Panel is invited to consider the options, as contained in the public consultation, for a revised service and provide views and comments to the review team.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The Council's waste management and recycling service is supplied by an external partner, Amey, under the terms of a 14 year public-private partnership agreement expiring in 2021/22.
- 2.2 The Council has substantial savings, either incorporated into the medium term financial strategy (MTFS) or subject to scrutiny and consultation, for the reconfiguration of the waste service totalling £2.4 million for service re-configuration, and £500,000 for depot rationalisation.
- 2.3 In addition, the service is also facing complex mix of pressures that are summarised below:
 - i. the need to meet the requirements of the EU Waste Framework Directive 2008 (WFD) and the implications for existing recycling collection methods;
 - ii. the need to maintain and improve recycling rates and engage residents more, at a time when recycling rates are flat-lining in many areas of the UK;
 - iii. the need to respond to the shift in emphasis from quantity as the main measure of performance to the quality of recyclates collected;
 - iv. a divergence of policy preferences on the frequency of residual waste collections
- 2.4 The waste service is highly complex with inter-relationships between multiple waste streams, legislative requirements and fleet management as well as being highly visible to residents. Many different waste management and recycling solutions have been adopted by other waste authorities and there is no single "one size fits all" solution. Examples of approaches adopted by other authorities include:
 - Weekly, fortnightly or three weekly residual waste collections
 - Chargeable green waste collection
 - Food waste collected/ not collected
 - Recyclate types collected comingled, dual, multiple
 - Variations in work shift and collection patterns (e.g. four on/four off, double day shifts)
- 2.5 The 2015 report "Waste on the Front Line – Challenges and Innovations" commissioned by the Chartered Institute of Wastes Management (CIWM) identified the need to think strategically and holistically when planning for changes to waste services.

Otherwise services can be “left disjointed and could result in increased levels of litter and fly tipping, with associated effects on health, investment, general prosperity and social attitudes about how you value where you live”.

- 2.7 The waste service is a key user of various council sites and depots across the city. Better utilisation and potential disposals of some of these sites would aid the regeneration of key areas of the city. However the requirement of the waste service for facilities in the future cannot be determined without a clear and comprehensive strategy.

3.0 Progress, options and discussion.

- 3.1 Against this background, options for a reconfigured service to achieve savings targets and identify opportunities to address some of the issues affecting performance of the waste services in recent years have been developed over the summer and early autumn of 2016. Currently, the options for consideration are:-

- Cessation of food waste collection
- Reducing the frequency of residual waste collections from weekly to fortnightly or every three weeks
- Availability of a larger residual waste bin if required
- Improvements to existing bulky waste service
- Provision of a paid for garden waste service to replace the current free service
- Support to communities and families to help them recycle more
- Development of improved Household Waste Recycling Centre facilities to include:
 - Paid for trade waste disposal service
 - A re-use shop for discarded household items
 - Extended opening hours
 - User friendly configuration of a new site to improve traffic flow and reduce queuing etc

- 3.2 Specific questions about the possible impact and implications arising from these options are included in the Council’s budget consultation exercise which runs for 12 weeks from 24 October 2016 until 13 January 2017.
- 3.3 The presentation accompanying this report is intended to provide Scrutiny Panel with an overview of the option proposals and give panel members the opportunity to challenge and comment on them.
- 3.4 Panel feedback will be valuable and will be used to inform the final proposals which will be considered by Cabinet at its February meeting.

4.0 Financial implications

- 4.1 There are significant budget reductions and income generation targets linked to the transformation of the waste service totalling £2.9 million due to be achieved by 2018/19. The most recent budget reduction and income generation targets for 2017/18 were presented to Cabinet at its meeting on 20 July 2016 and was further developed for inclusion in the draft budget report presented to Cabinet in October 2016 seeking approval to proceed to the formal consultation and scrutiny stages of the budget process
- 4.2 Financial modelling on the possible alternatives outlined in section 3 of this report have indicated that full year savings in the region of £2.4 million could be achieved, this would deliver the savings target for the revised waste collection service. A mid 2017 implementation date is planned therefore it is anticipated that a part year saving for 2017/18 could be achieved. Further to this, it is important to note, that these figures are subject to verification from Amey. There is therefore a risk to implementation which could further reduce the level of saving that could be delivered in 2017/18.
[TT/26102016/Z]

5.0 Legal implications

- 5.1 In order to achieve the variations to the service, the Council must observe formal processes setting out the variations required. Amey must then provide an estimate based on the information provided. The Council and Amey must then negotiate to agree the variation to the service and the costs involved.
- 5.2 This legal process may take some time to resolve. Although it cannot be formally begun until the Council serves a notice under the contract, the Council may have informal discussions and correspondence with Amey. Any change to the contractual specification would be subject to negotiation and the time required to reach a conclusion will depend on the variation the Council requires.
[TS/24102016/W]

6.0 Equalities implications

- 6.1 An equalities analysis (EA) is being undertaken in order to assess the impact of the options being considered on equalities issues. Details of the findings of the EA will be available at the end of the consultation period.

7.0 Environmental implications

- 7.1 There may be environmental implications associated with the options covered by the presentation. These will be addressed at specific points in the discussions, however it is anticipated there will be improvements associated with the reduction in numbers of bins left on streets and those 'contaminated' with incorrect waste. There have been concerns raised about the possibility of increased fly-tipping of green waste and rodent activity, however there is no evidence from other areas that have previously implemented similar changes that these concerns will be realised.

8.0 Human resources implications

- 8.1 There may be human resource implications associated with the options covered by the presentation. These will be addressed at specific points in the discussions.

9.0 Corporate landlord implications

- 9.1 There are no direct corporate landlord implications arising from this report. Once the preferred option has been identified, it will be possible to review the capacity and operations of the existing waste management facilities used by the service.

10.0 Schedule of background papers

- 10.1 Reports to Cabinet: 23/03/2016 - Waste and Recycling Strategy
- 10.2 Budget Review – Draft Budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2017/18 to 2019/20 report to Vibrant and Sustainable City Scrutiny Panel, 1 December 2016

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City of Wolverhampton Council Waste and Recycling Strategy 2017 – 2027

Thursday 08 December 2016

CITY OF
WOLVERHAMPTON
COUNCIL

Our mission:
Working as one to
serve our city

wolverhampton.gov.uk

Waste and Recycling Strategy

Councillor Steve Evans

Cabinet Member for Environment

Ross Cook

Service Director – City Environment

Andy Jervis

Head of Public Protection

Steve Perkins

Waste & Recycling Services

Introduction

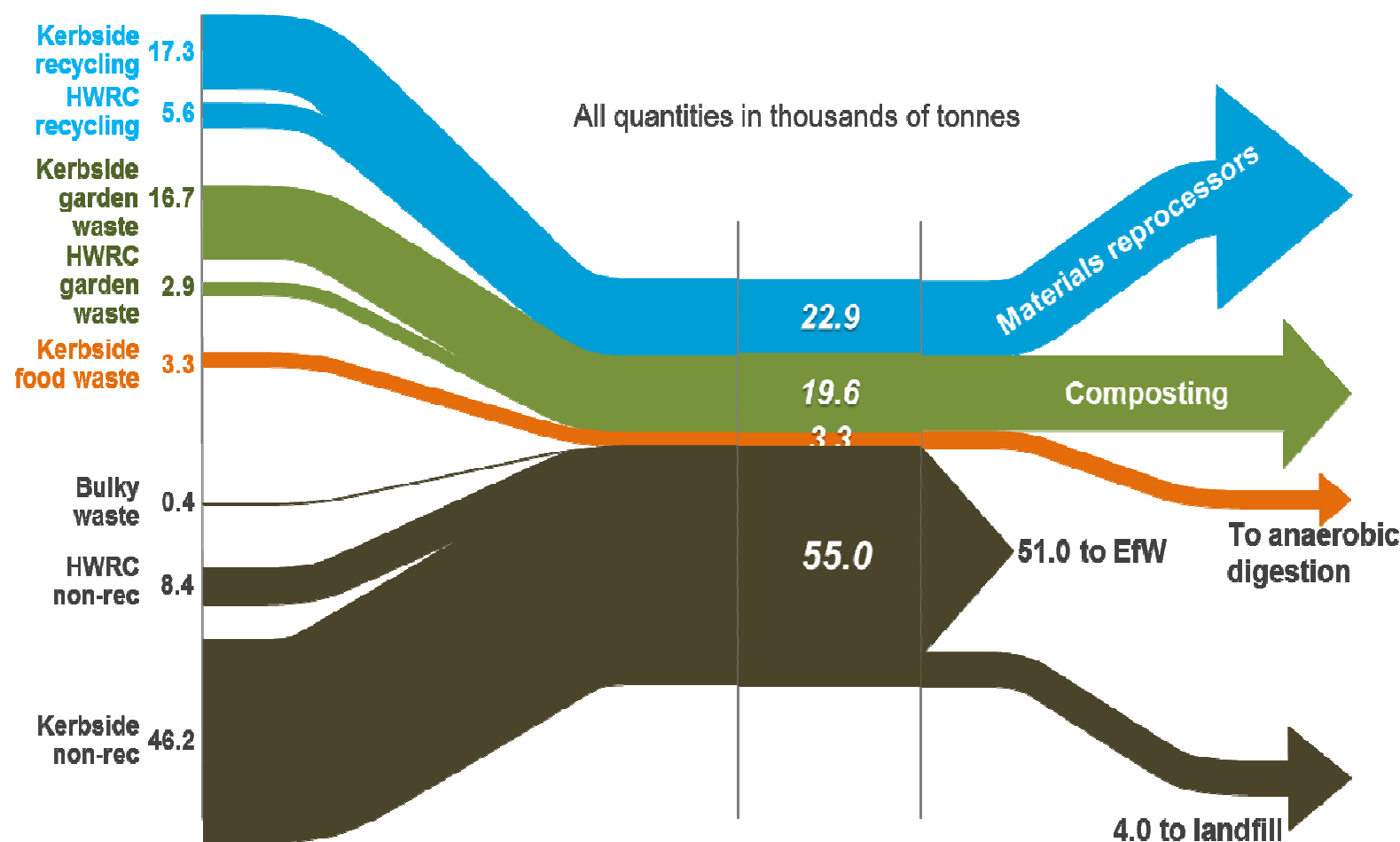
To present to the Scrutiny Panel:

- A summary of the work to develop a new Waste Management Strategy
- Proposals to deliver the Waste & Recycling Services, to achieve the previously agreed savings of £1.7 million in the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS); and
- Further alternatives for consideration to deliver the additional savings of £1.2 million subject to consultation.

Current Service

Waste Stream	Non-recyclable waste	Recycling	Garden waste	Food waste	HWRCs
Container	 140 litre capacity	 240 litre capacity	 240 litre capacity		
Collection frequency	Weekly	Fortnightly	Fortnightly April – November	Weekly	N/A
Materials collected					

The flows of the City's household waste to its end destinations

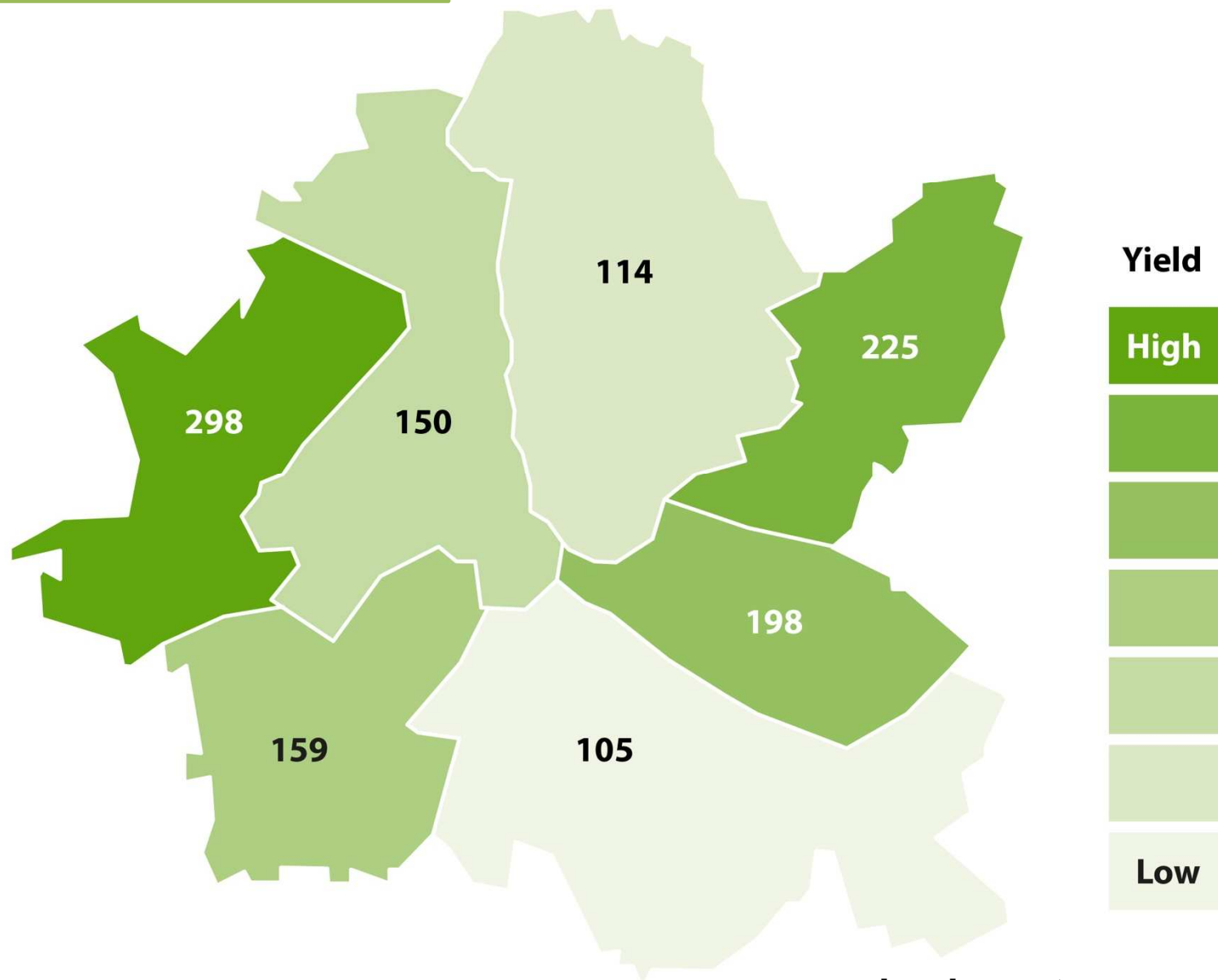


Waste source

Waste destinations

wolverhampton.gov.uk

Garden waste yields – kg/homes/year



Comparative Collection & Disposal

Type of Waste	Annual Tonnes	Disposal Cost per tonne £	Disposal Cost £000	Collection Cost £000	Total Cost £000
Residual or Refuse bin waste	55,000	56	3,000	3,500	6,500 (£118/T)
+ Food	3,000	41	120	500	620 (£206/T)
Recycling	23,000	15	300	2,300	2,600 (£113/T)
Garden	20,000	23	400	1,200	1,600 (£80/T)

National Drivers for Change

Key considerations:

- Pushing waste up the waste hierarchy –
– reducing - reusing – recycling
- Promoting better quality recyclates for collection
- The national recycling target of 50% by 2020
- Our current recycling performance 48% (July 2016)
- Nationally moving to fortnightly/longer residual collections (76%)
- 44% English councils now charge for garden waste collections

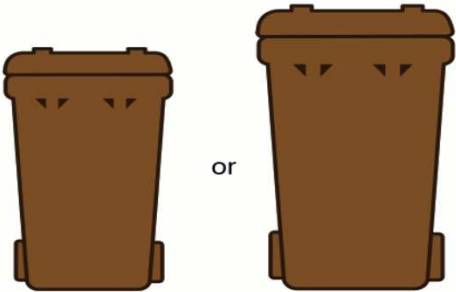





Local Drivers for Change (1)

- Reduced budgetary provision (required savings)
- End of weekly waste collection grant (April 2017)
- Economic regeneration and home building across Wolverhampton (more users of the services)
- More transient and diverse population
- Local / Regional move to fortnightly residual collections (73% in West Midlands)

Local Drivers for Change (2)

- Desire to deliver high quality services – both kerbside and at the Household Waste Recycling Centres
- Better use of technology / Apps (notifications)
- Improving the street scene (fewer bins)
- Adapting to changing consumer habits i.e. less paper/more cardboard & plastics

Revised Service Proposal

Waste Stream	Non-recyclable waste	Recycling	Garden waste
Container	 <p>140 litre capacity 240 litre capacity</p>	 <p>240 litre capacity</p>	 <p>240 litre capacity</p>
Collection frequency	Fortnightly	Fortnightly	40 weeks
Materials collected			

Recycling Centre / Super Site



Residual Waste Proposal

- A reminder 76 % of all local authorities operate a fortnightly or three/four weekly collection service already (73 % in the West Midlands)
- No bin swaps required
- No bin cleaning necessary
- Positive impact on recycling rates
- Households will have the option of a free larger 240L brown bin

Garden Waste Proposal

- Households receiving full housing benefit / council tax support **no charge**
- Households receiving partial housing benefit / council tax support **£17.50 (50% discount)**
- Eligibility to be assessed annually
- All other households **£35**
- Annual payment preferably by direct debit

Garden Waste Proposal (cont.)

- Households need to request service and will receive a pre-printed sticker with their address to put on their green bin
- Based on an extended collection period of 42 weeks from the end of February to early December
- 44 % of English local authorities currently charge for the collection of garden waste and many more currently considering this
- The majority of charges are between £35 and £65
- 1st payment to cover 2017/18 to January 2019

Key Benefits of alternative service configuration

- A decrease in the number of unused / contaminated bins on streets
- Removal of the unpopular and expensive food waste service
- Garden Waste service extended up to 42 weeks pa
- Provision of a new recycling centre / super site with improved access, opening times and Re-Use Shop (to achieve the £500K “Depot Rationalisation” saving) to be located centrally and open from 2018/19
- Targeted services and support in specific communities

Transformation Actions

- Extended opening hours of the current recycling centres
- Purchase of additional bins
- Setting up an Transformation Assistance team to ensure streets are “clean” after collections
- Resources to help households to recycle more (education)
- Appointment of an engagement team to consult and design appropriate bespoke services for vulnerable groups and neighbourhoods
- Introductory offer for the Garden Waste Service

To sum up...

- New services aligned to national and local trend

Proposal	Potential Saving
Fortnightly collections and stop food collections	£1.4 million
Introduce Garden Waste charges	£1.0 million
New Recycling Centre / Super Site	£0.5 million

Thank You
Any Questions?

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