

## **REGENERATION, COMMUNITY AND CULTURE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**21 OCTOBER 2009**

### **MEMBER'S ITEM: NEW HOUSEHOLD WASTE COLLECTION SERVICE**

Report from: Robin Cooper, Director of Regeneration, Community and Culture

Author: Andy McGrath, Assistant Director, Frontline Services

#### **Summary**

This report details the response to the question posed by Councillor Godwin with regards to the new collection contract and future black sack provision to those households not suitable for wheeled bins.

#### **1. Budget and Policy Framework**

- 1.1 Under Medway's Constitution, Overview and Scrutiny rules (Chapter 4, Part 5, Paragraph 9.1) Councillor Goodwin has asked that an item on this issue is included on the agenda for this meeting.
- 1.2 Within the LAA framework, waste services are lead partner for the NI 191 indicator on residual household waste per household. Targets have been set to reach a lower level of residual waste, 792kg per household by end of 2010/11.

#### **2. Member's Item request**

- 2.1 Councillor Godwin has submitted this matter for consideration following discussions at the meeting on 7 July 2009 with regards to the 'Contracts for the collection and disposal of waste' report.

#### **3 Background**

- 3.1 During the discussion at the above meeting, Members raised concerns over the uncertainty that residents not able to accommodate a wheelie bin would not be provided with sacks by the Council as an alternative and that a two-tier service would be developed.
- 3.2 Officers responded that the changeover to the new service would be in 18 months time, thereby allowing sufficient time to consider the options and put any proposals through the budget setting process. Member's would be invited to assist with developing suitable solutions and the contract being considered was about the provision of bins. Officers

stated that there would be no compulsion in forcing residents to accept a bin, however bins would only be issued to properties which were capable of storing them sensibly.

#### 4. Director's comments

- 4.1 The new waste collection contract states Medway shall be introducing wheeled bins for 'all suitable properties' within 18 months of start of contract. To ensure an equitable service for all resident son Medway, it also states that 'the Council considers that not all dwellings will be able to accommodate Wheeled Bins, and consequently sack collections for Residual Household Waste, Recyclable Materials and Garden/Kitchen Waste will be required for these properties. The Contractor shall be required to provide and deliver these sacks.'
- 4.2 All residual waste collections shall remain weekly; kerbside recycling and organic waste collections shall be fortnightly on alternate weeks.
- 4.3 The new collection contract includes a provision to supply black sacks to all unsuitable properties once the roll out of the wheeled bin service is completed, in a quantity of 104 sacks per household per annum in 4 equally spaced collections (i.e. 26 sacks every 13 weeks).
- 4.4 At Full Council on the 30 July 2009, Councillor Filmer, Portfolio Holder for Front line services, stated he would refer provision of black sacks for households not suitable for wheeled bins to the Waste Contract task group for consideration.

#### 5. Risk Management

Risk	Description	Action to avoid or mitigate risk
Low	Failure to deliver sacks as per scheduled frequency	Robust contract monitoring of delivery services
Low	Cost of sack delivery	Review costs as part of procurement process to ensure best value

#### 6. Financial and legal implications

- 6.1 Financial implications will be assessed as part of the evaluation after final re-submission in the procurement process.

#### 7 Recommendations

- 7.1 That Members agree that consideration of this matter is submitted to the Waste Contract task group.

#### Lead officer contact

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**Background papers** None