

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

COUNCIL: 25TH APRIL, 2022

REFERENCE FROM CABINET: 28TH MARCH, 2022

“C894 RECYCLING AND WASTE MANAGEMENT BUSINESS PLAN AND STRATEGY (2022 - 2032) (NST) (SCRUTINY – ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) –

The Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services and Transport presented the report the purpose of which was to seek approval of a Recycling and Waste Management Business Plan and a number of related actions and to agree in principle a new 10-year Recycling and Waste Management Strategy (2022 - 2032).

The Council had adopted the Welsh Government ‘collections blueprint’, which required domestic recycling to be separated on the kerbside for collection and was in the process of rolling the service out across the Vale of Glamorgan.

The ‘collections blueprint’, along with other measures to enhance the Council's recycling service, ensured compliance to current Welsh Government (WG) guidance and waste related legislation had successfully been introduced in the rural Vale and in Barry. The rollout to Dinas Powys and Penarth was due to take place when the Waste Transfer Station at Barry was completed later in 2022.

The Council now needed to adopt a long term Strategy to imbed the domestic recycling and waste collection already agreed and to plan for the up to 10 years hence, it also needed to agree a business plan that was linked to the Council's long term aspirations.

The report sought the approval of a Business Plan case that identified the resources, staffing and budget necessary to deliver the Recycling and Waste Management Strategy together with the infrastructure and capital funding that would be required.

A number of waste service contracts were due to expire shortly, and the report sought short extensions to those contracts at similar terms and conditions to allow continuity of the related services.

It was difficult to subject these services to tender sooner as the revenue cost pressure for the Waste Management Service for 2022/23 had only recently been agreed.

The report also sought approval in principle of a draft 10-year ‘Recycling and Waste Management Strategy’ that formalised the service delivery along with other measures to ensure the Council met its environmental ambitions and Statutory

Recycling targets. This was a key contributing action to the Council's decarbonisation programme, Project Zero.

Should the Strategy be agreed in principle it would then be subject to a 12 week public consultation period, which would also require consideration of the Strategy by the relevant Scrutiny Committee.

The report also provided an update in respect of the Reuse Shop located at Atlantic Trading Estate which was currently under construction and the opportunities for a replacement Household Waste Recycling Centre at Llandow for the Western Vale

The Cabinet Member was pleased to present the comprehensive report concerning how the Council manages its domestic waste and working to achieve the environmental ambitions under Project Zero. He was proud that throughout the pressures faced during the pandemic, Council's waste management staff had continued to provide full recycling and waste collection services, recording recycling performance figures of 70.6% which was the second highest in Wales and one of the higher performance results within the UK.

That had been achieved thanks to the monumental efforts of the residents of the Vale of Glamorgan which was greatly appreciated and made more impressive as not all residents across the Vale of Glamorgan yet benefit from the new recycling arrangements.

It was proposed that the draft 10-year Recycling and Waste Management Strategy 2022 – 2032 be referred for consideration by Scrutiny Committee as part of the 12-week consultation and then returned to Cabinet for consideration of the comments and final agreement.

Councillor King concluded that the report was the most comprehensive report aimed at building on past successes and retaining the Council's position as one of the best recycling authorities in Europe.

Councillor Williams referred to the future roll-out of recycling services, that lessons had been learned concerning education and delivery from previous experience, with residents now on-board and positive about the service. He hoped that by the end of the 10-year strategy there would be a new Household Waste Recycling Centre in Llandow.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein,

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T Cabinet approve the Business Plan and the revised staffing structure detailed within the Report.

(2) T H A T the proposal detailed within the Report to retain Cowbridge

Compost as an additional recycling processing facility be approved.

(3) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Director of Environment and Housing in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services and Transport, the Monitoring Officer/Head of Legal and Democratic Services and the Head of Finance to extend the current contract with Cowbridge Compost on similar terms and conditions, for a period of up to 6 months from 1st April, 2022.

(4) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Director of Environment and Housing in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services and Transport, the Monitoring Officer/Head of Legal and Democratic Services and the Head of Finance to extend the Processing of Recyclable Materials (comingled contract) on similar terms and conditions for a period of up to 6 months from April 30th, 2022.

(5) T H A T the use of £250k of the Neighbourhood Services and Transport Reserve to establish a new material values fund be agreed.

(6) T H A T the budget required beyond 2024, to deliver the Strategy be noted.

(7) T H A T the replacement of the Household Waste Recycling Centre at Llandow and the development of fleet parking at Atlantic Trading Estate subject to sufficient funding being made available in the Council's capital programmes be agreed in principle.

(8) T H A T the draft 10-year Recycling and Waste Management Strategy 2022 – 2032, subject to the outcome of a 12-week public consultation to be undertaken in Summer 2022 be approved in principle.

(9) T H A T recommendation 8 above be referred to Scrutiny Committee (Environment and Regeneration) for their consideration.

(10) T H A T the use of the urgent decision procedure as set out in Section 14.14 of the Council's Constitution be exercised in respect of Recommendations 1,2,3 and 4 be agreed.

(11) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Monitoring Officer/ Head of Legal and Democratic Services to execute the agreements referred to in Recommendations 3-4.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To ensure the service had the appropriate resources to effectively manage new infrastructure and to complete the implementation of the "collections blueprint" namely source separated recycling collections.

(2) To ensure the service had the most efficient viable option available for the collection of recycling in the Rural Vale.

(3) The current contract expired on 31st March 2022 and the short extension would ensure continuity of service for local Rural Vale collections for a short period, to allow a new contract to be drafted for a longer duration based on the new requirements for the site when the Barry site comes into operation.

(4) The contract expired on 30th April 2022 and the short extension provided for continuity of service for co-mingled collections whilst the new contract was tendered and agreed.

(5) The contract expired on 30th April, 2022 and the short extension provided continuity of service for co-mingled collections until the new contract was agreed. To reduce any potential impact on the delivery of frontline services and to ensure there was sufficient contingency when markets fluctuate and income reduces.

(6) To ensure there were appropriate resources to deliver the proposed Recycling and Waste Management Strategy (2022-2032).

(7) To ensure a long term modern HWRC facility was available for residents based within the Rural Vale and to provide the recycling and waste service with parking adjacent to the Resource Recovery Facility to maximise operational efficiency and to reduce unproductive time.

(8) To ensure the Council had a defined consulted on strategic plan to achieve its statutory recycling targets, its environmental ambitions and complied with current waste legislation.

(9) To provide the Environment and Regeneration Committee with an opportunity to consider the details of the proposed 10-year Recycling and Waste Management Strategy.

(10) To allow the current contracts to be extended with no risks to the continuity of waste services.

(11) To provide authority to ensure that legal agreements were in place.”