

Chichester District Council

CABINET

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Chichester Contract Service: Planning for kerbside food waste collection

1. Contacts

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2. Recommendations

- 2.1. Cabinet resolves that planning work should commence for the implementation of domestic kerbside food waste collections.**
- 2.2. That Cabinet resolves that up to £22,500 can be released from reserves to support 2.1 above**

3. Background

- 3.1. The new Environment Act that passed in 2021 will set legally binding long-term environmental targets in key environmental areas in particular in resource and waste reduction. The Government's Resource and Waste Strategy identified the potential roadmap for the waste industry to make a step change in effective waste or resource management within England and the subsequent Government consultations that have been issued provide an indication as to the actions both waste collection and waste disposal authorities will be required to take in the following years.
- 3.2. A consistent theme and direction the Government have made over the last 2-3 years is the objective to make weekly domestic food kerbside collection mandatory, although it should be noted this has not yet been formally confirmed.
- 3.3. Just over 50% of local authorities in the UK currently provide this service to their residents; and these local authorities, on average, have much higher recycling rates than those who do not.
- 3.4. In the early documentation from Government a target date to implement the service was 2023, although it is recognised this date is now unachievable by

waste disposal and waste collection authorities alike, with a likely date now being 2024 onwards.

- 3.5. It is anticipated that when Government mandate the service provision and importantly confirm if any potential funding will be made available, many local authorities will commence planning for the implementation of the service. With such a large increase in demand, the supply chain for equipment required for the service may well be over-stretched leading to higher prices and extended deliveries.
- 3.6. In 2019, Eunomia, on behalf of WSCC, conducted a full costed review for food collection and disposal across all seven District and Boroughs (D and B). This review used many assumptions and costs relevant in 2019 and provided a good indication of the capital and revenue costs that each D and B incur in collecting food waste. Over the last 3 years the general environmental awareness has increased across the UK and food collection data has shown an increase in both capture rates (Kg per household) and participation rates (% of households actively using the service). In addition, other operational cost assumptions have also significantly changed such as fuel, labour, and equipment. from recent trials. Using funds from WRAP (Waste and Resources Action Plan) a refresh of this review is being commissioned, which will provide CDC will more up to date top level data than the 2019 report.
- 3.7. The same report provided an indication of the different impacts (cost, recycling % etc) for a two weekly collection of Dry Mixed Recycling (DMR) and residual waste with a weekly collection of food waste (defined as a 2:2:1 system) as well as a three weekly collection pf residual waste. two weekly collection of DMR and weekly food waste collections (defined as a 3:2:1 system)
- 3.8. Following COVID 19, the route optimisation work for CSS existing rounds is progressing well, with a full set of baseline data now entered into the software. It is expected that that system will be able to provide more detailed operational considerations than the Eunomia work mentioned above. This will require a separate project be undertaken to model options for food collection rounds, using different sized vehicles and crew sizes.
- 3.9. A key consideration in deciding the 'go live' date of food waste collections will be to have greater clarity on the implementation tasks and the time to undertake these. In addition, it would be useful to understand the advantages and disadvantages of potentially different options of implementation such as a phased or 'big bang' approach.
- 3.10. Government documentation has also indicated that commercial food waste will also be the subject of new regulations, with all food waste generating businesses (cafes. restaurants, pubs etc) required to have a food waste collection.

4. Outcomes to be achieved

- 4.1. Provide greater clarity on the impacts and opportunities of implementing a food waste collection service for the residents of CDC, that will support any

future decision in respect of its implementation. In order to do so the following will be developed; -

- (a) Update of Eunomia model using current data to identify total system costs for the implementation of a kerbside food waste collection service.
- (b) Development of more detailed operational plans to identify different delivery model options for consideration.
- (c) Development of implementation timescales, from formal approval to proceed to commencement of service provision.
- (d) Identification of key risks and issues that would be associated with the introduction of a food waste collection service.
- (e) Identification of waste disposal requirements from WSCC
- (f) Identification of any potential opportunities for the growth of commercial food waste collections.

5. Proposal

- 5.1. In conjunction with WRAP, commission Eunomia to update the basis of the 2019 report with current data. The first update will be funded by WRAP, subsequent and follow up clarifications may be required which will be funded by CDC, up to a maximum of £5,000
- 5.2. In conjunction with the route optimisation provider to develop operational delivery options using different vehicle and crew size assumption at an estimated cost of £7,500
- 5.3. In conjunction with procurement framework providers and suppliers to ascertain the current market position of key externally sourced equipment such as vehicles and food waste bins.
- 5.4. Review best practice from other Local Authorities who are already collecting food waste to identify different approaches and identify key learning points in the implementation and operation of food waste collections.
- 5.5. Prepare the formal report for presentation to Audit and Scrutiny committee and then to Cabinet in September / October 2023. Additional support for the Divisional Manager may be required (if suitable options are available), estimated at circa £10,000

6. Alternatives that have been considered

- 6.1. Planning can be delayed until the formal publication of the Governments intentions, although it is considered prudent that members are made aware of the implications of food waste collections in the short term, to be best placed to fully consider the implications when making any future decisions.

7. Resource and legal implications

- 7.1. Release of up to £22,500 from reserves, to fund the additional costs identified in 5.1, 5.2 and 5.5 above. (if required)
- 7.2. During the preparation of the report more clarity from the Government may be released which will need to be taken into consideration prior to completion and issue.

8. Consultation

- 8.1. No formal consultations are required for the completion of the report.

9. Other Implications

Crime & Disorder:	None
Climate Change:	Whilst there are no implications for the preparation of the report, if approval is subsequently provided there will be a positive environmental impact .
Human Rights and Equality Impact:	None
Safeguarding:	None

10. Appendix

- 10.1 None included