

STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

PROFORMA

Cabinet Meeting22nd November 2007

1. Title of Item/Report

New Joint Waste Management Strategy 2008-2020

2. Record of the Decision

Members considered a report relating to the new Joint Waste Management Strategy 2008-2020. It was explained that the four unitary authorities of Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar & Cleveland and Stockton-on-Tees (the "partner authorities") were the successor Waste Disposal Authorities to Cleveland County Council and shared a contract with SITA Ltd. for the disposal of municipal wastes based on an Energy from Waste (EfW) Plant at Haverton Hill. It was noted that the contract terminates in July 2020.

The partner authorities agreed to manage their municipal waste streams jointly through a Waste Management Group of senior officers, one representing each authority. Managed by a Waste Management Development Officer employed by the Joint Strategy Unit the joint arrangement included for provision of a joint waste strategy and co-ordination of waste stream information as well as management of the waste disposal contract.

Members were advised that the existing Joint Waste Management Strategy was developed between the four former Cleveland County authorities and was intended for the period 1 October 2001 - 30 June 2020, however, much had changed in waste management terms. In 2006 the Government issued new guidance on the content of waste management strategies, and earlier this year following extensive consultation the government published a new waste strategy for England which would need to be reflected in the new joint waste management strategy.

It was noted that the scope of the new Joint Waste Management Strategy had also been expanded to include Darlington Borough Council which reflected greater joint working across the Tees Valley Area.

Members were advised that Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar & Cleveland, Stockton-on-Tees and Darlington Borough Councils had

started development of a new Joint Waste Management Strategy (JWMS) covering the period 2008-2020.

Work was well underway to develop the new JWMS and statutory Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), resourced through DEFRA's Local Authority Support Unit (LASU) in conjunction with the Joint Strategy Unit (JSU). Members were provided with details of the timetable of events.

Members were informed that following a stakeholder consultation on objectives, policies and drivers, and including an initial options appraisal, a core stakeholder working party worked with the Steering Group to develop an initial draft headline strategy. Portfolio holders were consulted informally at a core stakeholder meeting held on 13 July.

On 2 August, the Steering Group agreed an initial draft headline strategy for stakeholder consultation. This consultation included the Environmental Partnership on 20 September, and a second Tees Valley Stakeholder consultation event on policies and actions that was held on 5 October.

Following the consultation, the partner authorities had agreed the following strategic objectives for the new JWMS:-

- To reduce waste generation.
- Achievable and affordable.
- To work towards zero landfill.
- To minimise the impact on climate change.
- To develop an effective and accountable delivery structure.
- To contribute towards economic regeneration.

It was informed that the objectives were presented and agreed at the LSP Environment Partnership in March 2007 with a further update to the Environment Partnership in September. The strategic objectives were also presented to the Urban Environment Task Group (UETG) in March with further updates to UETG in June and September.

Members were advised that the development of a draft implementation plan for Stockton would be informed by the work of the Environment Select Committee currently starting work on a review of the Council Management of Waste. A full public consultation would be carried out on the draft strategy and implementation plan.

A final draft Joint Waste Management Strategy would be prepared for approval in March and brought back to Cabinet for approval following further consultation and the development of the implementation plan.

Members were presented with a copy of the Draft Headline Strategy.

RESOLVED that:-

1. The Draft Headline Strategy be approved for Public Consultation.
2. Cabinet notes that the development of a draft implementation plan for Stockton will be informed by the work of the Environment Select Committee Scrutiny review of the Council Management of Waste.
3. Cabinet notes that the Joint Waste Management Strategy will be brought back to Cabinet in Spring 2008 for approval.

3. Reasons for the Decision

To agree the draft headline strategy prior to public consultation which will inform the development of an implementation plan for the Strategy which is appropriate for Stockton Borough Council.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

None

6. Details of any Dispensations

Not Applicable

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

By no later than midnight on Friday 30th November 2007

Proper Officer
26 November 2007