

Waste Treatment Procurement – Site Visits

SUMMARY

- 1.1 To seek approval for members and officers to make overseas visits to inspect the types of treatment plants being offered by bidders for the new waste treatment contract.
- 1.2 There are four different kinds of technology being offered, two of which can be viewed at one site.
- 1.3 It is requested that approval is granted for up to 5 City Council Members to make the visits.
- 1.4 It is requested that approval is granted for up to 4 officers to accompany the Members on these visits.
- 1.5 Subject to any issues raised at the meeting, I support of the following recommendations.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To accept the proposal for up to 5 members and 4 officers to make the necessary visits to the proposed treatment plants in Europe and to approve the visits as 'approved duties' for the purposes of the Members' Allowances Scheme.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 To ensure that the final treatment solution is acceptable to the Council.
- 3.2 To ensure that the Council meets its waste diversion targets at an acceptable cost.



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SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 1.1 Council has been advised of the progress in procuring a new waste treatment facility to deal with residual waste generated in the city.
- 1.2 There are currently two bidders remaining in the competitive procurement process, Waste Recycling Group (now part of a Spanish company - FCC), and United Utilities.
- 1.3 The two companies have each proposed two different kinds of technology to deal with the waste. Members and officers need assurance that the proposals being made by the two companies are workable and acceptable to Council. This can only be confirmed by a site inspection and discussions with the two bidders at existing sites where the processes are in operation.
- 1.4 Provided the solutions are technically and environmentally acceptable then the ultimate award of the contract will be based upon the price and follow normal contract procedure rules.
- 1.5 The two companies have proposed visits to southern Europe, eastern Europe and possibly northern Europe. The range of the sites is due to the newness of one technology which has only been operating at a limited number of sites for about 7 years. A second technology is also relatively new in its current form, while the third visit will see two technologies on the same site. During the visits the team will be accompanied by representatives of the two companies who will explain the technology in some detail.
- 1.6 One visit can be carried out with only one night spent in Europe while the other visit will require two nights depending upon linking air flights. The anticipated cost of these visits is estimated to be of the order of £1000 per person. This must be compared with the overall cost of the project for Derby being of the order of £400million over 25 years.
- 1.7 It is anticipated that officers from the County Council will make similar visits at the same time as City Council Members and officers.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 The alternative to not visiting the sites is to rely on photographs and reports produced by others. It is considered that this does not provide the same level of information as a visit to the actual treatment facilities.

For more information contact: Andrew Hopkin Tel 01332716516 email andrew.hopkin@derby.gov.uk
Background papers: Cabinet report 26 April 2006 Waste Strategy – Funding and Affordability,
Cabinet report 28 November 2006 - Waste Treatment –Short List of
Contractors and Memorandum of Understanding
Cabinet Report Part 2 19 September 2007 – Waste Treatment
List of appendices: Procurement - Progress
Appendix 1 – Implications,

Appendix 1

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

- 1.1 The costs of the visits can be met from the special budget set up for the procurement of the main contract.

Legal

- 2.1 The Council has a duty to dispose of collected waste and make appropriate arrangements to deal with the material. The visits are part of the necessary arrangements.
- 2.2 The Members' Allowances Scheme requires that visits abroad are approved by full Council

Personnel

- 3.1 There are no staffing implications for the visits. Appropriate insurance for Members and officers will be arranged.

Equalities impact

- 4.1 Waste is treated equally irrespective of where it originates from in the city. The visit is open to all Members.

Corporate Priorities

5. The waste treatment proposal predominantly comes under the Council's Objective of "Leading Derby to a better environment".