

CLEANER, GREENER, SAFER

A record of decisions made by the Executive Member with responsibility for Cleaner, Greener, Safer on:-

MONDAY 7TH FEBRUARY, 2011

following consideration of the matters detailed below in the presence of:-

Councillor Bashir-Ismail	Executive Member for Cleaner, Greener, Safer
Councillor J. Walsh	Major Opposition Spokesperson
Councillor J. Rothwell	Minor Opposition Spokesperson
Mr. M. Cox	Director of Environmental Services
Ms. S. Schofield	Assistant Director, Neighbourhood Services
Ms. D. Ball	Assistant Director, Waste and Fleet Management
Mr. M. Russell	Head of Greenspace
Mrs. V. Ridge	Principal Democratic Services Officer

37. BRING SITE REVIEW

A report of the Director of Environmental Services was submitted which outlined proposals to improve the efficiency and quality of recycling bring site provision in the Borough.

By way of background information, the Executive Member was reminded that bring sites had been introduced in the 1970s as a solution to recycling at a time when residents did not have access to kerbside recycling. Currently in Bolton, 100% of residents had direct access to a doorstep recycling service. As a result, bring sites were no longer well used, with many of the sites being the subject of vandalism or illegal dumping. Further, several of the sites in Bolton were used by traders to avoid paying disposal costs which then had to be met by the Council.

A list of the existing 26 bring sites together with the facilities provided were detailed at Appendix 1 to the report.

Various attempts to improve performance at the sites including enforcement and cleansing measures had proven unsuccessful and the report therefore recommended that a small number of them should be removed in order to make savings and improve the reputation of the Council's Waste Services.

Each of the existing sites had been reviewed against various criteria, the results of which were outlined in Appendix 2 to the report together with recommendations for closure. Additional information regarding the problems at each of the sites was provided at Appendix 3.

It was noted that one of the sites recommended for closure had requested that the site be removed in any event.

A table summarising the potential savings from closure of the sites was included in the report. A total saving of £17,500 had been identified.

Details of how the closures would be publicised were outlined in the report.

The Executive Member AGREED to the closure of the bring recycling sites, as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report.

38. INTRODUCING A CHARGE FOR A SECOND GREEN WASTE BIN

The Director of Environmental Services submitted a report which sought the Executive Member's approval to introduce a charge for the supply of a second green waste bin to properties with larger gardens.

The report reminded the Executive Member that residents who lived on a collection route were entitled to one green waste bin for garden waste which was collected fortnightly between April and November at no charge.

The report advised that the Council received many requests from residents with larger gardens for the supply of a second green bin due to the large volume of garden waste they produced.

In this regard, the report proposed that a second green waste bin should be made available to any resident who requested the service. It was recommended that a one off set up fee of £10 should be charged to cover administration of the scheme and the delivery of the bin with an annual charge thereafter of £79. This would cover the fortnightly any increased waste collection and disposal charges the Council may incur as a result of additional waste presented in containers beyond normal capacity.

The Executive Member AGREED to the introduction of a charge for a second green waste bin, on the basis detailed in the report now submitted.

CONFIDENTIAL ITEM

The background papers and reports in relation to the following items were considered confidential as defined in paragraph 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and that it be deemed that, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in their exemption outweighs the public interest in their disclosure.

39. NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES – SAVINGS AND EFFICIENCY REVIEW PROPOSALS

The Director of Environmental Services submitted a report which set out the results of the formal consultation process in respect of the Neighbourhood Services Division Savings and Efficiencies review and the Project Board's final proposals in response.

The Executive Member was reminded that the Environmental Services Department as a whole was facing significant budget savings over the next three years and that the Neighbourhood

Services Division was required to find its share of the savings in the sum of £1.729M. In addition, further losses in external funding were anticipated over the next two years together with reduced capital.

Following the end of the consultation period on 31st December, 2010, the report went on to address the key issues arising and put forward revised proposals for consideration by the Executive Member.

In this regard, the report provided details of the consultation process that had taken place with Trades Union/staff and external stakeholders, residents and partner organisations. The key elements of the consultation were also highlighted.

As a result of the consultation process, a number of revised proposals had been put forward which accommodated several changes which had been raised. Full details of these were outlined in the report and concerned:

- animal world;
- public conveniences;
- and the events Programme.

The report would also be considered by the Executive Member for Human Resources, Organisational Development and Diversity at her meeting on 7th February, 2011.

The Executive Member APPROVED the final proposals and agreed to delegate the implementation of the new structure, subject to the approval of the Executive Member for Human Resources, Organisational Development and Diversity, including details of voluntary redundancy arrangements and consequential recruitment and selection, to the Chief Executive and the Director of Environmental Services.