

CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday 14 February 2017
Report Subject	Review of the Councils Household Recycling Centre provision
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Waste and Public Protection
Report Author	Chief Officer (Streetscene & Transportation)
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A review was undertaken in 2016 by Welsh Government (WG) on the Councils waste service. The review made recommendations on both the number of Household Recycling Centre's (HRC) in the County and on the way the Council collects its waste.

The outcome of the subsequent HRC review has been widely reported and this report provides an update for Cabinet on the progress made to deliver the final elements of the more localised HRC solution which have been previously endorsed by Cabinet and includes details of the proposed new HRC site, which is located at Rockcliffe, in the north of the County

RECOMMENDATIONS

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| 1. | That Cabinet approve the plans to develop a new HRC site in Rockcliffe to replace the existing facilities in Flint and Connah's Quay. |
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REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE BACKGROUND TO THE PROPOSALS
1.1	Following receipt of the recommendation for an optimum, three site HRC configuration for the County which were contained in the WG report on the Councils waste service in 2016, Cabinet requested officers explore a more localised solution for the service.
1.2	<p>In July 2016, Cabinet approved proposals to improve the current HRC facilities in Buckley and Mold within the footprint of the existing sites and along the lines to the existing HRC facility in Sandycroft.</p> <p>Arrangements at the new facilities would include:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clear separation of operational and service user areas – removing the requirement to close the sites when the skips were being emptied.• Easy 'step free' access to skips• Clear entrance and exits and good traffic management arrangements.
1.3	The construction work which will improve the two sites is now ongoing and the work is expected to be completed by the end of March 2017, allowing the facilities to reopen before the Easter weekend in April.
1.4	An extensive search by FCC's property team has identified a potential site in Rockcliffe to replace the Flint and Connahs Quay facilities. The proposed site is located directly between the two existing facilities and adjacent to the A548 coast road. Discussions on a potential lease for the site with the land owner are at an advanced stage, with details of the lease agreement included within a separate Part II report to Cabinet in order to maintain commercial confidentiality.
1.5	A capital bid of approximately £1.7 million, submitted by Flintshire County Council, has been approved by WG for funding from their Capital Change Programme fund. The funding is intended for the redevelopment of the two existing HRC's in Buckley and Mold and to support the purchase a number of new waste recycling vehicles. An agreement to transfer the funding from the purchase of vehicles to support the construction of the new Rockcliffe HRC site has been approved by WG, with the funding for the new vehicles now being funded from existing lease revenue budgets held within the service.
1.6	The total cost of all of the HRC site redevelopment work is approximately. £2.3m and discussions with WG are at an advanced stage to provide additional financial support to fund at least some of the balance. In the event that the funding bid does not match the total cost of the three projects, bids have also been prepared to the Councils own Capital allocations.
1.7	Subject to Cabinet approval and conditional completion of the land transactions, it is expected that a Planning Application for the new facility will be submitted to the March Planning Committee, allowing construction to commence at the site during May 2017 with an approximate 15 week

	construction period.
1.8	Once completed, the new facility will be open on every day of the week rather than the three day week currently being operated at the existing facilities in Connah's Quay and Flint. The two existing sites in Flint and Connah's Quay will remain open until the new site is fully operational.
1.9	<p>The portfolio Business Planning proposals included savings from the rationalisation of HRC sites which consisted of two elements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Savings in operational costs from reduced site numbers 2. Savings from reduced landfill costs - through improved recycling. <p>As the saving from the first element will be significantly reduced by the revised, localised proposal the second element will become critical if the majority of the projected Business Planning financial savings are still to be delivered.</p>
1.10	A target of 90% recycling at all of the proposed facilities is therefore required in order to deliver the second element of the savings. Other Local Authorities in Wales are currently achieving this level of recycling at their HRC sites through a range of methods from controlling trade use to operating a 'resident only' permit schemes at some or all of the sites. A rebranding of the sites from the traditional 'skip site' to a modern efficient recycling centre will be required and a further report will be presented to Cabinet in June 2017, detailing the new operating model and expectations for all of the Councils HRC sites, in order to achieve the expected recycling rates and to deliver the associated financial savings required from the project.
1.11	Whatever new methods are adopted it is likely that this will impact on the way the public perceive and use the sites and support from all parties will be required in introducing the changes, in order for us to meet the 90% target.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	There will be no reduction in the number of operatives required to operate the overall HRC provision.

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	Informal consultation has taken place with the public, local land owners, Local Members and the local Town Council on the proposals.
3.02	Consultation has taken place in 2016 with HRC site users regarding their aspirations for the HRC provision.
3.04	A "Survey Monkey" consultation process was also completed in 2016 allowing residents to make comments on the waste service and HRC provision.

3.06	Subject to approval, the redevelopment plans will be displayed at both Flint and Connaught's Quay HRC's during March 2017

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
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4.01	A Project Review Board has been set up to monitor and oversee the implementation of the proposals, and to ensure that the project stays on target.
4.02	A desktop review of the impact of the proposals has concluded that the new proposals do not negatively impact on any protected group.

5.00	APPENDICES
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5.01	None.
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6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
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6.01	<p>Insert any hyperlinks to supporting documents if necessary.</p> <p>Contact Officer: Stephen O Jones Telephone: 01352 704700 E-mail: stephen.o.jones@flintshire.gov.uk</p>
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7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
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7.01	HRC - Household Recycling Centre
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