

CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 18 th December 2018
Report Subject	Tender for the Collection and Sale of Household Goods through a Social Enterprise
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Countryside
Report Author	Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation)
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A proportion of the 'waste' generated by households in Flintshire includes many items that still have a use or value, in particular larger items, such as furniture and electrical goods. These items, which are commonly known as 'bulky waste', can be problematic for the householder to dispose of in a way that retains the intrinsic value of the item.

Welsh Government's Waste Collections Blueprint recommends local authorities provide a service for the collection of these materials, which should be provided in a way that maximises their value.

Flintshire County Council currently have an agreement with a local social enterprise (Refurbs Flintshire) for collecting and handling bulky waste items in the County. Refurbs Flintshire was established in 2002 and are a registered charity and not-for-profit company. Under the agreement, Refurbs Flintshire work in partnership with Flintshire County Council to provide the collection service for bulky waste items from households within the County of Flintshire. They also manage the sale and or reuse of large re-usable items collected from Household Recycling Centre's (HRC's) and undertake the deconstruction of these items, in the event that they have limited reuse or resale value. In these circumstances the items are reduced to their component form which are then recycled as raw materials e.g. timber material recovered from furniture.

Financial regulations requires the Council to tender this work to ensure best value, even if the provider chosen as a result of the tender process is a charitable or third sector organisation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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| 1. | That Cabinet approves that a single competitive tender is advertised for both the bulky waste collection service and the deconstruction service. The procurement process should be ring fenced to all capable and suitable social enterprises, to ensure social value as well as value for money. |
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REPORT DETAILS

1.00	BACKGROUND TO THE PROPOSALS
1.01	<p>Current Arrangements</p> <p>Items are recovered from bulky waste collection requests from households and HRC's. The items which are suitable for reuse are sold at Refurbs Flintshire's premises in Aber Park, Flint, where revenue generated from sales of the donated items are re-invested into the charity, in order that they can continue to provide a service to customers and for the benefit of the local community. Refurbs Flintshire was established in 2002 and are a registered charity and not-for-profit company.</p>
1.02	<p>Refurbs Flintshire also operate in the newly opened Rockcliffe HRC, where the Council have based its deconstruction operation, in a purpose built area within the new site. Refurbs Flintshire also collect bulky items from the other four HRC's in Flintshire and take them to the Rockcliffe site for deconstruction, to maximise recycling opportunities, with items which have been set aside for reuse or resale being taken to their showroom in Flint.</p>
1.03	<p>Flintshire County Council also currently contracts Refurbs Flintshire to manage the deconstruction facility at the Rockcliffe HRC. The expenditure is offset by the diversion of these items, through them being reused instead of transferred for waste treatment. In the 2017/18 financial year, 720 tonnes of bulky items were deconstructed to their component parts or reused. These items included 552 tonnes of furniture and 168 tonnes of large domestic appliances.</p>
1.04	<p>The diversion of these items helps toward Flintshire County Council's recycling figures and supports the Council in achieving Welsh Government's statutory recycling targets and adhering to the 'repair and reuse' priority within the waste hierarchy.</p>
1.05	<p>The Council's current charge for the bulky waste collection service are as follows:</p> <p>Charge for up to 5 items - £40 Charge for each extra item - £5</p> <p>Maximum number of additional items is 5 (i.e. charges capped at £65.00 for a transaction with 10 items in total)</p>
1.06	<p>A concessionary discounted charge for bulky collections is applied for those residents claiming benefits (<i>Income Support, Job Seekers Allowance (Income Based), Employment & Support Allowance (Income Related), Disability Living Allowance (DLA) / P.I.P, State Pension or Guaranteed Pension Credits. Proof of benefit is required.</i>)</p> <p>Charge for up to 5 items - £20 Charge for each extra item - £5</p> <p>Maximum number of additional items is 5 (i.e. charges capped at £45.00 for a transaction with 10 items in total). Only two collections are allowed per</p>

	year at the discounted rate.
1.07	<p>Option to work with Local Charities</p> <p>Following feedback from the operatives working on HRC's, it is apparent that there are still items being disposed of which could be recovered for reuse. To encourage the reuse of more items in the future, it is proposed that the successful third sector organisation (following the tender process) works more closely with individual local charities at each HRC, to encourage recycling and provide some shared benefit to the charitable organisations.</p>
1.08	<p>The proposal is for nominated charities to be associated to the particular HRC's as listed below and each site will be branded to match the charity supported at the site. At each recycling centre, items can then be donated or reused to the benefit of the charity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greenfield • Rockcliffe, Oakenholt • Mold • Buckley • Sandycroft
1.09	<p>The contract will be awarded based on the demonstrated link between the charities and the social enterprise at each of the sites. The charity will be responsible for the testing of any equipment that can be reused, e.g. PAT testing electrical items, in readiness for the items to be sold at the charity shop or premises. They will also be responsible for the transportation of the items to the local charity.</p>
1.10	<p>The charity will also have responsibility for the storage of the items from the HRC and they will be required to have a retail unit in the local town or have access to set up pop up shops in the local area to sell the items in a sustainable manner.</p>
1.11	<p>By having partnerships in place with registered charities, it is considered that this will help increase of level of reuse items from the Council's HRC sites, which will in turn help support the local charities with stock to generate revenue for their individual campaigns. In addition the arrangement will help improve the authority's waste diversion rates.</p>
1.12	<p>It is recommended therefore that both the bulky waste collection service and the deconstruction service are tendered in a single contract which is limited to third sector and social enterprise organisations. Due to the value of the contract we are required to carry out a competitive procurement process however it is possible to ring fence that to charitable and social enterprise organisations.</p>
2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	<p>The loss of the bulky waste contract from the current provider may lead to TUPE coming into effect.</p>

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	With Cabinet Member.
3.02	With existing supplier – Refurbs Flintshire.

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	The contract will be managed through recognised programme management processes.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	None.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	Contact Officer: S Jones Telephone: 01352 704700 E-mail: Stephen.o.jones@flintshire.gov.uk

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	OJEU – Official Journal of the European Union. HRC – Household Recycling Centre