

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **CABINET**

DATE: **TUESDAY, 18 SEPTEMBER 2012**

REPORT BY: **DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT**

SUBJECT: **COLLECTION OF TEXTILES FROM THE COUNCIL'S
RECYCLING CENTRES**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek approval from Cabinet for the proposed new arrangements for the collection and disposal of textiles and shoes from Council Household Recycling Centres (HRC's) and 'Bring' sites

2.00 BACKGROUND

- 2.1** The Council currently offers residents a collection facility for unwanted textiles and shoes at its Household Recycling Centres (HRC's) and 'Bring' sites across the County. The containers at the sites are provided and emptied by contractors acting on behalf of the Salvation Army who operate a contract with the Council for providing the service. Between 50 and 100 tonnes of material is collected at the sites each year
- 2.2** The value of textiles as a raw material has increased greatly in the past few years and values of up to £400 per tonne can now be realised for the material. It is understood however that the Salvation Army receives only approximately 10% of the value of the material collected and the Council currently receives no income at all for the material
- 2.3** The contract for the collection and disposal has now expired and a new contract is required. This provides opportunities for other contractors, including Social Enterprises, to sell or reuse the clothing collected and make them available to the general public through local retail units.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1** The new contract will be advertised and procured in line with the Councils Financial regulations.
- 3.2** The contract will be evaluated on two elements. Both elements will be of equal value in determining the outcome of the tender:

1. A statement on the contractor's proposal for delivering the service. (Quality bid)
2. The total annual funding returned to the Council after the operating costs of the successful operator have been deducted. (Financial bid)

Included in the statement for delivering the service will be a scoring mechanism which will encourage the Social Enterprise approach to service delivery

- 3.3** It is intended that a contribution will be made to the Chair of the Council's nominated charity, equal to 10% of the residual value returned to the Council from the sale of textiles/shoes, for each year that the contract operates.
- 3.4** The level of any funding returned to the Council is difficult to assess because of the volatility in the market price of raw materials
- 3.5** It is expected that the new contract will be advertised during November 2012 in order that the new arrangements can commence in January 2013.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.01** That Cabinet approves the proposed new contractual arrangements for collecting the textiles and shoes at the Councils HRC's and 'Bring' sites

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATION

- 5.1** The level of income cannot be guaranteed because of the volatility in the prices of the raw material. Any income however will be additional to the Council's waste budgets

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

- 6.1** The availability of material for resale as clothing will assist families on lower incomes

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

None

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

None

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

None

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

None

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

With Cabinet Member

12.00 APPENDICES

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

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