



HERTFORDSHIRE WASTE PARTNERSHIP

MEMBERS' GROUP 25th January 2010

Item 9: Packaging Consortium Update

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1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To update the Members' group with progress on the establishment of the Packaging Consortium.
- 1.2 To highlight the importance of matching collection operations across Hertfordshire to the range of materials catered for by the new consortium.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At the October meeting the Members' group received a report confirming that following a successful 'Invitation to Submit Outline Solutions' stage invitations had been sent out too the remaining companies inviting them to submit detailed solutions (ISDS).
- 2.2 Detailed submissions were received by the end of October. Evaluation took place on the 9th November 2009, following which it was agreed to award the tender for the Packaging Consortium too 2 different companies to achieve a balance between realising the best prices for individual materials whilst providing a flexible logistical solution that would encourage each constituent authority to both be part of the new consortium as well as expand the range of materials they collect.
- 2.3 As with last year's successful paper consortium Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council will act as the 'contracting authority'. In turn there will be service level agreements between WHBC and the other constituent authorities that mirror the main contract to ensure that WHBC's liabilities are adequately covered.

3 INVITATION TO SUBMIT DETAILED SOLUTIONS – RESULTS

- 3.1 As part of the tendering process each constituent authority was asked to confirm what tonnages they would commit to the consortium. It was on this basis that the procurement process was conducted with formal award of the contract made at Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council's cabinet meeting on the 8th December 2009.
- 3.2 Based on the tonnages previously committed the anticipated financial benefit to each authority is shown below :-

Authority	Total Tonnage	Financial Benefit
Broxbourne	2730	£74,039
Dacorum	4450	£65,589
East Herts	3803	£54,848
Hertsmere	3535	£30,343
HCC	1400	£40,031
North Herts	4445	£93,643
St Albans	3670	£38,208
Stevenage	2250	£45,470
Three Rivers	3320	£59,741
Watford	2020	£29,932
Wel / Hat	2583	£30,100
Totals...	34,206	£561,949

- 3.3 The mix of materials committed by each constituent authority is different and subject to current collection methods, existing contractual obligations and comparative prices.
- 3.4 Appendix A (circulated separately) provides a breakdown of the specific materials being committed by each authority under the packaging consortium.

4 ACTIONS FOLLOWING TENDER AWARD

- 4.1 One of the important aspects to the development of the consortium was a request by the constituent authorities that the procurement process try to develop the range of plastics that can be collected for recycling.
- 4.2 As reported to the last Directors' group meeting the procurement team achieved this objective with the range of plastics catered for by the new consortium shown below :-
- 4.3 Schedule 1 – for collection via bring banks and kerbside recycling services :-
- plastic shrink wrap
 - plastic carrier bags
 - plastic yogurt pots
 - plastic flower pots
 - plastic butter / margarine tubs
 - plastic food trays
- 4.4 Schedule 2 – for collection via the Household Waste Recycling Centres :-
- plastic children's toys
 - plastic garden furniture
 - plastic garden hoses
 - plastic water butts
 - plastic storage containers
 - plastic large ingredient tubs
 - plastic bakery / bread trays
 - plastic wheelie bins & bottle banks
- 4.5 Schedule 3 – is a combination of schedules 1 and 2 and was put together to increase the level of flexibility for plastics recycling at the HWRCs where space is at a premium on some sites.
- 4.6 In order to realise full potential from the new arrangements it is imperative that the constituent authorities take steps to 'equalise upwards' the range of plastics that can be recycled such that residents across Hertfordshire within a reasonable timescale will be able to recycle the same range of material regardless of where they live in the County.
- 4.7 Clearly, whilst this principle is sound it should be recognised that there could be operational concerns that need to be worked through before all authorities will be in a position to widen out the range of plastics they collect.
- 4.8 These practicalities notwithstanding it is important that the HWP does not lose sight of this issue by allowing operational concerns to over ride the wider strategic imperative as we continue the process of aligning collection systems across the HWP; both in pursuit of targets in the JMWMS whilst at the same time improving the level of consistency across the County.
- 4.9 Following presentation of this report at the Directors' meeting in December it was agreed that the Directors in consultation with their respective Heads of Service establish the required actions and time scales in each district which will result in the expansion of the range of plastics collected for recycling in line with those catered for by the new consortium.

5 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 That the Members' group concur with the need to equalise the range of plastics collected across the County as discussed in paragraphs 4.1 – 4.9.
- 5.2 That a progress report is submitted to the Members' group in due course.