

Contracts Position Statement

Report of the Chief Officer Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste

Please note that the following recommendations are subject to consideration and determination by the Committee before taking effect

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Committee notes the current joint contracts in place.

1. Summary

This report summarises the joint contracts procured by Devon County Council (DCC) on behalf of Devon Authorities (East Devon District Council, Exeter City Council, Mid Devon District Council, North Devon Council, South Hams District Council, Teignbridge District Council, Torridge District Council, West Devon Borough Council, Torbay Council and Devon County Council).

2. Introduction

Devon County Council has procured joint contracts for glass, paper, associated haulage and textiles for Devon Authorities to use should they wish. They have also procured the Waste Recycling Advisors' Contract. DCC also provides contract monitoring and liaises between the Local Authorities (LAs) and contractors to resolve any contractual issues. Memorandums of Understanding are in place between the County Council and the relevant Local Authorities, setting out the rules and responsibilities of the partners.

3. Current Position

Glass contract

The LAs included are: Exeter City Council, East Devon, Teignbridge, North Devon and Mid Devon District Councils.

The glass contract was awarded to Berryman/URM and started on 1st April 2019. The contract duration is 3 years with the option to extend for a further 2 years. Berryman also bid for the associated haulage which is provided by Parsons (Mid Devon, East Devon, Exeter and Teignbridge) and M Way (North Devon). Glass prices are reviewed on a monthly basis and haulage rates are reviewed every 6 months.

Glass is transported to Knottingley or Tilbury where it is sorted and crushed. Cullet is then supplied to Ardagh Glass factory where it is recycled into new glass bottles and jars for the UK market. Occasionally glass is transported to Falmouth where it is shipped to Portugal for re-melt applications.

The annual income from the sale of glass is around £290,000 and the haulage costs £290,000 so the contract breaks even.

Paper contract

The LAs included are: Exeter City Council, East Devon, Teignbridge, North Devon and Mid Devon District Councils.

The paper contract was awarded to Palm and started on 1st April 2019 for 3 years with the option to extend for a further 2 years. Palm also bid for the associated haulage which is provided by Gregory Ltd. Paper prices are reviewed on a monthly basis and haulage rates are reviewed every 6 months.

Paper is transported to the mill in Kings Lynn where it is pulped and recycled into newsprint.

The income from the contract is around £1.72million, with haulage costing £370,000. There is therefore a net benefit of £1.35million.

Textiles contract

The LAs included are: Exeter City Council, East Devon, Teignbridge, North Devon and South Hams District Councils, West Devon Borough Council and Torbay Council.

The Salvation Army currently provide and maintain a network of over 100 bring banks across the county. They also collect kerbside textiles from depots in East Devon, Teignbridge and North Devon. LAs providing kerbside collection of textiles may also see high yielding bring banks, especially in areas of high footfall such as busy supermarkets. For example, 3-6 tonnes of material is collected every month from the textile banks located at B&Q in Newton Abbot despite residents also having access to a kerbside scheme. This is likely due to residents preferring to support the Salvation Army by using their banks or the perception that materials collected via the kerbside scheme are recycled instead of reused.

The contract is due to end in March 2020. A new contract will be procured later this year to start on 1st April 2020.

The annual income from this contract is around £700,000.

Waste and Recycling Advisors contract

The aims of the Waste and Recycling Advisors (WRA) contract are to:

- Increase awareness levels by residents for key issues around contamination and recycling/composting
- Increase levels of home composting and reduction of food waste
- Increase capture of recyclable and compostable materials from the residual waste stream
- Reduce contamination of collected recyclable and compostable material
- Increase in the recycling rate in the respective councils' poor performing areas
- A decrease in the overall waste arisings in each of the councils' poor performing areas
- A decrease in residual waste from households.

The WRA contract involves a team of 3 staff provided by the contractor Resource Futures who are employed to visit householders in poor performing areas and offer them advice on how to improve their performance. They are allocated a district or Torbay or Devon to work with for a number of weeks each year and the local authority provides local instructions and supervision.

This contract is in its 3rd year. An infographic at Appendix I shows the results from the 2nd year of the project. The annual value of the contract is around £90,000 per annum. There is an option to extend the contract for a further year (until March 2021).

4. Financial Considerations

An economy of scale can be achieved by guaranteeing higher tonnages than if authorities bid for materials contracts on an individual basis. The WRA contract offers a coordinated approach to assisting householders with their waste management and offers economies of scale when compared with individually employing 3 officers. The contracts are procured and managed by DCC, resulting in reduced costs for authorities.

5. Sustainability Considerations

Sustainability is considered during the procurement process and throughout contract durations e.g. hauliers are expected to source return loads for all journeys where possible. Contractors also work closely with LAs to reduce contamination through improved collection, sorting and storage. The WRA contract assists householders to become more sustainable in their practices. The contractor works with the LAs to reduce travel wherever possible.

6. Carbon Impact Considerations

Reduced tonnage to landfill and energy from waste means a decrease in carbon emissions.

7. Equality Considerations

There are no equality considerations relating to the recommendation.

8. Legal Considerations

There are no legal issues arising in relation to this report.

9. Risk Management Considerations

There are no significant risks associated with the joint contracts.

10. Public Health Impact

There are no impacts to public health identified.

11. Conclusion

The joint contracts continue to offer economies of scale and economic benefits to the authorities using them.

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Electoral Divisions: All

Local Government Act 1972: List of Background Papers

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Background Paper	Date	File Ref.
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Nil

Waste & Recycling Advisors in Devon

2018 - 2019

4,167 People spoken to
on the doorstep



Number of
doors knocked: **11,900**



Across **10**
authorities
in Devon



4,064 Recycling bins,
boxes and bags
given out

1,305 MPS cards
given out 

4,324 MPS
sign ups 



Over **12,343**
'Sorry we missed you' cards
given out

263 Communal
blocks
visited



**Recycling
know-how**

91%
confidence
levels across
Devon*

*Source: Devon Waste Market
Research, April 2019