

NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

CABINET – 19 NOVEMBER 2013

Title of report	REFUSE WASTE TRANSFER FACILITY (COALVILLE)
Key Decision	a) Financial Yes b) Community Yes
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Purpose of report	To seek Cabinet's 'in principle' approval to build a refuse waste transfer facility in partnership with Leicestershire County Council at the Councils Linden Way Depot
Reason for Decision	To ensure efficient use of public sector resources through seeking in principle approvals prior to committing funds to a project
Council Priorities	Value For Money Green Footprints Challenge
Implications:	This report highlights potential future operational and financial implications of Waste Disposal for the Authority as detailed within the report.
Financial/Staff	Opportunities for making efficiency savings from this development are detailed within the report.
Link to relevant CAT	Green Footprints CAT
Risk Management	Risk assessments will be completed as appropriate
Equalities Impact Assessment	None discernible
Human Rights	None discernible

Transformational Government	Working in partnership across tiers within the Public Sector to generate efficiency savings for the Public Sector is considered good practice.
Comments of Head of Paid Service	The report is satisfactory.
Comments of Section 151 Officer	The report is satisfactory.
Comments of Monitoring Officer	The report is satisfactory.
Consultees	Corporate Leadership Team Leicestershire County Council
Background papers	Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy http://www.lesswaste.org.uk/l0032_a4_waste_strategy_document_final_webaw2_150812.pdf
Recommendations	CABINET IS REQUESTED TO APPROVE IN PRINCIPLE THE DEVELOPMENT OF A REFUSE WASTE TRANSFER FACILITY FOR COALVILLE AT THE LINDEN WAY DEPOT.

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Household refuse waste in North West Leicestershire is currently collected at the kerbside and delivered directly to the New Albion landfill site at Albert Village, Swadlincote.
- 1.2 Leicestershire County Council (LCC) are seeking to deliver an improved and more cost effective waste management disposal service through the provision of a new Refuse Waste Transfer Facility (RWTF) at the North West Leicestershire District Council's (NWLDC) depot in Coalville.
- 1.3 This new RWTF will provide capacity to receive, handle and bulk-up waste for onward transfer to waste treatment facilities and would take the form of a building similar in size to the existing garage at the depot. It will have a concrete base to receive the waste to be held short term before re-loading onto larger haulage vehicles.
- 1.4 At this stage, LCC are seeking in principle approval from NWLDC to the proposed site, in order to begin ground investigations and to commission site layout designs and drawings. LCC do not consider it prudent, at this stage, to spend resources on these items without knowing that NWLDC are committed to delivering the project with LCC and as such the property issues surrounding

planning permission, agreements to build on our land with LCC, future ownership, environmental agency licences and shared operating costs have yet to be finalised. These will be progressed if in principle agreement is given by Cabinet.

- 1.5 It is acknowledged that Planning permission will be required and full resident consultation will be undertaken as part of the planning process.

2.0 KEY BENEFITS

- 2.1 The key benefits of the project are to provide:

2.1.1 NWLDC with a centrally located facility for tipping off waste, which will have the potential to create operational efficiencies to help safeguard against having to procure more vehicles and employ more staff in the near future as a result of new housing growth.

2.1.2 The opportunity for cost savings for NWLDC in terms of reduced travel time, fuel and vehicle wear and tear.

2.1.3 More certainty over the long term treatment/disposal of the waste as the current planning consent for landfill at the New Albion site expires at the end of 2014. The continuation of the landfill site beyond that date is subject to a successful application for an extension of the current planning consent.

2.1.4 An opportunity to remove dependency on the New Albion landfill site as this is the only location that is currently available in the area for delivery of the District's waste.

2.1.5 A reduced carbon footprint for the waste collection service from reduced mileage, supporting our corporate priority of the Green Footprints Challenge.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The initial budget cost estimate by LCC for the project indicates that approximately £420,000 would be required to fund a new RWTF at Coalville. This will be funded by LCC and includes a contingency sum of £40,000 which is considered prudent given that the site investigation works have yet to be undertaken. The above budget estimate does not include the cost of any service diversions as these are also unknown at this point in time. The figures are estimates at present that will be revised as more detail and actual costs become available.

3.2 NWLDC has not been asked to contribute to capital costs as these will be met by LCC.

3.3 LCC is however looking for NWLDC to take on responsibility for the operations of the site and share operational costs such as processing and haulage. This will be discussed in more detail if Cabinet approves the recommendations in this report.

3.4 There are likely anticipated efficiency savings to NWLDC from:

- Reduction in fuel as a result of reduced mileage;
- Reduction in wear and tear on vehicles currently caused by damage arising from tipping directly onto a landfill site;
- Time saving for crews from tipping at a central location as opposed to the edge of the District; and
- Absorbing further demands on the service, caused by new housing growth, within existing resources.

4.0 KEY RISKS AND IMPLICATIONS FOR NWLDC

4.1 Logistics – Failure to deliver a new refuse transfer station would result in the risk of:

- Continued reliance on the use of the New Albion landfill site, a site that does not have guaranteed long term planning consent from Leicestershire County Council; and
- NWLDC having to deliver waste further afield resulting in increased costs to NWLDC if the New Albion landfill site closed.

4.2 Odours – the management of odours is a planning consideration and will need to be addressed if necessary by conditions relating to such things as storage and site management to ensure odours are controlled and minimized. For example, the transfer facility could have roller shutter doors which would be closed at all times, other than when tipping or loading is taking place, therefore reducing the risk of escaping odours.

4.3 Vehicle Movements – An increase in vehicle movements in and out of Linden Way is anticipated with a corresponding decrease in vehicle movements through the District to New Albion, Albert Village. This would be considered in more detail at the planning application stage.

4.4 Urban Forest Park - In order to accommodate the new facility the existing depot site will require extending. This will mean an area covered by trees will need to be used. NWLDC will replant at least an equivalent number of trees within the wider Urban Forest Park and Nature Alive site at the earliest opportunity which will be secured through the planning agreements.

5.0 NEXT STEPS

- 5.1 If Cabinet gives in principle approval to the RWTF, a project team comprising of LCC and NWLDC officers will be established to include the Head of Community Services and Waste Services Team Manager.
- 5.2 The project team will initiate site investigations, site layout designs and drawings and undertake further refinement of the business case including a full financial appraisal of costs and benefits for consultation with the Portfolio Holder, upon which a further report will be taken to Cabinet in due course.
- 5.3 LCC has indicated that no building work would commence on site until April 2014 at the earliest due to other capital projects underway (Whetstone and Loughborough Transfer Stations). If approved the anticipated completion date for the works would be April 2015, with a potential continuation of existing landfill arrangements to that point as outlined at 2.1.3.