

SELECT COMMITTEE

6th November 2018

Present –The Chairman (Councillor Staveley), and Councillors Brown, Mason, Moorby, Pighills, Shuttleworth, Solloway and Whitaker.

Officers – Committee Officer.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Graham, Mercer, Sutcliffe and Thompson.

Start: 6.30pm

Finish: 7.52pm

The minutes of the Committee's meeting held on 12th September 2018 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

Minutes for Report

Exclusion of the Public

Resolved - That, in accordance with the Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules, the public is excluded from the meeting during consideration of Minute OS.412 below on the grounds that it is not in the public interest to disclose the Category 3 (financial or business affairs of any particular person including the Council) exempt information therein.

\$OS.412

COMMERCIAL WASTE SERVICE – PROPOSED CHARGING MODEL

Further to Minute POL.880/17-18, at which the Waste Management Working Group's report regarding a proposed move by the Commercial Waste Service to a new weight based collection business model had been accepted by Policy Committee, the Chairman welcomed the Director of Services and Environmental Services and Housing Manager who had asked the Committee to consider the proposed charging model for the collection of commercial waste from 1st April 2019. Councillor Lis, Lead Member for Greener Craven was also in attendance. Copies of a report prepared by the Environmental Services and Housing Manager, with details of the proposed charging model, had been circulated with the agenda for the meeting.

In carrying out its review of the Commercial Waste Service in 2017-18 the Select Waste Management Working Group had agreed the following position:-

“The revised service and business model needed to be business friendly and it would be extremely concerned if rural businesses were to be disadvantaged by the change. The Working Group would expect the “rural question” to be resolved before any new model is introduced. When clear data is available demonstrating the potential impact of the proposed model and options for addressing the rural question have been identified the Select Committee / the Working Group would wish to be consulted. Co-collection may be a solution in part to the “rural question” and it would expect this option to be explored along with other options for addressing the issue.”

Members were reminded that the Council's market share of the commercial waste business within Craven was approximately 37% but because that was under threat from the commercial sector it had been necessary to review the future delivery in order to develop a competitive service. In presenting details of the approach taken and methodology behind the proposed weight based charging model, officers expressed the view that the model now presented would enable the Council to compete with the private sector. For budgetary purposes a cautious approach had been taken to estimated income levels for 2019/20.

In reporting on the “rural question” the Environmental Services and Housing Manager assured Members that having dismissed distance as a factor within the charging model, businesses located in rural parts of the District would not be disadvantaged; the pricing, as proposed, would be the same whether a business was urban or rural based. As regards the potential for co-collection of some commercial waste on domestic rural rounds, the option was to be considered as part of a route optimisation exercise. An evaluation report on the implementation and operation of the new business model would be presented to the Select Committee in October / November 2019.

Following a discussion, it was

Resolved – That the proposed commercial waste charging methodology, as now presented, is accepted for reference to Policy Committee on 4th December 2018, and that Policy Committee is also made aware of the following comments now agreed:-

- a. It is acknowledged that businesses located in rural parts of the District will not be disadvantaged by the new business model and charging mechanism.
- b. That within the proposed charging mechanism the principle of discounting on a discretionary basis is accepted.
- c. That the intention to consider co-collection of some commercial and domestic waste as part of a route optimisation exercise is noted.
- d. The Service will need to keep its approach under review and adjust accordingly in response to experience gained.
- e. To ensure, if possible, the full cost of collection and disposal of commercial waste from holiday homes is recovered, officers should give further consideration to the charging mechanism to be applied to those holiday homes which currently would be exempt from payment of the disposal element of the charges to be levied.

Note : As an existing commercial waste client the Chairman declared an interest and took no part in consideration of the proposed charging model; the discussion was chaired by the Vice-Chairman Councillor Whitaker.

Chairman.