PLEASE NOTE START TIME

TRANSPORT AND NEIGHBOURHOODS PORTFOLIO DECISION SCHEDULE



Monday, 4 October 2010

at 8.30 am

in Committee Room C, Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Councillor P Jackson, Cabinet Member responsible for Transport and Neighbourhoods will consider the following items.

1. KEY DECISIONS

No items

2. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION

2.1 Business Transformation – Waste Management Recommendations – Wheeled Bin Charges – Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services)

3. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

3.1 Tees Valley Bus Network Improvements - Year 1 Schemes - Assistant Director (Transportation and Engineering)

4. REPORTS FROM OVERVIEW OF SCRUTINY FORUMS

No items

TRANSPORT AND NEIGHBOURHOODS PORTFOLIO

Report to Portfolio Holder
4 October 2010



Report of: Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services)

Subject: BUSINESS TRANSFORMATION - WASTE

MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

WHEELED BIN CHARGES

SUMMARY

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek approval to increase the charges to residents for replacement wheeled bins.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The report refers to the Business Transformation/Service Delivery Options contained in the Cabinet Report of 28th June 2010 and in particular the increase in charges for replacement wheeled bins. The report seeks approval to increase the charge to residents for replacement wheeled bins from the 1st April 2011.

3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

The Portfolio has responsibility for Waste Management issues.

4. TYPE OF DECISION

This is an executive decision of the Portfolio Holder.

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Non Key

6. **DECISION(S) REQUIRED**

Approval is required to raise the charge to residents for replacement wheeled bins. It is proposed the charge is raised from the current £10 per bin to £25 per bin.

Report of: Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services)

BUSINESS TRANSFORMATION - WASTE Subject:

> MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

WHEEL ED BIN CHARGES

PURPOSE OF REPORT 1.

1.1 To seek approval to increase the charges to residents for replacement wheeled bins.

2. **BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 Wheeled bins were introduced by Hartlepool Borough Council in 1999 for the convenience of residents and to improve the efficiency and safety of the refuse collection service; their introduction was also considered helpful in maintaining safer and cleaner streets. At this time, the Council did not charge residents for replacing bins that had been lost, stolen or damaged; however, the cost of providing these replacements became too onerous and subsequently a nominal charge of £10 per bin was introduced.
- 2.2 This charge of £10 has not changed over the years despite the gradual increase in the cost of new supplies.
- The Cabinet Report of 28th June 2010, Business Transformation -2.3 Service Delivery Options Analysis Report for Waste Management. identified that the cost of providing replacement wheeled bins is significant, and that consideration should be given to increasing the charge to residents.
- 2.4 In the 2009/10 financial year, the cost of replacing domestic household wheeled bins was circa £25,000, which is an increase of 18% on the previous year 2008/9. Residents are currently charged £10 for a replacement bin, which produced a total income in 2009/10 of £5.606 net of VAT.
- 2.5 A survey of local authorities across the Tees Valley shows a range of charges being made to residents for replacement wheeled bins. Stockton Borough Council places a charge of £25, whilst Middlesbrough Borough Council has a zero charge; Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council has a charge of £15, which is currently under review; Darlington Borough Council does not provide wheeled bins and instead distributes black plastic sacks to all its residents.

Outside the Tees Valley, charges again vary with Durham County Council having a zero rate and South Tyneside Borough Council charging £25; Northumberland County Council was found to have the highest charge at £35.

2.6 At present, Hartlepool Borough Council does not charge for replacement recycling containers, as this may discourage resident participation. This approach is common amongst other local authorities.

3. PROPOSALS

3.1 It is proposed that Hartlepool Borough Council increases the charge for replacement wheeled bins from £10 to £25, effective from the 1st April 2011.

4. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- In the Cabinet report of 28th June 2010, an increase in charges for replacement wheeled bins was listed as a service delivery option (SDO) that would contribute to essential savings/efficiencies. Failure to meet the SDO targets set out in the Cabinet report will have significant negative consequences for the Waste Management Service, its staff, and the Council as a whole.
- 4.2 The increase in charges may result in residents being reluctant to replace bins that are lost, stolen or damaged. In this situation there is a risk of litter/refuse bags etc being deposited in the street that will impact upon the workload of the street cleansing teams. However, this problem can be alleviated through the issuing of Section 46 Notices by the Environmental Enforcement Team. This Notice requires residents to present their domestic household waste in a responsible manner and has proved to be very effective in the past.

5. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 5.1 The cost to the Council for providing replacement wheeled bins is currently fixed under a contractual arrangement; however, this arrangement will end in the current financial year and prices are likely to increase due to the present economic climate.
- 5.2 The current charge of £10 per replacement bin produces a deficit of circa £19,500 based on 2009/10 statistics; however, the likely increase in the cost of new wheeled bins will significantly add to this deficit.

5.3 A charge of £25 per replacement wheeled bin will cover the direct costs to Council.

6. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

6.1 Whilst the Council has a statutory duty to manage the town's domestic household waste, there is no requirement to provide waste receptacles. Similarly, there are no statutory regulations that dictate the level of charge that Councils are able to make in respect of replacement waste receptacles.

7. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS

7.1 There are no staffing implications associated with this proposal.

8. ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

8.1 It is feasible that an increased charge may encourage residents to take greater responsibility for their wheeled bins, which could result in a reduction in requests for replacements.

9. **SECTION 17 (Crime & Disorder)**

9.1 Wheeled bins left in the street after refuse collection create a number of issues. Aside from the visual impact this has on communities, wheeled bins are often the subject of anti-social activities such as theft, burglary and arson.

> As described in section 8 above, an increased charge may encourage residents to take greater responsibility for their wheeled bin; thus reducing levels of anti-social behaviour.

10. **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Portfolio Holder approves of an increase in charges for 10.1 replacement wheeled bins from £10 to £25, effective from 1st April 2011.

11. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

11.1 The increased charge is fundamental to the targets set out in the Waste Management SDO report to Cabinet on 28th June 2010, aimed at achieving essential savings/efficiencies for the Council. Failure to

- meet these targets will have significant negative consequences for the Waste Management section, its staff, and the Council as a whole.
- 11.2 Without an increase in charges, the deficit to the Council in supplying replacement wheeled bins will increase as a result of an anticipated rise in the price of new supplies; this will place a further strain on existing budgets.
- 11.3 The proposed level of charge is in line with those made by other local authorities in the North East.

12. BACKGROUND PAPERS

12.1 Cabinet Report of the 28th June 2010, Business Transformation – Service Delivery Options Analysis Report for Waste Management

13. CONTACT OFFICER

13.1 Craig Thelwell
Waste & Environment Services Manager
Regeneration & Neighbourhoods Department
1 Church St
Hartlepool
TS25 7DS.

Tel: 01429 523370.

E-mail: craig.thelwell@hartlepool.gov.uk

TRANSPORT AND NEIGHBOURHOODS PORTFOLIO

Report to Portfolio Holder 4 October 2010



Report of: Assistant Director (Transportation and

Engineering)

Subject: TEES VALLEY BUS NETWORK

IMPROVEMENTS - YEAR 1 SCHEMES

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To give an update on the individual schemes for Year 1 of the programme.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The report gives details of each scheme, the funding profile and anticipated implementation timescale.

3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

The Portfolio Holder has responsibility for Traffic and Transportation issues.

4. TYPE OF DECISION

Non-Key

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

This is an executive decision made by the Portfolio Holder.

6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED

The Portfolio Holder notes the report.

Report of: Assistant Director (Transportation and

Engineering)

Subject: TEES VALLEY BUS NETWORK

IMPROVEMENTS - YEAR 1 SCHEMES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To give an update on the individual schemes for Year 1 of the programme.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The five Tees Valley area authorities, along with Tees Valley Unlimited, submitted a successful bid to the Department for Transport for funding to provide infrastructure improvements along core bus routes. The project for Hartlepool is spread over 4 years, with Year 1 being financial year 2010/11.
- 2.2 One of the key aims of the project is to give improved journey times for bus passengers, and the schemes outlined in this report will make a significant contribution towards that aim.
- 2.3 Written consultation is taking place on any works that are directly outside of residential or business properties, with all schemes being covered in a press release and detailed on the Council's website. Any negative issues highlighted from the consultation process will be reported to a future portfolio meeting.

3. PROPOSALS

- 3.1 The following are Year 1 schemes (Plans are shown in **Appendices 1 to 9**), and therefore are expected to be implemented by the end of March 2011:-
 - **Transport Interchange** Almost completed. Bringing together rail, bus, coach, taxi and cycling facilities in the town centre.
 - Oxford Road/ Catcote Road Installation of traffic signals and junction widening. Will allow traffic to get out onto Catcote Road much easier than at present, while widening of Catcote Road will ensure right turning vehicles do not hold up northbound traffic.
 - Stockton Street/ Church Square Prohibition of right turn into Clarence Road will allow greater northbound flow through the

- junction, improving traffic flows in this area of the town centre.
- **Elizabeth Way turning circle** Re-modelling of turning circle to give improved access following changes to Stagecoach services.
- Raby Road/ Hart Lane Electronic bus priority facility to be added to existing traffic signals.
- Hart Lane/ Wiltshire Way Bus priority facility, as above.
- Catcote Road/ Truro Drive Junction widening, will mean that northbound traffic is not held up by right turning vehicles.
- Catcote Road/ Wynyard Road Junction widening to help southbound traffic pass vehicles waiting to turn right.
- Catcote Road/ Mowbray Road Junction widening as above, with provision of parking lay-bys for residents.
- Raby Road/ York Road Junction widening on Raby Road, and provision of bus lay-by for northbound Odeon stop.
- Winterbottom Avenue Re-location of southbound bus stop away from Holdforth Road junction to ease congestion.
- West View Road/ King Oswy Drive Junction to be widened to assist left turning buses, with direct access to new lay-by.

4. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

4.1 In Year 1, Hartlepool are receiving £1.65 million from DfT, topped up by a local contribution of £238,000 from the Council's Local Transport Plan.

5. RECOMMENDATION

5.1 That the Portfolio Holder notes the detailed schemes to be implemented, and that any negative issues arising from public consultation will be reported to a future meeting for consideration.

6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

To give improved journey times for core bus services, along with wider traffic management benefits for all road users.

7. CONTACT OFFICER

7.1 Mike Blair (Highways, Traffic and Transportation Manager)
Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Department
Hartlepool Borough Council

Telephone Number 01429 523252 Email: mike.blair@hartlepool.gov.uk

















