

TRANSPORT AND NEIGHBOURHOODS PORTFOLIO DECISION SCHEDULE



Friday 20 January 2012

at 3.30 pm

in Committee Room C, Civic Centre, Hartlepool

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

1. KEY DECISIONS

None.

2. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION

- 2.1 Town Wall Coast Protection Scheme - Contractor Procurement – *Assistant Director (Transportation and Engineering)*

3. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- 3.1 Waste Management – Stockton/Hartlepool Study – *Assistant Director (Regeneration and Neighbourhoods)*

TRANSPORT AND NEIGHBOURHOODS PORTFOLIO

Report to Portfolio Holder

20th January 2012



Report of: Assistant Director (Transportation and Engineering).

Subject: TOWN WALL COAST PROTECTION SCHEME -
CONTRACTOR PROCUREMENT.

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek approval for early procurement of a Contractor, on a Price / Quality basis, to facilitate Contractor contribution to the detailed design process, and subsequent construction subject to necessary approvals.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

Report for information and decision

3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

The Portfolio Holder has responsibility for coast protection issues.

4. TYPE OF DECISION

This is a non-key decision.

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

This is an executive decision made by the Portfolio Holder.

6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED

That the Portfolio Holder authorises:-

- officers to procure a Contractor for the Town Wall Coast Protection scheme on a price / quality ratio of 20% price to 80% quality.
- presentation of the final detailed design of the set back wall to Cabinet for approval before any construction work on the set-back wall commences.

Report of: Assistant Director (Transportation and Engineering).

Subject: TOWN WALL COAST PROTECTION SCHEME -
CONTRACTOR PROCUREMENT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval for early procurement of a Contractor, on a Price Quality basis, to facilitate Contractor contribution to the detailed design process, and subsequent construction subject to necessary approvals.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Following a previous report dated 30th April 2007, approval was given by Cabinet to progress the various policies, strategies and schemes for the Hartlepool frontage promoted within the Shoreline Management Plan (SMP2) Action Plan, subject to appropriate finance being made available.
- 2.2 One of the major schemes identified in the report was the Town Wall Coast Protection Scheme and following a report to Portfolio Holder dated 20th December 2007 a firm of Consulting Engineers (Scott Wilson) was procured to carry out the necessary specialist modeling and outline scheme design in accordance with Environment Agency procedures.
- 2.3 The outline design is now complete and the proposals involve initially:-
- remedial works to groynes;
 - the construction of toe protection to the Town Wall; and
 - the construction of a set-back flood defence wall.
- 2.4 The Environment Agency has given technical approval to the scheme for the value of £1.3m following a presentation by officers in October 2011. Confirmation of funding availability is expected shortly but it is anticipated that funding will be available next financial year or the year after. The next stage of the process is for the Council's Engineering Consultancy to move into detailed design.
- 2.4 Following technical approval from the EA, a further public meeting was held on Tuesday 15th November 2011 to discuss the proposals with residents. Residents raised various issues regarding the set-back wall to which detailed answers are required and these can only be addressed following completion of the detailed design process.
- 2.5 The construction works for the set-back wall will have significant complexities and require particular specialist skills of an experienced

Contractor. The works are situated in a very sensitive confined location (around the scheduled ancient monument) and are very close to residential properties. Design options and solutions will therefore be significantly influenced by these constraints. It is therefore considered that these circumstances can best be addressed by early contractor involvement in finalising the detailed design with a selection process heavily weighted towards quality rather than price.

- 2.6 The quality orientated early contractor appointment will offer benefits in:-
- ensuring that the Contractor has the specialist skills and experience relevant to the planned works;
 - allowing designers to draw upon the expertise of the Contractor to establish the optimum design solution;
 - giving the most robust cost estimates;
 - involving the Contractor in a design team including HBC, specialist consultant, and resident representatives;
 - involving the Contractor in the ongoing public consultation and approval process to ensure that they are fully aware of the particular sensitivities and constraints on the construction works, and can use this in developing the most appropriate methods of construction and budget costings.
- 2.7 During the process of detailed design, further public meetings will be held as appropriate with a view to presenting the final design to Cabinet seeking approval to proceed with construction of the set back wall scheme, subject to the various design complexities being addressed.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 Final confirmation of whether funding will be available from the Environment Agency is expected late December 2011 / early January 2012. However the proposed Contract arrangements will allow for the scenario of the construction works not proceeding with no financial compensation to the appointed contractor.
- 3.2 It is common practice in coastal schemes for detailed design to be carried out at risk by the Council prior to receipt of tenders and final funding confirmation (including reimbursement of detailed design costs). The Council's coast protection revenue budget can be managed to accommodate the design fees for the scheme in the first instance.

4.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 That the Portfolio Holder authorises:-
- officers to procure a Contractor for the Town Wall Coast Protection on a price / quality ratio of 20% price to 80% quality.
 - presentation of the final detailed design of the set back wall to Cabinet for approval before any construction work on the set-back wall commences

TRANSPORT AND NEIGHBOURHOODS PORTFOLIO

Report to Portfolio Holder
20 January 2012



Report of: Assistant Director (Regeneration and Neighbourhoods)

Subject: WASTE MANAGEMENT –
STOCKTON/HARTLEPOOL STUDY

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To update the Portfolio Holder on the outcome of a feasibility study undertaken in conjunction with Stockton Borough Council to explore what, if any, opportunities there may be in terms of an integrated Management service delivery.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The report advises on the outcome of the study. It identifies the differences between the two Local Authorities in terms of direct service delivery and the savings achieved to date within each Local Authority.

3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO HOLDER

Waste Management is within the remit of the Portfolio Holder.

4. TYPE OF DECISION

Non key

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

20 January 2012

6. DECISION REQUIRED

The Portfolio Holder notes the content of the report and comments accordingly.

Report of: Assistant Director (Regeneration and Neighbourhoods)

Subject: WASTE MANAGEMENT – STOCKTON/HARTLEPOOL STUDY

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

To update the Portfolio Holder on the outcome of a feasibility study undertaken in conjunction with Stockton Borough Council to explore what, if any, opportunities there may be in terms of an integrated Waste Management service delivery.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Funding was received from the North East Improvement and Efficiency Programme (NEIEP) to consider a joint working model between Hartlepool and Stockton Borough Councils in respect of Waste Management direct service provision.
- 2.2 The funding enabled a suitably qualified and experienced external consultant to consider, on a short term assignment, the possibilities of joint working between the two Authorities. The scope of the services considered for joint working was defined as all waste collection services including recycling, but excluding waste disposal as the Local Authorities which were part of the former Cleveland county already have a shared 25 year waste disposal contract.
- 2.3 The project provided an opportunity for both Authorities to consider a joint approach to providing services to meet customer expectations, comply with legislation and achieve a desired level of efficiencies whilst enabling the service to develop for the future.

3.0 INFORMATION

- 3.1 Hartlepool and Stockton's Heads of Service met in July to discuss the viability of a 'joined up' waste management service. The following salient points were highlighted at the meeting:
 - Stockton Borough Council's Waste Management service has a clear divide between its operational and strategic elements whereas Hartlepool's strategic and operational aspects are combined.

- Stockton operates its waste collection service over 4 days (Tuesday to Friday inc.), whereas Hartlepool currently operates over a 5 day working week. N.B. Hartlepool is currently looking into a 4 day working week as part of its recently announced Waste Review.
- The terms and conditions of Hartlepool and Stockton's workforces vary significantly e.g. Stockton's operatives and drivers are on a higher pay band and work annualised hours; Stockton's workforce 'traverse' across other services such as Cleansing as part of a 'street-scene' set up.
- Whilst Stockton Borough Council carries out similar fortnightly collections of household recyclable waste using similar receptacles, this is collected by the in-house service whereas Hartlepool uses an external contractor to deliver a large part of this service. It is understood Stockton does not intend to make any changes to its present kerbside recycling arrangements.
- Stockton undertakes fortnightly collections of recyclable waste, and weekly collections of residual waste – Hartlepool operates an 'alternate' weekly collection service. It is understood Stockton does not intend to change its present arrangements.
- Similar to Hartlepool, Stockton operates a green waste collection service, but suspends this service for the winter months from November. Furthermore, unlike Hartlepool, Stockton does not provide a wheeled bin to residents for the storage and collection of green waste, but instead uses plastic bags.
- Similar to Hartlepool, Stockton provides a Bulky Household Waste collection service; however, Stockton charges £15 for 6 items compared to Hartlepool's £15 for 3 items.
- Similar to Hartlepool, Stockton provides a Trade Waste service, but does not offer a recycling option.
- As of June 2011, Stockton's Household Waste recycling rate was 31.56% compared to Hartlepool's 47.1%.

4.0 HARTLEPOOL BOROUGH COUNCIL

- 4.1 Hartlepool's Waste Management section has recently achieved efficiency savings of £260,000 from the implementation of its Service Delivery Option Review. In addition to this, the section has exploited the current buoyant markets for recyclable waste materials and has derived significant additional income and efficiency savings by increasing its education, enforcement and 'sorting/segregation of

waste' activities. These significant additional income and efficiency savings are derived from the sale of recyclate to end-processors and a corresponding reduction in waste being taken for incineration/landfill.

- 4.2 In October 2011, Cabinet gave approval for the Waste Management section to continue in its review of service delivery, which could realistically achieve a further financial saving/income (in excess of £500,000). Although the Household Waste Recycling Centre, Transfer Station and Trade Waste operations are under review, the review process itself gives consideration to four key areas:
 - a) Changes to the kerbside dry recycling service;
 - b) Suspension of the green waste service during winter months;
 - c) Use of route optimisation technology to increase efficiency of collection rounds;
 - d) A four-day working week.
- 4.3 The process involves a lengthy consultation period to establish public opinion on the proposed changes to this key front-line service. However, initial feedback from the consultation exercise is not highlighting any major concerns and it is envisaged radical changes will therefore be implemented within the next 12 to 18 months.
- 4.4 Hartlepool will continue to develop and improve its waste management service with a view to further increasing its recycling rates and reducing wastes sent to landfill/incineration.

5.0 STOCKTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

- 5.1 Like Hartlepool, Stockton as part of its programme of Efficiency Improvement and Transformation reviews has identified efficiencies of £830,000 from its services to be delivered in two phases £230,00 in 20012-13 and the full £830,000 from 2013-14 onwards.
- 5.2 This is achieved from a mixture of operational efficiencies, budget reductions and additional income generated from the re-negotiation of the sale of recyclables.
- 5.3 Operational changes will include
 - a) A restructure of supervisory/management within the division
 - b) Reduction of Refuse Rounds and Farm collection Rounds
- 5.4 Stockton will continue to review operational practices and market prices to ensure maximum income and operational efficiency.

6.0 CONCLUSION

- 6.1 The study has highlighted some similarities in the way Stockton and Hartlepool operate their waste management service; however, it is clear that significant differences currently exist that would inhibit a full joined-up or collaborative working arrangement.
- 6.2 There appears to be no clear evidence that any joined-up or collaborative working with Stockton's waste management service will realise savings over and above those already identified for Hartlepool Borough Council.
- 6.3 Logistical problems may occur with joined-up or collaborative working with Stockton.
- 6.4 There may be scope for collaboration with Stockton in delivering services to households/businesses in the extreme western boundaries of Hartlepool e.g. Wynyard.

7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 The Portfolio Holder notes the content of the report and comments accordingly.

8.0 CONTACT OFFICER

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