

CABINET – 7TH JULY 2022

Report of the Scrutiny Commission

ITEM 11 PROCUREMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Purpose of Report

To consider the comments and recommendations of the Scrutiny Commission in relation to the Procurement of Environmental Services.

Recommendation of the Scrutiny Commission

That the Cabinet be informed that the Commission welcomes and supports the recommendations set out in the report of the Head of Cleansing and Open Spaces.

Reason

The Commission, having carefully considered and asked questions on the report felt the Cabinet should approve the recommendations set out.

Meeting Discussion

- i. It was highlighted that following the implementation of the new senior leadership structure of the Council, it was possible to realign officer delegated authority (if required) in order to ensure services were not disrupted.
- ii. Each option outlined within the report of the Head of Cleansing and Open Spaces had positive and negative implications. It was considered that the preferred option (option three – to commission services from a mature and well-developed marketplace) would minimise risk to the Council and maximises private sector expertise.
- iii. There were a number of large national companies which would be invited to enter bids to supply the Council with environmental services. It was considered that there was sufficient competition in the marketplace in order for the Council to appoint an appropriate service provider.
- iv. The contents of the new secondary legislation under the Environment Act 2021 were unknown at this point. It was anticipated that this could impact on service delivery. However, it would be possible for specifications to be changed if this would not materially change the tendering process. In addition, the Government had committed to cover additional service costs following the implementation of additional legislation.
- v. It was highlighted that the Scrutiny Commission would be interested in scrutinising the matter further when more information becomes available to the Cabinet.

Policy Justification and Previous Decisions

Scrutiny Commission Procedure Rule 11.12 sets out the procedure by which a report of a Scrutiny Committee should be considered by Cabinet.

Implementation Timetable including Future Decisions and Scrutiny

The information on this in the Cabinet report is not affected by the recommendation of the Scrutiny Commission.

Report Implications

The following implications have been identified for this report.

Financial Implications

There are no further financial implications associated with the recommendation of the Scrutiny Commission.

Risk Management

There are no specific risks associated with the recommendations of the Scrutiny Commission.

Key Decision:	Yes
Background Paper:	Scrutiny Commission Minute 22 2022/23, 5th July 2022
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