



**Rochford District
Council**

INDEX

1998

January - December

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**Rochford District
Council**

ROCHFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL MINUTES

1998

August

Committee Report

10 (iv)



Rochford District Council
To the meeting of:

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES

On:

13TH OCTOBER 1998

Report of:

HEAD OF MEMBER SERVICES

Title:

**MINUTES OF THE COMPULSORY COMPETITIVE TENDERING
PANEL**

Author:

Mrs. J. Robinson

Report Approved By:

J. H. H. H.

At a Meeting held on 18th August 1998. Present: Councillors Mrs. J. Helson (Chairman),
D E. Barnes, C R. Morgan, P.F.A Webster

Apologies: Councillors V.D. Hutchings and R.E. Vingoe

48. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting of 29th July 1998 were agreed as a correct record

49. **CONTRACT RENEWAL - REFUSE COLLECTION**

The Panel continued their discussion on the refuse collection contract renewal process.

Clinical Waste

Although responsibility for clinical waste, i.e. wastes produced in a health setting laid with the health authority, it was noted that there had been three requests for clinical waste removal during the past month. The Council were not authorised to hold a licence or equipment for the removal of clinical waste and the cost of employing an external contractor to deal with any requests to dispose of a clinic waste hazard, such as hypodermic needles was in the region of £60.00 per call with a guaranteed visit within 1 hour. Infectious agents which may be transmitted as a result of contact with a contaminated needle include hepatitis B and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). The Panel felt that in view of public concern over the possible transmission of these infections instances of requests for removal of contaminated articles should be dealt with through an ad hoc ancillary contract

Furniture Removal

The Panel considered comparisons in the service and costs charged by other authorities regarding the collection of bulky items of household furniture. Whilst many neighbouring authorities charged for the removal of bulky items of household furniture, the existing policy of the Council was to dispose of up to three items safely at no charge.

The Panel felt that the future contract should distinguish between furniture and white metal goods and that a free service should remain for white metal items such as fridges, freezers, microwaves and washing machines which could prove a hazard to safety. There was no fixed view with regard to levying a charge for the removal of bulky furniture items and it was agreed that charging policy should be determined during future budget consideration.

J. H. H. H.
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Consultation with the Public

Quarterly surveys were carried out to gauge the perception of customer satisfaction in measuring the existing refuse collection service. Questionnaires were distributed with information regarding collection at Bank Holidays or sent by post at random.

Effective policies for the recycling of waste and the creation of outlets for the products of re-use and recycling were discussed and it was agreed that a questionnaire on standards within existing contracts would be distributed with the autumn edition of Rochford Matters.

Recycling and Environmental Issues

The Environmental Protection Act 1990 set targets for Local Authorities to recycle 25% of their waste by 2000 and 40% by 2005. This could be achieved by optimising collection and sorting systems and creating outlets for the products of reuse and recycling. Consultation with the public would enable an assessment to be made balancing the most environmentally sound option against economical feasibility.

Household Wheeled Bins

The Panel agreed that the new contract would specify one 240 litre wheeled bin per house. Under present Council policy an additional bin could be provided to residences with six persons or more. It was further agreed that the contractor would be asked to quote for the cost of providing and collecting an additional bin where requested.

Depot

The Depot was presently used for the storage of equipment and the accommodation of both client and contractor staff. Bearing in mind that any future contractor may not require Depot usage, it was agreed that an external valuation of the site be undertaken to include a rental assessment. It was noted that the Depot would be of more value to the refuse collection contract than to the street cleansing and grounds maintenance contracts by way of numbers of operational vehicles. A report on the valuation of the Depot site and the rental value on the site for contractual use for storage of vehicles and staff accommodation would be submitted to the next meeting.

Contract Packaging

At the meeting held on 29 July 1998 (Minute 47 refers) the Panel discussed the benefits of combining the refuse, street cleansing and grounds maintenance contracts in terms of provision of operational vehicles although concern was expressed over a simultaneous length of contract for those services. As a result of those discussions, five contractors had been invited to attend a workshop on 24 August 1998 in order to obtain their views on contract packaging.

A report on the outcome of discussion at the workshop would be submitted to the next meeting.


A member requested details be provided of the statutory obligations of the authority regarding the refuse, street cleansing and grounds maintenance contracts together with the frequency requirements of each service.

Resolved

That further reports be brought to the Panel as detailed in the report.

The meeting ended at 4.35 p.m.

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