

## **Contracts Sub-Committee – 18 June 2007**

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Minutes of the meeting of the **Contracts Sub-Committee** held on **18 June 2007** when there were present:-

Cllr T G Cutmore  
Cllr K H Hudson  
Cllr C J Lumley

Cllr Mrs J A Mockford  
Cllr M G B Starke  
Cllr P F A Webster

### **OFFICERS PRESENT**

G Woolhouse	-	Corporate Director (External Services)
J Bourne	-	Head of Community Services
R Evans	-	Head of Environmental Services
A Lovett	-	Environmental Street Scene Manager
J Bostock	-	Principal Committee Administrator

### **ALSO PRESENT**

Cllr Mrs J R Lumley (Review Committee representative).

#### **1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN**

Councillor M G B Starke was appointed Chairman of the Sub-Committee.

#### **2 UPDATE ON THE COUNCIL'S RECYCLING SERVICE/PERFORMANCE**

The Sub-Committee received and noted the report of the Head of Community Services updating Members on the progress of the Council's overall recycling service. The Sub-Committee also received a schedule identifying household recycling and composting performance over the period April 2006 to March 2007 for each Essex authority.

It was noted that, in terms of comparison with other Essex authorities, Rochford's performance was currently the lowest. It was also noted that Rochford's statutory Government target for 2007/08 was 20% and that the Rochford figure for April 2007 had been just over 18%. The figures should improve with further schools being brought on stream.

Responding to questions, officers advised that:-

- Recycling levels can be related to the ease with which the public take to a service (greater ease can lead to significant increases in recycling).
- The Salvation Army is now linking with two other charitable organisations on arrangements for the collection of textiles.

### EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

#### Resolved

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the remaining business on the grounds that exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 would be disclosed.

### 3 ESSEX JOINT PROCUREMENT PROCESS

The Sub-Committee received an exempt verbal report from the Head of Community Services on the Essex Joint Procurement Process.

It was noted that:-

- Cllrs Mrs J A Mockford and M G B Starke had attended a meeting of the Thames Gateway Area Joint Committee on 30 May 2007 at which there had been an update on the Outline Business Case for the Private Finance Initiative bid, which had to be submitted by 30 July 2007.
- The analysis of district kerbside modelling schemes was imminent.
- Essex County Council and Southend-on-Sea Borough Council are now seeking District Council sign up to a new Memorandum of Understanding.
- Discussion is under way on the factors that should be included in the considerations that the County Council have on how they may provide collection authorities with additional funding in relation to achieving higher recycling rates. When the results are available they will be brought forward.

Responding to questions, officers advised that a check would be made on whether Basildon District Council runs its own civic amenity site.

Reference was made to indications that the Government proposed introducing financial incentives by 2010 for groups of authorities able to demonstrate combined recycling rates of 40% and above. It was recognised that, as with other types of incentive, it may be that these will not be available to authorities most in need.

The Sub-Committee agreed that the question of signing the Memorandum of Understanding between Essex County Council, Southend-on-Sea Borough Council and other Essex authorities should be considered by the Executive Board.

### 4 **PROGRESS REPORT: WASTE MANAGEMENT, STREET CLEANSING AND GROUNDS MAINTENANCE PROCUREMENT – AFFORDABILITY STAGE**

The Sub-Committee considered the exempt report of the Head of Community Services on the progress of the procurement process for the waste management, street cleansing and grounds maintenance procurement contracts and determination of which service options should be included in the final tender specifications. The detailed discussion and recommendations are set out in the exempt appendix to these Minutes.

Prior to the close of the meeting, Members concurred with the Chairman that it would be appropriate to provisionally arrange a meeting of the Sub-Committee for 10.00am on 16 July 2007 for the purpose of considering publicity aspects. Reference was made to the possibilities of utilising the Council's mobile exhibition unit, the Council's newspaper, Rochford District Matters and the Council's website. Reference was also made to the possibility that information could be included in the publications of other organisations (such as the County Council and the Police Authority).

The Head of Community Services advised that he would liaise with Members on attendance at the forthcoming Annual Waste Management Advisory Board Conference, due to take place on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2007.

The meeting commenced at 10.00 am and closed at 1.00 pm.

Chairman .....

Date .....

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