

# Delegated Decisions report



21 December 2021

## PURCHASING WHEELED BINS AND OTHER WASTE RECEPTACLES FOR WASTE COLLECTION

Name of Cabinet Member	<b>Councillor Lauren Townsend</b> (Cabinet member for Public Realm)
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Exempt / confidential / not for publication	<b>Annex B</b>
Council Plan reference	<b>Commitment 15</b> Bringing forward the future operational models for waste and landscaping services beyond the end of current contract in 2023
Wards affected	<b>All wards</b>

### Executive Summary

The new boroughwide waste collection service for 2023 was approved at Delegated Decisions on 23 March 2021 and will provide a cleaner, greener, and safer service.

It has been designed to allow sufficient capacity for refuse and recycling to be put out by residents in Milton Keynes whilst enabling the benefits of containerisation to keep the materials dry and separately collected where best to do so.

This report seeks approval for the commencement of a tender exercise to purchase wheeled bins and other waste receptacles for properties that cannot accommodate wheeled bins as part of the 'commissioning 2023 programme'.

## 1. Decisions to be Made

- 1.1 That the public and press be excluded by virtue of Paragraph 3 (Information likely to Reveal the Financial or Business Affairs of the Authority) of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, in order that the meeting consider **confidential Annex B** to the report.
- 1.2 That approval is given for the commencement of a tender exercise by using a framework for the purchase and distribution of wheeled bins and other waste receptacles for the new waste collection service.
- 1.3 That the Director - Environment and Property, in consultation with the S151 Officer, be given delegated authority to award the contract.

## 2. Why is the Decision Needed?

- 2.1 To deliver the new waste collection service in 2023 the Council will need to purchase over 300,000 waste receptacles. This is a large order for manufacturers. Therefore, the procurement of the bins is required now to secure the manufacturing slot and the right quality. Manufacture will commence in the summer 2022. The procurement will also allow an option for future purchase for new properties after 2023 and replacement.
- 2.2 The new waste collection system (see **Annex A** to the report) will reinstate our recycling heritage and reinvigorate the original 1990s red and blue system. It includes:
  - a grey wheeled bin collected weekly for residual waste;
  - a wheeled bin with a red lid for paper and card;
  - a wheeled bin with a blue lid for plastic, metals and glass and
  - no change to the food and garden waste wheeled bin.
- 2.3 The introduction of two recycling wheeled bins will allow additional volume for recycling and improve quality. Paper is particularly prone to contamination from glass (especially when it shatters) and oily and greasy food containers. The improvement of the quality of paper will assist the Council's efforts for recyclates to be recycled within the UK/Europe.
- 2.4 A boroughwide survey, completed in January 2020, evaluated each property to consider the suitability to accept wheeled bins. The properties not suitable to receive four wheeled bins are classed as special kerbside properties. The alternative solution for special kerbside properties will be considered with Bidders through the Waste and Environmental Services Competitive Dialogue procurement, utilising bidders' expertise and knowledge to find a solution for MK. New properties will be surveyed to see if they are suitable for wheeled bins.

### 3. Implications of the Decision

Financial	Yes	Human rights, equalities, diversity	Yes
Legal	Yes	Policies or Council Plan	Yes
Communication	Yes	Procurement	Yes
Energy Efficiency	Yes	Workforce	Yes

#### (a) Financial Implications

The estimated capital cost of wheeled bins and other receptacles, including the initial delivery is estimated at £5.2m and would be required during 2022/23. This is included in the draft capital programme proposals for 2022/23.

The procurement will commence in January 2022 and a purchase order will be required on award. Payments will not be made until bin delivery in 2022/23.

As highlighted in the original decision to move to a wheeled bins service, this decision will result in higher contract costs for the waste collection service. This is due to the need for additional vehicles and crews, together with additional space requirements at the depot, both for staff and storage of bins. The impact of this will be discussed as part of the negotiations for the new waste collection contract, and capital funding for the works to the depot have been highlighted in the 2022/23 draft capital programme.

#### (b) Legal Implications

The Council has a duty, under section 45(1)(a) of the Environment Protection Act 1990, to arrange for collection of household waste from premises.

Under section 46 of the EPA 1990, the Council may by notice require occupiers to place the waste in receptacles of a kind and number specified.

Section 89 of the EPA 1990 makes the Council responsible for keeping the land within our control clear of litter and refuse and our highways clean as far as is practicable.

#### (c) Other Implications

##### (i) Policies and Council Plans

The procurement will support the Council Plan commitment 15 to bring forward the future operational models for waste and landscaping services beyond the end of current contracts in 2023.

(ii) Procurement

The procurement will be carried out in accordance with the requirements of Public Contracts Regulation 2015 as well as the Council's Contract Procedure Rules. The Corporate Procurement Team will be involved through the tender process, including considering More for MK criteria.

(iii) Energy Efficiency

There will be resource efficiency with improved recycling and the reduction of single use plastic sacks. Quality questions within the tender will also evaluate energy efficiency.

(iv) Human Rights, Equalities, Diversity

An equalities impact assessment will be carried out and will be considered in the protocol to ensure no groups are disadvantaged. Findings from the waste consultation between 2 November 2020 to 24 January 2021 show that more work needs to be undertaken with residents to ensure that they are aware of the assisted collection scheme.

(v) Workforce

The delivery of the new waste collection service is part of the Environmental Service Programme and a Project Manager has been allocated to procure and manage the roll out of the bins, supported by the Waste and Environmental Services contractor when appointed. Additional training will be provided for the waste collection crews.

(vi) Communication

A dedicated communications and engagement plan is currently being prepared, which will scope out communication, engagement and education for residents with the new service. We will work actively with Ward Councillors, Parish and Town Councils and resident and community groups.

## 4. Alternatives

### 4.1 Do Nothing

Milton Keynes would be one of the minority of councils left in England that do not use wheeled bins. It would continue to realise health and safety risks for the collection staff, which are avoidable. It would also fail to deliver increased recycling, improved satisfaction of service. It would not meet the decision to change the service and in turn will not meet future fleet and service

specifications of the new Waste and Environmental Services contract. It would not meet the cleaner, greener, safer and residents' expectations of a new service. This option is not recommended.

#### 4.2 Contractor 2023 Procure the Waste Receptacles

The change of the collection service borough wide is a significant operational change. If the contractor purchases the waste receptacles there will not be time to roll out the new service before the new contract. This is due to manufacturer lead in times on such a large order. The service implementation cannot be delayed.

#### 4.3 Council Procures the Waste Receptacles (**preferred option**)

To support the roll out of the new collection service boroughwide and to meet manufacturing and delivering timelines before the commencement of the new service, the council will need to purchase well in advance of the contract award of the Waste and Environmental Services Contract.

There will be new collection vehicles with bin lifts required for the new service. There will not be any fleet from the previous contract. It would not be possible for the Contractor in 2023 to start the contract with one vehicle type then change as wheeled bins are rolled out. This reinforces the decision that the bins and other waste receptacles should be purchased by the Council in advance.

### 5. Timetable for Implementation

Date	Implementation
21 December 2021	Delegated Decision to Tender
January to February 2022	Publication of Tender - Tender Returns
February / March 2022	Evaluation of Tender / Reports Preparation
March / April 2022	Final Report to Award
April 2022	Award of Contract
April 2022	Call in and- Standstill period
April 2022	Formal Award of Contract

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#### List of Annexes

- Annex A Waste Collection System
- Annex B Indicative Breakdown of Costs (confidential)

#### List of Background Papers

Delegated Decision - 23 March 2021

[Delegated Decision - 23 March 2021](#)