

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment
Date:	2 July 2020
Title:	Recycling and Single Materials Recovery Facility Update
Report From:	Director of Economy, Transport and Environment

Contact:

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1. The decision

- 1.1. That the Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment approves that, in the current circumstances, and based on the modelling to date, work on the single co-mingled Materials Recovery Facility proposal is paused whilst business cases for the alternative options of a Twin Stream and Kerbside sort systems are developed and that the Council looks to explore the potential for delivering Food Waste reception and processing infrastructure in conjunction with these other recycling infrastructure business cases.
- 1.2 That the Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment notes and approves further work and discussion with Project Integra Partners regarding future waste services arrangements in terms of collection and processing of recyclable materials in line with the principles set out in the supporting report, including:
- no further work to be undertaken regarding a single co-mingled MRF;
 - recycling services to be compatible with the requirements of the Environment Bill 2020;
 - that any solution does not transfer financial risk to the County Council;
 - that there is no impact on the County Council's ability to deliver its required Transformation Savings proposals; and
 - that there will need to be robust governance arrangements in place between the authorities that enables effective decision making.

2. Reason for the decision

- 2.1. These decisions are being taken in order to progress the option modelling and discussions with the County Council's Waste disposal partners, Portsmouth and Southampton City Councils, and the 11 Waste Collection Authority partners, moving towards a consensus of opinion that will allow future

decisions to be made on service and infrastructure provision in an environmentally and economically sustainable manner.

3. Other options considered and rejected

- 3.1. A “Do Nothing” option has been considered and rejected as the County Council supports the aspiration of the Government in driving recycling performance improvements in pursuit of a circular economy and as part of the national drive towards Carbon neutrality by 2050. It is also recognised that “Do Nothing” is not an option as the Government intends to legislate in order to achieve its objectives.
- 3.2. To continue to undertake work into the feasibility to deliver a single MRF to process co-mingled Dry Mixed Recyclables (DMR). This has been rejected due to the fact that it will lead to increased costs to the County Council.
- 3.3. The County Council withdrawing from provision of infrastructure to manage and process recycling has been considered. Existing legislation requires arrangements for recycling to be made by Waste Collection Authorities, with the County Council only liable to pay a recycling credit equivalent to the saved disposal cost associated with not having received that material for disposal. This option has currently been rejected as this is likely to make services more expensive overall for Hampshire residents without the County Council’s ability to provide infrastructure on a countywide basis that might otherwise not be deliverable by individual collection authorities.

4. Conflicts of interest:

- 4.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker:
- 4.2. Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted:

5. Dispensation granted by the Conduct Advisory Panel: none

6. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: not applicable

7. Statement from the Decision Maker:

I thank the Economy, Transport and Environment Select Committee for pre-scrutinising this item and supporting the recommendations.

Approved by: ----- Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment Councillor Rob Humby	Date: 2 July 2020
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