

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL –RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TAKEN BY:

David Wimble, Cabinet Member for (the Kent) Environment

DECISION NO:

25/00090

For publication

Key decision: YES

Subject Matter / Title of Decision:

Decision:

As Cabinet Member for (the Kent) Environment, I agree to give:

- (i) **APPROVE** the **procurement** and contract **award** of a wood processing contract for an initial 5 years (plus an extension of up to 2 years),
- (ii) **DELEGATE** authority to the Director of Environment and Circular Economy to take relevant actions to facilitate the required procurement activity,
- (iii) **DELEGATE** authority to the Corporate Director of Growth, Economy and Transport, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for (the Kent) Environment, to take relevant actions including but not limited to awarding, finalising the terms of and entering into the relevant contracts or other legal agreements, as necessary, to implement the decision; and
- (iv) **DELEGATE** authority to the Corporate Director of Growth, Economy and Transport in consultation with the Cabinet Member for (the Kent) Environment, to award extensions of the contract in accordance with the relevant clauses within the contract.

Reason(s) for decision:

The existing contract held by Kent County Council (KCC), as the Waste Disposal Authority, for the receipt and processing of approximately 25,000 tonnes per annum of wood waste is due to expire on 14th November 2026; a procurement seeks to establish new countywide contractual arrangements from 15th November 2026. KCC has an obligation to recycle or recover this under the legal requirements of the Waste Hierarchy which is set out in the Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011.

Background (brief)

KCC has a statutory responsibility as the Waste Disposal Authority to arrange for the disposal of waste collected at kerbside by the Waste Collection Authorities and to arrange for the disposal of waste deposited at the Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) by Kent residents.

KCC has processes in place for the treatment of wood waste received at the HWRCs or collected by Waste Collection Authorities as fly-tipped/bulky waste, as this is both environmentally and economically beneficial.

Financial Implications

This is a revenue contract from processing wood waste.

Budgets for 2025/26 (£907,100) and 2026/27 (£940,600) are set on expected tonnage, with recent years showing around 25,000 tonnes processed annually. Costs are calculated using this tonnage and an average gate fee, totalling about £1.035 million per year. Any changes in tonnage are managed monthly.

Haulage is included in a related contract, and full lifecycle costs will be considered at tender. If the

winning tender is over budget and costs can't be reduced, there will be financial pressure within the year.

Legal Implications

Schedule 1 of The Controlled Waste Regulations 2012 classifies wood as household waste, and KCC must recycle or recover it under legal requirements.

The Waste Framework Directive (2008/98/EC requires councils to promote waste separation and recycling, following the waste hierarchy.

Equalities implications

The EqIA concluded that no protected characteristics will be impacted upon negatively as a result of this contract award.

Data Protection Impact Assessment

There is no processing of personal data

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

The proposed decision was endorsed by Members of the Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee at their meeting on 4 November.

Any alternatives considered and rejected:

Do nothing. This is not an option due to KCC's obligation to manage controlled waste as per the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and the Separation of Waste (England) Regulations 2024

Continue to accept the waste but utilise alternative disposal options by using landfill. This is not a viable option. KCC has a legal obligation to manage controlled waste in accordance with the waste hierarchy, which prioritises recycling over disposal. It would also incur a significant disposal cost and is therefore not a sustainable or cost-effective option.

Extend for a further period. This is not legally possible, as the wood contract has been extended within the parameters of the existing contracts.

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer:

None



21/11/2025

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signed

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date