

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL –RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TAKEN BY:

Rob Thomas, Cabinet Member for Environment

DECISION NO:

24/00064

For publication**Key decision: YES**

Subject Matter / Title of Decision: Contract extension for the receipt and processing of organic waste in south west Kent (including Maidstone green waste) – (GW/2004/01)

Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Environment, I agree to:

(i) EXTEND the existing contract for the receipt and processing of organic waste for up to 19 Months; and

(ii) DELEGATE authority to the Director of Environment and Circular Economy, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for 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.

Reason(s) for decision:

KCC currently has in place a contractual arrangement that is due to expire 31st August 2024, and therefore is seeking an extension for the processing of organic waste material currently collected by the waste collection authorities in south west Kent and Maidstone

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

The Members of Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee considered and endorsed the proposal at their meeting on 9 July 2024.

Any alternatives considered and rejected:

Option 1 - Do nothing – the current arrangements will cease and KCC will be unable to accept the waste - this is not an option due to KCC's obligation to receive this material under waste legislation and dispose of it as per the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

Option 2 - Continue to accept the waste but utilise alternative disposal options by using landfill or incineration - This is not an option as there is a desire and obligation to move material up the waste hierarchy where possible, and to meet recycling and landfill diversion targets. Furthermore, to send this material to incineration would be costly against a treatment option.

Option 3 - Commence a full procurement exercise before the end of the contract – this is not an option as there is insufficient time to undertake a commissioning activity due to the unforeseen sale of the facility and subsequent cessation of negotiations.

Option 4 - Extend for a period between 24 and 60 months (full extension) - This is not discounted and has been considered as a proposal put forward by the new owners; however, it is felt that to align all organic contracts to one end date may produce economies of scale when a full county re-procurement is undertaken.

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

None

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Robert Thomas

Date 01/08/2024