

Appendix A: Comments from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Future Service Design of Waste, Recycling and Street Cleansing Services

Comment from Committee	Reasons from the Committee	Executive Member/Officer Comment	Recommended Action
Comment/suggestion made by the Committee	Why the Committee made the suggestion	Response from the Exec Member following consultation after the meeting and any relevant response from Officers ie if the suggestion/comment has any legal or financial implications	Take no action OR List the suggested change
That the three weekly vs the two weekly residual collections and the cost involved would be administered and why there was a need as this could cause difficulties especially for those with health needs, those living in flats etc.	The comments raised were in responses to the questions asked by Members to the Executive Members and responses received at the O&S Meeting	A further report on the policies and wider arrangements for the shared service which will support the service changes will be brought forward to overview and scrutiny in Spring 2023 as will the contract award in Spring 2024. A Project Board will oversee the progress of the procurement as identified in the report. The final contract award report will highlight the cost benefit of any proposed changes following financial submissions from bidders.	A report in the spring is presented to O&S regarding revised policies for the service. A member briefing session will be considered when the government strategy is finalised.

Commented [LB1]: This line will be deleted once documents finalised.

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<p>That the use of electrical vehicles should be introduced from the viewpoint of sustainability and practicality (as they could recharge overnight at the depot)</p>		<p>The viability of electric vehicles is being explored. This includes exploring the cost of necessary infrastructure changes to the depots. At the moment a wholly electric fleet is not considered viable based on the technology in the market place.</p>	<p>To ensure the contract specification considers more sustainable operations to the current model of operations.</p>
<p>That food could become compacted for those sharing communal facilities and hygiene related issues in relation to food caddies and infrequency of collection.</p>		<p>As described in the report. Communal facilities will receive weekly collections. The shared service currently has no recurring issues with weekly food waste collections from communal properties in North Herts where the service has been operating since 2012.</p>	<p>To ensure the work programme for the service includes future comms messages covering issues raised regarding food waste.</p>
<p>Whether Officers were confident that a reduction in the size of the bins would encourage more recycling</p>		<p>As described in the report, reducing bin size and capacity is highly likely to encourage more recycling. North Herts experienced a significant uplift in the recycling rate when they changed from 240L residual waste bins to 180L residual waste bins. The change for East Herts would be more gradual as the bin size transition is only for replacement bins.</p>	<p>To ensure future campaigns make it clear what goes into the residual and what can be composted or recycled.</p>

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The financial uncertainty of the economy and how this might impact on the waste contract		Our current contract annual uplift is based on a basket of indices. Inflationary increases therefore significantly impact on the cost of service provision linked to the rising cost of wages and fuel. We will be undertaking a pre-engagement exercise with potential bidders in the hope of ensuring the contract we bring to the market is as attractive as possible.	The financial forecast for contract inflation will be reflected in the medium term financial plan report as part of the budget setting process.