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Report of: *Laraine Manley Executive Director of Place*

Report to: *Cllr Lewis Dagnall – Cabinet Member for Environment and Streetscene*

Date of Decision: *17th December 2018*

Subject: *Waste Management Policies review 2018*

Is this a Key Decision? If Yes, reason Key Decision:-	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
- Expenditure and/or savings over £500,000		<input type="checkbox"/>		
- Affects 2 or more Wards		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Which Cabinet Member Portfolio does this relate to? <i>Cllr Lewis Dagnall – Cabinet Member for Environment and Streetscene</i>				
Which Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee does this relate to? <i>Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee</i>				
Has an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) been undertaken?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
If YES, what EIA reference number has it been given? 363				
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If YES, give details as to whether the exemption applies to the full report / part of the report and/or appendices and complete below:-				
<i>“The (report/appendix) is not for publication because it contains exempt information under Paragraph (insert relevant paragraph number) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).”</i>				

Purpose of Report:

The report proposes the introduction of a new recycling service for flats and maisonettes, which will ensure that every property in the city has the opportunity to recycle paper, cardboard, cans, glass and plastic bottles. It will also support Council Housing aspirations to improve estate maintenance including reviewing the continuing use of waste chute systems at the flats and maisonettes they manage in the city.

Recommendations:

The Cabinet Member for Environment and Streetscene:

- Approves the implementation of the revised policies as set out in the report to provide clear parameters to residents as well as the service provider on how waste and recycling services will be delivered to flat and maisonette type properties in the City.

Background Papers:

Cabinet Report dated 13th December 2017 Waste Contract Review – Next Steps.

Cabinet Report dated 18th January 2017 – Waste Services Review.

Cabinet Report dated 18th January 2017 - Waste Management Policies.

Lead Officer to complete:-		
1	I have consulted the relevant departments in respect of any relevant implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist, and comments have been incorporated / additional forms completed / EIA completed, where required.	Finance: Alison Chambers
		Legal: Sarah Bennett
		Equalities: Annemarie Johnson
<i>Legal, financial/commercial and equalities implications must be included within the report and the name of the officer consulted must be included above.</i>		
2	Lead Officer Name: Alastair Black	Job Title: Waste Management Officer
	Date: 26 th November 2018	

1. PROPOSAL

1.1 Background

1.1.1 Sheffield City Council has an Integrated Waste Management Contract (IWMC) with Veolia until 2036. The IWMC started in 2001, with the Council contracting with Veolia to deliver the Council's household waste management services. The IWMC was amended earlier this year to secure savings to the Council, as approved by Cabinet at their meeting on 13th December 2017.

1.1.2 Prior to this, in January 2017, Cabinet approved the introduction of a brown bin to replace the blue box as part of a review of waste policies. This also included a proposal to significantly increase the amount of recycling capacity provided to flats and maisonettes, while reducing the amount of general waste capacity.

1.1.3 Following the amendments to the IWMC, the move from the blue box to the brown bin has now been completed. However, the Council's proposal to align the recycling service to flats and maisonettes with the same recycling service as those properties with their own bins has yet to be implemented.

1.1.4 In June 2018, the Housing and Neighbourhood Service undertook an estate services review focusing on the use chute systems across the Council Housing estate. Currently there are over 360 blocks of flats and maisonettes managed by Council Housing that use a chute system to dispose of their general waste. The chutes, their use and maintenance fall outside the remit of the Council's contract with Veolia and are for Council Housing to maintain.

1.1.5 An inherent problem with the chute systems is they frequently become blocked - items or bags of waste getting lodged in the chute. Often, this is not discovered for some days – and the problem is identified by residents experiencing unpleasant odours.

1.1.6 Council Housing will carry out a review into their continued use, leading to their possible closure, requiring a change to how waste collections are carried out.

1.2 The need for revision

1.2.1 If the policy to reallocate recycling and general waste capacity at flats and maisonettes (as approved by Cabinet January 2017) were to be implemented it would significantly reduce the savings agreed with Veolia to the IWMC (as approved in December 2017). This is because of the required investment in new vehicles and recycling containers.

1.2.2 Therefore to achieve the overall goal of offering every flat and

maisonette in the City the ability to recycle the same mix of materials that other households in the City, within the Council's current resources, we are now revising the capacity allocations.

1.2.3 The proposed policy is as follows:

- Each flat and maisonette will receive a minimum weekly recycling capacity allocation of 27.5 litres, split between paper/card and glass, cans and plastic bottles based on existing service provision to ensure best value for money.
- Each flat and maisonette will be eligible to receive 120 litres general waste capacity per property per week, which is equivalent to the general waste capacity provided to households with their own bins.
- Additional recycling capacity can be requested by landlords and managing agents if and when needed.
- The larger household policy that allows for additional waste capacity based on the size of the house, in place for households with their own bin, will be expanded to include flats and maisonettes.

1.2.4 These changes will allow the Council to provide a more tailored service, supporting tenants, landlords and managing agents in managing their waste correctly.

1.2.5 Where the current allocation of capacity for non-recyclable waste exceeds the Council's revised policy the allocation may be reduced. However any reduction would be managed with the landlord and managing agents to mitigate any potential impact on their tenants and residents.

1.2.6 The feasibility study into the continued use of chutes at flats and maisonettes (see paragraph 1.1.5 above) will not prevent the implementation of recycling service to flats and maisonettes, rather it will be considered as part of this change.

1.2.7 Any changes to the Council's policy on the use of chutes arising from the feasibility study, including the potential for their closure, will be subject to full consultation with tenants and residents. Where required, these will be subject to formal approval from either Cabinet or the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Community Safety.

2. HOW DOES THIS DECISION CONTRIBUTE?

2.1 'An in-touch organisation' specifically setting high standards for the use of public money and for satisfaction with the Council's services and those that are provided by partners.

- 2.2 'Being innovative' through finding new approaches and business models, being open to different ways of doing things and seeking out new ideas
- 2.3 'Being efficient' by ensuring that the Council operates in the most cost effective way, looking at both quality and cost, not just the cheapest way possible, to fulfil our duty to spend public money wisely. This approach will also ensure that services will be efficient, economic and effective.
- 2.4 Waste Services are a cornerstone of the 'thriving neighbourhoods and communities' priorities, ensuring our City is clean and tidy.

3. HAS THERE BEEN ANY CONSULTATION?

- 3.1 An on-line public consultation, regarding changes to waste collections at flats and maisonettes, was carried out between 8th August and the 15th September 2016. The consultation was split, with a questionnaire for residents who have their own individual containers and those who share waste containers at flats and maisonettes.
- 3.2 A drop-in session was also held for landlords and management agents on the 5th September 2016.
- Of those who responded more than 90% of all respondents indicated that the recycling of glass, cans, paper, card, plastics and 'other' plastics were either important or very important to them.
 - The two items not currently recycled from flats, plastics and 'other plastics', received 93% and 91% importance respectively. The Council's wider policy of only accepting easily-recyclable plastic bottles remains unchanged.
 - 93% of respondents also agreed with or had a neutral opinion that the amount of waste and recycling capacity provided to flats and maisonettes should be based on the number of occupants.
- 3.3 Further consultation on the current proposals is felt not to be necessary as the proposed changes to flats capacity allocation in the January 2017 Cabinet report were never implemented. The benefits that came out of the January report consultation informed the new proposals.
- 3.4 In addition those using the service will not be directly affected by the changes proposed to capacities and there are no changes to the types of materials to be collected.

4. RISK ANALYSIS AND IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION

4.1 Equality of Opportunity Implications

4.1.1 An Equalities Impact Assessment has been undertaken on this proposal. Because of the nature of this proposal there are no significant differential equalities implications due to the implementation of this proposal. The proposals are likely to have a positive impact of the vast majority for those living in flats and maisonettes as they will be offered the opportunity to recycle paper, card, glass, cans and plastic bottles.

4.2 Financial and Commercial Implications

4.2.1 The proposals set out in this report are based on the outcome of the IWMC review; as such, the costs to enable to the changes to the waste and recycling services for flats and maisonettes to take place are provisioned within the agreement reached with Veolia. There are no further Financial or Commercial Implications based on the assumptions in the IWMC review. Project costs have been built into the authority's capital programme for the purchase of the waste containers, and on-going revenue implications have been built into business planning. It does not include any capital investment by landlords, if required, to accommodate any changes to the service.

4.3 Legal Implications

4.3.1 The duty of local authorities to collect and dispose of household waste is set out in Section 45 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

4.3.2 The Council by setting a policy on the allocation of capacity to flats and maisonette's is discharging its responsibilities under this legislation

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 In making the recommendations, alternative options were considered and rejected. The alternative options considered were:

- i) Do nothing and make no changes to how services are delivered to flats and maisonettes. However, this was rejected as it would leave a large number of flats and maisonettes without a full recycling service, leaving an imbalanced service offer across the City, and would not result in the policy objective set by Cabinet in January 2017 being achieved.
- ii) Roll out the proposals agreed in January 2017 to flats and maisonettes. However, this approach was rejected as it would erode the efficiency savings realised from the implementation of the brown bin..

6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 The proposals in relation to the allocation of capacity for flats agreed in January 2017 were made in preparation for the Council retendering the current contract and set out ambitious proposals that we hoped to be able to achieve through retendering of the services. The revised proposals reflect both the outcome of the IWMC review and the policy goal set by Cabinet in January 2017 and will ensure that every flat and maisonette will have the opportunity to recycle paper, cardboard, cans, glass and plastic bottles in line with other households across the city.