

**TITLE OF REPORT: ITEM REFERRED FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE:  
7 JUNE 2016 – PROCUREMENT OF WASTE AND STREET CLEANSING CONTRACT**

*The following is an extract from the Draft Minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 7 June 2016.*

**12. PROCUREMENT OF WASTE AND STREET CLEANSING CONTRACT**

The Service Manager – Waste and Recycling presented the report entitled Procurement of Waste and Street Cleansing Contract and advised that this was a large contract which covered the whole of North Hertfordshire.

The current contract would end in 2018 and the report set out the basics of the procurement for the new contract, which is based on the provisions in the existing contract, but aimed to achieve some savings.

The procurement was for a basic service with small optional changes, based on cost.

Re-zoning of the street cleansing schedule was being looked at in order to better meet the need of the area.

Members asked several questions including would the proposed contract be able to adapt to future change, such as an increase in housing numbers and whether the contract was designed in such a way as to fit in with the County Council responsibilities

The Service Manager – Waste and Recycling advised that it was estimated that by 2020 waste and street cleansing costs would represent 40 percent of the Councils budget and that issues such as future growth would be built into the contract. It will also be necessary to include some indexing.

In respect of detail regarding scheduling etc, any partnership working has to consider the whole system costs in order to ensure that costs were not passed from one authority to another and that one part of the system was not adversely impacted by another.

The Service Manager – Waste and Recycling reminded Members that performance of the waste services provided by North Hertfordshire was very high and that any changes were made for positive reasons. Options for major change, if needed, were being built into the contract and it was hoped that savings would be made by optimising collection routes.

The Strategic Director of Finance, Policy and Governance informed Members that nationally waste was the biggest expense for District Councils and were lobbying that waste must be an allowable expense under the Retention of Business Rates.

The Head of Leisure and Environmental Services advised that the next opportunity for change would be in 2025 and reminded Members that NHDC was considering joint working with East Herts District Council and, in this respect, neither council wants a major change to service provision.

Members were supportive of the recommendations contained in the report.

**RECOMMENDED TO CABINET:** That the recommendations in the report entitled Procurement of Waste and Street Cleansing Contract be supported.

**REASON FOR DECISION:** To enable the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to comment on the report entitled Procurement of Waste and Street Cleansing Contract prior to consideration by Cabinet.

**[NOTE: The report to which this referral relates is Item 15 on this agenda.]**