

Meeting of Executive Member For Neighbourhood Services and Advisory Panel

Report of the Director of Neighbourhood Services

Friends of St Nicholas Fields Service Level Agreement

Summary

1. The Friends of St Nicholas Fields currently undertake kerbside recycling collections to 3,300 properties in York. This was agreed in 2005/06 and established in the base budget. The purpose of this report is to ask Members to approve the continuation of this funding and a request for additional £6,500 for the period January to March 2008 to continue a kerbside recycling collection to 2,000 properties, which are currently financed through a scheme which will cease on 31 December 2007. This money is set aside in the Waste Services budget, pending this decision.
2. At the beginning of 2007, a comprehensive review of the waste and recycling operations will be held with a view to setting out the strategic objectives of the waste service for the next 6 years. An options appraisal for those properties serviced by The Friends of St Nicholas Fields will form part of the review.
3. Continued support for St Nicholas Fields into 2008/9 for the full 5,300 properties will require a further growth bid of £19,500.

Background

4. The council is committed to maximising the amount of household waste which is recycled or composted and reducing the amount which is landfilled.
5. In 2006 members approved the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy "Let's Talk Less Rubbish" with North Yorkshire County Council and the District Council's within North Yorkshire for dealing with the area's rubbish for the next 20 to 25 years.

The Partnership aim to achieve the following targets, as a minimum:·

Recycle or compost 40% of household waste by 2010
Recycle or compost 45% of household waste by 2013
Recycle or compost 50% of household waste by 2020
Divert 75% of municipal waste from landfill by 2013

These targets are minimum collective targets for the Partnership. The City of

York Council is committed to meeting, and exceeding these targets where possible.

6. Currently, the City of York Council provides a kerbside recycling collection service to approximately 71,000 properties (86% of the city). Residents are provided with a collection of between one and five recyclable materials, on a fortnightly basis, depending on the type of property. There are a number of properties which the council is currently unable to service including those within the city centre, farms and rural properties, some terraced streets and flats.
7. The Friends of St Nicholas Fields are a not-for-profit registered charity who develop projects and services such as recycling and composting schemes, which help to create sustainable communities. They have been operating a kerbside recycling collection for many years in the areas neighbouring the Environment Centre.
8. The Friends of St Nicholas Fields now provide a kerbside recycling collection to a total of 5,300 properties. A Service Level Agreement is in place for 2007/8 which funds collections from approximately 3,300 of these properties. The collections from the remaining 2,000 properties are currently funded through the Community Recycling and Economic Development (CRED) until 31 December 2007. Funding is therefore requested to allow these collections to continue during January, February and March 2008.
9. The City of York Council has supported Friends of St Nicholas Fields financially and otherwise for several years. The Waste Strategy Unit works closely with them to ensure that our services work in partnership to promote recycling and composting.
10. The kerbside recycling collections started in the Tang Hall area several years ago and have expanded steadily as demand for their services increased. Collections are typically provided to terraced streets and flats which can be serviced using the group's bike with trailer and low emissions collection vehicle. They now provide collections in the following areas: Tang Hall, Lawrence Street, Hull Road, Bishophill, Aldwark, Holmefield Lane and Saint Peter's Quarter. The collections financed by CRED, until 31 December 2007, are in the Heslington Road, South Bank and Clementhorpe areas.
11. The Friends of St Nicholas Fields offer either weekly or fortnightly collections for the following materials glass, paper, cans, empty aerosols, foil, textiles and shoes, garden waste. Some properties also benefit from a collection of plastic bottles.

Consultation

12. Not applicable.

Options

13. The options for Members to consider are:

14. **Option 1 - funding for January, February & March 2007/8**

This option seeks approval for funding of £6,500 for provision of kerbside recycling collections for the period January, February & March 2007/8.

Option 2

Not to approve the request for funding. This would mean that the properties financed under the existing CRED agreement would cease to receive a kerbside recycling collection beyond 31 December 2007. This would affect approximately 2,000 properties.

Analysis

15. The kerbside recycling collections offered by Friends of St Nicholas Fields are well used by residents. From April to December 2006 a total of 255 tonnes of recyclable waste was diverted from landfill.
16. During 2006/7 the average participation rate for the Friend of St Nicholas Fields kerbside recycling collections was 54% (a property is counted as participating if the box is put out for collection once in 3 collection cycles).
17. Approval of option one will guarantee that the 2,000 residents in South Bank, Clementhorpe and Heslington Road can continue to be provided with a kerbside recycling collection. It is estimated that, providing a kerbside recycling collection during January, February and March 2008, these 2,000 properties would divert approximately 48 tonnes of recyclable waste from landfill. This will contribute to the authority's recycling and composting performance BVPI 82 a & b. The collection of biodegradable paper and garden waste will also contribute to the achieving the council's LATS targets for reducing biodegradable waste landfilled.
18. Under option 2 the Friends of St Nicholas Fields would no longer be able to undertake kerbside recycling collections from the 2,000 properties. Without an opportunity to recycle from home, many residents may choose to dispose of their recyclable waste with the refuse, or may struggle to take recyclables to bring recycling sites. This could have a negative impact on the recycling and composting performance of the authority.
19. If option 2 is chosen it would not be possible, under current collection arrangements, for CYC to service these properties.
20. A report on the findings of the review of waste services will come forward to Members in late summer 2007. Within this report, the costs, contributions and service delivery to these properties will be considered. The existing arrangement would be reviewed if members decided to rollout recycling to all terraced properties in 2007/08

Corporate Priorities

21. The funding of the kerbside recycling collections will contribute to the council's corporate priority to "decrease the tonnage of biodegradable waste and

recyclable products going to landfill”.

Implications

22.

- **Financial** – This report requests the release of the £6,500 for 2007/8 from the waste services budget.
- **Human Resources (HR)** – There are no implications for CYC staff. However, option 2 will have implications for a number Friends of St Nicholas Fields staff, whose salaries are linked with the request for funding.
- **Equalities** – There are no equalities implications
- **Legal** – Should funding be approved, under option 1, the servicing of these properties will be added to the existing Service Level Agreement for 2007/8.
- **Crime and Disorder** – There are no implications in this report for crime and disorder.
- **Information Technology (IT)** – There are no implications for information technology.
- **Property** – There are no implications for property in this report.
- **Other** - There are no other implications to state, relating to this report.

Risk Management

23. There are no known risks.

Recommendations

24. That the Advisory Panel advise the Executive Member to approve Option One for funding the Friends of St Nicholas Fields kerbside recycling collections for 2007/8.

Reason: To enable the continued collection of recyclable waste to 2,000 properties, which will contribute towards the authority’s recycling and composting performance.

Contact Details

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**Report
Approved**



Date 21.05.07

Specialist Implications Officer(s)

Specialist Implications Officer(s) *List information for all*

Implication Financial

Name Sarah Kirby

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Implication HR

Name Nick Carter

Title HR Advisor

Chief Executives

Tel No. 553291

Wards Affected: Fishergate, Holgate, Hull Road, Micklegate.

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers:

Meeting of the Executive, 13 June 2006, revised joint municipal waste management strategy for City of York Council and North Yorkshire "Let's Talk Less Rubbish"

Annexes

None