

Appendix F - Portsmouth Recycling Centre Management Contract

Section 9 – Proposed Financial Arrangements with HCC

Site cost comparison

It is clear from a comparison of site operating costs that these vary depending on their location, size and level of trade waste controls. The Paulsgrove HWRC site, with its height barrier and integrated trade waste controls, has lower operating costs than the nearby sites at Havant, Gosport and Waterlooville. This in effect means that Portsmouth City Council (PCC) has to meet higher costs when its residents visit a Hampshire County Council (HCC) HWRC site rather than its own site at Paulsgrove.

PCC is working with HCC on jointly funding a TWEO (Trade Waste Enforcement Officer) at the Havant HWRC site as an alternative to the introduction of a height barrier; which is not favoured by HCC. This started in October 2012 and approval has been received to continue this until the start of the new HWRC contract on 1 February 2015. The role of the TWEO is to reduce inputs of trade waste thereby reducing the councils waste disposal costs, as a minimum the savings will cover the cost of the TWEO.

The aim being to work with HCC to reduce operating costs at the Havant, Waterlooville and Gosport HWRC sites to levels equivalent to that seen at the Paulsgrove HWRC site in a way that was acceptable to all parties and would benefit both HCC as well as PCC.

Future funding options

PCC have discussed this with HCC who have indicated that they are prepared to look at this issue and consider changes to the way costs are allocated; the current allocation being as specified in the Waste Tripartite Agreement.

It has been agreed that a small officer task and finish working group be set up to evaluate options available to address issues related to the allocation of site costs. The areas requiring change are as follows:

Allocation of costs via user survey

The current system of allocating costs is purely based upon the number of site users without taking into account the efficiencies of each site or its level of trade waste controls. This is disadvantaging PCC when a high percentage of its residents are using HCC operated sites.

This requires changing the way in which the “site user survey” normally carried out on a three yearly basis takes into account the number of vans using individual sites and how much of the waste they carry is recyclable.

Allocation of the benefits where one Authority has funded a change.

The Tripartite Agreement currently allows for all benefits to be shared out based upon the user percentages even if one authority only has met all the cost associated with the change that led to the cost reduction. It is therefore proposed to change the arrangement so that the authority making the change and incurring the costs receives all the benefits