

Decision Maker: Executive

**For Pre-Decision Scrutiny by the Environment PDS Committee
on 25 March 2014**

Date: 2 April 2014

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Executive Non-Key

Title: **HOUSEHOLD WASTE RECYCLING CENTRES: GRANT
FUNDING FROM LONDON WASTE & RECYCLING BOARD**

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Chief Officer: Nigel Davies, Executive Director of Environment and Community Services

Ward: All

1. Reason for report

In October 2013 the London Waste & Recycling Board (LWRB) launched a £1.2 million Driving Up Performance Fund, with the aim of helping London boroughs improve recycling facilities and boost recycling rates. The London Borough of Bromley has been awarded £145,000 from this fund for enhancements to its facilities at the Waldo Road and Churchfields Road Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs). This report outlines the proposed enhancements at the sites and requests formal agreement to accept the grant funding offered by the LWRB.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Executive:

- 2.1 **Agrees to accept and release the £145,000 grant offered by the London Waste & Recycling Board from the Central Contingency, to improve the Household Waste Recycling Centres at Waldo Road and Churchfields Road.**

Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy
 2. BBB Priority: Excellent Council; Quality Environment
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Financial

1. Cost of proposal: £145,000:
 2. Ongoing costs: Recurring Cost: There is no recurring cost from the changes proposed. Ongoing savings may result if diversion from landfill is successful which will help to mitigate the increased cost pressures within the waste service
 3. Budget head/performance centre: Central Contingency
 4. Total current budget for this head: £145,000
 5. Source of funding: Grant funding from LWRB
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Staff

1. Number of staff (current and additional): 1
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: 0.2 FTE (approx.)
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Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Not Applicable:
 2. Call-in: Applicable
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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): Estimated 100,000 customer visits to Waldo p.a.; and 50,000 customer visits to Churchfields p.a.
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Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? Not Applicable
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: NA

3. COMMENTARY

- 3.1 The London Waste & Recycling Board (LWRB) announced a £1.2 million Driving Up Performance Fund in Autumn 2013. London boroughs were invited to bid against this Fund, with proposed projects required to demonstrate methods for increasing recycling rates through either improved collection services or improved facilities.
- 3.2 Bromley submitted a bid proposing improved facilities at the Borough's two Household Waste and Recycling Facilities (HWRC). Details of the bid are set out below. The Council has been awarded £145,000. Conditions attached to the funding require formal Member approval of the project and acceptance of the funding, which has to be spent by March 2015.
- 3.3 Funding will be provided in arrears upon submission of invoices. Invoices need to be submitted along with 6 monthly project reports on 31/10/14 (covering the period 1/4/14 – 30/9/14) and 30/4/15 (covering the period 1/10/14 – 31/3/15).
- 3.4 **Churchfields HWRC.** It is proposed to revise the current layout of the site, replacing the current static material bays with mini-skips. Signage will be provided on each skip to ensure the public can identify where appropriate materials should be deposited. This signage will be transferrable, enabling container capacity to be revised seasonally (e.g. more green waste containers in the summer).
- 3.5 A dedicated area will be created where the residual waste skips can be transferred for secondary sorting. This will enable any re-useable/recyclable materials in the residual waste to be extracted. The scheme also includes improvements to the waste bays, improved flooring, provision of mini-skips to provide receptacles for the various material streams, and a vehicle to move the skips on-site. Improved signage is also included, along with more space on site for residents to segregate their waste.

Items LWARB funding requested for:	Cost
Churchfields	
Waste Audit	£2,500
Modify Barrier	£5,000
Install additional flooring	£10,000
Procurement of 10 x adapted mini-skips	£8,000
Procurement of on-site skip vehicle	£20,000
Revision of site signage	£5,000
Total	£50,500

- 3.6 **Waldo Road HWRC.** The constrained nature of Waldo Road means that space is at a premium. The site currently contains a redundant Vertical Composting Unit which is within 250 metres of domestic properties and so is not able to operate under planning restrictions. This area will be cleared and resurfaced, and enclosed to screen the area from local residents. This will enable the relocation and expansion of the storage facilities used for the Community Payback scheme.
- 3.7 The new bay will also be able to receive waste and recyclables from the roll-on-off containers used within the HWRC. This will enable re-sorting of the residual waste, and re-sorting of any containers where recycling has been contaminated.
- 3.8 The bay will also be utilised by the Community Payback scheme. The additional space and expanded sorting facilities will enable a more thorough sort of the borough's litter bin waste.

3.9 The bid thus requests funding for removal of the Vertical Composting Unit, appropriate flooring, installation of push-up walls and a roof, provision of mini-skips to provide receptacles for the various material streams, and a vehicle to move the skips on-site. Improved signage is also incorporated into the scheme, but funding is not sought for this.

Items LWARB funding requested for:	Cost
Waldo Road	
Waste Audit	£2,500
Dismantle and remove VCU	£10,000
Install 'L' frame walls	£30,000
Install roof	£5,000
Install additional flooring	£10,000
Procurement of 15 x adapted mini-skips	£12,000
Procurement of on-site skip vehicle	£20,000
Revision of site signage	£5,000
Total	£94,500

3.10 The project is expected to divert 1,000 – 2,000 tonnes of material p.a. from landfill to either recycling or re-use, representing a potential saving in disposal costs of between £48k – 115k p.a. The actual tonnages will be closely monitored, and any diversion of material will assist in mitigating increased waste costs caused by the rising overall tonnages. However, the funding is not conditional on achieving any diversion or reduction in tonnage.

4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The Environment Portfolio Plan 2013/14 seeks to deliver the key outcome of “Minimising Waste and Increasing Recycling and Composting”; through achieving the twin aims of increasing the proportion of waste recycled and composted, and reducing the amount of waste sent to landfill.

4.2 The recommendations outlined in this report also support the Corporate Operating Principle of delivering value for money, as the benefits of the project will accrue to the Council. It also supports ‘making better use of the space we and our partners have available’ and ‘working with ... partners to deliver services where there are benefits to the citizen’.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The Council has been awarded a grant of £145k from the LWRB to improve the facilities at two of the household waste recycling centres in the Borough.

5.2 The table below summarises the proposed costs of the improvements during 2014/15: -

	2014/15		
	£		
Churchfields HWRC	50,500		
Waldo Road HWRC	94,500		
	145,000		

- 5.3 The grant conditions require formal Member approval of the project and acceptance of the funding, which must be spent by the end of March 2015. The grant can only be spent on the agreed improvements at the two sites and is not dependent on any specific outcomes.
- 5.4 The project is expected to reduce the amount of tonnage being landfilled and could result in savings in disposal costs of between £48k and £115k per annum. The actual tonnage will be closely monitored to assess the level of savings achieved. These savings will assist in mitigating future waste cost pressures as a result of rising tonnages and the on-going decline in income from recycled paper due to reduced tonnages being collected from households.
- 5.5 This report seeks Executive approval to release the grant sum of £145k from the Central Contingency.

Non-Applicable Sections:	Legal and Personnel Implications
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	Letter from LWRB letter detailing their decision to award funding to Bromley's bid