

REPORT FOR: CABINET

Date of Meeting:	19 May 2011
Subject:	Flats Recycling
Key Decision:	Yes
Responsible Officer:	Brendon Hills, Corporate Director Community and Environment
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Phillip O'Dell, Portfolio Holder Environment and Community Safety
Exempt:	No
Decision subject to Call-in:	Yes
Enclosures:	None

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report seeks approval to extend recycling to the remaining 8000 flats in the borough. The cost of the scheme will be met by a grant from the London Waste and Recycling Board (LWARB).

Recommendations:

Cabinet is requested to:

- a) agree to extend recycling to 8000 flats in the borough;
- b) approve the receipt of grant from LWARB to the value of £381k and authorise the Corporate Director - Community and Environment to expend the grant monies in accordance with LWARB's conditions of funding.

Reason: (For recommendation)

The council reviewed its waste collection strategy in September 2009 and set out a target to extend kerbside / near-entrance recycling to all homes in the borough. Currently approx. 8000 flats are not served by such systems.

The council has successfully applied for a grant from LWARB to finance the costs of introducing the scheme.

Operational costs will be contained within the existing budget.

Section 2 – Report

Introductory paragraph

The London Waste and Recycling Board (LWARB) is a statutory body set up to deliver investment in waste and recycling within London. In 2010/11 they established a fund of £5m for councils to invest in flats recycling schemes. Councils were invited to bid for money within the criteria set.

Harrow submitted a bid for £381k in December 2010 and received confirmation that the bid had been successful on 15 Feb 2011. The offer was conditional on returning a signed and sealed Agreement to LWARB by 31 March, which included a project plan and a communications plan (approved by Recycle for London). These deadlines and conditions have been met and the funding approved.

Options considered

None.

Background

The bid comprises of the following elements:

- Allowance for staffing resource for a period of one year (£40k)
- Purchase and distribution of one thousand 1280 litre blue recycling bins (£341k). Please note that it is anticipated that the procurement will be carried out under arrangements organised centrally by LWARB for all the bins, bags and boxes etc. across all the boroughs – with the aim of making savings. Any savings against the assumed budget prices will be recovered by LWARB from recipients' grants for redistribution centrally.

The bid anticipates that Recycle for London (RfL) will contribute £5k towards the publicity/educational requirements of the scheme. We have made a preliminary application and await confirmation that the funding will be forthcoming. LWARB have provided funding to RfL to cover a wide range of publicity for recycling across London.

Implications of the Recommendation

Resources, costs:

Diversion of waste from landfill to recycling will result in a net saving in waste management costs. This is currently not built in to the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS).

Staffing/workforce:

The grant includes a sum for the employment of staff on a temporary basis to facilitate the project.

Equalities impact:

The scheme will provide equality of access to residents for kerbside /near-entrance recycling.

Community safety:

None.

Legal comments

The procurement of a supplier or suppliers for the bins / recycling equipment will need to be carried out in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2006. This is because the value of the purchase will be in excess of the relevant threshold for the purchase of goods, above which the EU procurement rules apply.

Financial Implications

The scheme is grant funded in full.

Operational costs will be contained within the existing budget.

Diversion of waste will produce a net saving in waste management costs, which are not currently included in the MTFS.

Performance Issues

1. NI 192 measures the percentage of waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting. The expected outturn figure for 2010/11 is 50%. This scheme is expected to increase the amount of waste being recycled by 1.5% Once fully implemented.
2. The old BVPI 91(d) measure the percentage of households served with a kerbside (or near-entrance) collection of tow recyclable materials. The present performance is 89.2%. This scheme will increase it to 100%.
3. If this proposal did not go ahead the above benefits would not be realised

Environmental Impact

The scheme will lead to increased recycling. Diversion of waste from landfill will reduce the amount of methane produced in landfill. Methane is a powerful greenhouse gas

Risk Management Implications

Risk included on Directorate risk register? No

Separate risk register in place? No

Grant of funds by LWARB is dependent on the council delivering the objectives set out in the application form (set out above) and reporting back to LWARB on a regular basis.

Failure to meet the timetable, the objectives or to meet the reporting requirements could jeopardise the funding or require its return. As part of the project we have set up a project team to oversee these requirements. The risk is sufficiently controlled.

Equalities implications

Was an Equality Impact Assessment carried out? An initial assessment has been carried out. This project improves equality of access to kerbside/ near-entrance recycling.

A detailed assessment is not required.

Corporate Priorities

This proposal addresses the corporate priority of keeping neighbourhoods clean, green and safe by improving recycling.

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Name: Kanta Hirani	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Chief Financial Officer
Date: 21 April 2011		
Name: Matthew Adams	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Monitoring Officer
Date: 20 April 2011		

Section 4 – Performance Officer Clearance

Name: Martin Randall



Divisional Director
Partnership,
Development and
Performance

Date: 14 April 2011

Section 5 – Environmental Impact Officer Clearance

Name: Andrew Baker



on behalf of the
Divisional Director
(Environmental
Services)

Date: 14 April 2011

Section 6 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Andrew Baker
Head of Climate Change
Direct telephone number: 020 8424 1779 (ext 2779)

Background Papers:

Cabinet report (17 September 2009): London Borough of Harrow - Waste Management Collection Strategy – Adoption

<http://www.harrow.gov.uk/www2/mgConvert2PDF.aspx?ID=62608>

**Call-In Waived by the
Chairman of Overview
and Scrutiny
Committee**

NOT APPLICABLE

[Call-in applies]