

## **WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL**

**Report by the Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services**

**Community Safety and Environmental Services Committee: 4 October 2006**

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**Subject: Strategic Waste Implementation Plan Phase 2 – High Rise and Tenemental Housing**

### **1. Purpose**

- 1.1** To update the Committee on recycling service provision for the high rise, and tenemental housing which was identified as unsuitable for participation in Phase 1 of the Council's Strategic Waste Implementation Plan (SWIP).
- 1.2** To obtain approval for the implementation of a doorstep recycling service for all high rise and tenemental housing.

### **2. Background**

- 2.1** Phase 1 of the SWIP commenced in October 2004 and included the introduction of the current blue and brown wheeled bin recycling service for low level housing. The introduction of wheeled bin recycling service eliminated the plastic sack kerbside recycling service that had been operated by Greenlight on behalf of the Council since the early 1990s.
- 2.2** At the Community Safety & Environmental Services Committee held on 1 June 2005 the Committee approved a Scottish Executive funded recycling pilot scheme involving 4,000 high rise and tenemental houses in partnership with Greenlight. The pilot scheme has identified that the use of a recycling box and bag system with fortnightly doorstep collections is an effective and popular method of capturing recycle from high rise and tenemental housing.
- 2.3** The pilot scheme commenced in July 2005 and the findings were input to a feasibility study managed by the Scottish Executive's Waste and Recycling Team. The overall aim of the feasibility study was to evaluate the performance and cost effectiveness of seven separate recycling pilot schemes which were carried out across Scotland.
- 2.4** The final report was published in March 2006 and the Scottish Executive reviewed the findings in June 2006. The report established that although there was no standardised service delivery method which could be recommended for high rise and tenemental housing across Scotland as a whole, there was a clear need to implement recycle collection systems for this type of housing.

- 2.5** West Dunbartonshire Council was subsequently invited to provide estimated costs and operational plans for a full expansion of the pilot scheme to all suitable housing and to project the tonnage diversion from landfill that would result. A fully expanded high rise and tenemental housing recycling service would involve up to 8,000 homes with a projected recycle capture of 900 to 1,200 tonnes per annum.

### **3. Main Issues**

- 3.1** The Council has now been awarded funding from the Scottish Executive's Strategic Waste Fund to extend the original pilot scheme to include all suitable housing until 2007/08. The offer also contains indicative funding to 2020 providing that money is made available in each spending review.
- 3.2** Initial discussions with Greenlight have indicated that they would be keen to continue to provide the service, however the contract is one which requires to be tendered under European Procurement regulations and indeed, given the overall timescale would have to be refreshed through a tender process during the project lifetime.
- 3.3** A new reporting system has been developed jointly by Waste Services and Greenlight for monitoring recycling performance. Any bid would be expected to incorporate a similar system which will provide an appropriate audit trail to confirm to the Executive that tonnage collected under the expanded scheme is from the correct housing source.
- 3.4** Following discussions with Legal Services, it is considered appropriate that Greenlight should perform the operational delivery of the expanded recycling scheme for high rise and tenemental housing until such time as the tender process is completed and a new contract awarded. This will also ensure that the skills and experience gained in the pilot scheme are utilised in the interim.
- 3.5** The interim service will be operated under similar terms and conditions as the contract to be tendered, and will set out productivity and performance targets, service delivery standards, customer service standards, payment mechanisms and tonnage diversion targets.

### **4. Personnel Issues**

- 4.1** It is anticipated that the expansion of the pilot scheme to all suitable housing within West Dunbartonshire could, in the longer term create approximately 6 full time jobs.

### **5. Financial Implications**

- 5.1** The funding for this project will come from the following sources:
- Strategic Waste Fund Grant; and
  - Waste Disposal revenue budget – landfill cost savings.

## **6. Conclusions**

- 6.1** The Scottish Executive report identifies that there is a need to implement collection systems for high rise and tenemental housing to enable the residents of this type of housing to become involved in the recycling of their waste and thereby assist the Council in meeting its waste diversion targets.
- 6.2** Greenlight has significant experience in delivering doorstep collection services for dry recycle from households in West Dunbartonshire.
- 6.3** Due to the nature and value of the contract to be awarded, a European Tender will be required, together with a period of interim service delivery.

## **7. Recommendations**

### **7.1 The Committee is invited to:**

- a) Note the success in obtaining funding to extend recycling services to high rise and tenemental housing within West Dunbartonshire.**
- b) Approve continued partnership working with Greenlight Environmental Limited in operating the service on a temporary basis.**
- c) Approve the tender process for a contract for the longer term provision of the services to last up to 5 years.**

pp **David McMillan**

**Director Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services**

**Date: 5 September 2006**

**Wards Affected:** All wards

**Appendix:** None

**Background Papers:** Report to Community Safety & Environmental Services Committee, 1 June 2005 entitled – Strategic Waste Implementation Plan – Pilot Recycling Scheme.

Report to Council, 23 June 2004 entitled –Management Issues

**Person to Contact:** Graham Pollock, Manager of Environmental Services,  
Rosebery Place, Clydebank G81 1TG  
Tel no. 01389 – 738593  
e-mail: graham.pollock@west-dunbarton.gov.uk

Rodney Thornton, Section Head – Waste and Transport Services, Richmond Street, Clydebank G81 1RF  
Tel no. 01389 738731  
e-mail: rodney.thornton@west-dunbarton.gov.uk

