

---

**Report of the Head of Scrutiny Support and Member Development**

**Scrutiny Board (Environment and Neighbourhoods)**

**Date: 19 December 2007**

**Subject: Waste Solution for Leeds**

---

**Electoral Wards Affected: All**

**Specific Implications For:**

Ethnic minorities

Women

Disabled people

Narrowing the Gap

---

**1.0 Introduction**

- 1.1 At the beginning of the municipal year, as part of the discussions around its work programme, Members identified 'waste' and 'recycling' as key issues for the Board to consider: These issues continue to be priorities for the Board.
- 1.2 As part of an Integrated Waste Strategy for Leeds, which sets out to reduce the impact of waste on the environment, the Council has set out to reduce waste generation, reuse waste, increase recycling, recover value from non-recycled waste and significantly reduce the amount of waste going to landfill, with an aspiration to send zero waste to landfill.
- 1.3 Attached at Annex 1 is the Executive Board report considered on 14 November 2007. The purpose of this report was to obtain Executive Board approval for the submission of an Outline Business Case (OBC) to DEFRA for PFI credits to support the proposed Residual Waste Treatment project.
- 1.4 Furthermore, the OBC (and appendices) formed an appendix to the Executive Board report and was posted on the Council's website. These details are available at: [http://www.leeds.gov.uk/Environment\\_and\\_planning/Recycling\\_rubbish\\_and\\_waste/Municipal\\_waste\\_strategy/Outline\\_business\\_case\\_for\\_waste\\_treatment\\_facility.aspx](http://www.leeds.gov.uk/Environment_and_planning/Recycling_rubbish_and_waste/Municipal_waste_strategy/Outline_business_case_for_waste_treatment_facility.aspx)
- 1.5 Previously, Members of the Board have specifically requested details associated with the site selection aspect of this work. A 'Site Selection Study for Major Waste

Facilities' was undertaken on behalf of the Council by Jacobs UK Limited and forms one of the appendices to the OBC: This is attached as Annex 2 to this report.

1.6 On considering the report presented (Annex 1), the Executive Board subsequently resolved:

- (a) That the report be noted;**
- (b) That the submission of the Outline Business Case for the Residual Waste Treatment project to DEFRA be approved;**
- (c) That the proposed recycling strategy approved by this Board on 11 September 2007 be further noted with particular reference to the proposals to retain a weekly kerbside collection, and to the fact that it is not the Council's intention to introduce new charging schemes for waste collection;**
- (d) That the Board notes that the submission of the bid will be based upon a reference site and technology, with no implication that Leeds City Council land or Energy from Waste constitute preferred options;**
- (e) That the procurement shall proceed on a neutral technology and site basis in accordance with government advice;**
- (f) That the Board accepts the affordability implications of the Outline Business Case and of entering into a PFI contract for the treatment of residual waste from April 2014 to March 2038 as set out in Table 2 of the report;**
- (g) That approval be given to the submission of the Outline Business Case in the knowledge that both the procurement process and prevailing macro-economic conditions may affect the Unitary Charge at Financial Close in April 2011, as illustrated at paragraph 8.6 of the report and in Table 4;**
- (h) That approval be given to the project governance arrangements outlined in section 11 of the report, including the establishment of the Residual Waste Treatment Project Board (with delegated powers), and that delegated authority be given to the Deputy Chief Executive, in consultation with the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods, to extend the responsibilities of the Residual Waste Treatment Project Board and to establish one or more new Project Boards (with delegated powers) in order to support the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods in the delivery of the wider Waste Solution;**
- (i) That the intention to bring further reports to this Board prior to the commencement of the procurement regarding the project evaluation model be noted;**
- (j) That decisions on the sale and purchase of LATS be delegated to the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods, in consultation with the Director of Resources, at what is considered to be the best achievable price.**

## 2.0 Recommendation

2.1 The Board is requested to consider the information presented and determine any areas for further action/ scrutiny.