

# WRITTEN ANSWER FOR COUNCIL

13<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2017

## Questions to Cabinet Members

**(13) Councillor Cowles to the Cabinet Member for Waste, Roads and Community Safety**

**Supplementary Question** - What was the total cost of introducing the changes to waste collection and, as the Council took consultancy advice on, what was the cost of the consultancy charge.

**Answer** - The anticipated costs, capital and revenue, of the proposals are approximately £3.3m. These costs, including the annual borrowing costs for the new bins, are included within the modelling assumptions for the savings proposal.

This is on the basis of an “invest to save” principle, whereby the Council will need to make an initial capital investment in order to achieve longer term savings from the proposals.

The estimated total value of the annual revenue saving arising from these proposals is £1.383m, which it is anticipated will be achieved in 2019/20. The total net savings over the ten-year period will be £1.523m.

This investment will be used to fund the activities identified below:-

**Service Change – Revenue Costs** **£270,000**

- Operational implementation, re-routing, education
- Service Change communication, leaflets and bin stickers
- Garden waste service communications and publicity which would be recovered via subscription

**Bin Provision – Capital Costs** **£3,059,000**

- Bin provision new 180 litre residual bins
- Provision for bin renewals e.g. damaged bins or those that need replacing due to wear and tear
- New bin provision for the chargeable garden waste service, the cost of which would be recovered via the subscription charge

A 10 year life has been assumed for these new bins, therefore, the borrowing costs associated with their purchase have been modelled over this period. The bins specifically would be an annual revenue cost of £315k, excluding the cost of the green bins, which will be recovered via the subscription charge.

As you are we are still carrying out a public consultation now, and the final decision about what our future bin service looks like has still to be made, but these figures are the information we have been able to model at this stage.

In addition to this, consultants were commissioned by officers and details of that work are outlined below:-

The terms of reference were to undertake a comprehensive appraisal of the Council's waste and recycling options. The objectives were as follows:

- Review the current waste collection arrangements and identification of opportunities to improve the efficiency of current working arrangements;
- Review current legislation and policy and emerging issues;
- Carry out options appraisal of alternative waste collection options identifying costs, benefits, performance impacts and any implications for PFI funding or PFI funded facilities;
- Review of service delivery and commissioning options, identifying costs, benefits and limitations;
- Assessment of opportunities to maximise income streams from waste collection services provided by the Council;
- Advise on community / stakeholder consultation, industry / market testing and the impact of the outcomes of this project on interdependent activities e.g. the development of a BDRS waste strategy and collaborative working and PFI funding facilities.

The cost of the consultant's main report relating to the proposed changes to the waste collection service was £19,993 (rounded to £20k as previously notified to you). However, we also commissioned some additional supplementary modelling work in relation to the main report which cost £6,050 (two invoices of £4,050 and £2,000).