ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE Zero Waste Management Sub-Committee

DATE 15th February 2012

DIRECTOR Pete Leonard

TITLE OF REPORT Collection and Treatment Options

REPORT NUMBER ZWM/12/002

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide Members with an overview of the different waste collection and treatment options in response to the Sub-Committee's request for background relating to the Zero Waste Management Project.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the sub-committee:-

i) Notes the contents of the report

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct adverse financial impacts of this report. The project will deliver the waste management strategy review Priority Based Budget option for transformation of the waste service. The project aims to identify the best technical and best value option to deliver the City's waste collection and treatment services and infrastructure.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

None from this report

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

Halcrow has been engaged by the Council to conduct the options appraisal work necessary for the Zero Waste Management Project. In preparation for the full options appraisal, Halcrow produced a Collection and Treatment Options report to provide baseline assessments of the different options available.

Collection options are considered first and the report provides an overview of the emerging Scottish Government regulations regarding waste and recycling collection including relevant dates for implementation. Baseline information relating to the Council's existing

service provision is also outlined before the general discussion on different collection types, the major requirements and differences of each.

Following this, the national policy and regulatory situation relating to treatment options are set out alongside the dates and timelines for implementation. An overview of the major organic and residual waste treatment types is then provided including baseline information on inputs, outputs and processes.

A copy of the full Halcrow Collection and Treatment Options report is attached at Appendix A.

The report does not look in detail at the 'deliverability' of each of these technical options, especially in relation to waste treatment technologies. In this sense, deliverability relates to the likelihood of the technology to be constructed and operated in Aberdeen. There are a number of key elements required to achieve financial support, mitigate risks and obtain formal approvals for any new facility. The matrix in Appendix 2 summarises officers' assessments of the elements relating to deliverability based on key criteria:

Planning risk
Operating in the UK for more than 2 years
Operating at the scale required
Reliable technology
Reliable markets for outputs
Complies with anticipated regulatory standards

The assessment is based on discussions held by officers with service providers, funding bodies (including banks) and the Scottish Futures Trust, through the Waste Procurement Forum. The criteria relate to issues raised by funding agencies in open forum discussions. The matrix is provided as a guide and will be subject to change over time as technologies and the funding environment changes, however, it is clear that in the current environment funders are showing reluctance to consider anything other than proven technologies and often even then only with significant risk transfer to clients (for example local authorities).

6. IMPACT

This project supports the Council's Single Outcome Agreement to meet National Outcome 14 "we reduce the local and global environmental impact of our consumption and production". The project aims to deliver the waste management strategic review option of the 5 year corporate business plan.

The project will review and identify new options for the City's waste collection and treatment services and infrastructure. This will potentially

have an implication on the services provided to the public when the preferred option is implemented. An Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment will be undertaken as part of the project's options appraisal process.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

9. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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10. APPENDICIES

Halcrow "Collection and Treatment Options" Deliverability Matrix