

# CARLISLE CITY COUNCIL

Report to:-

TO MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Date of Meeting:-

30th April, 2002

Agenda Item No:-

15(f)  
refers.

Public

Information

Delegated: No

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## Accompanying Comments and Statements

Environmental Impact Statement:

No

No

Corporate Management Team Comments:

No

No

City Treasurers Comments:

Yes

Yes

City Solicitor & Secretary Comments:

No

No

Head of Personnel Services Comments:

No

No

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Title:-

**APPLICATION FOR WASTE RECYCLING FUNDING**

Report of:-

Director of Environment and Development

Report reference:-

EN.058/02

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## Summary:-

The report sets out the basis for a bid for additional resources to extend the current recycling partnership with Eden District Council and Cumbria County Council.

## Recommendation:-

Members are recommended to retrospectively approve the bid for additional funding.

**Contact Officer:**

Richard Speirs

**Ext:** 7325

M. Battersby

DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

30 April 2002

**Note: in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers: None**

## APPLICATION TO THE WASTE RECYCLING FUND

### 1 Introduction

- 1.1 In the Waste Strategy 2000 the Government set onerous recycling targets for all local authorities. Carlisle has always achieved more than the national average for recycling and has been set more challenging targets than authorities that have historically under performed. Carlisle presently recycles around 12% of all household waste and has been set a target of 22% for 2003/04 rising to 33% by 2005. In recognising that considerable additional expenditure would have to be made to reach these levels the Government announced a recycling capital fund of £140 million spread over the 2002/03 and 2003/04 financial years.
- 1.2 In a previous report to Executive, Members, in recognition of the very short timetable for funding submission, resolved that the relevant portfolio holder liaise with officers to formulate a bid against the £140 million fund. The deadline for application to the fund is 30th April 2002. This report sets out the basis of the bid submitted, summary attached as Appendix A, and seeks Members' retrospective approval.

### 2. Bid for Funding

- 2.1 The basis of the bid builds upon the existing recycling partnership between the City Council, Eden District Council and Cumbria County Council. This is linked with the Local Strategic Partnership between Carlisle and Eden. The partnership has been successful in obtaining over £190,000 in Landfill Tax funding to introduce kerbside recycling to 15,000 households spread between Carlisle and Eden Districts. The scheme currently collects paper, card and magazines, glass, cans and tins by way of a "Green Box" and will be introducing a garden waste collection from a similar number of properties in July/August of this year. Feedback from the initial phase of the pilot project confirms that the introduction of kerbside collections are extremely popular and encourage a high participation rate.
- 2.2 The initial pilot projects are proving extremely valuable in identifying how both Councils can change their existing refuse collection systems to work towards the national recycling targets. The bid for additional funding seeks to extend both the garden waste and "Green Box" collections to practically all parts of both districts during 2003 and 2004. The bid is primarily aimed at securing funding to acquire all



the vehicles, collection boxes/wheeled bins needed for the extension of the scheme. In order to cope with the anticipated amounts of garden waste the bid also covers the cost of a new composting facility at Hespin Wood. The bid also meets the objectives of the emerging Cumbria Waste Strategy which is bringing together all 6 districts with the County Council to jointly work towards the national waste reduction targets.

- 2.3 Members will note that the bid is primarily for the capital costs of the scheme as the rules for funding will not cover the revenue costs for more than one year at a time. The revenue implications associated with this bid are significant and amount to £464,000 with effect from the beginning of financial year 2003/04. The Carlisle share of the revenue costs is likely to be of the order of £310,000. These costs do not however take into account the savings which are likely to be generated through restructuring of the refuse collection contract. The savings would relate to the tonnage separated out for recycling which would obviously reduce the quantities of household waste to be collected for disposal. A bid could be made to the fund for these costs but if successful would only cover the 2003/04 financial year.
- 2.4 Whilst the revenue implications are significant, the funding bid, if successful, would enable both Carlisle and Eden districts to substantially increase their recycling rates and meet the initial national targets without the associated capital expenditure. Should the bid be rejected, both authorities would have to budget for a potentially greater level of revenue expenditure in order to meet both the capital and revenue costs of achieving the set recycling targets.
- 2.5 Should the bid be successful, not only would it offset the capital costs of extending the Green Box and garden waste trial schemes, it would also enable both authorities to examine in great detail the most effective ways of modifying their refuse collection contracts. This has the potential to quantify and subsequently deliver savings when compared to the current refuse collection costs.
- 2.6 The draft report recently received from the Best Value Inspectorate (BVI) identifies many positive aspects of the service. To enable the step changes required by Government to reach the very challenging recycling targets to be achieved then substantial investment is required. Much good work has taken place, the current refuse collection service is well within the top 25% of Authorities in cost effectiveness and the recycling levels have been delivered with modest investment. Should this bid be successful then there is a tremendous opportunity to build on the current high quality of service and even with the subsequent increase in revenue costs almost certainly remain in the upper quartile of Authorities facing the national challenge. The BVI report also commends the Council on its effective partnership

working in this service and the bid is based on the added value and economies of scale based on a proven track record.

- 2.7 Should the bid be successful then a great deal of work would be required by all the partners to develop the proposals before finally taking up the award. It must also be emphasised that if unsuccessful it is unlikely that the national recycling targets will be met by the relevant timescale without a massive capital and revenue investment by the Council.

3. City Treasurer's Comments

- 3.1 The City Treasurer has been consulted in the preparation of this report.
- 3.2 To re-iterate paragraph 2.3, the revenue implications associated with this bid are potentially significant - in the region of £310,000 for the City Council and £154,000 for Eden District Council from 2003/04 onwards. Any reduction in this liability would be subject to a future successful bid to cover 2003/04, and for future years, subject to making significant savings from a restructuring of the existing refuse collection contract.

4. Recommendation

- 4.1 Members are recommended to retrospectively approve the bid for additional funding.

M. Battersby  
DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT



## **Appendix A - WASTE RECYCLING FUND**

1. **Applicants:** Carlisle City Council in partnership with Eden District Council and Cumbria County Council. Contact point, Richard Speirs Head of Environmental Services, Carlisle City Council, Civic Centre, Carlisle, CA3 8QG. Tel. (01228) 817325, Fax (01228) 817346, E Mail [richards@carlisle-city.gov.uk](mailto:richards@carlisle-city.gov.uk)
2. **Region:** North West of England
3. **Type of Bid:** Partnership Working
4. **Amount Requested:** £2,410,200  
Capital £2,375,500, Revenue(2002/03) £34,700
5. **Current Expenditure on Waste Management:**

Carlisle City Council:	£1,875,790
Eden District Council	£1,053,910
Cumbria County Council	£11,507,000

6. **Description of Project:**

2 year project to build on an existing pioneering partnership between the public, private and voluntary sectors in Carlisle and Eden, and Cumbria County Council. The proposal comprises two main elements:

*Extension of existing, pilot, Kerbside Green Box collection of 'dry recyclables' to cover all properties in Carlisle and Eden Districts.* Newspapers, magazines, paper and card, glass, cans and tins collected (fortnightly) via a 55 litre box provided to each household. The lessons learned from the current pilot 'Green Box' scheme, covering 15,000 households, will inform this element of the project.

*District wide extension of the kerbside collection of garden waste for composting.* Garden waste will be collected via wheeled bins (240 or 120 litres dependant on householder's needs). Collections will take place on a fortnightly basis, alternating with either the 'Green Box' scheme or with a future refuse collection contract. All garden waste collected will be taken to a central composting facility to be constructed at the Hespin Wood Landfill site (adjacent to Carlisle) in partnership with Cumbria County Council and funded by the project. This new facility will utilise the experience gained at the existing central composting site (N.B. the capacity of the current site is limited, hence the need for a larger purpose built facility).

The proposed project will be implemented as follows:

Oct 1 <sup>st</sup> 2002-	Green Box collection of 'dry recyclables' extended to cover 50% of households in Carlisle & Eden.
Sept 2002 – March 2003	Capital elements of Garden waste composting scheme purchased and constructed.

April 1 <sup>st</sup> 2003 -	Green Box collection of 'dry recyclables' extended to cover 100% of households throughout Carlisle & Eden.
April 1 <sup>st</sup> 2003-	Kerbside collection of garden waste for composting extended to cover Carlisle and Eden.
March 31 <sup>st</sup> 2004-	Project completed.
April 1 <sup>st</sup> 2004-	Production of an Implementation plan for the integration of kerbside recycling schemes with future refuse collection contracts.

#### Project costs:

Capital costs (all 2002/03):

9 Kerbside collection vehicles	867,000
Green boxes'	105,000
Distribution of 'Green boxes'	11,500
55,000 wheeled bins	764,500
Central Composting Site	560,000
Infrastructure	<u>90,000</u>
Total capital cost	£2,398,000

Revenue costs (2202/03)	£242,440
Minus funding secured	-£230,240

Shortfall & amount of bid                      £2,410,200

#### 7. Overall expected results from project:

Dry Recyclables	Existing	50% coverage	100% coverage
<u>Trial scheme</u>	(by 01/10/02)	(by 31/03/03)	
Carlisle 1,404	3406	6682	
Eden	<u>520</u>	<u>1755</u>	<u>3,510</u>
Total	1,924 tonnes	5161 tonnes	10,192 tonnes

#### Garden Waste

	<u>Trial scheme</u>	<u>Full coverage</u>
<b>Carlisle</b>	<b><u>1,000</u></b>	<b><u>3,308</u></b>
Eden	<u>500</u>	<u>2,104</u>
	1,500 tonnes	5,412 tonnes

Assuming that the project is fully implemented by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2003 then the following recycling rates will be achieved.

**Carlisle: 25%                      Eden: 26%**

At the conclusion of the project an Implementation Plan will be produced detailing how the integration of kerbside recycling and central composting with household waste collection in North East Cumbria could lead to an integrated waste management contract covering both Carlisle and Eden districts.

**8. Funding already received:**

A funding package totalling £230,240 has been secured for the pilot Green Box collection (including a Landfill Tax Grant of £93,766). A further Landfill Tax grant of £87,675 has been received for the pilot garden waste collection scheme, due to commence in July 2002..

**9. LPSA agreement in place: NO**