

EXECUTIVE DECISION

made by Leader of the Council

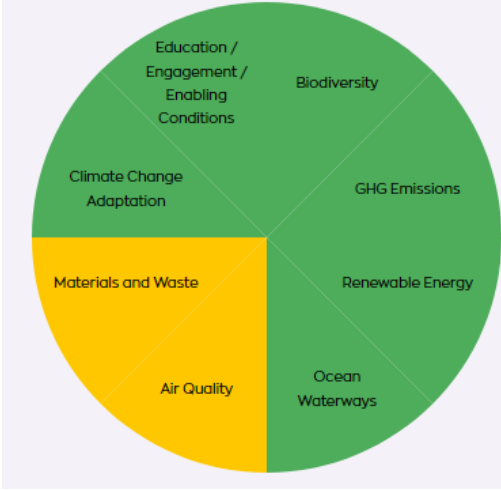


REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY BY AN INDIVIDUAL CABINET MEMBER

Executive Decision Reference Number – L30 24/25

| Decision | |
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| 1 | Title of decision: Food waste collection service vehicles and containers. |
| 2 | Decision maker (Cabinet member name and portfolio title): Councillor Tudor Evans OBE (Leader of the Council) |
| 3 | <p>Report author and contact details:</p> <p>Name: Rachel Hawadi, Senior Project Manager</p> <p>Email: Rachel.hawadi@plymouth.gov.uk</p> <p>Tel: 01752 307016</p> |
| 4 | <p>Decision to be taken:</p> <p>It is recommended that the Leader of the Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Approves the Business Case for procuring food waste collection service vehicles and containers. Allocates £2,296,779.94 for the project into the Capital Programme funded by £1,941,574.00 Defra Grant and £355,205.94 service borrowing. Delegates the award of the contracts to the Service Director of Street Services where they would not already have the authority to award it within the scheme of delegation. |
| 5 | <p>Reasons for decision:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The project is delivering what will become a statutory service from 01 of April 2026. The new vehicles and containers will be crucial to enable delivery of this new service. A delay in making the decision could mean missing the deadline which presents a reputational risk for the Council and missing the opportunities to increase the Council's recycling rate and making a tangible and quantitative impact towards the objectives of the Plymouth Net Zero Action Plan. |
| 6 | <p>Alternative options considered and rejected:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Delivering an opt-in service akin to the garden waste service to reduce the number of vehicles and containers was rejected as it would not be legally compliant, the Council is obligated to provide a service to all households. Combining food waste and garden waste was rejected as it increases disposal costs for both garden and food waste, impacts on existing operations and compromises the Council's revenue. The environmental benefits of separating food waste from residual waste disposal would also not be fully realised. |
| 7 | Financial implications and risks: |

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| | <p>Financial: The total capital cost included in this decision is for £2,296,779.94, funded by £1,941,574.00 Defra Grant and £355,205.94 in service borrowing.</p> <p>Risks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Missing the deadline: Because of long procurement timelines. • Escalating Costs/Availability of Assets: Because a large number of Waste Collection Authorities are also procuring vehicles and containers at the same time from a limited supply market which is likely to result in price increases over time. • Low public appetite for participation: this will be mitigated in measures set out in a future business case which will set out a robust communications and engagement programme. | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>8</p> | <p>Is the decision a Key Decision?</p> <p>(please contact Democratic Support for further advice)</p> <p>Please type an X into the relevant boxes</p> | <p>Yes</p> | <p>No</p> | <p>Per the Constitution, a key decision is one which:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="858 645 975 797">x</td> <td data-bbox="975 645 1505 797">in the case of capital projects and contract awards, results in a new commitment to spend and/or save in excess of £3million in total</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="858 797 975 936">x</td> <td data-bbox="975 797 1505 936">in the case of revenue projects when the decision involves entering into new commitments and/or making new savings in excess of £1 million annually</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="858 936 975 1070">x</td> <td data-bbox="975 936 1505 1070">is significant in terms of its effect on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the area of the local authority.</td> </tr> </table> | x | in the case of capital projects and contract awards, results in a new commitment to spend and/or save in excess of £3million in total | x | in the case of revenue projects when the decision involves entering into new commitments and/or making new savings in excess of £1 million annually | x | is significant in terms of its effect on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the area of the local authority. |
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| x | is significant in terms of its effect on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the area of the local authority. | | | | | | | | | |
| | <p>If yes, date of publication of the notice in the Forward Plan of Key Decisions</p> | <p>N/A</p> | | | | | | | | |
| <p>9</p> | <p>Please specify how this decision is linked to the Council’s corporate plan/Plymouth Plan and/or the policy framework and/or the revenue/capital budget:</p> | <p>1. The approval will expedite the implementation of a food waste service within the legislative deadline. This helps deliver the Council’s Mission to “Making Plymouth a fairer, greener city where everyone does their bit” by ensuring that Plymouth residents participate in transferring food waste from residual waste. This means minimizing potential greenhouse gases from food waste going into the atmosphere.</p> <p>2. The approval of this decision supports the Council’s measurable commitment to the following priorities:</p> <p>a) Fewer potholes, cleaner, greener streets and transport.</p> <p>b) green investment, jobs, skills and better education</p> <p>This will increase the recycling rate. Food waste will be transferred from the Energy for Waste stream to processing in an Anaerobic Digestion facility where bio renewable energy is produced.</p> <p>3. Food waste contributes to 8-10% of the greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. A food waste collection service will contribute to the Net Zero Action Plan by intentionally sequestering food waste and processing it anaerobically to remove fugitive gases that contribute to climate change. Furthermore, the project will contribute to creating a circular economy by producing bio renewable energy which goes back to the National Grid.</p> | | | | | | | | |

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| <p>10</p> | <p>Please specify any direct environmental implications of the decision (carbon impact)</p> |  <p>The project has overall environmental benefits of reducing the impact of greenhouse gases from the atmosphere and aligning with the integrity of Plymouth’s commitment to the Net Zero Action Plan. These benefits are mainly derived from the disposal process when comparing Anaerobic Digestion treatment versus disposal via an energy from waste plant. However, there is an unavoidable disbenefit of using more fossil fuel dependent vehicles and an increase in the city’s “plastic footprint.” It will be imperative that a robust public education programme is adapted to increase the number of residents participating in the scheme to maximise the disposal benefits and to reduce the number of unused containers.</p> |
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Urgent decisions

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| <p>11</p> | <p>Is the decision urgent and to be implemented immediately in the interests of the Council or the public? Please type an X into the relevant box</p> | <p>Yes</p> | | <p>(If yes, please contact Democratic Support (democraticsupport@plymouth.gov.uk) for advice)</p> |
| | | <p>No</p> | <p>x</p> | <p>(If no, go to section 13a)</p> |


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| <p>12a</p> | <p>Reason for urgency:</p> |
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| <p>12b</p> | <p>Scrutiny Chair Signature:</p> | <p>Date</p> | |
| | <p>Scrutiny Committee name:</p> | | |
| | <p>Print Name:</p> | | |

Consultation

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| <p>13a</p> | <p>Are any other Cabinet members’ portfolios affected by the decision? Please type an X into the relevant box</p> | <p>Yes</p> | <p>x</p> | |
| | | <p>No</p> | | <p>(If no go to section 14)</p> |

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| 13b | Which other Cabinet member's portfolio is affected by the decision? | Councillor Tom Briars-Delve (Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change) | | |
| 13c | Date Cabinet member consulted | 08 November 2024 | | |
| 14 | Has any Cabinet member declared a conflict of interest in relation to the decision? Please type an X into the relevant box | Yes | | If yes, please discuss with the Monitoring Officer |
| | | No | x | |
| 15 | Which Corporate Management Team member has been consulted? | Name | Karime Hassan | |
| | | Job title | Interim Strategic Director of Growth | |
| | | Date consulted | 08 November 2024 | |
| Sign-off | | | | |
| 16 | Sign off codes from the relevant departments consulted: | Democratic Support (mandatory) | JS71 24/25 | |
| | | Finance (mandatory) | DJN.24.25.135 | |
| | | Legal (mandatory) | LS/00001312/2/AC/19/11/24. | |
| | | Procurement (if applicable) | PW/PS/760/ED/1124 | |
| | | Corporate property (decisions involving Council owned land or facilities) (if applicable) | N/A | |
| | | Human Resources (if applicable) | N/A | |
| Appendices | | | | |
| 17 | Ref. | Title of appendix | | |
| | A | Briefing report for publication | | |
| | B | Equalities Impact Assessment | | |
| | C | Climate Impact Assessment | | |
| | D | Capital Business Case | | |
| Confidential/exempt information | | | | |
| 18a | | Yes | | If yes, prepare a second, confidential ('Part II') briefing report and indicate why it is not for |

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| | <p>Do you need to include any confidential/exempt information?</p> <p>Please type an X into the relevant box</p> | <p>No</p> | <p>x</p> | <p>publication by virtue of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box in 18b below.</p> <p>(Keep as much information as possible in the briefing report that will be in the public domain)</p> | | | | |
| | | Exemption Paragraph Number | | | | | | |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 18b | <p>Confidential/exempt briefing report title:</p> | | | | | | | |
| Background Papers | | | | | | | | |
| 19 | <p>Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below.</p> <p>Background papers are <u>unpublished</u> works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based. If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</p> | | | | | | | |
| Title of background paper(s) | | Exemption Paragraph Number | | | | | | |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
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| Cabinet Member Signature | | | | | | | | |
| 20 | <p>I agree the decision and confirm that it is not contrary to the Council's policy and budget framework, Corporate Plan or Budget. In taking this decision I have given due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act (2010) and those who do not. For further details please see the EIA attached.</p> | | | | | | | |
| Signature |  | Date of decision | 22 November 2024 | | | | | |
| Print Name | Cllr Tudor Evans OBE, Leader of Plymouth City Council | | | | | | | |