

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to the Executive for Decision 01 November 2021

Portfolio:	Streetscene
Subject:	Project Integra – Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy
Report of:	Head of Streetscene
Corporate Priorities:	Protect & Enhance the Environment

Purpose:

To seek Executive approval to adopt the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS), that sets out the strategic direction for the Project Integra Waste Management Partnership.

Executive summary:

Project Integra (PI) is a partnership consisting of Hampshire County Council (HCC) as a waste disposal authority, 11 waste collection authorities, of which Fareham Borough Council (FBC) is one, and two unitary authorities. The two unitary authorities, Portsmouth City Council and Southampton City Council also act as Waste Disposal Authorities.

The PI Partnership refreshed its 2006 JMWMS in 2012. This new revised JMWMS sets out the strategic direction for the PI partnership and will be supported by a new operational partnership agreement and detailed action plan to take PI forward, including meeting the requirements of the Environment Bill.

This JMWMS does not commit PI partners to a particular funding arrangement, this element will be discussed and agreed through the work being undertaken on a revised partnership agreement.

Section 5, page 23 of the JMWMS document in appendix A, includes a table which sets out the key strategic actions that all PI partners are signed up to by approval of this JMWMS. This includes a commitment to move to a twin stream collection system for dry recyclables.

However, local decision making will continue to be maintained across the partnership to ensure local factors, budgets and challenges are considered within any decision making to ensure the approach is best suited for all partners.

Recommendation/Recommended Option:

It is recommended that the Executive agrees to adopt the Project Integra Joint Municipal Waste Strategy, as attached to this report as Appendix A.

Reason:

The JMWMS sets out the strategic direction for the PI Partnership and will be supported by a new operational partnership agreement and detailed action plan to take PI forward including meeting the requirements of the Environment Bill.

Cost of proposals:

There are no immediate costs associated with the recommendation. However, in future years there will be changes in expenditure and income resulting from necessary change to frontline services required to comply with the forthcoming Environment Bill and new PI partnership arrangements. Where these changes are significant, an additional report should go to the Executive by way of an update.

Appendices: **A: Project Integra – Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy**

Background papers: **None**

Reference papers: **None**

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Executive Briefing Paper

Date:	01 November 2021
Subject:	Project Integra – Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy
Briefing by:	Head of Streetscene
Portfolio:	Streetscene

INTRODUCTION

1. Fareham Borough Council has been working with partner authorities across Hampshire to develop a new county-wide strategy, known as a Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS), which will set overall aims and objectives for all Hampshire local authorities.
2. The PI Partnership refreshed its 2006 JMWMS in 2012. It is recognised that the legislative and budgetary environment has significantly changed since the refresh of the JMWMS in 2012. An update is now required to consider competing pressures on all partnership authorities within Hampshire, and to consolidate an agreed path for service consistency and best value in waste service delivery for the county, based on agreed priorities.

BACKGROUND

3. Project Integra (PI) is a partnership in Hampshire consisting of Hampshire County Council (HCC) as a waste disposal authority, 11 waste collection authorities and two unitary authorities, all providing a variety of collection services but based on a core theme of the comingled collection of dry recyclable material. The two unitary authorities, Portsmouth City Council and Southampton City Council also act as Waste Disposal Authorities.
4. The partnership arose in the 1990s because of the need to have a co-ordinated response to waste and recycling collections, processing, and infrastructure. The partnership meets 3 times a year as the “Project Integra Strategic Board” which consists of one voting Member, usually that authority’s Portfolio Holder.
5. Under the sponsorship of the Hampshire and IOW Local Authorities (HLOWLA) group, all Councils in the PI partnership (including Fareham) have been working together to consider the future of collections, recycling, and disposal infrastructure in the County. This is in the context of the national policy and legislation developments, and desires within all partners to increase recycling and reduce overall waste generation.

6. The future arrangements will be underpinned by three main pieces of work:
 - A revised Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS)
 - A new PI Partnering Agreement
 - A new financial model, which will define the financial relationship between HCC and all district councils.

JMWMS

7. Lead PI Officers, and Portfolio Holders from all partners, have taken part in a series of workshops to identify future priorities. These priorities were presented to the PI Strategic Board (PISB) in July 2021, before the final JMWMS was drafted and circulated to all partners for their consideration. The intention is for all partners to approve the strategy.
8. The new refreshed JMWMS is included as appendix A and includes high strategic level principles. It considers the changing legislative landscape, and specifically the potential impacts from future progress of the Environment Bill and policy consultation in 2021.
9. The JMWMS will set the strategic direction for the Partnership and will be supported by a new operational partnership agreement and detailed action plan to take PI forward, including meeting the requirements of the Environment Bill.
10. This JMWMS does not commit partners to a particular funding arrangement, this will be discussed and agreed through the work being undertaken on a revised Partnership Agreement. The strategy states that local decision making will continue to be maintained across the partnership to ensure local factors, budgets and challenges are considered within any decision making to ensure the approach is best suited for all partners.
11. Section 5, page 23 of the JMWMS document in appendix A, includes a table which sets out the key strategic actions that all PI Partners are signed up to by approval of this JMWMS. This includes a commitment to move to a twin stream collection system for dry recyclables.

OTHER PI PARTNER DOCUMENTS

12. HCC are now working with their long-term waste disposal contractor, Veolia, on the impacts of changes to collections on current and future infrastructure, including a new Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) which would be capable of sorting the expanded range of dry recyclables. These changes will have both operational and financial implications on all PI partners. To facilitate the transition, two new documents are being prepared:
 - a. A “Partnering Agreement” – this will set out roles and responsibilities of waste collection authorities and waste disposal authorities, and how HCC will work with Districts.
 - b. A Financial Model – this will set the financial arrangements between partners, in relation to how waste and recycling is handled and processed by Districts and HCC. It is likely to cover, for example, waste/recycling processing costs, the cost of dealing with contamination, and income from sale of recyclable material.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

13. In future years there will be changes in expenditure and income resulting from necessary change to frontline services required to comply with the forthcoming Environment Bill and new PI partnership arrangements. Where these changes are significant, an additional report should go to the Executive by way of an update.
14. Previously HCC had indicated that FBC would no longer receive income from the sale of recycled materials and be subject to charge for delivering contaminated recycling from April 2022.
15. As a result of the work going into the JMWMS, HCC have said there will be no change to the current financial arrangements between HCC and FBC until April 2023.

CONCLUSIONS

16. The JMWMS is an important tool which allows the PI partnership to move forward together, by setting out the key priorities which will be reviewed by partners every 3 years.
17. The strategy document sets out the strategic direction for the Partnership and will be supported by a new operational partnership agreement and detailed action plan to take PI forward, including meeting the requirements of the Environment Bill.
18. Included in the document is a table that sets out the key strategic actions that all PI Partners are signed up to by approval of this JMWMS. This includes a commitment to move to a twin stream collection system for dry recyclables.
19. However, local decision making will continue to be maintained across the partnership to ensure local factors, budgets and challenges are considered within any decision making to ensure the approach is best suited for all partners.

Enquiries:

For further information on this report please contact Mark Bowler. (Ext 4420)