

<b>Report of</b>	<b>Assistant Director of Environment</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Robert Doran</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>Award of contract for the purchase of one Refuse Collection Vehicle</b>		
<b>Wards affected</b>	<b>All Wards</b>		

## 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Waste and Zones Futures review in 2018 set out the requirement for additional refuse and recycling collection vehicles and crews to increase capacity within the service to respond to housing growth. As a result two additional vehicles were added to the fleet from with a further one scheduled for 2021/22. This paper sets out the proposal to purchase an additional 50/50 split vehicle in line with the business case agreed at the time.
- 1.2 As part of the Council's fleet replacement programme, a competitive and robust procurement process was undertaken to purchase a total of twelve 50/50 split recycling collection vehicles previously. Dennis Eagle were awarded the contract for the supply of these vehicles and it is possible for them to provide the additional vehicle in compliance with the procurement rules, ensuring consistency in Refuse and Recycling fleet operations.

## 2. Recommended Decision

- 2.1 To agree to proceed with the procurement of one 50/50 refuse collection vehicle.
- 2.2 To accept the proposal submitted by Dennis Eagle for the supply of one 50/50 refuse collection vehicle.

## 3. Reason for Recommended Decision

- 3.1. The bid received from Dennis Eagle was compliant with the Council requirements and enables the Council to continue the relationship, ensuring consistency in the existing refuse collection vehicles (RCVs) fleet currently in service.
- 3.2 The additional vehicle is required to ensure the waste and recycling service continues to provide an effective kerbside collection service to all households in the borough.

## 4. Alternative Options

- 4.1. The Council could undertake an open tender process with other manufacturers; however, negotiations were made with Dennis Eagle to obtain the best possible price for a vehicle to match the Council's existing fleet and maintenance schedules. An open tender process will require more resource and will extend the procurement process, delaying the operational 'live' date of the vehicle.

- 4.2 In line with recommendations from the Energy Savings Trust and as set out in the Councils Fleet Transition Forward Plan it is not recommended to purchase an electric RCV, on the basis of cost (at approx. £380k an equivalent EV is 125% more expensive) and operational viability (range and charging infrastructure). The agreed forward plan for fleet replacement sets out proposals to transition the RCV fleet from 2025.

## **5. Background Information**

- 5.1 The Waste and Zones Futures Review and Business Case set out a proposal for investment into the refuse and recycling operations, by providing an additional RCV and crew in May 2019, and a second new RCV six months later. It also proposed that a third vehicle be added in 2021/22 to enable the continued viable delivery of the waste and recycling service taking in to account housing growth.
- 5.2 In February 2018 Colchester Borough Council went out to competitive tender for the purchase a number of 50/50 split RCVs, as part of its fleet replacement programme. The tender exercise included the option of purchasing further RCVs. Delegated authority was given to the Chief Operating Officer for Environment in consultation with the Portfolio holder for Waste, Environment and Transportation to award the contract to Dennis Eagle following the competitive tender process through a TPPL framework agreement. Further vehicle was purchased and built in the summer of 2019 by Dennis Eagle.
- 5.3 The new vehicle proposed in this paper has been specified in consultation with the Neighbourhood Services Operational Team and a 50/50 split vehicle provides the most resilience and flexibility to cover a mixture of recycling and waste material.
- 5.4 As set out in the Councils Fleet Transition Forward Plan it is not recommended to purchase an electric RCV, on the basis of cost (at approx. £380k an equivalent EV is 125% more expensive) and operational viability (range and charging infrastructure). The agreed forward plan for fleet replacement sets out proposals to transition the RCV fleet from 2025.

## **6. Equality, Diversity and Human Rights implications**

- 6.1 Please note the EQIA for the Waste and Recycling service can be found on the Council's website [www.colchester.gov.uk](http://www.colchester.gov.uk) on the following pathway:  
<https://www.colchester.gov.uk/info/cbc-article/?catid=equality-impact-assessments&id=KA-01531>

## **7. Strategic Plan References**

- 7.1 Further increasing the amount of waste that is recycled will contribute to delivery of the [Strategic Plan 2020-23](#) in that it will encourage recycling and reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill, and to enable the Council's staff to keep the streets cleaner.

## **8. Consultation**

- 8.1 The Refuse and Recycling operational services team were consulted in the specification of the vehicle.

## **9. Publicity Considerations**

- 9.1 The additional vehicle will enable the Council to continue to deliver a kerbside collection service for a wide variety of recycling materials to all households in the borough.

## **10. Financial implications**

- 10.1 The Medium Term Financial Forecast includes provision for an additional waste vehicle and crew reflecting the growth within the borough. A tendering exercise has been undertaken and the capital cost of the new vehicle is £168,500.

- 10.2 In the absence of capital receipts or other funding sources, the Council would need to borrow in order to fund the capital outlay. The costs for the additional will be £28,500 a year based on 2.5% borrowing costs and 7 year estimated useful life of the vehicle.

## **11. Health, Wellbeing and Community Safety Implications**

- 11.1 In pursuit of the best practicable environmental option at the current time the purchased vehicle will utilise the latest Euro VI engine with cleaner fuel technology producing less hydrocarbons plus nitrogen oxides.
- 11.2 The additional vehicle enables the Council to continue to provide a key service to all residents directly contributing to a safer, cleaner and healthier borough. Livery will be added to the vehicle advertising services and recycling messages to the community.

## **12. Health and Safety Implications**

- 12.1 None identified.

## **13. Risk Management Implications**

- 13.1 None identified.

## **14. Environmental and Sustainability Implications**

- 14.1 In line with recommendations from the Energy Savings Trust and as set out in the Councils Fleet Transition Forward Plan it is not recommended to purchase an electric RCV, on the basis of cost (at approx. £380k an equivalent EV is 125% more expensive) and operational viability (range and charging infrastructure). The agreed forward plan for fleet replacement sets out proposals to transition the RCV fleet from 2025.
- 14.2 In pursuit of the best practicable environmental option at the current time the purchased vehicle will utilise the latest Euro VI engine with cleaner fuel technology that will reduce CO2 emissions and produce less hydrocarbons plus nitrogen oxides.
- 14.3 The Council is already implementing a range of other recommendations from the Energy Savings Trust to mitigate environmental impact including:
- Driver training for fuel efficiency
  - Better use of fleet telematics to improve driving efficiencies (e.g. no idling)
  - A focus on transitioning small fleet to EVs sooner – including EV infrastructure work underway at Rowan House
  - Depot infrastructure improvement planning for future electrification of heavy fleet (such as RCVs)
  - Utilising Ecargo bikes
  - Route optimisation to reduce emissions from fleet

## **Background Papers**

None