

**BUSINESS RESOURCE EFFICIENCY & WASTE PROGRAMME (BREW)
FUNDING 2007/08
(Report by the Head of Operations)**

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The RECAP (Recycling Cambridge and Peterborough) Waste Partnership was invited last year to bid for funds from Defra's Business Resource Efficiency & Waste (BREW) fund for initiatives to increase the level of recycling undertaken by businesses in the partnership area, which covers Huntingdonshire, Fenland, South Cambridgeshire, East Cambridgeshire, Cambridge City and Peterborough City.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Currently, many small businesses are keen to recycle, but the small quantities that they produce, make separate collection of this material uneconomic and unsustainable in environmental terms in the more rural areas and Market Towns, so neither local authorities, nor the commercial sector are very active in this area of recycling.
- 2.2 The partnership submitted a range of funding bids including one suggested by the four districts to employ staff to investigate the viability of providing recycling facilities to small and medium sized shops and businesses in the Market Towns by establishing locations where a number of shops / businesses could all bring their recycled materials, which would then be collected in bulk from that point, making the collection (by either the local authority or private sector companies – whichever is more appropriate) more cost effective. (A commercial version of our 'bring sites').

3. OUTCOME

- 3.1 The Partnership's bids were all successful, with a total of £210k being provided for a range of projects across the partnership area, including a sum of £71k to fund a pilot project of recycling facilities for small and medium sized businesses as set out above. The funding is for two full time posts for one year and the overheads and oncosts associated with the project (marketing, promotion, travel, offices etc). The officers will work across Hunts, East Cambs, South Cambs and Fenland during the year.

- 3.2 As the original proposal for this pilot originated at HDC, we have been asked to plan and manage the project on behalf of the partnership, including employing the staff, the costs of which will be recouped from BREW allocations.
- 3.3 Subject to agreement, it is proposed to establish the posts on a temporary basis within the Service Development section of the Operations Division and recruit to these new posts as soon as a project plan has been developed and agreed with other RECAP partners

4. RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 Cabinet are requested to approve the arrangements proposed for the District Council to host the pilot project for recycling waste generated by small and medium-sized businesses.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

RECAP Partnership BREW funding award letter – March 2007.

Contact **Robert Ward**
Officers: **Head of Operations**

 **01480 388635**