

Appendix 4

Draft Minutes from the Cabinet Meeting held on 22nd November 2012

(Councillor T V Rogers, Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny (Economic Panel), was in attendance and spoke on this item).

Pursuant to Minute No. 49, the Cabinet gave further consideration to the report of the Head of Operations (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) in light of comments made by the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Economic Well-Being) on the proposal to introduce an annual charge of £40 for an additional green waste bin. The report had been considered previously by the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Environmental Well-Being) who were of the opinion that the Council should not introduce a charge.

The Executive Councillor for Environment outlined the background to the proposal. He explained that the Council currently spends £1.3M on collecting green waste for which the Council does not receive any additional funding. Members' attention was drawn to 13 authorities who charge between £15 and £140 per annum for the collection of a second green bin and to 6 authorities who charge for all their green waste collections.

Having regard to the set up cost of the proposals, the Executive Councillor for Environment explained that efforts had already been made to reduce the capital costs and that unwanted second bins would be removed from those households not wishing to take up the premium service. He added that whilst there may be an immediate reduction in the green waste collected, he would be surprised if the level of green waste is reduced in the medium term.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Councillor T V Rogers, Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Economic Well-Being) addressed the Cabinet. Councillor Rogers explained that whilst the Panel supported a charge for a second green bin in principle they were of the opinion that it should be considered in the context of a range of other options for achieving budgetary savings. In that respect, he added that an informal meeting of the Panel had been arranged for 29th November 2012 to discuss priority areas for savings.

Having reiterated that the Council was constantly reviewing all services to identify savings and that consideration would need to be given to a number of difficult budgetary decisions in the future, the Cabinet

RESOLVED

that the introduction of a charge for a second green bin be approved in principle but that the timing of the implementation be delegated to the Managing Director (Communities, Partnerships and Projects) after consultation with the Executive Leader and the Executive Councillor for Environment and to be in association with a package of other savings measures to be decided no later than April 2013.