

ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL – 9 JANUARY 2020

REVIEW OF THE NEW ARRANGEMENTS FOR TEXTILE RECYCLING

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In August 2019, NFDC entered into an agreement with The Salvation Army Trading Company (SATCOL) to supply and service all the of the textile banks on council-owned land. This agreement is part of the Fareham Borough Council (FBC) framework contract for textile and clothing recycling banks. This report will review progress on the recommendations agreed in March 2019.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 In March 2019 the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel agreed recommendations to enter into the FBC framework contract for textile and clothing recycling banks. The decision was made to increase transparency in the process for dealing with the collection of textiles and the income received from those collections. Moving from dealing with multiple organisations to a single contractor has increased control of the council-owned sites in both an operational and financial sense.

- 2.2 The report submitted in March 2019 suggested potential income increases for NFDC from the sale of textile material under the framework contract, compared with the previous arrangements. In entering the framework NFDC has control over the allocation of this income. The following income apportionment was agreed:

- 20% - Allocated to additional recycling initiatives and communications via the Councils waste and recycling team.
- 20% - Allocated to the NFDC Community grants fund, to benefit smaller local organisations.
- 60% - Awarded to and split equally between a minimum of 2 'local' charities. These charities will be selected annually and will not be the same in consecutive years. They must also directly serve or benefit the district. They cannot also be the same charity as the Chairman's charity.

3. CURRENT IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS

- 3.1 NFDC notified FBC of their intention to join the Framework Contract in March 2019. There were delays in finalising the tender agreement between FBC and SATCOL, which in turn led to a delay in NFDC joining the Framework. The contract and the subsequent income from the sale of material started in August 2019.
- 3.2 There were 3 other organisations with textile banks on NFDC-owned land. As part of the agreement these needed to be removed. NFDC wrote to these organisations, informing them of the change. The process of following up the removal of these banks was passed over to SATCOL to ensure that there was smooth transition and sites were not left without provision. This process has taken place gradually since August 2019, and now there are just a small handful of sites that still have banks that are yet to be removed. The NFDC sites and number of SATCOL banks can be seen in the table below.

| SITE | AREA | SATCOL BANKS |
|----------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Ashurst Car Park | Ashurst | 1 |
| Applemore Leisure | Dibden | 1 |
| Bransgore Car Park | Bransgore | 2 |
| Oak Road Car Park | Dibden | 2 |
| New Road Car Park | Hythe | 2 |
| Jones Lane Car Park | Hythe | 1 |
| Barfields Car Park | Lymington | 2 |
| St Thomas Street Car Park | Lymington | 1 |
| Cannon Street Car Park | Lymington | 1 |
| Lyndhurst Car Park | Lyndhurst | 2 |
| Sea Road Car Park | Milford on Sea | 2 |
| Elm Avenue Car Park | New Milton | 2 |
| Spencer Road Car Park | New Milton | 1 |
| Osbourne Road Car Park | New Milton | 1 |
| Furlong Car Park | Ringwood | 2 |
| Civic Centre Car Park | Totton | 2 |
| Windsor Road Car Park | Totton | 1 |
| Rumbridge Street Car Park | Totton | 1 |
| Hounslow Avenue | Totton | 1 |
| Recreation Ground Car Park | Fordingbridge | 2 |
| Total banks | | 30 |

- 3.3 The total number banks on NFDC sites has decreased from 42 in March 2019 to 30 in January 2020. However, under the previous arrangement 11 of these banks were smaller shoe only banks provided by SOEX. SATCOL have also reported that they have increased the collection frequency on 7 of the sites and monitored tonnage and overspill reports to ensure that adequate facilities have been provided.
- 3.4 All SATCOL banks on NFDC land have been marked with the NFDC logo, indicating the link to NFDC and directing users to a web page for further explanation of the Framework, sites and allocation of income.
- 3.5 Annual tonnage comparison is not yet available. The quarter 3 tonnages for all textile bank in the District from October to December indicate that tonnages saw a slight increase compared to previous years.

4. INCOME GENERATION AND APPORTIONMENT

- 4.1 As part of the framework contract a price per tonne is paid by SATCOL to all local authorities which are part of the framework.
- 4.2 Income for NFDC for 2019/2020 is estimated to be in region of £36,000.
- 4.3 The funds will be divided as per the agreed apportionment described in 2.2 of this report:
- The 20% allocated to additional waste and recycling communications will be used to fund a whole district leaflet drop to all households, providing information on Christmas collections and recycling.
 - The 20% allocated to community grants will be transferred to the budget for that scheme for 2020-21.

- Regarding the 60% allocated to local charities, it is proposed that because for 2019/20 the income is not a complete year, the income will be passed over to the current Chairman's charity. However, for subsequent years an application and selection process will be developed.

4.4 NFDC is also able to claim a "Recycling credit" from HCC, based on the tonnages recycled. In this financial year it will be in the region of £13,000.

5. CONCLUSIONS

5.1 The agreement confirmation and bank implementation was delayed, the process of removing the old banks is now almost complete. . A clearer picture of how the changes have affected tonnages and income will be available in 2020.

5.2 NFDC Officers have a single point of contact for dealing with any textile bank related issues, this has increased operational control. Early figures show increased income generation, clarity has been provided through monthly remittance advice and the SATCOL online portal.

6. CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are none.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The reuse and recycling of textiles is an important part of the Council's strategy for managing waste and recycling.

8. EQUALITY & DIVERSITY IMPLICATION

8.1 Local textile recycling banks assist local residents to recycle close to their own homes.

9. DATA PROTECTION IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are none.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Panel note the following:-

- that Officers will continue to monitor operations, material tonnages and income generation of the SATCOL banks; and
- That an application and assessment process be developed so local charities that directly serve the district can apply to be a beneficiary of the 60% apportionment.

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Background Papers: