

Somerset Waste Partnership reference: 2015-69
Enquiries regarding waste and recycling contracts
Date of response: 25.06.2015

Dear XXX

I am writing regarding your recent request for information from Somerset Waste Partnership, which has been dealt with under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Somerset Waste Partnership is a partnership of Mendip, Sedgemoor, South Somerset and West Somerset District Councils, Taunton Deane Borough Council and Somerset County Council. This response covers all those partner authorities.

In response to your questions: -

Below, bulleted answers in blue or appropriate section highlighted in yellow, if you need anything further please do not hesitate to contact me.

1. Is residual waste collection for your authority carried out by in house resources or is it outsourced to a third party?

2. Is recycling collection carried out by in house resources or is it outsourced to a third party? (Please advise if there are separate contracts for dry recycling and organic recycling)

3. If waste collection is managed in house, what is the approximate expenditure per annum? Please provide gross expenditure (before any income). Please include expenditure on collection only (i.e. no disposal costs).

4. If it is outsourced:

a. Which outsourcing firm(s) are used?

b. When did the contract(s) start?

c. When is the contract(s) due to terminate?

d. Can the contract(s) be extended, and if so by how many months?

e. What is the total annual value of the contract(s)?

f. Where spend is part of a broader multi-service contract, please provide an estimate of spend on waste services only g. Does your current refuse collection contract contain targets for the diversion of waste from landfill? If so, please specify the target for each year of the contract h. Does the contract(s) cover just your authority or any neighbouring authorities?

i. Who was responsible for waste collection before the start of the current contract(s)? If previously outsourced, please specify which outsourcing firm and the annual value of the previous contract

5. Which of the following services do you offer customers?

a. Waste services

i. Collection

ii. Disposal of general refuse

iii. Disposal of recyclates

b. Type of waste collected

i. Residual waste

ii. Food waste

iii. Co-mingled recycling

iv. Kerbside sort recycling

v. Garden waste

vi. Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment recycling (WEEE) vii. Other (please specify) viii. If you outsource your waste collection, are any non-waste services included in the contract? E.g. Grounds maintenance, Street cleaning, etc.

- Answers to question above
- Refuse and Recycling Collections Contract (including, clinical, bulky, garden and container delivery)
- Kier MG
- Circa £14m per annum
- Initial duration of contract 7 years (was extended in 2012 until 2021 with a further option to extend by a further 7 years)
- Original contract let in 12th Oct 2007
- Constantly under review but next formal contract break Friday October 1st 2021

6. Over the latest available period, what proportion of total collections were 'missed'? (please state the period provided) a. A 'missed' collection is any collection which is known by the authority not to have taken place on the prescribed day due to a failure of the authority or its contractor

- Last performance paper brought before the waste board on 19th of June 2015

<http://www1.somerset.gov.uk/council/meetings/results.asp?ccode=32>

7. Does the authority receive rebates from recycling? (A rebate is defined as any payment received by the authority in respect to the disposal of recyclates) a. If so, what has been the annual value of all rebates over the last three years? (please specify the years covered)

- No

8. Does the authority take the risk of changes in commodity prices for recyclates? a. Please state the nature of any risk sharing mechanisms that the authority has in place with any provider of waste management

- No

9. If garden waste is collected in your authority, which of the following options apply:
b. Garden waste collections are free of charge to residents (i.e. the authority cover the full cost of this service) c. Garden waste is collected and paid for by residents (i.e. residents cover the full cost of this service) d. Residents pay a contribution to garden waste collection but it is partially subsidised by the authority

If you feel your request has not been answered in sufficient detail or if you wish to clarify the information given please contact me and I will be happy to address the issues you raise.

If you are not satisfied with the way in which your request has been dealt with, or the information you have received, you can ask for an internal review of our decision.

Please send your request to:

Peter Grogan
Corporate Information Governance Manager
Information Governance Team
Resources Directorate
County Hall
Taunton
TA1 4DY or email PTGrogan@Somerset.gov.uk

An internal review will then be carried out and we will write to you with the results of our investigation. If you are not content with the outcome of our review, you may then apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (www.ico.gov.uk) for an appeal: The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF Tel: 0303 – 123 1113

Please quote the reference numbers at the top of this e-mail in any future correspondence with Somerset Waste Partnership.