

3 September 2020**Agenda Item:10****REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, PLACE AND COMMUNITIES****NEW RUSHCLIFFE RECYCLING CENTRE****Purpose of the Report**

1. To seek approval from Committee for the development of an additional recycling centre in Rushcliffe, and for officers to progress a planning application for the preferred site off Hollygate Lane in Cotgrave.

InformationBackground

2. The County Council is committed to delivering an additional recycling centre in Rushcliffe to meet anticipated future housing growth within the borough.
3. The current West Bridgford recycling centre, located on Rugby Road, is at full operating capacity and has a history of experiencing traffic issues due to the site location and lack of capacity for queuing onsite or offsite. This has been highlighted during the Covid-19 pandemic and particularly following reopening of the site in early June, and a trial booking system has recently been implemented at the site to address ongoing road safety concerns.
4. After a review of County Council-owned land, a site located on land we own in Cotgrave, formerly part of the Cotgrave Colliery Tip site but currently used as grazing land, has been identified as potentially suitable for a recycling centre and has therefore been selected as the preferred site. The site would be screened from Hollygate Lane by an existing and substantial hedge.
5. Appendix A shows the location and an indicative layout of the proposed site.

Planning

6. Pre-application advice has been requested from Nottinghamshire County Council's Planning Team with regard to the preferred site. The County Council, as the Waste Planning Authority, will be the determining planning authority.
7. The site is large enough to accommodate the requirements of a new recycling centre and is within convenient distance for the population that would use the service.
8. The delivery of the new facility will require all planning requirements to be met.

Financial implications

9. There is £2.5m allocated in the capital programme to develop and construct a new site.
10. There will also be availability fees due to the site operators (Veolia – the Council’s PFI waste management partner) to operate the facility and a rate per tonne of waste received at the site to pay. It is estimated the opening of a new site would generate an additional 5,000-6,000 tonnes of waste per year. This would result in overall additional annual revenue costs of up to £500,000.

Next steps

11. Veolia, the Council’s PFI waste Contractor, will be commissioned to carry out the design and development of the new recycling centre. They will also commission an ecological survey and a topographical survey (at the very least) in order to inform the planning application.
12. It is anticipated that subject to the requirements of the Waste Planning Authority a full planning application could be submitted later this month with a subsequent application process to the Environment Agency for an Environmental Permit.
13. Subject to receipt of planning permission and the Environmental Permit application construction would be likely to take in the order of 6 months, so a site could be open for late summer 2021.

Other Options Considered

14. Do not provide an additional recycling centre in Rushcliffe.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

15. The current recycling centre in West Bridgford is struggling to cope with demand due to housing growth, its location and layout and is creating local road safety concerns.
16. Despite extensive site searches undertaken internally, in engagement with Rushcliffe Borough Council, and through an external planning consultant no other suitable sites have been identified.

Statutory and Policy Implications

17. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

18. The financial implications are outlined in paragraphs 9 and 10 of this report.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That Committee:

- 1) Approves the development of an additional recycling centre in Rushcliffe.
- 2) Approves officers progressing a planning application for the preferred site off Hollygate Lane in Cotgrave.

Derek Higton
Service Director, Place and Communities

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Constitutional Comment (EP 30/07/2020)

19. The recommendations fall within the remit of the Communities and Place Committee by virtue of its terms of reference.

Financial Comment (RWK 12/08/2020)

20. The current approved Communities and Place capital programme includes a budget of £2.5 million to fund capital works associated with this report. The additional estimated annual revenue costs of up to £500,000 per annum to meet availability fees will be addressed as part of the development of the 2021/22 budget.

Background Papers and Published Documents

- None

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- All