



CABINET REPORT

Report Title	Northants Waste Partnership – Updated Memorandum of Understanding
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AGENDA STATUS: PUBLIC

Cabinet Meeting Date:	6 th March 2019
Key Decision:	No
Within Policy:	Yes
Policy Document:	No
Service Area:	Customers and Communities
Accountable Cabinet Member:	Cllr Mike Hallam
Ward(s)	Borough Wide

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to recommend that cabinet agree to adopt the updated and revised version of the Northamptonshire Waste Partnership (NWP) Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To agree to the adoption of the updated and revised Memorandum of Understanding relating to membership of the Northamptonshire Waste Partnership.
- 2.2 To delegate to the Cabinet Member for the Environment the authority to sign the amended MoU.

3. Issues and Choices

3.1 Report Background

- 3.1.1 Northampton Borough Council is a member of the Northamptonshire Waste Partnership (NWP). The partnership operates under a Memorandum of

Understanding. The MoU was originally drafted and agreed by all NWP Partners in 2004. The partners are listed in Appendix 1 and currently include all eight Local Authorities in Northamptonshire.

- 3.1.2 The MoU sets out an agreement for the operation of the NWP and seeks to clarify and record the responsibilities of partners both individually and collectively. The purpose of this report is to highlight the small number of changes which have been recommended by the NWP Steering Group and to agree a final version for adoption by all Partners.
- 3.1.3 Since 2004 Northampton Borough Council have left the partnership on two occasions, once in 2015 and again in March 2018. On both occasions this was as a result of budgetary constraints.
- 3.1.4 In preparation for the forthcoming Unitary arrangement and in recognition of the benefits of partnership working, including wider financial efficiencies, the Council re-joined in June 2018. Northamptonshire County Council who had previously left the partnership in March 2018 also re-joined in June 2018.
- 3.1.5 An audit of NWP took place last year and made a recommendation that should any member of the partnership decide to leave then they should not receive a share of any partnership reserves.
- 3.1.6 Membership of NWP for 18/19 consists of a contribution from each partner authority of £11,250.
- 3.1.7 NWP Board have agreed that each partner authority will seek authority from their decision making body for adoption of the revised MoU.

3.2 Issues

- 3.2.1 The following changes have been made to the Memorandum of Understanding:
- 3.2.2 Northampton Borough Council and Northamptonshire County Council are reinstated into the list of Partners.
- 3.2.3 The quorum for holding meetings has been increased from three Partners to four in attendance.
- 3.2.4 A section is included to clarify that if a member of the partnership decides to leave then they do not receive a share of any partnership reserves.

3.3 Choices (Options)

- 3.3.1 Cabinet can choose to accept the changes to the memorandum of understanding
- 3.3.2 Cabinet can choose not to accept the changes to the memorandum of understanding

- 3.3.3 Cabinet can choose to accept some of the changes to the memorandum of understanding

4. Implications (including financial implications)

4.1 Policy

- 4.1.1 If Cabinet agree to adopt the updated and revised MoU then the existing MoU will be replaced. The revised MoU will include re-instatement of the Council into the list of partners.

4.2 Resources and Risk

- 4.2.1 The cost of membership of the NWP for 18/19 is £11,250 per annum per partner authority. There is no additional cost in relation to the amended MoU.
- 4.2.2 One amendment to the MoU states that should a member of the partnership decide to leave then they will not receive a share of any partnership reserves. On the previous two occasions when the Council left the partnership they did not receive any reserves.

4.3 Legal

- 4.3.1 The Memorandum of Understanding is not a legally binding agreement, so there are no legal comments to make at this stage.

4.4 Equality and Health

- 4.4.1 There are no equality and health issues. The proposal does not involve a change in service.

4.5 Consultees (Internal and External)

- 4.5.1 The Northampton Waste Partnership has a board made up of relevant key councillors and officers from all member authorities, these changes have been debated and agreed by this board. The Cabinet Member for the Environment and the Head of Customers and Communities are both members of the NWP Board.

4.6 How the Proposals deliver Priority Outcomes

- 4.6.1 This proposal supports the Council's Corporate Plan objectives: Making the best use of our assets, working with partners to provide joined up service, empowering communities to develop their areas and developing stronger and more resilient communities. It also supports the Council's Corporate Plan objective in relation to creating an attractive, clean and safe environment.

4.7 Other Implications

None

5 Background Papers

5.1 Northampton Waste Partnership 17/18 Final Audit Report

6. Appendices

6.1 Appendix 1 Updated Northampton Waste Partnership Memorandum of Understanding.

7. Next Steps

7.1 If agreed, The Cabinet Member for the Environment will sign the revised memorandum of Understanding at the next NWP Board meeting.

Marion Goodman
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