

Minutes



Meeting name	Cabinet
Date	Tuesday, 14 January 2025
Start time	4.30 pm
Venue	Parkside, Station Approach, Burton Street, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire. LE13 1GH

Present:

Chair Councillor P. Allnatt (Chair)

Councillors M. Glancy (Vice-Chair) S. Butcher
S. Cox P. Cumbers

Officers Chief Executive
Director for Housing and Communities (Deputy Chief Executive)
Director for Corporate Services
Director for Place & Prosperity
Assistant Director for Governance and Democracy (Monitoring Officer)
Senior Democratic Services and Scrutiny Officer

Minute No.	Minute
54	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE No apologies for absence were received.</p>
55	<p>MINUTES The Minutes of the meeting held on 11 December 2024 were confirmed.</p>
56	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST No declarations of interest were received.</p>
57	<p>MATTERS REFERRED FROM SCRUTINY COMMITTEE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SCRUTINY PROCEDURE RULES There were no items referred from the Scrutiny Committee in accordance with the Scrutiny Procedure Rules.</p>
58	<p>DEVOLUTION WHITE PAPER The Chief Executive introduced the report. The Leader, Councillor Allnatt, moved the recommendations and Councillor Glancy seconded the motion.</p> <p>In response to a query on when staff would be briefed, Members were informed that written briefings had been provided and there would be an all staff briefing on Wednesday 15 January.</p> <p>The question of at what point does the public get consulted with was raised. In response, Members were informed that public consultation is a little way off. The District Councils and Rutland Leader’s joint letter to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government explained that all options should be investigated and evidence needs to be gathered. The Leader added that the District Councils and Rutland had stated the impact upon staff and that there is a coming together in order to find a solution.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>That Cabinet:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) NOTED the contents of the English Devolution White Paper and ENDORSED the Council’s initial response as set out in 5.17 of the report. 2) DELEGATED AUTHORITY to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to continue working with neighbouring local authorities and undertake any work required to enable a full appraisal of the options and implications ensuring an effective response to the White Paper. 3) DELEGATED AUTHORITY to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Director for Corporate Services, to access the Corporate Priorities Reserve for up to £30k (outside any constitutional limits) in support of

recommendation 2.

- 4) **NOTED** that a further report would be provided to Cabinet setting out further details as they emerge, including consideration of options and implications and any proposed next steps.

(Non-key decision)

Reason for recommendations

To enable the Council to engage in further discussions with local authority partners and undertake any necessary work to support an appropriate response to the White Paper.

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FUTURE OF WASTE AND RECYCLING: FOOD WASTE COLLECTION AND RECYCLING SERVICES

The Portfolio Holder for Governance, Environment and Regulatory Services (Deputy Leader), Councillor Glancy, introduced the report and moved the recommendations. Councillor Allnatt seconded the motion.

The comment was made that it was beneficial for residents that what can be recycled would be the same throughout the country.

Cabinet were informed that, even though not everyone is in favour of the changes, the requirement is a legal requirement. It was recognised that there is a need to keep every resident in the loop and that a message could be put in the leaflet that goes out with Council Tax bills.

A comment was made that the presence of more bins could make it difficult for disabled people to navigate pavements and alleyways.

The funding of the service was identified as a risk to the Council's budgets.

RESOLVED

That Cabinet:

- 1) **NOTED** the significant change in nation waste policy and the impact and implications this would have on waste services within Melton and corresponding Council resources.
- 2) **DELEGATED AUTHORITY** to the Director for Housing and Communities in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Governance, Environment and Regulatory Services (Deputy Leader) to initiate and implement a contract variation to enable food waste collections to be included as part of the existing Municipal Waste Contract with Biffa, ensuring the service is operational by 1 April 2026, until the first contract review date in October 2028.
- 3) **NOTED** that the agreement to proceed with implementation and operation of a food waste collection service is conditional on receiving sufficient revenue funding from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and

that the Council's financial sustainability or other legal obligation cannot be undermined in this process.

- 4) Having noted the extensive lead time for delivery, **DELEGATED AUTHORITY** to the Director for Housing and Communities, in consultation with the Director for Corporate Services, to determine and implement the most appropriate contractual, funding and financing mechanism and capital and/or revenue budget requirements to secure up to five food waste collection vehicles to deliver the service. Any additional financing requirements would be included within the Council's budget reports to be considered in February 2025.
- 5) Following a successful procurement exercise, **NOTED** that an intention to award letter would be issued to the chosen supplier and a contract is in the process of being award for the supply of food waste caddies.
- 6) As part of the Council's ongoing discussions with Biffa, **APPROVED** that a formal TEEP (technically, environmentally and economically practicable) assessment be undertaken, to confirm the initial assessment that the requirement to implement separate paper and card recycling for the remainder of the existing Municipal Waste Contract period should be deferred to at least October 2028.
- 7) **DELEGATED AUTHORITY** to the Director for Housing and Communities to fully evaluate future collection options, resourcing and procurement/contract requirements and to bring back a further report to Cabinet, with a view to ensuring the Council provides a Municipal Waste Service from October 2028 that balances Government requirements for Simpler Recycling with the Councils financial stability and ongoing assessment of technical, environmental and economic practicability.
- 8) **NOTED** that Council would be requested, as part of the budget, to delegate authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Director for Corporate Services, to access the reserves for up to £100k for project management and specialist resources in support of the work requirements set out within the recommendations.

(Key decision)

Reason for recommendations

To progress Melton Borough Council's response to the Government's Simpler Recycling requirements including the provision of a Food Waste Collection Service and to manage associated implications.

The meeting closed at: 4.49 pm

Chair