

Agenda Item No. 4(d)

**DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**MEETING OF CABINET MEMBER – HIGHWAYS, TRANSPORT AND  
INFRASTRUCTURE**

**22 December 2016**

Report of the Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Communities

**APPROVAL FOR AN EARMARKED RESERVE FROM THE RESOURCE  
RECOVERY SOLUTIONS (DERBYSHIRE) LTD WASTE MINIMISATION  
AND EDUCATION INITIATIVES FUND**

(1) **Purpose of Report** To seek approval to create an earmarked reserve of £45,500 to contribute to the development of the Education Centre at the Derbyshire Waste Treatment Centre in 2017-18 from the Resource Recovery Solutions (Derbyshire) Ltd (RRS) 2016-17 Contract Initiatives Fund.

(2) **Information and Analysis** The long term waste contract with RRS includes the provision of a Waste Education Centre situated at the Waste Treatment Centre currently under construction in Sinfin, Derby.

The Education Centre will be run by the full-time RRS Waste Minimisation and Education Officer (WMEO). The Centre will provide an inspiring and innovative space for visitors to learn about the waste treatment facility and the 3Rs (reduce, reuse and recycle) with a focus on how visitors can deal with their own waste sustainably.

Visitors to the Centre will not be able to complete a tour of the waste treatment facility owing to the physical constraints of the site. The education space is being developed to provide an engaging and interesting educational experience to draw visitor interest.

A range of interactive educational workshops will be delivered. It is anticipated that visitors will include pupils from junior/primary and secondary schools, universities, community groups and organisations. It will also be used to host environmental teacher training sessions, open days and meetings.

In a Cabinet Member report on 31 May 2016, approval was granted to allocate £45,500 of the 2016-17 RRS Waste Minimisation and Education Initiatives Fund to support the development of the indoor and outdoor space at the Education Centre and the provision of educational resources (Minute No. 58/16 refers).

A construction delay has meant that the Education Centre will be completed during spring 2017-18. RRS is currently undertaking a procurement process to appoint a company to develop and deliver the design and interpretation elements of the Education Centre. This work will take approximately six months to complete with payment being made in financial year 2017-18.

Approval is sought, therefore, to create an earmarked reserve of £45,500 from the RRS Initiatives Fund, within the Waste Management Revenue budget, to meet on-going financial commitments for the development of the Education Centre in 2017-18

**(3) Financial Considerations** The RRS Initiatives Fund is funded from the Waste Management Service Revenue budget. Approval is sought to create an earmarked reserve of £45,500 from the RRS Initiatives Fund to meet on-going financial commitments for the development of the Education Centre in 2017-18.

The creation of an earmarked reserve is in line with the Corporate Reserves Policy, approved by Cabinet, which allow for departments to establish earmarked reserves from their cash limited budgets to properly reflect on-going financial commitments, fund future service developments or expenditure of an uneven nature. The earmarked reserve would fall into the category for Committed Liabilities as this is a genuine liability that is known and current to the Council.

**(4) Legal Considerations** The provision of the Initiatives Fund by the County Council and City Council is a requirement set out in the long term waste management contract with RRS.

**(5) Environmental and Health Considerations** The County Council is committed to increasing sustainable waste management solutions across the whole County. The Education Centre will help to contribute to the following environmental benefits:

- Waste minimisation.
- Increased recycling/composting.
- Diverting waste from landfill.
- Contributing to the County Council's carbon management programme.

**(6) Social Value Considerations** A wide variety of visitors and groups will use the Centre including residents from the local area and from across Derbyshire. The Education Centre will deliver waste education and learning about the waste treatment facility and will help residents take action to deal with waste more sustainably.

The Centre will be used to hold the Waste Treatment Facility's Community Liaison Group meetings, environmental teacher training sessions and will be available for local groups to use as a meeting room facility. The Education Centre will provide a valuable community space for Derby and Derbyshire.

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: prevention of crime and disorder, equality and diversity, human resources, property and transport considerations.

(7) **Key Decision** No.

(8) **Call-In** Is it required that call-in be waived in respect of the decisions proposed in the report? No.

(9) **Background Papers** Held on file within the Economy, Transport and Communities Department. Officer contact details – Philippa Roine, extension 39796.

(10) **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATIONS** That the Cabinet Member approves the creation of an earmarked reserve of £45,500 from the Resource Recovery Solutions (Derbyshire) Ltd Initiatives Fund, held within the Waste Management Revenue budget, as detailed in this report.

**Mike Ashworth**  
**Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Communities**