

## HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING AND WASTE SERVICE

### Item CE 23/5 referred from Communities and Environment Scrutiny Select Committee of 8 February 2023

The report of the Director of Street Scene, Leisure and Technical Services and Cabinet Member for Technical and Waste Services outlined opportunities to maintain and improve service provision in relation to the Council's Waste Services Collection Contract, which was provided in partnership with Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, that would be reported to Cabinet on the 14 February 2023. The report advised on a proposed extension to previously agreed support for a further 5 month period in relation to the recent and ongoing impacts of HGV market conditions and support for a proposed Phase 2 of re-rounding. Members were invited to review the content of the report in advance of the Cabinet meeting and make any recommendations or observations to Cabinet.

The Committee asked that the contractor be encouraged to be open and transparent about their financial arrangements and any potential implications for the Borough Council.

#### **RECOMMENDED:** That

- (1) Council gives authority to the Director of Street Scene, Leisure and Technical Services to extend, for the period November 2022 to March 2023, the provision of limited financial assistance to Urbaser Ltd and Urbaser SA in respect of the contract originally procured and that the value of this (£77,000) be reflected in the Revised Estimates for 2022/23 and funded from the Budget Stabilisation Reserve;
- (2) Council approves a one-off contribution to Urbaser Ltd of up to £150,000 towards the costs of terminating a number of existing collection vehicle leases to facilitate the provision of a new fleet of collection vehicles in 2023/24 and that the value of this be reflected in the Estimates for 2023/24 and be funded from the Budget Stabilisation Reserve;
- (3) Council gives authority to the Director of Street Scene, Leisure and Technical Services in consultation with Director of Finance and Transformation and Director of Central Services to complete all necessary negotiations, legal processes and legal documentation to enter into an agreement with Urbaser Ltd to allow for the transfer of the new vehicle lease(s) to the Council in conjunction with Tunbridge Wells Borough Council or to the organisation(s) contracted to provide the two councils' household waste collection service on the expiry of the current joint recycling and waste collection and street cleansing contract;

- (4) Council gives authority to the Director of Street Scene, Leisure and Technical Services in consultation with the Director of Finance and Transformation and the Director of Central Services to complete all necessary negotiations, legal processes and legal documentation and enter into an agreement with Tunbridge Wells Borough Council to share the liability for the new vehicle fleet from the end of the current joint recycling and waste collection and street cleansing contract; and
- (5) Council notes that a Voluntary Ex-Ante Transparency Notice will be published containing details of the proposed changes set out in recommendation 1, 2 and 3 to cover the items highlighted above.

**\*Referred to Cabinet**