

**East Sussex County Council  
Brighton & Hove City Council**

**Meeting**                      **Joint Waste Committee**  
**Date:**                        **18 December 2006**  
**Report of:**                **Project Director and Director of Transport and  
Environment, East Sussex County Council**  
**Subject:**                    **Integrated Waste Management Services Contract – Project  
Update**

**1. Purpose of the Report**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Joint Waste Committee on Contract progress.

**2. Recommendation**

2.1 Committee is recommended to note the content of this report.

**3. Information**

**Background**

3.1 The overarching aim of the Contract is to enable the sustainable management of household waste within an affordable financial framework. The Councils have set out to reduce, recycle and recover as much benefit as possible from residents' waste. This approach will greatly reduce the Councils' dependence on landfill and meet the EU Landfill Directive and Government's Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme. It is also very important to recognise that our local landfills are projected to be full by 2008 at the latest.

3.2 The Contract was awarded, following competitive tendering, to Veolia Environmental Services (formerly Onyx) on 31 March 2003. Tenderers' proposals were assessed on a value for money basis including the assessment which provided the Councils with the best practicable environmental option.

3.3 The requirement for Veolia to recycle and recover more benefit from waste necessitates it constructing a series of complementary (integrated) waste management facilities.

**Development Programme**

**(a) Materials Recovery Facility and Waste Transfer Station at Hollingdean, Brighton**

3.4 Planning permission was granted on 19 June 2006 and Veolia is undertaking site clearance works and satisfying any necessary pre-construction planning

conditions before commencing construction in the New Year. A local resident has applied to the High Court for leave for a Judicial Review of the planning decision. In the meantime the permission is still valid.

**(b) Waste Transfer Station and Household Waste Recycling Site at Maresfield Camp, Maresfield**

3.5 The planning decision notice was issued in October and Veolia has prepared the site for construction, including relocating reptiles inhabiting the site. It has a contractor ready to commence construction, again in the New Year.

**(c) Enclosed Composting Facility at Whitesmith, Near Uckfield**

3.6 Veolia's planning application is expected to be considered by the East Sussex County Council Planning Committee on 20 December.

**(d) Waste Transfer Station and Household Waste Recycling Site at Pebsham, Near Hastings**

3.7 Veolia plans to submit a planning application for a waste transfer site in December.

**(e) Energy Recovery Facility at North Quay, Newhaven**

3.8 East Sussex County Council Cabinet, at its 11 July meeting, approved the use of a Compulsory Purchase Order to acquire the site after all planning issues have been resolved, if the site cannot be acquired by negotiation.

3.9 The Environment Agency issued Veolia a Pollution Prevention and Control (PPC) permit in November together with the statement "...we are satisfied that the incinerator, if built and with our conditions, will not damage the environment or cause harm to human health."

3.10 The planning application is expected to be considered by East Sussex County Council Planning Committee early in the New Year.

**Operations**

3.11 Headline Waste Management Contract performance tables are shown in Appendix A.

3.12 Figures for the first half of 2006/07 suggest there will be further growth in municipal waste this Council year (Table 1). It also appears that waste generation dipped in the year 2005/06. This was a decrease in green waste and in waste deposited by residents at household waste recycling sites. Contract recycling, composting and diversion of waste from landfill (Tables 4 and 5) continue to increase, consistent with the objectives of the Contract.

## **4. Financial Implications**

4.1 The Government introduced its Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme (LATS) to ensure England complies with the EU Landfill Directive which requires member states to reduce by 2020 the amount of biodegradable municipal waste (BMW) landfilled to 35% of 1996 municipal waste levels. BMW when landfilled creates greenhouse gases and harmful leachates. In the first year of the LATS, 2005/06, both Councils were able to operate within their LATS permit allocation. Both Councils have strategies to comply with the LATS which is in operation up to 2020.

4.2 The cost of the waste disposal contract with Veolia since its commencement on 1 April 2003 is lower than originally anticipated. This is due in part to lower than anticipated Contract waste tonnages and the timing of delivery of new facilities. The money not spent is being held in the Councils' reserves against increased expenditure in the future.

## **5. Legal Implications**

5.1 As is mentioned in section 3.2a above, a local resident has made an application for a Judicial Review of the Hollingdean MRF/WTS planning permission. Whether or not the applicant will be given permission by the High Court to proceed with the case is not yet known but that decision is expected very shortly. Veolia is required to commence construction when it is ready to do so and that remains the position.

## **6. Conclusions**

6.1 The Councils are in a far better position to recover much more benefit from residents' waste and meet the requirements of the EU Landfill Directive, with this Contract than without it.

6.2 New facilities must to be constructed in response to depleting landfill and the EU Landfill Directive.

6.3 The Councils must drive the Waste Contract forward with their contractor, Veolia, consistent with the full planning process.

6.4 The Councils must manage their financial obligations under the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme.

Report of:

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7 December 2006

## **Background Papers**

Integrated Waste Management Services Contract

<http://esc website/environment/rubbishandrecycling/managingwaste/happens/#subtitle1>

<http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/index.cfm?request=c1147524>

Waste Local Plan

<http://esc website/environment/rubbishandrecycling/managingwaste/decisions/default.htm#subtitle1>

<http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/index.cfm?request=b1110443>

Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/waste/localauth/lats/index.htm>

Environment Agency IPPC Licence Decision

<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/regions/southern/201793/1297536/1437450/?version=1&lang=en>

Table 1

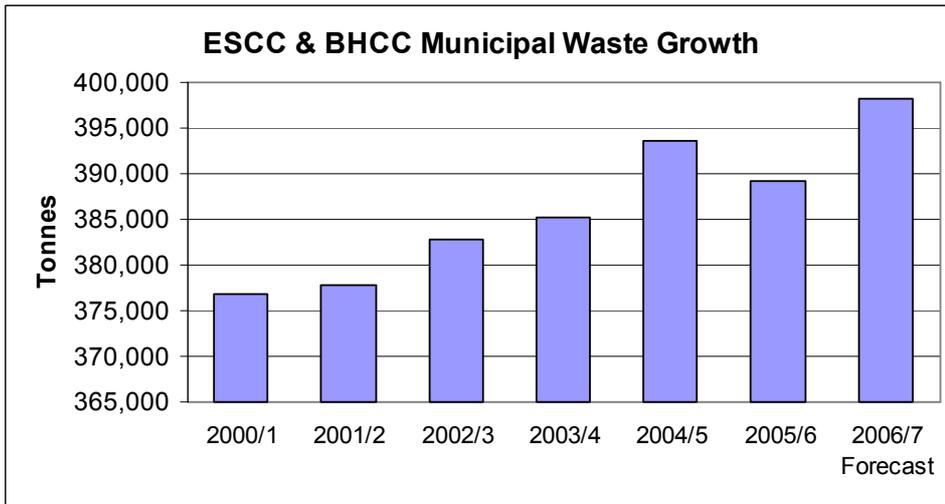


Table 2

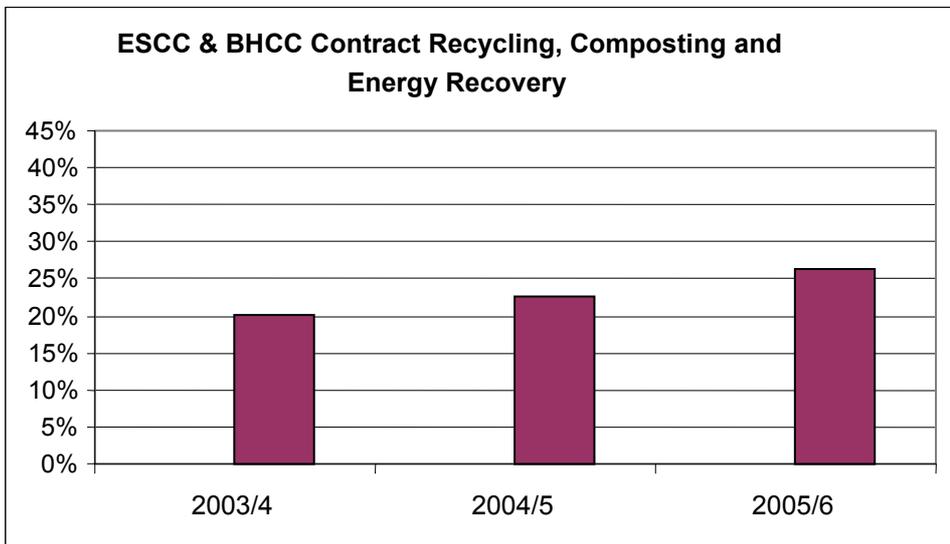


Table 3

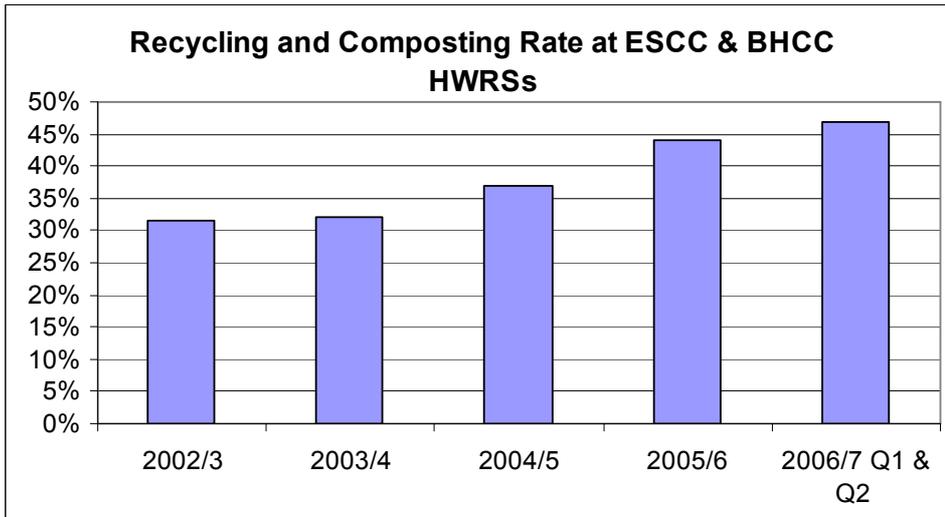


Table 4

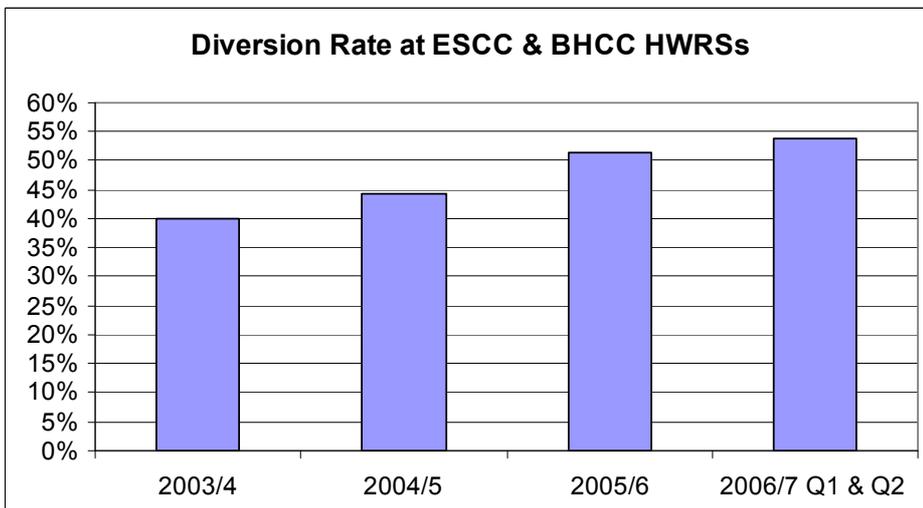


Table 5

