

COUNCIL – 8 FEBRUARY 2018

COUNCIL TAX 2018-19 AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE

PROCEDURE NOTE

The Mayor will adopt the following procedure to deal with the business under Agenda Items 7 (Council Tax 2018/19) and 8 (Recommendations of the Executive and Committees).

AGENDA ITEM 7 – COUNCIL TAX 2018/19

AGENDA ITEM 8 – RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE AND COMMITTEES

The Mayor will take the report on Council Tax 2018/19 (Agenda Item 7) first, together with recommendations of the Executive meeting on 1 February 2018 relating to the following:

1. General Fund, Service Plans, Budgets and Prudential Indicators 2018-19
2. Housing Revenue Account Budgets 2018-19
3. Investment Programme 2017 – 18 to 2020 – 21
4. Treasury Management Strategy and Prudential Indicators 2018 – 19

The items above will be debated after the Leader of the Council's Budget Statement. For convenience, the relevant extracts from the minutes of the Executive are set out in Appendix A. The recommendations reflect the decisions of the Executive. The draft Council Tax resolution is set out in Appendix B.

The recommendations from the meeting of the Executive on 18 January 2018 and the meeting of the Licensing Committee on 23 January 2018, together with the remaining recommendations from the meeting of the Executive on 1 February 2018, will be considered once the Council Tax for 2018-19 has been agreed. The recommendations are:

Executive – 18 January 2018

5. Notices of Motion
6. Protocols of the Thamesway Group of Companies
7. Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) Policy for Fly Tipping Offences

Licensing Committee – 23 January 2018

8. Introduction of BTEC Qualification for Licensed Taxi Drivers
9. Surrey-wide Convictions Policy

Executive – 1 February 2018

10. Domestic Abuse Workforce Policy
11. Earn Your Deposit Scheme
12. Potential Expansion of the Joint Waste Collection Contract

The recommendations are set out in Appendix C to this report.

Items 7 (Council Tax 2018-19) and 8 (Recommendations of the Executive and Committees)

The recommendations before the Council are set out below.

EXECUTIVE – 1 FEBRUARY 2018**1. GENERAL FUND, SERVICE PLANS, BUDGETS AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS 2018-19**

Councillor A Azad, Portfolio Holder for Corporate Financial Planning and Policy, introduced the report outlining the proposed General Fund, Service Plans, Budgets and Prudential Indicators 2018-19. Attention was drawn to two impactful measures in the report. Firstly, the Government's announcement that Surrey had been included as one of the ten new Business Rates pilot areas for 2018-19. It was noted that the pilot would mean that a greater proportion of Business Rates income would be retained in Surrey. Secondly, the Executive was informed that the Government had increased the Council Tax Referendum limit from 2% to 3%.

Councillor Azad reported that the General Fund Budget proposed an increase in Council Tax of 2.98% for 2018-19 which resulted in a Band D Council Tax figure for 2018-19 of £233.46 or an increase of £6.75 per annum at Band D.

The Executive welcomed the news that the provisional Government settlement, announced on 19 December 2017, had not introduced any significant changes to the New Homes Bonus (NHB) scheme. It was noted that the grant awarded to the Council for 2018-19 was £1.386m.

Councillor Azad advised the Executive that there was currently no resolution to the Revenue Support Grant (RSG) and that, going forward, reviews would be taking place.

Following a question regarding cost pressures on the Council's pay budget, the Portfolio Holder reported that £575k of the costs had been included in the budget resulting in a pressure within the salary budgets of £710k. The Executive was advised that the pay budgets always included a vacancy management savings target which reflected that the full staffing structure was never in place, and noted that there were also routine vacancies. The Portfolio Holder explained that the position would require careful management during the year and highlighted that employee costs were reported monthly in the Green Book.

Following a question regarding meeting homelessness needs as the Sheerwater development progressed, the Executive was informed that the development would be a slow managed progression over approximately 113 months. Councillor C S Kemp, Portfolio Holder for Housing, confirmed that managing homelessness was a key priority and reported that Officers were looking at new ways of providing temporary accommodation in the Borough as well as undertaking work regarding the Homelessness Reduction Act.

EXE18-002

RECOMMENDED to Council

That (i) the Revenue Estimates and Human Resource requirements for 2018/19 be approved;

(ii) a Band D Council Tax for the Borough of Woking for 2018/19 of £233.46 be approved;

(iii) the Finance Director, in consultation with the Portfolio

Holder, be authorised to approve the terms of the Surrey Business Rates Pilot on behalf on the Council and to sign the Memorandum of Understanding;

- (iv) the Prudential Indicators at Appendix 3 to the report be approved, subject to any changes arising from consideration of the Investment Programme, revenue budgets and Final Government Settlement;**
- (v) the Service Plans for 2018/19 at Appendix 4 to the report be approved; and**
- (vi) the Food Safety Plan and Health and Safety Plan at Appendix 4a and 4b to the report be approved.**

Reason: To recommend that Council approves the resources necessary to implement its Service Plans and objectives and raises the necessary revenue through the determination of Council Tax for 2018/19.

2. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BUDGETS 2018-19

The Executive received the Housing Revenue Account Budgets 2018-19 for recommendation to Council. It was noted that New Vision Homes (NVH) had undertaken a review of the service charge for 2018-19. The Portfolio Holder confirmed that the saving to the HRA following a review of how management and administration overheads were allocated would have no impact for tenants, other than increasing the resources available in the HRA.

Following a question regarding the recovery of service charges, it was noted that the changes to service charges would come into effect from 1 August 2018. The Executive was advised that the changes would be communicated with tenants via various methods, such as the NVH website and newsletters. It was noted that consultation had also taken place with Leaseholders. The Executive was advised that there was no major disparity in the Borough as a result of the changes.

Regarding representations to the Government regarding Right to Buy (RTB) funds, the Leader of the Council advised that a response had been received from the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government which stated that Government officials would be asked to discuss the Council's proposal with Council Officers in more detail.

EXE18-010

RECOMMENDED to Council

- That (i) the Housing Revenue Account budget for 2018/19 as set out in Appendix 1 to the report be approved; and**
- (ii) with effect from 2 April 2018, rents be increased by 4% for Shared Ownership properties and be reduced by 1% for all other tenancies.**

Reason: To recommend that the Council approves the resources necessary to implement its objectives and to enable the Council to determine charges to tenants for 2018/19.

3. INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2017-18 TO 2020-21

The Executive received the Investment Programme 2017-18 to 2020-21 which set out the capital and one off investments required to deliver the Council's key strategies and objectives. Discussion ensued on the availability of flood prevention funds for Hoe Valley, Old Woking and Byfleet. Officers reported that an application had been made to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for funding towards the Hoe Valley Flood Alleviation and Prevention Scheme. The Executive noted that the projects were long lived and that it was not possible to guarantee that grant funding would be available, however Officers were working to find funding sources from as many sources as possible.

Following a question regarding tenders for the Sheerwater Regeneration scheme, it was explained that an update paper on the scheme would be received at Council on 8 February 2018 which would provide clarification on tenders.

Regarding the Phoenix Cultural Centre, Officers advised that the Centre had access to the venue concerned but the lease had not been completed. It was noted that a confidential Executive report had been received at a previous meeting in respect of the complications.

EXE18-004

RECOMMENDED to Council

That (i) the Investment Programme 2017/18 to 2020/21 be approved, subject to reports on projects where appropriate; and

(ii) the proposed financing arrangements be approved.

Reason: To recommend to the Council that it approves the capital resources for 2017/18 onwards considered necessary to support its service plans and objectives.

4. TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS 2018-19

The Executive received a report which set out the Council's Treasury Management Strategy for 2018-19 and recommended to Council that the Treasury Management Prudential Indicators and Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Strategy be adopted. The Executive was informed that the outcome of recent Government consultations would be incorporated into the Strategy in due course.

EXE18-005

RESOLVED

That (i) the Treasury Management Strategy set out in the report be approved; and

RECOMMENDED to Council

That (ii) the Treasury Management Prudential Indicators set out in table 2 of Section 4 and the MRP policy set out in Appendix A to the report be approved, subject to any changes arising from consideration of the Investment Programme, revenue budgets and Revenue Support Grant Settlement.

Reason: To determine the Council's Treasury Management Strategy for 2018/19 and to recommend to Council the Treasury Management Prudential Indicators and MRP Strategy to be adopted.

DRAFT COUNCIL TAX RESOLUTION – 2018/19

1. That the revenue estimates for 2018/19, as submitted, be approved.
2. That it be noted that the Chief Financial Officer, in accordance with the terms of his delegated authority, has calculated the following amount for the year 2018/19 in accordance with regulations made under Section 31B (3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended (the Act) as:-
 - a) 41,030 being the amount calculated by the Council, in accordance with regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992, as its Council Tax base for the year;
3. The Council calculates that the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2018/19 is £9,578,864.
4. That the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2018/19 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:-
 - a) £129,159,344 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (2) of the Act;
 - b) £119,580,480 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (3) of the Act;
 - c) £9,578,864 being the amount by which the aggregate at 4 a) above exceeds the aggregate at 4 b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act, as its council tax requirement for the year;
 - d) £233.46 being the amount at 4 c) above divided by the amount at 2 a) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with section 31 B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year;
5. That it be noted for the year 2018/19 Surrey County Council and Surrey Police and Crime Commissioner have issued precepts to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings in the Council's area as shown in the table below.
6. That the Council, in accordance with Section 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the aggregate amounts shown in the table below as the amounts of council tax for the year 2018/19 for its area and for each of the categories of dwellings :-

Valuation Band	Surrey County Council Basic £	Adult Social Care £	Total Surrey County Council £	Surrey Police and Crime Commissioner £	Woking Borough Council £	Aggregate of Council Tax Requirements £
A	872.60	68.26	940.86	157.71	155.64	1,254.21
B	1,018.03	79.64	1,097.67	184.00	181.58	1,463.25
C	1,163.47	91.01	1,254.48	210.28	207.52	1,672.28
D	1,308.90	102.39	1,411.29	236.57	233.46	1,881.32
E	1,599.77	125.14	1,724.91	289.14	285.34	2,299.39
F	1,890.63	147.90	2,038.53	341.71	337.22	2,717.46
G	2,181.50	170.65	2,352.15	394.28	389.10	3,135.53
H	2,617.80	204.78	2,822.58	473.14	466.92	3,762.64

7. That the Council's basic amount of Council Tax for 2018/19 is not excessive in accordance with the principles approved under Section 52 ZB of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended.

Agenda Item 8 (Recommendations of the Executive and Committees)

The remaining recommendations before the Council are set out below.

EXECUTIVE – 18 JANUARY 2018

5. NOTICES OF MOTION

At its meeting on 7 December 2017, the Council referred the following Notices of Motion to the Executive.

Councillor W P Forster

“Care leavers have had their childhoods punctuated by instability and trauma, they leave home earlier and have less support than other young people. As a result, care leavers have some of the worse life chances in the country.

A 2016 report by the Children's Society found that when care leavers move into independent accommodation, they find managing their own finances extremely challenging. With no family to support them and insufficient financial education, care leavers are falling into debt and financial difficulty. The Children's Society recommends that care leavers should be taken out of Council Tax until they turn 25.

The Children and Social Work Act 2017 places corporate parenting responsibilities on borough and district councils for the first time, requiring them to have regard to children in care and care leavers when carrying out their functions.

To ensure that transition from care to adult life is as smooth as possible and to mitigate the chances of care leavers falling into debt as they begin to manage their own finances, this Council agrees not to charge care leavers under 25 living in Woking Borough any Council Tax from April 2018.

This Council also agrees to look at ways of supporting care leavers further to ensure they fulfil their potential.”

The Executive received the Officer comment and noted that the Council had the power to introduce a discretionary local scheme discount funded by the Council for care leavers, if a charge was still payable after considering statutory schemes. Councillor A-M Barker suggested that information on the discounts available to care leavers were made available in the documentation which was sent out by the Council regarding Council Tax. The Executive was supportive of the Motion and agreed to add the suggestion regarding an addition to Council tax documentation to the reply at Council.

RECOMMENDED to Council

That the Motion be supported.

Councillor K Howard

“With a view to finding a solution to the ongoing problem of roadside litter, officers will investigate and recommend ways in which the Council can target people who throw litter from vehicles on the public highway.”

Councillor K Howard attended the meeting and spoke in support of the Motion. In particular, Councillor Howard highlighted Littlewick Road, Shores Road and the A320 towards McLaren as being affected by the problem of roadside litter. The Executive noted

that new powers were expected to be available to Local Authorities from April 2018 which would allow councils to issue notices against car registration plates for littering from vehicles. The Executive agreed that Officers would bring a report to the Executive on 22 March 2018 regarding the new powers available to Local Authorities to tackle the problem of roadside litter.

RECOMMENDED to Council

That the Motion be supported.

6. PROTOCOLS OF THE THAMESWEY GROUP OF COMPANIES

The Executive received a report which sought approval of the Executive to recommend to Council the changes to the Protocols of the Thameswey Group of Companies proposed by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 27 November 2017. The Leader of the Council, Councillor D J Bittleston, thanked Councillor I Johnson and Councillor J Kingsbury for their work on reviewing the Protocols.

Councillor Johnson highlighted two amendments to the Protocols. The first amendment was a consequential change following the deletion of Part 1 (public) and Part 2 (press and public excluded) arrangements for Thameswey Board papers. It was explained that, as Board papers would only be provided to Members who had signed a Non Disclosure Agreement, all Board papers would be Part 2. Therefore, Councillor Johnson proposed that paragraph 22 concerning website communication on page 12 of Appendix 2 be removed as it would not be possible to publish any Board papers on the Thameswey Group website.

The second amendment proposed by Councillor Johnson was to paragraph 10 on page 5 of Appendix 2 concerning use of the Thameswey brand. Councillor Johnson proposed that the first sentence of the second paragraph be amended to read "The brand should be used consistently in all published material and communications".

The Executive agreed the amendments to the Protocols put forward by Councillor Johnson. Officers advised that once the Protocols had been formally adopted by Council, each Thameswey Board would be advised of the new Protocols at their next meeting.

Following a question regarding Councillor access to Thameswey meetings and decisions, it was confirmed that Councillors who signed a Non Disclosure Agreement would receive agendas and minutes of respective Thameswey meetings. EXE17-083

RECOMMENDED to Council

That the revised Protocols of the Thameswey Group of Companies, as set out in Appendix 2 to the report, and as amended by the Executive, be adopted.

Reason: To consider the recommendation from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

7. FIXED PENALTY NOTICE (FPN) POLICY FOR FLY TIPPING OFFENCES

The Executive received a report which sought approval of the Executive to recommend to Council the introduction of a fixed penalty notice (FPN) scheme for fly tipping offences. Officers advised that the scheme would provide the Council with a further tool to tackle the problem of fly tipping. Following a question regarding who would be authorised to issue FPNs for fly tipping, the Executive was informed that FPNs would be issued by authorised officers within the Environmental Health and Neighbourhood Teams, as well as

Environmental Enforcement Officers contracted through Kingdom, the Council's litter enforcement contractor.

The different scales of fly tips were raised and it was commented that there could be confusion between small to medium sized fly tips and larger scale fly tips. Councillor Mrs Hunwicks, Portfolio Holder for Environmental Control, advised the Executive that Officers would make a decision in each case and it was anticipated that the differences should be clear.

EXE17-082

RECOMMENDED to Council

- That (i) the Council issue fixed penalty notices for fly tipping under the Environmental Protection Act 1990;**
- (ii) the level of fixed penalty notices shall be set at £400 per penalty notice for fly tipping, such penalty to be reduced to £300 if paid within 10 days as provided for under Regulation 2 of the Unauthorised Deposit of Waste (Fixed Penalties) Regulations 2016;**
- (iii) authority be delegated to the Assistant Director (Place), in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environmental and Well Being Services, to vary the level of all environmental fixed penalty notice charges in accordance with legislation; and**
- (iv) authority be delegated to the Assistant Director (Place) to authorise any persons to issue fixed penalty notices for fly tipping under the Environmental Protection Act 1990.**

Reason: The introduction of a fixed penalty notice scheme for fly tipping offences is considered a necessary and proportionate response to the current environmental issues facing the Council.

8. INTRODUCTION OF BTEC QUALIFICATION FOR LICENSED TAXI DRIVERS

Matt Cobb, Senior Licensing Officer, introduced the report which noted that the Licensing Authority was required to ensure the safety of the travelling public and that the Council attracted good and reputable taxi drivers. The report recommended that the Council adopt a BTEC Level 2 Certificate entitled 'Introduction to the Role of the Professional Taxi and Private Hire Driver' as a mandatory requirement for all Taxi or Private Hire drivers in Woking, and that drivers would be given three years to complete the qualification.

Councillor Howard advised the Committee that he could not support the proposal for existing drivers to complete the Certificate as there were other requirements which had to be met to work as a driver; there would be little benefit to them; and the cost of the course would be around £300 with loss of earnings.

Councillor Eastwood added that a shorter refresher questionnaire could be sufficient, for example testing drivers' knowledge of the Borough, and that the issue of 'grandfather rights' had been raised as the largest area of concern by the drivers themselves during the consultation process.

Councillor Addison advised that she agreed that a shorter refresher questionnaire could be a better option for existing drivers, for whom the cost of the course would be a concern.

Matt Cobb advised the Committee that appendix 6 of the report set out a table of complaints received during the 2017 calendar year and there was a relatively even spread across newer and more experienced drivers. It was stated that a qualification could assist with preventing a small minority of drivers from gaining a licence with Woking Borough Council and using the licence to work outside the Borough, and that Guildford Borough Council had recently required its drivers to complete the course. There were a number of educational centres where the qualification could be taken, with a range of dates and times to suit drivers, although the nearest centre was stated to be in Guildford. It was added that the Council could consider a shorter refresher course for existing drivers in the event that the Committee felt it to be more beneficial.

Councillor Kingsbury stated that it was understood completing the qualification could be difficult for some existing drivers, however it was important to raise the standards in the Borough over the forthcoming three years. Following a question about the cost of the course, Joanne McIntosh, Legal Services Manager, advised the Committee that the Council was not intending to contribute towards the cost of the course, noting that the drivers were required to pay for their own DVLA and CRB checks.

Councillor Pengelly advised that it was a sensible option to introduce the qualification to heighten the professionalism of the taxi trade in the Borough, and that a three year timescale would be reasonable. It was added that the Council should be receptive to the cost for the drivers in completing the course.

Councillor Rana stated that passenger safety was an overriding issue for the Council and referred to paragraph 2.6 of the report which stated that in some instances central Government funding would be available to assist drivers. Joanne McIntosh added that the funding related to assisting those applicants who could need help with English language skills.

Councillor Howard reiterated that whilst the safety of the public was paramount, the qualification would not lead to a better standard of taxi service in the Borough and it was difficult to see the benefit to the travelling public or the Council. It was added that the qualification was unpopular in the UK and had received no support from the drivers during the recent consultation process.

Councillor Eastwood referred the Committee to page 12 of the report which set out the tests required as part of the course offered by Guildford College. It was noted that there were a large number of questions to be completed and suggested that a handful could be taken from each section and pulled into a shorter questionnaire, which could ascertain whether further training would be required.

The Committee noted that the Licensing team had limited staff resources and would be unable to provide assessment of drivers in the same manner as could be undertaken by an educational provider. The team was responsible for processing the Knowledge Test which took up a large amount of staff time.

The Chairman asked the Committee to vote on the recommendations to Council in the report. The change in requirements for all new drivers to complete the BTEC Level 2 Certificate was agreed nem con. The change in requirements for all current drivers to complete the BTEC Level 2 Certificate within 3 years was carried by 4 votes to 3 votes.

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL

LIC17-006

- That (i) the change in requirements for all new drivers to complete the BTEC Level 2 Certificate be approved; and**
- (ii) the change in requirements for all current drivers to complete the BTEC Level 2 Certificate within 3 years be approved.**

9. SURREY-WIDE CONVICTIONS POLICY

The Committee received a report which set out the consultation process and responses on the proposed changes to the Taxi and Private Hire Licensing Policy, designed to help prevent the sexual exploitation of vulnerable children and adults by introducing consistent standards towards convictions across Surrey. The Policy was attached at Appendix 3 to the report and Joanne McIntosh advised the Committee that the responses had largely been in favour of the proposals.

The Committee welcomed the report and noted that the Council could provide assistance to any taxi drivers unable to use computers. Councillor Howard stated that a minor point was that the policy appeared to offer varying views over the use of discretion in dealing with convictions.

Councillor Pengelly stated that he supported the proposals contained within the report, particularly the mandatory training on Child Sexual Exploitation.

Following a query by Councillor Eastwood, Joanne McIntosh confirmed that the Council would consider the suspension of a licence if a driver was arrested and charged, until either the outcome of the trial was known or the Police had chosen to no longer pursue the case.

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL

LIC17-007

- That (i) the Surrey-wide Taxi and Private Hire Convictions Policy at appendix 3 to the report be adopted;**
- (ii) the requirement for all existing taxi and private hire drivers to undertake Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) training by 1 May 2019 be approved; and**
- (iii) the requirement for all new taxi and private hire drivers to undertake CSE training from 11 April 2018 be approved.**

10. DOMESTIC ABUSE WORKFORCE POLICY

The Executive received a report which sought approval of the Executive to recommend to Council the adoption of the Domestic Abuse Workforce Policy. It was noted that implementation of the Policy would enable the Council to provide support and protection for its employees who might be the target of domestic abuse and to raise awareness amongst all employees.

Following a question regarding online safeguarding training, it was noted that online training was mandatory for all staff with a refresher programme every three years. It was noted that the provision of safeguarding training as part of the Members Training programme had previously been discussed, and it was agreed that Officers would investigate providing online safeguarding training for Members.

Following a suggestion that a route map be used to make the Policy clearer on who best to contact for further help and advice, Officers agreed to consider the suggestion with HR colleagues.

EXE17-084

RECOMMENDED to Council

That the Domestic Abuse Workforce Policy, attached at Appendix 1 to the report, be adopted.

Reason: To recommend to Council that the Domestic Abuse Workforce Policy be adopted.

11. EARN YOUR DEPOSIT SCHEME

The Leader of the Council introduced the report which sought approval of the Executive to recommend to Council the introduction of an “Earn your Deposit” scheme to help people who rented properties from Thamesway Housing Limited (THL) to earn a deposit to enable them to buy their first home. A correction to paragraph 1.1 on page 3 of the report was highlighted and it was noted that the Council had provided 430 new homes, at the equivalent of affordable and social rent, in the past three years. The Executive welcomed the news that 58% of the total housing provided by the Council over that period had been at the equivalent of social and affordable rent.

Members were supportive of the forward thinking proposal set out in the report, noting that it was the first such scheme in the country. Discussion ensued on the criteria for good behaviour, potential abuse of the scheme, the use of an external body for appeals and the effect on Council borrowing. Regarding good behaviour of tenants, the Executive was advised that flexibility would be required although it would be necessary to put in some form of control. The Leader of the Council expressed willingness to discuss the suggestion of an independent appeal process going forward.

EXE18-006

RECOMMENDED to Council

That Thamesway Housing Limited introduces an “Earn your Deposit” scheme, as outlined in the report.

Reason: To instruct Thamesway Housing Limited (THL) to introduce an “Earn your Deposit” Scheme to enable people who rent from THL to earn a deposit and move to a home they can own.

12. POTENTIAL EXPANSION OF THE JOINT WASTE COLLECTION CONTRACT

The Executive received a report which sought approval of the Executive to recommend to Council the extension of the Joint Waste Collection Contract in order to admit Tandridge District Council. It was noted that Tandridge District Council had not yet resolved to join the Contract, however it was necessary for each Partner Authority to seek approval to the admission of Tandridge to the Joint Contract.

Following a question regarding China's recent refusal to import plastics recycling, the Executive was advised that Surrey County Council currently sent plastics recycling to Turkey, China and the Netherlands. The Portfolio Holder for Waste and Recycling, Councillor Mrs B A Hunwicks, advised that other outlets were being explored and that the Surrey Waste Partnership was aware of the problems concerning plastics. It was noted that a Government strategy regarding plastics was due in July 2018.

In light of the recent collapse of Carillion, Members noted that the partnership between Amey and Carillion was not in relation to waste but concerned national housing contracts with the Ministry of Defence. It was further reported that Amey was owned by Ferrovial, a leading infrastructure management company. EXE18-008

RECOMMENDED to Council

That Tandridge District Council be admitted to the Joint Waste Collection Contract on the basis that no existing partner is financially disadvantaged.

Reason: To determine whether or not the Joint Waste Collection Contract can be extended to admit Tandridge District Council.