

Use this form when preparing for a decision. By decision we mean considerations that are the responsibility of council, cabinet, one of its committees and panels or those that have been delegated to an officer or cabinet member. This template helps you complete the Equality & Diversity section of your report.

Decision Title: Approval of Waste Strategy	
Date: 7 th March 2017	Author: Gill King

A. Answer the following

<p>a) Is this a “key decision” as defined by the Forward Plan (see here for a wider definition), a major planning decision or one that affects a sizeable number of staff? (Significant)</p> <p>By sizeable we mean a decision that is a general change for all staff even if it effects only some, a decision that would affect over 50 people or a decision that is specifically about a protected characteristic</p>	Yes
<p>b) Does the decision affect people with one or more of the equality protected characteristics? (Relevant)</p> <p>Protected Characteristics are: Age, Disability, Gender Reassignment, Pregnancy and Maternity, Race, Religion and Belief, Gender, and /or Sexual Orientation. Locally we have added Deprived / Socio Economic Disadvantage Groups</p>	Yes

⊗ If you answer No to either of these,

Place a No in the equality box on the report and don't go any further, although you do need to write something in report to demonstrate you have considered equality. The following are sample responses:

“This decision is not significant and/or relevant (delete as necessary) in regard to equality issues.”

“This decision is a subsequent decision to the Inclusion Strategy and due regard was taken to any equality implications when this was agreed by the cabinet on the 13 April 2010.”

Email this to: jeremy.beake@milton-keynes.gov.uk copying in the relevant Assistant Director, this will be taken as being agreed by the Assistant Director

⊗ If you answer Yes to both of these,

Place a Yes in the equality box on the report and continue to complete the assessment on Page 2.

B. The Assessment Please refer to the explanatory notes on page 4

1. How will the decision be made and who will be involved?

The decision will be made by Cabinet. The Portfolio Holder is Cllr Martin Gowans.

2. What is the aim of this decision and what changes will occur?

Approval is requested for a new waste strategy covering 2017-2022.
The key driver in the strategy is the financial position of the Council.

The strategy has the following priorities:

Garden Waste Charges

- implement a system of garden waste charging during 2017/18.

Communication and education

- support activities with a comprehensive communication and education plan including work to reduce litter and flytipping.

Operational Policies

- publish operational policies, contributing to the Customer Service Charter.

Retender the FGW treatment contract

- retender the FGW treatment contract, taking into account the lower tonnage of FGW as a result of garden waste charging.

Trade waste market review

- research and develop a trade waste collection model for small and medium sized businesses based on sack collections.

Further review of the waste/street cleansing collection contract prior to retendering in 2023

- further review our service delivery models taking into account alternative service delivery methods and prepare for the end of the Serco contract in 2023

Preparation for the termination of the MRF contract

- prepare a plan to replace the current MRF contract

Investigation of the potential for microgeneration plants¹

- together with Amey, and any other relevant partners investigate the potential for local microgeneration plants.

Review provision of CA site provision

¹ A microgeneration plant is small energy-generating plant, capable of using refuse-derived-fuel produced at the MKWRP to generate local heat and power on a smaller scale than the MKWRP.

- on completion of the current procurement for the contract to operate the CA sites review CA site provision. Controls on trade waste and other non-household wastes and restrictions on the use of the current sites by those outside Milton Keynes will be implemented regardless of the number of sites.

Implementation of minor improvements

- implement other activities which bring minor financial improvements: hospital waste charging; changes to mechanical sweepings disposal; and changes to the supply of extra sacks and the use of reusable sacks at flats which have Eurobins.

3. Who is affected by this area of work and/or the changes?

Priority 1) affects all residents in the borough with gardens who will be required to pay a charge for the collection of garden waste from their homes. This is likely to be c£33/annum.

Residents who do not wish to pay the charge will be provided with a small 23 litre bin for the collection of food waste only. They will no longer be able to use the present 140 litre bins for the collection of food and garden waste together. They can choose to reduce the garden waste they have by home composting, or by taking their garden waste to a community recycling centre, where they can dispose of it free of charge. Residents will not be permitted to put garden waste in black refuse sacks for collection.

4(a) Thinking positively, which groups of people benefit (or could potentially benefit) from this decision? (Place an and provide information & evidence)

Protected Characteristic (as defined in the Equality Act)	YES	NO	UNCLEAR	Information and evidence Hyperlinks, References and Notes
Age			X	
Disability			X	
Race			X	
Gender or Gender Reassignment			X	
Sexual Orientation			X	
Religion/Belief			X	
Pregnancy and Maternity			X	
Deprived / Socio Economic Disadvantage Groups			X	

(b) Summarise how equality of opportunity is advanced, or / and how good community relations are fostered, by the decision?

The proposal to introduce garden waste charging is not likely to contribute to good relations.

The proposals to improve communication and education and to publish our operational policies can contribute to improved community relations by giving clear information and guidance on what residents are expected to do in relation to waste collection and disposal.

5(a) Being sensitive to the issues that some people may face, which groups of people will (or could potentially) experience adverse effects following this decision?

Protected Characteristic (as defined in the Equality Act)	YES	NO	UNCLEAR	Information and evidence Hyperlinks, References and Notes
Age				
Disability	X			Residents with disabilities are likely to have less choice in arrangements for garden waste disposal.
Race		X		
Gender or Gender Reassignment		X		
Sexual Orientation		X		
Religion/Belief		X		
Pregnancy and Maternity		X		
Deprived / Socio Economic Disadvantage Groups	X			Residents are less likely to have cars and be more reliant on free garden waste collections. They may also have less garden waste.

6(a) What types of engagement and/or consultation are relevant to the decision?

Protected Characteristic (as defined in the Equality Act)	YES	NO	UNCLEAR	Information and evidence Hyperlinks, References and Notes
Age				
Disability				
Race				
Gender or Gender Reassignment				
Sexual Orientation				
Religion/Belief				
Pregnancy and Maternity				
Deprived / Socio Economic Disadvantage Groups				

(b) For planning purposes, list areas where more information is needed.

None.

7. How are people likely to be affected (positive and negative) by this decision? (Identify the range of options and the effects of each)

Residents will be required to pay for a service which has to date been free, so some residents may find this difficult. This is required due to the financial position of the Council.

8. Address the impact (Mark with an)

A. No major change needed	
B. Continue with the decision despite having identified some potential for adverse impact or missed opportunities	X
C. Adjust or amend the decision	
D. Stop the decision	

(b) Explain the rationale for what you marked above with details of any mitigating activity
While it is not desirable to charge for garden waste, those affected may also be adversely affected in other ways e.g by reduction in social care or other council services if garden waste collection is offered free of charge.
9. Outline the next steps (add an action plan if necessary) and when and how will this policy or decision be reviewed (Include any mitigating work)