



Doncaster Council

Report

Date: 23rd January 2018

To the Mayor and Members of Cabinet

PARTNERSHIP GOVERNANCE REPORT - Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham Waste Partnership

Relevant Cabinet Member(s)	Wards Affected	Key Decision
Cllr Chris McGuinness	All	No

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. As part of the Council's approach to monitoring and evaluating its relationship with external organisations and partnerships this report provides details on activities undertaken by the following organisations (s):

Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham Waste Partnership

EXEMPT REPORT

2. This is not an exempt report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

To note the feedback and comments in respect of the Council's partnership arrangements with **Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham Waste Partnership**

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE CITIZENS OF DONCASTER?

4. Reviewing the activities of partnerships where the Council or Executive appoints representatives helps to ensure alignment with Borough wide priorities, improved stewardship of public funds and public confidence that effective controls are in place to manage any relevant risks. Effective governance also ensures partnerships' working contributes to the effective and efficient provision of services to the Public and the achievement of value for money.

BACKGROUND

5. At its meeting on 19th May 2017, Council agreed that where it made appointments to external partnerships, a mechanism should be put in place to report back to the Council on the activities of that body in a consistent manner. As the Council increasingly works with partners to achieve common objectives and/or ensure effective stewardship of public funds this process will demonstrate greater transparency and accountability within partnership working.
6. Attached at Appendix A is a Partnership Governance template relating to **Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham Waste Partnership** this provides Members with an overview of key activities undertaken, any significant future activities and any significant governance or other issues.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED

7. Without consistent and effective information on their activities, it is more difficult for the Council to understand and register the effects of decisions made by partnerships and take action where appropriate on any decisions made / proposed. The option to do nothing, therefore, misses the opportunity / requirement to respond to the ever-growing incidence of partnerships working and strengthen the Council's control framework and its management of risks.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION

8. To regularly report back on the activities of partnerships provides an opportunity to strengthen governance arrangements, monitor the effectiveness of those arrangements and raise awareness of wider partnership activities.

IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL'S KEY OUTCOMES

9. Good partnerships governance has the following impacts on Council priorities.

	Outcomes	Implications
	<p>All people in Doncaster benefit from a thriving and resilient economy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Mayoral Priority: Creating Jobs and Housing</i>• <i>Mayoral Priority: Be a strong voice for our veterans</i>• <i>Mayoral Priority: Protecting Doncaster's vital services</i>	
	<p>People live safe, healthy, active and independent lives.</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Safeguarding our Communities</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Bringing down the cost of living</i> 	
	<p>People in Doncaster benefit from a high quality built and natural environment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Creating Jobs and Housing</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Safeguarding our Communities</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Bringing down the cost of living</i> 	<p>The Waste projects as part of the Inter Authority Agreement (IAA) provide the indemnities for Doncaster in the partnership in dealing with the waste arising's from Doncaster and create a cleaner, greener and quality built environment.</p>
	<p>All families thrive.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Protecting Doncaster's vital services</i> 	
	<p>Council services are modern and value for money.</p>	<p>The PFI project and IAA protects Doncaster in the services provided by the BDR partnership.</p>
	<p>Working with our partners we will provide strong leadership and governance.</p>	<p>The Waste BDR partnership is strong and well governed provided benefits to all as a result of the partnership working.</p>

RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

10. Failure to review partnerships' and key internal groups' activities exposes the Council to risks that can impact on a number of levels as follows:
- Failing to ensure an effective Strategic Fit
 - Failing to identify and address the gaps and shortfalls in Relationships
 - Failing to fully assess and plan for the Organisational Impact the changes will have
 - Failing to robustly develop and test the Economic Case for partnership working
 - Reputational damage to DMBC due to flawed partnerships
 - Conflicts of interest not being managed
 - Damaged relationships with partners.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

11. S 1 of the Localism Act 2011 provides a general power of competence which allows local authorities to do anything an individual can do, unless prohibited by law (and subject to public law principles). This power allows for the general oversight of the external organisation on which Council members and officers sit. It is important that where the Authority nominate officers or members to sit on external partnerships they have an ongoing

oversight of the governance standards of the partnerships. As a minimum, the partnerships should be aware and have policies reflecting the ethical standards of behaviour expected of public office holders as detailed in the Nolan principles.

It is essential that those the Council appoints to sit on outside bodies understand their duties and responsibilities in relation to their position on those bodies and the limit of any delegations they may enjoy. Further specific advice should be sought if they are in any doubt as to these matters.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

12. DMBC make a direct contribution of £120k to ensure the BDR Private Finance Initiative (PFI) plant at Manvers, Rotherham facility is managed and operated within its contractual parameters and performance targets by holding the facilities contractor to account. This amount is part of DMBC central budgets.

HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

13. There are no Human Resource implications.

TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS

14. There are no Technology implications

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

15. There are no Equality implications

CONSULTATION

16. Not required

BACKGROUND PAPERS

17. Report to Council 19th May 2017: Governance Arrangements: Oversight And Transparency Of The Work Of External Partnerships And Council Committees

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**PARTNERSHIP GOVERNANCE – REVIEW OF PARTNERSHIP ACTIVITY
TEMPLATE AND GUIDANCE NOTES**

<p>1. NAME OF PARTNER ORGANISATION: Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham Waste Partnership</p>
<p>2. OBJECTIVES OF THE ORGANISATION</p> <p>The members of the BDR Partnership are the statutory waste disposal authority and waste collection authorities for their respective areas.</p> <p>They have decided to make joint arrangements for the provision of a range of waste management services. As a result the parties have entered into an Inter Authority Agreement (IAA) for the purpose of regulating their respective rights and obligations to each other and in order to promote the efficient management of the Managed Contracts and Joint Contracts.</p> <p>As part of the IAA a Joint Waste Board attended by members and a Steering committee attended by officers have been established to manage the contracts and partnership.</p> <p>The key contract currently ongoing is the Private Finance Initiative (PFI) project at Manvers, Rotherham, funded by £77.4m of funding from central government towards facilities to deal with the treatment of leftover household waste, turning it into a valuable resource rather than sending it to landfill. This is waste left over after householders take out materials that can be re-used or recycled before leaving their wheeled bins or bin bags to be picked up by refuse collection vehicles.</p> <p>The partnership also procure, manage and run joint contracts for the Household Waste Recycling centres (HWRC) and the treatment and disposal of items under The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Directive.</p>
<p>3. NAME OF THE COUNCIL'S REPRESENTATIVE(S) APPOINTED TO THE ORGANISATION AND THE CAPACITY IN WHICH THEY SERVE:</p> <p>Committee Members Cllr Chris McGuiness</p>
<p>4. NAME OF COUNCIL'S LEAD OFFICER:</p> <p>Gill Gillies (Assistant Director)</p>
<p>5. KEY ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN DURING THE PERIOD April 2016 to April 2017</p>

<p>To ensure the PFI facility is managed and operated within its contractual parameters and performance targets by holding the facilities contractor to account.</p> <p>Setting the Operational budget for management of the PFI contract.</p> <p>The Joint Waste Board and Steering group will provide governance and provide direction on all projects with the BDR partnership.</p>
<p>6. KEY ACTIVITIES EXPECTED TO BE UNDERTAKEN DURING THE PERIOD April 2017 TO April 2018</p> <p>To ensure (to include formal approval of the partnership expenditure) of the Operational budget, of which Doncaster MBC contributes £120k.</p> <p>Other activities will include a retendering exercise of the HWRC contract and delivery against the recently adopted South Yorkshire Municipal Waste Strategy 2017-2021.</p>
<p>7. DETAILS OF ANY SIGNIFICANT GOVERNANCE ISSUES</p> <p>None for future consideration. A recent adjudication in relation to insurance premiums and fire protection has been found in favour of the BDR partnership.</p>
<p>8. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS</p> <p>None.</p>
<p>9. PLEASE STATE NAME OF RELEVANT DIRECTOR OR ASSISTANT DIRECTOR</p> <p>Peter Dale (Director) and Gill Gillies (Assistant Director)</p>
<p>10. DATE:</p> <p>04th January 2018</p>
<p>11. DATE OF NEXT SCHEDULED REPORT – To be confirmed</p>