

Somerset Waste Board meeting  
14 December 2018  
Report for decision

Somerset Waste Partnership Business Plan 2019 - 2024

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<b>Forward Plan Reference:</b>	
<b>Summary:</b>	The Draft Business Plan for partner consultation was approved by the November 2 <sup>nd</sup> 2018 meeting of the Somerset Waste Board (SWB). This report updates the board on the partner consultation and seeks approval to the business plan.
<b>Recommendations:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. The board notes and considers feedback from the partner consultation process as set out in paragraph 3.2, and as verbally updated for those meetings that occurred after this paper was finalised (on 4<sup>th</sup> December)</b></li> <li><b>2. The board approves the Business Plan 2019-2024, subject to any amendments arising from the feedback.</b></li> </ol>
<b>Reasons for recommendations:</b>	Approval is required to set a clear mandate for SWP activities for the period and is a constitutional requirement.
<b>Links to Priorities and Impact on Annual Business Plan:</b>	The annual Business Plan sets key aims and priorities for Somerset Waste Partnership for the coming year.
<b>Financial, Legal and HR Implications:</b>	Many actions within the business plan will require specialist input, including financial, legal, HR and procurement advice.
<b>Equalities Implications:</b>	Many of the actions in the business plan relate to the implementation of decisions already taken by the board, and Equalities Impact Assessments (EIAs) were undertaken at the time (for example Recycle More, Viridor Contract extension). Other actions relate to reviews/future actions, and EIAs will be carried out as appropriate (i.e. when reviews have been undertaken) to inform the board's decision making. Some other actions (e.g. around building our capabilities) will not require EIAs. In most cases the decision to proceed based on the outcome of the impact assessment will be delegated to the Managing Director and Senior Management Team of SWP. Where significant issues are identified through the assessment process that would have implications for major projects or programmes, the decision to proceed will return to the Board

	prior to commencing development.
<b>Risk Assessment:</b>	Failure to approve a Business Plan (a constitutional requirement) will impact on the ability of the SWP to effectively deliver the board's vision.

## 1. Background

- 1.1. The Board's business planning cycle requires an annual Business Plan to be formally adopted by the Board to provide a framework within which the Board can make decisions and steer the delivery of Waste Partnership services.
- 1.2. The process of review is continuous but the Business Plan contains a snapshot of where we are now, those things that have a major impact on us, resources available, summary of the budget and priority work areas.
- 1.3. The Board is almost exclusively funded from contributions from partners and has no automatic block grant from Central Government. It is therefore dependent on agreement between partners on the level of funding provided by each of them in line with the cost sharing formula. Business Planning and Budget setting are therefore part of the same process.
- 1.4. The Board has delegated authority for decision making across all services and therefore must make proposals to the partners on how savings can be made, taking into account any requirements to make savings and proposals on how this can be achieved.
- 1.5. Under the terms of the Inter Authority Agreement, the Board cannot make a decision that has an adverse financial implication on any partner without that partner's agreement. Recognising the need for partners to make difficult savings decisions, the Board does have discretion to determine how any savings targets handed down can be delivered, provided all partners sign up through approval of this draft plan.

## 2. Options Considered and reasons for rejecting them

- 2.1. The SWP Business Plan is a constitutional requirement and no other option is available.

## 3. Consultations

- 3.1. Consultation was undertaken as follows

When	Body consulted
5 <sup>th</sup> November	Mendip District Council Scrutiny
19 <sup>th</sup> November	Somerset County Council Cabinet
21 <sup>st</sup> November	Sedgemoor District Council Executive
6 <sup>th</sup> December	Somerset West and Taunton Deane Shadow Executive*
6 <sup>th</sup> December	South Somerset Executive*
6 <sup>th</sup> December	Joint Waste Scrutiny Panel*
10 <sup>th</sup> December	Mendip District Council Cabinet*

\* These partner consultation meetings occurred after the deadline for finalising

Board papers for the SWB meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> December. A verbal update will therefore be provided to the board on feedback from these meetings.

- 3.2.** Feedback from partner consultation received ahead of the deadline for SWB papers has not led to any changes to the Business Plan 2019-2024. The only other change made to the Business Plan 2019-2024 is to reflect the Board's decision on 2 November to extend the Viridor Core Services Contract.

Note that the National Resources and Waste Strategy had still not been published at the time of finalising these board papers. If and when this is published, it may have significant impacts on SWP over the business plan period. This will be discussed with the board once the strategy is published.

#### **4. Implications**

- 4.1.** The SWP Business Plan is a constitutional requirement. Failure to approve the plan will result in difficulties as outlined above.

#### **5. Background papers**

- 5.1.** Draft SWP Business Plan 2019 - 2024 (Appendix A)
- 5.2.** Waste Board Constitution:  
<http://www1.somerset.gov.uk/council/boards.asp?boardnum=32>