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| Subject: | Waste Sector Partnership Working – The Conservation Volunteers |
| Date: | 9 August 2022 |
| Reporting Officer: | Cathy Matthews, Director Resources and Fleet, City & Neighbourhood Services Department |
| Contact Officer: | John McConnell, City Services Manager (Resources and Fleet), City and Neighbourhood Services Department |

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| Restricted Reports | |
| Is this report restricted? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted? | |
| After Committee Decision | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| After Council Decision | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Some time in the future | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Never | <input type="checkbox"/> |

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| Call-in | |
| Is the decision eligible for Call-in? | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |

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| 1.0 | Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues |
| 1.1 | This report is to provide Members with an update on the Service Level Agreement with the Conservation Volunteers (TCV), which provides a disposal outlet for waste removed by TCV from lands around the Poleglass area of Belfast and under contract from the Department for Communities (DfC). |
| 2.0 | Recommendations |
| 2.1 | The Committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approve the continuance of the Service Level Agreement approach being used by the Resources & Fleet Service to accept waste collected by The Conservation Volunteers during daily clean-up operations in Poleglass, a partnership approach which has been in place since the Local Government Reform process in 2015. |

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| 3.0 | Main report |
| | <p data-bbox="252 255 427 291"><u>Background</u></p> <p data-bbox="167 309 1463 443">3.1 Members have previously endorsed the approach by the Waste Management Service to provide a disposal outlet for waste collected by The Conservation Volunteers (TCV), on Department for Communities (DfC) lands, in the Poleglass area of Belfast.</p> <p data-bbox="167 510 1463 696">3.2 The Department for Communities has recently retendered this service and TCV has been awarded the contract. The DfC contract with TCV, is aimed at carrying out a range of environmental improvement initiatives and to ensure fly-tipped waste is collected and disposed of in an environmentally sound manner.</p> <p data-bbox="167 763 1463 999">3.3 The existing Service Level Agreement between the Council and TCV, which expires on 31 August 2022, allows TCV to use Blackstaff Household Recycling Centre to deposit waste and recyclable materials collected from the Poleglass area. In line with the Council’s current charging methods, given that this fly-tipped material is categorised as non-household waste, a gate fee is applied for this service.</p> <p data-bbox="167 1066 1463 1301">3.4 To date, the SLA has worked well and served the needs of both TCV and the Council. It plays a positive role in removing an estimated 200 tonnes of fly-tipped material annually from this area, contributing to a cleaner, greener city. The project also supports a full-time team of five Community Project Officers within TCV. Further details of the TCV work is contained in appendix 2 –TCV Annual Report 2020/21.</p> <p data-bbox="167 1368 1463 1554">3.5 Given the new contract between DfC and TCV, the Service is proposing to enter into a new SLA to reflect the extended time scale and ensure continuity of service. The new SLA will cover the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2025, with the option to extend for a further two, one-year periods to 31 August 2027.</p> <p data-bbox="252 1621 735 1657"><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p data-bbox="167 1675 1385 1711">3.6 It is estimated that the income from this SLA will be approximately £15,000 per annum.</p> <p data-bbox="252 1778 1198 1814"><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications /Rural Needs Assessments</u></p> <p data-bbox="167 1832 1302 1868">3.7 There are no Good Relations or Equality implications associated with this report.</p> |
| 4.0 | Appendices – Documents Attached |
| | Appendix 1 – The Conservation Volunteers 2020/21 Annual Report for DfC Poleglass Environmental Project. |

