



## Belfast City Council

**Report to:** Health and Environmental Services Committee

**Subject:** **Waste Electrical & Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Regulations – Producer Compliance Scheme**

**Date:** 18th January, 2010

**Reporting Officer:** Tim Walker, Head of Waste Management, Ext 3311

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### Relevant Background Information

Members will be aware that the Council now has obligations under the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (Waste Management Licensing) Regulations (NI) 2006 to accept Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) from members of the public. Under the Distributor Takeback Scheme (DTS) established by Government, the Council registered a number of sites as Designated Collection Facilities (DCFs) from which a Producer Compliance Scheme (PCS) will collect free of charge. The sites currently registered are:

- (i) Blackstaff Way Recycling Centre;
- (ii) Alexandra Park Recycling Centre;
- (iii) Palmerston Road Recycling Centre;
- (iv) Ormeau Recycling Centre;
- (v) the storage area at Duncrue Complex; and
- (vi) the transfer station at Dargan Road

All six sites have been registered to receive all five categories of WEEE i.e.

- (a) large household appliances other than cooling appliances (fridges/freezers)
- (b) cooling appliances
- (c) TVs and monitors
- (d) Gas discharge lamps e.g. fluorescent tubes
- (e) All other WEEE (small items)

The PCSs operate on behalf of the manufacturers who are tasked with collecting and processing WEEE. It is a matter for councils and PCSs to formalise these arrangements.

**Key Issues**

When the take-back scheme was introduced in July, 2007 it was felt that some councils may have difficulty in securing a PCS owing to the small quantities of WEEE they generated. It was agreed that a collaborative process involving the three Waste Management partnerships should be used.

Arc21, on behalf of the eastern region, completed tendering exercises for the collection and processing of WEEE from DCFs under councils' control and, arising from this process, a contract was awarded from 1 July 2007 until 31 December 2009. At its meeting on 11 June 2007, the Committee agreed to enter into an agreement with the region's successful PCS for the collection of WEEE from the Council's six DCFs.

This contract expired on 31 December 2009 and arc21, in collaboration with the North West Region Waste Management Group (NWRWMG), has retendered the service and awarded a new contract for the period 1st January, 2010 to 31st March, 2013, with the option of 6 monthly extensions until 31st March 2015.

**Resource Implications**

There are no resource implications for the Council as the WEEE arrangement is a free takeback scheme funded by the manufacturers of electrical and electronic equipment.

**Recommendation**

The Committee is recommended to approve the Council entering into an agreement with arc21 and NWRWMG tendered PCS for the collection and processing of household WEEE from the Council's DCFs. The period will be for 26 months from 1st January, 2010 to 31st March, 2013, with the option of six monthly extensions until 31st March, 2015.

**Decision tracking**

The Head of Waste Management will oversee the drafting of an agreement with the arc21 and NWRWMG tendered PCS.

**Key to Abbreviations**

DCF – Designated Collection Facility  
DTS – Distributor Takeback Scheme  
NWRWMG – North West Region Waste Management Group  
PCS – Producer Compliance Scheme  
WEEE – Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment