



Belfast City Council

Report to: Health and Environmental Services Committee

Subject: **Collection of Batteries and Accumulators – Producer Compliance Scheme**

Date: 18th January, 2010

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

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Relevant Background Information

All waste batteries and accumulators collected must now be processed in accordance with the requirements of European Council Directive 2006/66/EC on batteries and accumulators. Provision for the collection and processing of waste batteries and accumulators from Designated Collection Facilities (DCFs), under the Waste Batteries & Accumulators (Treatment and Disposal) Regulations (NI) 2009, primarily lies with the Producers under Battery Compliance Schemes (BCSs).

Similar to WEEE, councils are entitled to a service for the collection and processing of waste batteries and accumulators from their DCFs at no cost. It is a matter for councils and BCSs to agree suitable arrangements for the collection and processing of these items.

Key Issues

The Batteries and Accumulators take-back scheme is being introduced and it was felt that, for the purposes of delivering a consistently high quality of service across as wide an area as possible, a collaborative process involving arc21 and the North West Region Waste Management Group (NWRWMG) would be adopted.

A tendering exercise was carried out and a contract has been awarded with a BCS for the period 1st January, 2010 to 31st March, 2013, with the option of six monthly extensions until 31st March 2015.

Resource Implications

There are no resource implications for the Council as it is a free take-back scheme funded by the manufacturers of batteries and accumulators.

Recommendation

The Committee is recommended to approve the Council entering into an agreement with the arc21 and NWRWMG tendered BCS for the collection and processing of household batteries and accumulators 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 BCS.

Key to Abbreviations

DCF – Designated Collection Facility
BCS – Battery Compliance Scheme
NWRWMG – North West Region Waste Management Group