

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

REPORT

To: COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE		Subject: OZONE DEPLETING SUBSTANCES
From: DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES		
Date: 12 FEBRUARY 2002	Ref: KW/WB/LH	

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. This report is to update Committee on the effects of the European Directive on Ozone Depleting Surfaces on the special uplift service with regards to refrigerated equipment.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. Committee has previously been advised of the effects of the European Directive of Ozone Depleting Surfaces in that it is no longer permissible to either dispose of refrigerated equipment by landfill or via a scrap metal dealer.
- 2.2. There are no establishments within the United Kingdom capable of extracting the ozone depleting substances from refrigerated equipment.
- 2.3. Temporary storage of such units was accommodated at Dalnacouther Landfill site. However, the number of units uplifted since December has resulted in this accommodation being filled to capacity and some units having to be stored outside.

3. REPORT

- 3.1. To enable the Cleansing Services section to continue to provide a special uplift for refrigerated equipment, additional temporary storage had to be found in the short term.
- 3.2. This temporary storage was found at various Cleansing facilities, such as Auchinlea Landfill Site and at local Depots.
- 3.3. S.E.P.A. have expressed reservations as to the legitimacy of using these facilities for storage, but have accepted that the Council is making every effort to remedy the situation.
- 3.4. Even with these various locations being used, the special uplift service for refrigerated equipment had to be suspended on a few occasions, as there was no storage available. The suspension of the service has had, and will continue to have, a detrimental effect on the statutory performance indicator for special uplifts.
- 3.5. In an effort to provide an uninterrupted service, three Companies that provide a collection and disposal service for refrigerated equipment were contacted with a view to them removing the units that had been collected.

- 3.6. Only one of the three responded and, in light of the urgency of the situation, an order was placed with them (as being the only provider of the service at the time) for two containers to be provided to the Lady Anne Depot in Airdrie.
- 3.7. The containers, provided by Messrs. M. Baker Recycling Limited, Devon, have been provided and are capable of holding approximately 180 refrigerated units each.
- 3.8. It is anticipated that additional containers will be needed over the next few weeks to clear the backlog of units that are stored.

#### **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1. The Scottish Executive have made it known that funds will be made available to Local Authorities to assist in covering the additional costs that will be encountered in dealing with this problem. However, no indication has been given as to when these funds, and how much, will be available.
- 4.2. The Company at present being used, Messrs. M. Baker Recycling Limited, charge £39 per unit for collection and disposal. Based on 180 units per container, this equates to £7,020 per container.
- 4.3. This expenditure was not accounted for in the Cleansing Services budget and will result in an overspend situation, pending the awarding of Scottish Executive funds.

#### **5. PROPOSALS**

- 5.1. It is proposed that, to satisfy S.E.P.A.'S regulatory role and to provide an uninterrupted special uplift service, further containers are ordered from Messrs. M. Baker in the short term.
- 5.2. As an active member of the Glasgow and Clyde Valley Waste Strategy Group, it is proposed that North Lanarkshire should, in keeping with the other seven Authorities within the Group, commence as soon as possible dealing with Technowaste Limited, PO Box 27, Dorking, Surrey RH5 5DL.
- 5.3. Technowaste Limited offers an improved service at a lower cost i.e. between £21.50 and £25.50 per refrigerated unit and the service entails less preparation work by Cleansing personnel prior to removal.
- 5.4. It is further proposed that North Lanarkshire Council agree to a joint tender process, involving all eight of the Glasgow and Clyde Valley Group, seeking a Company to provide this type of service on a long term basis. If this is acceptable, it is the intention that Glasgow City Council would act as agents for all the Authorities with regard to inviting tenders via the European Journal.

#### **6. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 6.1. Committee approve the action taken in placing orders with Messrs. M. Baker Limited for the two containers to facilitate the urgent removal of refrigerated equipment.
- 6.2. Approval is sought to continue to use with Messrs. M. Baker Limited, for the provision of this service during the transitional period prior to transferring the business to Technowaste Limited, PO Box 27, Dorking, Surrey RH5 5DL.

- 6.3. Approval is sought to transfer the business to Technowaste Limited, PO Box 27, Dorking, Surrey RH5 5DL following the necessary period of time needed for suitable licences to be put in place.
- 6.4. Committee is asked to authorise a joint tender process for the long term provision of this removal service and to accept that Glasgow City Council act as agents on North Lanarkshire's behalf in this regard.
- 6.5. Committee is asked to recognise that the expenditure involved in this matter is outwith the budget of the Cleansing Services section and that all, or part, of it may be recovered from the Scottish Executive.
- 6.6. Approval is sought to refer the paper to Planning and Environment Committee for their information.

Paul Johnston