

SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL

26 JUNE 2013

AGENDA ITEM D4

E-WASTE MANAGEMENT CONTRACT

Purpose of Report

To inform council of the E-Waste Management Contract including TV TakeBack.

Recommendations

Officers recommend that the Council:

1. *Receive the information.*

1. Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to outline the implications for South Wairarapa District Council of adopting the Earthcare Environmental E-Waste proposal as recommended in the "E-Waste Services for the Wairarapa" report in October 2012

Whilst a single Wairarapa E-Waste solution would be preferable, due to Masterton preference to go to another supplier this contract will be between CDC and SWDC.

Similarly consistent subsidies and user pays fees across the Wairarapa would be preferable but are yet to be confirmed by Masterton.

The initial proposal was accepted by council as a three council contract. All proposals were submitted on the basis of providing a Wairarapa wide E-Waste service. If MDC did not accept the Earthcare proposal the isolation of the other two Councils would have financial and/or other implications. These would need to be explored with the contractor. After negotiation it was determined that Earthcare was to retain their original cost proposal for SWDC and CDC to avoid returning to the respective councils for further decisions.

The newly formed "E-waste Management (2013-2015)" contract also includes the TV TakeBack program to combine and streamline the process for dealing with TV's and electronic waste as a whole.

2. Background

Analogue television transmissions in the lower part of the North Island, including the Wairarapa, will cease on 29 September 2013. This means that many existing TV sets will no longer work and householders will be seeking ways to dispose of their old equipment.

In August 2013, the Government is expected to announce the launch of Phase 3 of their TV TakeBack Programme which covers the Wairarapa and will include a recycling subsidy of \$25+GST for each TV set diverted from landfill up to an agreed quota. The tentative quota suggested by Government for the South Wairarapa and Carterton districts has been set at around 770 TVs, but this may be varied in consultation with recycling partners.

To participate in this programme, operators of collection sites must sign an agreement with one of three government-approved recyclers no later than 1 July 2013. They are also permitted to charge a maximum of \$5 (incl GST) for each TV collected.

3. Discussion

TV TakeBack Programme

Earthcare undertakes to ensure that a binding agreement is in place with their preferred TV TakeBack recycling partner no later than 1 July 2013.

Earthcare will register the four existing Collection Sites in Martinborough, Greytown, Featherston and Carterton as TV TakeBack collection sites no later than 31 July 2013.

Earthcare and the Councils agree to collaborate with an E-Waste public awareness campaign ("the Campaign") coinciding with the TV TakeBack Programme. The initial duration of the Campaign will be for two weeks commencing with the TV TakeBack launch for the lower North Island, which is expected to be on or around 21 August 2013. The Campaign could be extended by mutual agreement between the parties.

When Phase 3 of the TV TakeBack Programme is announced by the Minister for the Environment in August 2013, Earthcare will be responsible for:

- recording the number of TV sets dropped off at each collection site and regularly updating ME's Online TV Information System (OTIS)
- packing the TV sets on pallets or in shipping containers for transport to their recycling partner

On receipt of the TV sets for recycling, the recycling partner will submit a claim to the Ministry for the Environment (MfE) for the \$25+GST subsidy, up to the contracted quota level. This subsidy is intended to cover all recycling costs including the cost of E-Waste transport from Collection Sites to recycling centers.

Legal

SWDC and Carterton have prepared a Short Form Agreement through Laurence Zwimpher of Zwimpher Communications a specialist in this field.

Under this agreement, for the duration of the TV TakeBack Campaign Earthcare will:

- offer a free TV drop-off service for residents at Collection Sites in Martinborough, Greytown, Featherston and Carterton
- staff each Collection Sites with one additional person on Saturdays and Sundays
- recruit volunteers to assist with traffic management at Collection Sites and in diverting E-Waste during peak weekend hours
- engage with schools and the Wairarapa communities to promote the TV TakeBack Programme and raise public awareness of the need to recycle E-Waste responsibly

For the duration of the TV TakeBack Campaign SWDC will:

- provide a \$5 (incl GST) subsidy to Earthcare for each TV collected during the TV TakeBack campaign, enabling Earthcare to offer a temporary free drop-off service for residents (limited to a maximum of \$4,520 incl GST)
- fund approximately 50% of the cost of an additional staff member at the four Collection Sites during weekend opening hours (9 hours at Martinborough; 5 hours at Greytown; 8 hours at Featherston; 4 hours at Carterton) under the terms specified in the existing Waste Services Operations contract
- assist Earthcare recruit volunteers to help out at Collection Sites during peak weekend hours
- promote TV TakeBack and responsible E-Waste recycling to residents through community newspapers, Council Offices, libraries and community centres, noting that suitable advertising templates and other collateral can be downloaded from MfE's Online TV Information System

Council's Regional Waste Minimisation Officer will assist in the works done for the two councils as part of the three council arrangement.

Financial Considerations

The estimated annual cost to Councils of such a subsidy would be:

	South Wairarapa		Carterton	
	Quantity (pa)	Total subsidy	Quantity	Total Subsidy
CRT TV Monitors	350	\$1,750	300	\$1,500
TV sets	930	\$14,000	730	\$11,000
		\$15,750		\$12,500

The added costs are to be funded via the existing waste minimization funding, capital and existing operation expenditure.

Risk

All subsidy costs have been based on expected volumes by population data provided by CBEC to WRC and 2006 Census data. The CBEC data is based on volumes of E-Waste received in the Far North operation. If uptake/volumes of E-Waste here in Carterton and the South Wairarapa exceed the Far North, subsidy cost could be higher than projected.

If subsidy levels across the Wairarapa varied too much it is possible that some potential users would travel to the cheapest site to dispose of their E-Waste. To mitigate the risk of SWDC having a lower user fee than others which would attract users from Wellington or Masterton this contract has set fees in line with other council's proposals.

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