

Weekly Collection Support
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Department for Communities
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Sevenoaks District Council
Direct Services
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Weekly Collection Support Scheme - Expression of Interest Form for Sevenoaks District Council

Sevenoaks District Council is interested in bidding for funding from the WCSS. As the primary contact within our authority, I have provided some information about the project we are proposing to develop into an outline bid below;

<p>Would your bid be an individual one or as part of a group or consortium with other authorities and/or third parties?</p>	<p>Although an individual bid, it is supported in principle by Kent County Council, the waste Disposal Authority.</p>
<p>An outline in very brief terms of what the bid is and how it will meet the criteria (eg weekly collections for X households and X increase in environmental benefits)</p>	<p>A separate weekly collection of household food waste, for diversion to in-vessel composting, would be an improvement to Sevenoaks District Council's existing weekly residual waste collection service.</p> <p>Diversion of household food waste from landfill and/or incineration (the current methods of disposal) would improve our overall environmental performance and ensure the long-term sustainability of the District's weekly collection of smelly biodegradable waste.</p> <p>Environmental benefits: By our estimates, the diversion of food waste from 21,000 households would:</p> <p>(1) Increase our composting rate by up to 50%, and our overall recycling rate by up to 4.25 percentage points.</p> <p>(2) Save 1,300 to 1,700 tonnes of CO2 equivalent.</p> <p>(3) Divert liquid food and other food wastes from household foul drains to significantly reduce negative impacts on the water</p>

	<p>treatment system.</p> <p>(4) The product, a bio-fertiliser, will realise a further 5 tonnes of CO2 equivalent savings per tonne of nitrogen displaced.</p>
<p>What would the funding deliver and approximately how much would it cost (NB: costing information will not be considered binding in any way, so it's fine if the eventual bid ends up being for a smaller or greater amount)</p>	<p>The funding would deliver a separate weekly kerbside household food waste collection service, including kitchen caddies and kerbside collection bins, to 21,000 households within residential population centres in the Sevenoaks District. It is estimated that the service, over the course of three funding years, will cost an estimated £1,031,600 (to be confirmed).</p>
<p>Will this underpin weekly collections (as defined in Section One)? Please explain.</p>	<p>The proposed bid addresses the goals outlined in section 1a and 1b of the scheme prospectus. This service-improvement will allow SDC to retain a weekly collection of residual household waste, improve the environmental performance of that service, and allow maintenance of a weekly separate recyclables collection.</p>
<p>Does your bid demonstrate environmental benefits? Please explain.</p>	<p>As detailed in question 2 above, the environmental benefits of the proposed service-improvement include, but are not limited to: 1,300 to 1,700 tonnes of CO2 equivalent saved, diversion of liquid food and other food wastes from household foul drains to the benefit of the water treatment system, a further 5 tonnes of CO2 equivalent savings per tonne of nitrogen displaced by the bio-fertiliser product, and an increase in the District's composting rate by up to 50% and overall recycling rate by up to 4.25 percentage points.</p>
<p>Does your bid demonstrate value for money? Please explain.</p>	<p>Yes. By diverting household food waste from landfill and/or from inefficient recovery by incineration-to-energy (due to high moisture content) to in-vessel composting to provide a high quality bio-fertiliser, the service will deliver a disposal cost savings of approximately £30/tonne, and increase the District's overall recycling/composting rate as outlined above.</p>
<p>Will procurement or planning permissions be required?</p>	<p>Planning permissions are not required, but procurement for vehicles, kitchen caddies, etc. will be conducted using statutory procurement procedures.</p>

Are there likely to be any state aid considerations?	No
Are there any particular barriers or challenges to bidding that central Government could address ahead of outline bids being submitted?	No
Additional Comments	In both formal and informal surveys about the provision of household waste collection and other street-scene services conducted since 2001, the desire for a weekly collection of residual, smelly wastes and recycling has remained overwhelmingly unanimous among District residents. Despite being one of the most efficient local authorities in England, Sevenoaks District Council continues to face the on-going challenges of providing high-quality direct services in a time of austerity. We therefore believe that, if the proposed service is funded by the 3-year Weekly Collection Support Scheme, we can bridge these difficult times and maintain the weekly refuse and recycling collection services that our residents value so greatly.

This Expression of Interest is non-binding. I understand that the Department for Communities and Local Government will use this information to assess and prepare for the volume and range of bids that the Scheme might receive, and help local authorities refine and improve their bids.

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Date: 12 March 2012

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