

<b>Report Title</b>	Management of waste and Materials post April 2026
<b>Meeting</b>	Executive
<b>Meeting Date</b>	21 <sup>st</sup> August 2025
<b>Report Author</b>	David Walker
<b>Directorate</b>	Place Directorate
<b>Lead Executive Member(s)</b>	Councillor Zafar Ali
<b>Wards Affected</b>	All
<b>Public. Part Exempt, or Fully Exempt</b>	Public
<b>Appendices (if any)</b>	None

## **1. Executive Summary**

- 1.1 To provide Members with an update on the options and to agree a way forward for the management of Pendle's waste and materials post April 2026 following recent meetings with Lancashire County Council Officers

## **2. Recommendations**

**For the reasons set out in this report, Executive is recommended to:**

- 2.1 Request that Lancashire County Council extend their agreement with Suez allowing Pendle to continue transferring waste and material including food waste through the transfer station located at Regent Street Colne.

## **3. Information: the Rationale & Evidence for the Recommendations**

- 3.1 As part of the Council's ongoing attempts to ensure Pendle is provided with local waste management facilities following the ending of the County Council's current agreements the Borough Council has recently met with representatives of the Waste Disposal Authority (Lancashire County Council) to further discuss options for the management of waste and materials post April 2026.
- 3.2 The County Council representatives advised that from April 2026 the County Council would no longer have budgets available to support the management of waste and materials.

- 3.3 The statement effectively placed Pendle back to where it was in 2022 with the County Council then reporting that the Farrington Waste Recovery Park was the only guaranteed tipping point for Pendle's waste following their decision to allow the current agreement with SUEZ to expire in April 2026.
- 3.4 During the meeting the County Council representatives presented three proposals for consideration and additionally advised that the options were to be discussed at the County Council's Cabinet meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> September.
- 1) To utilise the existing Pendle Transfer station contract on a rolling year on year agreement for a minimum of three years
  - 2) The County Council procure a treatment contract for Pendle's residual waste
  - 3) Pendle make its own arrangements for the transfer of residual waste.
- 3.5 Each of the options increase the financial burden on the Borough Council. Those burdens are as set out in section 5.1 of this report.
- 3.6 Of the three proposals option 1 is noted to be the most effective for Pendle. Option 1 is the least expensive and there would be no change to the level of resources required to transfer waste and materials collected through our kerbside collection schemes.
- 3.7 Option two increases the likelihood of the District Council having to transfer waste beyond the Borough Boundaries. The treatment contract would be procured to cover East Lancashire this could result in SUEZ not placing Pendle Transfer station forward for consideration or facilities beyond our border being awarded the contract.
- 3.8 Option three effectively mirrors option one however should SUEZ wish to put forward Pendle transfer station as a facility to treat East Lancashire's waste the site is likely to exceed its permitted levels resulting in it no longer being able to accept the Borough's waste for transfer.

#### **4. Link to Council Plan Priorities: (Providing High Quality Services and Facilities, Proud and Connected Communities and Places)**

- 4.1 The continued use of Pendle Transfer Station enables the Council to deliver greater value for money over any of the other options investigated. The use of Pendle Transfer Station will not increase the future environmental impact of our operations

#### **5. Implications**

##### **5.1 Financial Implications**

Financial implications cannot be fully identified as the County Council are yet to confirm their approach to the future management of waste and materials within East Lancashire and more significantly Pendle.

The County Council have however reported that no financial support will be received for the future waste management activities in Pendle.

The costs in the table below show the potential impact the County Council proposals will have on Pendle. The three options outlined in paragraph 3.4 will be discussed at the County Council cabinet meeting in September.

Site	Transport	Handling / gate fee	Total
Option 1 Pendle Transfer		£559,950	£559,950
Option 2/3. Assumes within 10 miles from our boundary. (Deerplay, Cliviger)	£186,000	£559,950	£745,950
Option 2/3 Assumes within 15 miles of our boundary (Darwen Transfer Station)	£250,000	£559,950	£809,950
Transport to LCC facility Leyland	£2600,000		£2,600,000

## 5.2 Legal and Governance Implications scenarios and

Dependant on the resolution Service Level Agreements with the existing County Council or third-party providers will be required to ensure agreements remain in place beyond Local Government Restructuring.

## 5.3 Climate and Biodiversity Implications

Transferring waste and Materials anywhere beyond the current location will impact negatively on our climate change and biodiversity strategies.

## 5.5 Human Resources Implications

Transferring waste and materials beyond the current location will result in additional staff being needed to support the delivery of the waste and materials.

## 5.6 Equality and Diversity Implications

No equality and diversity implications arise from this report

## 6. Consultation

6.1 Public discussion held at Council and Executive meetings July 2023, April and May 2024,

## 7. Alternative Options Considered

The Council has previously considered developing facilities jointly with neighbouring authorities. Capital withdrawn February 2025.

## 8. Statutory Officer Sign off (please tick)

Section 151 Officer	x
Monitoring Officer	<b>x</b>

## 9. Background Documents

Executive report East Lancashire Waste Disposal arrangements July 2023

Executive report Management of waste and materials May 2024

### Contact Officers

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