Report of: **Executive Director City Services**

To: **City Executive Board**

Date: **26 November 2008**   **Item No:**

Title of Report: **Project brief – Review of Waste and Recycling Collection Service**

Summary and Recommendations

Purpose of report: To seek approval of the Project Brief for the review of the waste and recycling service

Key decision: No

Portfolio Holder: Councillor John Tanner

Report Approved by:

Policy Framework: Corporate Plan and budget. Oxfordshire Waste Partnership Strategy

Recommendation(s): That the City Executive Board approves the project brief

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Introduction

The introduction of kerb side recycling combined with fortnightly residual waste collections has been a success in the city. Recycling rates have risen from 19.35% in financial year 05/06 to 38.37% in the year to September 2008.

The waste tipped to landfill each year has also decreased has decreased from 37,388 tonnes in 05/06 to 34,999 07/08.

Initially, resistance to the fortnightly collection element was high with complaints running at around 900 per month in November 2006. More recently following adaptations to the waste containers offered and a

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programme of education and enforcement, public acceptance and satisfaction has started to grow and complaint levels now run at around 300 per month in September 2008.

However, we have to further improve the service to reach the recycling targets in the Oxfordshire Waste Partnership Strategy and avoid severe Landfill Avoidance Tax penalties in the medium term. We also need to review the service to see how its carbon footprint could be improved and how we can further improve public acceptance and satisfaction.

The project brief attached to this report outlines the proposed project. This report seeks approval of that project brief and permission to contract resources to work up a detailed business case.

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Background papers: