AMBRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL

DECISION NOTICE

Cabinet — Key Decision

Document Reference:	ADC/DN/2026/017
Date:	22 March 2026
Municipal Year:	2026
Status:	Official

Decision Summary

Decision Title	Award of Contract — Waste Collection and Recycling Services 2026–2031
Decision Maker	Cabinet (collective decision)
Date of Decision	22 March 2026
Decision Reference	ADC/DN/2026/017
Portfolio Holder	Cllr Rachel Mwangi, Environment & Climate Change
Exempt / Not Exempt	Not Exempt — decision is available for public inspection
Call-in Period Ends	1 April 2026 (5:00 pm)
Implementation Date	2 April 2026 (unless called in)

The Decision

Cabinet RESOLVED to:

Award the contract for Waste Collection and Recycling Services for the period 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2031 (with an option to extend for two further years) to Greenway Environmental Services Ltd at an annual cost of £3,840,000 (excluding VAT), subject to the satisfactory completion of contract documentation.

Delegate authority to the Director of Environment and Communities, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, to agree and execute the final contract terms and conditions.

Approve the inclusion of the full contract value over the five-year term within the Medium Term Financial Strategy and Capital and Revenue budget projections.

Reasons for the Decision

The existing waste and recycling services contract with Meridian Waste plc expires on 30 June 2026. A formal procurement exercise was conducted in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and the Council's Contract Procedure Rules. Four compliant tenders were received and evaluated against the following weighted criteria:

Price (40%): Greenway Environmental Services Ltd offered the most economically advantageous pricing over the contract term

Service Quality and Methodology (30%): Highest score for proposed service delivery model, including introduction of a seven-day collection service

Environmental Performance (20%): Commitment to a fully electric HGV fleet by 2028 and target of 65% recycling rate by 2030

Social Value (10%): Pledged local employment of minimum 85% of frontline operatives

The recommended contractor scored highest overall with 87.4 out of 100 against the award criteria. The second-ranked tender scored 81.2.

Background and Alternatives Considered

Officers evaluated three alternatives prior to recommending competitive tender:

In-house provision: Estimated 18% higher cost; significant capital investment required in fleet and depot infrastructure

Extension of existing contract: Not possible as Meridian Waste plc declined to extend on current terms

Collaborative procurement with neighbouring authorities: Explored with Barton and Merefields councils but timeline differences prevented a joint procurement

Consultation and Equalities

A public consultation exercise was carried out between 10 January and 21 February 2026. 1,247 residents responded. Key findings included strong support for extending kerbside food waste collection (78% in favour) and maintaining weekly residual waste collection (81% in favour). The Equalities Impact Assessment is attached as Appendix C.

Financial Implications

The total contract value over five years (excluding VAT) is £19,200,000. This represents a saving of approximately £640,000 over the equivalent cost of extending the current contract at current rates. Funding is provided from the existing waste services revenue budget.

Legal and Risk Implications

The procurement has been conducted in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015. The Monitoring Officer has confirmed there are no legal impediments to award. A risk register for the mobilisation phase has been prepared and is attached as Appendix D.

Call-in Rights

This decision is subject to the Council's call-in procedure. Any three Members of the Scrutiny Committee may refer this decision for review by submitting a written request to the Monitoring Officer no later than 5:00 pm on 1 April 2026. If called in, implementation will be suspended pending the outcome of the Scrutiny Committee review.

Signed: Cllr James Whitmore, Leader of the Council. Date: 22 March 2026.

Countersigned: Andrew Osei, Monitoring Officer. Date: 22 March 2026.