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<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>ENVIRONMENTAL &amp; DEVELOPMENT SERVICES</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b> 10
<b>DATE OF MEETING:</b>	<b>15<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2004</b>	<b>CATEGORY: DELEGATED</b>
<b>REPORT FROM:</b>	<b>DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:</b>	<b>PAUL EVANS (EXTN. 5764)</b>	<b>DOC:</b> \\boka\data\cent_serv\committee reports\environmental & development\15 april 04\defra grant recycling.doc
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>DEFRA GRANT FOR RECYCLING (2004/05)</b>	<b>REF: PE</b>
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	<b>ALL</b>	<b>TERMS OF REFERENCE: EDS 07</b>

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## **1.0 Recommendations**

1.1 Members are asked to approve the expenditure of a DEFRA grant on the refurbishment of the Council's recycling centres.

## **2.0 Detail**

2.1 DEFRA has recently announced that it will give all local authorities in England a share of a £20 million grant to help recycle household waste in 2004/05. The Council's share is £17,308.

2.2 The grant fulfils the commitment DEFRA made in the local government finance statement last November to reduce spending pressures on local government by some £25m to £35m in the waste area.

2.3 It is proposed to spend the money on refurbishing the Council's main recycling centres in terms of the provision of well-maintained containers, attractive appearance and clear signage to encourage residents to recycle. The refurbishment programme would be accompanied by appropriate publicity.

2.4 The refurbishment initiative was submitted as a Service Development Proposal for the 2004/05 budget but was not funded.

## **3.0 Financial Implications**

3.1 The refurbishment of the containers at the Council's main recycling centres will realise some minor savings to the Council in the years to come by reducing the maintenance costs on the existing bins.

## **4.0 Community Implications**

4.1 The provision of smarter recycling centres will provide a better impression in the community as well as acting as an encouragement to residents to recycle.

## **5.0 Conclusions**

- 5.1 The grant from DEFRA is a welcome support to the Council in its recycling efforts.
- 5.2 The refurbishment of the Council's main recycling centres will be an effective way of spending the money in order to encourage more recycling.