

RE: Irish Household Waste Collection Market Public Consultation

I am sending this e-mail with regards the Public Consultation on the Irish Household Waste Collection Market.

I wish to make the following points.

- As a member of the local community, I would strongly oppose a change in the market from competition in the market to competition for the market.
- This will add an extra layer of bureaucracy to the waste collection market (i.e tendering out waste collection services) this process will add more money to the waste collection costs.
- Collection companies will have to charge extra for their collection services as their tenure of service will only last as long as the tender for the market and as they will not be guaranteed a long tenure to the market, all collector will have to charge extra to take account of this unknown.
- This will lead to a consolidation of the market by only a few large collectors as existing companies who do not win a tender may go out of business by the time the market becomes open again for tender. This will lead to an anti competitive market and less value for the customer.
- The consolidation of the market by less collectors will stifle innovation productivity within the waste collection business and will not promote any cost savings. The competition in the market has led to a decrease in waste collection from the years 2004 to 2014 by over €100 in many cases.
- Competition for the market is pushed mainly by one consultancy company used by most state bodies, so they have a vested in promoting this, with a view to establishing such tenders in future.
- Under a competition for the market structure competition and choice will be reduced and prices would increase dramatically due to no competition, businesses will close, jobs will be lost, costs will increase, and there will be no benefit to customers or the community.
- There is no evidence in your discussion document of any problem that couldn't be resolved under the current structures
- There is loads of competition in the market which keeps prices down for customers and provides gainful employment in this community for hundreds of people.
- The local waste collection business employs a lot of local people and these jobs would be in jeopardy if competition for the market was introduced
- These people and their families depend on the survival of the local waste collection business.

- The waste collection business get a lot of bad press and politicians continuously try to use the waste industry as a political football
- Right now, the current system is working well
- Since private industry put the local authorities out of business 10 years ago by offering more competitive prices and a better service, price has never increased in that 10 years and service has increased. Along with my normal waste and recycling collections I now get my compost and glass collected and there has been no additional charge even though the collection service being provided has doubled
- There is no evidence that a change in structure wouldn't lead to greater problems.
- The loss to our community as a result of company closures and job losses would be devastating.

Yours sincerely,

Flor Crowley

Cork