

**Name of meeting:** CABINET

**Date:** 2 AUGUST 2011

**Title of report:** The Introduction of Charges to Householders for the Collection of Garden Waste and for the Delivery of Waste Containers to New Domestic Properties

Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?	Yes Savings expected of £228k for garden waste collections and £25k for waste containers. Impact on all wards.
Is it in the <a href="#">Council's Forward Plan</a> ?	Yes 18 May 2011
Is it eligible for "call in" by <a href="#">Scrutiny</a> ?	Yes
Date signed off by <u>Director</u> & name	16 June 2011 Ken Gillespie
Is it signed off by the Director of Resources?	Yes/ No financial implications If yes give date
Is it signed off by the Acting Assistant Director - Legal & Governance?	Yes/ No legal implications If yes give date
Cabinet member <a href="#">portfolio</a>	STREETSCENE & HOUSING

Electoral [wards](#) affected: ALL

Ward councillors consulted: NONE

Public or private: PUBLIC

## 1 Purpose of report

- 1.1 To request Member approval for two new schemes which will introduce charges to householders for the collection of garden waste and for the delivery of waste containers to new domestic properties, and linked to the first of these to confirm the ending of the wheeled bin garden waste collection trial scheme which currently operates in parts of Almondbury, Dalton, Mirfield and Newsome.

## 2 Key points

- 2.1 Council on 23 February 2011 approved its revenue budget for 2011/12. Two of the initiatives planned for implementation which will contribute to the required savings on waste collection involve the introduction of charges for

- a) the collection of garden waste from households, and
  - b) the delivery of waste containers to new domestic properties.
- These services are provided free to households currently.

## 2.2 Charging for garden waste collections

- 2.2.1 It is proposed that a charge is introduced for the collection of garden waste from households. A charge is proposed of £1 per bag (bin liner or similar maximum size), or tied manageable bundle of a similar size for garden waste such as prunings that cannot be readily contained within a bag, with a minimum collection charge of £5 per visit. Collections will require prepayment by the householder.
- 2.2.2 Once approved by Cabinet the necessary systems for collecting payment will be developed with the intention of introducing charges from 1 October 2011.
- 2.2.3 It is anticipated that when charges are introduced the number of requests for garden waste collections will fall significantly, and that it then will not be practical to collect separately for composting. Garden waste collections will therefore be collected with other bulky waste collections. The expected financial savings result from a reduction in the requirement for collection vehicles & crews.
- 2.2.4 It is proposed, for reasons of fairness, that when charges are introduced the paid-for wheeled bin garden waste collections which currently operate in parts of Almondbury, Dalton, Mirfield and Newsome should be stopped. This trial scheme, participation in which is voluntary and which provides two-weekly collections in summer and monthly collections in winter, was introduced following a report to the 10 July 2000 Living Environment Management Board. It currently serves 547 properties, making use of existing collection vehicles on Saturdays, and the charge for the year to June 2011 was £20 for each participating household. Households have been written to giving ongoing collection dates through to the end of September 2011, these collections being free of charge. It is proposed that following Cabinet households will be written to further explaining that collections will end after September, and that they may then either retain the bin if they wish, or that the Council will remove it if requested. Householders will be thanked for their participation in the scheme.

## 2.3 Charging for the delivery of waste containers for new properties

- 2.3.1 It is proposed that a charge of £25 will be introduced for the delivery of waste containers to new domestic properties. The charge will include for the delivery of all appropriate containers to a single domestic property (grey & green wheeled bins, glass box, dustbin as appropriate). Containers will remain the property of the Council. The charge will apply to individual domestic properties only; arrangements are already in place for charging for communal bins at multi-occupancy developments.
- 2.3.2 A process for collecting charges prior to delivery is being developed in conjunction with Kirklees Direct. It is anticipated that that this will be in place ready to introduce charges on 1 October 2011.

## **2.4 Summary of current policies relating to waste collection.**

- 2.4.1 Appendix A provides a summary of current policies relating to waste collection. This is a re-statement of existing policies; it is not proposed to amend any of these policies as a result of the changes proposed in this report.

## **3 Implications for the Council**

- 3.1 The introduction of these charges will contribute to the savings required on waste collection as part of the Council's 2010/11 approved revenue budget.
- 3.2 The introduction of charges for garden waste collections is expected to lead to a significant reduction in requests for service, leading to an estimated reduction in required staffing of 4 staff. It is anticipated that these staff will be able to be deployed within the service.
- 3.3 No significant impacts on the Council's priorities are expected.
- 3.4 An Equality and Community Cohesion Impact Assessment has been undertaken and this has shown that there is unlikely to be any significant impact on community groups as a result of the introduction of the two charging schemes.

## **4 Consultees and their opinions**

- 4.1 Kirklees Direct is being consulted on charging processes.

## **5 Next steps**

- 5.1 Develop systems for collecting payment and implement approved garden waste collection charging scheme on 1 October 2011.
- 5.2 Develop systems for collecting payment and implement approved charging scheme for the delivery of waste containers to new domestic properties on 1 October 2011.
- 5.3 Notify householders on the wheeled bin garden waste collection trial of the termination of the service.
- 5.4 Financial performance will be monitored through routine budget monitoring within the service.

## **6 Officer recommendations and reasons**

- 6.1 That Members approve the proposals outlined in sections 2 and 5 of this report; implementation of these proposals should result in the required budget savings.
- 6.2 That Members confirm that approval of the proposals as above will result in no changes to the waste collection policies laid out in Appendix A; for the avoidance of any possible future doubt.

**7 Cabinet portfolio holder recommendation**

- 7.1 Reluctantly agree to the Officers recommendation in response to the cuts introduced in the budget.

**8 Contact officer and relevant papers**

Contact officer: Roger Wilson

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**9. Assistant director responsible**

Kim Brear

Assistant Director: Streetscene and Housing

# WASTE COLLECTION POLICIES AND DEFINITIONS

# APPENDIX A

ISSUE	POLICY	ACTION ON NON-COMPLIANCE
<b>Bin provision</b>		
Wheeled bins	Standard: grey and green 240 litre Alternative: grey and green 140 litre upon request	N/A
Operational liner properties	Single grey and single green dustbin Two black plastic sacks provided each collection for general waste Two transparent green plastic sacks provided each collection for recyclables	N/A
Communal bins	Communal bins considered for groups of properties where operationally appropriate All 4-wheeled bins to be collected and returned by crew from storage point	N/A
<b>Additional wheeled bins</b>		
Grey	Additional bin only for households of 6 occupants or more	N/A
Green	Households can have as many as required	N/A
<b>Excess / side waste – general waste</b>		
Grey wheeled bins	No excess permitted - everything to be contained within the bin  Bins presented with lid not fully closed, to be stickered.	Excess not collected – householder advised of waste minimisation and recycling opportunities  Sticker applied to bin, to be persuasive, asking for fully closed lids for H&S reasons.
Operational liner properties	No limit on waste collected but all to be household waste and contained in suitable liners	Non-complying waste not collected
<b>Excess / side waste – recyclables</b>		
Green wheeled bins	No excess permitted - everything to be contained within the bin, householders to be advised of option of free additional green bin  Bins presented with lid not fully closed, to be stickered.	Excess not collected  Sticker applied to bin, to be persuasive, asking for fully closed lids for H&S reasons.
Operational liner properties	No limit but must be contained in clear bag or suitable bundle (e.g. cardboard)	Non-complying waste not collected

ISSUE	POLICY	ACTION ON NON-COMPLIANCE
<b>Contamination</b>		
Dry recyclable collections	All bins/bags to be emptied by crew unless identified by bin monitor as contaminated.	Contaminated bin sticker to be applied by monitor – green bin will be emptied at next collection if the contamination is removed Information to be provided to householders on correct usage. Two or more instances of contamination in six months will result in bin being removed / cessation of operational liner recyclables collections.
Garden waste	No garden waste permitted in the wheeled bins or bags (excluding cut flowers / small houseplants from within the house)	Bin not emptied. Sticker applied to bin “will collect at next collection if garden waste removed, plus telephone number for garden waste collection service”.
<b>Glass collections</b>		
	44 litre green box Presented with green bin (but 4-weekly) Operational liner properties – present at suitable curtilage location Households can have as many boxes as required. All boxes to be emptied by crew unless identified by bin monitor as contaminated.	Glass presented for collection in other suitable containers will be collected.  Contaminated box sticker to be applied by monitor – box will be emptied at next collection if the contamination is removed. Information to be provided to householders on correct usage. Two or more instances of contamination in six months will result in box being removed
<b>Presentation</b>		
Grey wheeled bins and ALL recyclables (green bins, clear bags, glass boxes)	Curtilage: i.e. at an accessible point on the property boundary next to where the collection vehicle travels or at a designated collection point. Assisted services to qualifying residents to continue	Not collected if presented in incorrect position
Operational liner properties – general waste (black bags)	Crew collect from property	N/A
Time	Bins / bags / boxes to be presented by householder by 7.00am on day of collection and returned to property as soon as possible after emptying	Collect at next collection if not presented on time
Return of containers by crew	Crews to return containers tidily to each household's curtilage presentation point	N/A