



Derby City Council

COUNCIL CABINET
20 March 2013

Report of the Cabinet Member for
Neighbourhoods

ITEM 18

Introducing a Fully Co-mingled Recycling Scheme for Derby's Household Waste

SUMMARY

- 1.1 As part of the budget review for 2013-14 and 2014-15, Waste Management analysed the financial impact of carrying out a fully co-mingled recycling collection scheme, based around the current "Blue Bin" scheme.
- 1.2 This would enable the blue, red and orange bags to be abandoned as a method of presenting paper, textiles and cardboard respectively and the simplification of the whole recycling process for the householders of Derby.
- 1.3 In future, householders would only need to use their blue bin to present recyclate that in the past needed one bin and up to three different coloured bags.
- 1.4 Positive negotiations have taken place with our Blue Bin recyclate processor that would enable the mix of recyclate to change to become single stream fully co-mingled.
- 1.5 The changes would produce overall savings of around £465,000 per year to contribute to the City's savings targets.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To approve the revised "Blue Bin" collection scheme.
- 2.2 To commence delivery of blue 240ltr bins to residents.
- 2.2 To introduce the new collection service from week commencing 3rd June 2013
- 2.3 To authorise the Director of Partnerships and Streetpride to complete negotiation of an extension to the current processing contract with Biffa for five years. The extension is already included in the current contract specification.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 The changes offer a significant budget saving to the Council.
- 3.2 The changes reflect the needs of Derby's householders, who have asked for simpler

ways of enabling them to successfully recycle.

- 3.3 The company that provides the processing for this waste, Biffa, now has a national strategy that complements these co-mingled collection proposals.



SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 4.1 By co-mingling blue bin, blue bag and orange bag waste, the collection resources deployed would change by reducing the number of recycling teams by 4 vehicles and 12 FTEs.
- 4.2 The City's blue bin recycling contract with Biffa is based on the City paying a fixed gate fee and in turn receives a proportion of the income for the recyclate gained by BIFFA in the Secondary Commodity Markets. Over the past few years these markets have been particularly volatile with wide swings resulting in some good years but also some bad years. This has made budgeting particularly difficult.

Biffa have now agreed a lower fixed gate fee over the next 7 years, which it will reduce as more material is put through the contract. In turn, the City has foregone any income from these materials. This will enable the City to have a clearer view on its waste budget position for processing for the next 7 years.

- 4.3 The standard blue bin is 140 litres and this is considered too small for the average household to recycle all the cans, glass, plastics, paper and card that they generate. Therefore each household with a blue bin will be issued with a 240 litre blue bin, so that in future households can better recycle. Some households may not need a larger blue bin and those householders will be given details of how to tell us about this so that they will not receive one.

Nonetheless this increase in blue bin capacity is likely to encourage even more recycling than is now achieved.

- 4.4 Should the appropriate approvals be in place to purchase these, new blue 240 litre bins will begin to be issued to householders from 18th March 2013 with a view to introducing the new blue bin collection arrangements in early 3rd June 2013.
- 4.5 Derby's recyclate collected in blue bins, blue bags and orange sacks is considered of good quality and Waste Management will work proactively with our householders and Biffa to ensure high quality standards are maintained.
- 4.6 Textile recycling in red bags will no longer take place and householders will be encouraged to use textile recycling bank sites, Raynesway Household Waste and Recycling Centre or the householders preferred charity shops.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 5.1 Do nothing, would not yield any savings in support of the Councils budgetary targets for the coming 2 years.

This report has been approved by the following officers:

Legal officer	Not Applicable
Financial officer	Not Applicable
Human Resources officer	Not Applicable
Estates/Property officer	Not Applicable
Service Director(s)	Tim Clegg, Director of Partnerships and Streetpride
Other(s)	Not Applicable

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Background papers:	None
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 – Implications

IMPLICATIONS

Financial and Value for Money

- 1.1 The introduction of the revised collection arrangements from June 2013 would yield a saving of around £375, 000 in 2013-14.based on 10 months .

Legal

- 2.1 The Waste Regulations 2011 are still not absolutely clear on the transcription of the European Waste Framework Directive into British Law as they are currently being challenged and a judicial review has been scheduled for February 2013. The duties are as follows:

Duties in relation to collection of waste

13.—(1) An establishment or undertaking which collects waste paper, metal, plastic or glass must, from 1st January 2015, take all such measures to ensure separate collection of that waste as are available to the establishment or undertaking in that capacity and are—

(a) technically, environmentally and economically practicable; and

(b) Appropriate to meet the necessary quality standards for the relevant recycling sectors.

(2) For the avoidance of doubt, co-mingled collection (being the collection together with each other but separately from other waste of waste streams intended for recycling with a view to subsequent separation by type and nature) is a form of separate collection.

(3) Every waste collection authority must, when making arrangements for the collection of waste paper, metal, plastic or glass, ensure that those arrangements are by way of separate collection.

At present, a fully co-mingled approach of dry recyclate would be allowed on technical, environmental and economically practical grounds.

Personnel

- 3.1 This proposal will result in a reduction of four collection teams resulting in the redundancy of 12FTEs.

Equalities Impact

- 4.1 The simplification of the collection system will benefit every household in the City. Waste Management will continue to provide an exemption service to those households that need help as well as providing simple picture based information on communication leaflets to assist those whose first language is not English.

Health and Safety

- 5.1 There will be a Health and Safety review of the new collection system and any required changes will be incorporated into Waste Management's method statement and working practices.

Environmental Sustainability

- 6.1 The revised collection system will make it easier for Derby's householders to recycle more of their waste as well as reducing the carbon impact of the Council's refuse collection fleet.

Property and Asset Management

- 7.1 80,000 new 240 litre bins will be funded from the Capital Programme.

Risk Management

- 8.1 The revised collection system will enable the Council to minimise its exposure to the secondary commodity markets which will unpredictably fluctuate over the next seven years.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

- 9.1 This proposal meets the corporate objective of "All people in Derby enjoy a thriving sustainable economy" by reducing carbon emissions from our transport and encouraging less household carbon emissions.