

## CABINET MEMBER DECISION RECORD TEMPLATE

This form should be used to record Executive decisions taken by Cabinet Members

<b>Decision Ref. No:</b>
<b>Responsible Officer:</b> Neil Rawlings - Principal Environment, Productivity and Business Manager
<b>Subject:</b> Garden Waste Collections 2018
<p><b>Decision taken:</b></p> <p>To introduce the following changes to garden waste collections for the 2018 service:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Increase the annual subscription for the 2018 Garden Waste Collection Scheme to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>£43 per household for one 140 litre bin (7.5% increase)</li> <li>£60 per household for two 140 litre bins (unchanged)</li> <li>£80 per household for three 140 litre bins (unchanged)</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<p><b>Reasons for the decision:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Environment Service Unit is facing a challenging efficiency agenda to deliver substantial financial savings whilst retaining frontline services that are efficient, reliable and valued by residents.</li> <li>2. Efficient modelling of collection rounds means that additional capacity (2 or 3 bins) can be offered to accommodate those households with large gardens, including those who currently transport their extra garden waste to Millhams Community Recycling Centre.</li> <li>3. Comparison with neighbouring authorities and local authorities across the country demonstrates that garden waste collection charges are increasing by on average 9%, although some councils will increase charges by up to 18%.</li> <li>4. The proposals are in direct accordance with the aims and objectives of the Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Bournemouth 2011-26 and will help deliver the Council's headline Corporate Plan priorities, namely 'An Efficient Council' in terms of service efficiency and 'An Improving Environment' in terms of reducing levels of household waste. Additional capacity will be offered to accommodate those households with large gardens to who currently transport their extra garden waste to Millhams Community Recycling Centre.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Call-in and Urgency:</b></p> <p>The decision is subject to the Council's call-in procedure.</p>
<p><b>Background:</b></p> <p>From 2008, Bournemouth Borough Council have operated a free garden waste collection from April to November, using one 140 litre wheeled bin per property.</p> <p>In September 2015, Cabinet approved the following recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Service enhancements to increase the collection capacity of garden waste offered per household and extend the collection season to 10 months (22 collections) starting on 15<sup>th</sup> February until 16th December 2016.</li> </ol>

- ii) The introduction of an annual membership fee for garden waste collection and other garden related benefits at the rate of:
  - £35 per household for one 140 litre bin
  - £50 per household for two 140 litre bins.
  
- iii) Flat properties of four flat units or more will be offered communal garden waste bins following a site visit at a rate of:
  - £45 for each 240 litre bin per annum
  - £125 for each 660 litre bin per annum.

In September 2016 the following changes were agreed by Cabinet:

- 1. Offer an additional 140 litre bin to increase capacity of kerbside collection
- 2. Closure of the Kings Park Garden Waste Collection Point on Sundays.
- 3. Increase the annual subscription for the 2017 Garden Waste Collection Scheme to:
  - £40 per household for one 140 litre bin
  - £60 per household for two 140 litre bins
  - £80 per household for three 140 litre bins.
  
- 4. Properties comprising of five or more flats will be offered communal garden waste bins following a site visit at an increased rate of:
  - £51 for each 240 litre bin per annum
  - £143 for each 660 litre bin per annum.

The 2017 Garden Waste Collection Service has proven successful with 15,391 households registering before the service began and 19,321 by the end of August 2017. Of this 19,321 registrations, 15,796 opted for one bin & 3,107 opted for two bins and 278 for three. In addition, 140 flat blocks have also registered for the service.

As a result, the Council has collected over 3,573 tonnes of garden waste between Feb-August-17, which is 263 tonnes more than was collected by end of August 2015 from 31,800 households on the previous free service. These higher yields per household clearly indicate residents paying for the service are keen to use it fully.

The Council also encourages home composting and offers subsidised composting bin starting from £6. Over five hundred have been sold since Sept 2015.

Residents can take their garden waste along with other household waste and recycling to Millhams Community Recycling Centre and Wilverley Road Recycling Centre. Both these centres are open seven days a week from 9am-5pm.

#### **Options - and reasons for rejection:**

Consideration has been given to maintaining the 2017 Garden Waste Collection charges but current charges do not fully cover the service costs due to increasing operational and disposal costs.

### Consultations undertaken:

Consultation involved the immediate and wider project team consisting of:

Executive Director Environment & Economy, Director of Environment, Street Services Manager, Principal Environment, Productivity and Business Manager, Senior Accountant for Environment, Refuse Operations Manager, Senior Waste & Resource Officer, Risk Manager

A full external consultation was completed as part of Bournemouth Municipal Waste Management Strategy (MWMS)

[www.bournemouth.gov.uk/BinsRecycling/GoGreen/BournemouthsWasteStrategy.aspx](http://www.bournemouth.gov.uk/BinsRecycling/GoGreen/BournemouthsWasteStrategy.aspx) which indicated residents would like more frequent garden waste collections.

### Finance/Resource Implications:

Delivery of the 2017 Garden Waste Collection Service resulted in a combined collection and disposal cost of £846k

Modelling predicts that increasing the annual charges should generate £47k of additional income, which will cover the increased operational and disposal costs seen in 2017 and further anticipated increases for 2018.

Name: ADAM RICHENS  
Date:

25/9/17

Signature: (of Chief Finance Officer)



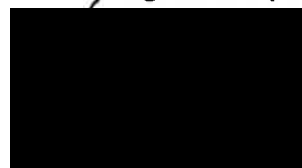
### Legal implications:

Garden waste is one of the few waste materials that Councils can legally charge householders for collection. Residents can still dispose of garden waste for free at Millhams Community Recycling Centre or Christchurch Recycling Centre at Wilverley Road.

Name: TANYA COULTER  
Date:

27/9/17

Signature: (of Monitoring Officer)



### Risk assessment:

In collaboration with officers from Risk and Insurance departments, a comprehensive Risk Register has been produced and will be developed further in accordance with service progression.

Potential risks associated with these service changes include:

- Low number of residents sign-up for chargeable garden waste collections due to increased charges;
- Increased amount of garden waste disposed of at Millhams Community Recycling Centre
- Increased amount of garden waste fly-tipped across the borough

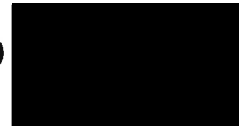
- Increased amount of residual waste and associated disposal costs
- The Customer team are not able to accommodate within current resources the demand for registrations and take payments
- Income revenue is not sufficient to cover service costs
- Reduction in recycling rate.

The following mitigation has been implemented:

- Service enhancements will be supported by comprehensive communications campaign to engage with residents and the local media, communicating the service enhancements and encouraging residents to register. Corporate Communications are prepared with media statements. Customer team will be engaged and well briefed. A membership package will offer additional garden related benefits such as discounts at local garden centres and free compost events
- Customer/Digital by Default team have been involved from in the planning, processes requirements have been specified and agreed
- Costs have been modelled on an uptake of 20,000 households, just over the subscription rate achieved in the 2017 service
- Recycling rates will be monitored closely.

**Name:** Larry Austin

**Signature:** *(of Officer completing assessment)*



**Date:** 21/09/17

### **Impact Assessments:**

Garden waste collected through the service is diverted from the refuse stream, for composting in open windrows producing high quality compost, which is used locally on farmland and sold in garden centres. High quality compost produced from processing the garden waste collected will be used to enrich local gardens and farmland without chemical fertilisers, leading to improved growth of crops, plants and biodiversity.

Composting garden waste contributes 29% towards 91% of Bournemouth's household waste being reused, recycled or recovered from landfill. The provision of additional capacity at the kerbside may enhance this performance.

The Garden Waste Collection Equality Needs Impact Assessment has been updated.

### **Information for/not for publication:**

Information for Publication

**Note:**

- Set out whether it is in the public's interest for this decision to be published or not and the reasons.
- Guidance is available in the Corporate Report Template – please click on the following link:

<http://biz/BIZkits/Templates/Report%20Template%20for%20Council%20Meetings/>

- Further advice can be obtained from the Monitoring Officer or the Democratic Services Team.

### **Background papers:**

Garden Waste Collection Review – Cabinet Report and supporting documents

<http://www.bournemouth.gov.uk/CouncilDemocratic/CouncilMeetings/CommitteeMeetings/Cabinet/2015/09/09/Cabinet09-Sep-2015.aspx>

Garden Waste Collection 2017 Equality Impact Needs Assessment

Any conflict of interest declared by a Cabinet Member who is consulted by the Member taking the decision	Name of Cabinet Member	Nature of interest	Details of any dispensation granted by the Monitoring Officer
<del>Yes</del> /No* (*Delete as appropriate)			

**Decision taken by:**

Councillor ...MIKE GREENE...

(Print name) Cabinet Portfolio

TRANSPORT, CLEANING + WASTE

Signed:



Date of decision: 5/10/17

**Date of publication of record of decision:** (to be inserted by Democratic Services)

**Date decision effective** – that is 5 working days after the date of publication of the record of decision unless the decision is called-in for consideration by the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Panel:

-insert  
date-