



Report to Cabinet

Subject: Chargeable Organic Garden Waste Collection Scheme

Date: 13th January 2005

Author: David Parton – Head of Direct Services

1. Purpose of the Report

To inform the Cabinet of the results of the consultation on the proposals to introduce a chargeable organic garden waste collection service

To recommend a preferred option for the collection of organic garden waste taking into consideration the results of the consultation

2. Background

At the meeting of the Cabinet on 7th October 2004, I presented a report for a chargeable organic garden waste collection service available to all domestic properties within the Borough.

The Cabinet approved the concept of introducing a chargeable organic garden waste service at the annual rates submitted in the report. A full consultation exercise was also approved with the outcome of this process being reported to this meeting of the Cabinet.

This report outlines the scheme proposed in more detail taking into consideration the findings from the consultation and the operational issues, which need to be addressed.

3. Consultation Findings

1172 householders from approximately 49,000 properties replied to the questionnaire sent out in the last edition of the Contacts magazine, which equates to a 2.5 % response rate. The full survey results are shown in Appendix 1.

Section 4 of the questionnaire dealt with the two options we were proposing for the collection of organic garden waste. From a total response of 1172, 82 replies did not express a preference for either option, 617 preferred a wheeled bin and 473 opted for reusable bags.

Of the 617 responses that opted for the wheeled bin proposal, 67.26% would be prepared to pay for the service with 52.67% of these being prepared to pay up to 50p per week, (£26.00 per annum).

470 responses were recorded to question 6.1, the option of paying for a bag collection service, of which 44.26 % were not prepared to pay anything and 55.74% prepared to pay.

In addition, Ravenshead Parish Council responded to the consultation, expressing their concern at the removal of the free service to residents within the Parish. Two other responses were received by email both objecting to paying for the scheme. The survey results show residents would be prepared to pay a small annual fee for the collection of organic garden waste and suggest a sufficient degree of interest to make the scheme financially viable.

4. Proposals

It is proposed to introduce a chargeable organic garden waste scheme commencing on Monday 4th April 2005. The proposed charges and collection dates are set out in Appendix 2 and the proposed policy and methods of collection are shown in Appendix 3.

My initial report included two current refuse collection policies, which will need to be readdressed. These were: -

Garden waste accepted in domestic refuse wheeled bin.
Wheeled bins will only be emptied if they can be presented safely to the vehicle by the operative. We will not collect overloaded bins.

Although we could introduce a green waste ban for the domestic bin, in reality it will be difficult to administer and residents will “do their utmost” to hide such waste in their bin.

It will be far easier to control the amount of waste to be collected by implementing a bin lid closed policy on all wheeled bin collections. The change in policy to “Bin Lid Closed” in Broxtowe Borough Council has been well publicised by the media. A refuse collection operative received a needle stick injury and following Health and Safety advice, they introduced this policy. Ashfield, Rushcliffe, Bassetlaw, Mansfield, and Newark and Sherwood Districts also have a bin lid closed policy and I believe that it is now necessary to introduce this policy from the 1st April 2005, which would enable the policy

change to be included in our marketing and advertising leaflets for organic garden waste collections. The strict application of this policy might mean that it will not be necessary to introduce a policy banning garden waste from the domestic bins.

I also propose to review the policy issue of the garden waste in domestic wheeled bins in the autumn, which will be after a further 15,000 properties have received their second bin for dry recyclates. The twin bin scheme will restrict the amount of garden waste in the domestic bin and with our "No side waste" policy, residents will have three options for garden waste disposal, visit the household waste and recycling centres, home composting or use our new chargeable waste service.

5. Financial Implications

I have put forward a capital request in 2005/06 for £142,000. This is for the purchase of a new narrow freighter (In order that every property within the Borough can be accepted on the scheme) and initially 1,000 brown bins (240 litres) and 3,000 re-useable sacks.

Following discussions with other Authorities who have introduced this type of scheme, I would expect the participation to increase in future years so I have included within the capital request an additional £10,000 in 2006/07 and 2007/08 to cover the cost of additional brown bins and reusable sacks.

Revenue costs for 2005/06 will be £100,200 and consist of:-

Driver and two loaders including overheads	£63,500
P/T Administrative Assistant	£7,700
Publicity/Marketing leaflet and distribution	£6,000
Gate fee to company receiving the organic waste	£10,000
Vehicle running costs	£13,000
Less existing base budget (Revenue)	(£48,000)
Net Additional Revenue cost of Proposal	£52,200

However, income from charges proposed in Appendix 2 and recycling credits will be received to off set this cost. I would estimate the following for 2005/06:-

Recycling credit - £18,000
 Charges - £52,000 (Based on 2,000 customers)
Total Income - £ 70,000

The break even number of customers required would be approximately 1,400. (Including adjustments for gate fee charges and recycling credits).

If the Cabinet approve the recommendations in this report, it will be necessary to commence implementation arrangements immediately for a start date of April 2005.

6. Recommendations

1. That Cabinet approve the introduction of a chargeable organic garden waste collection scheme with effect from April 2005.
2. That Cabinet recommends the Personnel and Resources Committee agree to a change in the establishment of the Direct Services to include the following permanent positions:-

1 Additional Driver	(Band 4)
2 Additional Loaders	(Band 1)
1 P/T Administrative Assistant	(Band 3)

3. That Cabinet agree to the scale of charges for the service as set out in Appendix 2 of the report.
4. That the Cabinet approve the "Bin Lid Closed Policy" on all wheeled bin collections throughout the Borough with effect from April 2005.

7. Wards affected: All



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Survey Results

Survey Name Garden Waste Survey

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Count and percent

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	Count	Percent
1. Overall Aim and use of Household Waste and Recycling Centres		
1.1 Do you agree with the Council's aim to divert garden waste from landfill sites?		
Not applicable	47	4.75% <input type="checkbox"/>
Yes	913	92.22% <input type="checkbox"/>
No	30	3.03% <input type="checkbox"/>
Total Responses	990	100.00% <input type="checkbox"/>
1.2 How regularly do you visit the Household Waste and Recycling Centre to dispose of garden waste?		
Not at all	539	45.37% <input type="checkbox"/>
Weekly	58	4.88% <input type="checkbox"/>
Fortnightly	91	7.66% <input type="checkbox"/>
Monthly	167	14.06% <input type="checkbox"/>
Other	333	28.03% <input type="checkbox"/>
Total Responses	1188	100.00% <input type="checkbox"/>
1.3 Please specify how often you visit the Household Waste and Recycling Centre.		
View all TEXT answers to the above question		View Responses
2. Household Waste Recycling Centres		
2.1 Which Household Waste and Recycling Centre do you use to dispose of garden waste?		
Calverton	172	28.24% <input type="checkbox"/>
Gedling	437	71.76% <input type="checkbox"/>
Total Responses	609	100.00% <input type="checkbox"/>
2.2 On average how long do you queue for?		
Less than 20 mins	416	64.80% <input type="checkbox"/>
20 - 40 mins	92	14.33% <input type="checkbox"/>
40 mins plus	7	1.09% <input type="checkbox"/>
Not at all	127	19.78% <input type="checkbox"/>
Total Responses	642	100.00% <input type="checkbox"/>
3. Garden Waste Collection Service		
3.1 Are you already receiving the garden waste collection service in your area?		
Not Answered	21	1.78% <input type="checkbox"/>
Yes	696	59.13% <input type="checkbox"/>
No	460	39.08% <input type="checkbox"/>
Total Responses	1177	100.00% <input type="checkbox"/>
3.2 How often do you participate in the scheme?		

Not at all	41	5.89%	<input type="text"/>
Fortnightly	558	80.17%	<input type="text"/>
Monthly	59	8.48%	<input type="text"/>
Other	38	5.46%	<input type="text"/>
Total Responses	696	100.00%	<input type="text"/>

3.3 Please specify how often you participate in the scheme.

[View all TEXT answers to the above question](#)

[View Responses](#)

3.4 On average how many bags do you normally put out each fortnight?

One	45	6.86%	<input type="text"/>
Two	89	13.57%	<input type="text"/>
Three	138	21.04%	<input type="text"/>
Four	116	17.68%	<input type="text"/>
Five	268	40.85%	<input type="text"/>
Total Responses	656	100.00%	<input type="text"/>

4. Proposals

4.1 The Council is looking at 2 options for a collection container for organic garden waste. The two options are a standard 240 litre wheeled bin or provision of 3 reuseable bags.

Which option would you prefer?

Not applicable	82	7.00%	<input type="text"/>
Bin	617	52.65%	<input type="text"/>
Bags	473	40.36%	<input type="text"/>
Total Responses	1172	100.00%	<input type="text"/>

5. Bin Option

5.1 How many bins would you require?

One	538	87.20%	<input type="text"/>
Two	70	11.35%	<input type="text"/>
Three or more	9	1.46%	<input type="text"/>
Total Responses	617	100.00%	<input type="text"/>

5.2 How much would you be prepared to pay for a bin, per week, for this service?

Up to 50p	325	52.67%	<input type="text"/>
Up to 75p	47	7.62%	<input type="text"/>
Up to £1	43	6.97%	<input type="text"/>
Nothing	202	32.74%	<input type="text"/>
Total Responses	617	100.00%	<input type="text"/>

6. Bags Option

6.1 How much would you be prepared to pay per week to use the bag service? (based on an average of 3 bags per week)

Up to 50p	204	43.40%	<input type="text"/>
Up to 75p	33	7.02%	<input type="text"/>
Up to £1	25	5.32%	<input type="text"/>
Nothing	208	44.26%	<input type="text"/>
Total Responses	470	100.00%	<input type="text"/>

7. About Yourself

7.1 Please indicate which of the following best describes your ethnic origin.

Not answered	83	7.18%	<input type="text"/>
White - British	1030	89.10%	<input type="text"/>
White - Irish	6	0.52%	<input type="text"/>
White - Other	18	1.56%	<input type="text"/>
Mixed - White and Black Caribbean	0	0.00%	<input type="text"/>

Mixed - White and Black African	0	0.00%
Mixed - White and Asian	0	0.00%
Mixed Background - Other	0	0.00%
Black - African	0	0.00%
Asian - Other	2	0.17%
Black - Caribbean	0	0.00%
Black - British	3	0.26%
Black - Other	0	0.00%
Chinese	0	0.00%
Indian	2	0.17%
Pakistani	1	0.09%
Bangladeshi	1	0.09%
Other	10	0.87%
Total Responses	1156	100.00%

7.2 Please specify other ethnic origin.

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7.3 Do you have any long-term illness, health problem or disability which limits your daily activities or the work that you can do?

Not answered	89	7.70%
Yes	311	26.90%
No	756	65.40%
Total Responses	1156	100.00%

7.4 What is your postcode?

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7.5 What is your age?

Not answered	45	3.89%
17-21	6	0.52%
22-29	11	0.95%
30-39	55	4.76%
40-60	342	29.58%
Over 60	697	60.29%
Total Responses	1156	100.00%

7.6 Are you?

Not answered	45	3.89%
Male	529	45.76%
Female	582	50.35%
Total Responses	1156	100.00%

8. And finally

8.1 Any Comments

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