

Report to Portfolio Holder for Environmental Services (Operations)

Subject: Waste Services (Discretionary) Fees and Charges for 2024/25

Date: 31 March 2024

Author: Business Development and Support Manager

Wards Affected

Borough-wide.

Purpose

The report details a revised set of Fees and Charges for Waste Services and seeks approval for the introduction from 1 April 2024. It also proposes revised fees and charges specifically for garden waste which would be applicable from 1 April 2025.

Key Decision

This is not a Key Decision.

Recommendation(s)

- a) To approve the revised Fees and Charges for bulky waste, bin change and miscellaneous as detailed in Appendix A. This to be effective from 1 April 2024.
- b) To approve the revised Fees and Charges for Garden Waste, as detailed in Appendix A. This to be effective from 1 April 2025.

1 Background

- 1.1 A 5% minimum income inflation increase for discretionary income has been agreed by Cabinet for 2024/25. This was the optimum figure in terms of generating additional income from Fees and Charges to support a balanced budget.
- 1.2 With Portfolio Holder and relevant Corporate Director approval, discretion can be made to apply varying percentage increases or freezes to relevant Fees and Charges as long as the overall cash amount for that area are met. This allows consideration to be made for factors that influence the rate at which fees and charges are set.
- 1.3 Waste fees setting procedure include the following factors:
 - The Borough's priorities.
 - The comparative price of neighbouring authorities.

- The effect an increase in price would have on the activity, including customer resistance.
- Increasing operating costs.
- The cost benefit of the service.

1.4 Benchmarking data is important when setting fees and charges. These are detailed in Appendix B.

2 Proposal

2.1 It is proposed that the Waste Fees and Charges are revised as detailed in Appendix A.

2.2 Prices for Waste have been set to achieve as a minimum the agreed discretionary income 5% increase in accordance with the Cabinet agreed inflation increase, and in consideration of the aforementioned factors.

2.3 It is proposed to leave the fee for the replacement for lost, stolen or damaged bin at £25. This is following benchmarking with neighbouring local authorities which found this to be a reasonable average fee.

2.4 Cabinet agreed to increase bulky waste charges to approach a breakeven position over the next couple of years and these charges have been increased accordingly.

3 Alternative Options

3.1 An alternative price increase for inflation could have been applied. This however would not be in line with the proposal contained in the MTFP.

4 Financial Implications

4.1 Discretionary Services are those which an authority has the power to, but is not obliged to provide, in line with legislation an authority can levy a charge for these services which must be “reasonable”. Fees and charges for discretionary services are expected to recover the cost of providing the service from the user, rather than being subsidised by the general taxpayer.

4.2 The proposed fees and charges have been set to ensure that any increases in the cost of delivering discretionary services are reflected in the setting of fees and charges to avoid additional cost pressures on the Council.

5 Legal Implications

5.1 Powers to charge for the collection of garden and bulky waste and the provision of new bins derive from the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and regulations made thereunder. All charges levied must be reasonable.

6 Equalities Implications

6.1 The Equality Impact Assessment can be found in Appendix C.

7 Carbon Reduction/Environmental Sustainability Implications

7.1 None.

8 Appendices

8.1 Appendix A: Fees and Charges schedule.

8.2 Appendix B: Benchmarking data.

8.3 Appendix C : Equality Impact Assessment.

9 Background Papers

9.1 None identified.

10 Reasons for Recommendations

10.1 To contribute to the delivery of a balanced budget both in 2024/25 and in the medium term and satisfy statutory requirements.

Statutory Officer approval

Approved by:

Date:

On behalf of the Chief Financial Officer

Approved by:

Date:

On behalf of the Monitoring Officer

Appendix A

Waste Management Fees and Charges from 1 April 2024

Bulky Waste	Current 2023/24	Proposed 2024/25
First item of bulky household waste or sack including electrical items	£16.00	£22.00
Additional items	£9.00	£11.00

Bin Charge	Current 2023/24	Proposed 2024/25
Initial supply of black and green bin plus glass box	£65.00	£69.00
Replacement bin for lost, stolen or damaged black bin	£25.00	£25.00

Misc:	Current 2023/24	Proposed 2024/25
Clearance of communal area – per 1 hour	£100.00	£105.00
Deliver and collection of bins for one off event	£53.00	£55.00
Charge to empty a contaminated bin	£16.00	£22.00
Bins and Disposal of waste from one off event	Charged at appropriate Trade Waste amount	See Trade Waste fees and charges

Garden Waste Fees and Charges from 1 April 2025

Garden Waste – *1 year ahead due to timing of invoicing	*Current 2024/25	Proposed 2025/26
First bin	£40.00	£42.00
Additional bin (based on 50% of first bin)	£20.00	£21.00

APPENDIX B – BENCHMARKING

	GBC	Ashfield	Rushcliffe	Newark & Sherwood	Mansfield	Broxtowe	Bassetlaw
Bulky Waste -1st item	£16.00	£14.00 £20 for 3	£23.00	£13.00	£13.00	£13.00 booking + £8 per item	£14.00
Bulky Waste additional items	£9.00	£7.50 for each additional	£11.00	£7.00	2 nd and 3 rd £24.00 - Additional £11.00 Electrical and POPs £17.50		£10.50
Set of new bins	£65.00	Not available	£29	£65.00 + price of bin per size (£32 - £320)	£77.00	£72 POA for Communal	£43 per bin
Replacement bin - damaged	£25.00	£38.00	N/A	N/A	£30.00	Free	£43 per bin
Clearance of area	£100.00	POA	POA	POA	POA	N/A	N/A
Charge to empty contaminated bin	£16.00	N/A	£23.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Garden Waste – 1st bin	£40.00	£35.00	£45.00	£37.00	£32.00	£43.00	£36.00
Garden Waste additional bins	£20.00	£20.00	£25.00	£37.00	£18.00	£35.00	£36.00

Name of project, policy, function, service or proposal being assessed:	Waste Services (Discretionary) Fees and Charges for 2024/25				
The main objective of The Pet Cremation fees and charges report is:	To set the Waste Services (Discretionary) Fees and Charges for 2024/25				
<p>What impact will this Waste Services (Discretionary) Fees and Charges report have on the following groups? Please note that you should consider both external and internal impact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> External (e.g. stakeholders, residents, local businesses etc.) Internal (staff) 					
Please use only 'Yes' where applicable		Negative	Positive	Neutral	Comments
<u>Gender</u>	External			Yes	
	Internal			Yes	
<u>Gender Reassignment</u>	External			Yes	
	Internal			Yes	
<u>Age</u>	External			Yes	

	Internal			Yes	
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<u>Marriage and civil partnership</u>	External			Yes	
	Internal			Yes	
<u>Disability</u>	External			Yes	
	Internal			Yes	
<u>Race & Ethnicity</u>	External			Yes	
	Internal			Yes	
<u>Sexual Orientation</u>	External			Yes	
	Internal			Yes	
<u>Religion or Belief (or no Belief)</u>	External			Yes	
	Internal			Yes	
<u>Pregnancy & Maternity</u>	External			Yes	
	Internal			Yes	
<u>Other Groups</u> (e.g. any other vulnerable groups, rural)	External			Yes	

isolation, deprived areas, low income staff etc.) Please state the group/s:	Internal			Yes	

Is there is any evidence of a high disproportionate adverse or positive impact on any groups?	Yes	No	X	Comment
Is there an opportunity to mitigate or alleviate any such impacts?	Yes	No		Comment N/A
Are there any gaps in information available (e.g. evidence) so that a complete assessment of different impacts is not possible?	Yes	No		Comment N/A
In response to the information provided above please provide a set of proposed action including any consultation that is going to be carried out: N/A				
Planned Actions	Timeframe	Success Measure	Responsible Officer	

Authorisation and Review

Completing Officer	Esther Storer
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Authorising Head of Service/Director

Date

Review date (if applicable)
