

MINUTES OF THE WASTE TASK GROUP 20 AUGUST 2014

IN ATTENDANCE:

Councillors:

F S Broadley - Chair
L A Bentley
G A Boulter
D M Carter
Ms M V Chamberlain
M H Charlesworth
J Kaufman
P Swift

Officers:

M Hall
Mrs A Court
B Kew
Ms K Parkes

Min Ref	Narrative	Officer Resp
1.	<u>APOLOGIES -</u> Councillors B Dave and M L Darr	
2.	<u>MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING ON 15TH JULY 2014</u> Approved	
3.	<u>KITCHEN AND GREEN WASTE COLLECTIONS - BRIEFING PAPER</u> The briefing paper followed on from the last task group meeting on 15 th July when the group requested that officers bring a further report to this group setting out the costings and practicalities for implementing a new collection method for garden waste by using bins. The group had also requested that a further report on the future collection of kitchen waste be brought to the task group as to the feasibility of rolling this out borough wide.	

Kitchen Waste

In terms of kitchen waste the briefing paper set out 3 options that ranged from stopping the trial completely to extending to a borough wide service. The recommendation of this group to the Policy Finance and Development Committee's meeting on 23 September 2014 was that the option at paragraph 5.2 of the briefing paper be adopted ie that the existing trial of 3 rounds across the borough continues for the time being whilst further consideration is given by Leicestershire County Council to a County wide kitchen waste collection. The ongoing trials will be at a cost of £75,000 per annum for which necessary budgetary provision needs to be made for 15/16 financial year.

A member proposed that the number of black bags that we collect per household for domestic waste should be reduced to prevent an increase of food waste into the general domestic waste if a borough/county wide scheme was not rolled out in the future. The reduction in black bags would have the advantage of reducing the amount of ripped bags by vermin resulting in scattered rubbish across the borough. This was not supported as a recommendation to be made to the Policy Finance and Development Committee.

Green Waste

Page 6 of the briefing paper set out the background as to those steps members had agreed at the first meeting of the Task Group on 15th July for recommendation to the Policy, Finance and Development Committee's meeting on 23 September 2014. In summary, these included that the method of collection of green garden waste is to change from existing bags to bins. This being on the basis of operational, Health & Safety and financial considerations; that the collection scheme should operate between February and November rather than all year round and that the council continue to collect green garden waste from all households in the borough for those that request it.

The further financial information and operational information requested had been included in the briefing paper as requested in order for the members to agree an implementation plan for recommendation to the Policy Finance & Development Committee on the 23rd September 2014. The proposed implementation plan was set out at page 8 of the briefing paper which included choices for residents as to a choice on the size of a bin, either 240ltr or 140ltr; the potential for shared bins for properties which have limited storage space; the council will take away and dispose of existing useable sacks or residents can keep them to take additional garden waste to the amenity tip if they wish to do so; this new scheme will commence in March 2015.

During the winter months when the green waste collection is not operating staff resources can be diverted to assist with implementing this scheme. Members agreed that it be recommended there should be an annual cost for residents who request additional bins. Members also advocated that the best use of resources are made and that the current practice of a dedicated resource to deliver green waste sacks upon demand

	<p>should cease as this contributes to the spiralling increase in the amount of bags that are being filled and put out for collection which in collection terms have become unmanageable.</p>	
--	---	--

Vehicles

Members also agreed to a recommendation to the Policy Finance & Development Committee on 23 September 2014 that the council procures 7 new refuse collection vehicles ready for operation in March 2015/16 with the cost being met through the DCLG grant / combination of borrowing.