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| Report Title | OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION – REVIEW OF BULKY HOUSEHOLD WASTE COLLECTION AND REPLACEMENT WASTE CONTAINERS |
| Meeting | EXECUTIVE |
| Meeting Date | 21 st August 2025 |
| Report Author | David Walker |
| Directorate | Place |
| Lead Executive Member(s) | Councillor Zafar Ali |
| Wards Affected | All |
| Public. Part Exempt, or Fully Exempt | Public |
| Appendices (if any) | Overview and Scrutiny Task and Finish Group notes – meeting held 3 rd October 2024 |

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 To provide Executive Members with the opportunity to review the recommendations regarding the restrictions on Bulky Household Waste Collections and Delivery of Replacement Waste Containers made on the 19th December 2024.

2. Recommendations

For the reasons set out in this report, Executive is recommended to:

- 2.1 Re-consider the Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommendations in respect of introducing charges for Bulky Household Waste Collection and Replacement Waste Containers or revise the resolution to align with the capability of the Council's customer facing systems

3. Information: the Rationale & Evidence for the Recommendations

- 3.1 The report returns to the Executive following it being presented to Council in July 2025. Members are asked to reconsider the Council's resolution of December 2024 due to the Council's customer facing systems being unable to align with the recommendations of the Committee.
- 3.2 Members may recall that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee met on 29th October, 2024 and made the following recommendations to Executive:

“RESOLVED

- (1) That the Task and Finish Group's recommendations relating to bulky household waste collection be agreed and the Executive be recommended to approve the following -

That a stepped charging mechanism for bulky household waste collections be introduced as follows –

| Number of Items | Minimum Charge |
|-----------------|----------------|
| 1 – 4 | £13.50 |
| 5 – 8 | £27.00 |
| 9 – 12 | £40.50 |

That persons in receipt of housing or council tax benefits be eligible for a discount of 50%.

That it be acknowledged that there may be a cost to developing or amending current software solutions to accommodate the introduction of charges for bulky household waste collections, but that this would be outweighed by future savings.

That promotion of hubs and charities accepting used household products be increased.

- (2) That the Task and Finish Group's recommendations relating to replacement waste containers, numbered (i) to (v) below, be agreed, together with the additional condition numbered (vi) below and the Executive be recommended to approve the following -

- (i) That a charge of £25 + VAT be introduced for administration and delivery of all replacement wheeled bins.

(ii) That an additional charge of £20 + VAT be introduced for the purchase of a grey refuse (non-recycling) bin.

(iii) That no additional charge be introduced for the purchase of brown, blue and green recycling bins and this message be clearly advertised.

(iv) That all charges recommended at (i) and (ii) above be discounted by 50% for persons in receipt of housing or council tax benefits.

(v) That it be accepted that communal bins would not be a viable option and the option not be pursued, but that advice be supplied to new developers where possible.

That the potential of placing an identity chip in the bins, containing the allocated address, be explored”.

(4) Members are asked to consider the following options;

Bulky household waste

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| Option 1 | That a stepped charging mechanism for bulky household waste collections be introduced. That stepped charge being £13.50 for every four items collected, the basic charge being 1 – 4 items with increases at 5,9 and 12 items |
| Option 2 | Residents can receive 8 free bulky waste collections per year. Residents can continue to arrange for a maximum of 9 items to be collected each time |
| Option 3 | Beyond 8 free collections a stepped charging mechanism for bulky household waste collections is introduced as set out within option 1 above. Residents can continue to arrange for a maximum of 9 items to be collected each time |

Waste containers

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| Option 1 | That a charge of £25.00+VAT be introduced for the administration and delivery of all replacement wheeled bins |
| Option 2 | That an additional charge of £20.00 + VAT be introduced for providing a grey (non-recycling) bin. The Council does not sell waste containers, and they must remain the property of the Council. Overview and Scrutiny referenced purchasing within their recommendations. |
| Option 3 | Residents can receive a maximum of 3 waste container exchanges per year for free. Allowing one bin per scheme to be exchanged. Excludes subscribed schemes |

4. Link to Council Plan Priorities: (Providing High Quality Services and Facilities, Proud and Connected Communities and Places)

- 4.1 The changes will enable our residents to continue accessing services online and will ensure we reduce our impact on the environment by encouraging re-homing, re-use whilst also reducing the use of raw materials therefore helping the council to deliver its Climate Change and Biodiversity Strategies

5. Implications

5.1 Financial Implications

Bulky Household Waste – it is estimated that option 1 would generate annual income of c£30k p.a. to support the MTFP. It is difficult to predict the additional income option 3 will generate, however based on current demand this could be up to £4k p.a. with the biggest impact coming through reduced demand resulting in a potential saving of £26k p.a

Waste Containers – it is likely that the budget for purchasing bins will be exceeded by £33k this financial year, if no actions are taken to mitigate this additional cost. The 2026/27 budget will need to be increased to reflect the demand, which will place further pressure on the Council's MTFP. Based on 2022/23 demand, introducing a small charge could generate c£50k p.a. which would offset the increased costs or support delivery of critical and essential services.

5.2 Legal and Governance Implications

There are no legal implications arising directly from the recommendations of this report

5.3 Climate and Biodiversity Implications

Raw material processing and extraction (i.e. fossil energy carriers, non-metallic minerals, metal ores, and biomass) are responsible for around 50% of global greenhouse gas emissions and more than 90% of global water stress and land-use-related biodiversity loss. (Source of information European Environment Agency)

5.5 Human Resources Implications

There are no Human Resource Implications arising directly from the recommendations of this report.

5.6 Equality and Diversity Implications

There are no equality and diversity issues arising directly from the recommendations of this report.

6. Consultation

Overview and Scrutiny Task and Finish group discussed the Council's services in October 2024.

7. Alternative Options Considered

The report sets out alternative proposal ranging the capping of the service through to the introduction of charges.

8. Statutory Officer Sign off (please tick)

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| Section 151 Officer | ✓ |
| Monitoring Officer | ✓ |

9. Background Documents

Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Recommendation for the Council's consideration – review of bulky household waste collection and replacement waste containers report July 2025.

Report to Overview and Scrutiny Task and Finish Group. Bulky Household Waste Collections October 2024.

Report to Overview and Scrutiny Task and Finish Group. Replacement Waste Containers. October 2024

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