

PLACE COMMITTEE

15TH SEPTEMBER 2018

REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF GROWTH AND REGENERATION

DIRECT CHARGE PROPOSAL FOR WASTE MANAGEMENT WHEELED BINS

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To update members on the current charging policy for providing and delivering wheeled bins
- 1.2 To seek member approval to introduce a Waste Receptacle Charging Policy which would impose charges to customers for replacement, additional and new wheeled bins.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 The recommendations are:

- (i) Authority to charge from 1st October 2018 for replacement wheeled bins and those with capacity outside of the standard provision at £30 per bin as detailed in the appendix C with a 50% concession for those on income related benefits;
- (ii) Authority to establish a wheeled bin charging policy from the details provided at section 3.8;
- (iii) Authority for the Director of Growth and Regeneration, in consultation with the Director of Legal and Democratic Services to develop and implement a charging policy and instigate the relevant action in relation to non-payment of these charges.

3.0 KEY ISSUES

BACKGROUND

- 3.1 As part of the Council's ongoing efficiency savings and income generating considerations, it has been identified that the Council may want to consider introducing a new Waste Receptacle Charging Policy.
- 3.2 Budgetary pressures have increased due to the rising costs of procuring and delivering bins, anticipated increasing demand due to new housing developments and wear and tear to older bins. Members will be aware of the expected increase in local housing over the coming years.
- 3.3 The Council currently provide all households with the containers required to access the councils domestic waste services free of any direct charge. Residents

are not charged for replacement bins, nor extra or larger capacity bins for larger families who can demonstrate a genuine and regular need.

3.4 The Council currently charges for green bins as part of the annual subscription and smaller capacity bins for small or single person households.

3.5 The current cost for a standard 240 litre wheeled bin is estimated to be approximately £20.00. The delivery charge is currently £5.50 for 1 or 2 bins delivered. In 2016/17, the total cost was £43,876.61, in 2017/18, the total cost was £19,768.00. The total to date for this year has amounted to £10,899.33. Over the next 5 years if 1000 new homes are built the cost for providing the standard wheeled bin containers at current prices, including delivery, would be around £48,000.

3.6 Between April 2016 and May 2018, approximately 3000 black and brown bins were allocated to residents. The table shows the reasons why they were allocated.

April 2016 to May 2018 – reason for bin allocation	Total	%
Damaged no customer fault	1500	50%
Lost or stolen	200	7%
No Bins at property (previous probably took away)	650	20%
Alternate capacity provided	650	23%

3.7 The aim of introducing a Waste Receptacle Charging Policy would be to generate income to help offset the cost of the purchasing and delivering new wheeled bins, reduce the annual demand for bins by reducing unnecessary requests and encourage residents to take greater responsibility for their bins.

3.8 Charges would be introduced for developments and any additional/replacement bins. The council will endeavour to seek a voluntary contribution from developers for the delivery and administration costs arising from the provision of bins for developments in the Borough. The charges will be a one-off cost and the bins will remain the property of Melton Borough Council. When residents move on the bin will remain for the next resident to use and will not be permitted to be moved between properties by residents.

3.9 It is also proposed that the Wheeled Bin Policy would introduce charges for replacement bins as a result of them being lost, stolen or damaged by residents.

3.10 Discretion would be applied for replacement bins where the damage is caused by collection crew, fair wear and tear or where residents are particularly vulnerable. Discretion would be applied for additional bins where increased capacity arises from medical waste requirements.

3.11 Other Authorities in Leicestershire have introduced similar charging policies. Benchmarking has been undertaken and is attached as Appendix A.

3.12 Where residents request additional bin capacity, it is proposed to apply the following charges. The table below shows what would be the standard offer and the charges if residents require more than the standard offer.

Number of people in household	Standard Offer bin(s) (free of charge)	Maximum capacity bin(s) (£30 charge applies)*
Up to three people	1 x Regular Black 240 litre plus 1 x Regular Brown 240 litre	1x Regular Black 240 & 140 litre plus 1x Regular Brown 240 & 140 litre
4 – 6	1 x Regular Black 240 litre & 140 litre plus 1 x Regular Brown 240 litre & 140 litre	2 x Regular Black 240 & 140 litre plus 2 x Regular Brown 240 & 140 litre
7+	2 x Regular Black 240 litre plus 2 x regular Brown 240 litre	2 x Regular Black 240 & 140 litre plus 2 x regular Brown 240 & 140 litre

- 3.13 It is recognised that the proposal may have a financial impact on residents and it is proposed that those in receipt of an income related benefit receive a substantial concession from the proposed non concessionary charge.
- 3.14 The charging will be a “delivery and long term loan charge” as the Council needs to retain ownership of the bins to ensure that it can enforce against misuse.
- 3.15 Affected householders will be notified of charges in October 2018.

4.0 POLICY AND CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Council does not currently charge for any new or replacement containers. Should the Committee consider introducing charges the following practical and legislative implications will be taken into account to ensure the service is appropriate, fit for purpose, and does not conflict with any existing Council policy or direction

5.0 FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Council spends on average around £20,000 per year on the provision of various containers. Plus delivery costs of around £5000 making the total annual cost around £25,000. This cost would be offset if charges are introduced
- 5.2 The table below details the cost and income generated for each type of bin based on deploying 1000 bins (The average number deployed annually).

Type of receptacle	Charge to developer resident or landlord	Estimated number of request for new or replacement wheeled bins	Estimated cost to the council for the provision £20 per bin plus £8 delivery	Estimated income from the introduction of a charge £30 long term loan and delivery per bin
Black or Brown 240 litre	£30per bin (£60 per set of two)	600	£16,800	£18,000
Black or Brown 140 litre	£30 per bin (£60 per set of two)	400	£11,200	£12,000
total			£28,000	£30,000

- 5.3 Attached as Appendix C are details the councils estimation of the income potential from introducing charges for new and or replacement

6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS/POWERS

- 6.1 The Policy should be developed in accordance with the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and the Controlled Waste Regulations 2012 (revised from 1992).
- 6.2 The Environmental Protection Act 1990 defines the Council's role as a waste collection Authority. Section 46(3) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 permits the Local Authority the options of supplying waste receptacles free of charge, supplying the receptacles at a charged rate, to be paid either as a single payment or by instalment with the agreement of the occupier or requiring the occupier to provide their own receptacles of a similar type.
- 6.3 Section 46(4)(b) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 permits the Local Authority to give occupiers notice requiring that waste receptacles are placed for the facilitation of collecting waste from them.
- 6.4 Section 46(11) of the same Act gives the option of not collecting waste which is not presented correctly.

6.5 The Council cannot require developers to enter into planning obligations under section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 because the provision of bins is not necessary to make a development acceptable in planning terms and would therefore conflict with paragraph 122(2) (a) of the Community Infrastructure Regulations 2010.

6.6 In addition, the Council cannot require developers to provide bins under section 46 above because a developer is not an occupier within the meaning of that section.

6.7 Household waste bins are not infrastructure within the meaning of section 216 of the Planning Act 2008 and therefore may not be funded under the levy.

6.8 The Council is seeking to pursue a policy of requesting voluntary contributions from developers to fund the provision and delivery of the bins however enforcement of such a policy may prove difficult.

7.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY

7.1 There are no direct community safety implications arising from this report

8.0 EQUALITIES

8.1 An equality impact assessment has been completed to assess the impacts of introducing a charge.

10.0 RISKS

L I K E L I H O O D	A	Very High				
	B	High				
	C	Significant	1	2,3,4,5		
	D	Low				
	E	Very Low				
	F	Almost Impossible				
			Negligible 1	Marginal 2	Critical 3	Catastrophic 4

Risk No.	Description
1.	Charges act as a disincentive to recycling that affects overall recycling performance
2.	Charges deter customers from requesting new bins/containers resulting in less than anticipated income.
3.	Opposition to the introduction of charges
4.	Impact of transition : staff time implementing the charges and responding to questions and challenges
5.	Contamination of waste streams: customers divert recycling materials into household waste to avoid charges

11.0 **CLIMATE CHANGE**

11.1 There are no direct climate change issues associated with this report

12.0 **CONSULTATION**

12.1

Statutory consultation is not required however the Council will take steps to notify all those affected by the introduction of the Charge

13.0 **WARDS AFFECTED**

13.1

All Wards are affected: the impacts would apply to the entire Borough.

Contact Officer: R Selvon , Waste Management ad Grounds Manager
Date: 9 July 2018
Background Papers: None
Appendices : A, B ,C