

Report to the Cabinet

Report reference: C-048-2017/18

Date of meeting: 8 March 2018



**Epping Forest
District Council**

Portfolio: Environment

Subject: Waste Management Policies

Responsible Officer: Qasim (Kim) Durrani (01992 564055).

Democratic Services: Gary Woodhall (01992 564470).

Recommendations/Decisions Required:

(1) To agree to adopt the amended waste management policies statement numbers 7 and 10

Executive Summary:

The Council has in place a number of waste management policies, previously introduced at the time of implementation of the original wheelie bin service and substantively updated in September 2009 and February 2017.

Amendments are necessary from time to time to provide clarity to both residents and the Council contractor.

Reasons for Proposed Decision:

It is necessary to update the policies to clarify operation of waste management services.

Other Options for Action:

The alternative options are:

- (a) retain existing policies and not approve any changes.
- (b) Rescind the above policies and manage the service with no additional capacity or assisted collections for any residents.
- (c) Do not mention the standard frequency of services.

None of the above can be recommended as this would be contrary to the already adopted Essex Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy, would present operational difficulties, hinder achievement of local performance indicator measures and adversely impact waste reduction and recycling targets that the Council aspires to achieve.

Report:

1. The Council has already in place a number of policies that deal with matters such as:

- containers;
- which materials should go in a particular container;

- assisted collections;
- collection times and placement of containers;
- contamination of containers;
- container capacity;
- suitability of property for wheelie bin;
- exception; and
- exemption.

2. It is recommended to adopt these amended policies. This will cover the following issues:

- renewals of additional capacity.
- Renewals of assisted collection and medical bin capacity.
- Understanding of the standard frequency of services.

3. The existing policy documents are appended to the agenda. Any changes are colour coded and underlined. The changes are sought to enable officers to better assess the needs of various residents.

4. Policy 7 Exception Policy – this policy deals with the various exceptions, for example residents who are unable to present a bin at the boundary of the property will get their bin collected from their premises. The amendments to the policy are to allow a reassessment after three years. This is to ensure that if the circumstances causing the grant of the exception change then the exception can be withdrawn. Using the example of an assisted collection, if residents move then the exception would not be applicable and the property would benefit from normal services.

5. Policy 10 Supply of Waste and Recycling Services. This policy was agreed last year. The intention was to enable the provision of waste and recycling collection services from a dwelling that is paying Council Tax. The amendments proposed are to clarify the operational arrangements, for example the onus is on the home owner to contact the Council and ask for the provision of waste and recycling services.

Resource Implications:

There are no additional resource implications arising from this report and its recommendations, there is adequate existing budget to deal with the recommendations in this report.

Legal and Governance Implications:

The delivery of waste management services is predominantly under the auspices of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and its subsidiary regulations and guidance. The collection of household waste (as defined by the Controlled Waste Regulations 1992) is a statutory duty placed upon the Council. Schedule 2 of these regulations prescribe that garden waste is, household waste, for which the Council can levy a charge.

Safer, Cleaner and Greener Implications:

The increase in recycling performance is a Performance Indicator as is the reduction of non-recyclable waste generated per household. The aims of the Council's adopted Essex Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy will be supported by the recommendation in this report.

Consultation Undertaken:

The Council's waste management contractor Biffa has been consulted on the policies.

Background Papers:

Cabinet report 2 February 2017 and subsequent Portfolio Holder Report

Risk Management:

For the waste management service to operate effectively and provide high level of recycling it is critical that adequate policies are in place to support the operation. In the absence of updated policies there is a risk of a challenge to the ombudsman, increased residual waste, possible loss in recycling income, continuing costs of replacement wheeled bins.

Equality Analysis:

The Equality Act 2010 requires that the Public Sector Equality Duty is actively applied in decision-making. This means that the equality information provided to accompany this report is essential reading for all members involved in the consideration of this report. The equality information is provided at Appendix to the report.