

ANGUS COUNCIL

COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 28 SEPTEMBER 2021

UPDATE OF THE WASTE AND RECYCLING BIN POLICY

REPORT BY ALISON SMITH, INTERIM DIRECTOR OF VIBRANT COMMUNITIES AND SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

ABSTRACT

This report proposes an update to the council's waste and recycling bin policy and includes a change to the rule on the provision of additional recycling bins.

1. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee:

- (i) Agrees to the updated waste and recycling bin policy as shown in **Appendix 1**, which includes the amendment that an additional recycling bin will be provided to a household on request without the need to meet a specific criteria, as detailed in section 4.1 .

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE COUNCIL PLAN

This report contributes to the following local outcomes contained within the Angus Community Plan:

- A reduced carbon footprint
- An enhanced, protected and enjoyed natural and built environment

This report also aligns to the Council Plan 2021-2024 priority for the council to develop a commercial approach where appropriate, to make the most of our limited resources.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 The Communities Committee on 4 March 2014 ([Report 112/14](#)) agreed to the adoption of a waste and recycling bin policy, which set out policies and procedures associated with the provision of waste and recycling bins. This was put in place in preparation for the roll-out of the new kerbside recycling service that year.

3.2 An update to the waste and recycling bin policy was agreed at the meeting of the Communities Committee on 17 January 2017 ([Report 27/17](#)). This was to more closely align our policies to those set out in the Household Recycling Charter and Code of Practice for Scotland, and also to reflect changes that had been made to the food and garden waste services.

3.3 A further update to the policy was agreed at the meeting of the Communities Committee on 26 February 2019 ([Report 66/19](#)). This reflected a change to household collection times to accommodate new working hours for waste collection crews.

4. PROPOSALS

4.1 The existing policy details that a household will only qualify for the provision of additional bin capacity if they meet a specific criterion e.g. there are five or more permanent residents. This applies for recycling and non-recycling bins. In recognition that larger volume recyclable packaging can lead to recycling bins becoming full quickly and that we aim to encourage recycling, it is proposed that an additional recycling bin and food waste bin (where the service is available) will be provided upon request without the need for the household to meet any specific criterion. Section 4 of the policy (see Appendix 1) has been amended to reflect this change.

- 4.2 Households will still be asked to squash and compact their recycling as far as reasonably possible before placing in the bin to reduce the demand for additional bins, and that oversized cardboard boxes should be taken to the nearest recycling centre – all seven recycling centres in Angus have separate cardboard recycling containers.
- 4.3 The introduction of 'end of road' collections from properties accessed via private and unadopted roads, where practicable, was agreed at the meeting of the Neighbourhood Services Committee on 23 May 2013 ([Report 341/13](#)). This was to coincide with the roll-out of the new kerbside recycling service across Angus. It is proposed that the agreed rule on 'end of road' collections is updated and included in the waste and recycling bin policy as detailed in section 2 in Appendix 1. It is considered consolidating all rules on waste collection into a single place/document provides more clarity and an easier reference point for all interested parties.
- 4.4 In addition to the above, the following amendments have also been made to the policy document in Appendix 1:
- It now states that households should put bins out at the kerbside by 7am (rather than 6am) on collection day. This reflects the current working pattern of waste collection crews.
 - In section 3, a paragraph has been added stating that operatives will return bins after emptying to near the original collection point, ensuring where possible that there is no obstruction to pedestrians, road users or access to properties. This clarifies a frequently asked question by residents.
 - In section 5, a paragraph has been added stating that assisted collections will be provided to households served by end of road collections where there is no means of the household waste being brought to the collection point, so long as the private road is maintained to a suitable standard.
 - In section 12, a paragraph has been added stating that replacement or additional bins provided to households may have been previously used but will be quality checked and rinsed prior to delivery.
- 4.5 A copy of the updated waste and recycling bin policy that includes all the above amendments is provided in **Appendix 1**.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The policy in Appendix 1 enables the service to make best use of limited resources, run efficiently and for costs to be contained within existing budgets.
- 5.2 There are no significant financial implications from the changes to the policy. The provision of additional recycling bins to households upon request will lead to the requirement to purchase more bins, however the demand for additional recycling bins is expected to be relatively low, and should be offset by reduced disposal costs if more waste is recycled rather than sent for disposal.

6. CONSULTATION

- 6.1 The Chief Executive, Deputy Chief Executive, Director of Finance and Director of Legal and Democratic Services were consulted in the preparation of this report.

NOTE: The background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) which were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report are:

- Report 112/14 to Communities Committee
- Report 27/17 to Communities Committee
- Report 66/19 to Communities Committee
- Report 341/13 to Neighbourhood Services Committee

REPORT AUTHOR: Graeme Dailly, Service Leader

EMAIL DETAILS: communities@angus.gov.uk

List of Appendices:

- Appendix 1 – Angus Waste and Recycling Bin Policy