

COMMITTEE Housing and Environment **DATE** 16th February 2010

DIRECTOR Pete Leonard

TITLE OF REPORT Household Waste and Recycling Containers Policy

REPORT NUMBER H&E/10/001

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To clarify Council policies relating to household waste and recycling containers and to bring all existing Council policies relating to waste and recycling containers into one document.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 2.1 Committee approves the Household Waste and Recycling Containers Policy at Appendix 1 and refers the report to the Finance and Resources Committee for consideration of the financial issues arising from the Policy.
- 2.2 Committee instructs officers to undertake a full review of enforcement policy and practice relating to all waste issues including litter, fly-tipping and issues arising from this policy including side waste. Full and costed proposals for implementation of enforcement policy should be presented to the Housing and Environment Committee on 24 August 2010.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The proposed policy is an aggregation of existing policies and practices within the waste collection service. As a consequence, there are no significant resource implications, either positive or negative. There are some changes proposed to the Additional and Replacement Bin policies, which are detailed below.
- 3.2 Due to significant difficulties experienced in implementation and administration, the requirement to make a charge for a replacement bin has been removed from the policy: the proposed solution will therefore be a continuation of existing practice. There is a nominal loss of revenue associated with this change however, there will be no actual loss experienced in comparison with existing practice which is to replace bins free of charge.
- 3.3 Following legal advice, the levying of an annual collection charge for additional bins has been removed from the policy due to possible conflict with the Environmental Protection Act (1990). The revised policy seeks to set eligibility criteria for provision of additional bins and continues with the delivery charge of £35. There is a nominal loss of revenue associated with this change however,

there will be no actual loss experienced in comparison with existing practice as no annual collection charge is currently levied.

4. SERVICE & COMMUNITY IMPACT

- 4.1 There is unlikely to be any adverse service or community impact resulting from this report since the proposed policy document contains only current policies and practises. The amendments to the additional bins section of the proposed document will facilitate implementation and therefore have a positive service impact.
- 4.2 The report does not introduce any new policies or practices, however enforcement of the policy has the potential for negative impact on street cleansing through an increase in fly-tipping that may occur, a problem that the move to alternate weekly collection of refuse is also likely to exacerbate. These issues will be thoroughly considered in the subsequent report on Enforcement Policy (see recommendation 2.2).
- 4.3 Implementation of the additional bins section of the policy will encourage more recycling which links with the Vibrant, Dynamic and Forward Looking aim to achieve 40% household recycling by 2011.
- 4.4 An Equalities and Human Rights Impact Assessment has been carried out and the actions/outcomes can be summarised as follows:
 - Ensure that assisted uplifts are include in the policy to prevent negative impacts on elderly or disabled
 - Amending the replacement bin policy will positively affect those in poverty and those who are victims of theft.
 - There will be no delivery charge for those with disabilities or medical conditions that cause them to produce excess waste in order to ease any negative impact on the disabled.
 - There will be a 50% discount on the delivery charge for those on Council Tax or Housing benefit in order to ease any negative impact on those in poverty.

5. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The legal department has been consulted on the policy which has been amended to address the response received.
- 5.3 There are no resource, personnel or equipment implications from this report other than those already identified.
- 5.4 Without this report it will be difficult to implement the move to alternate weekly collections and this would result in less positive behavioural change in terms of moving away from a disposal culture towards increased recycling. The implementation of this policy will therefore have a positive impact on the environment and sustainability.

6. REPORT

6.1 BACKGROUND

- 6.1.1 Aberdeen City Council operates household waste collection services across the city and provides advice to residents on how, where and when their waste and recycling should be presented. The Council also offers assisted uplifts, additional containers and replacement containers.
- 6.1.2 While some of the information regarding the above is made available on the website and information leaflets, there is no single policy document that sets out what residents with individual wheeled refuse bins, kerbside recycling and the garden & food waste collections can expect to receive from the Council and how the Council requires these waste containers to be presented.
- 6.1.3 Given the significant change to the waste collection regime due to be implemented in the near future, we are presented with the opportunity to bring together all existing practises and policies relating to household waste and recycling containers into one, clear and simple document. This Household Waste and Recycling Containers Policy is included at Appendix 1.

6.2 CURRENT WASTE INFRASTRUCTURE AND ADVICE TO RESIDENTS

6.2.1 General refuse

- 6.2.1.1 In accordance with the Environmental Protection Act, a Local Authority has a duty to collect household waste. To facilitate these collections, and within reason, the Local Authority can either provide free of charge or sell to the householder a bin or can insist that the householder supplies the container at their own expense. In the late 1990s and following an extended pilot scheme to approximately 5000 properties, Aberdeen City Council took the decision to move to a containerised collection of general refuse and provide a 240 litre wheeled bin free of charge with an alternative 140 litre bin available on request.
- 6.2.1.2 Materials that should not be put into a black domestic waste bin include:
- Hot ashes and heavy materials such as large amounts of soil, hardcore or rubble
 - Car parts
 - Business waste even if generated from a business operating from home
 - Corrosive materials and liquids such as oil and paint
- 6.2.1.3 Guidance that was given to householders when bins introduced was that all waste must be within wheeled bin with lid closed. Residents are also required to present their bin for collection, on the kerbside, by 7:00am on their collection day, remove the bin as soon as possible after collection and store it within the boundary of their property wherever practical.

6.2.2 Kerbside Recycling

- 6.2.2.1 Aberdeen City Council offers a kerbside recycling service to over 72,000 properties in the city. Eligible households that wish to use the service are issued with a 55 litre black box and a 35 litre white bag. Additional containers are available free of charge upon request and the Council

operates a network of Recycling Points that can be used to dispose of excess recycling.

6.2.2.2 Materials that can be accepted as part of the kerbside recycling scheme:

- Plastic bottles
- Glass bottles and jars
- Food and drink cans
- Paper
- Cardboard

6.2.2.3 Residents are advised that all materials must be presented within a Council container on the kerbside by 7:00am on the collection day. Containers should be removed as soon as possible after collection and stored within the boundary of the property. Any material that is not suitable for collection will not be uplifted.

6.2.3 Garden and Food Waste Collections

6.2.3.1 Co-mingled collections of garden and food waste are now offered to over 60,000 properties within the city. Eligible households receive a 240 litre brown bin and if they wish to participate in the food waste collections, a 7 litre kitchen caddy and supply of corn starch liners. 140 litre brown bins are available upon request.

6.2.3.2 Materials that can be accepted as part of the garden and food waste collection scheme include:

- leaves
- grass clippings
- small branches (less than 6" by 2")
- hedge trimmings
- fruit and vegetables
- bread, pasta, rice
- meat and fish

A more detailed list of what can and cannot be accepted was issued to householders when they received their brown bin and kitchen caddy.

6.2.3.3 Residents are advised that all materials must be presented within a Council brown bin, on the kerbside by 7:00am on the collection day. Containers should be removed as soon as possible after collection and stored within the boundary of the property. If the brown bin is contaminated with material that cannot be collected then the bin will not be uplifted. The householder must then remove the contaminating material and present the bin for collection on the next uplift day.

6.3 HOUSEHOLD WASTE AND RECYCLING CONTAINERS POLICY

6.3.1 To improve customer service, it is proposed that all existing practises and expectations are compiled into one document which is easy to find and clear to understand. The proposed Household Waste and Recycling Containers Policy is attached at Appendix 1.

6.3.2 The proposed document represents a consolidation of Council policies relating to household waste and recycling containers. The only exceptions to this

relate to the Additional and Replacement bins sections. Since the existing policies were adopted in 2008, officers have sought to implement these policies, however, it is apparent that some of the detail of the original policies is incompatible with Council systems. The substantive changes to these policies relate to the charging mechanisms and are detailed in section 6.4 below.

- 6.3.3 The management of 'side waste', being waste left for collection outwith the approved container, is a significant issue for which existing policy and practice is unclear. Since the introduction of wheeled bins, it is understood that the Council's position is that householders should not put out side waste along with their approved container and this is the stated position in Appendix 1. In practice, where side waste is presented, refuse collection crews, within the bounds of good health and safety practice, collected this waste in order to prevent littering or encouragement of fly-tipping. To change from this practice at this time requires a major change of enforcement emphasis, for which there is insufficient allocated resource. The enforcement of the policy position on side waste will therefore be a major element of the review of enforcement policy and practice included in recommendation 2.2 above. Through this review, a clear case can be made for the investment in additional enforcement resource to support changes in service delivery.
- 6.3.4 The Environment Manager has raised concerns that without a clear enforcement policy and associated resource, there is likely to be an adverse impact on street cleansing, as this service will be affected by any increase in fly-tipping, litter from overfilled bins and side waste that occurs after the move to alternate week collection of refuse.

6.4 ADDITIONAL AND REPLACEMENT BIN POLICIES

- 6.4.1 The Additional and Replacement Bin policies were approved by the Waste Management Working Group in September 2008 and then ratified by the Policy and Strategy Committee on 7 October 2008. Since that time it has become apparent that several procedural amendments and clarifications are required before they can be successfully implemented and at present, neither represents existing practice.
- 6.4.2 The majority of amendments to the additional bins policy do not fundamentally change the policy but rather provide clarity and simplify procedural issues which will allow for successful implementation. The one substantive change is the removal of the £60 annual collection charge due to possible conflict with the Environmental Protection Act (1990) as advised by the legal team. The proposed additional bins policy has been included as part of the Household Waste and Recycling Containers Policy attached at Appendix 1. For comparison, the existing policy has been attached at Appendix 3. As outlined in the Financial Considerations, there is a nominal loss of revenue associated with this change, however, there will be no actual loss experienced in comparison with existing practice as no annual collection charge is currently levied.
- 6.4.3 There is a significant change to the replacement bins policy within the proposed Household Waste and Recycling Containers Policy document,

attached at Appendix 1. The revised policy does not require the levying of a charge for issuing replacement bins. This amendment is required due to significant difficulties experienced in implementing and administering such a charge, not least establishing a fair mechanism to identify fault for the loss of the bin. As outlined in the Financial Considerations, there is a nominal loss of revenue associated with this change, however, there will be no actual loss experienced in comparison with existing practice which is to replace bins free of charge. For comparison, the existing policy has been attached at Appendix 4.

7. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

Peter Lawrence
Strategist – Waste Management
01224 814629
PLawrence@aberdeencity.gov.uk

Laura Blair
Waste Strategy Officer
01224 814603
LauraBlair@aberdeencity.gov.uk

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Additional Bins Policy – Attached at Appendix 3
Replacement Bins Policy – Attached at Appendix 4

9. APPENDIX 1

Aberdeen City Council Household Waste and Recycling Containers Policy

This policy document does not relate to the use of communal or on-street general refuse bins, on-street paper recycling facilities, recycling points or trade waste customers unless specifically stated.

1. Provision of Containers

- 1.1 The Council's policy is, where routes and capacity exist, to provide suitable households with;
- (i) One 240 litre gray/black wheeled bin for general/non-recyclable waste
 - (ii) One 240 litre brown wheeled bin for garden waste and food waste
 - (iii) One 7 litre kitchen caddy for indoor storage of food waste before transfer to the brown wheeled bin with a supply of biodegradable corn starch liners

- (v) One 55 litre black box for plastic bottles, food and drink cans, glass bottles and jars.
 - (vi) One 35 litre white bag for paper and cardboard
 - (vii) Additional brown bins or black boxes or white bags will be provided to householders, with a genuine need for extra capacity, on request
- 1.2 Containers that have been stolen, damaged or gone missing will be replaced free of charge.
- 1.3 Upon delivery of a replacement bin, if there is already a residual waste bin at the property, the replacement will not be left and it will be reported to the Waste Team/Environmental Services. The householder will be informed that they need to apply for an additional bin as below.
- 1.4 Exceptions
- 1.4.1 140 litre Gray/black bins for general refuse are available in place of a 240 litre bin upon request. The original 240 litre bin will be removed when the 140 litre bin is delivered.
 - 1.4.2 140 litre brown bins for garden/food waste are available in place of a 240 litre bin upon request. The original 240 litre bin will be removed when the 140 litre bin is delivered.
 - 1.4.3 Additional general refuse bins:
 - (i) Households with 5+ permanent residents or with 1+ permanent residents with special circumstances which cause them to produce excess waste, will be entitled to apply for an additional general refuse bin where there is a genuine capacity need.
 - (ii) These households must make use of the kerbside recycling service and the garden/food waste service where these are available before an application will be accepted.
 - (iii) A maximum of one additional bin will be available to eligible households
 - (iv) There will be a charge of £35 (inc. VAT) for provision/delivery.
 - (v) Additional bins will only be delivered once payment has been received
 - (vi) Residents with a medical condition or disability that causes them to produce excess waste, will not be charged.
 - (vii) A 50% discount will be available for those in receipt of Council Tax benefit and/or Housing Benefit.
 - (viii) All applicants will be offered a visit from the Waste Aware Team
 - (ix) Additional bins will be easily identifiable
 - (x) Additional bins should also be used as per Aberdeen City Council Household Waste and Recycling Containers Policy.
 - (xi) The Council reserves the right to remove the service if there is no genuine capacity requirement, households no longer meet the eligibility criteria, if the fees are not paid or if provision is abused. Full terms and conditions will be issued with application forms.

2. Ownership and Storage of Containers

- 2.1 The containers remain the property of Aberdeen City Council unless purchased under the previous additional bin policy
- 2.2 Containers must be stored where possible within the boundary of the property i.e. bin store etc.
- 2.3 Containers must be removed from pavement/collection point by the householder and returned to within the boundary of the property as soon as reasonably practical after emptying.
- 2.4 The cleanliness of containers remains the responsibility of the resident and they should be maintained in a clean and hygienic condition at all times. Unclean or unhygienic bins may not be emptied.

3. Presentation and Collection of Containers

- 3.1 The householder is required to present the appropriate container on the kerbside by 7:00am on the morning of collection.
- 3.2 Only containers supplied to householders by Aberdeen City Council will be emptied/uplifted.
- 3.3 Containers should be replaced after emptying by collectors to the original collection point or within one refuse collection vehicle length from the collection point but not to cause obstruction to driveways, unless left in this manner by the householder
- 3.4 All waste and recycling should be presented for collection in an authorised container. Waste or recycling which is not presented in this manner will be considered fly-tipping and the householder may be subject to enforcement action.
- 3.5 Bins with items wedged inside, which are too heavy to reasonably move, or which are presented with raised lids due to excess waste will be left as they present health and safety implications to operatives. The resident should correctly re-present their bin on the following uplift day or can dispose of the waste at a Recycling Centre.
- 3.6 Only those materials acceptable for recycling or composting will be uplifted from black boxes, white bags and brown bins. Further information on the materials that can and cannot be collected as part of the kerbside recycling and garden/food waste services can be obtained via the Council website, from the Waste Aware Line (08456 080 919) or the Waste Aware Guide. Contamination in black boxes and white bags will not be uplifted. Contamination in brown bins will result in the bin not being uplifted. Residents

should then remove the problematic material(s) and place their bin out for collection on the next uplift day.

3.7 Household Waste and Recycling Containers should not be used to dispose of business waste even if this waste is generated from a business operating from the household.

3.8 Exceptions

3.8.1 Provision of Assisted Uplifts:

- (i) Assisted uplifts will be offered where the occupant(s) of a household is/are sufficiently infirm or disabled and as a result they cannot put the bin out themselves nor retrieve it themselves and there is no-one else who can complete this task for them reliably.
- (ii) Containers will be uplifted from within the boundary of the property from a specified location and return it to the same place
- (iii) Council staff will not uplift from inside the property itself.

3.8.2 Where there is an established collection point other than the kerbside, residents may place containers at this location for collection and collection crews will return containers to the same site.

3.8.3 Where there is no pavement or other suitable place (roadside, communal area, bin store, verge) on which to present the containers, householders should present them at a location agreed with the Council. Collection crews will return containers to the same site.

3.8.4 Where the property opens directly onto the street, there is no front garden or area in which to store bins, and no direct access to the back or side of the house (or other communal area) such that the bin has to be brought through the house, residents may request permission from the Council to keep their bin on the pavement provided this does not cause a health and safety problem.

3.8.5 Where the collection vehicle cannot gain access to the street because of width, height, turning or other restrictions out with our control, containers may not be uplifted on the usual collection day.

3.8.6 Side waste which results from the Council's failure to collect (eg as a result of adverse weather, industrial action) will not be subject to enforcement action.

3.8.7 Missed collections:

Where containers have been placed for collection in line with the policy but are not uplifted, residents should contact the Waste Aware Line (08456 08 09 19). The collections team will arrange for the container(s) to be uplifted as soon as practically possible.

10. APPENDIX 2

Aberdeen City Council Additional Wheeled General Refuse Bin - Application Form		
DATA PROTECTION The information collected on this form is recorded manually and on computer, stored securely and processed for the purposes of assessing your application for an additional wheeled bin. Aberdeen City Council (ACC) will process your information fairly and lawfully and in accordance with the principles of the Data Protection Act 1998. The information you provide not be made available to anyone outside of ACC. If your application is successful ACC will keep the information on record in order to raise the invoices required for the use of an additional wheeled bin and for service monitoring purposes. For the purposes of processing your personal information, ACC is the Data Controller. The nominated representative of the Data Controller is the City Solicitor. You have a right to obtain details of the personal information which ACC holds about you. Such a request should be made in writing to: <i>to be confirmed</i> Kittybrewster Office, 38 Powis Terrace, Aberdeen, AB25 3RF		
Name:	Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Dr	
Address:		
Postcode:		
Telephone No:		
1.	Do you have 5 or more permanent residents in the household?	Yes/No
	If Yes, please provide the names and dates of birth of all permanent residents:	
2.	Do you have a particular Medical need that requires a second general waste bin?	Yes/No
	If Yes, please provide further information below:	
	All information provided will be held in the strictest of confidence.	
3.	Are you in receipt of Council Tax Benefit and/or Housing Benefit? :	Yes/No
	If Yes, please provide your Council Tax Benefit and/or Housing benefit reference	

	number(s) below:	
4.	Please state below the reasons why you require a second general waste bin.	
5.	Do you use the kerbside recycling service (black box and white bag) to recycle your: paper and cardboard, glass bottles and jars, food and drink cans, plastic bottles?	Yes/No
	If No, please explain why not:	
6.	Do you use the garden waste collection service	Yes/No
	If No, please explain why not:	
	If Yes, do you also use the service to dispose of your food waste?	Yes/No
	If No, please explain why not:	

I confirm that all information in this application is correct, and I understand that Aberdeen City Council may make further enquiries as needed.

Householder/Occupier (as above):

Signed.....

Print Name.....

Date.....

Please return completed application form and signed Terms and Conditions to:

**Waste Aware Team/
Environmental Services**
Aberdeen City Council
Kittybrewster Office
38 Powis Terrace
Aberdeen

AB25 3RF

Please do not send any payment with your application, if your application is successful you will be advised of the payment methods.

Please contact us on the telephone number below if you want this document in Braille, large print or on an audio CD, or if you want the document translated into another language.

إذا كنت تود الحصول على هذه الوثيقة بالخط العريض أو البريلا أو الأشرطة الصوتية المدمجة أو كنت تود ترجمتها الى لغة أخرى فالرجاء الاتصال بنا على الهاتف أدناه.

আপনি যদি এই দলিলটি ব্রেইলে, বড় ছাপার অক্ষরে বা শোনার জন্য সিডি, অথবা দলিলটি অন্য কোন ভাষায় অনুদিত চান তবে অনুগ্রহ করে নীচের টেলিফোন নম্বরে ফোন করে আমাদের সাথে যোগাযোগ করুন।

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Proszę się skontaktować z nami pod poniższym numerem telefonu jeśli ten dokument jest wymagany w alfabecie Brajla, w dużym druku, na płycie kompaktowej CD lub przetłumaczony na inny język.

Пожалуйста, свяжитесь с нами по номеру телефона, указанному ниже, если Вы хотите получить этот документ шрифтом Брайля, крупным шрифтом или на компактном аудио диске, а также если Вам нужен перевод этого документа на другой язык.



08456 08 09 19

Aberdeen City Council Provision of a Second Domestic General Waste 240 Litre Wheeled Bin Terms and Conditions

If your application is successful the Council will provide, on a lease basis, 1 x 240 litre wheeled general refuse bin. The bin will remain the property of Aberdeen City Council.

At the time of writing the delivery charge for an additional refuse bin is £35 inc. VAT.

If confirmation is received that you are in receipt of Council Tax Benefit and/or Housing benefit you will be eligible for a 50% discount on the delivery charge. Details should be provided on the application form.

If confirmation is received that a permanent resident of the household has a medical condition or disability that causes them to produce excess waste, there will be no delivery charge. Details should be provided on the application form.

The container will be emptied on the standard general waste collection day for your property, at the pre-agreed collection point and should be used as per Aberdeen City Council Household Waste and Recycling Containers Policy.

You are required to contact the Council to cancel the lease if you no longer meet the eligibility criteria (5+ permanent residents, special circumstances) or if you no longer require an additional bin.

If you move home within the Aberdeen City Council area you must advise the Council of your new address. If you move home to outside of the Aberdeen City Council area, you must advise the Council and arrange for the Council to collect your additional bin.

Upon cancellation of the Lease Agreement by either party no refund will be provided by Aberdeen City Council.

Aberdeen City Council reserves the right to carry out random checks to ensure that only non-recyclable/non-compostable material is presented for collection and to remove the additional bin from your property if there is no genuine capacity requirement, if your household no longer meets the eligibility criteria or if provision is abused.

Declaration:

I confirm there are 5 or more permanent residents living at the above address or that 1 or more permanent residents of this property have special circumstances which cause them to produce excess waste as detailed on the application form.

I confirm that I will contact the Council if circumstances within the household change and I am no longer eligible for an additional bin.

Agreed by Householder/Occupier (as above):

Signed.....

Print Name.....

Date.....

11. APPENDIX 3

The following is the previously agreed additional bin policy which has now been amended in the Household Waste and Recycling Containers Policy (Appendix 1).

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

Name of Committee	: Members Waste Working Group
Date of Meeting	: 3 rd September 2008
Title of Report	: Proposed Formalisation and Amendments to Additional Domestic Wheeled Bin Policy
Lead Officer	: Belinda Miller
Author of Report	: Clare Neely, Waste Minimisation Officer ☎ 814612 ✉ cneely@aberdeencity.gov.uk
Other Involvement	: Peter Lawrence, Graham Walker
Consultation undertaken with	: Angus Sefton, George Saunders, Neil Taylor City Voice Panellists

Summary of Report

The Waste Management Transformation Strategy, approved by Full Council in February 2008, included a recommendation to '*establish a clear policy on wheeled refuse bin replacement and provision of additional refuse bins based on an annual charge*'.

This briefing note outlines proposals to formalise Aberdeen City Council's policy on the provision of additional / larger bins. Although Aberdeen City Council can charge a one-off fee for the provision of an additional bin, any proposals to introduce an annual rental fee would require further clarification of any legal implications of introducing variable charging.

Recommendations

- It is recommended that the Group formalises the additional bin request policy

Links to the Community Plan/SOA and to Vibrant, Dynamic & Forward Looking

This report links to the Community Plan to 'Manage and treat waste in accordance with best practice standards'

There are no links to the Vibrant, Dynamic & Forward Looking policy.

Implementation

Implementation of the proposals would be carried out by the Waste Operations Team based under Neighbourhood (North) and the Authorised Officers in each Neighbourhood Service area.

Resource Implications

People	:	The proposals would affect existing staff in the Corporate Contact Centre and existing staff in Authorisation Officer roles. Additional enforcement staff may be required.
Finance	:	Charges will be made to householders for additional wheeled bins. Additional costs of cleansing / litter clearance Additional enforcement staff
Systems & Technology	:	Reporting of additional wheeled bins will be recorded on the appropriate system. Financial charging systems will be used to raise invoices to householders.
Property	:	None
Other Equipment	:	None
Other	:	

Other Implications

Health & Safety : People
Staff in the Corporate Contact Centre and Authorised Officers may be subject to abusive behaviour.

Property
None

Risk Management : If this proposal is not formalised, Aberdeen City Council will continue to allow householders to pay a one-off charge for a larger / additional bin when genuine capacity needs have not been established. This is especially relevant to the planned introduction of alternate weekly collections of refuse.

**Human Rights/
Equalities/Diversity
Equalities Impact
Assessment
Sustainability
Environmental** : Discounted bins will be available to households in receipt of Council Tax Benefit or Housing Benefit
: An Equalities and Human Rights Impact Assessment (EHRIA) will be carried out.
: None
: Residents who do not pay for an additional bin may present excess refuse for collection in refuse sacks. Aberdeen City Council has a duty to collect this waste. Problems with vermin / litter and the associated cleansing costs may arise.

Social : None
Economic : None

Construction : None

Signature :

Main Considerations

The Waste Management Transformation Strategy, approved by Full Council in February 2008, included a recommendation to *'establish a clear policy on wheeled refuse bin replacement and provision of additional refuse bins based on an annual charge'*.

This annual charge could be viewed as 'variable charging' whereby residents pay different amounts depending on the amount of waste they create.

The Household Waste Prevention Action Plan (Scotland) published in February 2007 states that *'Any moves to introduce direct variable charging for household waste will not take place without further full and detailed consultation. SEPA has commissioned a research study on Direct Variable Charging for Waste which will examine issues such as enforcement, impact, cost and technologies.'* However, West Lothian Council has had an annual additional bin rental programme since 2005 without any legal challenges.

This briefing note outlines proposals to formalise Aberdeen City Council's policy on the provision of additional / larger bins. Although Aberdeen City Council can charge a one-off fee for the provision of an additional bin, any proposals to introduce an annual rental fee would require further clarification of any legal implications of introducing variable charging.

1. INTRODUCTION

To fulfil its obligation to provide all householders with a suitable receptacle for the disposal of household waste, Aberdeen City Council provides a bin with a 240-litre capacity to all households (with the capacity to store a wheeled bin) as standard.

Some residents do not feel this capacity is sufficient, and the process of providing larger / additional wheeled bins needs to be formalised to ensure that householders cannot pay a one-off charge for a larger / additional bin when genuine capacity needs have not been established.

It is especially important to approve and formalise this policy before the introduction of alternate weekly collections (AWC) of residual waste, also approved as part of the Waste Transformation Strategy. As part of this service, residual waste from individual 240L wheeled bins will be collected fortnightly instead of weekly, encouraging residents to adopt waste minimisation and recycling activities. Allowing residents to procure an additional bin without verifying genuine capacity requirements is likely to negate the introduction of this service. Instead of having 240L of capacity emptied on a weekly basis, households will have 480L of capacity emptied on a fortnightly basis.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

1. Householders requesting additional capacity will be asked to complete an application form
2. On receipt of the completed application form, additional / larger bins will be authorised subject to set criteria
3. Residents will be charged for the delivery and provision of a larger / additional bin
4. Residents will pay an annual charge for the rental of their larger / additional bin.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1. Aberdeen City Council moved to a containerised collection of waste from a twice-weekly black refuse sack collection in the late 1990s. Households were provided with a 240 litre black wheeled bin (equivalent of four to five full black refuse sacks) for the weekly collection of household waste.

2.2. A 240L-sized wheeled bin was chosen as it is more than adequate to securely hold the waste generated by an average family over the collection period. 120L wheeled bins are available on request.

2.3. Materials that should not be put into a black domestic waste bin include:

- Hot ashes and heavy materials such as large amounts of soil, hardcore or rubble
- Car parts
- Business waste even if generated from a business operating from home
- Corrosive materials and liquids such as oil and paint

Aberdeen City Council also offers the majority of residents a kerbside collection of paper, cardboard, glass bottles and jars, food and drink cans and plastic bottles. Brown 240L wheeled bins are provided for the collection of garden waste allowing residents to recycle a large proportion of their general refuse.

2.4. Guidance that was given to householders when bins introduced was that all waste must be within wheeled bin with lid closed.

3. WASTE COLLECTION INFRASTRUCTURE

3.1. In accordance with the Environmental Protection Act, a Local Authority has a duty to collect household waste. To facilitate these collections, and with in reason, the Local Authority can either provide free of charge or sell to the householder a bin or can insist that the householder supplies the container at their own expense. Aberdeen City Council took the decision to provide a 240 litre wheeled bin free of charge with a 120 litre bin available on request.

- 3.2. Since 2004, Aberdeen City Council has been providing extensive kerbside recycling collection services. Residents are able to present paper, cardboard, glass bottles and jars, plastic bottles, food and drink cans and garden waste separately for collection. Food waste can be composted in a home compost unit or from March 2009, will be collected as part of the garden waste collection service. Around 60% of an average bin can now be easily recycled at the kerbside. Utilising the network of Recycling Centres and Points to recycle textiles, electrical items, scrap metal, chemicals, paints and batteries increases this figure even further.
- 3.3. These easy waste minimisation and recycling activities can impact the amount of waste that large families present for collection. In the Dyce area, where AWC together with weekly kerbside collections of recycling have been operating since September 2006, results from the customer satisfaction survey show that 25% of households of 6 or more residents manage with one wheeled bin over the fortnightly residual collection period. 62% of households of five residents manage with one wheeled bin over the fortnightly collection period. The same survey shows that just 15% of households with a child in disposable nappies require an additional wheeled bin and of these, 69% had two children in nappies.
- 3.4. However, it is recognised that even with intensive waste minimisation and recycling activities, there are some instances when one 240L bin is still not large enough for the waste generated in a household.

4. EXISTING ADDITIONAL WHEELED BIN POLICY

- 4.1. There is currently no formal policy, agreed by the Council, in place to deal with requests for additional waste capacity. At the present time, requests from householders for additional wheeled bins to deal with their excess waste are dealt with according to the number of residents in the property.
- If customers indicate that there are five or more residents within the household, an additional wheeled bin is automatically delivered to them. No checks are made to verify claims, determine if there is a genuine capacity need or check if business waste is being presented for collection.
 - If customers indicate that there are less than five residents in the household, an additional wheeled bin can be delivered for a one-off charge of £26.52 plus vat. Again, no checks are made to determine if there is a genuine capacity need or if business waste is being presented for collection.

5. PROPOSED CHANGES TO ADDITIONAL WHEELED BIN POLICY

- 5.1. The current policy, whilst not automatically entitling residents to receive additional waste capacity, does allow them to make a request for an extra bin. The criteria above has been used by staff to assess any requests for an additional wheeled bin that have been submitted
- 5.2. This report seeks to formalise these criteria as the accepted means of assessment so that all requests are dealt with on a fair and consistent basis. This will ensure householders cannot pay a one-off charge for an additional / larger bin when genuine capacity need has not been established.
- 5.3. It is proposed that when requests for an additional bin are received, residents are asked to complete an application form. This will ensure that we have a signed written record of the number of residents within the household and a record of any genuine need (for example medical need) for additional waste capacity. All data collected will comply with the Data Protection Act.
- 5.4. The application will also require residents to complete a week-long 'waste diary' to identify the materials they are throwing away on a daily basis. This aims to encourage residents to think about their waste and to consider if steps could be taken to reduce it, reuse it or recycle it and to consider if they really do require an additional bin. See Appendix 1.
- 5.5. Members of the Community Waste Team will be available to visit residents to provide advice and guidance on reducing and recycling their waste.
- 5.6. On receipt of the completed application form, additional bins will be authorised if:
 - There are 5 or more permanent residents in the household.
 - A resident within the household has any special circumstances creating an unusual amount of waste on a regular basis
 - A household can prove that after using all possible measures (recycling and composting as much as possible, as determined by an Officer carrying out a waste audit), they still have more residual waste than can be contained in a standard 240L wheeled bin.
- 5.7. A permanent resident comprises a family member that resides in the household on a full-time basis. It does not include students living away from home for example.
- 5.8. Each application will be dealt with on an individual basis. This policy is not intended to discriminate against residents who have a genuine capacity need and struggle to securely present their waste for collection in one wheeled bin but to tighten the existing policy to prevent misuse, and to encourage waste minimisation and recycling activities.

6. CHANGES TO CHARGING POLICY

- 6.1. Aberdeen City Council is facing increasing costs for the collection and disposal of household waste. In 2007/08, these costs were £7,489,940 for waste collection and £7,274,213 for waste disposal.
- 6.2. Under the Environmental Protection Act, Local Authorities cannot make a charge for disposal of household waste, but a charge can be made for collection of additional household waste.
- 6.3. At the present time, households of 5 or more residents are provided with an additional wheeled bin free of charge. A one-off delivery charge of £26.52 plus vat is made for households of less than 5 residents.
- 6.4. It is proposed to increase this delivery charge to £35. This represents the cost to the Council of providing a new bin plus the costs of delivery.
- 6.5. It is proposed to charge residents an annual fee for the collection of waste in their additional wheeled bin. This ensures that householders creating and presenting additional waste are not being subsidised by householders adopting waste minimisation activities.
- 6.6. Many other Local Authorities in the UK make an annual charge for the collection of additional waste. Examples are shown in Appendix 2.
- 6.7. This annual charge could be viewed as 'variable charging' whereby residents pay different amounts depending on the amount of waste they create.

The Household Waste Prevention Action Plan (Scotland) published in February 2007 states that *'Any moves to introduce direct variable charging for household waste will not take place without further full and detailed consultation. SEPA has commissioned a research study on Direct Variable Charging for Waste which will examine issues such as enforcement, impact, cost and technologies.'* However, West Lothian Council has had an annual additional bin rental programme since 2005 without any legal challenges.
- 6.8. Currently (2007/08) the average cost of refuse collection from each property is £1.28 per week or £66.63 each year. It is proposed to set the annual rental cost for an additional / larger wheeled bin at £60 per annum.
- 6.9. In order not to exclude low-income families from this service, the annual payment of could be collected 6-twice a year (£30). As the cost to Aberdeen City Council of raising an invoice is £10, a charge below this level cannot be considered.
- 6.10. No annual charge will be made for residents requiring an additional bin due to special circumstances / medical conditions although the charge for supply and delivery of their additional / larger bin will still be payable.

6.11. Excess waste can be disposed of free-of-charge at any of the four Household Waste Recycling Centres within the City.

6.12. City Voice panel members are currently being consulted over these proposals.

7. IMPLEMENTATION

A draft sample formal written policy is offered in Appendix 3.

7.1 Three options for additional waste capacity are available:

OPTION A: provide an additional 240-litre capacity bin

OPTON B: provide an alternative larger capacity bin

OPTION C: provide no additional capacity

	OPTION A	OPTION B	OPTION C
<i>Council storage</i>	No additional storage required	Storage space required for stock of larger bins	No additional storage required
Delivery	No change to existing actions	Crews to be given clear instructions as to the size of bin to be delivered	None required
Householder storage	Household required to store two bins	Household required to store one bin	Household required to store one bin but may also have to store excess refuse
Collection	Crews required to empty two bins	Crews required to empty one bin	Crews required to empty one bin but could excess sacks may also be present
Monitoring	Householders may be tempted to 'acquire' an additional bin, especially to deal with AWC. Cases of bin theft will be difficult to monitor	Most householders present one bin for collection so cases where two bins are presented can be investigated to determine the origin of the additional bin	Most householders present one bin for collection so cases where two bins are presented can be investigated to determine the origin of the additional bin
<i>Size</i>	Householders are given extra 240L capacity	Householders are given additional capacity. Additional capacity is provided but is limited to encourage waste minimisation and	Householders are not offered any additional waste capacity,

Appendix 1

Application for additional Household Wheeled bin



Your Details

Title First Name(s).....
 Surname

 Address
 Postcode.....
 Daytime Telephone Evening Telephone.....
 Mobile Email.....

Factors that will be taken into account when assessing your application

Number of Residents in your property:
 Name and age of permanent residents: (i.e. full time members of the household - this does not included students living away from home.)

 Other factors that may affect amount of waste produced:.....

DRAFT

Please answer the following questions

Do you use a Kerbside Black Box to recycle Glass bottles & Jars, Food & Drink Cans, Plastic Bottles? Yes No

Do you use a Kerbside White Bag to recycle all your paper and cardboard Yes No

Do you use a Garden Waste Brown Bin? Yes No

Do you use your local Recycling Centre or Point to recycle any large packaging and or excess recycling Yes No

Please state any other ways you recycle or reduce your waste if applicable.....

Please state how many side bags of waste a week you are producing.....

Please confirm how you are currently disposing of this additional waste.....

Do you have access to transport? Yes No

Please state clearly the reasons you are applying for an additional wheeled bin.....

DECLARATION

I confirm that we fully use the kerbside recycling collection services, including food waste, and, where possible, we use other facilities to recycle additional materials. We have also tried to reduce the waste we produce. Despite this, a 240-litre wheeled bin is not sufficient each collection to contain the remaining refuse for the permanent residents of this household.

I confirm that all information in this application is correct, and understand that you may make further enquiries as needed.

Signed:

Dated:

Please return to:
 Community Waste Team
 Aberdeen City Council
 38 Powis Terrace
 Kittybrewster
 AB25 3RF

DRAFT

OFFICE USE ONLY		
Date Received:		
Refuse Day:		
Recycling Week	1	2
Approved	Yes	No
Visit Date		
Time		

PAYMENT

- The charge for an additional 240L wheeled bin is £XX plus an annual charge of £xx
- Payment should be made to: xxx
- Both charges include VAT and delivery charges.
- Delivery will not be made until payment has been received.
- Please allow 7 days for delivery.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR RENTAL OF ADDITIONAL WHEELED BIN

1. The fee for the use of an additional wheeled bin is a rental fee. This entitles you to use the additional bin for as long as you meet the criteria set out in the policy.

2. If the above circumstances change at anytime (i.e. if you move home, if the number of permanent occupants fall below 5, or if you no longer use disposable nappies, etc), you will inform Aberdeen City Council
3. The additional bin is only to be used for non-recyclable household rubbish only
4. Checks will be made to ensure that only non-recyclable waste is presented for collection in the larger / additional wheeled bin. It may be removed if its provision is abused.

Waste Diary



ABERDEEN
CITY COUNCIL

- Mark down every item of rubbish that you put in your black-wheeled bin for 1 week.
- You will be able to see which items you throw away the most. Target these first to reduce your rubbish.
- Look at the amount of rubbish that you put in your black-wheeled bin and try to reduce this amount.

Week Commencing: _____

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Paper/ cardboard							
Glass Bottles & Jars							
Other Glass e.g.: light bulbs, Pyrex							
Food & Drink Cans							
Metals (inc foil)							
Plastic Bottles							
Plastic Packaging							
Food Waste							
Garden waste							
Nappies/ incontinence waste							
Textiles and Clothes / Toys / Shoes / Books (These could be donated to charity)							
Other: e.g. electrical							

DRAFT

Appendix 2.

Many other Local Authorities in the UK make an annual charge for the collection of additional wheeled bins. A range of the other charges is detailed in the Table below:

Council	Hire charge for additional 240L bin
Epsom & Ewell Borough Council	£104 per annum
Harborough District Council	One off charge £39.01 plus annual fee of £38.74
Bolton Metropolitan Borough Council	£120 per annum
Hinckley & Bosworth Council	£50 per annum
Kettering Borough	£196.04 per annum
South Northamptonshire Council	£55 per annum + VAT
Caerphilly County Borough Council	£70 plus VAT per annum
West Lothian Council	£52 (inc VAT) per annum

Blaby District Council, for example, offers residents a 140-litre capacity bin for general refuse collected weekly, plus a 140L bin for paper recycling and boxes for glass, cans and plastic bottles collected fortnightly. If householders require additional capacity for their general refuse, an additional charge is incurred. Rates for larger wheeled bins are designed to deter householders from using them and are not based on actual operational costs. As a result, only 8.3% of residents of Blaby District requested a larger bin.

Appendix 3.

DOMESTIC WHEELED BIN SIZING POLICY

Black wheeled bin waste is waste from domestic households that cannot be recycled, composted, reused or disposed of by other means.

All households are delivered one 240-litre black wheeled bin as standard. In the event that the household feels that the 240-litre bin is too large or too small, they may request an alternative size. Alternatives will only be made available following an assessment of individual need.

THE ISSUING OF LARGER/SMALLER BINS

- Alternative sized bins of 120-litre capacity are available, free of charge, on request.
- Residents can exchange a 120-litre bin for a standard 240-litre bin, free of charge, on request.

- Any household experiencing ongoing difficulty in reducing their waste to fit into a single bin may request an additional / larger wheeled bin.
- All requests for additional / larger bins will be individually assessed and provision of these will be based on identified need. The following policies apply:

ADDITIONAL / LARGER BIN POLICY

- On receipt of request for an additional / larger wheeled bin, the household will be asked to complete an application form and a week long waste diary.
- On receipt of the completed application form, additional / larger wheeled bins will be authorised, subject to applicable terms and conditions, if:
 - There are 5 or more permanent residents in the household.
 - A resident within the household has any special circumstances creating an unusual amount of waste which is produced on a regular basis
 - Any resident can prove that after using all possible measures (waste minimisation activities, recycling and composting as much as possible, determined by an officer carrying out a waste audit), they still have more residual waste than can be contained in a standard 240-ltr wheeled bin.

Authorisation for a larger bin will be refused when:

- The application form is returned and the household does not fall under the first two categories mentioned above
- Residents do not utilise the recycling / composting services offered
- Following a visit and a waste audit, it is evident that the household are not reducing waste / recycling as much as possible
- On visiting a household they have no excess waste

A permanent resident comprises a family member that resides in the household on a full-time basis.

OFFICER VISIT & WASTE AUDIT

- This is to be offered to any resident requesting an additional / larger bin who does not fall into one of the immediate authorisation categories.
- If the resident requests such a visit, it will be scheduled to take place on, or the day before, their next black bin collection.
- Waste will be sifted to identify dry recyclables, garden waste and non-recyclable residual waste.
- If there appears to be large amounts of dry recyclables or garden waste within the bin, then the resident will be offered additional recycling containers or garden waste bin accordingly.
- If there is more residual waste than will fit into the 240L wheeled bin after such an exercise, then an additional / larger refuse bin will be authorised, subject to the terms and conditions.

LARGER BIN RENTAL CHARGES

- Delivery of a larger bin is subject to a one-off charge of £35. This represents the cost to the Council of providing a new bin plus the costs of delivery.
- An annual rental charge will be made for households with an additional / larger bin.

These charges will be reviewed on an annual basis. Administration of the scheme would need to be done on an annual basis and is likely to require an additional administrative resource.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL / LARGER WHEELED BIN

1. The bin remains the property of Aberdeen City Council
2. The fee for the use of an additional / larger wheeled bin is a rental fee. This entitles you to use the additional / larger bin for as long as you meet the criteria set out in the policy.
3. If your circumstances change at any time (eg: the number of permanent members of your household change) you will inform Aberdeen City Council to assess your new waste capacity needs.
4. If you move home within the Aberdeen City Council area you must advise the Council of your new address.
5. If you move home to outside the Aberdeen City Council area, you must advise the Council and arrange for the Council to replace your larger bin with one of a standard size. There will be no charge for this.
6. The larger bin is provided on the condition that it is used for non-recyclable / non- compostable household waste only.
7. Aberdeen City Council reserves the right to carry out random checks to ensure that only non-recyclable / compostable household waste is presented for collection. The additional capacity may be withdrawn if its provision is abused.

12. APPENDIX 4.

The following is the previously agreed replacement bin policy which has now been amended in the Household Waste and Recycling Containers Policy (Appendix 1).

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

Name of Committee	: Members Waste Working Group
Date of Meeting	: 3 rd September 2008
Title of Report	: Proposed Amendments to Domestic Wheeled Bin Replacement Policy
Lead Officer	: Belinda Miller
Author of Report	: Clare Neely, Waste Minimisation Officer  814612  cneely@aberdeencity.gov.uk
Other Involvement	: Peter Lawrence, Graham Walker
Consultation undertaken with	: Angus Sefton, George Saunders, Neil Taylor

Summary of Report

The Waste Management Transformation Strategy, approved by Full Council in February 2008 included a recommendation to '*establish a clear policy on wheeled refuse bin replacement and provision of additional refuse bins based on an annual charge*'.

This briefing note intends to formalise Aberdeen City Council's wheeled bin replacement policy.

Residents will be charged £30 for a replacement wheeled bin instead of their lost/missing bin being replaced for free. This intends to encourage all residents to store their wheeled bin securely within the boundary of their own property between collections.

Recommendations

- It is recommended that the Group formalises the wheeled bin replacement policy

Links to the Community Plan/SOA and to Vibrant, Dynamic & Forward Looking

This report links to the Community Plan to 'Manage and treat waste in accordance with best practice standards'

There are no links to the Vibrant, Dynamic & Forward Looking policy.

Implementation

Implementation of the proposals would be carried out by the Waste Operations Team based under Neighbourhood (North) and the Authorised Officers in each Neighbourhood Service area.

Resource Implications

People	: The proposals would affect existing staff in the Corporate Contact Centre and existing staff in Authorisation Officer roles. Additional enforcement staff may be required.
Finance	: Potential additional charges to householders for replacement wheeled bins. Additional costs of cleansing / litter clearance Additional enforcement staff
Systems & Technology	: Reporting of lost / missing wheeled bins will be recorded on the appropriate system. Financial charging systems will be used to raise invoices to householders.
Property	: None
Other Equipment	: None
Other	:

Other Implications

Health & Safety : People
Staff in the Corporate Contact Centre and Authorised Officers are likely to be subject to aggressive behaviour.

Property
None

Risk Management : If this proposal is not formalised, Aberdeen City Council will continue to replace wheeled bins free of charge where residents have not taken adequate action to ensure the safe keeping of their bin,

**Human Rights/
Equalities/Diversity
Equalities Impact
Assessment
Sustainability
Environmental** : Discounted bins will be available to households in receipt of Council Tax Benefit or Housing Benefit
: An Equalities and Human Rights Impact Assessment (EHRIA) will be carried out.
: None
: Residents who do not pay for a replacement bin may still present refuse for collection in refuse sacks. Aberdeen City Council has a duty to collect this waste. Problems with vermin / litter and the associated cleansing costs may arise.

Social : None
Economic : None

Construction : None

Signature :

Main Considerations

INTRODUCTION

The Waste Management Transformation Strategy, approved by Full Council in February 2008 included a recommendation to '*establish a clear policy on wheeled refuse bin replacement and provision of additional refuse bins based on an annual charge*'. This briefing note intends to formalise Aberdeen City Council's wheeled bin replacement policy.

Residents will be charged £30 for a replacement wheeled bin instead of their lost/missing bin being replaced for free. This intends to encourage all residents to take responsibility for the safe-keeping of their bins and to store their wheeled bin securely within the boundary of their own property between collections.

1. Background

- 1.1. Aberdeen City Council provides 240L wheeled bins to residents (with the capacity to store a wheeled bin) as standard. Although at all times, wheeled bins remain the property of Aberdeen City Council, householders are expected to take appropriate steps to ensure the safe keeping of their bin as bins are effectively '*leased*' to residents for their refuse collection.
- 1.2. Preventative steps include marking the bin with a property number/ name for easy identification, storing the bin securely within the boundary of a property between collections and not filling the bin with heavy materials that could damage the bin as it is lifted on the vehicle for emptying.
- 1.3. A lack of household responsibility in looking after wheeled bins, especially between collections, can result in bins ending up lost, abandoned or fired.
- 1.4. Wheeled bins generally need replacing because they are:
 - Blown away or lost as a consequence of being left unattended between collections
 - Removed by the previous home owners when residents move home
 - Stolen
 - Lost as a consequence of being left unattended during the day when presented for emptying
 - Damaged by the refuse collection service
 - Damaged by the occupier

2. Current policy

At the present time, when a request is made for a replacement wheeled bin, this request is recorded and a job ticket is raised for delivery of a replacement bin. Limited checks are made to determine how, when and potentially why the bin was lost. Replacement bins are provided free of charge.

3. Proposed amendments to policy

- 3.1. While most householders look after their bin, some abandon it out in the street for days following collection, leaving it open to being stolen, set on fire or damaged in other ways.
- 3.2. It is proposed to change the existing wheeled bin replacement policy to encourage residents to take the appropriate steps to look after their bin. This will include a charge of £30 for a replacement bin. This represents the cost to the Council of providing a new bin plus a small delivery charge.
- 3.3. If second-hand bins are available, these will be charged at £20.
- 3.4. This charge is likely to be less than the costs a householder would incur in buying a replacement bin privately. Bins provided by a third party also offer no guarantee that they are compatible with our vehicle's lifting equipment and therefore no guarantee that they can be emptied.
- 3.5. Residents in receipt of Council Tax Benefit or Housing Benefit will receive a discount of 50% on submission of proof on entitlement.
- 3.6. Charges will NOT be applied when:
- Bins are lost on collection day
 - Bins are stolen from within the boundary of a property and a Police Incident Number is obtained and provided
 - Bins are 'eaten' by the collection vehicle.
- Charges will also not apply where:
- A resident has moved to a new home within the last four weeks and there is no bin at the property
 - Damage is caused to the bin by the collection vehicle
 - Brown wheeled bins for the collection of garden waste are lost or damaged
- 3.7. Replacement bins will only be delivered on receipt of payment. In line with other home delivery services, a signature will be required in order to provide proof of delivery.
- 3.8. Aberdeen City Council will remove damaged or broken wheeled bins when the replacement bin is delivered, if appropriate.
- 3.9. If householders refuse to pay the charge for a replacement bin, they are entitled to take their general waste, free-of-charge, to one of the four Household Waste Recycling Centres within Aberdeen.
- 3.10. Householder's house insurance may cover the cost of replacing fire damaged or stolen bins. In such cases, replacement bins should be purchased and then a claim made under the insurance policy.
- 3.11. The bin replacement charge will be reviewed on an annual basis.

3.12. The proposed policy will affect domestic (household) wheeled bins only.

Separate charges apply to trade / commercial waste collection containers.

4. Examples from other areas.

Many other Local Authorities already make a charge for replacement wheeled bins. Most notably, Aberdeenshire Council makes a charge of £46.30 for any new or replacement bin required for any reason. Discounts are only available in cases of financial hardship. Details are shown in Appendix 1.

5. Monitoring / Enforcement

Members should be aware that there will be instances when a resident may not wish to pay for a replacement bin and may not have appropriate transport to take their waste to a Household Waste Recycling Centre. Aggressive behaviour may be directed towards Corporate Contact Centre staff or Authorised Officers.

In addition, Aberdeen City Council would still be required to pick up refuse sacks placed out by a householder under our duty as a Principal Litter Authority. Wheeled bins / communal bins were introduced to contain waste, and waste placed out for collection in refuse sacks are likely to attract vermin and lead to a spread of litter. Additional resources would be required to deal with any enforcement activity as well as clearing any mess caused by non-containerisation of waste.

Appendix 1.
Replacement Bin Costs

Council	Cost of replacement bin	Additional info
Aberdeenshire Council	New or replacement wheeled bins are charged at £46.30	Discounted bins are available in cases of financial hardship.
Bournemouth Borough Council	If wheeled bins are damaged or stolen the resident has to pay £40 for a replacement	If wheeled bins are damaged by Council collection crews they are replaced free of charge
Burnley	Replacement bins are £20	
Cambridge City Council	Lost or stolen refuse wheeled bins are charged at £50	
East Riding of Yorkshire	Replacement of a lost or stolen bin: £30	If the bin goes missing on the day of collection it is replaced free of charge
Kingston upon Hull City Council	£21 per bin (includes delivery cost) for the replacement of a lost or stolen bin	Council Operatives record when a bin goes into the vehicle or when damage is caused. In these cases the bin is replaced free of charge
South Northamptonshire Council	Replacement of damaged bins: £40	If a bin is stolen on collection day the bin is replaced free of charge. Existing bins that are split and beyond repair through old age are replaced free of charge.
Stockton-on-Tees	Replacement of lost or stolen bins: £25	
Waveney	Replacement of lost or stolen bins: £25	
Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council	Replacement of lost or stolen bins: £43.50	
West Lindsey	Replacement of lost or stolen bins: £25	