

## RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO PARISH COUNCILS' LIAISON COMMITTEE

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Agenda Item No. 6

meeting date: 30 JANUARY 2014  
title: UPDATE ON THE REFUSE AND RECYCLING COLLECTION SERVICE  
submitted by: DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES  
principal author: PETER McGEORGE

### 1 PURPOSE

1.1 To update Members on changes and developments to the refuse and recycling collection service.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Community Objectives – To increase the recycling of waste material.
- Corporate Priorities – To be a well managed Council providing efficient services based on identified customer needs.
- Other Considerations – To protect and enhance the environmental quality of our area.

### 2 BACKGROUND

2.1 The Green Wheeled bin initiative to exchange the standard 140 litre green wheeled bin for a larger 240 litre bin and to provide a 140 litre green wheeled bin to non gardened properties across the borough was completed on Friday 6 December 2013.

2.2 The Scheme was funded through the Department of Communities and Local Government to encourage local authorities to return / retain the weekly collection of general waste and by enhancing the current recycling and refuse collection service. In providing a commitment to retain the weekly collection Ribble Valley Borough Council also had to enhance the service by providing extra capacity to enable the recover selected food wastes for composting alongside the collected garden waste.

2.3 Householders were offered the choice to `opt out` of the scheme and the current take up rate for the larger green wheeled bin is above 60%, which is lower than anticipated, although changes in circumstances and public opinion has seen a continued demand for the larger bin.

2.4 The collection of paper and cardboard is a well established service and valued by many households within the Borough.

2.5 Due to financial issues, the fortnightly kerbside collection service for paper and cardboard was taken back in house with the service provided by the Council since July 2013.

2.6 The service is currently provided on a separate collection day than the refuse and recycling collection service.

### 3 ISSUES

- 3.1 Larger, green wheeled bins are still available to householders in replacement of the smaller 140 litre bins and Members of this Committee are requested to raise awareness within their respective areas and include this offer within any parish correspondence they produce.
- 3.2 The cost to the Council for the provision of the paper and cardboard collection service is now only partly covered by the financial returns generated by the quantity of material recovered. It is therefore important that the householders of Ribble Valley support this service and help reduce this cost by participating in the scheme leading to an increase in the weight of paper and cardboard collected.
- 3.3 It has been proposed to align the collection schedule for paper and card with the refuse and recycling schedule offering householders a simpler service to remember.
- 3.4 Members are asked to raise awareness of the proposed changes to the collection service and encourage their residents to participate in the provision of separated paper and cardboard by contacting the Council for a white paper collection sack.

### 4 RISK ASSESSMENT

- 4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications:
- Resources – None as both services are covered through existing resources.
  - Technical, Environmental and Legal – Any additional material generated as result of increased participation in either the green wheeled bin scheme of paper and cardboard collection service will both improve our recycling performance and help offset service costs.
  - Political – No implications identified
  - Reputation – Providing additional recycling opportunities and aligning collection schedules is expected to improve public support of the refuse and recycling services.
  - Equality & Diversity –No implications identified.

### 5 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 Members are requested to note the report and circulate the details to their residents.

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DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

### BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

For further information please ask for Peter McGeorge, extension 4467.