

Report on	Review of Waste Collection Service Policy
Date of Meeting	02 December 2019
Reporting Officer	Mark McAdoo, Head of Environmental Services
Contact Officers	Mark McAdoo, Head of Environmental Services

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update members on a review of the Waste Collection policy and to seek approval to carry out a consultation exercise on a revised policy.
2.0	Background
2.1	The existing Refuse and Recycling Collection policy was approved in November 2014.
2.2	Several changes have been made to service delivery since that time for various reasons such as the outcome of the Pay, Grading and Harmonisation exercise completed in 2017.
2.3	It is therefore now proposed to consolidate these changes, along with some further amendments, in an updated/revised policy to be renamed the Waste Collection Policy.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	A copy of the revised Waste Collection Policy Service Policy is included as an appendix.
3.2	<p>The revised/updated policy includes a number of previously agreed service changes including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a common start time of 7:30 am for refuse collection across the district • the introduction of a charge for the provision of bulky household collections • the application of full commercial rates for waste collection/disposal from schools • introduction of a pre-payment system for the disposal of commercial waste and; • revised opening hours for Recycling Centres

3.3	<p>The revised policy also includes new sections/provisions including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • introduction of an annual service charge for the emptying of a second brown bin (which it is only anticipated will be requested by a small number of households) • arrangements for the collection of fly-tipped waste • the provision of litter bins • the provision of hook lift and skip containers
3.4	A key aspect of the Waste Collection Policy are the arrangements for the collection of wheeled bins from private or unadopted roads and laneways (as detailed in point 7.5.6)
3.5	This does not represent a change to the existing policy however this aspect of service delivery has not been applied consistently across the Mid Ulster District due to legacy arrangements (some of which may have been put in place at the request of members).
3.6	An analysis of where refuse is collected from private or unadopted roads and laneways has been carried out and it has been found that this is happening at a significant number in the Magherafelt area, a few in the Cookstown area and none in the Dungannon area. To replicate the current position in Magherafelt in Dungannon would not be at all feasible due to the high level of additional resources (vehicles and staff) that would be required.
3.7	The consistent application of the policy to all affected private or unadopted roads and laneways throughout the district will therefore mean some householders having to start to bring their wheeled bins to the end of their road or laneway for collection. Assisted lift provisions (as per the policy) will, of course, continue to apply for eligible householders.
3.8	The consistent application of this policy will also improve health and safety as this will stop a considerable amount of reversing by refuse collection vehicles at or up laneways.
3.9	Should it be determined following assessment that the accumulation and collection of a large number of wheeled bins at the end of a particular road or laneway would actually pose a greater health and safety risk e.g. by blocking a junction then this will be reviewed
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: Minimal impact
	Human: No staffing implications
	Risk Management: As noted in 3.8 the application of the revised policy will improve health and safety

4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: The policy has been subjected to equality screening (copy attached)
	Rural Needs Implications: The policy has been subjected to a rural needs impact assessment (copy attached)
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members are asked to note the contents of the Waste Collection Policy and to approve an eight week consultation period on the revised policy commencing in January 2020.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Waste Collection Service Policy
6.2	Equality Screening Report
6.3	Rural Needs Impact Assessment