

Report on	Update on refuse collection route optimisation project
Date of Meeting	13 th September 2022
Reporting Officer	Mark McAdoo, Assistant Director, Environmental Services
Contact Officer	David Richardson, Assistant Cleansing Operations Manager

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update members on route optimisation and changes to the refuse collection service.
2.0	Background
2.1	As members will be aware Environmental Services is involved in an ongoing programme of route optimisation and changes to refuse collection service delivery across the district.
2.2	This transformative programme primarily involves the roll-out from the north to south of the district of one-armed collection vehicles (OAVs) to empty bins on most rural roads. Following the introduction of the first OAVs and a new 32 tonne refuse collection vehicle in the Dungannon area three months ago (as reported to June Committee) the service is now in a position to move to the next phase involving the optimisation of urban collections in Dungannon and Coalisland towns using standard 26 tonne refuse collection vehicles.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The collection of bins in the towns of Dungannon and Coalisland have typically been carried out on routes incorporating some urban and rural collections as the routes were originally designed when vehicles were tipping at Tullyvar landfill site. With the new waste transfer station now located/operational in Dungannon and many rural areas now having been incorporated into OAV routes there is now an opportunity to optimise the collections in urban settlements located closer to the transfer station using standard 26 tonne RCVs with a shorter travel time permitting two daily tips and thus more bins to be collected per vehicle per day.
3.2	In summary during the coming weeks we will be implementing changes to the collection of bins from around 10,000 households located primarily within the 30mph limits of Dungannon and Coalisland as well as Moygashel, The Bush, Ballnakelly and the housing developments located between Dungannon and

<p>3.3</p> <p>3.4</p> <p>3.5</p> <p>3.6</p>	<p>Coalisland along the A45 (a map showing those areas affected is included at Appendix 1).</p> <p>The changes are scheduled to take place during week commencing 3rd October 2022 and affected residents will be informed via a letter delivered directly to their homes detailing the changes to their collection arrangements (see sample letter included at Appendix 2).</p> <p>It is aimed to minimise disruption to collection sequences / days where possible however some residents will experience a change of collection day and many will have a change to the week on which their brown bin is collected (as all brown bins in the areas affected will now be emptied on blue bin week).</p> <p>All households affected by these changes will receive a collection calendar confirming their collection day and change to their brown bin collection week. Given the most significant changes i.e. change to collection day and week is to a relatively small number of residents, broad, untargeted communication e.g. via social media is likely to be counter-productive and direct communication as described above is the preferred option.</p> <p>These changes will also allow a second operative to be allocated to these routes due to the higher number of bins being collected which was a key aim of the overall project.</p>
<p>4.0</p>	<p>Other Considerations</p>
<p>4.1</p>	<p>Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications</p> <p>Financial: This latest phase of route optimization will not lead to a reduction in vehicles or a related saving in maintenance and fuel costs. However by adding more bins to each route, it is hoped this efficiency will enable the growing number of households in the district to be serviced without an increase in budget i.e. doing more with the same level of resources</p> <p>Human: It is important to highlight that there are no staff savings associated with the OAV roll out because the single loaders previously utilized on vehicles on rural routes are being redeployed to standard refuse collection vehicles on built up/urban routes where previously only one loader was deployed but where two are now required due to the continued increase in new houses/additional developments i.e. a rebalancing of resource.</p> <p>Risk Management: It is vital to reinforce the primary purpose of OAVs is the health and safety of operatives who will no longer be exposed to the hazard of collecting bins on very busy rural roads.</p>
<p>4.2</p>	<p>Screening & Impact Assessments</p> <p>Equality & Good Relations Implications: None</p>

	Rural Needs Implications: None
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members are asked to note the contents of this report.
6.0	Attachment(s)
6.1	Appendix 1 - Map showing the areas affected by the latest phase of route optimisation
6.2	Appendix 2 - Sample letter to be issued to affected households