

ANGUS COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENTAL AND CONSUMER PROTECTION COMMITTEE-25 SEPTEMBER 2001

DOMESTIC USE OF ADDITIONAL WHEELED BINS

REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL & CONSUMER PROTECTION

Abstract

There is evidence of the use of multiple wheeled bins by domestic customers adding to the cost of refuse collection and waste disposal and reducing the potential recycling levels.

1. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that: -

- (a) The policy of issuing an additional wheeled bin and emptying it weekly be only applied to a household who can demonstrate 6 or more persons permanently resident at the address.
- (b) Any other resident who wishes to utilise additional wheeled bins for garden or commercial waste be charged the appropriate commercial waste rate plus an administration fee of £20 per annum for each bin utilised.

2. BACKGROUND

The wheeled bin refuse collection system has been operating in Angus communities now for as much as 16 years. By various means of acquisition of the bins, a number of householders are utilising multiple bins for their waste that originates from commercial premises or for garden waste.

It is the Council policy to encourage recycling of garden waste at our 7 bring recycling centres and to make charges (as we are legally obliged to do) for commercial waste.

It is current policy to provide and service an additional bin where there are 6 or more people permanently resident at an address. This will remain unchanged.

3. DEVELOPING PROBLEM

The Director is aware of a number of cases where multiple wheeled bins are in use and the customers using those are claiming that they have used those for years or have paid for the extra bins in the past. An example of such a letter is enclosed as Appendix 1.

The issue is not the original cost of the bin. The issue is the cost of the disposal of the waste inside including haulage, gate fees and landfill tax. A subsidy is being given to these multiple bin users from the Waste Management budget and to cease the service without due consideration will lead to adverse comments and allegation of changing policy without consultation.

4. CHARGING POLICY

In the interest of ensuring equality of level of service to all domestic refuse collection customers it is proposed that an extra bin-emptying fee be levied. This would be equivalent to the commercial charge for the bin of equal size plus an administration fee of £20 per bin per year. The fees would apply for a complete year and seasonal arrangements would not apply. The total cost per uplift would be £1-77 plus VAT assuming 50 uplifts per year. Stickers would be provided to identify the "paid up" additional bins. If the purchaser of the extra bin service qualifies for an assisted wheel out service this would only apply to the first bin.

The no charge facilities at the Recycling Centres would be available on a "bring" basis as an alternative and there are a number of private sector licensed waste carriers operating in Angus should customers prefer to source an alternative supplier.

The charging option does accord with the National Waste Strategy policy of making the polluter pay. In line with the commercial charges it is proposed that the fees are payable from 1 December each year in advance.

It is proposed that all of our domestic waste customers are leafleted to make them aware of the additional bin charges

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There may be a small reduction in overall tonnages uplifted or a small income accrual should there be uptake for the service offered.

6. HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES

There are no Human Rights issues raised by this report.

7. CONSULTATION

The Chief Executive, The Director of Law and Administration, The Contract Services Manager and The Director of Finance and The Director of Housing have been consulted on the contents of this report.

S R Heggie
Director of Environmental and Consumer Protection

No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information were relied on to any material extent in preparing this report).