

Environmental Excellence Panel

Agenda

Date

Thursday 27 June 2019

Members of the Environmental Excellence Panel

Mrs J Leggett (Chairman) Mr K S Kelly (Vice Chairman)

Mr D J Britcher Mrs S M Prutton
Mr J F Fisher Mr S C Walker
Dr K E Lawrence Mr J M Ward
Mr G K Nurden

Conservative substitutes

Mr P E Bulman
Mr D King
Miss S Lawn
Mr K G Leggett MBE
Mr I J Mackie
Mr N C Shaw
Miss J L Thomas

Liberal Democrat substitutes

Mr D M Thomas
vacancy

Time

6.00 pm

Place

Council Chamber
Thorpe Lodge
1 Yarmouth Road
Thorpe St Andrew
Norwich

Contact

James Overy tel (01603) 430540

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If any member wishes to clarify details relating to any matter on the agenda they are requested to contact the relevant Head of Service.



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A G E N D A

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- 5 [Proposal to Charge for the Provision of Wheeled Bins for Household Waste Collection](#) 10 - 15
- 6 Date of Next Meeting
12 September 2019

Trevor Holden
Managing Director

Minutes of a meeting of the **Environmental Excellence Panel** held at Thorpe Lodge, 1 Yarmouth Road, Thorpe St Andrew, Norwich on **24 January 2019** at **4.00 pm** when there were present:

Mr J F Fisher – Chairman

Mrs J K Coplestone
Mr R F Grady
Mrs J Leggett

Mr I J Mackie
Mr G K Nurden
Mrs B H Rix

Mr J M Ward

Mrs M Dewsbury, Mr K Kiddie, Mr T Lewis, Mrs J Wilby and Mr M Wilby (South Norfolk Councillors) also attended the meeting for its duration.

Also in attendance were the Deputy Chief Executive, Director of Communities and Wellbeing (SNC), Head of Environmental Services (BDC), Environmental Protection Manager (Special Projects), Pollution Control Officer, Environmental Management Officer (SNC), Renewable and Energy Efficiency Officer, and the Committee Officer (JO).

The Chairman welcomed Members of South Norfolk Council's Growth, Infrastructure and Environment Policy Committee to the meeting.

28 APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Mr Tapp.

29 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 8 November 2019 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

30 OUR WASTE, OUR RESOURCES: A STRATEGY FOR ENGLAND – SUMMARY

Members were advised that the Resources and Waste Strategy, which was published in late 2018, contained some very significant proposals for preserving material resources by minimising waste, promoting resource efficiency and moving towards a circular economy.

Consultations on various elements of the Strategy would begin early in 2019 and it was envisaged that Broadland and South Norfolk would send similar responses. There would also likely be a coordinated response on behalf of the Norfolk Waste Partnership.

Chapter One of the Strategy covered Sustainable Production and set out proposals for a 'polluter pays' principle and producer responsibility for the disposal of packaging, textiles, tyres etc. This was likely to create a greater demand on local authorities to produce high quality recycled materials, but could also lead to up to £1.3b in savings to the public sector. Legislation for this was scheduled to come into force in 2023, subject to consultation.

There were also proposals for introducing a tax on plastic packaging with less than 30 percent recycled plastic, as well as encouraging more efficient product design, managing chemicals sustainably and working with businesses to realise resource efficiencies.

Chapter Two had proposals for incentivising consumers to purchase sustainably by providing better information on products, banning plastic products where alternatives existed, introducing a Deposit Return Scheme for single-use drinks containers, supporting remanufactured goods. The Government would also seek to lead by example through appropriate sustainable procurement.

Chapter three contained proposals for resource recovery and waste management. These included; improvements to recycling rates through more consistent collections of dry recycling, reducing greenhouse gas emissions by weekly separate food waste collections and improving working arrangements and performance between local authorities.

Chapter four had proposals for tackling waste crime by reforming existing regulations, strengthen intelligence sharing, the digital recording of waste movements, establishing a Joint Unit for Waste Crime and tougher penalties for waste criminals.

Members were advised that a Norfolk-wide campaign to combat fly tipping was being launched in Norwich on 31 January 2019.

Chapter five put an emphasis on reducing food waste by redistributing food to those in need before it went to waste, better storage advice for consumers, annual reporting of food surplus and waste by businesses, mandatory targets for food waste prevention, a new food surplus and waste hierarchy, appointing a Food Waste Champion and support cross sector collaboration through the Courtauld 2025 agreement.

Chapter six proposed promoting Britain as a global leader in minimising waste, promoting resource efficiency and moving towards a circular economy.

Chapter seven covered research and innovation in five key areas. These were extended producer responsibility, resource efficiency and the circular economy, minimising environmental impacts of waste, food waste and plastics.

Finally chapter eight looked at measuring progress by working with partners and stakeholders to develop new approaches to data on resources and waste and move to impact-based, rather than from weight-based, targets.

Members were advised that the Strategy contained proposals that would transform how waste would be managed in England. Many of the proposals in the Strategy would be subject to consultation.

The Portfolio Holder for Economic Development suggested that an anaerobic digester in Norfolk would be a good means of reducing the carbon emissions created by transporting food waste to Baldock. She also suggested that the recycling of plastics used in agriculture should be looked at.

In response, Members were advised that the facility that the Council currently used had a 45,000 capacity and cost £12m to build. Even if all the Councils in Norfolk collected food waste this would not be enough tonnage to justify a facility of this size. It was also confirmed that the finances of food waste processing was distorted by the levels of Feed in Tariff that they received. The recycling of agricultural plastics was also problematic due to their levels of contamination.

It was also confirmed that Norfolk's residual waste was incinerated outside of the county and none went to landfill.

The Chairman requested that certain proposed responses to the consultations be brought to the Panel for consideration ahead of submission. The first one being the consultation on the Deposit Return Scheme for single-use drinks containers and ensuring that a consistent set of recyclable materials were collected from homes and businesses. The food waste reporting response should also be brought to the Panel. Other consultation responses could be delegated to officers or Portfolio Holder sign-off as appropriate.

The Chairman also noted that by sending similar responses Broadland and South Norfolk would demonstrate to the Government that both authorities were taking a proactive approach to partnership working on waste management.

Members were also advised that both Councils had encouraged groups to take up environmental initiatives locally, such as persuading shops to use paper instead of plastic bags, and would continue to do so.

31 CLEAN AIR STRATEGY 2019

The Pollution Control Officer informed the meeting about the activities that Broadland and South Norfolk undertook to monitor air quality in both districts

and the proposals in the Clean Air Strategy 2019 to tackle sources of air pollution across the Country.

Both Councils were required to submit an Air Quality Status Report on an annual basis. These were produced by monitoring levels of Nitrogen Dioxide at a number of locations across both Districts (21 in Broadland and 29 in South Norfolk) in areas where traffic regularly queued or was slow moving.

Air quality in Broadland and South Norfolk was generally good, mainly because they were not intensively built up or industrialised and had large rural areas.

Both authorities were Members of the Norfolk Environmental Protection Group, which had met that day to discuss the Clean Air Day in June, when drivers would be encouraged to turn their engines off when idling in traffic. Broadland and South Norfolk were also part of the Greater Norwich Air Quality Group, which was looking at possible means of reducing emissions from vehicles. The Group also supported Norfolk County Council in applications for grants to fund less polluting buses.

The Clean Air Strategy 2019 proposed actions to reduce air pollution in four key areas: Transport, Domestic, Agriculture and Industry.

In respect of transport the Strategy proposed establishing a network of electric vehicle charging points every 20 miles across 95 percent of the country and to work with local authorities to bring down nitrogen dioxide levels where it was a significant pollutant. Use of new materials for tyres and brakes would also be encouraged, to reduce non exhaust particulate emissions.

Maritime, air, rail and road transport were also being looked at and a modal shift from road to rail freight was being encouraged. Improving public transport was also an ambition, as was encouraging walking and cycling.

In the home, action would be taken to legislate to prohibit the sale of the most polluting fuels and ensure that only the cleanest wood burning stoves were available for sale from 2023.

Non-methane volatile organic compounds from a wide variety of chemicals that were found in carpets, upholstery, paint, cleaning, fragrance, and personal care products were a significant source of indoor pollution. To reduce the build-up of harmful levels of air pollution within homes, work would be undertaken to consult on changes to standards of Building Regulations relating to ventilation in homes and other buildings.

In agriculture the Government would work with farmers to reduce ammonia emissions caused by the storage and spreading of manures and slurries and

from the application of inorganic fertilisers. Mandatory design standard for livestock housing would also be introduced and environmental permitting would be extended to the dairy and intensive beef sectors to reduce ammonia emissions.

To reduce emissions from industry the Government would seek to build on existing good practice to deliver a stable and predictable regulatory environment for business as part of a clean green economy.

Lastly, an Environment Bill would be introduced to replace EU legislation and to ensure that best practice was maintained.

The Chairman noted that currently the Environment Agency had responsibility for power stations, but those producing less than 50W might be regulated by local authorities in the future.

In response to a query, Members were advised that the wood burning stoves would need to either meet Building Regulations or be installed by an approved fitter. The quality of the wood would probably be monitored by Trading Standards. Agriculture would possibly be monitored by the Environment Agency.

The Deputy Chief Executive noted that the Council could have an emerging leadership role in this area, as it already had a range of Public Health duties to improve the health of the population in the district.

A Member noted that there would be a significant cost attached to many of these initiatives and he would like to see better financial incentives for them. However, the wider savings for the NHS to the country as a whole from the proposals were also noted.

The Panel was informed that a Joint Environmental Strategy for Broadland and South Norfolk was being drafted and would be brought to the 21 March 2019 meeting of the Panel. It would then go out for a six week consultation period before consideration by Cabinet in June 2019. The Strategy would be the same for both authorities, but would have individual Action Plans tailored for each Council.

32 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 21 March 2019

The meeting closed at 5.38 pm



ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE PANEL

Thursday 27 June 2019

Supplementary Agenda

| Item | Details |
|-------------|---|
| 7 | Gypsy and Traveller Norfolk Protocol Update To receive a verbal update. |

DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

Broadland District Council
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ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE PANEL

Thursday 27 June 2019

Final Papers

| Item | Details | Page No |
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| 5 | <u>Proposal to Charge for the Provision of Wheeled Bins for Household Waste Collection</u> | 10 – 15 |

DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

Broadland District Council
Thorpe Lodge, 1 Yarmouth Road, Norwich, NR7 0DU
Tel: 01603 430428
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PROPOSAL TO CHARGE FOR THE PROVISION OF WHEELED BINS FOR HOUSEHOLD WASTE COLLECTION

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Report Author: | Tony Garland, Environmental Protection Manager tel: 01603 430542 email: tony.garland@broadland.gov.uk |
| Portfolio Holder: | Environmental Excellence |
| Wards Affected: | All |
| Purpose of the Report: | Proposal to introduce charging for the provision of new wheeled bins for household waste collection for new properties. |

Recommendations:

1. Accept the proposals for charging for the provision of waste bins to new properties as outlined in Table 2, **including** the raised charge to align with the South Norfolk Council charge; agree to the use of the enforcement powers available under the EPA 1990 to require householders to use the specified types of wheeled bin or be refused a waste collection.
2. Accept the proposals for charging for the provision of waste bins to new properties as outlined in table 2, **excluding** the raised charge to align with the South Norfolk Council charge; agree to the use of the enforcement powers available under the EPA 1990 to require householders to use the specified types of wheeled bin or be refused a waste collection.

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Council provides an alternate weekly waste collection service of green and grey bins to 57,000 households across the District. It has a duty under the Environmental Protection Act (EPA) 1990 to provide a household waste collection service. The vast majority of households have their waste collected from wheeled bins. These bins come in different sizes and capacity is measured in litres. They vary from 240 litres (the most common size for domestic properties), 360 litres (for properties where more people reside and therefore more waste and recycling is generated) and 1,100 litres (for communal properties serving flats etc.). Food waste caddies are also provided to approximately half of the residents of Broadland. All wheeled bins and receptacles are currently provided free of charge to residents.
- 1.2 This report gives options to introduce a charging policy for household waste bins for new developments, in accordance with legislation, and to enable the Council to cover significant ongoing and rising costs of supplying them which currently stands at approximately £31,000 per year for new developments. New and replacement wheeled bins for existing properties, and food caddies will continue to be provided free of charge.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 New properties are currently provided with both a green and grey 240 litre wheeled bin as standard, free of charge. These are delivered to the developer, usually in bulk, for distribution. There is a year on year increase in the number of new households in the District resulting in an ongoing cost to the Council to provide wheeled bins. In the last three years 3,728 bins have been delivered to new properties, equating to 52.9 percent of the total bins purchased and delivered by the Council, at a cost of approximately £31,000 per year.
- 2.2 360 litre bins are not provided to new properties initially, and would only be provided once the householder has moved in to the property and has recognised a need. Residual waste (green) bins are only provided to householders on request where certain criteria are met, namely that there are more than five adults living at the property, and/or there is a medical condition amongst the household which requires more capacity within the bin. Recycling (grey) 360 litre bins are provided where requested with no criteria applied, to encourage recycling and contribute to the Council's recycling rate. Again a grey 360 litre bin would only be delivered after the householder had moved in, and would continue to be provided free of charge.
- 2.3 Communal bins are necessary for blocks of flats or shared accommodation, and are usually managed by a letting agent or a Housing Association. In these cases 1100 litre bins (both green and grey) are usually provided. Charges will also therefore apply to these bins.

3 CURRENT POSITION

- 3.1 Purchase and delivery of wheeled bins is a substantial ongoing cost to the Council that can be significantly reduced by using powers under the legislation to make a reasonable charge for the provision of bins to new properties.
- 3.2 Charging for wheeled bins is common practice across the UK, and in Norfolk; Breckland District Council, Great Yarmouth Borough Council, King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council, Norwich City Council and South Norfolk Council already have in place charges for the provision of bins to both new and existing households. See Table 1.

Table 1: Charges for containers in neighbouring authorities

| | Broadland (new properties only) | Breckland | Norwich City | South Norfolk | Great Yarmouth | King's Lynn |
|---|--|------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| New property green or grey 240 (2 bins delivered) | £50.30/ £70.85* | £62.00 | £POA | £70.85 | £53.00 | POA |
| Replacement green or grey 240 (one bin delivered) | No charge | No charge | £40.00 | No charge | £32.00 | £41.50 |
| Green 360 bin | No charge | £62.00 | £40.00 | No charge | N/A | N/A |
| Grey 360 bin | No charge | No charge | £40.00 | No charge | N/A | N/A |
| Replacement brown bin | No charge | No charge | No charge | No charge | £20.00 | £41.50 |
| 1100 bin (roll tops and flat tops per bin) | £165.19 | N/A | £320.00 | N/A | POA | POA |
| 1100 bin (lid in lid per bin) | £265.19 | N/A | £320.00 | N/A | POA | POA |
| Food waste containers | No charge | N/A | No charge | N/A | N/A | No charge |

*** charges for new developments increased to bring in line with current South Norfolk Council charges**

4 PROPOSED ACTION

- 4.1 It is proposed that a charge for the provision of wheeled bins to new properties is made under the EPA 1990, covering the cost of purchase, administration and delivery. This charge would apply to all new properties requiring new bins, including developments where communal bins are required.

- 4.2 Replacement bins for existing residents will continue to be delivered free of charge, and new food waste customers will continue to be provided with a food caddy free of charge, to encourage the use of the food waste service. Garden waste (brown) wheeled bins will be replaced free of charge, again to encourage the use of the paid service and to encourage recycling.
- 4.3 This proposal would save approximately £31,000 based on current demands, and more in future years as new developments are completed.
- 4.4 It has been proposed that for charges for new developments, the cost of two 240 litre bins is brought in line with South Norfolk Council's current charges, as part of the two Councils joining to form one paid service. This means that an additional £20.55 would need to be added to the cost to standardise the charge. This would generate an additional £13,000 (approximately), meaning the total savings made from charges for new developments would be approximately £44,000 per year. See Table 2 for the proposed charges.

Table 2: Breakdown of total proposed charges

| Detail of order | Charge for bin (new properties only) | Delivery charge | Administration charge | Total charge |
|---|---|------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| New / existing property grey and green 240 | £32.00 | £17.30 | £1 | £50.30/ £70.85* |
| Green / grey 1,100 bin (roll tops and flat tops) (communal) | £140.00 | £20.19 | £1 | £161.19 |
| Green / grey 1,100 bin (lid in lid) (communal) | £240.00 | £20.19 | £1 | £261.19 |

***charges for new developments increased to bring in line with current South Norfolk Council charges**

- 4.5 In the first instance the developer would be approached during the planning stages to make them aware of the charges and to offer them the chance to work with the Council to ensure all facilities are in place for new residents at the point they move in. This would involve the developer purchasing the bins from the Council and being responsible for distributing bins on site to all completed properties. Where this offer is not taken up, the charge would fall to new residents when they move into their new property. Where communal bins are required, the cost will likely fall to the Management Company or Housing Association responsible for the accommodation if the developer does not absorb the cost.
- 4.6 Where a householder refuses to pay the charges for new bins the Council is not obliged to collect household waste that is placed for collection, as stated under section 46(11) of the EPA 1990. Clearly this is not the desired outcome and officers would work with households where these issues arise. Collections will only be made by Broadland Council issued and / or approved

wheeled bins. Powers exist under section 46(3) of the EPA 1990 by service of notice on the occupier of the property to require them to use specified receptacles when placing waste for collection and these would be enforced if required.

5 ISSUES AND RISKS

- 5.1 **Resource implications** – The Environmental Services Contracts Team will see a small increase in workload in taking payments for bins, however the net overall increase will be minimal as there is already demand regarding orders for new or replacement bins that are processed in the same way. There will be no impact on the contractor. Online payments will be made available via the Broadland website to allow residents to purchase directly, this will have a positive impact on resource.
- 5.2 **Legal implications** – There are no legal implications in adopting these proposals. The Council has a duty to collect household waste, and cannot charge for providing this statutory function. However, provision is made within the EPA 1990 to give Councils the ability to specify the type of receptacle to be used and the statutory function is not applicable where the householder fails to present the waste for collection in the specified manner.
- 5.3 **Equality implications** – None.
- 5.4 **Environmental impact** – None.
- 5.5 **Crime and disorder** – no impact is anticipated.
- 5.6 **Risks** – There is a small risk to the Council's reputation by introducing these charges, however the impact is expected to be very low based on other Council's experiences.

6 CONCLUSION

- 6.1 Significant savings can be realised from introducing charges for wheeled bins for new properties and will help to offset increasing financial pressures on the Council.

7 RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Accept the proposals for charging for the provision of waste bins to new properties as outlined in Table 2, **including** the raised charge to align with the South Norfolk Council charge; agree to the use of the enforcement powers available under the EPA 1990 to require householders to use the specified types of wheeled bin or be refused a waste collection.
2. Accept the proposals for charging for the provision of waste bins to

new properties as outlined in table 2, **excluding** the raised charge to align with the South Norfolk Council charge; agree to the use of the enforcement powers available under the EPA 1990 to require householders to use the specified types of wheeled bin or be refused a waste collection.