

REPORT TO	ON
CABINET	21 JUNE 2017

Jan 2017



TITLE	PORTFOLIO	AUTHOR	Agenda item No.
CHARGING POLICY FOR REPLACEMENT HOUSEHOLD WASTE AND RECYCLING CONTAINERS	NEIGHBOURHOODS AND STREETSCENE	LAURA WRIGHT WASTE MANAGEMENT OFFICER	

Is this report a <b>KEY DECISION</b> (i.e. more than £75,000 or impacting on more than 2 Borough wards?)	<b>Yes</b>
Is this report on the <b>Cabinet Forward Plan</b> ?	<b>Yes</b>
Is the request outside the policy and budgetary framework and therefore subject to confirmation at full Council?	<b>No</b>

### 1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To seek approval of the charging policy for the replacement of lost, stolen and damaged waste and recycling containers. This is in line with the approved Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) which includes the introduction of charges for replacement waste containers.

### 2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That Cabinet approves the Charging Policy for Replacement Household Waste and Recycling Containers attached at Appendix 1.

### 3.0 CORPORATE PRIORITIES

The report relates to the following corporate priorities.

Clean, green and safe	√	Strong and healthy communities	√
Strong South Ribble in the heart of prosperous Lancashire		Efficient, effective and exceptional council	√

### 4.0 BACKGROUND TO THE REPORT

The Council spends, on average, £60,000 per year on replacement waste containers. With the borough forecast to grow by up to 7,000 new properties over the next 10 years as part of the City Deal, this figure is likely to increase.

The MTFS includes an income target to be achieved in 2017/18 through the introduction of a Charging Policy for Replacement Household Waste and Recycling Containers. Charging policies of this nature are common across the country and in Lancashire 11 of the 14 district local authorities operate similar policies.

This report therefore requests approval of the Charging Policy for Replacement Household Waste and Recycling Containers. The proposed policy is appended to the report.

## **5.0 PROPOSALS, RATIONALE AND DETAIL**

The approved MTFS includes the introduction of a charge for the replacement of grey, brown and blue wheeled bins and green boxes. This charge will apply to all lost and stolen containers and those damaged beyond repair, except where the container has been damaged during collection by our waste partner, FCC, who will meet the cost of replacement in these instances.

A charge of £30 per wheeled bin and £10 per box is proposed. The charge covers the administration costs of processing the order and the delivery of the container. All containers supplied to households will remain the property of the Council. This will prevent residents taking containers with them when they move to a different property and enable the Council to continue to manage the significant numbers of waste containers across the borough in a consistent and effective way.

### **Proposed Timeline**

- 21<sup>st</sup> June 2017 – approval sought from Cabinet.
- End of July 2017 – IT to carry out amendments to current request tickets, including an ability for payment and the interaction with our waste contractor's IT system.
- July/August – communications to let residents know of the new policy.
- 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017 – full implementation of the policy (implementation may possibly be some weeks earlier).

Should it be possible to shorten the above timeline then it is proposed that the policy will be implemented earlier.

## **6.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

The need to introduce a charging policy has been established through the approved budget and MTFS. Therefore no consideration has been given to alternative options.

## **7.0 WIDER IMPLICATIONS AND BACKGROUND DOCUMENTATION**

### **7.1 Financial Implications**

The MTFS includes an income target for charging for replacement waste containers of £30,000 in 2017/18 rising to £60,000 in 2018/19 and future years.

Based on the expected replacement figures and charges detailed above it is anticipated that these targets will be achieved.

## 7.2 Comments of the Statutory Finance Officer

From April 2018 the Council will no longer receive waste cost share funding from LCC, currently £0.909m per annum. The need to introduce a charging policy for replacement wheeled bins and boxes was established through the approved budget as one of two key approaches to mitigate this substantial loss of income.

## 7.3 Comments of the Monitoring Officer

Under the Environmental Protection Act (1990) the Council has a legal obligation to collect household waste, but can specify the size and type of containers. Section 46(3) of this Act allows the Council to make a charge for these containers.

In a situation where a resident fails to ensure that a suitable container is provided the Council will be able to refuse to make the relevant collection and alternative waste collection arrangements will need to be made by the resident. In these circumstances residents may also be served with a Section 46 notice under the Environmental Protection Act (1990), or other relevant legislation. The notice would require the householder to ensure the provision of suitable containers for their waste collection. Should the householder fail to comply with this notice the Council would have the option of issuing a Fixed Penalty Notice and/or taking forward a prosecution.

<b>Risk</b>	<p>Charging for the replacement of waste containers may not be popular with some residents. This policy will help the Council deal with these situations.</p> <p>Whilst the number of replacement containers will undoubtedly reduce, should this be greater than anticipated the Council's ability to still meet its financial target will be mitigated due to the reduction in purchasing costs for container stock levels.</p> <p>Should this policy not be introduced the target in the MTFS will not be delivered.</p>
<b>Equality</b>	<p>An Equality Impact Assessment is in place for the waste service. This will be updated to reflect this policy and include consideration of safeguarding matters with no issues anticipated.</p>

## 8. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Cabinet report 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017 – Budget and MTFS 2017/18

Appendix 1 – Replacement Recycling and Waste Container Charging Policy.