

## Report of the Interim Strategic Director

**OPTIONS FOR BULKY WASTE COLLECTION**1. Purpose of report

To inform members of the options available for the provision of a free bulky waste collection service and to seek approval for which option should be implemented.

2. Background

Within the scope of the Clean and Green initiative there is a budget allocation of £15,500 to provide free bulky waste collections through Waste Day events. A number of Waste Day events have been provided in 2019/20.

These events were delivered more efficiently and more cost effectively than initially anticipated. As a result there are still funds available within the budget allocation.

Consideration has therefore been given to the options available for the provision of a free bulky waste service using the remaining funds within the budget allowance.

Information regarding the current bulky waste collection service, the findings from the Waste Days and the options for members to consider are shown in the appendix.

3. Financial implications

Further details of the financial implications relating to the proposed options are shown in the appendix.

**Recommendation**

**The Committee is asked to RESOLVE that option 3 be implemented.**

Background papers

Nil

## APPENDIX

**1. Current Bulky Waste service**

The current bulky waste service entails a weekly collection of residual items (eg. sofa) and a fortnightly collection of electrical items. The general lead time is around 3 to 4 weeks for residual collections and 1 week for electrical items. Currently there are no spare vehicles and/or resources available within the refuse service to increase the frequency of bulky waste collections on a regular basis.

In 2018/19 there were around 2,125 orders with a total of 150 tonnes of residual waste being collected averaging around 3 tonnes per collection day. Around 40 properties are serviced each day on a residual collection with 60 items being collected and 30 properties on electrical collections with 40 items being collected.

The table below shows the main items collected through the bulky waste service in 2018/19.

**Table 1: Items collected in 2018/19**

Item	Number Collected
Sofa	766
Mattress	659
Fridge/Freezer	655
Bed Base	279
Wardrobe	50
Washer	39
Cooker	37
TV	29
Microwave	12
Other	1,066

As shown in table 2 below 40% of the orders received involve the collection of one item with 26% and 11% accounting for two and three items respectively.

**Table 2: Number of items per order**

	Cost (£)	Number of Orders	Percentage of total (%)
One Item	20	840	40
Two Items	27	561	26
Three Items	34	225	11
Four Items	41	71	3
Five Items	48	40	2
Six Items	55	25	1
Other number	Various	363	17

## 2. Waste Days

A total of seventeen waste day events have been provided across the Borough since the introduction of the Clean and Green initiative. Table 3 below shows the tonnage collected at these events and the number of users.

**Table 3: Waste Day 2019 Data**

Date	Site	Number of Users	Number of Fridge/Freezer	Number of other electrical items	Tonnage collected
2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Greenwood Centre, Toton	82	19	27	2.58
2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Victoria Street Car Park, Stapleford	190	11	15	4.86
2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Trowell Parish Hall Car Park	29	4	15	3.36
9 <sup>th</sup> March	Brinsley Parish Hall Car Park	62	5	22	1.92
9 <sup>th</sup> March	Mansfield Road Recreation Ground Car Park	60	1	10	1.76
27 <sup>th</sup> July	Beeston Fields Recreation Ground	19	7		1.20
27 <sup>th</sup> July	Leyton Crescent Recreation Ground	14	1		0.450
27 <sup>th</sup> July	Hickings Lane Recreation Ground	50	6	17	3.00
27 <sup>th</sup> July	Ilkeston Road Recreation Ground	30	8	25	2.00
27 <sup>th</sup> July	Manor Farm Recreation Ground	23		12	2.49
27 <sup>th</sup> July	Inham Nook Recreation Ground	20	6	3	2.49
10 <sup>th</sup> August	St Mary's Church, Greasley	4	1		0.200
10 <sup>th</sup> August	Greasley Parish Council Car Park, Greasley	14	1	1	0.700
10 <sup>th</sup> August	Awsworth Parish Hall, Awsworth	4	3		0.260

Date	Site	Number of Users	Number of Fridge/Freezer	Number of other electrical items	Tonnage collected
10 <sup>th</sup> August	Jubilee Park, Eastwood	11	5	3	0.900
10 <sup>th</sup> August	Oldmoor Lodge Car Park, Nuthall	16	1	1	1.10
10 <sup>th</sup> August	Temple Centre Car Park Nuthall	27	6		1.50
<b>Total</b>		<b>655</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>30.77</b>

It is worth noting that the weather on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2019 was not particularly good and it is felt that this would have affected the number of people using the service.

The total cost of providing the twelve Waste Day events in July and August 2019 was around £3,000. The original budget for the waste days for 2019/20 is £15,500.

### **3. Comparison of Waste Day and Bulky Collections Data**

Over the four Saturdays when Waste Day events have taken place there have been a total of 11 teams out in the Borough providing this service. Table 4 below shows the average amount of residual waste collected and the average number of electrical items collected per team compared to the bulky waste collection team. There is also a comparison of the number of people who have used the service. It should be noted though that on Waste Day events some residents did return a number of times throughout the time the vehicle was on site and each visit was classed as a new visit.

**Table 4: Comparison of Bulky Waste and Waste Day data**

Team	Average number of residents serviced per day	Average amount of residual waste collected per day	Average number of Electrical items collected per day
Residual Bulky Waste Collection	40	3 tonnes	
Electrical Collection	30		40
Waste Day	60	2.8 tonnes	22

As is shown in the figures the number of residents using the service is higher on the Waste Days but the amounts collected are lower. However, this would be conducive with the fact that residents did not necessarily have the means to transport larger heavier items to the event.

It should also be noted that the residual waste collected from the bulky waste service is not recycled. Consequently the increase in tonnage collected could affect the Council's recycling rate by increasing the overall amount of residual

waste collected. As a guide every additional ten tonne of residual waste collected would reduce the recycling rate by 0.01%.

#### **4. Options**

With around £12,500 still being available for Waste Day events members are asked to consider the options provided below:

##### **Option1**

Plan and deliver an increased number of Waste Days throughout the year to the funding level of £15,500. Based on current levels up to another 48 Waste Day events can be provided.

The pros associated with this option are:

- Free to the public
- Budget already in place
- Increased number of free bulky waste days

The cons associated with this option are:

- Difficult to serve all areas of the Borough due to the limitation of suitable locations in each area being available
- Limited use for certain members of the public if they have no transport
- Only operated on limited days which may result in a resident not being able or available to use the service
- Can be difficult for residents to dispose of larger heavier items

##### **Option 2**

Provide a free collection service each day for one week during December, January and February on a first come first served basis. During these months there is vehicle capacity in the fleet due to the garden waste reducing to a monthly collection. It is suggested that this is initially undertaken as a trial to measure the success of the service. It should also enable the usual bulky waste service to catch up with the back log and so hopefully reduce the lead time in the longer term.

This option would require employing additional staff for the week. The total cost each week for the additional staff and vehicle charges would be in region of £2,500.

To make the service as accessible to as many residents as possible it is suggested that the following parameters are put in place:

- Residents can only use the service once in the three month trial period with a maximum of three items being able to be collected

Based on current leads times it is proposed to run four residual collections and 1 one electrical collection during each week.

The pros associated with this option are:

- Free to the public
- Budget already in place
- All areas of the Borough are able to be serviced
- No issues with regards to a resident needing to have access to transport or live close to a waste day event
- Help reduce the lead time on the usual bulky waste service

The cons associated with this option are:

- Operated on a first come first serve basis so not all residents will be able to take advantage of the service
- Only able to be operated during the three month window when garden waste reduces to a monthly collection
- Will require an alternative booking system to the normal bulky waste collection service. This service will need to be offered through a telephone booking system only
- Will need to limit the number of items that can be included in the free service so that the service is open to as many residents as possible
- Loss of income for the Council through the usual bulky waste service

### **Option 3**

Provide a combination of options 1 and 2. This would entail providing a free collection week during the winter months and then additional Waste Day events on a Saturday to support the free service. Up to additional 18 Waste Day events can be provided with the existing funds.

The additional pros not already identified in options 1 and 2 are:

- Will provide residents with different options for disposing of their items on a free of charge basis

The additional cons not already identified in options 1 and 2 are:

- Will result in a reduced number of Waste Day events so some areas will not receive the service.

### **Financial implications**

The income budget for 2019/20 for bulky waste collections is £60,000. The increased provision of free bulky waste collections could affect the level of income received.

On 11 July 2019 Finance and Resources Committee approved the carry forward of the £12,950 underspend from the 2018/19 Waste Day budget allocation. It is therefore intended to provide the Waste Day events using the original 2019/20 budget allocation of £15,500 and use the £12,950 carry forward to offset against any reduction in income.