

Report of the Strategic Director (Place) to the meeting of Environment and Waste Management Overview and Scrutiny Committee to be held on 25th July 2017

C

Subject:

Update on policy relating to the collection of bulky waste

Summary statement:

Members of Environment & Waste Management Overview and Scrutiny Committee require an update on a review of arrangements to increase the items collected by the bulky waste service.

Steve Hartley
Strategic Director, Place

Portfolio:

Environment & Waste

Report Contact: Richard Longcake
Phone: (01274) 432855
E-mail: richard.longcake@bradford.gov.uk

Overview & Scrutiny Area:

Environment & Waste

1. SUMMARY

Members of Environment & Waste Management Overview and Scrutiny Committee require an update on a policy review of arrangements to increase the items collected by the bulky waste service.

2. BACKGROUND

Following reports to E&WMO&S Committee in April 2016 and February 2017, into the policies for bulky waste collection and Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC), members asked for information to be reported back to this committee on the outcome of further operational discussions as to whether the scope of bulky waste collections could be increased to include certain household fixtures and fittings which are not currently in scope

3. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

The ability to remove fixtures from kitchens, bedrooms and bathrooms has been further considered by operational managers including those managers responsible for removal of fly tipped waste. It has been clarified that proposed re-structuring of how fly tips are undertaken means that the potential spare capacity that could have undertaken the collection of such fixtures and fittings, without affecting the normal week day (Tuesday – Friday) bulky collections (which is at or close to capacity), will now not be available going forward.

This places the burden of collecting such fixtures and fittings back onto the existing bulky waste service. Given the need to avoid any disruption to the weekday service as is, which is working extremely well, this leaves as the only option to undertake any collections of fixtures and fittings in overtime, either on a Saturday or Monday.

On the basis of the details in the February report re waste types and scope, operational management within Waste Services are willing to consider undertaking a 6 month trial in order to evaluate the demands for such a service and what the true costs are, and if the service should to be provided beyond the trial, on what basis and at what cost.

Budget Pressure

The suggest trial situation is likely to create a budget pressure. Working in overtime will require a minimum of 4 hours pay at enhanced rate (x1.5), yet the demand will be unknown, in other words there may be just a single collection to make, for which 6 hours pay per operative (x2) will be made. Also should there be multiple pick-ups, these may be at very differing ends of the district, resulting in a lot of dead travelling time and thus an inefficient collection method.

The net result could be that the collection costs are not covered by the collection charge (note we cannot recover the charge for disposal).

Further, as reported in February, should the charge for removal of fixtures and fittings significantly undercut the charge for the hire of a skip by the householder,

we could run the risk of picking up extra waste disposal costs which cannot be recovered in the charge.

Permits

Fixtures and fittings of the type being considered here can be readily disposed of Free of Charge at any of our 8 Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC). Given the recent move of providing new permits to all 215,000 households via the council tax bills for them to use our HWRCs (note to end March 2017 90,000 permits had been issued via the old scheme) such a move may well reduce the need or efficacy of attempting to provide (duplicate) this service for fixtures and fittings via the bulky waste collection service.

4. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL

As previously reported the level of charge for collection of fixtures is difficult to quantify, and the possible danger of failing to cover collection costs, and increasing disposal costs is very real. It is therefore possible that such a step to collect fixtures and fittings will result in a net cost to the Council at a time when budgets are severely stretched.

5. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES

There is a risk to increasing the Council's waste disposal costs, duplicating what is done via the HWRCs, and as stated in the February 2017 report we begin to pickup waste which residents currently hire a skip service for.

6. LEGAL APPRAISAL

There are no legal issues arising from this report.

7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

7.1 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

There are no negative equality and diversity implications apparent within the context of the report, the bulky waste service is available to all householders on a pay for service basis.

7.2 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

The correct management of household waste contributes positively towards the sustainable agenda.

7.3 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IMPACTS

The content of the report does not have a negative climate change impact

7.4 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

There are no community safety implications.

7.5 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

There are no known Human Rights Act implications

7.6 TRADE UNION

There are no staffing implications arising from this report

7.7 WARD IMPLICATIONS

There are no individual Ward implications.

8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

None

9. OPTIONS

N/A

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommended -

That any move to undertake a 6 month trial of removing fixtures and fitting as part of the bulky waste collection service be placed on hold pending Environment and Waste Management Overview & Scrutiny Committee assessment of the revised HWRC permit scheme arrangements to all residents on inputs to HWRCs, and any benefits on reduced fly tipping.

11. APPENDICES

None

12. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Report to the E&WMO&S Committee 4th April 2016

Report to the E&WMO&S Committee 28th February 2017