

# Cabinet Report

Report of Head of Corporate Strategy

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To: CABINET

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## Review of waste policies

### Recommendations

- (a) that Cabinet approves the revised joint wheeled bin policy set out in appendix one.
- (b) that the head of corporate strategy is authorised, in consultation with the relevant Cabinet member, to approve requests from residents for a change to the normal bin provision.

### Purpose of Report

1. To seek cabinet approval to the council's revised joint wheeled bin policy.

### Strategic Objectives

2. The wheeled bin policy contributes directly towards the councils' strategic objectives of managing our business effectively, rising to the challenge of climate change and protecting our environment. In particular through our corporate priorities to provide value for money services that meet the needs of our residents and service users (south and vale). Minimise the waste we produce and maximise recycling (vale) and reduce the amount of waste we send to landfill (south).

### Background

3. Currently both councils have wheeled bin policies that are similar but not identical. These have served the waste and recycling collection service well, undoubtedly

contributing to its success. These policies have now been harmonised into one policy for both councils.

4. We are suggesting that a more flexible approach is adopted to bin provision, in a relatively small number of cases on submission of a valid request and on condition that any changes are cost effective and/or will result in an increase in the amount of waste recycled.
5. The reason for requesting a more flexible approach to bin provision is that we do have a very small number of residents who have requested a different arrangement from the standard set of bins. In some cases the request may be justified but at present there is no flexibility within the policy to accommodate such requests. The head of service would consider requests on a case by case basis and consult with the relevant Cabinet members where a change to the standard provision was considered justifiable.
6. Also included in the revised policy is a missed bin procedure which has never been formally agreed with Cabinet and it would be helpful to do so.

## **Options**

7. We could continue with the policies as they stand but this does result in some inconsistencies across the two councils.

## **Financial Implications**

8. There would be a delivery/collection cost to the councils if we allow some residents to change their existing bin provision. A similar cost may then be incurred if the resident moved and the new resident required the standard bin provision.

## **Legal Implications**

9. Under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 Part two, the council is able to stipulate the type of container that will be used to collect waste as part of its statutory duty and are therefore able to accommodate individual requests for different bins.

## **Risks**

10. There is a risk that there will be a small increase in cost if we allow a change to the normal bin provision. However, we do not expect to sanction many variations and so the cost implication is marginal.

## **Other implications**

11. None

## **Conclusion**

12. The revised wheeled bin policy addresses the inconsistencies in the current policies and allows more flexibility in our approach to bin provision to some residents, whilst maintaining the already proven successful elements of the scheme.