

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No. 8
20 SEPTEMBER 2023	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	Adrian Chapman, Executive Director of Place and Economy	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Cllr Nigel Simons - Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Climate Change	
Contact Officer(s):	Amy Nebel, Senior Waste and Recycling Officer	07920160024

RECYCLING AND WASTE POLICY GUIDE

RECOMMENDATIONS	
FROM: Adrian Chapman, Executive Director of Place and Economy	Deadline date: N/A
<p>It is recommended that Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Endorse, support and make comments as it sees fit to the revised Recycling and Waste Policy Guide. 	

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

1.1 The report has been requested by the Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

2.1 The Recycling and Waste Policy Guide aims to provide a clear overview of the waste policy and services provided by Peterborough City Council, ensuring residents understand what actions are required of them and what they can expect from the Council. The document will also support the activity of the new Recycling Education Officers, providing a clear foundation to support their efforts to drive behaviour change and increase recycling rates across the city.

2.2 This report is for Climate Change and Environment Scrutiny Committee to consider under its Terms of Reference No. Part 3, Section 4 - Overview and Scrutiny Functions, paragraph No. 2.1, Functions determined by the Council:

4. Climate Change.
5. Reducing Carbon Emissions and achieving Net Zero Carbon Emissions.

3. TIMESCALES

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	NO	If yes, date for Cabinet meeting	N/A
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4. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

4.1 The Council has a legal requirement under Section 45 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (EPA) to collect and treat household waste. The Council fulfils its collection duty by working with its partner Aragon (Peterborough Limited) to deliver: a fortnightly residual (black bin) collection

service; a fortnightly recycling (green bin) collection service; a weekly food waste (grey caddy) collection service; and, a subscription based (brown bin) garden waste service. The Council has contracts in place to treat the waste that is collected in the most sustainable and cost-effective way.

The Recycling and Waste Policy Guide has been updated to ensure that:

- Residents have a single guide detailing what they can expect of the Council and its partners to deliver their waste treatment service;
- The Council and its partners have a clear understanding of the services they provided and how they should be delivered;
- The Council's new Recycling Education Team have a clear guide that they can use to support residents across the city drive forward efforts to drive behaviour change and increase recycling rates.

The document does not contain any material changes to the way in which the Council currently operates this service, it simply seeks to formalise existing practices. The document has been drafted in such a way that residents will easily be able to access the council's website for more information should details change in the future e.g., the type of material that can be recycled. Examples of information included within the Recycling and Waste Policy Guide include:

- A residents' 'service charter' – this sets out in a few bullet points what we need residents to do to ensure they receive a smooth and reliable service. For example, containers must be left out by 6.45am on collection day, we will return containers to a safe and convenient location, and we will provide advice and education where needed.
- For each element of the service the Guide explains: the frequency of collection, whether or not additional waste can be collected, and the types of waste that we will accept.
- The approach for managing waste from houses of multiple occupancy, communal bins and the options when a resident cannot store a normal wheeled bin.

Further information:

The Council agreed as part of the 2021-2022 budget setting process to implement a mechanism to charge residents for replacement bins. The Recycling and Waste Policy Guide details the process that is required for residents to order a replacement bin and the charges that are applicable. Whilst the fee is currently nil for this service the Council will be undertaking separate governance in order to introduce a charge in due course.

In addition, the Government are also in the process of reviewing its Waste Strategy which includes the consideration of introducing schemes such as: Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) whereby Local Authorities could receive the full net cost for managing separately collected in-scope recyclable packaging and in-scope materials in residual waste and street litter bins; a Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) whereby the government hopes to increase the recycling rate of drinks containers and reduce the incidence of littering of such containers; and, Consistency of Collection, this centres around five core materials: plastic, glass, paper/card, metal and food waste. There is currently no definitive date outlining the final publication of the Waste Strategy and as such an update on this item will follow in due course.

5. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- 5.1 **The Economy & Inclusive Growth** – Introduction of the revised Recycling and Waste Policy Guide will ensure that residents understand what is required of them and what they can expect of the Council in order to ensure their household waste is dealt with in a sustainable way.

The Carbon Impact Assessment - this report contains no proposals for changes to service delivery and therefore there is no decision to take which may impact carbon emissions of the council or the city.

Sustainable Future City Council - Introduction of the revised Recycling and Waste Policy Guide will ensure that residents understand 'how we work', 'how we serve' and 'how we enable' by making sure expectations can be clearly managed.

6. CONSULTATION

- 6.1 No consultation has taken place to produce the Recycling and Waste Policy Guide because the document does not change existing practices, it simply ensures that they are collated and easy to understand both internally and by the public.

7. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

- 7.1 It is anticipated that the Committee endorse and support the Householders Recycling and Waste Policy Guide.

8. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

- 8.1 To improve understanding of the Councils' Recycling and Waste Policy Guide and therefore improve service provision to residents.

9. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 9.1 The alternative is not to revise the old policy guide which is out of date and does not reflect the current service provision with regards recycling and waste. Without a clear policy it would cause confusion amongst residents and officers.

10. IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

- 10.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. Education of and compliance with Recycling and Waste Policy will help to ensure waste is managed appropriately and cost effectively.

Legal Implications

- 10.2 Any legal implications are included within the report.

Equalities Implications

- 10.3 The Recycling and Waste Policy document ensures all residents have access to the same waste collection service by ensuring residents with additional requirements receive an enhanced service to ensure their waste is collected in the same manner and frequency.

11. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

- 11.1 None

12. APPENDICES

- 12.1 Appendix A - Householders Recycling and Waste Policy Guide

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