

Decision Number: 19/2015

Portfolio Holder Executive Decision Statement

The Local Authority (Executive Arrangements)(Meetings and Access to Information)(England) Regulations 2012

Subject:

Christmas & New Year collections 2015/2016

Details of Decision taken:

Refuse and recycling collection arrangements 24/12/15 to 18/01/16.

Reason for Decision:

Boxing Day (26th December) falls on a Saturday this year. To compensate a public holiday has been declared on Monday 28th December. Refuse collections are difficult to organise especially when there are effectively three holidays around the same weekend. This schedule delays the Friday, 25th December weekly collection until Tuesday resulting in a maximum 11 day emptying interval. Reversion to normal collection days for customers extends until 18th January. Three Saturday catch up collection days are necessary but there are no missed 'weekly' collections and resulting double waste collections.

All Documents considered:

Christmas collection option schedules 1 to 4 along with Senior Management Team recommendation to adopt option 2.

Details of any alternative options considered and rejected by the Member when making the Decision:

Option 1 – Collection due on 25th December omitted as giving rise to unacceptable 17 day interval to next collection on 4th January.

Option 3 – Collections brought forward to collect Monday, 21st December waste on Saturday, 19th December. Early collections likely to be missed by residents resulting in abandoned waste and increased complaints.

Option 4 – Collection of waste normally due for collection on Friday (25th December) on Saturday (26th December). Insufficient volunteer collection workers to make the service viable on Boxing Day.

Financial Implications:

In order to communicate the changes to collection days over the festive period but avoid estimated mailing costs of £25,000 for letter delivery to all residents, a full page schedule of revised collections days will be included in the Council's In Shape magazine for delivery to all households during December.

Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement:

The Council has an obligation to provide a waste collection service to residents. However the frequency of collections is determined by Council policy. Residents need to be advised of the collection arrangements.

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Collections over the festive period are subject to change each year to accommodate public holidays and availability of the Dunbrik Transfer station to receive residual waste and materials for recycling.

The proposed collection arrangements are considered low risk as they meet the requirement to provide a collection service. Changes in collection days will need to be communicated to all residents but collection intervals are kept as close to weekly intervals as practically possible in accordance with Council policy.

Equality Impacts (Consideration of impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty)
Members are reminded of the requirement, under the Public Sector Equality Duty (section 149 of the Equality Act 2010) to have due regard to (i) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act 2010, (ii) advance equality of opportunity between people from different groups, and (iii) foster good relations between people from different groups. The decisions recommended through this paper directly impact on end users. The impact has been analysed and does not vary between groups of people. The results of this analysis are set out immediately below.

The changes to collection arrangements over the Christmas and New Year period impact upon all residents and so do not discriminate between people from different groups. The Councils assistance to those residents with valid exemption from the boundary collection criteria will be maintained throughout the period.

Local Member (s), other Portfolio Holders and/or Directors/Heads of Service Consulted:

Councillor Mrs. Kim Bailey (Vice-Chair of Direct and Trading Advisory Committee) and Senior Management team Chief Officers.


Details of any conflicts of interest

a) declared by any executive member who is consulted by the Decision Taker

None

b) and any details of dispensations granted by the Chief Executive in respect of any declared conflict

Not applicable

Decision taken by:	Portfolio Holder for Direct and Trading Services
Signed by Portfolio Holder	 2/12/15
Date of Decision	2.12.15
Record made by:	Ian Finch
Date of record:	8.12.15.

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