



## CABINET – 22ND JANUARY 2014

**SUBJECT: KERBSIDE COLLECTION OF RECYCLABLES – UPDATE ON RECYCLING MARKET ISSUES**

**REPORT BY: ACTING DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES AND SECTION 151 OFFICER**

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- 1.1 The attached report, which provided an update on the current market conditions facing the UK's recycling industry and their impact upon the authority's kerbside recycling collection service, and sought the views of Members on the proposed recommendations contained therein, was considered by Regeneration and Environment Scrutiny Committee on 10th December 2013.
- 1.2 Members were advised that fluctuating market prices over recent months and an increase in demand for high quality input at material recycling facilities has had a significant impact on the Authority's kerbside recycling service. The Authority has implemented a range of short term arrangements with a variety of different contractors and is working towards re-procuring a new contract. In order to ensure greater stability in the long term at an affordable price, the report contains a range of recommendations for improving quality in the kerbside recycling service, including the publication and distribution of new literature, intervention from the Waste Advisory Wardens and a programme of bin removal and enforcement where necessary.
- 1.3 Following discussion on the content of the report, the Regeneration and Environment Scrutiny Committee recommended to Cabinet that for the reasons contained therein:-
- (i) new literature be prepared/issued to all properties;
  - (ii) work be undertaken with Communications to publicise what should be placed in a recycling bin and the consequence of not adhering to the guidance provided;
  - (iii) the procedures outlined in section 4.15 of the report and detailed below be developed as new council policy.

**The issue of new literature to all properties within the borough**

Work with Communications to publicise what should be placed in a recycling bins and the consequences of not adhering to the guidance provided, viz:-

**1st collection - contaminated bin** - place sticker and do not undertake collection (resident to remove contamination).

**2nd collection - contaminated bin** - place letter in property advising what needs to be removed from the bin for it to be emptied.

If there is no improvement on the 3rd collection attempt, undertake a follow up visit from Waste Advisory Warden.

If no further improvement 2nd letter issued again advising resident what needs to be removed from bin and warning of possible legal action.

If no action taken by resident then we will remove bin (replace with boxes) and issue a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) in accordance with relevant legislation. In this regard it is suggested that the FPN level is consistent with other FPN's issued by the authority for littering, dog fouling, etc (£75 reduced to £50 if paid within 14 days). This FPN level for littering, dog fouling etc has previously been agreed by the authority's Cabinet.

The bin will only be reissued where residents confirm in writing that they are fully aware of the items that they should place in their brown bin and undertake to comply with these requirements in the future.

Additionally the use of black bags to contain recycling within the brown bin is also causing issues at MRF's and we will have to advise residents that they should refrain from using black bags within their bins.

1.4 Members are asked to consider the recommendations.

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Appendices:

Appendix 1 Report to Regeneration and Environment Scrutiny Committee on 10th December 2013  
- Agenda item 7(3)