

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

NORTHERN AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE – 4TH MAY 2005

THREE BIN SYSTEM OF KERBSIDE RECYCLING

Report by Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To provide the Northern Area Local Committee with a progress report on the implementation of the Kerbside Recycling service in the Northern area.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The introduction of the kerbside waste recycling service arose from the establishment of a target, set by the Scottish Executive, for all Scottish local authorities to recycle at least 25% of all household waste arising within their authorities by 2006.
- 2.2 Funding was made available from the Scottish Executive's Strategic Waste Fund to deliver the services which are required to be introduced to meet the established targets.
- 2.3 A joint application to the Strategic Waste Fund was made by the Ayrshire, Dumfries and Galloway Area Waste Group. East Ayrshire Council received an award of £14.89 million to 2019 for the implementation of the three bin system of kerbside recycling.
- 2.4 A Member/Officer Working Group was formed to determine the service changes which would be required to the household waste collection arising from the introduction of the three bin system. The recommendations of the Member/Officer Group were approved by a meeting of the Emergency Powers Committee on 31st March 2004.
- 2.5 Since 5th April 2004, 38,100 households have been converted to the three bin system in four phases. The remaining households (14,100), including residents in Stewarton, Dunlop, Fenwick, Lugton, Waterside and Kilmaurs, will adopt the service in two phases during 2005.

3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1 Householders will receive a variety of promotional material including general information flyers, leaflets and then a letter explaining when the bins will be delivered prior to implementation.
- 3.2 Recycling Guides will be delivered with the recycling containers. The guide explains how each bin should be used and lists other important information including where the Local Recycling Points and Recycling Centres are situated. Details of special uplift services and skip hire are also listed. A colour coded collection calendar is included with the guide.
- 3.3 Information sessions have been arranged to allow residents to speak with Council Officers and to see the containers. The dates and venues for these sessions will be listed on the letter sent to householders and in the local press.
- 3.4 Prior to delivery of containers, Community Waste Officers survey each property to assess which containers each can accommodate. Terraced and flatted properties may be offered an alternative system that involves using recycling sacks or communal recycling bins.
- 3.5 In order to match the new collection service with existing vehicle provision, and to maximize the quantity of material segregated for collection, residual household waste will be collected on a fortnightly basis once the new service starts.
- 3.6 The black kerbside box is for cans and glass. All items should be rinsed before placing in the box. Items should be placed directly into the box.
- 3.7 The blue bin is for paper and cardboard. This includes newspapers, magazines, cardboard boxes, junk mail, shoe boxes and food packaging. All paper and cardboard should be dry and free from food contamination.
- 3.8 The brown bin is for green garden waste only. This includes grass cuttings, hedge clippings, weeds, and leaf fall. No food waste should be placed in the brown bin.
- 3.9 Cleansing Services has adopted a flexible approach towards larger households and individuals with certain medical conditions. Applications for additional residual bins are assessed on an individual basis and are reviewed annually.

- 3.10 Households in the Northern area will be introduced to the service in two phases. All households in the Northern area will receive their recycling bins between 23rd May and 10th June 2005.
- 3.11 The Kerbside Recycling service has resulted in over 6500 tonnes of recyclate being collected from over 30,000 households since 5 April 2004. This has resulted in a recycling rate of approximately 19%.

4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Kerbside Recycling service is in line with Aim 3 of the Improving Environment section of the Community Plan.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Scottish Executive has indicated that intervention in the form of financial penalties may be applied to local authorities who fail to divert sufficient quantities of household waste from landfill.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Funding provided by the Strategic Waste Fund represents only partial funding for the implementation of the kerbside recycling service until 2019. The remaining balance of funding must derive from savings in waste disposal and landfill tax as well as any revenue from saleable recyclate.

7. CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1 The implementation of the three bin system of kerbside recycling is progressing in accordance with the implementation programme approved by the Scottish Executive.
- 7.2 Householders in the Northern area can expect introductory literature and their new recycling containers in May 2005, with the first recyclate collections taking place in June 2005.
- 7.3 East Ayrshire Council is on target to achieve a recycling rate of at least 25% by 2006.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 The Northern Area Local Committee is invited to note the report.

William Stafford
Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services
WS/RMacD

14th April 2005

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Minutes of Member/Officer Working Group meeting held on 4th November 2003.
2. Minutes of Member/Officer Working Group meeting held on 4th December 2003.
3. Minutes of Member/Officer Working Group meeting held on 25th February 2004.
4. Minutes of Emergency Powers Committee held on 31st March 2004.

Anyone wishing to inspect the background papers listed above should contact John F Crawford on 01563 576111

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