

NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE SHADOW AUTHORITY

SHADOW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

3rd February 2021

Report Title	North Northamptonshire Household Waste & Recycling Policy & Street Cleansing Policies
Report Author	Beth Gordon, Service Development Officer Beth.Gordon@kettering.gov.uk

List of Appendices

Appendix A – Household Waste & Recycling Policy
Appendix B – Street Cleansing Policy

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. The purpose of this report and attached documents is to seek member approval of the following documents:
- 1.1.1. North Northamptonshire Household Waste and Recycling Policy
 - 1.1.2. North Northamptonshire Street Cleansing Policy
- 1.2 It also summarises a number of policy issues which will require further investigation and consideration by the Council to determine a harmonised service level for future and proposes to bring back further reports for members to consider these issues in more detail.

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 This report summarises the work that has been undertaken by key officers across North Northamptonshire to define a set of policies for the waste, recycling and street cleansing services to be delivered from 1 April 2021. It brings together a number of policies across the existing authorities and creates where possible a harmonised set of standards to be implemented within North Northamptonshire.
- 2.2 The attached policy documents cover a number of service areas and the policies associated with delivering these services. These include:
- Residual waste collection

- Recycling
- Food waste
- Garden waste
- WEEE collections
- Bulky waste collections
- Commercial / trade waste
- Clinical waste
- Household Waste Recycling Centres
- Street Cleansing

2.3 In undertaking this review a significant number of policies are able to be harmonised, however there are some that require further investigation before they can be harmonised as the Council will need to determine how they wish to deliver these services going forward. These are outlined later in the report.

3. Recommendations

3.1 It is recommended that the Shadow Executive Committee:

- a) Approve the Household Waste and Recycling Policy
- b) Approve the Street Cleansing Policy
- c) Agree to review the future policies in relation to the delivery of garden waste and food waste service

3.2 Reason for Recommendations –

- To ensure North Northamptonshire has an agreed set of waste and recycling policies and street cleansing policies to ensure clarity for residents on the service standards to be delivered
- To provide harmonised policies where possible from 1 April 2021 to reduce confusion for residents and ensure equity of service where possible
- To enable enforcement action to be taken where appropriate
- Allow a review of services where harmonisation is not currently possible and provide future recommendations on the delivery of these services

4. Report Background

4.1 On 1 April 2021 North Northamptonshire Council will become responsible for the delivery of street scene services. This includes responsibility for waste collection and disposal and street cleansing. Currently there are a number of differing policies from the predecessor authorities relating to the delivery of these services.

4.2 A review of the existing waste and street cleansing policies has been carried out by Senior Officers from across North Northamptonshire with the intention of trying to harmonise as many of the policies as possible to provide a common set of service standards for residents across North Northamptonshire from 1 April 2021.

4.3 The policies have been designed to ensure there is a clearly defined set of policies and standards across the service to avoid uncertainty for residents, customers, Elected Members and Officers of the Council

- 4.4 By harmonising policies and standards where possible this allows the development of consistent communications messages and promotion of services and tries to minimise confusion for residents with different services being delivered in different areas.

5. Issues and Choices

- 5.1 In reviewing the policies contained within Appendix A and B a number of issues were considered including:
- What policies could be harmonised and what affect this would have on current service delivery
 - Customer impact both negative e.g. reduced service level, or positive e.g. access to a service they are currently not receiving, or improved service standards
 - Any cost implications particularly if any policy changes would have contractual implications
- 5.2 There are a number of areas within the policy document that have been harmonised including:
- Materials accepted for recycling, garden waste and food waste (where the service is delivered)
 - Materials prohibited from the wheeled bins
 - Size of wheeled bins provided
 - Colours of bin / bin lid for waste collection and recycling (it is proposed these would be colours would only be introduced as new stock is procured – existing bins would remain in use). Garden waste bins would not be changed until a review of the service is carried out.
 - Criteria for second bins for larger households and those producing offensive waste
 - Clinical waste collections
 - Street cleansing including target response times for fly-tipping, graffiti and fly-posting
- 5.3 Due to existing contract / partnership arrangements there are some services that will be harmonised over the first year of operation of the new authority. The introduction of WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment) collections currently in operation in East Northamptonshire will be rolled out to Corby and Kettering during 2021 once the Kettering fleet has been replaced with vehicles that have the necessary storage cages on them. Investigations have shown that the current fleet in Wellingborough Norse cannot accommodate cages on vehicles, however these vehicles are likely to be replaced during 2022 and any new fleet will have the necessary storage available to roll this service out.
- 5.4 In proposing the harmonisation of these policies there are a number of considerations that members need to be aware of that will result in changes within some areas of North Northamptonshire. The most significant of these in relation to waste and recycling are detailed in the table1 and street cleansing in table 2 below:

Table 1: Main policy changes – Waste & recycling			
Policy	Change proposed	Area affected	Reason
Standard service for individual properties	180l wheeled bin for residual domestic waste	Borough Council of Wellingborough (currently provide 240l bin) Corby & Kettering (currently provide 140l bin for 1 or 2 bedroom properties)	To promote waste minimisation and recycling To standardise bins across the area, enabling easier procurement & storage, difficult to check number of bedrooms in a property
Standard service for individual properties	No additional residual bins available for a bin rental charge	Corby & Kettering (447 customers)	To promote waste minimisation and recycling
Standard service for HMO's	No additional capacity available for a bin rental charge.	Corby & Kettering	To promote waste minimisation and recycling
Standard service for individual properties	Recycling bin colour blue or blue lidded (for new bin provisions only)	East Northamptonshire & Borough Council of Wellingborough	To standardise bin procurement and colours
Standard service for individual properties	Additional bin / capacity for garden waste	Borough Council of Wellingborough	To promote recycling
Sack collections	Fortnightly collection of residual waste and recycling	Corby (small number of rural / farm properties)	To provide recycling service to these properties & promote waste minimisation
Collection Time	Bin to be placed out for collection from 6.30am	Borough Council of Wellingborough East Northamptonshire	To make times consistent. This will not affect operational times the collection crews currently operate
Bulky collections	5 items maximum	Corby & Kettering (currently 6 items) East Northamptonshire	To standardise service

		(currently 7 items)	
--	--	---------------------	--

Table 2: Main policy changes – Street Cleansing			
Policy	Change proposed	Area affected	Reason
Fly tipping	Remove within 3 working days	Borough Council of Wellingborough	To ensure fly tipping is removed promptly to promote a clean environment & discourage further fly tipping

- 5.5 In reviewing the policies it has been highlighted that there are two particular services that require further work and information for members to consider what policies should be implemented, these are food waste and garden waste. Until that work is completed and presented to members for consideration it is proposed for each authority area to continue with their existing service provision. The issues are summarised in table 3 below:

Table 3: Policy issues for review		
Service	Currently delivery	Issues to be considered
Food waste	East Northamptonshire & Corby only	The Government’s consultation document “Consistency in Household & Business Recycling” published in 2019 proposed separate weekly food waste collections. The outcome to this consultation stated that the government would legislate to ensure that every local authority provides householders with a separate food waste collection. It was originally proposed these measures would come into effect from 2023. As part of the consultation the Government indicated that new costs arising from policies implemented will be resourced including upfront transition and ongoing operational costs. The Council therefore needs to consider whether it wants to expand the current food waste collection service, and if so by what timescale. A future report will consider the costs and benefits associated with the expansion of this service and proposed

		timescales.
Garden waste	<p>East Northamptonshire – chargeable service, fortnightly, all year (with the exception of 2 week period at Christmas)</p> <p>Corby & Kettering – no charge, fortnightly, all year (with the exception of 2 week period at Christmas)</p> <p>Wellingborough – no charge, fortnightly, 9 months of the year</p>	The Controlled Waste (England & Wales) Regulations 2012 allow councils to charge for the collection of garden waste. The current situation in North Northamptonshire is mixed with one of the four authorities charging. It is therefore proposed to bring back a report considering the future delivery of the service and whether charging should be introduced or not.

- 5.6 Where services are not harmonised from day 1, there may be queries from residents regarding the differing levels of services and charges in their area. Information for the council's websites and customer services staff is currently being developed to assist with explaining these differences.

6. Implications (including financial implications)

6.1 Resources and Financial

- 6.1.1 There are no financial implications for many of the small changes proposed to bring all the existing policies into a harmonised document. Bulky waste collection charges are being considered as part of the draft budget setting process for North Northamptonshire.
- 6.1.2 As it is proposed that there will be no change to the current delivery of the food waste and garden waste services, these are within existing budgets. Further reports will be brought back for consideration of members on these services which will include financial impacts of any future changes proposed.
- 6.1.3 The introduction of WEEE within Corby and Kettering requires cages on the collection vehicles, however these have already been accounted for within the current procurement of vehicles. As it is not intended to introduce the service in Wellingborough until their fleet is replaced then any costs of cages will be incorporated within any procurement of new vehicles.
- 6.1.4 The introduction of a target of 3 working days for the clearance of fly tipping may have implications in Wellingborough, however it is proposed that initially a review of how the service is currently provided to look for efficiencies is undertaken, or consider other options such as support from the other North Northamptonshire authorities.

6.2 Legal

6.2.1 There are no legal implications arising from the proposals. The powers relied on are provided by the Environmental Protection Act 1990, the Localism Act 2011 and other relevant legislation.

6.3 Risk

6.3.1 There are no significant risks arising from the proposed recommendations in this report.

6.4 Consultation

6.4.1 The public have not been consulted during the production of these proposals as they seek to bring together existing Council arrangements and harmonise them to make them fair and equitable. Charges relating to the services in the policy documents will be subject to consultation as part of the budget setting process.

6.5 Consideration by Overview and Scrutiny

6.5.1 This report has not been considered by Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

6.6 Environmental Impact

6.6.1 The policies have been developed taking into the account the waste hierarchy, encouraging waste minimisation and encouraging the amount the of waste recycled rather than disposed of.

6.6.2 The street cleansing policies are designed to remove fly tipping, graffiti and fly posting speedily to discourage further dumping and other postings.

6.7 Community Impact

6.7.1 The harmonisation of the policies where possible seeks to minimise any community impact. Impacts on any particular areas have been identified in Table 3.

6.8 Equalities

6.8.1 An Equalities Impact Assessment has been carried out and can be found here ([link to web](#)). There are no negative impacts that have been identified.

7. Background Papers

7.1 Equalities Impact Assessment ([link to web](#))
Data Protection Impact Assessment ([link to web](#))