
REPORT OF THE WASTE MANAGEMENT AND RECYCLING SUB-COMMITTEE

1 DEFRA/ALLOCATION OF RECYCLING FUNDING

- 1.1 This item of business was referred by the Waste Management & Recycling Sub-Committee on 18 July 2005 to Full Council with a recommendation that Council agrees a series of recycling initiatives, following a successful bid to DEFRA for additional funding for a smaller recycling vehicle to be used to extend the current kerbside recycling service to those households not currently receiving the service, approximately 4,500 households. A copy of the officer's report to the Sub-Committee is attached at Appendix A.
- 1.2 The Sub-Committee noted that:-
- It was anticipated that the kerbside recycling scheme would be rolled out to the outstanding 4,500 properties from November 2005.
 - Take-up of the kerbside recycling service currently stood at 67% and 87% of residents completing a kerbside recycling questionnaire declared themselves either satisfied or very satisfied with the service.
 - Serviceteam's annual target of 2,260 tonnes was met at the start of week 33 of the kerbside recycling service. Any recyclables collected after this would yield profit sharing of the credits for the Council.
 - The estimated costs at paragraph 4.2 of the officer's report for the collection of the old green bins was on the basis of 6,500 bins having to be collected. There were, however, indications that it would not be necessary to collect all 6,500 bins and that these costs would, accordingly decrease.
 - The costs of £12,750 for blue boxes, identified in the report, were sufficient to cover the purchase costs of 5,000 blue boxes and included provision for larger, communal blue boxes for flatted accommodation. Discussions would be held with Serviceteam to confirm how many blue boxes had already been distributed on the new scheme since November and, if the full number that they had allocated within their initial proposals had not been used, this could be used towards this further expansion to the last 4,500 properties.
 - The extension to the kerbside recycling scheme should be launched with both blue boxes and re-usable red bags, as this would appear more professional and would ensure that all households started the kerbside recycling service on an equal footing. In view of Serviceteam possibly holding a stock of some blue boxes it was anticipated that the costs identified in the report for the provision of blue boxes would be sufficient to also cover the costs of the red bags.

1.3 It is proposed that Council **RESOLVES**

That it be agreed that the following recycling initiatives be implemented:

- Purchase of smaller recycling collection vehicle.
- Collection of old green bins for recycling.
- Purchase of blue boxes and red, re-usable bags.
- Continue with emptying of plastic recycling banks on a weekly frequency.

Sarah Fowler

Head of Administrative & Member Services

Background Papers:-

None

For further information please contact Sonia Worthington on:-

Tel:- 01702 318141

E-Mail:- sonia.worthington@rochford.gov.uk