

REFUSE COLLECTION - ADDITIONAL BIN CRITERIA

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Members' approval to specific criteria, as detailed in paragraph 3.1 of this report, being used as the basis for a fair and consistent assessment of a household's request for an additional refuse bin and to assess the necessity for retaining in the process the right to appeal to the Appeals Committee, should the initial request for the second bin be refused (Minute 194/04 refers).

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Members will be aware that over many years various policies have been in place around whether or not a resident could receive a second bin collection. A brief history is provided below for ease of reference.
- 26.11.98 - the Compulsory Competitive Tendering Panel recommended that the existing policy of making available additional refuse bins be discontinued and that each household be limited to one bin only. (Minute 59/98)
 - 18.2.02 - the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee recommended that residents be granted the right to have 2 wheelie bins (either 120 litres or 240 litres) provided that they pay the purchase price and collection costs (set at £200 for 3 years). Ratified by the Environmental Services Committee on 5.9.02. (Minute 398/02).
 - 20.4.04 – the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommendations to Council included the removal of the policy whereby a resident could purchase a second grey bin on a three year contract. Those residents currently with a second bin would have their collection honoured until either their three year contract finished or for those households that already had a second bin, until that one needed replacing. (Minute 194/04)
 - 27.4.04 – Council ratified the recommendations from the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee of 20.4.04 subject to the following amendment: residents should be able to request the Authority for an additional grey bin and that in the event of such requests being refused by officers, residents should have the right to have their request considered by the Appeals & Licensing Committee. (210/04)
 - 27.4.06 – the Waste Management & Recycling Sub-Committee recommended to discontinue collections of second wheeled bins from those households which do not meet the criteria set out in the report

from September 2006, but to honour the collection for those who purchased the three year collection period. (Minute 34/06)

- 6.6.06 – the Environmental Services Committee resolved that no changes be made with respect to collections of second wheeled bins and that the Waste Management and Recycling Sub-Committee consider the issue of introducing a charge for second wheeled bin collections. (Minute 181/06)

2.2 Therefore the current policy, whilst not automatically entitling residents to receive a second wheeled bin, does allow them to make a request for the extra bin. The criteria below has been used by officers to assess any requests for a second wheeled bin that have been submitted, and this report seeks to formalise these criteria as the accepted means of assessment so that all requests are dealt with on a fair and consistent basis.

3 ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

3.1 The above mentioned criteria which was discussed by Members and officers at the Waste Management & Recycling Sub-Committee on 27 April 2006 and then was part of the report that went to the Environmental Services Committee on 6 June 2006 is detailed below:-

- Households must have 6 or more residents (discretion for children in nappies or specific medical needs).
- Must already be recycling (kerbside and bring banks).
- Pre assessment form sent (see Appendix A).
- Following evaluation and if criteria met, site visit arranged and waste audit carried out (all materials from grey bin are sifted to ensure any recyclables are removed. Residual waste then returned to grey bin and if capacity insufficient, resident qualifies for an additional 140 litre bin.
- Periodical monitoring takes place to ensure criteria continues to be met.
- If application unsuccessful at any stage, householders can appeal.

4 RECYCLING TARGETS AND WASTE MINIMISATION

4.1 As Members are aware, this Council, along with all other Councils, has increasing Government set targets to meet in relation to the percentage of household waste that is recycled or composted. Whilst the Council's performance in this area has been increasing each year, it is falling short of the current targets and therefore needs to maximise the recycling potential within its overall waste management service.

4.2 Waste minimisation is also a very important factor that can have significant impact on the Council's waste management. Implementing the above criteria prioritises recycling activity amongst residents and also avoids providing residents with "over generous" receptacle capacity and thus encouraging increased quantities of waste to be presented for collection and disposal.

4.3 It is also proposed that, if Members were to agree with the criteria detailed in section 3.1 of this report being used for the second bin requests, then the option for an appeal to the Appeals Committee would seem unnecessary, as a firm policy would be in place for officers to follow and on which decisions would be made. As yet there have been no second bin requests taken to the Appeals Committee, although there is currently a request that has been assessed and refused that is asking for a further review and therefore a policy setting out specific assessment criteria would provide a clear reference point and reasoning for the decision.

5 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 An effective process for allocating a second wheeled bin will assist the Council in maximising its recycling performance and contribute to the overall efficiency of the waste management service.

6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

6.1 When providing a second wheeled bin, there is not only the cost of the bin itself but also an additional collection cost per year incurred by the Council.

7 RECOMMENDATION

7.1 It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES**

- (1) That Members note the content of this report and agree that the criteria detailed in section 3.1 of this report be used as the basis for assessing requests for a second wheeled bin.
- (2) That the option of an appeal to the Council's Appeals Committee be removed from the process.

Jeremy Bourne

Head of Community Services

Background Papers:-

None

For further information please contact Jeremy Bourne on:-

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If you would like this report in large print, braille or another language please contact 01702 546366..

APPENDIX A

Application for a Second Wheeled Bin

Applicants Name:

Full Address:

.....

Post Code

Tel. No.

Please list all names and ages of all people residing at the property
(not including applicant)

Name: Age

Name: Age

Name: Age

Name: Age

Name: Age

(Please write additional names on the back of this form)

1(a) Do you currently recycle using the Council's kerbside recycling scheme? (blue box and red /carrier bag) Yes/No

1(b) If Yes – how often do you recycle?

Every Fortnight

Monthly

Occasionally

2. Please state any other ways you recycle or reduce your waste if applicable.

3. Please list how many side bags of waste a week you are producing

4. Please state how you are currently disposing of this additional waste.

5 Do you have transport? Yes/No

6. Please state clearly the reasons you are applying for a second wheeled bin

I apply for a second wheeled bin for the reasons given above

I certify the information given above is correct

Signed: **Date:**

Please return the completed form to:

Waste Management Team
Contracted Services
Rochford District Council
Council Offices
South Street
Rochford
Essex
SS4 1BW

OFFICE USE ONLY		
Date Received:		
Refuse Day:		
Recycling Week Approved	1	2
	Yes	No
Visit Date		
Time		