

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL
HOUSING and ENVIRONMENT SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD

20 July 2015

Report of the Director of Street Scene, Leisure and Technical Services

Part 1- Public

Matters for Information

1 WASTE & STREET SCENE SERVICES UPDATE

Summary

This report details arrangements for refuse, recycling, street cleansing and public convenience cleansing over the Christmas holiday period and also provides an update on a number of projects and initiatives within the service.

1.1 Christmas Collection Arrangements 2015/16

1.1.1 We have previously reported the proposed arrangements for refuse & recycling collections over the Christmas and New Year period to the Local Environmental Management Advisory The general approach taken in previous years has aimed to:

- keep disruption to an absolute minimum;
- provide minimal suspension to green waste collection service, while recognising the need to ensure that no properties go more than 15 days without a black bin collection;
- maintain the green box recycling collections throughout the holiday period; and
- provide notification to all residents in a variety of formats.

1.1.2 As Christmas Day falls on a Friday this year, it is necessary to temporarily suspend the green waste service on that day. This ensures that residents who miss a collection on Christmas Day go no more than 15 days without a black bin collection.

1.1.3 Details of these arrangements will be delivered to households:

- in their annual recycling calendar, delivered during October:
- with a follow up Christmas bin hanger delivered during December;

- via information available on the Council's website;
- and via a media release and use of the Council's social media accounts.

1.1.4 Similar arrangements have worked well in previous years, with only a very small number of complaints received about the green waste suspension.

1.1.5 Having consulted our service contractor and the Waste Disposal Authority on operational considerations and tipping facilities I can confirm the following arrangements for the Christmas and New Year period.

1.1.6 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday Collections

Where the normal collection day is a MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY or THURSDAY there will be no changes to services over the Christmas and New Year period.

1.1.7 Friday Collections

For properties that are on the green waste scheme and are due a **BLACK BIN COLLECTION ON FRIDAY 25 DECEMBER** the collection schedule will be:

	We will collect
Friday 4 December	Green-lidded bin and green box Note: This is the last green-lidded bin collection until Friday 15 January
Friday 11 December	Black bin
Friday 18 December	Black bin and green box
Friday 25 December	NO COLLECTIONS
Friday 1 January	NO COLLECTIONS
Saturday 2 January	Black bin collection with additional sacks and green box
Friday 8 January	Black bin
Friday 15 January	Green-lidded bin and green box

These properties will receive a black bin collection, with additional sacks of waste permitted and green box, on Saturday 2 January, with their next green-lidded bin and green box collection on Friday 15 January.

For properties that are on the green waste scheme and are due a **GREEN BIN COLLECTION ON FRIDAY 25 DECEMBER** the collection schedule will be:

	We will collect
Friday 11 December	Green-lidded bin and green box Note: This is the last green-lidded bin and green box collection until Friday 8 January
Friday 18 December	Black bin
Friday 25 December	NO COLLECTIONS

Friday 1 January	NO COLLECTIONS
Saturday 2 January	Black bin collection with additional sacks
Friday 8 January	Green-lidded bin and green box
Friday 15 January	Black bin

These properties will receive a black bin collection, with additional sacks of waste permitted, on Saturday 2 January with the next green-lidded bin and green box collection on Friday 8 January.

1.1.8 Where the normal collection day is a **FRIDAY** but households have a **weekly black bin or sack** collection:

- those households will continue to receive a weekly collection except for Friday 25 December when there will be no collections – their next collection will be Saturday 2 January.

1.1.9 As in previous years, we will temporarily suspend our “no extra waste” policy. Additional sacks of waste will be taken along with the black bin collections for all properties scheduled in the weeks commencing 28 December and 4 January 2015.

1.2 Recycling “Bring” Sites - Christmas Arrangements 2015/16

1.2.1 Over Christmas and New Year period we usually find an increase in materials, as recycling tonnages peak at our “bring” sites. In order to deal with increased demand and to ensure sites are kept clear of fly-tipping and overflows we will be working with our contractors to:

- increase collections on the lead up to Christmas; and
- re-schedule collections and extend working hours, where possible.

1.3 Street Cleansing - Christmas Arrangements 2015/16

1.3.1 With the exception of Christmas Day, all areas on a daily cleansing schedule will be cleaned on public holidays.

1.4 Saturday Bulky Freighter Service – Christmas Arrangements 2015/16

1.4.1 In order to provide as full as service as possible - whilst maintaining the front-line collections of refuse and recycling - over the Christmas and New Year period, it is necessary to reschedule the Saturday Bulky Freighter Services through December and January.

1.4.2 Refuse freighters are stationed at predetermined locations at specified times around the borough to which residents can take large or bulky items of domestic waste for disposal. These predetermined locations operate on a four-week

programme (usually the first four Saturdays of each month) and are notified to residents via the Council's website and by direct response to enquiries received.

- 1.4.3 In order to ensure sufficient coverage on the main refuse and recycling collections during this period it is necessary to stand down the Saturday bulky service on one weekend in December and one in January as follows.

DECEMBER	
Saturday 5 th December	Week 1 locations
Saturday 12 th December	Week 2 locations
Saturday 19 th December	Week 3 & Week 4 locations
Saturday 26 th December	No Service
JANUARY	
Saturday 2 nd January	No Service
Saturday 9 th January	Week 1 locations
Saturday 16 th January	Week 2 locations
Saturday 23 rd January	Week 3 locations
Saturday 30 th January	Week 4 locations

1.5 Public Conveniences - Christmas Arrangements 2015

- 1.5.1 With the exception of Christmas Day, all public conveniences will be open and cleansed as normal throughout this period.

1.6 Recycling Bring Site, Sainsbury's, Quarry Wood Aylesford

- 1.6.1 Members may be aware that earlier this year we were advised that Sainsbury's had engaged Palm Recycling to provide their own bring site services at their stores. This did not impact on the Council's recycling site at the Angel Centre, Tonbridge as the car park is owned by the Council. However, we were given notice to remove our recycling banks from the Sainsbury's at Quarry Wood, Aylesford by the first week of June.
- 1.6.2 Despite the short notice given, we liaised with our various contractors to ensure that the site removal (of banks, bins and signage) went as smoothly as possible within the deadline. Palm Recycling have now provided banks on site for the collection of mixed paper & card, plastics, cans and glass. We updated our website and information to residents, local Parish Council and local Members.

Although we initially received a small number of queries about the removal of our banks which were referred direct to Sainsbury's, the implementation went fairly smoothly.

1.7 Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Service

- 1.7.1 Members will be aware that the Council provides a separate collection of WEEE waste items via the Saturday Bulky Goods Service. In addition to the static freighter at each site, a smaller vehicle is also provided to collect WEEE items for recycling. While this had initially been partially funded by a one-off contribution from Kent County Council, this only supported the service until the end of June 2015 year.
- 1.7.2 In February this year, the Department for Innovation and Skills, in partnership with Valpak (an organisation which helps producers meet their recycling obligations), launched the WEEE Local Project Fund. The fund was provided by retailers who help them meet their obligations under the UK WEEE Regulations. They invited funding bids from local authorities for projects that increase the amount of WEEE being recycled. We submitted a bid for the funding of the WEEE Saturday Service, and despite the fund being oversubscribed in a highly competitive selection process, we succeeded in obtaining the full amount of £25,700 bid for. This enables us to maintain the current WEEE service until the end of September 2016.
- 1.7.3 In the interim, officers will explore further options for either additional external funding, or for providing the separate collection of WEEE items through different methods, such as banks at bring sites, working with third parties, etc.

1.8 Legal Implications

- 1.8.1 The Council has a statutory duty to provide a refuse collection service. The proposed arrangements ensure that the Council complies with that duty.

1.9 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

- 1.9.1 The costs associated with the collection and contracted services arrangements for Christmas are contained within existing budgets.

1.10 Risk Assessment

- 1.10.1 Careful planning, good communication with residents and coordinated arrangements for the holiday collection period will ensure minimal disruption and effective delivery of these high profile services.

Background papers:

Nil

contact:
David Campbell-Lenaghan
Lesley Letts

