

REPORT TO POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE 22 FEBRUARY 2018
REPORT ON: CESSATION OF DOMESTIC GARDEN WASTE COLLECTIONS DURING THE WINTER PERIOD
REPORT BY: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES
REPORT NUMBER: 67-2018

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval for the discontinuing of domestic garden waste collections during the winter months from December to February.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Discontinue collections of domestic garden waste during the three winter months December to February.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The cessation of the garden waste service over the winter months would result in an annual saving of £45,000.

4 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Dundee City Council currently offers a separate kerbside collection for garden waste from domestic properties. The scheme was launched in 1990 and has been expanded through the years. It is now offered to approximately 43,000 properties throughout the city. The brown bins are collected on a fortnightly cycle from March to November with a monthly collection taking place from December to February. The collection of green waste is not a statutory service that Dundee City Council has to provide to householders.

- 4.2 An analysis of collection tonnages throughout the year shows that the tonnages vary on a month to month basis, with peak collections taking place in the summer period, and quantities collected dropping off during the winter. During the winter months, collections change from fortnightly to monthly, and it has been calculated that on average each route collects 4.47 tonnes per cycle during this period. In the summer months, this figure is significantly higher with an average tonnage per route rising to 13.73 tonnes.

It has been observed that a number of householders do not present their garden waste bin on each cycle during the winter period, and quantities of garden waste contained in bins that are presented tend to be less than at other times of the year. However, the same number of vehicles and crews are required to cover the routes

- 4.3 It is therefore proposed to discontinue the collection of garden waste during the winter period from December to February. Householders could store the smaller quantities of garden waste generated over this period within the brown bin and present this for collection during the first collection cycle in March
- 4.4 It is acknowledged that some householders may wish to continue to dispose of garden waste during the winter period. This can be managed through the existing provision of large skips at both Household Waste Recycling Centres at Baldovie and Riverside where householders can take garden waste all year round. Further information on disposal options would be provided through the council website

4.5 As well as the financial benefit of the suspended collections it is anticipated that a reduction in carbon emissions could be achieved each year by refuse collection vehicles not collecting the small tonnages of garden waste generated during the winter months.

5 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 This report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-Poverty, Equality Impact Assessment and Risk Management.

6 CONSULTATIONS

6.1 All members of the Council Management Team have been consulted and are in agreement with the contents of this report.

7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 None

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Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services

Gary Robertson

Head of Environment

February 2018

Committee Report No: 67-2018

Document Title: Cessation of domestic garden waste collections during the winter period

Document Type: Service

New/Existing: Existing

Period Covered: 01/12/2018 - 28/02/2019

Document Description:

To seek approval for the discontinuing of domestic garden waste collections during the winter months from December to January.

Intended Outcome:

Discontinuation of collections of domestic garden waste during the three winter months December to February.

How will the proposal be monitored?:

Analysis of collection tonnages throughout the year shows that quantities significantly reduce throughout the winter months with tonnage per route falling from 13.7 tonnes to 4.4 tonnes during the winter months. During the discontinuation period, we intend to monitor garden waste deposits at HWRCs as well as monitoring tonnages from the first collections in March 2019.

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A. Equality and Diversity Impacts:

Age: Negative

Disability:	Negative
Gender Reassignment:	No Impact
Marriage and Civil Partnership:	No Impact
Pregnancy and Maternity:	Negative
Race/Ethnicity:	No Impact
Religion or Belief:	No Impact
Sex:	No Impact
Sexual Orientation:	No Impact

Equality and diversity Implications:

There may be a potential impact on the elderly, disabled residents or pregnant women in terms of the additional physical effort of taking garden waste to HWRCs during these winter months.

Proposed Mitigating Actions:

Storage of garden waste in the containers until March 2019 is an option so there is no requirement to take the material to a HWRC site. An additional bin can be provided.

Is the proposal subject to a full EQIA? : No

There may be a potential impact on the elderly, disabled residents or pregnant women in terms of the additional physical effort of taking garden waste to HWRCs during these winter months.

B. Fairness and Poverty Impacts:

Geography

Strathmartine (Ardler, St Mary's and Kirkton):	Not Known
Lochee(Lochee/Beechwood, Charleston and Menzieshill):	Not Known
Coldside(Hilltown, Fairmuir and Coldside):	Not Known
Maryfield(Stobswell and City Centre):	Not Known
North East(Whitfield, Fintry and Mill O' Mains):	Not Known
East End(Mid Craigie, Linlathen and Douglas):	Not Known
The Ferry:	Not Known
West End:	Not Known

Household Group

Lone Parent Families:	Not Known
Greater Number of children and/or Young Children:	Not Known
Pensioners - Single/Couple:	Not Known
Single female households with children:	Not Known
Unskilled workers or unemployed:	Not Known
Serious and enduring mental health problems:	Not Known
Homeless:	No Impact
Drug and/or alcohol problems:	Not Known
Offenders and Ex-offenders:	Not Known
Looked after children and care leavers:	Not Known
Carers:	Not Known

Significant Impact

Employment:	Not Known
Education and Skills:	Not Known
Benefit Advice/Income Maximisation:	Not Known
Childcare:	Not Known
Affordability and Accessibility of services:	Negative

Fairness and Poverty Implications:

Lack of transport to allow material to be taken to a HWRC would be a potential negative impact.

Proposed Mitigating Actions:

Storage of garden waste in the containers until March 2019 is an option so there is no requirement to take the material to a HWRC site. An additional bin can be provided.

C. Environmental Impacts

Climate Change

Mitigating greenhouse gases:	Positive
Adapting to the effects of climate change:	Positive

Resource Use

Energy efficiency and consumption:	Positive
Prevention, reduction, re-use, recovery or recycling waste:	No Impact
Sustainable Procurement:	No Impact

Transport

Accessible transport provision:	No Impact
Sustainable modes of transport:	No Impact

Natural Environment

Air, land and water quality:	Positive
Biodiversity:	No Impact
Open and green spaces:	Not Known

Built Environment

Built Heritage:	No Impact
Housing:	Not Known

Is the proposal subject to Strategic Environmental Assessment

No further action is required as it does not qualify as a Plan, Programme or Strategy as defined by the Environment Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005.

Proposed Mitigating Actions:

N/A

Environmental Implications:

The cessation of collections during the three month period will reduce vehicle emissions and consequently improve air quality.

D. Corporate Risk Impacts

Corporate Risk Implications:

The risk implications associated with the subject matter of this report are 'business as normal' risks. The subject matter is routine and has happened many times before without significant loss. There is comfort that the risks inherent within the activity are either transferred to another party, shared equally and fairly between the Council and another party or are negligible.

Corporate Risk Mitigating Actions:

N/A