

FEES AND CHARGES REPORT

APPENDIX 14 – OPERATIONAL SERVICES

1. Service Description

Operational Services offer a range of much needed services to the local community, including the collection of standard household waste, co-mingled recycling, paper/card collections and clinical waste (sharps) along with chargeable services such as bulky waste, garden waste collections and our new service “Big Bin Clear-out.” They also undertake street cleansing and mechanical road sweeping.

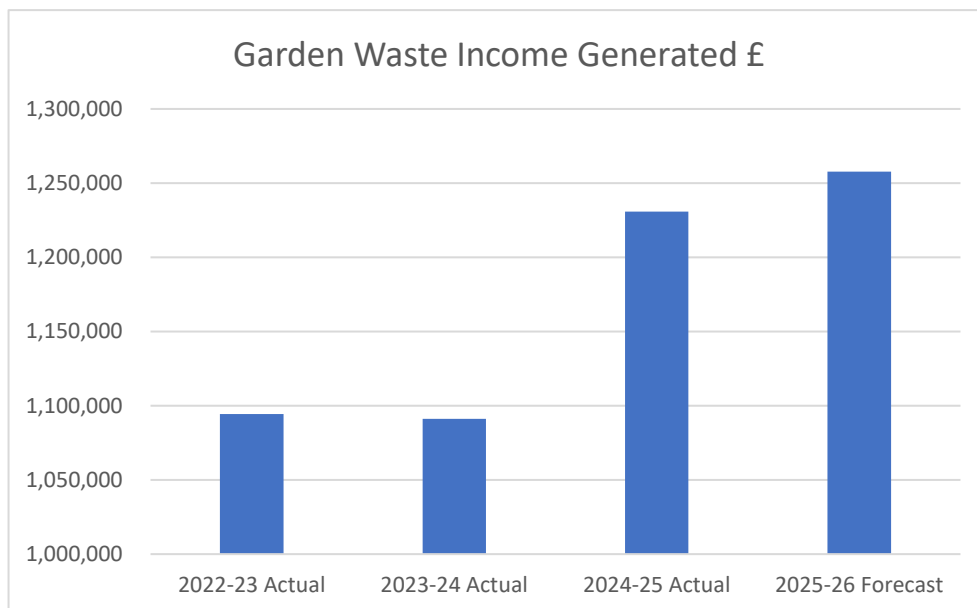
In addition to these services, private road sweeping and collection of bulky items such as fridges and freezers from commercial premises are undertaken.

1a) Price on Application

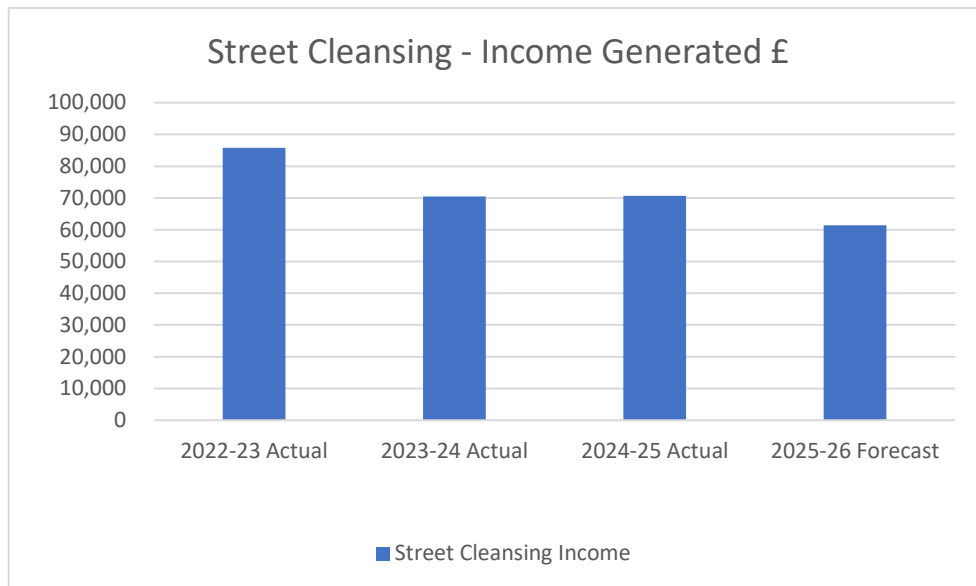
Commercial Waste and Private Road Sweeping – all fees and charges with prices on application, this is due to the variety of requirements of customers. A pricing model has been developed for both service areas to assist officers in developing a price range, based on the individual requirements and specifications of the customer.

2. Prior years analysis, current financial year projections

The graphs below show the actual income achieved for the previous 3 financial years plus a forecast for 2025/2026.



Income for Bulky waste collections has remained between £60-£70k. The price in 2021/2022 was £33.00. This increased to £34.30 in 2022/2023 and was held at that level until 2025/2026 when the fee was increased to £35.50.



Street Cleansing income continues to fall as private work for sweeping and house clearances decline.

As anticipated, fines for the collection of shopping trolleys has also seen a decline in the past three years as supermarkets have taken action to prevent the number of abandoned trolleys. Fines totalled £42.6k in 2022/2023, £28.8k in 2023/2024 and £30.2k in 2024/2025. There is a budget of £18.7k pa within the MTFP for this income. This scheme is not viewed as an income generating service, but one where we anticipate a reduction in income as supermarkets take preventative action.

3. Pricing

3a) Bulky Waste

The demand for this service is expected to remain static. No increase is proposed for this service in 2026/2027 to ensure the service is accessible.

4. Understanding Customers and Markets

Operational services, as mentioned above, offer much needed services within the local community.

5. Proposed Charging

The proposed charges for 2026/2027 are illustrated below.

- 5a) It is proposed to increase the price of new and replacement bins by inflation at 3.2% rounded to the nearest pound. This reflects the increase in the cost of bin stock in the past financial year.
- 5b) It is proposed to freeze the current price for Bulky Waste services to ensure the service is accessible to all our residents.
- 5c) Collection and disposal of fridges and freezers from commercial properties has been increased by inflation at 3.2%.
- 5d) The Big Bin Hire fee is to remain unchanged, as it was a new initiative for 2024/2025, initially as a one year pilot, and now a business as usual service. Activity to be monitored and fees reviewed for 2027/2028.

6. Impact on Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP)

The proposed increase of 3.2% for replacement bins has been reflected in the budget for 2026/2027, with 2.5% applied from 2027/2028.

The forecast income from the Big Bin Hire service has been built into the MTFP from 2026/2027 onwards.

	2026/27 (£)	2027/28 (£)	2028/29 (£)	2029/30 (£)	2030/31 (£)
Current Budget in MTFP	(110,400)	(110,400)	(110,400)	(110,400)	(110,400)
Proposed Budget - Sales Of Garden Sacks	(300)	(300)	(300)	(300)	(300)
Proposed Budget - Special & Bulky Collections	(62,100)	(62,100)	(62,100)	(62,100)	(62,100)
Proposed Budget - Sale Of New/Replacement Bins	(49,800)	(50,800)	(51,800)	(52,800)	(53,900)
Proposed Budget - Big Bin Hire	(18,400)	(19,700)	(21,000)	(22,200)	(22,200)
Impact on MTFP 2025/26 Pressure/ (Saving)	(19,900)	(22,200)	(24,500)	(26,700)	(27,800)

7. Recommendation

Members are requested to approve the charges for the 2026/2027 financial year as detailed in the schedule below.

statutory/statutory range
non statutory

Prosperous Communities Committee

Operational Services

2025/26	Proposed Increase / (Decrease)		2026/27	VAT Amount	2026/27 Charge Inc. VAT	VAT Rate
£	% Type	or £	£	£	£	

NON STAT	Additional Blue Sacks *	Per 5 sacks	£10.50	0.0%	£0.00	£10.50	£0.00	£10.50	OS
NON STAT	*Postage & packaging will be the applicable charge at the time of posting								
NON STAT	Wheeled Bin Replacement (supply & delivery)	Green/Black /Blue/Purple	£37.00	2.7%	£1.00	£38.00	£0.00	£38.00	OS
NON STAT	Wheeled Bins for New Properties (supply & delivery)	Green/Black /Blue/Purple	£37.00	2.7%	£1.00	£38.00	£0.00	£38.00	OS
NON STAT	Bulky Household Waste Collections	Collection articles worth up to 6 points	£35.50	0.0%	£0.00	£35.50	£0.00	£35.50	OS
NON STAT		Additional articles worth 1 point collected at the same time	£4.65	0.0%	£0.00	£4.65	£0.00	£4.65	OS
NON STAT	Collection and Disposal of Fridges and Freezers from Commercial Premises		£110.75	3.2%	£3.50	£114.25	£0.00	£114.25	OS
NON STAT	Big Bin Hire for a week - 1,100 litre bin		£60.00	0.0%	£0.00	£60.00	£0.00	£60.00	OS
NON STAT	Big Bin Hire for a week - 660 litre bin		£50.00	0.0%	£0.00	£50.00	£0.00	£50.00	OS