



**Prosperous Communities
Committee**

Tuesday, 28 April 2026

Subject: Waste Services Policies Review

Report by:

Operational Services Manager

Contact Officer:

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Operational Services Manager

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Purpose / Summary:

Changes to Waste and Recycling Operational
Policies after two-year review

RECOMMENDATION(S):

- 1-That all changes in table one be approved for making to the Waste & Recycling Operational Services Policy
- 2-That the Policy be reviewed and return to committee in 2 years

IMPLICATIONS

Legal:

(N.B.) Where there are legal implications the report **MUST** be seen by the MO

Financial :

FIN/175/26/PC/JT

There are no financial implications arising from this report

Staffing :

(N.B.) Where there are staffing implications the report **MUST** have a HR Ref

Equality and Diversity including Human Rights :

NB: Please explain how you have considered the policy's impact on different groups (for example: young people, elderly, ethnic minorities, LGBT community, rural residents, disabled, others).

Data Protection Implications :

Climate Related Risks and Opportunities:

Section 17 Crime and Disorder Considerations:

Health Implications:

Title and Location of any Background Papers used in the preparation of this report :

*Wherever possible please provide a hyperlink to the background paper/s
If a document is confidential and not for public viewing it should not be listed.*

Risk Assessment :

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Call in and Urgency:

Is the decision one which Rule 14.7 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules apply?

i.e. is the report exempt from being called in due to urgency (in consultation with C&I chairman)

Yes

No

Key Decision:

A matter which affects two or more wards, or has significant financial implications

Yes

No

Executive Summary

If the main body of your report is longer than 4 sides of A4 then you are required to complete an executive summary. Please summarise the entire content of the report, its purpose and the decisions you require on one side of A4.

1 Introduction

- 1.1 West Lindsey District Council's Waste and Recycling Operational Policies aim to ensure that our waste and recycling services operate effectively and efficiently in order to maximise recycling and reduce the amount of residual waste.
- 1.2 The policy document is designed to lay out agreed policies and procedures that are clearly defined, ensuring transparency and maintaining certainty for residents, Council members and Officers of the District Council.
- 1.3 Under the terms of the Environmental Protection Act 1990, West Lindsey District Council is classed as a Waste Collection Authority, and as such, under section 45(1) we have a statutory duty to collect household waste from all domestic properties within our administrative area.
- 1.4 To comply with amendments made to the Environments Act in 2021 which states all household shall receive a separate weekly food waste collection service from 31st March 2026
- 1.5 Under Section 46(4) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990, the Council has specific powers to stipulate:
 - The size and type of the collection receptacle(s)
 - Where the receptacle(s) must be placed for the purpose of collection and emptying
 - The materials or items which may or may not be placed within the receptacle(s)
- 1.6 Any residents not complying with the Council's requirements, as per the Section 46 notification, may be subject to a fixed penalty ticket or other legal action, or a loss of the collection service.
- 1.7 It is intended that the policy document will outline how West Lindsey District Council will deliver the refuse and recycling collection service and with appropriate education and support, enforcement should not be required.
- 1.8 This policy was last reviewed in January 2022 with a full review date set for April 2024, a full review has been undertaken with the following table highlighting the changes which are recommended from Appendix A (current Waste and Recycling Operational Policies).

Table 1 – policies to be reviewed

	Policies to be reviewed	April 2026	Reasons
Policy 2	Provision of wheeled bins	Black bin (residual waste) capacity to be reduced due to weekly collection of food waste. Suggestions are 240 bins for over 6 people in the household.	Current bin capacity will be in excess of what is needed once weekly food waste collections come into force. Reasons to limit black bin capacity are to encourage recycling and to consider forthcoming ETS charges for waste disposed of at Efw plants
Policy 3	Retrieval of any bin	Each property should have the normal entitlement of bins (1 x 180 black, 1 x 240 blue and 1 x 240 purple lidded bins). There should be no reason to remove these bins and they should remain at the property. If in exceptional circumstances, we remove any bins (upon request of the resident) a charge will be made to re-instate these bins.	For reasons of efficiency
Policy 5	Presentation of Refuse and Recyclables	Bins must not be used for storage of any other items, such as deliveries. The	Several instances where customers have claimed items have been left in bins and had to pay to replace them

			Council will not compensate for any items stored in the bin and then emptied in to the collection vehicle on the collection day.	
Policy 9		Separate Food Waste Collections	Policy added to cover food waste	New waste collection
Policy 14		Premises in multiple occupancy	Added that the Council will not return for bins/sacks when access on collection day is blocked.	To give further details to the current wording
Policy 13		Presentation of additional recyclables	Added: No additional food waste presented for collection will be taken. The scheme is designed to reduce the amount of food waste, and excess will therefore not be collected.	Aim is to reduce the amount of food waste being generated
Policy 15		Missed collections	Added the already agreed policy on not returning for missed caddies	Policy agreed and in FAQs on website
Policy 17		Stolen Wheeled bin	Include that in order for us to provide a replacement bin free of charge, the bin needs to have been stolen on collection day. The only	In order to be consistent with our FAQ's on our web-site and to reduce the number of free bins being issued. Residents need to keep their bins secure at their property during the week.

			exception to this is when the resident obtains a crime reference number.	
Policy 23		Bulky Waste Collection Service	Refunds only given if 24 hours' notice is given	Collection already scheduled and instructions issued to crews. It is considered fair to limit refunds to those who give 24 hours notice
Policy 23		Bulky Waste Collection Service	Add gas bottles onto the list of unacceptable items	Not classified as household waste
Policy 26		Village Halls and similar premises	Food waste not included in allowance for these premises	The allowance is given for the use of public meetings. These events should not generate this type of waste.

2 Recommendations:

The current policies have been reviewed, and the following recommendations are suggested: -

1-All changes in table one approved for making to the Waste & Recycling Operational Services Policy

2-Review and return to committee in 2 years

It is necessary to amend these policies based on the above recommendations to provide clarity for both residents and Customer Services on the services included in the Waste and Recycling Operational Policies.

To make these policies easier for residents to understand, a few minor changes to wording have been made for a more consistent approach in terminology. In some cases, wording is now less formal such as in the case of legal powers available to us.