

APPENDIX THREE

Introducing an additional garden waste subscription – opportunities and challenges

Opportunities	Challenges
<p>Source of income – a financial appraisal will be undertaken to estimate the income from introducing a subscription service.</p>	<p>WRAP reports that across the UK, most authorities average between a 30-40% take up by existing garden waste service users when moving to a charged service from a free of charge provision.</p> <p>It is estimated that 50% of households in the district currently have a second garden bin, but an audit will take place as part of the full appraisal. However, based on this estimate less garden waste would be collected impacting on the household waste recycling rate causing it to potentially decrease between 2.62% - 3.74%. This would be in conflict with the council's Recycle more campaign. Further information is available in the table on the next page.</p> <p>This is further supported as NWLDC collects 254 kg's of garden waste per household which is the most in Leicestershire and is 65.1kg's more than Hinckley and Bosworth Council which collect the second most garden waste in Leicestershire. Further information is available in the table on the next page.</p>
<p>All households would have the opportunity to have more than one garden bin.</p>	<p>In the Our Waste, Our Resources: a Strategy for England published by DEFRA in December 2018, it is exploring whether households with gardens should have access to free garden waste collections. It also recognises garden waste sent to landfill can generate greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>For those households which are not willing to pay a subscription for the collection of additional garden waste, it could lead to them disposing of additional garden waste in the black bin, meaning the garden waste would be sent to landfill. This would conflict with the council's zero carbon agenda. It would not only be environmentally damaging, but it would have a negative impact upon the household waste recycling rate as outlined above.</p>
	<p>Customers could perceive a subscription charge as a "stealth" tax which could cause reputational damage to Waste Services and the council itself.</p>

Take up rate of an additional garden waste bin subscription	Estimated loss of garden waste collected in tonnes	Estimated impact on the household waste recycling rate
30%	2,611.96	-3.74%
40%	2,238.82	-3.19%
50%	1,865.69	-2.62%

The above is based on 11,194.11 tonnes of garden waste collected from households during 2019/20.

Local Authority	Garden waste collected per household in kg's during 2019/20
North West Leicestershire District Council	254.0
Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council	188.9
Harborough District Council	182.6
Melton Borough Council	180.6
Blaby District Council	156.0
Charnwood Borough Council	149.7
Oadby and Wigston Borough Council	137.8