

STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

**AGENDA
ITEM NO**

4 FEBRUARY 2021

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Report Title	UPDATE TO WASTE POLICY			
Purpose of Report	To recommend the adoption of a supplementary waste policy.			
Decision(s)	<p>The Committee RESOLVES to:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">a) Approve the supplementary Waste Policy for adoption, and</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">b) Delegate authority to the Community Services Manager to finalise any minor alterations to design and formatting.</p>			
Consultation and Feedback	Drafts have been shared with colleagues in our Customer Service and Tenant Service Teams and with Ubico via the Service Review Working Group and Environmental Services Protection Board.			
Report Author	<p>Michael Towson, Community Services Manager Email: michael.towson@stroud.gov.uk</p> <p>And Gemma Webb, Senior Community Services Officer Email: gemma.webb@stroud.gov.uk</p>			
Options	N/A			
Background Papers	See previous Multi-Service Policy Report			
Appendices	Appendix 1 – Supplementary Waste Policy			
Implications (further details at the end of the report)	Financial	Legal	Equality	Environmental
	Yes	Yes	No	No

1. INTRODUCTION / BACKGROUND

- 1.1 In December 2015 Committee approved the current multi-service contract policies, in light of the move to Ubico and imminent 2016 waste scheme changes.
- 1.2 The new scheme and associated policies have driven big improvements in SDC environmental services, as previously reported.
- 1.3 This report presents a supplementary waste policy, intended to be fully accessible to residents.

2. MAIN POINTS

- 2.1 The new document, illustrated as Appendix 1, does not seek to change existing waste policy, rather it is intended to offer residents a more transparent overview of the services that can be expected from their council and waste collection authority.
- 2.2 The new document also provides a robust framework for SDC and Ubico staff to work within.
- 2.3 Unlike the entirety of policies previously approved by committee, the new supplementary document relates solely to standard waste collection elements. This is where the majority of customer contact is generated and given the comprehensive nature of this tool, it is hoped that residents will further be able to self-serve and find answers to questions.
- 2.4 At present SDC don't have any such publicly available document and this contrasts with many waste collection authorities, who have prepared and posted this information on the authority website.
- 2.5 Other than policy change previously brought to this committee, such as the introduction of charges for the delivery of receptacles, there are only minor alterations, which have generally been brought about by operational need, or best practice. It should also be pointed out that none of the alterations represent a change to working practices, which have been dealt with as detailed, for multiple years. The changes can be summarised as:
 - a) Battery Recycling – batteries represent a considerable fire risk and have caused multiple vehicle and transfer station blazes throughout the country. The original policy indicates an intention to recycle batteries. However, given the legislation that mandates retailers to offer a free take back scheme on site, we no longer collect at the kerbside.
 - b) Additional Waste at Christmas/New Year – for many years we have stipulated that residents can present one additional sack on the collection immediately after Christmas, whilst the original policy suggests we will accept two.
 - c) Additional Waste Capacity for large families and similar – In recent years we have changed from offering an additional wheelie bin to provide extra capacity, to giving a supply of beige sacks. This allows regular review of the requirement for additional capacity and limits additional capacity to realistic levels.
 - d) Communal Bins – where communal (commercial style 1100 litre) bins are used, as a preference over 140 litre bins for individual flats, we no longer provide the receptacle and now place the onus on the management company to buy and maintain a bin that meets our specifications. This is usually catered for within the management fee.
 - e) Recycling Boxes and Food Waste Caddies – the size of these receptacles has changed slightly to reflect market popularity and in the case of recycling boxes, to minimise health and safety implications for crews. Previously SDC used recycling

boxes with a 55 litre capacity and food waste caddies with 7 litres capacity. For the last number of years, the standard issue has been 44 litres and 5 litres respectively. Residents can use multiple receptacles to increase this capacity if desired.

f) Missed Collections – the timescale has been simplified, changing from rectification by the end of the following day, to a simpler 48 hours.

3. CONCLUSION

3.1 The new supplementary waste policy doesn't make wholesale changes to policy, rather it brings existing practices up to date and outlines the standard waste services that all SDC residents can expect. It gives comprehensive detail regarding processes and service.

3.2 The additional document will be particularly useful in determining expectations in non-standard circumstances.

3.3 Should the use of the new document be approved, it will be further proofed and published on the SDC website as soon as possible.

4. IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Financial Implications

There are no Financial Implications directly related to this report as it is a recommendation to adopt the supplementary Waste Policy.

Adele Rudkin, Accountant
Email: adele.rudkin@stroud.gov.uk

4.2 Legal Implications

The Council's powers and responsibilities in regard to waste collection are set out in the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (EPA 1990), and the various regulations made under the Act.

The supplementary Waste Policy should give effect to the relevant provisions of the EPA 1990, in particular Part II of the Act which relates to the collection and disposal of household and other waste.

One Legal
Email: Patrick.arran@stroud.gov.uk

4.3 Equality Implications

An EIA has been carried out by Officers in relation to the decision made in this report and no equality implications arise.

4.4 Environmental Implications

There are no significant implications within this category.