

# RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

---

Agenda Item No. 7

meeting date: TUESDAY, 1 SEPTEMBER 2020  
title: RECYCLING REPORT  
submitted by: JOHN HEAP – DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES  
principal author: ADRIAN HARPER – HEAD OF ENGINEERING SERVICES

## 1 PURPOSE

1.1 To provide Members the opportunity to review the criteria for the issuing of 240L bins rather than the standard of 140L bins for recycling.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Community Objectives – To sustain a strong and prosperous Ribble Valley.
- Corporate Priorities – To protect and enhance the existing environmental quality of our area.

## 2 BACKGROUND

2.1 It has previously been suggested by way of the 2019/20 District Grant Fund application to offer free exchange of the normal 140L blue bins to a larger 240L bin for households of 5 or more.

2.2 During “lockdown” the Council has been inundated with requests for larger blue recycling bins.

## 3 ISSUES

3.1 Unfortunately this element of the District Grant fund application was refused.

3.2 The criteria for households of 6 or more residents is to be offered a larger burgundy residual bin. However, more recently, when a larger burgundy bin has been requested, the residents have been offered an alternative of a larger blue bin instead. By removing the recycling from the burgundy bin its current capacity is still viable. This option has been welcomed by most callers.

3.2 This has now led to residents seeing neighbours with larger blue bins and they also call in to request the same, however there are not enough residents living in the household.

3.3 The options open to the Council to allow these residents who want to recycle more are:

- change the criteria for the numbering of person at the property;
- charge the admin/delivery charge of £40 for a 240L bin for those households who don't qualify for the 5 or more rule whilst retaining existing criteria for free issue;
- retain the status quo;

3.4 There are a number of households who have indicated that they would be happy to pay for the exchange to a larger 240L blue bin.

3.5 Previously when a request for a larger green bin was received the household was issued with a larger bin free of charge. However, there is concern, particularly for the Longridge area, that the collection vehicles will not have the capacity to cope with all the extra recycling.

#### 4 RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications:

- Resources – Potential cost for the larger bins if they are free to households. Potential capacity issue for the collection of bins from the borough.
- Technical, Environmental and Legal – The update on the increased recycling and the associated reduction of waste going to landfill can only be considered as positive.
- Political – This will be welcomed by the public who genuinely want to recycle more.
- Reputation – This rise in the rate of recycling can only be good for the authority.

#### 5 **RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE**

5.1 Consider whether it is time to amend the criteria for the issuing of 240l. blue bins

ADRIAN HARPER  
HEAD OF ENGINEERING SERVICES

JOHN HEAP  
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

For further information please ask for Adrian Harper on 01200 414523.

REF: AH/COMMUNITY/ 01092020