

Written response to: Business and Transformation Scrutiny Panel

Resolution:

That the Finance, Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder provide the Panel with a written response regarding the waste receptacle overspend.

Written response from: Finance, Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder

Response: The capital funding is used to support the purchase of new wheeled bins for refuse and garden waste and for bags and boxes for recycling. In addition, we use this funding to pay for the refurbishment or replacement of the larger euro bins that are used at our local recycling sites and at flats etc. Residents are asked to pay towards the cost of replacement bins that are lost or stolen but we make no charge for the provision of bins that need replacing due to damage. Recycling containers are also provided free of charge to residents to encourage recycling; we place no limit on the number of bags / boxes residents may present as we seek to maximise recycling. We do however monitor the number of bags / boxes issued per household and to help control our costs a charge was introduced in April 2019 to cover the cost of delivery of recycling containers. Recycling containers remain free to collect from the Civic Centre.

In 2018/19 we committed funding as follows:

• Refuse bins:	1,028no.	Cost £17,949
• Garden waste bins:	1,010no.	Cost £17,254
• Recycling bags:	15,000no.	Cost £31,018
• Recycling boxes:	4,410no.	Cost £13,070
• Recycling box covers	3,000no.	Cost £1,560
• Euro containers (new)	28no.	Cost £1,416
• Euro containers (refurb)	56 no.	Cost £5,365
• Art work for bins		Cost £320

In 2018/19, supplying 435 new homes each with a suite of recycling bags, boxes and wheeled bins cost £18,338.

Our priority is to ensure that our residents have the necessary bins, bags and boxes to enable them to manage their refuse and recycling responsibly and for the council to fulfil its statutory duties. Not only does this ensure that we fulfil our statutory duties, but also aims to protect our reputation, to avoid complaints and increased case load for officers and elected members, to improve the local street scene and to reduce the risk of vermin should householders be unable to place their refuse in an appropriate container.

Date: 23/07/19