

**ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS**

<b>1.</b>	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Cabinet Member for Safe and Attractive Neighbourhoods</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>18th February, 2011</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Title:</b>	<b>Bulky Items and Special Collections: Price Review 2011/12</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Programme Area:</b>	<b>Environment and Development Services</b>

## **5. Summary**

- 5.1** This report outlines the prices to be charged to customers for the collection and disposal of bulky items and special collections from households with effect from 1<sup>st</sup>. April 2011.

## **6. Recommendations**

- 6.1 CABINET MEMBER FOR SAFE AND ATTRACTIVE NEIGHBOURHOOD IS REQUESTED TO APPROVE:**
- A). THE PROPOSED PRICE CHANGES FOR THE STANDARD COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF BULKY ITEMS FROM HOUSEHOLDS FOR IMPLEMENTATION FROM 1<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 2011.**
- B). THE PROPOSED PRICE CHANGES FOR SPECIAL COLLECTIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION FROM 1<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 2011.**

- 7.1 The Council has a statutory duty to collect household waste and if requested by the occupier of a premise to do so, may make a reasonable charge for the collection of bulky items. This price review takes account of the costs to be incurred by the Council during the review period, including the effect of inflation and the Government's announced increase in Landfill Tax by a further £8 per tonne to £56 per tonne.
- 7.2 In setting our prices for 2011/12 it is important that we do not suppress demand for the service.
- 7.3 All "white goods" and "cathode ray tubes (CRT's)", collected on the service (including fridges, cookers, televisions and computer monitors) are segregated and taken to our Household Waste Recycling Centres for processing and recycling
- 7.4 The full implementation of the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Regulations on 1 July 2007 has increased the number of items which can no longer be sent to landfill. The requirement to segregate more waste adds to collection costs, but the implementation of the WEEE Directive and the "producer pays" principle reduces our processing costs. All our Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC's) are now registered as Designated Collection Facilities (DCF's) for WEEE. An agreement has been made with a Producer Compliance Scheme (PCS) which now meets the processing costs for fridges and televisions previously paid for by the Council.
- 7.5 The WEEE savings do not fully offset the costs associated with the service, therefore **it is proposed that prices are increased by 5% with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011.**
- 7.6 The WEEE savings do not extend to Special Collections (DIY waste, House Clearances, etc). Inflation and Landfill Tax increases in the subsequent years means it is not possible to continue to hold these prices at the 2010/11 level. **It is, therefore, proposed that the price charged to customers for Special Collections is increased by 10%.** Full details of these charges are included in Appendix 1.
- 7.7 It is recognised that specific members of our community may still find the charges difficult to bear. Therefore, a discounted price will continue to be offered to Rothercard holders at 50% of the normal rate.

## **8. Finance**

- 8.1 The revised charges made to customers are intended to continue to meet the full costs incurred by the Council in providing the service.

## **9. Risks and Uncertainties**

- 9.1 The list of waste items requiring separate collection is likely to increase in the future. The Bulky Items Collection Service provides the opportunity to segregate such waste items at source and contribute towards achieving our targets for landfill avoidance.

- 9.2** Demand for the Bulky Items Collection Service is price sensitive. A too high charge for the service may lead to some individuals considering alternative ways of dealing with their bulky items of waste, which at worst, may include illegal methods of disposal. Such illegal methods may include fly tipping. An increase in the incidence of fly tipping would undermine our aim to work with the community to maintain and improve the street scene to a standard which promotes civic pride and community responsibility.
- 9.3** Benchmarking exercises have been conducted with other authorities to show direct comparison to charges of bulky waste collections. Details and charges highlighted in comparison table Appendix 2

## **10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications**

- 10.1** The Bulky Items Collection Service provides a convenient means by which householders without their own transport (and not able to access our Household Waste Recycling Centres) are able to dispose of their bulky items of waste. A discounted price is offered through Rothercard to assist those with less resource. This follows the Corporate Cross Cutting Theme of “Fairness” by providing open and accessible services.
- 10.2** The collection of bulky items contributes towards providing clean, green and well maintained neighbourhoods and is complementary to the Corporate Priority Theme “Rotherham Safe”.
- 10.3** All “white goods” and “cathode ray tubes (CRT’s)”, collected on the service (including fridges, cookers, televisions and computer monitors) are segregated and taken to our Household Waste Recycling Centres for processing and recycling. This reduces input to landfill, recycles more and is a positive development in achieving sustainable methods of waste management.
- 10.4** All household items collected and segregated for recycling count towards our recycling targets and contribute towards increasing our rating for *NI192* “Percentage of Household Waste Recycled.”

## **11. Background Papers and Consultation**

- 11.1** APPENDIX 1 – Proposed Scale of Charges for Bulky Items and Special Collections of Household Waste – 2011/12
- 11.2** APPENDIX 2 – Bulky Items Collection Service – Benchmarking Information.

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