



## OFFICER DECISION RECORD

This form should be used to record Executive decisions taken by Officers

<b>Decision Ref. No:</b>			
<b>Service Area:</b>	Environment	<b>Date:</b>	June 2024
<b>Contact Name:</b>	Georgina Fry	<b>Tel No:</b>	01202 126219
<b>E-mail:</b>	<a href="mailto:georgina.fry@bcpcouncil.gov.uk">georgina.fry@bcpcouncil.gov.uk</a>		
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Simpler Recycling Waste Reforms – Food waste</b>		
<b>Decision taken:</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To purchase six food waste collection vehicles and required food waste containers and bins using £1.53M new burdens funding to support the introduction of food waste collections to Poole and all flats by 31 March 2026 as set out in the Simpler Recycling Waste Reforms Cabinet Report.</li> </ul>			
<b>Reasons for the decision:</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To comply with the council's legal obligations under the Environment Act 2021 to offer every household (including flats) in England three waste containers for dry recycling, food waste and residual (non-recyclable) waste by 31 March 2026.</li> <li>To offer flexible, comprehensive and efficient waste collections that engage residents to effectively manage their waste.</li> <li>To offer service parity by introducing food waste collections in Poole and to all flats.</li> </ul>			
<b>Background:</b>			
<p>Cabinet unanimously approved the recommendations set out in the Simpler Recycling Waste Reforms Cabinet Report.</p> <p>Due to the value of the spend, the decision taken above should have then progressed to Council on 4 June 2024, which was cancelled due to the upcoming national election.</p> <p>Due to the lengthily lead time for waste collection vehicles, these six food waste vehicles need to be procured urgently to ensure their availability to meet the legislation timescales by March 2026.</p>			
<b>Options considered:</b>			
<p>Option 1 – Introduce food waste collections to households in Poole, from one 23 litre container, and communal flat properties in Poole and Bournemouth, using one 140 litre bin per 8 flat units, in October 2025.</p> <p><b>Option 2</b> – Introduce food waste collections to households in Poole, from one 23 litre container, and communal flat properties in Poole and Bournemouth, using one 140 litre bin per 8 flat units, when legally required by 31 March 2026 - <b>recommended</b></p>			

Option 3 – Introduce food waste collections to households in Poole using a 23 litre container on 31 March 2026 and require flats properties to opt-in to receive the service, using one 140 litre bin per 8 flat units.

**Consultations undertaken:**

The proposal was reviewed and supported by Operations Director Management Team, Corporate Management Board, Portfolio Holder, Overview & Scrutiny for Environment, Cabinet.

An Equality Impact Assessment screening tool has been completed and approved by the EIA panel. A full Decision Impact Assessment (DIA) has been completed

**Note:** It is the responsibility of the ‘Responsible Officer’ – that is the Officer making the decision – to obtain the comments and signature of the Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer **before** taking the decision and then send the completed record of the decision to Democratic Services for publication.

**Finance and Resourcing Implications:**

**Funding identified:**

The new burdens doctrine states all new requirements placed on local authorities by central government must be fully assessed and funded. Household food waste collections are acknowledged as a new requirement with three funding streams awarded for:

- a. **Capital transitional costs** in 2023/24 - £1,537,110 awarded for BCP Council (£613,800 for collections vehicles and £539,326 for containers in January 2024, plus an additional £383,984 in March 2024). Officers are awaiting further response from DEFRA on the funding challenge submitted by BCP Council in January 2024.
- b. **Resource transitional cost** (implementation funding) from 2024/25 – amount to be awarded to BCP Council is currently unknown.
- c. **Ongoing resource/revenue cost** from 1 April 2026 for all food waste collections - amount to be awarded is currently unknown.

Capital costs for introduction of food waste collections to Poole and flats in the BCP area are anticipated at £1.533M:

	<b>Capital costs</b>	<b>New burdens funding awarded</b>
Food waste containers, caddies & 140 litre bins	£ 663,590	£ 539,326
6 x 12 tonne collection vehicle	£ 870,000	£ 613,800
Allocated following provision of revised property numbers to DEFRA		£ 383,984
	<b>£ 1,533,590</b>	<b>£ 1,537,110</b>

Resource transitional costs for introduction of food waste collections to Poole and flats in BCP have been modelled at £378K if new burdens funding is providing for food waste liners or £309K if liners are not funded.

	<b>Transitional costs</b>
Liners*	£ 69,600
Container delivery - house	£ 138,292
Container delivery - flat	£ 12,746
Communications	£ 157,611

£	378,249
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\* Supplying liners is reliant on the provision of new burdens funding to cover liner costs.

Ongoing revenue costs for delivering food waste collections to Poole and flats in BCP are anticipated at £650K per annum:

	Revenue costs	
Staff	£	771,673
Vehicles	£	148,400
Treatment	-£	269,972
	£	650,101

Ongoing revenue costs should be awarded under the new burdens doctrine to BCP Council from 1 April 2026 for all food waste collections, including those currently in operation in Bournemouth and Christchurch.

**Name: Adam Richens**

**Date: 24 June 2024**

**Signature (of Chief Finance Officer):**



**Legal Implications:**

Section 57 of the Environment Act 2021 states a requirement on Waste Collection Authorities in England, to separately collect food waste from all households on a weekly basis for composting.

In October 2023, DEFRA released its 2021 Consistency (now renamed Simpler Recycling) consultation response, which detailed requirements under the Environment Act 2021, that Councils in England must offer every household (including flats) three waste containers for dry recycling, food waste and residual (non-recyclable) waste by 31 March 2026.

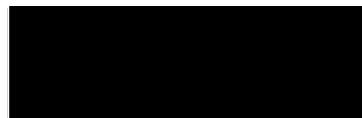
All required procurement to purchase vehicles, containers and other requirements to implement the new waste services will comply with BCP Council's financial and procurement regulations, in consultation with the corporate procurement and finance teams.

BCP Council will comply with the conditions of the new burdens grant and provide financial reporting on the spend of the funding to DEFRA quarterly from 31 October 2024 to 31 March 2026.

**Name: Janie Berry**

**Date: 24 June 2024**

**Signature (of Deputy Monitoring Officer):**



**Risk Assessment:**

There are delivery risks associated with timescales for implementation of the food waste service in Poole and flats, particularly related to the lead times associated with new food waste vehicles and site visits required to assess flats for food waste provisions. Vehicle procurement has been progressed, ready to award as soon as funding is received from DEFRA and the decision is approved by Council. Food waste information has been recorded at flat site visits over the last 3 months and a resource identified to continue progression.

There are financial risks associated with the new burdens funding awarded to BCP Council via the resource transitional stream and ongoing revenue stream if not sufficient to cover costs of BCP Council implementing and operating food waste collections. Detailed operational and financial modelling has been completed by BCP Council and DEFRA has been receptive to challenge over the insufficient funding initially awarded to BCP Council in the first capital funding stream. If insufficient funding is provided by DEFRA, officers may consider options to utilise BCP Council's Waste Infrastructure Fund to 'top up' new burdens funding if needed.

There are risks associated with low participation in food waste collections particularly in flats and for those properties required to pay for recycling sacks, may not increase BCP Council's recycling rate as anticipated. A comprehensive communications campaign will support the waste reforms, which will include instructional and motivational messaging on the benefits of food waste recycling.

**If the change is not made the following risks are possible:**

BCP Council will not be legally compliant with Section 57 of the Environment Act 2021.

**Name: Georgina Fry****Date: 18.06.24****Signature (of Officer Completing Assessment):****Impact Assessments:**

Note:

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**Information for publication / not for publication**

Note:

- This information can be public.

**Background Papers**

Simpler Recycling Waste Reforms Cabinet Report

<https://democracy.bpcouncil.gov.uk/documents/s49688/Simpler%20Recycling%20Waste%20Reforms.pdf>

WRAP (2020) Waste and Recycling Technical Support to BCP Council

Simpler Recycling – Consultation Outcome – Governments response - November 2023 <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/consistency-in-household-and-business-recycling-in-england/outcome/government-response>

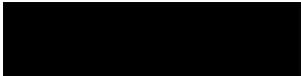
Any declaration of interest by the Officer responsible for the decision	Nature of Interest
Yes/No	

**Note:** No Officer having an personal financial interest in any matter should take a decision on that matter. Other interests of a non-disqualifying matter should be recorded here.

Any conflict of interest declared by a Cabinet Member who is consulted by the Officer taking the decision	Name of Cabinet Member	Nature of interest	Details of any dispensation granted by the Monitoring Officer
Yes/No			

**Decision taken by: (print name and designation)**

**Graham Farrant – Chief Executive**

**Signature:**  **Date of Decision 24 June 2024**

**Date Decision Effective: 24 June 2024**

**Date of Publication of record of decision: 25 June 2024**

**Note: A record of this decision should be kept by the Service Area within which the decision falls.**