

Information for	GLA
Topic	Food Waste Collection Cessation Information
Author	Kitran Eastman – Street Scene Director (London Borough Barnet)
Date	9 th July 2018

Introduction:

On 27th June in a letter received by Cllr Cornelius the Leader of Barnet Council from Mayor Khan, regarding “*London Environment Strategy Withdrawal of Weekly Separate Food Waste Collection – Consultation Prior to the issuing of a Mayoral direction*”. Below is the below information was requested:

Information Requested:

- a) *“All specific or general cost and performance data prepared, considered or used by Council officers or members in their assessment of the ongoing financial and operational viability of the Brown Box Collection and the cost and performance of any comparators (e.g. leaving food waste in residual bins for onward processing at Edmonton EFW plant)*
- b) *Whether and what alternatives (if any) to cessation of the Brown Box Collection were prepared or considered including and specific analysis and options appraisal that sought to place the service’s withdrawal in the explicit context of ‘other choices’ that it could be assessed against and the extent to which a full range of cost savings options was considered.*
- c) *Any specific work undertaken to demonstrate the operational and performance impact(s) on the Council its recycling service and targets (and the targets in my LES) of the service’s withdrawal, and planned services enhancements (if any) that it can demonstrate the Council will continue to drive forward its performance and make a meaningful and proportionate contributions to the London wide targets in my LES*
- d) *The relevant report (Street Scene Operational Changes) to 5 June Environment Committee meeting makes significant claims of the preferred environmental performance of withdrawing the separate Brown Box Collections and requiring householders to leave their food waste in residual collections (black bin) for onward processing at the Energy from Waste plant at Edmonton. Please provide all relevant data and analysis that was prepared used or considered in making this assessment*
- e) *(Without prejudice to the above) all other information or other data/material that constitutes a “background paper” to the Street Scene Operational Changes report considered on 5 June 2018, within the meaning of s100D(5) of Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)*

Information Available:

#	Information Title and Details	Information location	Relevant Request
1	Policy and Resource Committee Reports	This paper provides an update on the council’s financial position and the process for updating the council’s Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) to 2023/4, to ensure that future challenges are managed and opportunities realised. P&R Paper June 2018 P&R Paper July 2018	E
2	Environment Committee - Business Planning report. November 2017	The update to the Environment Section of the Council Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) for 2018 to 2020. Savings to be required from the Environment Committee are £4.7m in this period. Environment Committee Business Planning Report Savings Appendix - Business Planning Report	A, B, E

Information for	GLA
Topic	Food Waste Collection Cessation Information
Author	Kitran Eastman – Street Scene Director (London Borough Barnet)
Date	9 th July 2018

3	Environment Committee - Business Planning report. November 2016	The update to the Environment Section of the Council Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) for 2017 to 2020. Savings to be required from the Environment Committee are £6.6m in this period. Environment Committee Business Planning Report Savings Appendix - Business Planning	A, B, E
4	Environment Committee - Business Planning report November 2015	The update to the Environment Section of the Council Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) for 2016 to 2020. Savings to be required from the Environment Committee are £10.6m in this period. Environment Committee Business Planning Report Savings Appendix - Business Planning Report	A, B, E
5	Environment Committee - Business Planning report. November 2014	The Environment Committee agreed a five-year plan for achieving savings of £5.9m by 2019/20. This forms part of the MFTP for Barnet and is annual agreed through full Council once the Budget has been through a consultation process Environment Committee Business Planning Report Savings Appendix - Business Planning Report Appendix C - Commissioning Plan	A, B, E
6	Recycling and Waste Strategy	Recycling and Waste Strategy Summary 2016-2030 Recycling and Waste Strategy 2016-2013 Recycling and Waste Strategy Action Plan Data Set https://open.barnet.gov.uk/dataset/municipal-waste---recycling-strategy---resident https://open.barnet.gov.uk/dataset/municipal-waste---recycling-strategy---legislation-and-targets https://open.barnet.gov.uk/dataset/municipal-waste---recycling-strategy---market-dynamics https://open.barnet.gov.uk/dataset/municipal-waste---recycling-strategy---technology- https://open.barnet.gov.uk/dataset/municipal-waste---recycling-strategy---built-environment https://open.barnet.gov.uk/dataset/municipal-waste---recycling-strategy---demographic https://open.barnet.gov.uk/dataset/municipal-waste---recycling-strategy---economic-and-financial-outlook	C
7	Savings Make up	See Document A – Barnet Brown Bin Cessation Costing	A
8	Tonnage Information	See Document A – Barnet Brown Bin Cessation Costing https://open.barnet.gov.uk/dataset/tonnage-report---residual-and-recycling-waste-2017-18 https://open.barnet.gov.uk/dataset/tonnage-report---residual-and-recycling-waste-2016-17 https://open.barnet.gov.uk/dataset/tonnage-report---residual-and-recycling-waste-2015-16	C
9	Climate change impacts	No information Available	E
10	Food Waste expansion and increase participation work	See Document B – Food Waste Behaviour Change Project Report See Document C – Flats Food Waste Trial Report See Document D – Costing Food Waste from Flats Rollout	A, B, C, D, E
11	Additional Information	See page 3 onwards (below)	D, E

Information for	GLA
Topic	Food Waste Collection Cessation Information
Author	Kitran Eastman – Street Scene Director (London Borough Barnet)
Date	9 th July 2018

Savings Summary

Since the Environment Committee meeting further work has been carried out on the savings which arise from stopping brown bin collection. The additional collection cost of the separate weekly food waste service has been calculated to be over £585,000 per year, for around 5,000 tonnes of food waste. Variations in the disposal prices mean that the estimated savings are between £563,448 and £296,848 a year. Barnet is using the most conservative estimate and is expect a saving of £296,848.

Costings for the Environment Committee report were done on the current budgeted gate fee and costs which could be verified at the time. As can be seen from Document A – “Barnet Brown Bin Cessation Costing”, the collection savings which are estimated are now significantly greater than was originally highlighted. The calculations for food waste savings were initial based on the change in loader need for front line rounds (See Document A – “Barnet Brown Bin Cessation Costing” Tab “Collection Cost Savings” section #1). It was known that there were additional savings which would also be realised but these were not fully costed at the time the committee paper was published, as they were more difficult to evaluate due to the number of variables. These additional estimated savings are listed in Document A – “Barnet Brown Bin Cessation Costing” Tab “Collection Cost Savings” £587,248 based on a full year.

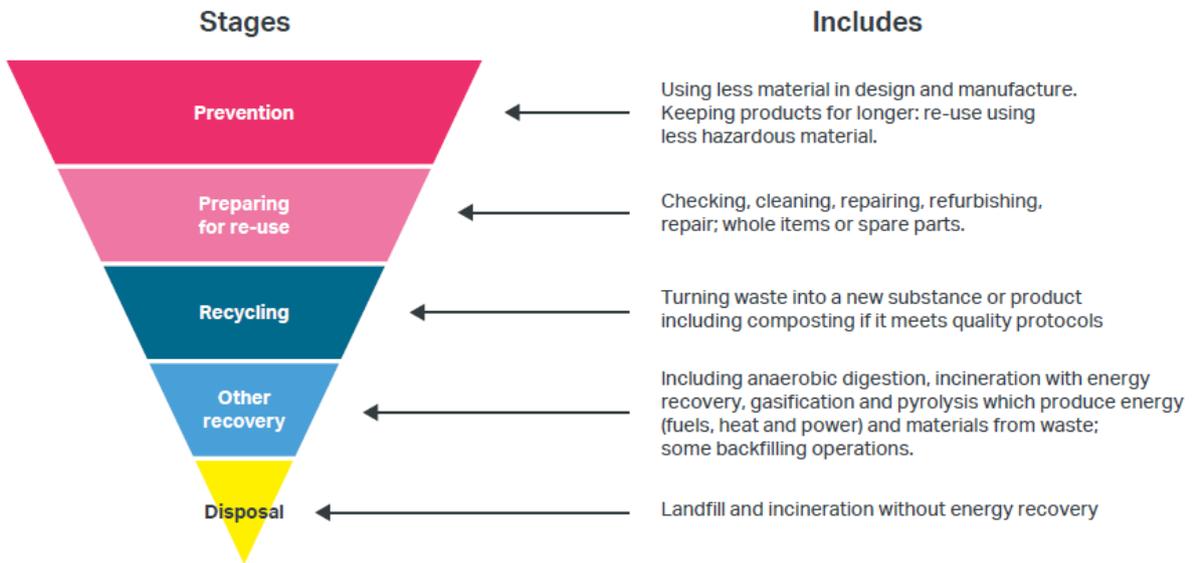
Potential increase in disposal costs can be seen in Document A – “Barnet Brown Bin Cessation Costing” Tab “Disposal Cost”). The current food waste rate for the 2018/19 budget is £84.71 this has been factored into the 2018/19 levy, meaning that every one tonne of waste moved from the brown bin to the black bin will cost £4.76. The calculations have also been done at last year’s food waste disposal cost of £72.81 and new food waste rate to December 2019 rate of £31.39. The new short term disposal contract now in place will see the gate fee paid by NLWA reduce to £31.39, until December 2019. This change in the disposal will not be reflected in Barnet’s budget/levy payment until 2019/20. The food waste will go to Tamar AD facilities in Hoddesdon and Basingstoke. This lower gate fee and short-term contract is due to an overcapacity in the current Anaerobic Digestion (AD) market. Given the trend of prices over recent years, (2017/18 £72.81 and 2018/19 £84.71), it is not believed that this is a sustainable long term price. Some AD operators are now struggling to access sufficient feedstock at a level of gate fee which can support ongoing operations. Constriction on the market as such is likely unless there is a significant increase of feedstock, which in itself will change the supply and demand nature of the medium-term pricing

Projections have also been done on a base line of 5,000 tonnes, despite that fact that over the last two years Barnet has not collected this amount of food waste. If the provisional 2017/18 tonnage of 4,630 was used then at a gate fee of £31.39 the level of saving increase from £296,848 to £318,337.

Information for	GLA
Topic	Food Waste Collection Cessation Information
Author	Kitran Eastman – Street Scene Director (London Borough Barnet)
Date	9 th July 2018

Energy from Waste v Anaerobic digestion

Figure 44: Waste hierarchy¹⁷³

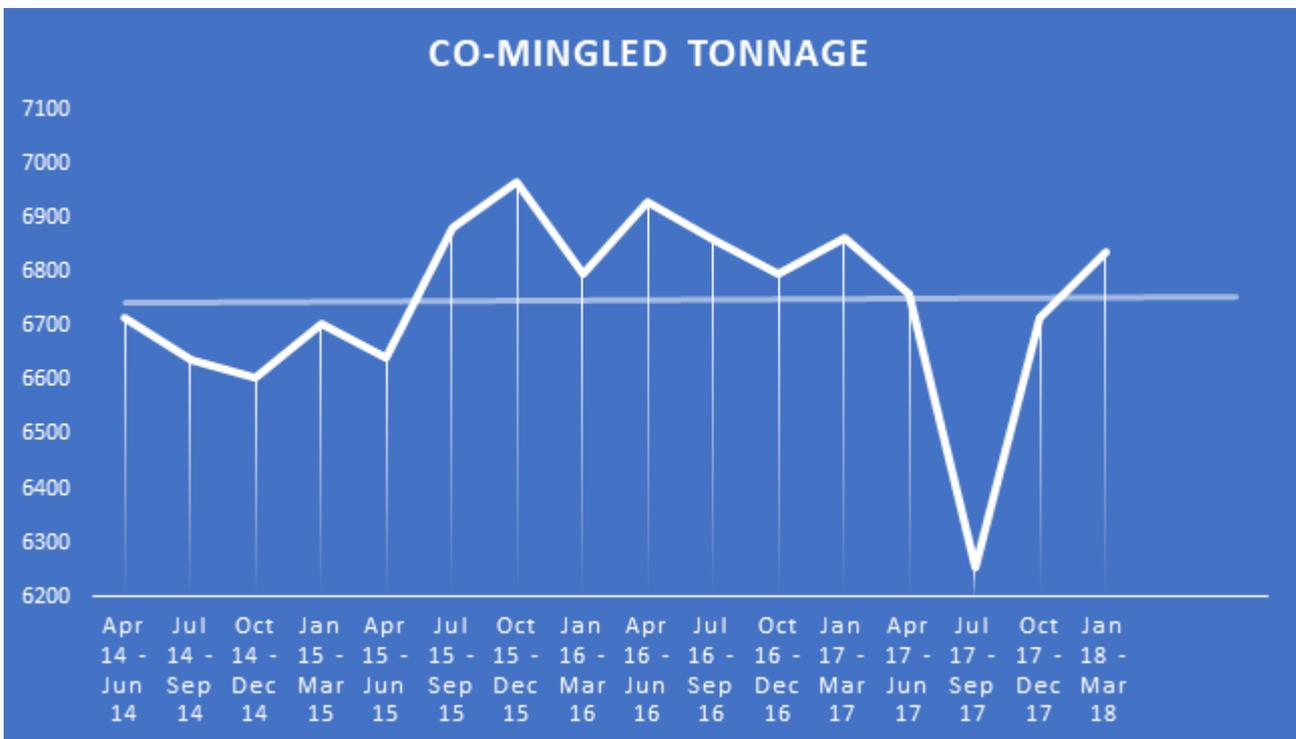
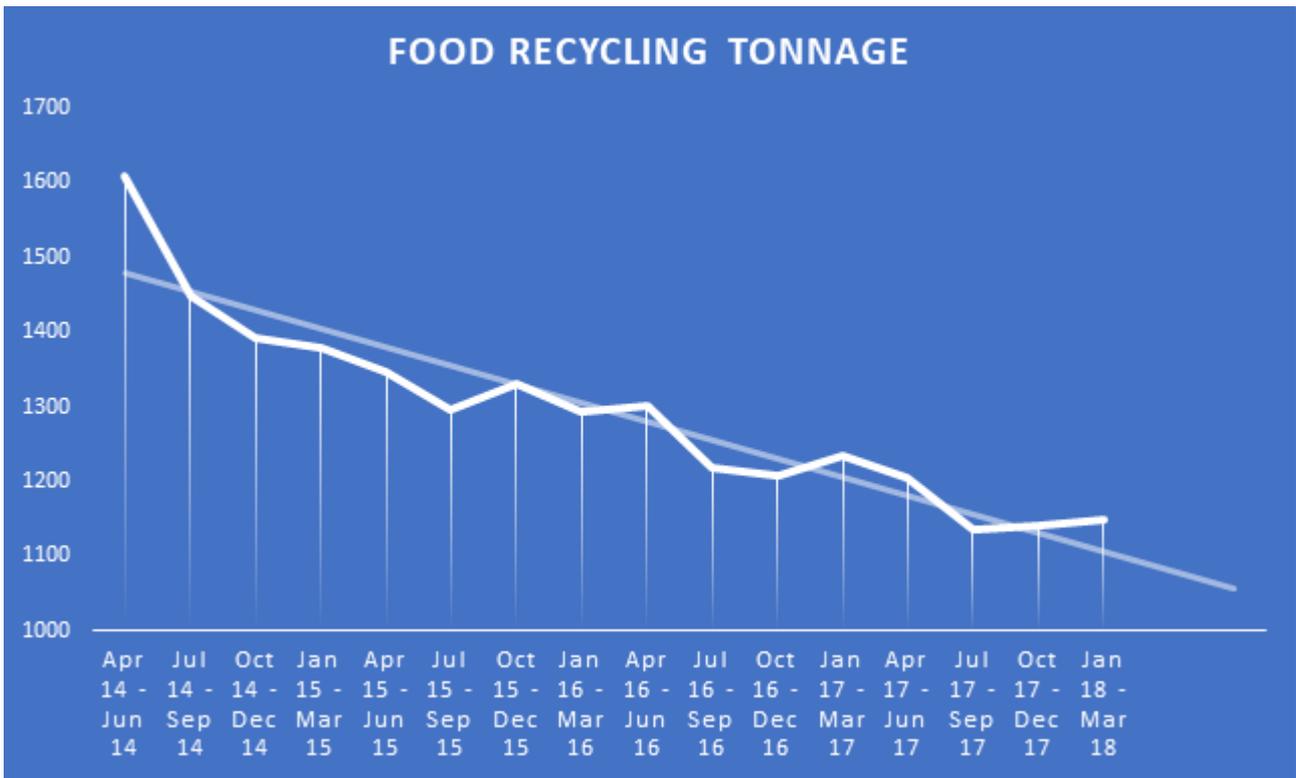


“other recovery “ – Including anaerobic digestion, incineration with energy recovery, gasification and pyrolysis which produce energy (fuels, heat and power) and materials from waste; some backfilling operations

Food and recycling collections over time

The data shows that tonnage collected through the brown bin scheme has fallen significantly since 2014 and continues to fall. This is illustrated in the “Food Recycling Tonnage” graph below. The light blue line is the linear forecast based on historical trend. This shows the downward trend in tonnages collected since the introduction of the scheme. This can be compared to the tonnage of recycle collected through the kerbside blue bin comingled collection scheme, presented in “Co-Mingled Tonnage” graph below, which has steadily increased over the same period.

Information for	GLA
Topic	Food Waste Collection Cessation Information
Author	Kitran Eastman – Street Scene Director (London Borough Barnet)
Date	9 th July 2018



Information for	GLA
Topic	Food Waste Collection Cessation Information
Author	Kitran Eastman – Street Scene Director (London Borough Barnet)
Date	9 th July 2018

Future Focus

Barnet is a high performing borough and the intention is that the existing recycling services and collection schemes will continue to deliver high diversion and high quality recyclate. Future work will focus in the following 4 key areas:

1) Maximising Performance from Kerbside Services

Barnet Council has history of working hard to ensure that recycling services provided are fully utilised being the first authority in London to implement a compulsory recycling initiative. While participation is high there remains scope within the kerbside blue bin commingle dry recycling scheme to achieve greater levels of overall recycling as well as increase capture of specific materials including plastic bottles and containers, cartons and metal tins and cans.

Material specific promotions will be undertaken to try to increase the capture of low recognition materials. Officers are currently assessing the quality of material captured through the blue bin and will be working with households and collection crews to reduce contamination and improve material quality and reduce rejection levels.

2) Flats Recycling

Barnet’s housing stock continues to grow with the majority of new developments being flats and medium rise developments. It is recognised that these properties present challenges for both providing waste and recycling provision and encouraging the regular and correct use of these. It is the aim of the Council to ensure that all residents living within this housing type in the borough have access to dedicated recycling facilities collecting commingled dry recycling.

We are working closely with Barnet Homes, the Council’s housing ALMO, to carry out an inventory of the waste and recycling provision at all existing developments which are in the Councils control. Where there is under provision of recycling capacity this will be rebalanced in line with the Council’s 50:50 split between waste and recycling bin capacity provision stipulated in planning guidance for new developments. It our ambition to then extend to 70:30.

This work will be also be extended to developments under the management of private landlords and managing agents.

3) Food Waste Reduction and Waste Prevention

In line with the waste hierarchy Barnet supports the prevention of waste arising and has delivered both borough specific initiatives, regional initiatives with fellow North London Waste Authority (NLWA) boroughs and supported national WRAP led campaigns.

This work will continue, specifically in the area of food waste where campaigns such as love food hate waste (www.lovefoodhatewaste.com) have been successful bringing this into focus, creating a trend of households reducing their food waste for both financial and environmental reasons.

Options for households to continue to recycle their food waste will be promoted. The Council works with getcomposting.com to make home composting units, wormeries and bokashi bins available to residents at significantly reduced rates. Information will also be provided on

Information for	GLA
Topic	Food Waste Collection Cessation Information
Author	Kitran Eastman – Street Scene Director (London Borough Barnet)
Date	9 th July 2018

community composting to schools and community groups and support will be provided to help establish these.

4) Consolidating Networks and Sharing Knowledge

As part of the NLWA Barnet officers are involved in regular knowledge sharing meetings that involve both devising and deliver cross borough campaigns to increase recycling and reduce waste.

The NLWA 50% club is attended by officers of the constituent authorities and its focus is on ensuring all boroughs work towards achieving the 50% regional recycling target by 2020.

Barnet officers are strengthening links with inner London colleagues within NLWA to share best practice on the approach to increasing recycling performance from flats and future proof services as this proportion of our housing stock increases.