



## Environment Committee

6 October 2021

<b>Title</b>	<b>Time Banded Waste Collections Review</b>
<b>Report of</b>	Chairman of the Environment Committee
<b>Wards</b>	All
<b>Status</b>	Public
<b>Urgent</b>	No
<b>Key</b>	No
<b>Enclosures</b>	None
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### Summary

Time banded waste collections were originally approved for 29 locations within Barnet by Full Council in October 2017, with the intention of improving the general appearance of the high streets and shopping frontage in these locations and to reduce fly tipping.

Time banded collection arrangements (TBC) were introduced in Mill Hill and Burnt Oak in July 2018 and May 2019 respectively.

TBC has delivered improvements to the street scene in both Mill Hill and Burnt Oak, most notably through the removal of waste containers and obstructions on the footway. This decluttering has facilitated more effective cleansing of the street by the council's Street Cleansing resource. However, both locations have continued to experience issues with non-compliance with the requirements of the model e.g., unidentifiable waste left on the street and continued fly tipping. This may in part be attributable to a high turnover of occupancies and transient residents. The Council's waste collection resource has on occasion experienced aggressive behaviour from persons wanting to dispose of waste outside of the scope of the service.

TBC has had some impact on the Council's commercial waste income, primarily due to some businesses purchasing limited plastic sack supplies and others transferring to waste collection service providers who provide them with a waste receptacle. This has led to some increase in fly tipping due to the limitation on sacks and enforcement action to remove the

waste containers which are not permitted. Commercial waste revenue generated in Burnt Oak fell from £30,000 to £13,000 following the implementation.

Recent work carried out by the fly tipping working group suggests that TBC no longer necessarily represents the best solution for the remaining locations. The report proposes that three multi-disciplinary area environmental working groups should be established with the objective of determining the most appropriate waste collection solution, whilst working collaboratively with the fly tipping working group.

This alternative solution should seek to address the waste container issue alongside other environmental issues evidenced across the Borough. This solution will be aligned to the area based operating model that is employed by the Council's Street Scene and Community Safety teams.

It is therefore recommended that a detailed review of the 27 locations is completed to investigate whether TBC continues to be the most appropriate waste management solution and propose an alternative should this not be the case.

If because of the review, there is a need to change the time banded regulations a report will be submitted to Full Council to consider and approve the proposed amendment.

## **Officers Recommendations**

- 1. That the Environment Committee notes the contents of the report**
- 2. That the Environment Committee endorse the formation of three cross service Area Environmental Working Groups to improve the street scene and reduce fly tipping by working with the fly tip action group and developing the most appropriate solution for each area.**
- 3. That the Environment Committee requests that any proposed changes required to the Barnet Waste Regulations as a result of this review be reported to Full Council for consideration.**

### **1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED**

- 1.1 Time banded waste collections (TBC) were originally approved for 29 locations by Full Council in October 2017. The primary objective of the initiative was to deliver aesthetic improvements to locations where the waste collection and storage arrangements were identified as having an adverse impact on the street scene and to reduce fly tipping.
- 1.2 TBC arrangements were introduced in Mill Hill and Burnt Oak in July 2018 and May 2019 respectively. The TBC model sought to address issues identified with waste containers cluttering the highway and waste being fly-tipped and left out in an ad-hoc manner for collection.
- 1.3 This report provides the outcome of the lessons identified from the implementation of this model in Mill Hill and Burnt Oak. Recent work carried out by the fly tipping working group

suggests that TBC no longer necessarily represents the best solution for the remaining locations.

- 1.4 It is recommended that a detailed review of the 27 locations is completed to investigate whether TBC continues to be the most appropriate waste management solution.

## **2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 TBC has delivered improvements to the street scene in both Mill Hill and Burnt Oak, most notably through the removal of waste containers and obstructions on the footway. Residents and businesses were provided with plastic sacks to enable them to present their waste at identified locations within specified timeslots. This decluttering has facilitated more effective cleansing of the street by the council's Street Cleansing resource.
- 2.2 TBC has had some impact on the Council's commercial waste income, primarily due to some businesses purchasing limited plastic sack supplies and others transferring to waste collection service providers who supplied them with a waste receptacle. These waste receptacles are not permitted under the regulations (other than very limited circumstances in which premise owners are permitted to retain bins in their area) and take a period of time to be removed. This has also led to some increase in fly tipping due to insufficient sack purchases and enforcement action to remove the waste containers, which are not permitted.
- 2.3 Commercial waste revenue generated in Burnt Oak fell from £30,000 to £13,000 following the implementation of TBC.
- 2.4 If this was replicated in a larger town centre or in further areas, it could result in significant losses of commercial revenue, if all businesses were to migrate onto sack collections. Some of the proposed time banded areas contain up to 500 commercial customers.
- 2.5 Both Mill Hill and Burnt Oak have continued to experience issues with non-compliance with the requirements of the model e.g., unidentifiable waste left on the street and continued fly tipping. This may in part be attributable to a high turnover of occupancies and transient residents. The Council's waste collection resource has on occasion experienced aggressive behaviour from persons wanting to dispose of waste outside of the scope of the service.
- 2.6 Recent work carried out by the fly tipping working group suggests that TBC no longer necessarily represents the most effective solution for the remaining locations. It recommends that an alternative solution be considered that seeks to address waste container issues alongside the other environmental concerns evidenced across the Borough. This solution would be based on the area operating model that is employed by the Council's Street Scene and Community Safety teams.
- 2.7 This work highlighted that the issues typically experienced within the remaining locations are either of a scale that would not warrant a complete change to a TBC model for the entire area, and/or are multi-faceted in nature and incorporate issues that cannot be resolved through the TBC model alone e.g., graffiti, anti-social behaviour etc.
- 2.8 It is proposed that three multi-disciplinary environmental working groups be established with one group dedicated to each area. The groups will be tasked with producing

recommendations to improve the street scene and reduce fly tipping, including the best method of waste collection.

- 2.9 The group will have representation from Street Scene and Community Safety and will draw on specialist officer expertise as appropriate e.g., Environmental Health and Planning Enforcement.
- 2.10 This solution should improve responsiveness, cover a much broader range of issues, and will concentrate on solutions that address root causes.
- 2.11 The Environmental Working Groups will collaborate with the fly tipping working group.
- 2.12 Each group will meet monthly and will share intelligence and experiences to ensure consistency of approach. Information will be issued to elected members setting out the purpose and scope of the working groups and providing officer contact details for the group serving each ward. Elected members will be able to raise environmental issues directly with the responsible officer.

### **3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED**

- 3.1 Continued implementation of the TBC model alone has been considered. This has been discounted due to the model not necessarily being the proportionate or most effective response to the issues within the remaining locations.

### **4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION**

- 4.1 The proposed Environmental Working groups will need to be established should Committee be minded to approve the recommendations of this report. It is anticipated that this work will be undertaken during quarter three 2021/22 with a view to being operational early in quarter one 2022/23.

### **5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION**

#### **5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance**

- 5.1.1 The proposed solution supports the Council's corporate policy of delivering a 'clean, safe and well run' borough'.

#### **5.2 Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)**

- 5.2.1 **Finance and Value for Money:** No additional funding will be required to support the proposal detailed throughout this report.

5.2.2 **Procurement:** Not applicable.

5.2.3 **Staffing:** The proposals throughout this report will be delivered within existing establishment.

5.2.4 **IT:** Not applicable

5.2.5 **Property:** Not applicable

5.2.6 **Sustainability:** Not applicable

#### **5.3 Legal and Constitutional References**

- 5.4 Local authorities have a number of different statutory powers and responsibilities in relation to street cleaning, recycling and waste collection. The Environmental Protection Act 1990 (as amended), the Controlled Waste Regulation 1992 (as amended) the London Local Authorities Acts 2007 (as amended). These acts set out the duty of the Local Authority to ensure that land in its area for which it is responsible is kept clear of litter and refuse.
- 5.5 Council Constitution (Article 7, Committees, Forums, Working Groups and Partnerships) sets out the responsible body and their functions. For the Environment Committee it's functions include: Responsibility for all borough-wide or cross-constituency matters relating to the street scene including, parking, road safety, lighting, street cleaning, transport, waste, waterways, refuse, recycling, allotments, parks, trees, crematoria and mortuary, trading standards and environmental health”.
- 5.6 **Insight**
- 5.7 Experience and learnings from the implementation of TBC in Mill Hill & Burnt Oak and service knowledge held within the departments has been utilised to determine the most appropriate approach for this matter.
- 5.8 **Social Value**
- 5.9 The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2013 requires people who commission public services to think about how they can also secure wider social, economic and environmental benefits.
- 5.10 The proposals will support improvements the public realm of shopping frontage locations and help encourage customers, visitors, and businesses to the Borough.
- 5.11 **Risk Management**
- 5.11.1 Any risks associated with these proposals are managed through the working group and is subject to normal project governance arrangements.
- 5.12 **Equalities and Diversity**
- 5.13 Equality and diversity issues are a mandatory consideration in the decision making of the council. The Equality Act 2010 and the Public-Sector Equality Duty requires elected Members to satisfy themselves that equality considerations are integrated into day-to-day business and that all proposals emerging from the business planning process have taken into consideration the impact, if any, on any protected group and what mitigating factors can be put in place.
- 5.14 This is set out in the councils Equalities Policy together with our strategic Equalities objective – as set out in the corporate plan – that citizens will be treated equally with understanding and respect; have equal opportunities and receive quality services provided to the best value principles.
- 5.15 **Corporate Parenting**
- 5.15.1 Not applicable

## 5.16 **Consultation and Engagement**

5.16.1 The Council's Community Safety team has been engaged in developing the proposals detailed in this report.

## **6. Environmental Impact**

6.1 The operating model proposed in this report will help address and resolve environmental issues and the council's efforts to maintain and enhance public realm.

## **7. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

7.1 Full Council, October 2017:  
<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s42880/Waste%20Regulations.pdf>

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