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| Subject: | Wheeled bin for Recycling Trial Update | | |
| Date of Meeting: | 28 June 2016 | | |
| Report of: | Acting Executive Director of Environment, Economy & Culture | | |
| Contact Officer: | Name: | Richard Bradley | Tel: 29-4701 |
| | Email: | Richard.bradley@brighton-hove.gov.uk | |
| Ward(s) affected: | Hangleton, South Portslade and North Portslade | | |

FOR GENERAL RELEASE**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT**

- 1.1 To provide an update on the wheeled bin recycling trial which is being undertaken in Hangleton and South Portslade Wards. The trial was implemented in November 2015 with wheeled bins for recycling issued to 3900 households in a total of 80 streets.
- 1.2 This report provides an update on progress which will allow a full business case to be presented to Committee. Subject to further analysis and community engagement the full business case will seek permission to implement wheeled bin recycling to all households across the city, with the exception of the communal bin areas.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Committee:

- 2.1 Notes the progress made against previous recommendations with regard the use of wheeled bins to collect materials for recycling.
- 2.2 That a full business case is presented at October Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee, to seek permission for wheeled bin recycling to be implemented across the city, subject to an audit of appropriate streets / properties for the appropriateness of an additional wheeled bin.

3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 A trial of wheeled bin recycling to 3900 households Commenced in November 2015. The results of the trial have been monitored for a 24 week period. Initial results are very positive. Households current receive a fortnightly collection of recycling so the results in this report represent 12 collections per household over a 5 month period.

- 3.2 Early indicative results show that the recycling has increased by an average of 1.1kg per household per collection. The fortnightly tonnage has increased by an average of 5 tonnes per fortnight. The amount of residual waste collected in the same area as the recycling round has decreased by an average of 1.2kg per household. This is exactly what the trial was hoping to be evidenced – an increase in recycling together with a decrease in residual waste.
- 3.3 Subject to the further detailed analysis of tonnages as part of the need for a full business case, if these very positive initial results are then replicated across the City where a second wheeled bin can be accommodated, it could significantly increase the Councils recycling rates as well as significantly reduce the amount of waste produced per household. Only a full business case, with costs and potential savings will be able to demonstrate these points in more detail.

4. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 4.1 Existing collection methods could carry on as they are using black boxes for all materials. Wheelie bins have already begun to realise the benefits as per the original recommendation to commence a trial.
- 4.2 If after extension the trial is successful, the areas / streets in which wheeled bins can be introduced will need to be audited. Properties in many areas of the city have room for an additional wheelie bin, but in some kerbside collection areas space is limited. These considerations will be included the full business case.

5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION

- 5.1 The results set out in this report have been achieved with limited community engagement and it is recommended therefore that the trial continues to the end of August 2016 to allow further research and analysis and targeted community engagement within the trial area.
- 5.2 The community engagement to include, working with residents, community groups and crews to further increase the recycling rates achieved, to reduce further the amount of missed collections, a full customer satisfaction survey and other communication and marketing strategies to help residents reduce, reuse and recycle.
- 5.3 Initial feedback from residents has been extremely positive as reflected in the sample of feedback below. In addition to this we have numerous requests from areas outside of the trial area to change from the current recycling box collections to a wheeled bin system.

Customer Comments:

Hangleton & Knoll

- I'm sure you get many people complaining about things, but I would like to write about something positive! I think the new recycling bins are a fantastic idea and I hope they will become permanent. I received mine today. Not only will they keep things dry, but I hope will reduce the amount of rubbish blowing around. Well done Brighton Council!

- I would like to say how much better the new grey recycling bins are.

North Portslade

- The grey wheelie bin is a great improvement - no more losing lids; silly nets; or having to have to carry 3 boxes out to the kerb.

South Portslade

- Just to let you know that I am very happy to, at last, have a proper (grey) eco bin for most of my "green waste". I stopped using the black boxes a long time ago, because I found them awkward to lift and carry to the pavement. Then when they were emptied, I found them scattered across our front garden, the lids scattered around or along the pavement, along with light rubbish that had escaped the lorry, depending on how windy the day was. At last Brighton Council are catching up with the majority of councils in the country that have been providing eco bins for the last few years. There is a lot less light rubbish scattered following an eco-collection, and my old bones can cope so much better with wheeling the new bin to the pavement, and then back again later in the day. So Thank you so much for your efforts in getting a trial of new recycling wheelie bins. Please don't let it just be a trial. It is the cleanest collection environmentally, and also encourages elderly people who can't cope with lifting black boxes to be as green as possible. I am most grateful.

Feedback outside trial area

Hangleton & Knoll

- Is not in the trial area but requested a bin. This will greatly help to keep the driveway tidy and stop paper and cardboard being blown about as we usually recycle about four black boxes

Patcham

- Asked to exchange her recycling boxes for a wheelie bin but is outside the trial area.

Stanford

- I'd appreciate you keeping me informed about the trial. I know of at least a dozen people in my street interested in having one, as a neighbour has purchased their own and it much less mess (hard for foxes and cats to get onto) much more manageable and customer friendly.

South Portslade

- Is outside the trial area but would like to request a wheelie bin. "I currently fill up over four bin/ boxes supplied each time as I am a keen recycler and have managed to reduce heavily what goes to landfill in the rubbish wheelie bin. As you can appreciate though four bin/boxes takes up a lot of space and impacts on the collectors who have to deal with four each collection date plus any extra input out. If this can be directed to the correct department and expedited and soon as

is possible that would be greatly appreciated to help assist myself and improve collections".

Hanover & Elm Grove

- I'm writing to ask if there are any other options for recycling collection. There is recycling all down our street (Sandown road) as our collection day was Monday and the wind blew rubbish everywhere. I know this was a particularly windy day but most weeks there is some recycling left blowing down the road. When I lived in the town centre we had large bins we could put recycling in as needed and we didn't have this problem. Or is it possible to have a bin like the ones we have for normal rubbish? I've gone out to clear the rubbish outside our house but the rest of the street still looks horrible today. I appreciate the good work the rubbish collectors do I just wanted to see if there was a way to keep the street looking nice.

6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 The initial results of the use of wheeled bins for the collection of material for recycling have indicated increased recycling rates and in significant advantages for residents and for the collection service.
- 6.2 A full business case will enable thorough and detailed analysis of tonnages, potential savings and an audit of areas that may be suitable for a second wheeled bin to be presented back to October Committee for consideration.

7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 7.1 Whilst the business case for the current trial was already approved and there are no ongoing financial implications with regard the current trial, the full business case will clearly set out the full cost implications and any potential savings of a City wide service using wheeled bins to collect recycling, where appropriate.
- 7.2 The trial data will enable an assessment to be made as to whether the introduction of wheeled bins across the City will increase the income the Council receives from the sale of recycling materials, whether any savings in disposing of residual waste will be achieved and what cashable and non-cashable efficiencies can be realised from the collection service.

Finance Officer Consulted: Steven Bedford

Date: 16/06/2016

Legal Implications:

- 7.5 There are no legal implications arising from this report. The Council has powers to specify and to provide the types of receptacles to be used for depositing waste for collection and may also require particular locations to be used. The results and analysis of the consultation will need to be taken into account in coming to decisions following the trial.

Equalities Implications:

- 7.3 Wheeled bins are generally easier to handle than recycling boxes as they do not require as much manual handling. Any resident not able to access the service will be offered an assisted collection in the same way as is provided via the residual waste service.

Sustainability Implications:

- 7.4 The introduction of wheelie bins is expected to result in increased recycling rates as it will make it easier for people to recycle. The roll out will be supported by effective communication and marketing to enable residents better understand the messages around reduce, re-use and recycle.

Any Other Significant Implications:

- 7.5 None

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. No

Documents in Members' Rooms

1. No

Background Documents

1. No

