

Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment (EHIRA)

Date: 04/05/2022

Name of function or policy: Additional Garden Waste Service

Is this function or policy: New Revised

Name of Officers completing this form: Lily Walker (Recycle More Officer)

Who are the main beneficiaries of the function or policy?

Residents subscribing to the council's additional garden waste service.

Give brief overview of policy:

Households are provided with one 240 litre garden waste bin, which is emptied free of charge. A charge for additional garden waste bins was approved as part of budget plans at a full council meeting on 24 February 2022. From 1 June 2022, the 'additional garden waste service' was made available to residents if they wish to have more than one garden waste bin emptied. The annual charges for this service can be found at

www.nwleics.gov.uk/paygardenwaste

Summary of impacts:

The service will provide residents with the opportunity to order extra garden waste bins, where they couldn't previously. However, the £45 charge may put some lower income households at a disadvantage as they may not be able to afford the charge.

What impact is this policy/service likely to have on those living within our areas of deprivation?

Residents in areas of deprivation may have smaller/no gardens. Therefore, the new service may have little impact as the first garden waste bin will still be emptied at no additional cost. If those living in deprived areas have a lower income but have a larger garden and would benefit from an additional garden bin, they may not be able to afford the £45 charge. Advice is available for residents who have extra garden waste but cannot afford to subscribe to the additional garden waste service.

What impact is this policy/service likely to have on other socio-economic groups? (e.g. carers, ex-offenders, low income, homeless)

Low-income households who cannot afford the £45 charge may be at a disadvantage and not able to recycle their extra garden waste through household collections. Waste Services have looked at whether a discount could be offered for low-income households. However, other local authorities in Leicestershire who charge for the first garden waste bin do not offer any concessions. Therefore, we do not feel it is necessary to offer a discount on this additional service as emptying of the first garden waste bin will continue free of charge.

What impact is this policy/service likely to have on the recognised health inequalities in our district? (e.g. shorter life expectancy, higher rates of; smoking, COPD, obesity and low levels of breastfeeding. Including the increased risk of death from COVID-19 in the over 70's, those with diabetes, hypotensive

diseases, chronic kidney disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, dementia, those from BAME communities and those from Jewish communities.)

The new service may result in more bins being put out for collection and as a result, our crews will come into contact with more bins. This may present an increased risk of Covid-19 spreading to more vulnerable residents and residents from BAME communities identified as being at greater risk of contracting the virus.

Residents should continue to be encouraged to wash their hands before and after touching bins and recycling containers.

Are there any Human Rights implications?

No.