

Food Waste Implementation - Flats and houses in multiple occupation with bulk bins Communities and Environment Overview & Scrutiny Panel

Reason for review

According to the Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP), UK households produce approximately 7 million tonnes of food waste each year¹, with large quantities currently being sent to landfill. Collecting food waste benefits the environment; it diverts biodegradable waste from landfill, reduces carbon emissions and reduces the cost of disposing of household waste. It can also be repurposed as compost.

Nationally, the Government aims to reduce food waste by 20% from households by 2025² and more locally, the Council aims to increase recycling levels to over 50% by 2021 and over 65% by 2030. Household food waste collections will begin in March 2021 with flats and HMO's to potentially follow in Autumn / Winter of 2021/22. The timing of any future food waste collection launch is dependent on site visits and engagement with the management agents.

Objectives/scope

The review is looking to identify how to:

- Review differing approaches to food waste collection from HMO/Flats properties by other Councils
- Make recommendations for the type of scheme that would be most successful relating to HMO/Flats properties in Bracknell.
- Make recommendations for what can be done to drive adoption of the recommended scheme for HMO/Flats properties
- Make recommendations as to what the service should do to reduce the risk of "contamination" of this new waste stream for these property types.
- Identify which HMO/Flats would be suitable for a food waste collection.

The review will do this by:

- Consulting other local authorities to understand how their schemes are run and what lessons have been learnt since implementation.
- Desktop review other local authority schemes and information available for residents on local authority websites.
- Engaging with local HMO's, social landlords to establish their concerns and what support/equipment they may require within the Council's budgetary limitations.
- Engaging Food waste experts and our collection contractor to understand best practice.
- Visiting some of the Borough's relevant sites.
- Reviewing the potential cost of any scheme to ensure it would be viable

At the conclusion of this work the Panel will produce a report highlighting its findings and propose recommendations to the Executive about how the Council, its partners and private companies in the borough can implement food waste disposal for HMO's and Flats.

Delivery methods: Challenge sessions; interviewing other local authorities

¹ [Household Food waste collections guide, context, background | WRAP UK](#)

² [Over £1m to fund food waste fight - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Council theme: Protecting and enhancing our environment	Council team: Waste and Recycling
Review due: July 2021	Proposed by: Cllr John Porter, Chair Communities and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel.
<p>Equalities Impact Assessment The Council provides additional support for residents who need help putting disposing of their household waste. This Panel will ensure they consider whether any extra help is required for residents in HMO's or Flats with additional needs so they can recycle their food waste.</p>	
<p>Financial and legal implications There are potentially legal and financial implications of any recommendations arising from this review which will be fully addressed in the review report.</p>	
<p>Climate Change implications The purpose of the recommendations should feed into the Council's overall plan to reduce carbon emissions within the borough and reduce the impact of climate change.</p>	

[Recycling collections for flats - food waste collections | WRAP UK](#)