

Cabinet - Thursday 15 April 2021 10am - Â£40 Brown Bin Charge for Garden waste collection; Mixed Tenure Waste Collection(Free) Scheme taken In House?

Posted by RM64 - 02 Apr 2021 08:29

Department of Corporate and Community Services

Deputy Chief Executive:

Caroline Innes BSc (Hons)

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Date:26 March 2021

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TO:

Councillors T Buchanan (Chair); C Bamforth; D Devlin; A Lafferty; C Merrick; and P Oâ€™Kane.

CABINET

A meeting of the Cabinet will be held on Thursday, 15 April 2021 at 10.00am.

The agenda of business is as shown below.

Please note this is a virtual meeting.

Caroline Innes

C INNES

DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

You can read the full agenda on the Council website here -

www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/cabinet-150421

AGENDA

1.Report apologies for absence.

2.Declarations of Interest.

3.Joint Consultative Committee (First Tier) “ Minute of Meeting of 11 February2021 (copy attached, pages 3 - 6).

4.Review of the Strategic Risk Register and Risk Management Process “ Report by Chief Executive (copy attached, pages 7 - 36).

5.Mixed Tenure Scheme - Report by Director of Environment (copy attached,pages 37 - 42)

You can read the Report via the Council Website here -

www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/media/4849/C...m=637528737010430000

6.Garden Waste Charging Proposal Update - Report by Director of Environment(copy attached, pages 43 - 50

You can read the report via the Council Website here -

www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/media/4850/C...m=637528737018870000

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Re: Cabinet - Thursday 15 April 2021 10am - Â£40 Brown Bin Charge for Garden waste collection; Mixed Tenure Waste Collection(Free) Scheme taken In House?

Posted by RM64 - 12 May 2021 16:15

Previously On 9/4/2021 Cllr David MacDonald posted-

'I'll be bringing a motion to full council for it to be reversed.'

Latest Post today 12/5/2021

Cllr david MacDonald has posted on their facebook page -

Cllr David Macdonald - An Independent voice for Eastwood

12 mins Â·

Black bags of grass clippings or garden waste with no way to identify where they came from will be extremely easy to dump. They won't contain receipts or any personal information like regular rubbish.

If this goes ahead then prepare for black bags of garden waste dumped through East Renfrewshire. They will be everywhere.

This will cost the council a far greater amount of time and money to deal with the aftermath.

Or perhaps their intention is to not deal with it at all.

Someone senior wrote this policy out on the back of a fag packet. It stinks like wet grass.

This policy needs to be immediately driven off to Greenhags and disposed of ASAP.

Previous post -

posted on Cllr David MacDonald's facebook page 9/4/2021 -

.....I see the council are going ahead with a Â£40 fee for garden waste uplift , what they mean is an extra Â£40 onto our council tax !

Author

Cllr David Macdonald - An Independent voice for Eastwood.....

I don't agree with it in the slightest. It's a nominal amount but it is the principle of setting a bad precedent for future things. I'll be bringing a motion to full council for it to be reversed.

.....I Hope your successful in reversing it, thereâ€™s many folk in the area who canâ€™t afford the extra Â£40 ! It seems no explanation for anyone ! Just shocking !

Previous post -

14/4/2021

Cllr David MacDonald has posted on their facebook page -

Cllr David Macdonald - An Independent voice for Eastwood

19 mins Â·

Brown bin collection - Annual charge Â£40 per customer to raise Â£800,000 for East Renfrewshire Council.

Shame on each and every Councillor at East Renfrewshire who supported this and who continues to do so.

This is a stealth tax and you can guarantee this will continue to be raised year on year and not by inflation you can be guaranteed of that.

A Pandora's box is being opened.

It will become the first of many things the council will stop doing and start charging separately for.

I implore you to contact your local councillors in your ward and demand that they share what their position is on this.

Get them on the record.

Don't allow those councillors who were in favour of this to hide away and let you find out what their position is.

Know how your councillors stand on this.

It is the only way you can make an informed decision when it comes to how you vote at next year's council election.

Do not let them off the hook by not giving you an answer on their position.

This is revenue generation by the wrong means.

Ward 1.

Barrhead, Uplawmoor and Liboside

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Ward 2

Neilston and North Newton Mearns

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Paul.o'

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Ward 3

Giffnock and Thornliebank

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Ward 4

Clarkston, Netherlee and Williamwood

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Ward 5

Eaglesham and Newton Mearns South

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Previous post -

15/4/2021

Cllr David MacDonald has posted on their facebook page -

Cllr David Macdonald - An Independent voice for Eastwood

7 hrs Â·

Here is what East Renfrewshire advise you place in your brown bin on their website..

It's not just for garden waste.

It is for food waste and this is part of the national requirements for how councils need to collect food waste to be separated from regular refuse.

Why? Because it can be In-vessel composted involving mixing food waste with garden waste " shredding it and then composting it in an enclosed system for around 2-4 weeks.

The material is then left outside to mature for a further 1-3 months with regular turning and checks to ensure quality before going on to be used as soil conditioner.

The plans to charge for brown bins has been so poorly thought out which is absolutely no surprise whatsoever because a lot of recommended reports from this council are.

So. What is East Renfrewshire Council's advice as to where we place our food waste?

Back in the regular grey refuse bin?

This is something they advised against.

Remember the advice to place food waste in small biodegradable bags and then put it in your brown bin?

They will still collect your food waste but it will be useless if it isn't collected with a sizeable amount of garden waste as it will not compost properly.

What now?

How do residents recycle their food waste along with their garden waste without being charged to recycle it?

East Renfrewshire Council.

Kneejerk decisions poorly thought out.

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Re: Cabinet - Thursday 15 April 2021 10am - Â£40 Brown Bin Charge for Garden waste collection; Mixed Tenure Waste Collection(Free) Scheme taken In House?

Posted by RM64 - 13 May 2021 07:54

13/5/2021

Subsequent posts/comment on Cllr David MacDonald's facebook page -

- This is clearly a Pilot Scheme for Double Charging by the Council.

Before long, your Council Tax will be more like having a Mandatory Membership Subscription to allow you the 'opportunity' to Pay for all your 'add-on' services on top.

7h

- Unfortunately this council seems to have a track record in not listening or understanding or caring about the residents who live within it

14h

- I agree. Also we have had more than one year of lockdown and still paid our council tax...for what? It's just another way of making up for freezing the council tax!

14h

- If itâ€™s binned as a policy then expect cuts to other services as they have budgeted to get Â£800k from it this tax year

14h

- You know whatâ€™s going to happen there will be more tipping the council will never learn the council will say we have to cut costs and Blame the snp so why is it not free everything is free with the snp

2h

- Cllr I didnâ€™t say it was the right way to generate revenue and if you remember back to some of my original comments when youâ€™ve raised this before I am in disagreement to it.

If you have good ideas then thatâ€™s part of your role to get them in front of the council and debate their merits...however knowing how â€˜closedâ€™ they are to anything thatâ€™s not in their agenda Iâ€™ll wish you good luck with that

13h

- Author

Cllr David Macdonald - An Independent voice for Eastwood..... It's not the way to generate revenue. Lack of progressive thinking. I can think of two immediate revenue streams the council could immediately implement that would generate in excess of Â£800k per year involving advertising space.

13h

- Thereâ€™s at least 6 x 6 figure salaries heading up ER get them to pay for it! Greedy.....

11h

- Typical snp politicians have slugged the electorate again

13h

- itâ€™s the council they were talking about.

11h

- yeah I'm sure somewhere it states Tory as in Carlaw Jackson (if i have the right name)

11h

- Cllr I stand corrected and thatâ€™s different to what Iâ€™ve seen on various pages previously

13h

Author

Cllr David Macdonald - An Independent voice for Eastwood..... You are right. The leader of the council is SNP. The convener for community safety SNP. Planning chair. Snp. Licensing chair snp. Education convener Labour. Environment convener Labour. Deputy provost. Labour. Provost. Labour. Convener for housing. Cllr. Devlin IND. Hope that helps.

13h

Cllr David Macdonald - An Independent voice for Eastwood

Author

Cllr David Macdonald - An Independent voice for Eastwood It's makeup is 5 SNP, 4 labour and a single Independent in Cllr. Danny Devlin. The council leader is SNP.

The only other elected Independent is myself who sits in opposition. The other 2 independents are former Conservatives who left their party in the last two years. Cllr. Paul Aitken and Cllr Stewart Miller.

13h

- do you ,cause a lot of people havenâ€™t a clue who runs the circus ,after all the snp are supposed to end the ones running the show

13h

-do you actually even know the makeup of the council???? Itâ€™s a council of no overall control and is a mix of SNP, Labour and Independents

13h

- Totally agree !

15h

-It's crazy

15h

- Totally agree. When the brown bin collection stopped last year due to covid we found a new neighbour from further up our road taking his brown bin down to the bridal path beside us dumping his garden waste. Turns out heâ€™d been there about four times as was clearing his garden and didnâ€™t see the problem. That was on his own doorstep so what hope have we got

14h

- What about other councils who have already started charging this, are those areas covered in black bags of garden cuttings?

12h

- Disgraceful considering the amount of revenue they are getting from all the council tax payers.

11h

- Charge us for the brown bins what's next?

Grey? Blue, Green bins

12h

- "This policy needs to be immediately driven off to Greenhags and disposed of ASAP."

Greenhags? Immediately?

You'll have to wait like 3 days for the earliest available appointment...

15h

- Cllr David Macdonald - An Independent voice for Eastwood

Author

Cllr David Macdonald - An Independent voice for Eastwood brilliant.

15h

- Agree with you 100%

I would happily have a compost heap but I'm sure my neighbours would not like it !

14h

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Re: Cabinet - Thursday 15 April 2021 10am - Â£40 Brown Bin Charge for Garden waste collection; Mixed Tenure Waste Collection(Free) Scheme taken In House?

Posted by RM64 - 02 Jun 2021 08:12

2/6/2021

Published Barrhead News on Line -

News

1st June

Council confirms garden waste collection start date

By Gillian McPherson Reporter

East Renfrewshire Council has confirmed the start date for an annual charge for garden waste collection.

The opt-in scheme is set to begin on Monday, July 5 and households taking part will need to pay Â£40.

This will cover collections every week, except a fortnight at Christmas, and will also include the collection of Christmas trees.

Residents not requiring their garden waste to be lifted, can still use their brown bin for food waste.

Andy Cahill, the local authority's environment director, said: "The Council faced a significant budget shortfall for this year and savings had to be identified.

"Our priority is to protect frontline services for our residents and income generated from this scheme will help meet some of the budget shortfall."

Those who wish to purchase a permit are urged to as soon as they can, so they are registered ahead of the start date.

To find out more visit eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/garden-waste

eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/garden-waste

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Re: Cabinet - Thursday 15 April 2021 10am - Â£40 Brown Bin Charge for Garden waste collection; Mixed Tenure Waste Collection(Free) Scheme taken In House?

Posted by RM64 - 02 Jun 2021 08:41

2/6/2021

Cllr David MacDonald has posted on their facebook page -

Cllr David Macdonald - An Independent voice for Eastwood

14 hrs Â·

The decision to charge for this is basically a pilot scheme for other things down the line.

Let's get real.

It is a disgraceful thing to implement given it flies in the face of the environmental commitments councils have.

Not only that.

Garden waste is completely untraceable if it is illegally dumped at the side of the road and mark my words the instances of flytipping will go up drastically.

It will then be the council's obligation to collect said flytipping from the side of the road.

But will they?

You can bet that come September once the 6 month time limit is up on bringing a motion to reverse it I will do so and furthermore I will be demanding that everyone who paid this Â£40 "get their money back.

This is a back of a fag packet policy that has been thought up on the fly to generate additional revenue.

It lacks progressive thought.

In short, like the bags of flytipped grass that will be all over east Ren in the next few months... It stinks.

www.facebook.com/macdonaldtheindependent

Posts and comments -

- this is very lazy accounting on the part of East Renfrewshire Council.

I have seen on their own FB page that the reason it is now being charged for is the garden waste collection is 'non statutory' and so they can 'relocate the funds to frontline services'.

Many years ago School Librarians were cut by 50% as they too are 'non statutory'.

Would it be possible to get the council to list all the non statutory services that are currently funded through our council tax? Better to be ahead of the curve regarding all future cuts they will make by charging for services.

14h

- The council talk of protecting essential services however if they managed our money better then

theyâ€™d likely not need to be asking us for more money. When I looked over the budget it looked like there was more funding being provided by the government than in the previous year and yet the council need to find an additional Â£800k through this.

Over spends on building projects that could have been foreseen and supporting builders who made decisions without consulting the people paying them are what we are now paying for.

As others have said itâ€™s the principle behind this...whatâ€™s next?

13h

- Iâ€™m going to be a bit controversial here but am happy for a healthy debate without folk losing sight of the issue.... Â£40 over 9 months is that right? Equates to Â£1.11 a week? A cup of coffee costs double that. I just canâ€™t get my knickers in a twist about this and would be appalled if people from our area started fly tipping because of this tiny charge? Genuinely, am I missing something as many many people seem to be outraged over this and I donâ€™t get it?

14h

Cllr David Macdonald - An Independent voice for Eastwood - So what would you have done when councils didnâ€™t collect this? The brown bins were introduced in 2010. I would have jumped at the chance to pay Â£40 a year to get it taken away once a week!

My issues with this is that people will still have to do something with it eg take it to the dump, where they will still have to pay for it to be disposed.

They might find their landfill charges going up too.

Are the savings just in bin lorry service reduction?

You must have voted on these proposals in the budget.

4m

Author

Cllr David Macdonald - An Independent voice for Eastwood As much as I would love to start an eco-friendly biomass plant in my garden to power my house I just don't have the space or the amount generated to do such a thing. That's why I am happy to have the council collect my contribution and send it on to the be processed and contribute in the global effort to reduce our collective carbon footprint.

9h

- Of course it won't turn a profit that's a dirty word in council activities

12h

- They don't want to do it. It's not on the list of things they have to do, and that they get paid to do. Our Council Tax only amounts to about 15% of their funding. It costs them money to get rid of the waste. So if you want it done, they'll charge you for it. They will be hoping that the uptake will cover the costs. I doubt they will turn a profit off it, as the more waste there is, the greater the cost to dispose of it.

12h Â· Edited

- People will start putting garden waste in the general waste bin and save Â£40 that's what will happen the council are bunch of clowns

12h

- why they charging for it then ? Is it to replenish the councils funds to fund retirement packages of senior staff ?

12h

- yes that's what I was just checking

12h

- No, because those are statutory requirements. That's a service they have to provide. I think anyway!

12h

- Cllr David Macdonald - An Independent voice for Eastwood Itâ€™s not a way to generate revenue. Itâ€™s optional. Donâ€™t want to make use of the service, donâ€™t pay it. Do what you did 10 years ago.

13h

- I quite agree. Thereâ€™s never this outrage when ERC were closing a school, or threatening to close the Thornliebank Resource Centre, which supports many adults with additional needs.

My family saved enough from not going on holiday last year to pay for this for hundreds of years.

Weâ€™ve only had the brown bins for 10 years. Before that you composted or took it to the dump. The time and effort I put into that is well worth Â£40 a year.

13h

- itâ€™s the thin edge of the wedge Â£40.00 this year, next year it will be Â£80.00 then Â£160.00 with the blue bin been Â£40.00 and the green bin Â£60 etc. Once the genie is out of the bottle you will never get it back in.

14h

- I completely agree regarding lowest earners, is there not something in the policy to prevent that a bit like school lunches (genuinely donâ€™t know thatâ€™s why Iâ€™m asking). For the rest of us though.....? Agreed not the best way to generate revenue however, as I say I still canâ€™t get emotionally charged about this. Way too many other things that rip my knitting

14h

Author

Cllr David Macdonald - An Independent voice for Eastwood It's more about it setting a precedent and the council then doing this with other things. For those who are East Ren residents who are the lowest earners and those that live in poverty, Â£40 is a sum they definitely shouldn't be paying. Not everyone is lucky enough not to live in poverty and to be able to afford a coffee. So while for some Â£40 might not seem a lot for some it is. On top of that it is a horrible way to generate revenue. Not a single thought given to progressive and innovative ways to raise money.

14h

-Will people Not just bag it and put in the grey bin? If they have space obviously!

14h

- Cllr David Macdonald - An Independent voice for Eastwood

post found on ERC page confirming that garden waste can go in the grey bin. What is the actual point then if paying for a permit for the brown bin! How stupid are these people!!!

13h Â· Edited

Author

Cllr David Macdonald - An Independent voice for Eastwood correct. Perfectly useable green recyclable waste sitting in a landfill.

14h

- A very lazy solution to a non existent problem.

14h

- Is the solution not to get the Scot Gov to make it statutory and fund it?

They would be accused of subsidising the middle class again though.

14h

- I live in a block of flats with 6 flats that share one brown bin, surely the six houses wont be charged Â£40 each!

13h

- me too, we have communal bins for recycling

13h Â· Edited

- charging for it is an absolute scandal- daylight robbery. no need for it. will end up with rat havens because folk will just leave their gardens to over grow. or bag it and just dump it somewhere. who the hang thought this up are obviously the ones in council with big salaries and can afford it.

12h

- How do you think all the "Free Services" are going to get funded ?

14h

- Total disgrace.

14h

- My grey bin is getting rammed and erc can ram their charge

14h

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Re: Cabinet - Thursday 15 April 2021 10am - Â£40 Brown Bin Charge for Garden waste collection; Mixed Tenure Waste Collection(Free) Scheme taken In House?

Posted by RM64 - 09 Jun 2021 11:26

9/6/2021

Published The Extra On Line -

Lifestyle

East Renfrewshire Council to introduce charge to collect garden waste

East Renfrewshire Council is to introduce an annual charge for garden waste collection as it looks to balance the budget.

By The Newsroom

Tuesday, 8th June 2021, 5:20 pm

Beginning on July 5, the opt-in permit system will see residents who wish to have their garden waste collected will pay an annual charge of Â£40 for a weekly collection (excluding a fortnight at Christmas).

Residents not requiring their garden waste to be collected would still be able to use their brown bin for food waste. The permit will also include collection of Christmas trees.

East Renfrewshire Council's environment director, Andy Cahill, said: "The council faced a significant budget shortfall for this year and savings had to be identified.

"This is an opt-in system and the charge amounts to less than Â£1-a-week for a service which will be offered for 50 weeks of the year.

"Our priority is to protect frontline services for our residents and income generated from this scheme will help meet some of the budget shortfall."

For more information visit

www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/garden-waste.

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Re: Cabinet - Thursday 15 April 2021 10am - Â£40 Brown Bin Charge for Garden waste collection; Mixed Tenure Waste Collection(Free) Scheme taken In House?

Posted by RM64 - 10 Jun 2021 07:24

10/6/2021

Published Barrhead News On Line -

News

1 hr ago

Pressure on East Renfrewshire Council to ditch garden waste fee

By Gillian McPherson Reporter

A NEW charge for garden waste collection has been branded a “slap in the face for hard-working families in East Renfrewshire.”

The opt-in scheme is being introduced by East Renfrewshire Council on July 5, with households paying an annual fee of £40 to take part.

However, the local authority is facing mounting criticism over the controversial move.

Councillor Paul Aitken, who represents Barrhead, Liboside and Uplawmoor as an independent, insists council tax should cover the costs.

“I strongly oppose the new charge for garden waste,” he told the Barrhead News. “It is a slap in the face for hard-working families in East Renfrewshire.

“I will look to bring a proposal against this charge.”

The payment will cover collections every week, except a fortnight over the festive period, and will include the collection of Christmas trees.

Residents who choose not to pay to have their garden waste lifted will still be able to use their brown bin for food waste.

Where residents in flats share a bin for their food and/or garden waste, they can continue to do this for garden waste, provided one of them applies and pays for a permit.

There are currently no discounts or exemptions to the scheme for those on benefits.

Council chiefs are introducing the payment as they face "a significant budget shortfall" for this financial year.

They insist savings had to be identified and have stressed that income from the new charge will help to protect frontline services.

However, hundreds of local residents have used social media to voice their concerns, with many arguing the costs of what is currently a free service should continue to be met through council tax payments.

There are also fears the charge will lead to more people illegally dumping their rubbish.

However, a council spokeswoman said: "Garden waste collection is a non-statutory service, so unlike other household waste, it is not covered by council tax payments.

"This is an opt-in system and the charge amounts to less than Â£1 a week for a service which will be offered for 50 weeks of the year.

"We don't foresee the introduction of the new scheme as leading to an increase in fly-tipping.

"Information we have from other councils which have introduced similar schemes shows there was no significant rise in fly-tipping."

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