

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:

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Date:26 March 2021

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e-mail:

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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 - 14 Apr 2021 22:37

14/4/2021

Published Barrhead News On Line -

News

12 hrs ago

East Renfrewshire Council to bring maintenance team in house

By Drew Sandelands Local Democracy Reporter

A HIT squad for property maintenance in East Renfrewshire could be brought in-house as a third-party contract ends.

The move has been proposed to save money and guarantee that the service, which deals with issues such as fly-tipping and close cleaning, continues.

Cabinet members will be asked to approve the plan when they meet tomorrow.

The Vocational Education Resource Group (VERG), a training and employability service provider, currently has the contract.

It was extended in January after a council oversight meant the previous contract expired before retendering could take place.

A council report states: ‘It is felt that bringing the service in-house represents best value in the circumstances.

‘This avoids the uncertainty over future service provision and the potential additional cost of going to the market.

‘It also ensures the continued delivery of added social value in relation to employment and the local economy.’

Three options have been considered by the council: stopping the service, retendering the contract or bringing the team in-house.

The report to the cabinet states the service is ‘highly valued’ and has positively addressed ‘small scale issues across local housing.’

‘It has dealt effectively with problems such as fly-tipping or litter picks, close cleaning, grass cutting and environmental improvements in council areas, regardless of housing tenure,’ it adds.

‘Terminating the service would be unpopular with customers and viewed as a backwards step by the council in achieving its strategic objectives.’

However, a previous tender process only received one bid and the ‘scope of the service has not to any extent changed in the interim.’

There is a ‘strong possibility’ that, despite time and money being invested, the process ‘would not attract any bids at all,’ the report states.

It adds that contract prices are likely to rise due to the cost of transferring staff from the current provider.

There is also a concern that ‘the appointment of any new third-party supplier would not bring the same key social, economic and employability benefits.’

The team has built up ‘considerable knowledge’ of council services, established a good relationship with residents and dealt with problems such as fly-tipping and litter, the council reports.

It has also provided ‘invaluable support during the pandemic, delivering food parcels and providing cleaning services.’

Councillors are also being asked to agree that the contract can be extended for a few more months until the transfer can go ahead.

It will cost Â£24,000 per month to continue the contract until the transfer is completed.

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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 - 14 Apr 2021 22:51

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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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 - 15 Apr 2021 07:28

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 â€“ 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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Posted by RM64 - 15 Apr 2021 15:29

You can view recording of the meeting via Council website here -

www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/cabinet-150421

Meeting Recording

The recording of this meeting can be viewed on the Council's YouTube channel

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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 - 28 Apr 2021 07:35

28/04/2021

News

4 hrs ago

East Renfrewshire Council garden waste charges delayed

By Drew Sandelands Local Democracy Reporter

THE roll-out of garden waste charges in East Renfrewshire has been pushed back until July.

Council chiefs were set to be asked to agree a start date of June 7 for the new charges, which will see all households taking part having to pay a Â£40 annual fee.

But environment director Andy Cahill requested the date was changed to July 5 to allow â€œa few glitchesâ€ in the online payment process to be fixed.

The charge, set to raise Â£800,000 for the council, was included in this yearâ€™s budget, which was approved by elected members in March.

Mr Cahill said: â€œOne of the elements of the scheme is to have online payment processing available.

â€œMany residents and customers expect that level of service to be provided now. They want to pay online, they donâ€™t want to get involved with sending in cheques.

“However, just recently, we’ve been having a few glitches in relation to the online payment system. I just want to be sure that it will definitely be able to operate effectively and efficiently.”

Cabinet members approved starting the scheme in July.

The £40 charge for 2021/22 will be payable in advance.

Participating households will get a bin sticker to show they are part of the scheme and permits will be sent out before the start date.

All brown bins without a permit will be checked and won’t be emptied if garden waste is found.

Anyone without a permit can ask the council to collect their garden waste at a cost of £35.

Councillor Paul O’Kane said introducing the charge was a “difficult decision” but it means the number of staff can be increased.

He added: “I think it’s important to put on the record that the alternative to charging would have been reduction in service.

“That could have been reductions in the collection of bins, looking at the cycles of when bins are lifted. It could have been an adverse impact on winter gritting routes or the repairs budget for roads. It’s a difficult choice but I think it’s the right one.”

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

Posted by RM64 - 28 Apr 2021 14:12

28/4/2021

Published Barrhead News On Line -

News

2 hrs ago

East Renfrewshire Council brings maintenance team in-house

By Drew Sandelands Local Democracy Reporter

A HOUSING maintenance squad credited with improving the cleanliness of East Renfrewshire estates will be taken in-house by the council.

Council leader Tony Buchanan praised the workers, who deal with issues such as fly-tipping and close cleaning, as cabinet members agreed the council should take on the team.

It has previously been running under a contract with the Vocational Education Resource Group (VERG), a training and employability service provider.

That contract was extended in January after a council oversight meant the previous deal expired before retendering could take place.

However, council officers decided going to the market to retender could bring ‘risk’. A previous tender process only received one bid and the ‘scope’ of the service hasn’t changed.

Officers believe the cost of transferring the staff, via TUPE, could lead to a ‘significantly higher’ contract price.

Environment director Andy Cahill said the scheme has been a ‘huge success’ and ceasing to offer the service would be unpopular with residents.

Mr Buchanan welcomed the ‘opportunity to bring these staff into the council’.

He said: "Over the years, since it has been in operation, we are more than aware of the success of the team in delivering many services across a number of the estates in East Renfrewshire and beyond.

"The general maintenance and tidiness of our estates is significantly better than it had been.

"The opportunity to bring it in-house is far better, not just for the future work that will be carried out, but for the staff as well who have shown themselves to be committed to delivering the services that have been required of them."

Danny Devlin, councillor for Barrhead, Liboside and Uplawmoor, also praised the workers.

He said: "What a difference the mixed tenure team have made to the estates within East Renfrewshire, not just Barrhead but parts of the Mearns as well, parts of Thornliebank.

"Seven or eight years ago, you walked into these estates, you seen the debris lying about, you seen the unpainted closes, you seen the deprivation of fences, what a difference the mixed tenure scheme has made to these estates."

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