

Staff briefing– new recycling service Phase 6

This briefing is to give staff and community councils an update on the final phase of the new kerbside recycling service that is being rolled out across the city.

Background

The new recycling service has been rolled out in phases over the last year to approximately 140,000 households. This is a major change to recycling provision in the city, as the new bin/box service simplifies the recycling process for kerbside residents and increases the range of materials collected. It is forecast that in 2015/16, the new service will have a positive impact on the overall citywide recycling rate. Since the roll out there has been a steady increase in the weight of recycling collected per household as well as a general reduction in the weight of landfill waste collected per household.

Typically the majority of these properties were households that originally used a green wheelie bin for their landfill waste and the red and blue boxes for recycling. The last phase of the project will review the properties that do not fall into this category and changes will be made to the recycling service they have access to. This will include;

1. Moving properties on to the current new system with some exceptions
2. Retaining an improved red and blue collection for Ward 11 properties
3. Providing shared recycling bins/wheelie bins for tenement areas that had access to the red and blue boxes.

The current contract with Palm recycling for collecting red and blue boxes will end on 30 November.

The above three work streams are explained in more detail below.

Phase 6 (properties on route 17)

This includes difficult to access properties for example; colonies, rural properties, properties on busy main streets and on narrow streets. These properties will receive the new recycling service and a new 140 litre grey landfill bin.

What's new?

- New grey bin for landfill waste
- Green bin becomes recycling bin: more materials including cans, plastic bottles, tubes and trays.
- Blue box for glass, textiles, small electrical items and batteries- excludes colonies
- Communal glass banks and shared recycling green wheelie bins for colonies

When

- Information packs sent to residents w/c 26 October
- Grey bin delivered w/c 9 November
- First collection of recycling w/c 30 November

Modernising waste area (Ward 11)

These properties will stay on a red and blue box service because of the challenges with putting out on street recycling bins in the World Heritage area. This will be an improved service and it will replicate the new recycling service with regards to the materials collected. The range of items collected in each box will change and these changes will be communicated to residents prior to their first collection on the new service. Residents will present both boxes on the same day for collection.

What's new

- Boxes collected every two weeks on the same day
- Red box for cans, plastic bottles, tubs and trays
- Blue box for glass, textiles, small electrical items and batteries

When

- Letters sent to residents w/c 2 November
- First collection w/c 19 November

Replace red and blue box service with on street recycling service

These are typically tenemental properties that have access to on street shared recycling bins but also have a red and blue box service. Due to the contract ending for the red and blue boxes and because these streets have access to shared recycling bins, we will no longer continue to provide the red and blue box collection. Before the red and blue box service stops, we will ensure that residents have access to adequate on street recycling or are placed on the wheelie bin service.

What's new

- On street recycling bins now accept more materials including plastic bottles, tubs and trays
- New on street glass recycling to replace the blue boxes
- No collections of red and blue boxes

Due to the size and complexity of this work stream, it has been split into three phases

Phase A

Letters sent to residents w/c 19 October
Red and blue box collection ends w/c 30 October

Phase B

Letters sent to residents w/c 2 November
Red and blue box collection ends w/c 13 November

Phase C

Letters sent to residents w/c 16 November
Red and blue box collection ends w/c 27 November

It should be noted that the number of residents that use the red and blue boxes in areas where there are shared recycling bins is extremely low. We will communicate with all those households to inform residents about the changes and how they can recycle their waste.

Enquiries

Please advise residents to call 0131 529 3030

Thanks

Ryan McEwan

Community Engagement Manger