

**Decision under Delegated Powers  
Bulky Waste Collection Charges 2022/23**

**Officer Making the Decision**

Matthew Bradford – Head of Cleansing and Open Spaces

**Recommendation**

That the charge levied on residents for the collection of Bulky Waste is increased in line with the table below:

Request Method	Charge 2021/2022	Revised Charge 22/23 (effective 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2022)
Online form or over the phone	£20.00	£25.00

**Reason**

The increase in charges is required due to:

1. The cost of providing the collections increases by RPIX each year.
2. To meet the income targets established by the Council’s Medium Term Financial Strategy

**Authority for Decision**

Section 8.3 of the Constitution gives delegated authority to Heads of Service to undertake the periodic review of fees and charges raised within their service area and falling within the scope of the Council’s Income and Charging Policy Framework.

**Decision and Date**

Approved



Matt Bradford  
Head of Cleansing and Open Spaces  
6<sup>th</sup> April 2022

## **Background**

1. This decision will increase the charges for the Bulky Waste Collection Service to £25.00 per annum for up to three items.
2. The collection of Bulky Waste is a discretionary service provided by CBC as an enhancement to the statutory residual waste and recycling collections. The charge was introduced in October 2019 and this is the first time it is reviewed.
3. Payment is due prior to booking a collection, and there are no options to spread the cost. This is due to the additional transaction costs of taking payment in instalments. Providing this option would put additional pressures on the budget and make the need for further price increases highly likely.
4. Alternatives to the service are:
  - Liaising with an organisation (i.e. charity) that deals with certain types of items with the view to repair (if needed) and reuse them.
  - Taking the bulky waste to a Household Waste and Recycling Centre. This is not a viable option for households without the use of a car. Leicestershire County Council has also introduced a booking system with set appointments in order to monitor visitors (as a result of Covid-19 associated measures)
5. Alternatives to increasing the charges are as follows:
  - a. Stop providing the service altogether. This is not considered to be a viable option as many residents value the service that is provided. In 2021/22 there were approximately 7,500 requests.
  - b. Absorb the additional cost of providing the service. This is not viable due to general cost pressures on the Council.
  - c. Make savings in other areas of the service. This is not viable due to other cost pressures on the service and the need to make additional savings/income other than those proposed within this report.

## **Financial Implications**

The increase in charges will result in the additional income required to meet the projected income in the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy and the additional income required to meet the 2022/23 budgeted figure of £143,000.

## Risk management

Risk Identified	Likelihood	Impact	Risk Management Actions Planned
Price increase leads to reduced number of requests	Possible	Moderate	Communication plan to include background on reasons for increases.
Increase in the number of flytipping incidents	Possible	Moderate	There has been an increase in the overall number of flytipping cases over the last year (appr. 30%). This is closely monitored by the authority as it is also associated with types of waste not collected as part of the Bulky Waste Collections

## Equality and Diversity

The Council continues to assess requests for Hardship Criteria on a case-by-case basis. In 2021/22 (April 2021 to March 2022) 48 applications were received, and in 3 cases the charges were waived.

Key Decision: No

Background Papers: None

