

Briefing note

Waste Strategy 2015-2020

The new Waste Strategy was agreed at ECS committee on 6 July 2016. It sets out our plans for the service to make sure that we reach our environmental aspirations and provide a simplified service to our residents. The strategy also identifies changes so that we can cater for our growing population.

What is changing

- **Recycling collections** will be simplified so all material will be collected on the same day every week. The following will be collected; plastic, cardboard, glass, paper, food, household batteries, textiles, small electricals and cartons.
 - We will no longer collect engine oil or car batteries from the kerbside and residents will be encouraged to take these items to the Sort It recycling centres.
- Recycling will be collected using **new vehicles** that can collect all material in one drive pass. The new Romaquip vehicles also last longer - typically 10-12 years.
- Residents will be able to request **additional recycling boxes** and will be able to use boxes for all materials. We will ask residents to group items together.
 - The bags for plastic and cardboard will be kept as it has been highlighted that some residents may struggle with boxes and would prefer to keep their bags.
 - Paper recycling bags will no longer be available.
- The 240 litre black bins for non-recyclable waste will be exchanged for **140 litre black bins**. The black bins will continue to be emptied every fortnight.
 - Families with medical conditions that are approved for extra capacity black bins will continue to receive the same services as they do currently.
 - Large households will be reviewed on a case by case basis and extra capacity will be offered when a household has a genuine need. To receive extra capacity households will need to demonstrate that they recycle everything they can using the kerbside service.
 - An annual administration fee for extra capacity granted to large households applies. Concessions are available for certain benefits.

- A separate container for **disposable nappies** will be provided to families that need it. This is currently planned to be in the form of single use sacks. They can be used only for nappies and will be presented alongside the 140 litre black bin.
- A heavily discounted **reusable nappy pack** suitable from birth to potty will be available for families living in South Gloucestershire. The pack contains 15 nappies, a bucket and laundry bag.
- The **bulking yards** at Yate and Mangotsfield will undergo refurbishment to accommodate more recyclable material and the new Romaquip vehicles. The developments will also help to accommodate housing growth.
- No changes have been planned for the garden waste service. Green bins will continue to be 240 litres emptied every fortnight.

When are the changes happening

Detailed planning is now underway. The plan is that weekly recycling will be introduced in spring 2017, mostly likely in early June. The bins will be exchanged later in summer 2017.

Before the changes are introduced both Yate and Mangotsfield yards will be refurbished. Work is due to start in Yate in October and once completed work will then start at Mangotsfield. There may be some minor distribution to the Mangotsfield Sort It recycling centre early next year when work is taking place.

What communication with residents is planned?

A detailed communication plan is being prepared to inform of residents of the changes, it will include:

- On-going press releases to encourage local press interest
- On-going social media campaigns
- This year's bin hanger calendar will include information on the changes
- A second calendar with the new collection dates will be distributed next Spring
- Roadshows will take place from March 2017 across the district and will include the new vehicle's to attract interest
- Leaflets will be provided to all primary schools and at the larger school the waste team will do pop up roadshows at the end of the school day
- The waste team will be happy to attend any Parish or Town council meetings to discuss the changes.

What about the consultation?

The waste strategy was consulted for 14 weeks from the 9 November 2015 to the 15 February 2016. The purpose of the consultation was to give residents the chance to have their say about how they might be affected by the changes and we have made several amendments to our proposals as a result of the feedback from the consultation.

As a result of comments received the strategy has been updated to include a separate nappy waste collection and allowance for residents to continue using the plastics and cardboard bags if they wish.

Where can I find out more?

Further information including the consultation and committee report is available on the council's website at www.southglos.gov.uk/wastestrategy

Contact information

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www.southglos.gov.uk