

COUNCIL MEETING – WEDNESDAY 13 JULY 2016

NOTICE OF MOTION

This Council notes that the administration is planning to roll out multiple wheelie bins to Merton households and to end the weekly bin collection as part of major changes to the borough's waste collection service.

Under these proposals, household waste will only be collected fortnightly and residents' two recycling containers will only be emptied on alternate weeks. Furthermore, each household will need to have:

- One large wheelie bin for non-recyclable household waste;
- One large wheelie bin for paper and card;
- One box or reusable bag for plastics, glass and cans;
- One food waste caddy; and
- One green waste wheelie bin (if residents opt to pay for this service)

This Council recognises that various concerns have been raised about the administration's plans, including at the Sustainable Communities panel on 9 June 2016. These included:

- The inconvenience of having to put household rubbish in five different containers, clogging up kitchens, front gardens and street fronts.
- No proper assessment of the impact that ending weekly bin collections will have on residents; especially the elderly, disabled and those living in smaller homes and flats.
- A lack of clarity regarding the financial savings these proposals might deliver for council taxpayers.
- The large cost of purchasing new wheelie bins and new refuse collection vehicles.
- The impact for existing Merton staff of transferring to the new contractor e.g. TUPE arrangements.
- That the 2015 wheeled bin pilot conducted in Lavender Fields used a different system from the proposals now being put forward.

This Council strongly regrets the lack of consultation that has been undertaken with residents across all parts of Merton about changes to their waste collection service and therefore calls on the Cabinet to look at alternatives to address the above concerns and to protect the weekly bin collection, as per Merton Labour's 2014 manifesto promise.

Cllr Charlie Chirico

Cllr Daniel Holden

Cllr David Simpson

Cllr Jill West

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