

News

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Bin collections could improve as part of major waste review

Changes currently under consideration could mean that from October 2016, North Lincolnshire Council would no longer empty residents' bins on a Monday, putting an end to constant changes in collections caused by bank holidays.

The proposals form part of a major overhaul of waste services that will significantly reduce the amount of household waste currently sent to landfill and potentially save around £330,000 in the next two years.

Currently, all residual waste from residents' homes and household recycling centres goes to local landfill sites. But from July 2016, it will instead go to a new £6.4m waste transfer station on Midland Road in Scunthorpe – diverting around 90 per cent of the area's waste from landfill. It will be recycled and turned into electricity to feed into the National Grid – enough to power around 5,000 homes.

Changes to bin collection days will be included in the new calendar residents will receive around October time.

The council has worked closely with employees and their trade unions in putting together options for changes to the way waste collection services are delivered and will shortly consult with all affected employees on the details of the possible changes.

There will be no job losses as a result of the options currently under consideration.

The opening hours of the household recycling centres will remain the same.

Cllr Neil Poole, cabinet member for Neighbourhoods at North Lincolnshire Council, said:

“The new waste transfer station is part of a wider £65m investment the council is making over the next 10 years to ensure the council diverts as much residual waste from landfill as possible at the lowest cost.

“Due to its location, we needed to review the current collection rounds and explore the most cost-effective way of delivering the service. It is not unusual for us to change collection rounds – as the population of North Lincolnshire increases; we need to factor this into future rounds.

“The new arrangements could save as much as £330,000 in the next two years. This is a huge saving for council taxpayers while at the same time improving the service they receive. It could also see an end to frustrating changes to collection days because of bank holidays. This in itself can cause confusion and result in annoying missed collections.

“We will aim to ensure that it will be business as normal for the vast majority of residents. And for those whose bin date might change, it will give them piece of mind, knowing that their bins will be emptied on the same day each week without the need for more changes due to bank holidays.

“Our waste collection teams do a superb job and they are key to the delivery of excellent services on behalf of our residents. They deliver the only council service that comes into contact with every one of the 74,000 homes across North Lincolnshire every week of the year, come rain or shine! We value them highly and very much look forward to hearing their views on the proposed changes before coming to any final decisions to make changes to the current arrangements.”

The council waste collection service supports weekly collections to 74,000 homes and 1,400 commercial premises in North Lincolnshire.

The waste the council collects will go to the new waste transfer station. It will then go to a UK based facility where plastics and metals will be extracted for recycling. The remaining waste will then be processed to generate around 20,000 Mwh of electricity – enough to power around 5,000 UK homes.

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