
Report To:	Environment and Regeneration Committee	Date:	29 August 2019
Report By:	Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration and Resources	Report No:	ENV037/19/KL
Contact Officer:	Kenny Lang	Contact No:	01475 715906
Subject:	Garden Waste Charges		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee of the introduction of charges for collection of garden waste.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 As part of the budget savings round it was agreed that Inverclyde Council would introduce a charge for the collection of garden waste collection in Inverclyde from the new season collection service commencing March 2020.
- 2.2 Similar charges are in place throughout a number of authorities in Scotland such as Perth and Kinross, Edinburgh City, Midlothian and Falkirk.
- 2.3 Inverclyde currently provides garden waste collections to around 22,000 properties. Based on evidence from a number of authorities, a participation rate of around 56% is achievable; this equates to around 12,300 properties.
- 2.4 The charge will be set at £30 per bin, and this would achieve a net income of £289k per annum. There will be additional costs of an admin officer to facilitate the service and additional waste disposal costs for residents who choose not to participate. These costs are factored into the overall saving.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Committee notes the contents of this report and the work that will be undertaken to implement the garden waste charges.

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Inverclyde Council currently provides a garden waste recycling service to approximately 22,000 properties within Inverclyde. This service allows householders to recycle grass cuttings, weeds, shrub cuttings, hedge trimmings, flowers, plants, leaves and twigs via a kerbside collection using a brown wheelie bin. The service is provided between March and November.
- 4.2 The total tonnage of garden waste collected in Inverclyde in 2018/19 was 3,800. This contributes 11% to our annual recycling performance.
- 4.3 The Council will introduce a charge for garden waste collection in Inverclyde commencing March 2020. Officers have visited other authorities and it is suggested that the model used by Perth and Kinross Council would be the most beneficial as this has also been used by a number of authorities.

5.0 GARDEN WASTE CHARGES SERVICE OVERVIEW

- 5.1 The garden waste collection service will be set at £30 per bin. From discussions with other authorities it is anticipated that an uptake of 56% of the service is possible. Based on 22,000 households, this would equate to a customer base of 12,300 households.
- 5.2 A summary of chargeable garden waste services in Scotland is shown below

Local Authority	Charge for garden waste collection	Cost
Aberdeen City	Yes. March 2019	£30.00 for up to 2 bins
Angus	Yes	£28.40 per bin
Dundee City	Yes. March 2020	£35.00 per bin
Edinburgh City	Yes	£25.00 per year
Falkirk	Yes	£25.00 per bin
Highland	Yes	£40.00 per bin
Midlothian	Yes	£35.00 per bin from 2019
Moray	Yes. April 2019	£36.00 per bin
Perth & Kinross	Yes	£30.00 per bin

In addition to the above, a number of authorities are considering implementing charges as part of their budget savings exercise.

- 5.3 It is estimated that service changes would result in 2,120 tonnes of garden waste being recycled and 1,680 tonnes of garden waste being landfilled. The net impact on the Council's recycling performance would be a drop of approximately 5%.
- 5.4 In order to communicate the new charges a communication campaign will be implemented to inform customers within Inverclyde of the new service. A sample of a proposed letter to be issued to residents is attached at Appendix 1.
- 5.5 This communication will be reinforced by a comprehensive social media campaign, information on the Council's website, local newspapers, and flyers.
- 5.6 The amended service will be administered by a new clerical grade C member of staff.

- 5.7 A short life working group has been set up to develop the service strategy covering service logistics, planning, charging methods, permitting, auditing and control. A list of frequently asked questions will also be developed to provide more information to specific queries and this will be posted on the Council's Website.
- 5.8 The service will also include commercial premises currently on the Council's commercial waste collection service. The charge will be based on the proportion of bin size used by the premises. For example, the standard brown bin is 240 litres and a large Euro style bin is 1,280 litres, therefore the charge would be £160 per season.
- 5.9 A common question is that of permitting and it is proposed that customers will be issued a non-transferable garden waste permit. This permit will be attached to the brown bin(s) to be uplifted. Only bins displaying the permit will be uplifted. An example from Perth and Kinross Council is shown in Appendix 2.
- 5.10 Householders who choose not to participate in the scheme and wish to recycle garden waste can do so at the recycling centres located at Pottery Street or Kirn Drive. Alternatively, garden waste can be recycled at home by composting. Residents will retain their existing container should they wish to participate in the service at a later date. Alternatively we would offer residents the option to return containers to Pottery Street.
- 5.12 The timescale for the new chargeable garden waste service is shown in Appendix 3.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Finance

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report £000	Virement From	Other Comments

Annually recurring Costs (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact £000	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
Waste Strategy (01573)	Fees and Charges	March 2020	(370)		
Waste Strategy (01573)	Composting	March 2020	(56)		
Refuse Transfer Station (00554)	Residual Waste	March 2020	163		
Waste Strategy (01573)	Employee Costs	Oct 20	26		

6.2 **Legal**

This report does not impact on Legal.

6.3 **Human Resources**

A new clerical grade C will be created within Environmental Services.

6.4 **Equalities**

This report does not impact on Equalities.

6.5 **Repopulation**

This report does not impact on Repopulation.

7.0 **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

7.1 None.

Enquiries to:
Telephone:
E-mail:
Our Ref:
Your Ref:
Date:

Municipal Buildings
Clyde Square
Greenock
PA15 1LY

Dear Resident,

Garden Waste Permit 2020

Garden waste permits are now available to be purchased for 2020. You can pay for a garden waste permit online by visiting <https://www.inverclyde.gov.uk/pay-it-online>.

Should you wish to recycle garden waste you will need to display a valid 2020 garden waste permit on your brown bin(s) from Monday 16 March 2020.

The 2020 Garden Waste Permit is valid from 16 March 2020 – 20 November 2020 and the cost is £30.00 per bin.

Purchasing a permit before Monday 2 March 2020 will ensure you don't miss any collections, as after this date we cannot guarantee you will have the permit in time for the new service start date.

Residents requiring assistance to purchase a permit should phone the Council's Customer Service Centre on 01475 717171 and you will need a credit or debit card to make payment. Cash payments are accepted at Customer Service Centre, Municipal Buildings, Clyde Square, Greenock, PA15 1LY.

Full details of the chargeable garden waste service along with the Terms and Conditions and a list of Frequently Asked Questions can be found at

<https://www.inverclyde.gov.uk/environment/recycling-and-waste-services>.

Householders who choose not to participate in the scheme and wish to recycle garden waste can do so at the recycling centres located at Pottery Street or Kirn Drive / Craigmuschat Quarry. Alternatively garden waste can be recycled at home by composting.

Yours faithfully


APPENDIX 2

Return Address: The Environment Service,
Perth & Kinross Council, Pullar House, 35 Kinnoull Street, PERTH, PH1 5GD

Delivered by



House name
House number street name
Town
Postcode



12345678



IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR WASTE COLLECTIONS



www.pkc.gov.uk/gardenwaste

Customer UPRN

123400000000000000

Service Address

12 Street Name

Town

City

AB1 2CD



12345678

REPLACEMENT n



PERTH &
KINROSS
COUNCIL



Chargeable Garden Waste Collection Service

2018/19

Valid until 31st March 2019

First line of address



This sticker should be attached to your brown bin on the back of your bin (handle side) as shown in the picture.

The surface of the bin must be clean and dry before applying the sticker.

If a brown bin is presented containing garden waste after 1 April 2018 without a valid permit, it will not be emptied.

This service is provided subject to the Council's Terms and Conditions which are available on the Council's website along with further information about the Garden Waste Collection Service: www.pkc.gov.uk/gardenwaste



**Delayed Office Opening
for Employee Training**

*This office will be closed from
8.45 am - 11.00 am on the first
Thursday of each month.*



Environmental & Consumer Services
Head of Service **Willie Young**

Pullar House, 35 Kinnoull Street,
PERTH, PH1 5GD

Contact Customer Service Centre
Tel 01738 476476
www.pkc.gov.uk

Our ref D1.8

Your ref

Date

Dear Resident

Thank you for subscribing to Perth & Kinross Council's Garden Waste Collection Service. We enclose the permit sticker for your brown bin.

Please carefully follow the instructions on the back of the sticker to fix it to your bin. The sticker needs to be clearly visible so that the bin crew will see it.

The permit is valid from 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019. Your scheduled collection days will stay the same; brown bins will continue to be collected fortnightly except over the Christmas and New Year period where one collection is suspended. To check your bin collection day, please visit **www.pkc.gov.uk/bindates**

Terms and Conditions are available on the Council's website along with more information about the Garden Waste Collection Service: **www.pkc.gov.uk/gardenwaste**

In particular, please note:

- *We will only empty brown bins containing garden waste if a valid permit is displayed. Permits are non-transferable, and only valid when presented at the address printed on the permit. The Council will not empty a bin if it is moved to another property.*
- *Please report any missed collections via **my.pkc.gov.uk** or by contacting our Customer Service Centre on 01738 476476. Leave your bin at the kerbside for 48 hours after your usual collection time and we will aim to return to empty it.*
- *You are responsible for the security of your wheeled bin. If your bin is lost, stolen or damaged, you can order a replacement bin by emailing **recycle@pkc.gov.uk** or calling 01738 476476. You can order a replacement permit at no additional charge online at **my.pkc.gov.uk***

For further information, please visit **www.pkc.gov.uk/gardenwaste** or email **recycle@pkc.gov.uk** or call 01738 476476.

Yours faithfully

Community Waste Team

The Environment Service
Executive Director (Environment) **Barbara Renton**



With your permit you can continue to recycle the following:

Cooked and Uncooked Food Waste

- Dairy and eggs (including shells)
- Meat, fish and bones
- Teabags and coffee grounds
- Fruit, vegetables and peelings
- Bread, cakes and pastries
- Rice, pasta and cereal

Garden Waste

- Grass cuttings
- Leaves
- Weeds and clippings
- Small twigs and branches
- Sawdust, bark and hay
- Cut flowers and houseplants

Bin Presentation Information

For a copy of the Waste and Recycling Policy or a full list of Terms and Conditions visit www.pkc.gov.uk/gardenwaste

- On collection day, place your bin out for collection before 7.30 am. Please make sure the handle faces the road and the permit sticker is clearly visible.
- All garden waste must be in the bin and the lid closed. Do not use plastic bags - garden waste must be put into a brown bin loose. Do not leave any waste at the side or on top of your bin.
- Your garden waste collection day will remain the same. If there are any changes to uplift days, the Council will write to all properties with good notice and information.
- The householder is responsible for the waste and recycling contained in their brown bin and will be required to make arrangements to remove any contamination identified. The Council may levy an additional charge to the customer requesting an uplift of contaminated bins (as general waste).
- Brown bins which are considered by a collection crew to be too heavy for safe handling will not be emptied. The householders should correct the issue with the bin and present it on their next scheduled brown bin collection day.

