

## NEWS RELEASE

### Consultation on waste collection changes opens

A four-week consultation is to be launched on Blaby District Council's plans to change its refuse and recycling collections from June 2018, following a substantial reduction in funding.

£740,000 will be lost from June 2018, including £505,000 in recycling credits from Leicestershire County Council. The remaining £235,000 of a five-year, £2 million Central Government grant awarded in 2013 to run weekly recycling collections will also come to an end.

The four-week consultation will run from Thursday 19 October and close at midnight on Thursday 16 November. New proposals include:

- Moving to an alternate weekly collection
- All households with four or more occupants, eligible to receive a replacement 240 litre refuse bin and recycling bin free of charge, an increase from the current 140 litre standard bin.
- Households under four persons can order a replacement 240ltr recycling bin for free, and a 240ltr refuse bin for a small one-off cost.

Councillor Terry Richardson, Leader of Blaby District Council, said: "We realise that these proposals will result in a change for residents, but we want to ensure that a high quality waste collection service is maintained as it is so highly regarded by residents.

"We have worked extremely hard to come up with the best possible proposals which will still enable us to provide a quality service, as well as maintaining the



many other services which are equally valued by our residents.

“However we need to hear our resident’s views on the service that will work best for them from June 2018.

“Many might ask if we could simply increase our element of the Council Tax to make up this shortfall in funding. However, the Blaby District Council element of the total Council Tax that residents pay would need to be increased by over 15% to do this.

“Only 6% of councils now run a weekly collection service, and we will ensure that changes to our service are dictated by the overriding need to continue to provide a first rate service along with reducing waste to landfill and further increase the district’s recycling rate.

“I strongly encourage as many people as possible to let us know their views during the consultation period.”

Residents can visit [www.blaby.gov.uk/waste2018](http://www.blaby.gov.uk/waste2018) to find out more and have their say. Paper copies will be available at local libraries and on request.

All views will be gathered and taken into consideration before a final decision is made by Councillors at a meeting planned for early 2018. Residents will be kept up-to-date with all future plans before full implementation of any changes in the summer of 2018.

**ENDS**

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