

FC71. SUSTAINABLE WASTE COLLECTION

Council considered a report by the Director of Development Services presenting the outcome of a review of its waste collection service and outlining 3 options in regard to the collection frequency.

Council had agreed its Zero Waste Strategy 2012-2022 in 2012 and had agreed, in January 2013, to review its waste collection service.

Local Authorities are required in terms of the national Zero Waste Plan and the Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012 to meet specific targets in regard to the recycling/composting and preparation for reuse of both household waste and all wastes.

A review of the Council's waste collection services had been undertaken by Zero Waste Scotland on behalf of Falkirk Council. The review set out 3 options aimed at improving recycling efficiency within the area and reducing the volume of waste sent to landfill. No changes were proposed to the fortnightly collection of garden waste and black box textiles or the weekly collection of food waste. However options were presented in regard to residual (non recyclable) collection and co-mingled recycling collection. The options were:-

Option 1: Residual waste collection reduced from fortnightly to 3-weekly, co-mingled recycling collection to remain fortnightly

Option 2: Residual waste collection reduced from fortnightly to 3-weekly and co-mingled recycling collection increased from fortnightly to weekly

Option 3: Residual waste collection reduced from fortnightly to 4-weekly

The benefits in terms of the likely impact on the Council's recycling routes and the cost of the service were set out for each option.

Councillor Dr C R Martin, seconded by Baillie Paterson, moved that Council adopts option 1 in regard to its waste collection service and instructs the Directors of Corporate and Neighbourhood Services and Development Services to develop a detailed implementation plan for approval at a future meeting.

By way of an amendment, Councillor Bird, seconded by Councillor McNally, moved, in substitution for the motion, that Council:-

- 1) endorses the Scottish Government's Zero Waste Strategy and notes the outcomes of the collection service review with concern, and
- 2) notes that the report raises more questions than it answers and therefore calls for a further report to the March meeting which addresses the issues and concerns of members. Council also calls for a further report in March which will provide clarity on how we will seek to become a Zero Waste Town by 2025.

In terms of Standing Order 22.4.1, a vote was taken by roll call, there being 31 members present with voting as undernoted:-

For the motion (16) – Provost Reid; Depute Provost Patrick; Baillies Buchanan and Paterson; Councillors Black, Blackwood, D Goldie, G Goldie, Gow, MacDonald, McLuckie, Mahoney, Martin, Dr CR Martin, Nicol and Nimmo.

Against for the amendment (15) – Councillors Alexander, Balfour, Bird, Carleschi, Chalmers, Coleman, Hughes, Jackson, McCabe, McNally, Meiklejohn, Oliver, Ritchie, Spears and Turner.

Decision

Council agreed to:-

- 1) adopt a 3 weekly residual waste collection frequency, as set out as option 1 in the report, and**
- 2) instruct the Directors of Corporate and Neighbourhood Services and Development Services to develop a detailed implementation plan for approval at a future meeting.**

Councillor Coleman left the meeting following consideration of the previous item of business.