

### **FC3. QUESTION**

#### **Question by Councillor A MacDonald**

To ask the Provost to update Members on the current difficulties being experienced with the refuse collection service in Falkirk District, and to provide details to Full Council of the extra costs involved in employing private contractors to complete outstanding collections.

#### **Response by Provost Reid**

The issues facing the Council's refuse collection service were reported to the meeting of the Best Value Forum held on 19th February 2010. Included within the report were details of the estimated cost of engaging external contractors were this to be necessary.

Negotiations on new working arrangements continue with the trades unions. All crews are currently completing their beats with the number of reported missed bins falling from previous levels.

A backlog of missed bins was created over the Easter weekend. Private contractors were used to help clear the backlog of missed bins and minimise disruption to residents.

The cost of engaging the private contractor is anticipated to be in the region of £50k.