

# REFUSE AND RECYCLING SERVICES

## POLICY DOCUMENT

Babergh District Council is the designated Waste Collection Authority (WCA), responsible for the collection of household and municipal waste from properties within its geographical area.

### **A range of services are offered in the discharge of this responsibility**

Domestic Residual Waste Collection	Black bins or sacks
Domestic Dry Recyclables Collection	Blue bins or authorised clear sacks
Bulky Item Collection	Chargeable
Special Collections (Larger items)	Chargeable – price by quotation
Hazardous Household Waste Collection	Via Suffolk County Council
Clinical Waste Collection	Yellow bin
Other Domestic Waste (for which a collection charge can be made)	Chargeable e.g. Schools, Village Halls, Churches etc.
Garden Waste Collection	Brown bins (chargeable) Bulk Bags (chargeable) Sack Collection (chargeable)
Community Recycling Centres	Banks
Trade Waste Collection	Chargeable
Litter Bin & Dog Waste Bin Collections	Chargeable
Fly tipping Clearance	

## **1 Domestic Refuse Collection**

The Council operates a 'Twin Bin' waste collection scheme.

The majority of domestic properties in the District have two 240 litre wheeled bins for the collection of their waste:

- A Blue bin for dry recyclable material.
- A Black bin for residual waste

There are some exceptions to this bin allocation – see paragraph 1.3 and 1.4 for more details:

A weekly collection service is provided – residual waste and recyclable materials on alternate weeks. Residual waste is much heavier than recyclable materials. In order to balance weekly weights of collected material and therefore numbers of collection vehicles required, the District is split into 'Odd' or 'Even' weeks for particular material collection. Collection days may vary during the period of a public holiday. Householders are informed of the specific arrangements over the Christmas period and of any other exceptional changes using local media.

Householders are required to present their appropriate bin at the boundary of their property or nearest point to a public highway by 6.30 a.m. on the specified collection day.

For details of what materials should be placed in each bin, please refer to Appendix 1.

### **1.1 Black (Residual Waste) Bins**

In 1988, for a number of Environmental and Health & Safety reasons, the Council introduced wheeled bin collection system, replacing a wide range of containers previously supplied by householders. To enable every household to meet the requirements of the scheme, bins were issued to each property in the area and became the property of the householder.

Owners of properties that do not currently have a black residual bin (e.g. new properties) are responsible for purchasing a wheeled bin for the property. These will be made available at a subsidised price as may be agreed from time to time by the Council. (See Appendix 2.)

### **1.2 Blue (Recyclable Material) Bins**

In response to Government recycling targets a separate collection of dry recyclable materials was introduced in 2000. In 2003 -04, blue bins were issued to each property. The blue recycling bin was provided free of charge, but the bin remains the property of Babergh District Council. Smaller 120 litre blue bins are available on request.

Householders may request changes to the sizes of their bin(s) and an appropriate charge may be made. See Appendix 2 for current costs.

### **1.3 Replacement of Wheeled Bins**

The householder is responsible for purchasing a replacement black bin should theirs be damaged or go missing. This is in accordance with section 46 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

However should any kind of bin be damaged or lost at the time of collection, the contractor is responsible for replacing this bin at no charge to the resident.

Blue bins will be replaced free of charge should they be damaged or go missing.

### **1.4 Additional bins**

These may be made available to households of 6 or more people and/or in exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the Head of Natural & Built Environment Division. Current policy is to issue, in the first instance, an additional 120 litre blue bin for recyclable material at no charge. If there is further requirement

then a 120 litre bin may be issued at the discretion of the Council, however payment for this bin is the responsibility of the resident. See Appendix 2 for current charges.

## **1.5 Approved Sack Collection**

The supply of grey sacks and clear recycling bags will be made to those properties, which are approved as being unable to accommodate wheeled bins (currently approximately 910 properties are on the approved sack list) and, in exceptional circumstances and at the discretion of the Head of Natural & Built Environment Division, certain properties having a residual bin will be provided with recycling sacks for the collection of dry recyclable materials. The alternate week collection cycle will apply. (N.B. *The Council will not maintain a collection service to properties presenting bags for collection unless on the approved list.*)

## **1.6 Collect & Return Service**

At the discretion of the Head of Natural & Built Environment Division, a 'collect and return service' may be provided on request for those physically impaired from placing their refuse at the appropriate place, and there being no other able bodied member in the household.

# **2 Other Domestic Waste Collection Services**

## **2.1 Bulky Domestic Waste Collection Service**

This allows up to five domestic items, such as furniture, carpets and white goods (fridges, freezers, washing machines, cookers etc. – 2 freezer/fridges per five items) or ten sacks of waste including garden waste (which will not be composted) to be removed. The aim is to collect within 10 days of receipt of payment. See Appendix 2 for pricing schedule.

## **2.2 Special Collections Service**

This accommodates the collection of larger item(s) that are not included in the bulky collection service. The collection contractor will provide a quotation on request.

## **2.3 Hazardous household waste**

Arrangements may be made through the Council, for the collection and appropriate disposal of certain hazardous wastes, (i.e. solvent based paints, solvents and garden chemicals). These wastes are assessed by the Waste Disposal Authority (Suffolk County Council) prior to their removal and disposal by a licensed carrier. Collection costs are charged to Babergh District Council.

## **2.4 Clinical waste**

Arrangements can be made through the Council for the collection of clinical waste. The majority of clinical waste generated from domestic premises is low grade, e.g. incontinence pads and these can be safely disposed of in the residual (black) bin, provided the waste is double wrapped in plastic. Where bin capacity is a problem, an additional bin may be provided on an alternate weekly basis. This can be arranged through the Council.

For higher-grade clinical wastes that have arisen due to medical treatment, residents should seek disposal advice from their local Health visitor or Primary Care Trust. The Council may be able to collect higher grade clinical waste where the amount produced is less than 80 litres per week (approximately 4 full carrier bags). The Primary Care Trust should collect volumes of high-grade clinical waste in excess of 80 litres.

## **2.5 Village halls, Churches etc**

These types of premises are classified as domestic waste for which a charge can be made. In order to encourage recycling, one 240 litre bin for residual waste and one 240 litre blue bin for recycle both to be emptied on an alternate week frequency will be provided with no collection charge.

Provision and collection of additional or larger bins to be charged at pro rata domestic rate (i.e. no disposal charge) provided the premises remains on alternate week collection frequency.

Premises requiring a weekly collection to be charged at an appropriate trade rate for each additional week that collection needs to be undertaken by a trade refuse collection vehicle, (this will include the cost of disposal).

## **2.6 Schools**

These types of premises are classified as domestic waste for which a charge can be made.

Schools participating in the Twin Bin alternative week collection scheme are only charged at pro rata domestic rate (i.e. no disposal charge) for a fortnightly collection of the residual wheeled bins. There is no collection charge for the recycle bins.

Schools remaining on a weekly collection to be charged at an appropriate trade rate for each additional week that collection needs to be undertaken by a trade refuse collection vehicle, (this will include the cost of disposal).

## **3 Additional Recycling Facilities**

### **3.1 Garden Waste**

#### **3.1.1 Home composting**

Through a subsidised scheme householders are encouraged to purchase home compost bins. These may be obtained at a reduced price from Blackwall Ltd, the Council's appointed Contractor for supply.

For those that do not want to compost at home, there are a number of collection services available:

#### **3.1.2 Garden Waste Collection Service**

This service is a fortnightly collection of garden waste using 240 litre brown bins. Collected material is composted. The service involves a minimum of 24 collections per year on a chargeable basis. Current prices are detailed in Appendix 2. Bins remain the property of Babergh District Council.

*(NB Charge reduced for those on certain benefits.)*

#### **3.1.3 Bulk Bags**

These are used for large garden clearance jobs. The service involves the delivery and collection of a Bulk Bag for garden waste only (approx 1000 litres). Collected material is composted. Current prices are detailed in Appendix 2.

*(NB Charge reduced for those on certain benefits.)*

#### **3.1.4 10 sacks of garden refuse**

Up to 10 sacks of garden refuse per occasion may be collected. Collected material is not composted because it is not possible to gauge levels of contamination. Current prices are detailed in Appendix 2.

### **3.2 Other Materials**

In addition to the Blue Bin recycling scheme, the following facilities are available for recycling a range of materials:

#### **3.2.1 Household Waste and Recycling Centres**

Use can be made of 18 Suffolk County Council Household Waste and Recycling Centres with 5 in or near to the District. Sites are open 7 days a week and can be used for the disposal of larger items of domestic waste including green waste, which is composted. These sites are not available for trade or commercial use.

#### **3.2.2 Community Recycling Centres - 'Bring Sites'**

These are for the recycling of glass, paper, cans and textiles. These are often operated to the financial advantage of the community with collections undertaken by a number of different organisations. There are over 100 of these sites across the District. Householders are encouraged to continue to use these facilities, especially for glass and textiles, as paper and cans can be placed in the blue bin.

## **4 Other Wastes**

### **4.1 Trade Waste Service – ‘Babergh Trade’**

A chargeable collection from commercial properties, including mixed commercial and domestic premises is available on an individual contract basis. This includes:

- A suitable collection frequency (normally weekly or fortnightly),
- Hire of containers (principally 1100, and 660 litres),
- Cost of Collection
- Cost of Disposal
- Administration Cost
- Renewable contracts payable by Direct Debit on a half-yearly basis.

### **4.2 Litter and Dog Waste Bins**

Babergh District Council will, at the request of Town and Parish Councils, purchase and arrange the installation at suitable locations, of litter and dog waste bins. Costs are recharged to the Town or Parish Council. Our contractors will empty the bins on a regular basis and the costs charged to the Town or Parish Council.

### **4.3 Fly Tipped Waste**

This waste is collected by the Council's litter patrol service. All efforts are made to identify those responsible for tipping such waste – e.g. looking for presence of identifying literature etc. The Council will take enforcement action against anyone found guilty of fly tipping.

For enquiries and details about the all refuse services listed above call: -

**Refuse Hotline 0845 6066045 (Local Rate Call)**

# APPENDIX 1

## WHAT GOES WHERE?

### **BLUE BIN YES PLEASE**

**Plastics** (no plastic bags or film)

**PET** (Clear & Coloured)

Fizzy drinks bottles, Squash bottles  
Mineral water bottles (clear and those with a blue tint), Cooking oil bottles

**HDPE** (Natural and coloured)

Milk bottles  
Fresh fruit juice plastic containers  
Washing Up liquid bottles  
Detergents, Fabric Conditioners  
Bleach & household cleaning fluids  
Hair care, Bath & shower bottles

**PVC** (Clear & Coloured)

We also take other plastics such as yoghurt pots, margarine and spread pots and clean food containers.

Please remove lids from plastic bottles but still place them in the blue bin.

**Paper –**

(no shredded paper please)  
Newspapers and Magazines  
Directories and Yellow Pages  
Junk Mail, Envelopes  
Wrapping paper, Catalogues and Books  
(but separate from hard covers first)

**Cardboard -**

Boxes, Cartons and Packaging (Large boxes should be folded flat and left beside the Blue Bin)

**Metal Tins & Cans** (steel and aluminium)

Food tins e.g. baked beans, tuna,  
Drink cans, Pet food cans, metal shoe polish tins

**Aluminium Foil –**

e.g. Milk bottle tops  
Clean food & takeaway containers

### **BLACK BIN YES PLEASE**

**Food Waste** (securely wrap it or bag it first)

**Expanded Polystyrene** packing and food containers

**Plastic carrier bags**

**Plastic food wrapping**

**Cling film**

**Food containers** with hard baked-on food

**Crisp packets**

**Waxed containers** (juice or milk)

**Nappies** (bagged/wrapped)

**Video Tapes** and **Cassettes**

**Large Plastic Toys or Broken Garden furniture**

**Pet waste** (wrapped and/or bagged)

**Cardboard Egg Boxes** (they can be composted)

**Shredded paper** – excellent for your compost bin

**Vacuum cleaner contents** (if you have wool carpets these can be composted)

**Glass** – Please use your local glass banks wherever possible

**Aerosols** (recycle in an aluminium bank)

**Clothing, textiles and shoes** – If these cannot be passed on to friends for re-use, try a local charity shop, doorstep collection, jumble sales or your local textile bank.

**Wood** – this can be taken to your local Household Waste & Recycling Centre.

## **APPENDIX 2 PRICING SCHEDULE – 2010/11**

All charges are reviewed annually.

### **RESIDUAL/BLACK BINS**

New 240/120 litre black bin (including delivery)	£30.00
Upgrade from 120 litre to 240 litre black bin	£25.00
Downgrade from 240 litre to 120 litre black bin	£5.00
Removal from 'Approved Sack List' and provision of blue & black bins	Free of Charge

### **BULKY ITEMS**

Up to five household items	£22.00
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### **SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**

Contractor's rate plus Council's Admin Charge

### **BROWN BIN SCHEME**

Annual charge	£40.00
£20.00 to those on certain benefits	

### **BULK BAG**

Cost per occasion	£31.00
£15.50 to those on certain benefits	

### **BAG COLLECTION**

Cost for up to 10 sacks	£22.00
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### **HOME COMPOSTING BIN\***

220 litre bin	£14.00 + £5.00 delivery charge
330 litre bin	£17.00 + £5.00 delivery charge

### **TRADE WASTE**

Quotations available and dependent on size and frequency of collection.

**Prices correct at 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010**