

Appendix One – Food Waste Verbal Update

(Item Nine, 30 June 2026, Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee)

“Food waste collections commenced on Monday 13th April 2026, this change was mandated under the Environment Act 2021.

To operate, this service required an additional 12 vehicles and 30 operatives.

With the additional caddie collections, our operatives are now collecting around 157,000 receptacles per week across all waste streams.

To support the roll out of the service, a Lincolnshire wide communications campaign was co-ordinated through a jointly funded communications officer. Furthermore, the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership worked closely to ensure that messaging and branding were consistent across the county in a bid to reduce resident confusion.

The first week saw an average presentation rate of 57% with 111 tonnes of food waste collected across the week. There were a few minor issues in week one which included placement of caddies and new operatives learning the practical elements of the role. We have provided this service to 67,000 households and receive around 50 missed bins per week.

Since then, uptake of the service has continued to rise and average presentation rates are around 70%. Across the district, presentation rates are as high as 90% in our urban centres such as Grantham and Bourne and closer to 50% in our more rural areas.

Tonnages are levelling out at close to 85 tonnes of food waste collected per week across the district.

In addition to our standard kerbside collections, we also started a pilot of options for communal bins stores and residents who live in flats above shops. The communal bins in bin stores have been used very well, and residents have adapted well to the new service. The pilot option for flats above shops includes communal food waste bins on the street and this pilot is continually being reviewed and improved.

Overall, the launch of food waste collections has been a success and focus now shifts to review and improvement with flats above shops and areas of low presentation on our radar.”

- **Head of Waste Management and Market Services.**