



## **Waste Policy Update**

### **Report Author**

Kay Boasman, Head of Waste Management and Market Services

 [kayleigh.boasman@southkesteven.gov.uk](mailto:kayleigh.boasman@southkesteven.gov.uk)

### **Purpose of Report**

This report provides an update on the amended Waste Policy. The waste collection service at South Kesteven District Council (SKDC) has undergone several changes since the Policy was last reviewed and updated. These include the introduction of twin stream recycling and battery collections. These service changes have been incorporated into the updated Waste Policy.

### **Recommendations**

#### **Cabinet is recommended to:**

- 1. Review and approve the updated version of the Waste Policy.**

### **Decision Information**

Is this a Key Decision?	No
Does the report contain any exempt or confidential information not for publication?	No
What are the relevant corporate priorities?	Sustainable South Kesteven
Which wards are impacted?	All Wards

## 1. Implications

Taking into consideration implications relating to finance and procurement, legal and governance, risk and mitigation, health and safety, diversity and inclusion, safeguarding, staffing, community safety, mental health and wellbeing and the impact on the Council's declaration of a climate change emergency, the following implications have been identified:

- 1.1 The updates to the Policy are within existing financial resources and therefore there are no financial implications arising from the report.

*Completed by: Richard Wyles, Deputy Chief Executive and s151 Officer*

### **Legal and Governance**

- 1.2 There are no significant legal or governance implications arising from the report.

*Completed by: Graham Watts, Monitoring Officer*

### **Community Safety**

- 1.3 The success of the policy is reliant upon a successful partnership between the Waste Team and the Community Safety Team. These links are referenced within the policy document and will be key to its successful implementation.

*Completed by: Ayeisha Kirkham, Head of Service (Public Protection)*

## 2. Background to the Report

- 2.1 This report highlights the key changes in the most recent Waste Policy update. The report and updated policy document were taken to the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024. The OSC made several recommendations for changes, all of these have been considered and the policy document has been updated where necessary.
- 2.2 The Waste Policy document provides the residents of SKDC with an outline of the services provided and helps to manage their expectations regarding service delivery. Furthermore, it acts as a guide to decision-makers on how to handle issues and ensures that any issues are dealt with fairly and transparently.
- 2.3 The current Waste Policy was last updated in 2023, this was before the introduction of the twin stream recycling service and the kerbside collection of batteries. To ensure the policy is up to date, it has been edited to include SKDC's policy in relation to these waste streams.
- 2.4 A further update within this policy is the strengthening of the links between the Waste Team and the Community Protection Team. This relationship helps to

ensure that issues which relate to waste but cause issues within the community, can be effectively addressed. This includes misuse of bins and incorrectly presented waste.

### **3. Key Considerations**

- 3.1. The key areas of change within the document are:
  - **Section 10:** Missed Bin/Sack Collections – this section outlines when the service will return for a missed bin and when they will not. It covers the Council's policy on rejected bins (this includes for contamination).
  - **Section 13:** Battery Collections – this section outlines the Council's approach to collecting batteries at the kerbside.
  - **Section 14:** Clinical sharps – the reference to direct deliver to the depot has been removed and collection of sharps bins is referenced as the only option. This is due to health and safety restrictions at the current and new depot; we will continue to accept direct delivery, and residents will not be turned away with sharps bins, however, we will educate and encourage those delivering to the depot to arrange a collection
- 3.2. These sections cover the Council's policy in relation to recent service changes and outline our response to common issues including missed bins. It is essential that the policy clearly and accurately outlines the Council's position on these issues as this will enable officers to make consistent and fair decisions when issues arise.

### **4. Other Options Considered**

- 4.1. The other option considered was to delay the update until after the introduction of weekly food waste collections in 2026. However, this would risk creating ambiguity around our policies for waste collection and therefore an earlier update was agreed.
- 4.2. The Cabinet is invited to consider and recommend any further changes to the Waste Policy.

### **5. Reasons for the Recommendations**

- 5.1. The other option considered was to delay the update until after the introduction of weekly food waste collections in 2026. However, this would risk creating ambiguity around our policies for waste collection and therefore an earlier update was agreed.
- 5.2. The Cabinet is invited to review and approve the updated version of the Waste Policy.

## **6. Appendices**

### **6.1. Appendix 1: Waste Policy**