

Our ref: PK / jw
Your ref:
Date: 7 July 2016

To: All Parish Councils

GREEN GARDEN WASTE SERVICE

You may be aware that Harrogate Borough Council is making changes to its Green Garden Waste Service, and this letter is to give you an update on progress.

Currently only 60% of properties receive the wheeled bin garden waste service, and with the financial constraints the council is under there is no realistic chance that the service can be expanded in its current format. The changes will see the service moving to one where residents choose whether to subscribe to it by paying an annual fee. Should residents not wish to subscribe then they will no longer receive a collection. The changes will mean all suitable properties in the district will be able to receive the service, and the council expects to generate a surplus which will be used to invest in other waste and recycling initiatives.

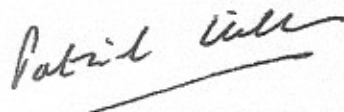
The fine details of the scheme are still to be decided, but in broad terms:

- The subscription charge has been set at £39 per year
- It will be an 'opt-in' scheme
- Those properties currently receiving the service will continue to receive it in 2016 free of charge
- In 2017 the season will commence as normal in March, but from June 2017 only those properties who have subscribed will continue to receive a collection
- In 2018 it is expected that all suitable properties will be able to receive the service

I appreciate that there will be residents who do not wish to take advantage of the service and of course they will still be able to dispose of garden waste at the Household Waste Recycling Centres (2 in Harrogate – Wetherby Road and Pennypot Lane and 1 in Ripon – Dallamires Lane). Furthermore if people do not want to use these disposal points or the new service I am looking to offer home composters for a one off payment.

I appreciate that your parish may have many questions about the scheme and I will keep you informed as matters become clearer, but in the meantime if you have any specific questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



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