
Report To:	Environment and Regeneration Committee	Date:	1 May 2014
Report By:	Acting Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration and Resources	Report No:	ERC/ENV/IM13.192
Contact Officer:	Kenny Lang	Contact No:	01475 715906
Subject:	Commercial Waste Proposals		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise Committee of the change in legislation regarding the requirement for businesses to recycle commercial waste and to update the Committee in respect of charges to be implemented to charities.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012 came into force on 1st January 2014 requiring businesses to make provision to recycle certain types of waste. All food retail outlets producing more than 50kg of food waste per week are required to arrange separate collections.
- 2.2 The Regulations require that the Council takes reasonable steps to ensure that waste is managed in order to promote high quality recycling and SEPA have written to Councils advising of the minimum levels of compliance. Inverclyde Council have complied with the Regulations at this time.
- 2.3 As of 1st of October 2014 Inverclyde Council will implement charges to charities for their commercial waste service at a rate of 50% of the standard commercial rate.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee:-

- 3.1 note the content of this report and the steps taken to ensure that the Council and its customers are complying with the Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012.
- 3.2 note the introduction of charges to charities as of 1st October 2014.

Alan Puckrin
Acting Corporate Director
Environment, Regeneration & Resources

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Inverclyde Council provide Commercial Waste Collections to around 730 customers, comprising 69 internal customers and 661 external customers which includes 113 not for profit/charity organisations.
- 4.2 From 1st January 2014, the Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012 required businesses to present metal, plastic, glass, paper and card separate from residual waste for recycling collection. Any food business which produce over 50 kg of food waste per week, must also present this for a separate recycling collection, 50kg is approximately one third the volume of a standard household wheelie bin. The Regulations further state that those premises which generate between 5 kg and 50kg of food waste must have a food waste service in place by 1st January 2016.
- 4.3 No additional funding was made available to allow Scottish Councils to meet these new obligations.
- 4.4 The Council's Commercial Waste Services are currently provided to all customers with the exception of charities on a charged basis.
- 4.5 As part of the last round of budget savings it was agreed that from October 2014 all charities would be charged at 50% of the standard commercial waste charge. Officers have consulted with local charities in respect of these new charges and will be visiting them prior to the new charges being introduced.
- 4.6 Inverclyde Council have complied with these requirements to date with food premises generating over 50kg of food waste per week now receiving a collection service.

5.0 COMMERCIAL WASTE SERVICES

Commercial Waste Collection

- 5.1 Commercial waste services are provided to approximately 730 customers as follows
 - 548 External businesses
 - 69 Internal Council customers
 - 113 Charities
- 5.2 As of 1st January 2014 regulations came into force requiring businesses to make arrangements to recycle specific types of materials such as metals, plastic, glass, paper and card.
- 5.3 Following the changes in legislation we have notified our customers of their requirement to arrange to recycle. SEPA have also written to all Local Authorities and commercial waste service providers advising that they must take reasonable steps to ensure that waste is managed in such a manner as to promote high quality recycling and to ensure customers have an adequate waste collection service to enable them to comply with the Regulations.

Furthermore SEPA have advised that as a minimum service providers must:

- provide a co-mingled collection where separate collections are not viable.
 - avoid comingled collections of paper and glass.
 - ensure customers have a general waste bin for non-recyclable items
 - ensure their customers are aware of what items are recyclable
 - undertake regular checks to minimise contamination
- 5.4 As a priority the service consulted with its educational establishments and an initial trial of a

Commercial Food Waste route was introduced primarily to schools and nurseries for the new school term in August 2013. Subsequently the food waste service has now been rolled out to all secondary schools.

- 5.5 As of 1st May 2014 all Inverclyde Council's educational establishments and the majority of Council premises receive a recycling service. The service is also now working with Inverclyde Leisure to expand its services to include halls and sports centres where possible.
- 5.6 The Council has also rolled out recycling services to those larger customers who would be immediately affected by the new regulations. A webpage on the Council's website is also available with links to the relevant information.
- 5.7 Inverclyde Council has complied with the requirements to provide a food waste collection service in respect of food premises generating over 50kg of food waste per week.
- 5.8 The service has now expanded the recycling services through absorbing some commercial customers into the Council's domestic routes. In addition to this Greenlight Environmental Ltd provide glass recycling services to businesses and have also recently introduced recycling sack collections for businesses in areas where they currently undertake a High Rise and tenement collection. Both of these are provided through the Council's MRF contract.
- 5.9 Through partnership working the Council is therefore able to more widely extend the range and scope of its commercial recycling services.
- 5.10 As a result the Council currently provide 409 separate collections to 291 customers as follows:

Recycling Collection	No of Customers
Glass Total	55
Mixed recycle Total	242
Food Total	112

Recycling collections by customer

No of Customers	Glass	Mixed recycle	Food
15	✓	✓	✓
10	✓	✓	
30	✓		
78		✓	✓
19			✓
139		✓	

Breakdown of recycling service by customer

- 5.11 At this moment, the Council does not have sufficient operating capacity to provide a full recycling service to every commercial waste customer. However the Council is complying with the Regulations as they stand.
- 5.12 Waste analysis from a number of premises would suggest that separate collections are not economically viable in the majority of cases. In those circumstances where outlying customers do not generate sufficient quantities of recycling material to be efficient, Inverclyde Council has offered them the use of the MRF as a bring facility and further consideration is being given to allocating collections through the household collections service on a fortnightly basis.
- 5.13 It is proposed that the service continue to identify where possible opportunities to increase recycling from commercial premises, and report back to this committee on progress in early 2015.

Commercial Charges to Charities

- 5.14 The Council currently charge on a 6 monthly basis to all customers generating revenue of approximately £660,000 annually.
- 5.15 As part of the 2013/16 budget setting exercise the Council agreed that from October 2014 all charities would be charged at 50% of the standard commercial waste charge this would generate revenue of approximately £15,000 for the months from October to March in 2014/15 and £30,000 annually thereafter.
- 5.16 Officers have consulted with local charities in respect of these new charges and will be visiting them prior to the new charges being introduced, to minimise any impact in respect of these new charges.
- 5.17 The Council has 90 charities eligible for charging under The Controlled Waste Regulations 1992.
- 5.18 The Council's current charges are based on the size of container and frequency of collection. These are reviewed annually and are then indexed with a 2.5% increase being applied along with a proportional increase in respect of landfill tax which increased from £72 per tonne to £80 per tonne on 1st April 2014. A recent benchmarking exercise of 11 other local authorities indicated that Inverclyde Council's charges are comparable with these Councils.
- 5.19 The Council's current scale of charges is shown below along with the new charges for charities.

Commercial Waste Charges							
Size of container	120L	240L	330L	660L	750L	1100L	1280L
Charges 2013/14	£2.83	£4.78	£5.96	£11.08	£12.20	£15.14	£17.40
Increase	£0.15	£0.27	£0.36	£0.68	£0.76	£1.06	£1.23
% increase	5.30%	5.65%	6.04%	6.14%	6.23%	7.00%	7.07%
New charge 2014/15	£2.98	£5.05	£6.32	£11.76	£12.96	£16.20	£18.63
New Charity Charge	£1.49	£2.53	£3.16	£5.88	£6.48	£8.10	£9.32

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

Finance

- 6.1 The income budget in respect of commercial waste income was revised in 2013/14 to reflect the downturn in commercial business over the last few years. The service are now achieving income in accordance with the revised budget:

Financial Year	Budgeted Income	Actual/Projected Income
2012/13	£732,000	£660,000
2013/14	£664,000	£664,000
2014/15	£679,000	£679,000

6.2 Legal

Inverclyde Council is complying with the requirements of the Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012 to offer food waste services to food premises generating over 50kg of food waste per week.

6.3 Human Resources

This report does not impact on Human Resources.

6.4 Equalities

This report does not impact on Equalities.

6.5 Repopulation

Providing high quality recycling services is seen as a positive step by businesses.

7.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012

The Controlled Waste Regulations 1992