

South Area Council – Bulky Rubbish Scheme

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To provide recommendations for funding a bulky rubbish scheme to run alongside and administered through the private sector housing post supported by the South Area Council manager.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That Members consider the recommendations within the report regarding the proposal which would be aligned to the needs of residents supported through the work of the Private sector housing officer.
- 2.2 That Members consider the costings contained within this report and make a recommendation for funding the service as a pilot for an initial period of 12 months with a start date of 1st July 2022 or consider the alternative options presented in the report. The recommendation is for a 12 month pilot starting from 1st July 2022 at a cost of £1000.

3. Bulky Rubbish scheme

Background and evidence of success in Dearne

- 3.1 The Dearne Area Council have funded the Bulky rubbish scheme for 8 years with a total of 214 items collected from 58 properties in 2018-2019 and 169 items removed from 51 properties in 2020-2021. Ward Alliances put in £1000 per year which covers the collections.

How the scheme would operate

- 3.2 During proactive work tenants and residents will be identified from waste in gardens, requiring intervention and support to allow waste items to be removed. Vulnerability, low income and housing condition will be factored into the need for this direct support. Only housing officers and Elected Members via the Area Council will have referral authority. Bookings will be made using Officer name and will limit person to a maximum of 4 items in a 12 month period unless there are exceptional circumstances. Collection figures would be split by wards and collated within quarterly reports.

Evidence of need

- 3.3 Waste in garden cases identified since 2019 has been consistently high and has a large impact on the environmental standards of our communities. Not only is it a visible eyesore it leads to further issues including pests, vermin and neighbour disputes. Between 2019-2020 pre-Covid, 74 households were directly contacted by the private sector housing officer regarding waste in gardens. Since Covid 80 households have been contacted, all within the South Area. Advice has been given to all households, yet there would appear to be a correlation between low income households, waste accumulation and poor housing conditions. Many low income families are unable to afford to remove the waste and do not have access

to a vehicle, therefore unable to attend waste and recycling centres. The implementation of this scheme would ensure the quick identification and removal of bulky waste items that otherwise would stay in situ possibly for months. This would also decrease the demand on other departments within BMBC. It will also build relationships between the community and the Area Council and will provide an inlet to other support opportunities for vulnerable households.

Costs

- 3.4 A bulky waste collection is for minimum 2 items, which costs £22. It is then £5.50 for each additional item, up to a maximum of 12 items per order. For this scheme each individual would be allowed a maximum of 4 items at a cost of £33 per order.
- 3.5 **Options and steer required from South Area Council:**
- **Option a)** Approve funding to run as a 12 month pilot with a start date of 1st July 2022 at a cost of £1000
 - **Option b)** Approve funding to run a 6 month pilot with a start date of 1st July 2022 at a cost of £500
 - **Option c)** Do not fund
- 3.6 Members are asked to provide a steer on the preferred option above. The recommendation in this report is option A.

Officer Contact:

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