

# Aberdeenshire Council

## Integrated Impact Assessment

### Budget Pressure 24/25 - Waste Collection (Expansion of Seasonal Garden Waste Points)

Assessment ID	IIA-001914
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# 1. Overview

This document has been generated from information entered into the Integrated Impact Assessment system.

Assessment of budget pressure - provision of additional seasonal garden waste collection points. Previous reporting to ISC with regards to provision of garden waste collection service identified communities that could benefit from a seasonal garden waste collection service based on increased number of housing and/or distance to a recycling centre or seasonal collection point. With the introduction of the 3 weekly waste collection frequency, this will push garden waste out of the residual waste bin due to the reduced capacity of the bin and therefore providing additional seasonal garden waste points in locations where there is household demand/requirement for such a service would assist in capturing that garden waste for composting/recycling therefore reducing the impact of it ending up as waste or being flytipped. It should be noted that this would be a new service and therefore when considering budgets, the priority is to ensure that budget is available to continue providing existing essential statutory services e.g. budget for agency staffing to ensure that scheduled recycling and waste collection services are able to be staffed consistently despite sickness leave / annual leave.

During screening 4 of 10 questions indicated that detailed assessments were required, the screening questions and their answers are listed in the next section. This led to 2 out of 5 detailed impact assessments being completed. The assessments required are:

- Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty
- Sustainability and Climate Change

In total there are 0 positive impacts as part of this activity. There are 6 negative impacts, of these negative impacts, 0 have been mitigated and 6 cannot be mitigated satisfactorily.

A detailed action plan with 1 points has been provided.

This assessment has been approved by [ewan.wallace@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:ewan.wallace@aberdeenshire.gov.uk).

The remainder of this document sets out the details of all completed impact assessments.

## 2. Screening

Could your activity / proposal / policy cause an impact in one (or more) of the identified town centres?	No
Would this activity / proposal / policy have consequences for the health and wellbeing of the population in the affected communities?	No
Does the activity / proposal / policy have the potential to affect greenhouse gas emissions (CO2e) in the Council or community and / or the procurement, use or disposal of physical resources?	Yes
Does the activity / proposal / policy have the potential to affect the resilience to extreme weather events and/or a changing climate of Aberdeenshire Council or community?	No
Does the activity / proposal / policy have the potential to affect the environment, wildlife or biodiversity?	Yes
Does the activity / proposal / policy have an impact on people and / or groups with protected characteristics?	Yes
Is this activity / proposal / policy of strategic importance for the council?	Yes
Does this activity / proposal / policy impact on inequality of outcome?	No
Does this activity / proposal / policy have an impact on children / young people's rights?	No
Does this activity / proposal / policy have an impact on children / young people's wellbeing?	No

## 3. Impact Assessments

Children's Rights and Wellbeing	Not Required
Climate Change and Sustainability	Only Some Negative Impacts Can Be Mitigated
Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty	Only Some Negative Impacts Can Be Mitigated
Health Inequalities	Not Required
Town Centre's First	Not Required

## 4. Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty Impact Assessment

### 4.1. Protected Groups

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Age (Younger)		Yes		
Age (Older)			Yes	
Disability			Yes	
Race		Yes		
Religion or Belief		Yes		
Sex		Yes		
Pregnancy and Maternity		Yes		
Sexual Orientation		Yes		
Gender Reassignment		Yes		
Marriage or Civil Partnership		Yes		

### 4.2. Socio-economic Groups

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Low income			Yes	
Low wealth		Yes		
Material deprivation			Yes	
Area deprivation		Yes		
Socioeconomic background		Yes		

### 4.3. Negative Impacts and Mitigations

Impact Area	Details and Mitigation

Impact Area	Details and Mitigation
<p><b>Age (Older)</b></p>	<p>By not having budget to add seasonal garden waste points to additional communities, elderly householders in those communities may not be able to recycle their garden waste due to inability to transport the garden waste to their nearest HRC or seasonal garden waste point as potentially no longer able to drive / be fit enough to move the excess waste to their nearest HRC/seasonal garden waste point.</p> <p>Can be mitigated                      No</p> <p>Justification                      Elderly householders could ask family/ neighbours to assist in transporting garden waste to their nearest HRC or seasonal garden waste point or alternatively home compost - discounted composters are available from the Council.</p> <p>Potentially, this budget pressure could be absorbed by funds identified in the 3 weekly budget however priority for any spare budget should be used towards being able to keep existing waste and recycling collection services covered i.e. to help cover agency staffing costs as this takes priority.</p>
<p><b>Disability</b></p>	<p>By not having budget to add seasonal garden waste points to additional communities, disabled householders in those communities may not be able to recycle their garden waste due to inability to transport the garden waste to their nearest HRC or seasonal garden waste point as potentially unable to drive / be fit enough to move the excess waste to their nearest HRC/seasonal garden waste point.</p> <p>Can be mitigated                      No</p> <p>Justification                      Disabled householders could ask family/ neighbours to assist in transporting garden waste to their nearest HRC or seasonal garden waste point or alternatively home compost - discounted composters are available from the Council.</p> <p>Potentially, this budget pressure could be absorbed by funds identified in the 3 weekly budget however priority for any spare budget should be used towards being able to keep existing waste and recycling collection services covered i.e. to help cover agency staffing costs as this takes priority.</p>

Impact Area	Details and Mitigation
Low income	<p>By not having budget to add seasonal garden waste points to additional communities, householders in those communities on a low income may not be able to recycle their garden waste due to inability to transport the garden waste to their nearest HRC or seasonal garden waste point as potentially the household doesn't own a car.</p> <p>Can be mitigated                      No</p> <p>Justification                      Householders, without means of transport, could ask family/neighbours to assist in transporting garden waste to their nearest HRC or seasonal garden waste point or alternatively home compost - discounted composters are available from the Council. Potentially, this budget pressure could be absorbed by funds identified in the 3 weekly budget however priority for any spare budget should be used towards being able to keep existing waste and recycling collection services covered i.e. to help cover agency staffing costs as this takes priority.</p>
Material deprivation	<p>By not having budget to add seasonal garden waste points to additional communities, householders in those communities that have low income/low wealth may not be able to recycle their garden waste due to inability to transport the garden waste to their nearest HRC or seasonal garden waste point if the household can't afford to own a car.</p> <p>Can be mitigated                      No</p> <p>Justification                      Householders, without means of transport, could ask family/neighbours to assist in transporting garden waste to their nearest HRC or seasonal garden waste point or alternatively home compost - discounted composters are available from the Council. Potentially, this budget pressure could be absorbed by funds identified in the 3 weekly budget however priority for any spare budget should be used towards being able to keep existing waste and recycling collection services covered i.e. to help cover agency staffing costs as this takes priority.</p>

#### 4.4. Evidence

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
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Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
Internal Data	Waste Data	Garden waste tonnage has increased for 2023.	With the new collection service restricting the residual waste bin capacity, householders are utilising the existing garden waste collection services to recycle additional garden waste.

#### 4.5. Engagement with affected groups

None as no decision has actually been taken to extend the garden waste services - this is a new service which would only be provided if and when resources allow.

#### 4.6. Ensuring engagement with protected groups

No engagement undertaken yet. The IIA has been based on not having the funding to take this expansion of garden waste seasonal points forward however at this present moment in time these communities do not have the service so if there is no funding for this then nothing will change. If funding was to be available and this expansion was to proceed the impact would change from being a negative to a positive as this would make it easier on those protected characteristics to be able to recycle garden waste within their community and engagement would be undertaken at that time.

#### 4.7. Evidence of engagement

As stated previously, the expansion of the seasonal garden waste services would only take place if and when resources allow and engagement would only happen should this proceed.

#### 4.8. Overall Outcome

Only Some Negative Impacts Can Be Mitigated.

Potentially, this budget pressure could be absorbed by funds identified in the 3 weekly budget however priority for any spare budget should be used towards being able to keep existing waste and recycling collection services covered i.e. to help cover agency staffing costs as this takes priority.

There are alternative options for garden waste recycling by transporting it to the nearest HRC/ seasonal garden waste points or by home composting (discounted composting bins available from the Council).

**A justification for continuing despite unmitigated negative impacts has not been entered.**

#### 4.9. Improving Relations

No decision has actually been taken to extend the garden waste services - this is a new service which would only be provided as and when resources allow.

#### 4.10. Opportunities of Equality

Should resources be available to allow this to proceed, this would provide more communities with the opportunity to recycle garden waste within their community without the need to transport garden waste to their next nearest HRC or seasonal garden waste point.

## 5. Sustainability and Climate Change Impact Assessment

### 5.1. Emissions and Resources

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Consumption of energy		Yes		
Energy efficiency		Yes		
Energy source		Yes		
Low carbon transition		Yes		
Consumption of physical resources		Yes		
Waste and circularity			Yes	
Circular economy transition		Yes		
Economic and social transition		Yes		

### 5.2. Biodiversity and Resilience

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Quality of environment			Yes	
Quantity of environment		Yes		
Wildlife and biodiversity		Yes		
Infrastructure resilience		Yes		
Council resilience		Yes		
Community resilience		Yes		
Adaptation		Yes		

### 5.3. Negative Impacts and Mitigations

Impact Area	Details and Mitigation
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Impact Area	Details and Mitigation
<p><b>Quality of environment</b></p>	<p>By not extending the seasonal garden waste points for up to a further 5 communities, there is potential that garden waste could continue to end up in the residual waste bin therefore not reducing waste arisings or increasing recycling tonnages. With the reduction on residual waste bin capacity, this could mean householders do not have the capacity within their bin for the garden waste and therefore this may end up getting flytipped which would impact on the quality of the environment.</p> <p>Can be mitigated                      No</p> <p>Justification                      Householders still have the option to take garden waste to their nearest HRC or seasonal garden waste collection point or alternatively home compost - discounted composters are available from the Council.</p> <p>Potentially, this budget pressure could be absorbed by funds identified in the 3 weekly budget however priority for any spare budget should be used towards being able to keep existing waste and recycling collection services covered i.e. to help cover agency staffing costs as this takes priority.</p>
<p><b>Waste and circularity</b></p>	<p>By not extending the seasonal garden waste points for up to a further 5 communities, there is potential that garden waste could continue to end up in the residual waste bin therefore not reducing waste arisings or increasing recycling tonnages.</p> <p>Can be mitigated                      No</p> <p>Justification                      There is the option to take garden waste to the nearest HRC or seasonal garden waste point which would allow for the garden waste to still be recycled instead of being disposed of or alternatively home compost - discounted composters are available from the Council.</p> <p>Potentially, this budget pressure could be absorbed by funds identified in the 3 weekly budget however priority for any spare budget should be used towards being able to keep existing waste and recycling collection services covered i.e. to help cover agency staffing costs as this takes priority.</p>

## 5.4. Evidence

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
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Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
External Consultation	Waste Analysis of Residual Waste Bins	That garden waste, being seasonal, accounts for an averaged percentage of 11.5% of all residual waste for the full year. Sampling undertaken during June/July found that during peak growing season garden waste accounted for 18.7% of the residual waste bin.	Householders will continue to use their residual waste bins for garden waste if there are no facilities to recycle their garden waste located conveniently nearby.

## 5.5. Overall Outcome

Only Some Negative Impacts Can Be Mitigated.

Potentially, this budget pressure could be absorbed by funds identified in the 3 weekly budget however priority for any spare budget should be used towards being able to keep existing waste and recycling collection services covered i.e. to help cover agency staffing costs as this takes priority.

There are alternative options for garden waste recycling by transporting it to the nearest HRC/ seasonal garden waste points or by home composting (discounted composting bins available from the Council).

**A justification for continuing despite unmitigated negative impacts has not been entered.**

## 6. Action Plan

Planned Action	Details
<p>To delay any expansion of the seasonal garden waste collection service to ensure adequate funding is identified and prioritised for the provision of essential statutory household waste and recycling collections through use of agency staffing to cover sickness and holiday leave.</p>	<p><b>Lead Officer</b> Andrew Sheridan</p> <p><b>Repeating Activity</b> No</p> <p><b>Planned Start</b> Wednesday January 03, 2024</p> <p><b>Planned Finish</b> Sunday March 31, 2024</p> <p><b>Expected Outcome</b> Any available funds identified within the existing waste budget should be used to ensure continuity of the household waste and recycling collection service through increasing budget for agency cover. Therefore provision of any new seasonal garden waste points to be put on hold with any potential funds being used to increase the budget for agency cover to ensure consistency for existing collections.</p> <p><b>Resource Implications</b> N/A</p>