

Friday 31st March 2017

Dear Resident,

Changes to your bin collections

The Council estimates it needs to make savings of £16.4m over the next three years due to cuts in government funding and increasing demand for services. We continue to make every effort to protect frontline services which are valued by residents, but with the current financial challenges facing all councils, we need to make changes to the way we collect your rubbish.

From 24 April 2017, the Council is changing how we collect rubbish in Bournemouth, by switching to an alternate weekly bin collection service. We will collect your 240 litre recycling Big Bin and your 140 litre rubbish Little Bin on alternate weeks i.e. Big Bin (recycling) one week and Little Bin (rubbish) the next. **We will continue to collect food waste weekly** on the same day as your other bins.

As part of the new service, we are offering the option of a larger 23 litre food waste container. Alternatively, you can continue to use your current 12 litre container, if you prefer. You can request an extra or larger food waste container by visiting bournemouth.gov.uk/binchanges

If you live in a flat with the Big Bin, Little Bin arrangement, your collections will also change in April.

To help you with these service changes, we have included with this letter:

Your new collection calendar - Our collection routes are changing, so the time, day or week that your bins are collected might be different. Please check when your collection day will be and make sure your bin is clearly visible at the kerbside from 5am until 8pm (or until it is emptied) on your collection day.

Remember it is your responsibility to return your bins to your property after they have been emptied. The Council can take enforcement action against bins left on the pavement after collection day.

Please be aware the calendar is for the address we have sent this information pack to. If you put your bin out on a different road, you can check whether the collection day is the same for that road by visiting our website bournemouth.gov.uk/bins

Recycle More, Waste Less - Your guide to Waste & Recycling Collections in Bournemouth - A leaflet to help you ease the squeeze on your rubbish bin, by making the most of your recycling and food waste containers, as well as reducing what you waste.

Collections from flats that use larger shared bins will not change in April. These properties will be included in the new service over the coming months, after a site visit to assess the block's waste needs. We will be in touch with managing agents/committees to arrange these visits.

If you have any questions about these service changes, please read our frequency asked questions on the back of this letter or visit bournemouth.gov.uk/binchanges for more information.

Yours Faithfully



Larry Austin

Service Director - Environment

Frequent Asked Questions

Why are these changes being made?

The Council must save £16.4m in the next three years, due to cuts in government funding and increased demands on services. Introducing alternate weekly rubbish collections in Bournemouth will save £500K in waste collection and disposal costs, which will protect other front-line services.

It costs £40 more per tonne to dispose of food waste in the rubbish bin than in the food waste container, and £75 more per tonne to dispose of recycling in the Little Bin than in the Big Bin, which means we need to encourage people to recycle as much as they can.

72% of Councils in England now operate alternate weekly rubbish collections, including Dorset and Poole. Evidence from other local authorities shows that less frequent rubbish collections encourage residents to waste less and recycle more.

How will I manage with an alternate weekly collection?

As you will need to place two weeks' of rubbish in your Little Bin, it is important to think more about what you are wasting and recycle as much as you can, using your Big Bin and food waste container.

Over a third of waste thrown away in Bournemouth is food. Food waste will be collected weekly and we are offering a free larger 23 litre food waste container. If you have a 12 litre food waste container, you can continue to use this, if you prefer.

Over 60% of Bournemouth's household waste can be recycled in the Big Bin. Please read your Recycle More guide or visit bournemouth.gov.uk/recycling for more information. Extra recycling will be collected from a cardboard box next to your bin on your collection day. If you regularly overfill your recycling bin, you can request an extra recycling bin.

There may be some households who struggle to manage with one rubbish bin on a fortnightly collection. You can apply for an extra rubbish bin, if you use the recycling and food waste collections and live in a household with:

- five or more permanent occupants or
- two or more children in nappies or
- someone who has a medical condition that creates extra waste.

Please visit bournemouth.gov.uk/binchanges to complete your application and book a home visit with our Waste Awareness Officers. The extra bin costs £43 which you (or your landlord if you live in a rented property) will have to pay, unless you are on certain income-based benefits.

How else can I get rid of my waste?

Extra rubbish can be taken to Millhams Community Recycling Centre or Christchurch Household Recycling Centre. We will not take excess rubbish placed on top, next to or overflowing from your Little Bin.

You can sign-up for garden waste collections from February to December for £40 for one 140 litre bin, £60 for two or £80 for three. Discounted compost bins are available starting from £6 (plus delivery) at bournemouth.gov.uk/composting

Try to make less waste in the first place, for waste prevention tips and an A-Z of recycling, visit: bournemouth.gov.uk/recycling