

Town and Parish Councils

Waste consultation – proposed change to three-weekly black bin (non-recyclable) waste collections

This consultation document asks questions about the following:

- We want to hear your views about reducing waste and increasing recycling in line with our Recycling and Waste strategy.

This version of the questionnaire is intended for Town and Parish Councils to answer as an organisation.

If individual councillors would like to answer as a resident, please visit www.n-somerset.gov.uk/getinvolved.

Please ensure you respond by midday on Tuesday 7 May 2024

Options to return your answers:

- Drop your completed form off to your local library, or
- transfer the answers to:
<https://online1.welcomesyourfeedback.net/s/wasteandrecyclingsurvey2024>
- email your completed form to YourNeighbourhood@n-somerset.gov.uk

If you have any questions or issues completing this document, please email YourNeighbourhood@n-somerset.gov.uk



Please complete one questionnaire per Town or Parish Council.

1. Please tell us what your name and role is:

Stephen Dixon, Clerk to the Parish Council

2. Which area do you represent?

Kingston Seymour Parish Council

3. Do you have any concerns regarding the introduction of three-weekly black bin collections in your area?

☐ No, I don't have any specific concerns for my area

If yes, please provide details in the box below:

The Parish Council has several concerns for our residents:

- 1) Increase in fly tipping. With waste not being collected so frequently, some citizens (both from our own area and outside of our area) may be tempted to dump their rubbish in unauthorised locations. As a remote, farming, parish which is close to large centres of population, we are particularly exposed to this risk.
- 2) The items of waste that cannot be recycled – such as nappy waste, other sanitary waste and (bagged) dog faeces – will become noxious over the longer period between collections.
- 3) We have a volunteer who empties the PUBLIC waste bins on our/your behalf and this waste is collected by you every fortnight from two specific locations in the village. Will you make arrangements for Glendale to visit specially to collect this waste? It is highly unlikely that the public bins have the capacity to last for three weeks.
- 4) Smaller properties seldom have external storage facilities and having to keep non recyclable waste indoors for three weeks is unwelcome and unhygienic.
- 5) Greater clarity is needed over what can – and what cannot – be recycled. The recent move to “paper and cardboard” in one box is welcome and sensible but what about plastic? There is confusion about what sort of plastic can be recycled – with black currently being excluded. Would it not be worthwhile to eliminate this exclusion and take all colours of plastic and extract the black centrally?
- 6) Are the alleged savings from this move real or illusory? For example, with waste trucks having to return to a depot (Weston?) to empty out up to 50%

more often, how long will this take them off the routes they are serving? It is 13 miles and 30 minutes one way from Kingston Seymour to Weston's Recycling Centre. There is the cost of labour and the cost of diesel to make these journeys.

4. Do you think there will be any barriers to people moving to three-weekly collections in the area that you represent? Please note anything that might be an issue.

- 1) Retention of black bin waste for three weeks on – or at the worst case – inside – their property.
- 2) Uncertainty about the next collection date. A three week cycle is less likely to be remembered. In some areas, garden waste has already been separated from the regular collection day for other material – will this become the same ...black bin on a separate day to recycling on a separate day to garden?

5. What do you think would help encourage residents in your area to recycle more and reduce the amount of waste going into their black bins?

Making it simpler. Catchphrase "Wash and squash"

Food Waste (separate bin)

Box 1 – metals and **any** colour plastic including soft plastics (you sort out the soft and the black and campaign with supermarkets to eliminate it from their packaging)

Box 2 – paper and cardboard. Glass

6. Please let us know any other views on the proposed introduction of three-weekly waste collections if it hasn't been covered in the questions above.

See above

If you do introduce an irregular pattern of collection, you should make available an email reminder service to any residents who wants to receive one – that their next collection is tomorrow.

7. We're keen to engage and work with volunteer groups and organisations in North Somerset. Please note any suggestions and their contact details below.

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8. Are there ways in which you can help us to reduce waste and increase recycling in your area? For example, promotion of events, raising awareness with local residents, engagement with local schools, working with developers.

If you make the recycling “offer” as simple as it can be, the Parish Council will support your communications

Thank you for taking part in this survey.