

The Highland Council
City of Inverness Area Committee
3 June 2013

Agenda Item	12
Report No	CIA/031/13

Introduction of Statutory Food Waste Collections

Report by Director of Transport, Environmental and Community Services

Summary

This report invites Members to approve the arrangements for introducing statutory food waste collections in Inverness.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Scottish Government announced its Zero Waste Policy in 2007. Since that time the policy has been refined culminating in the Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012.
- 1.2 The Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012 requires Councils in Scotland to provide a separate food waste collection service in certain areas which in turn have been prescribed by the Scottish Government. For Highland the only prescribed area is Inverness, as shown in the map in **Appendix A**.
- 1.3 The Regulations require food businesses producing more than 50kg of food waste per week to have their waste collected separately from 1 January 2014, including Council premises such as schools.
- 1.5 After 1 January 2016 only food businesses producing less than 5kg of food waste per week are exempt from the Regulations.
- 1.6 Councils should, by January 2014 promote separate food waste collections for households and by January 2016 have collections in place.

2. Scottish Government Funding

- 2.1 The Scottish Government commissioned its delivery body, Zero Waste Scotland, to assist Councils develop models for their food waste collections. These models were then used by Councils as the basis of their applications for Scottish Government funding to help support the roll out of food waste collections.
- 2.2 The Council submitted an application to the Scottish Government for funding to support the roll out of food waste collections and was awarded nearly £1m to assist in the roll-out of the collections. This funding will be used to purchase vehicles, containers and liners, and cover staff and other revenue costs for 2013/14 and 2014/15.

2.3 A condition of the funding is that the food waste collection service is introduced during 2013/14.

3. Introduction of Food Waste Collection Service

3.1 Collections of food waste for domestic properties will begin on Monday 23 September 2013.

3.2 The weekly collection service will be rolled out to approximately 28,000 households in Inverness. Food waste will be collected in 7.5 tonne collection vehicles, and five new vehicles have been purchased for this purpose. Wherever possible, the collection day will be the same day as normal blue/green bin collections.

3.3 Householders will be supplied a 5 litre kitchen caddy (a small bin that can be kept at the sink) and a 23 litre caddy for presenting at the kerbside for collections. Caddy liners will also be provided and re-supplied to participating households.

3.4 The distribution of the caddies to households will take place over a 2 week period commencing Monday 9 September 2013.

3.5 Flatted dwellings will be phased in after households are complete. The service will also be provided to Inverness Schools in this phase. This is programmed to take place in the early part of 2014.

3.6 The Council also has a duty to collect food waste from food businesses, which are not exempt, from 2014. Requests for a food waste collection service from the commercial sector may add further pressure to the provision of the wider service to households.

3.7 The food waste will be taken to a specialist treatment plant to be processed into compost.

3.8 The new service will create 10 new jobs, 5 drivers and 5 loaders will be recruited to carry out collections.

4. Communications Plan

4.1 An information leaflet will be provided to all participating households during August. A detailed information booklet on the food waste collection service will be supplied to householders with the caddies (bins).

4.2 An information pack will be produced and circulated to Members for information in July.

5. Implications

5.1 The Scottish Government has provided funding to roll-out the service but not to sustain it beyond 2014/15. The continuation of the service beyond 2014/15

will be considered as part of the budget process for 2015/16.

- 5.2 Providing the service fulfils the Council's duties under the Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012.
- 5.3 There are no equalities implications arising from this report
- 5.4 The removal of food waste from landfill reduces the production of landfill gases some of which are potent greenhouse gases.
- 5.5 There are no risk implications arising from this report.

6. Recommendation

- 6.1 The Committee is invited to approve the arrangements for introducing statutory food waste collections in Inverness.

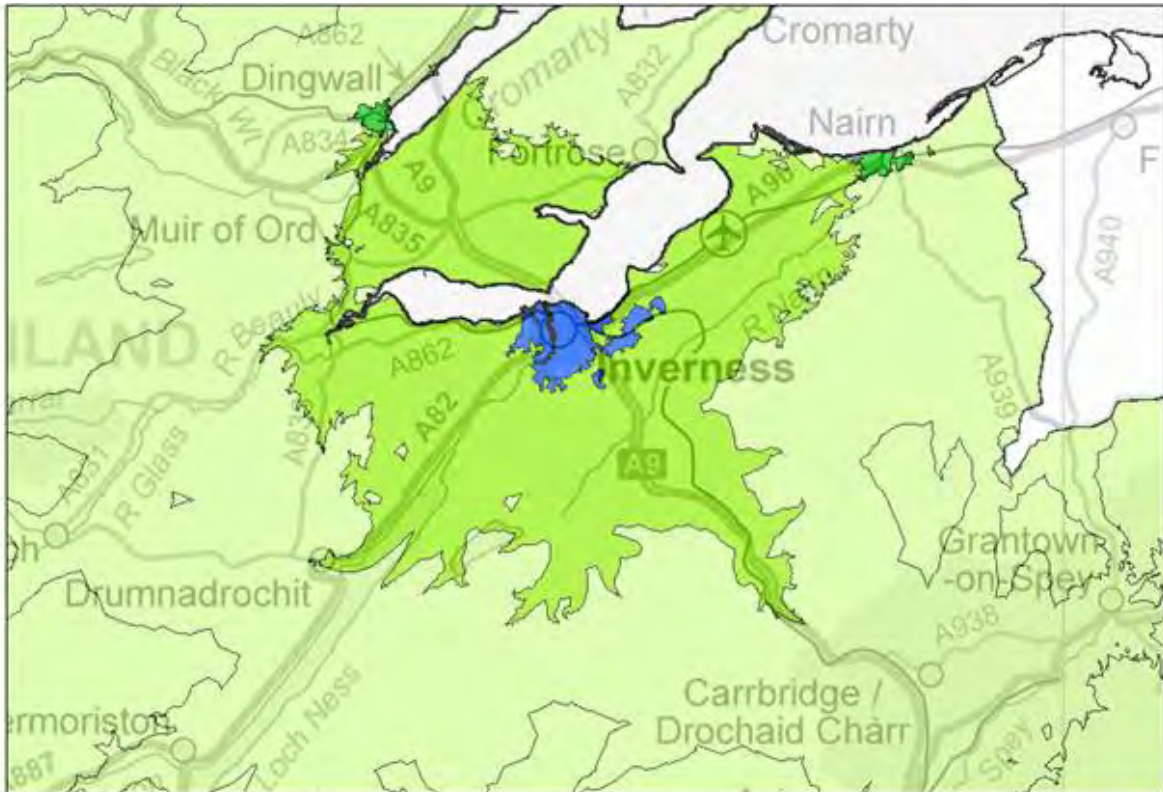
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Date: 21 May 2013

Background Papers: Application for Scottish Government Grant to Support the Introduction of Statutory Food Waste Collections (TEC-7-13)

Limits of Statutory Food Waste Collections



Collection Area:

- City of Inverness
- Culloden
- Smithton
- Balloch
- Milton of Leys