

**COMMITTEE:** ADMINISTRATION

**DATE:** 3<sup>RD</sup> APRIL, 2003

**SUBJECT:** EMPLOYEES FOR GREEN WASTE KERBSIDE  
COLLECTION SCHEME

**REPORT BY:** DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION  
(HEAD OF STREET SERVICES)

**CONTACT OFFICER:** MICK WRIGHT 01582 546894

**IMPLICATIONS:**

|            |                                     |                  |                          |
|------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| LEGAL      | <input type="checkbox"/>            | COMMUNITY SAFETY | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| EQUALITIES | <input type="checkbox"/>            | ENVIRONMENT      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| FINANCIAL  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | CONSULTATIONS    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| STAFFING   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | OTHER            | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**WARDS AFFECTED:** ALL

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**PURPOSE**

1. To seek Administration Committee's approval to employ a recycling driver and two operatives to provide the human resources for a round collecting green waste from the kerbside.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

2. Administration Committee is recommended to agree to the formation of the following three new posts as an integral part of the Council meeting its statutory recycling targets as set by Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) and the Council's own Waste Strategy for Bedfordshire and Luton:

1 recycling driver/chargehand on manual grade 5

2 recycling operatives on manual grade 2

**BACKGROUND**

3. The need for additional staff is part of the requirement to introduce a Kerbside Green Waste collection service, as stated in the Waste Strategy for Bedfordshire and Luton. This document states that it is proposed to introduce a "3-stream collection system" as the way to reach the Council's statutory recycling targets. One bin for this waste stream is for the segregation of dry recyclables (now introduced); the second is for organic waste (such as the proposed garden/green waste) and the third is for the remaining refuse. The Waste Strategy for Bedfordshire and Luton sets targets as required by DEFRA, which for Luton is a recycling target of 16% by 2003/4 and 24% by 2005/6.

## **REPORT**

4. Householders will be provided with a single 240 litre brown recycling bin into which they will be requested to put garden waste. Garden waste will include grass cuttings, hedge trimmings/branches less than about 1 inch in diameter, leaves, weeds and old plants/ cut flowers. It will not include any food waste or any post-consumer wood waste such as furniture wood, chip board, treated woods etc.
5. Tackling garden waste is also vital in order to reach longer-term targets, which have been set as a result of the EC Landfill Directive. This requires a reduction in the amount of biodegradable sent for landfill disposal. Presently in Luton, garden waste is only targeted via the selling of discounted price compost bins and collected by the provision of containers at the Council's Household Waste and Recycling Centre.
6. The Council has already given spend release approval for the purchase of the necessary brown 240 litre recycling bins.
7. Three employees will be required to operate one green waste collection vehicle, which will cover a single round for a fortnightly kerbside collection of green waste from approximately 18,000 properties across Luton.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

8. The estimated annual costs for the employees as listed in Appendix A are £61,840. Provision for these posts has been made in the Council's budget for 2003/04. Agreed by Finance Manager 18<sup>th</sup> March 2003.

## **APPENDIX**

Appendix A: Estimated Annual Costs for Employees

## **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972, SECTION 100D**

There are no background papers relating to this report.

**APPENDIX A**

| <b><u>PROPOSAL</u></b>              | <b><u>COSTS PER ANNUM</u></b>   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| I. One employee at manual grade 5   | Salary of £11,400<br>Plus bonus and on-costs of £9820<br>Total cost of £21220                                     |
| II. Two employees at manual grade 2 | Salary per employee of £10560<br>plus bonus and on costs of £9,750<br><br>Total cost of for 2 employee's = £40620 |
| III. Total cost                     | £61,840   |