

REPORT TO: Cabinet

MEETING DATE: 12 September 2023

BY: Douglas Proudfoot – Executive Director Place

SUBJECT: Introduction of Charging Developers for the Provision of Waste and Recycling Containers to New Properties

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The following report sets out the proposal for introducing a charge to housing developers for refuse and recycling containers which are required for new properties.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That a direct charge of £67.00 (exc VAT) per property, applicable to all future housing developers, be introduced to cover the supply and delivery of a full set of waste and recycling containers to new properties, with the exception of a brown bin for garden waste, which will be provided through an annual subscription service that properties must apply for separately.
- 2.2 That the charge would be payable when the developer applies for street naming and/or property numbering, this will be included in the application charge as part of the registration process. Once the property has been formally registered and the charge has been paid we would then deliver waste and recycling containers to the developer on a call off basis for them to distribute to properties as they become occupied.

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 East Lothian is one of the fastest growing Council areas in Scotland with significant housing developments, in build or planned across the county. Increasing the demand for all waste collection services and the amounts of material requiring management, treatment and disposal.
- 3.2 The current capital expenditure on refuse and recycling containers is approximately £160,000 per annum. This expenditure covers the provision and maintenance of the current refuse and recycling container stock. As well as the supply of full sets of containers to all new properties.

3.3 Local Authorities across the UK have a variety of different policies on charging for waste and recycling containers. With some charging for the supply of all containers to both new and existing properties, some for replacement containers only and some for the supply of containers to new properties only. Others provide recycling containers free, but charge for non-recyclable waste containers.

4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 By charging the developers this mitigates costs to the Council, and thereby assists in protecting essential services.

5 INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

5.1 The subject of this report does not affect the wellbeing of the community or have a significant impact on equality, the environment or economy.

6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Financial – The recovery of costs for the supply and delivery of waste and recycling containers to newly developed properties would recover £6,700 per 100 properties.

6.2 Personnel - None.

6.3 Other – N/A

7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 N/A

AUTHOR'S NAME	Bruce Moffat
DESIGNATION	Transport and Waste Services manager
CONTACT INFO	bmoftat@eastlothian.gov.uk
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