

Waste Management
Environment & Sustainability Service
Unit 7
Harlaw Industrial Estate
Harlaw Way
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www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/waste

XXX Date

Dear Householder

REPLACEMENT OF YOUR WASTE AND RECYCLING BINS

As part of our programme to improve the delivery of our Household Waste and Recycling Services, your GREY LIDDED waste and BLUE LIDDED recycling bins ('diamond lift') are being **replaced** with wheeled bins that have a different bin lifting mechanism ('comb lift').

When is this happening?

The replacement of your bins will be arranged to match your existing collection days to minimise disruption to you. Your bins will be replaced on the following dates:

- **GREY** LIDDED waste bin emptying, removal and replacement date – XXX Date
- **BLUE** LIDDED recycling bin emptying, removal and replacement date – XXX Date

It is important that you present your bins for emptying, removal and exchange on the above dates. After these dates, our Refuse Collection Vehicles will no longer collect the old style of bin in your area so it is vital you present your old bins to be changed over.

Please note that it will be a separate crew that will be delivering the new bins to those that will be collecting the old bins therefore you may find that your new bins may get delivered prior to your old bins being emptied and removed.

Please leave your old bin in the street as a separate crew will visit your street later to remove this.

We aim to empty, remove and replace your old bin on the same day however the uplift of your old bin may take up to 48 hours after it is emptied therefore, we ask you to please leave your bin out until it is collected.

Further information

You can find a list of Frequently Asked Questions on the back of this letter or online at www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/bin-exchanges You can also call the Wasteline on 03456 081207 or email waste@aberdeenshire.gov.uk with any queries and we will be happy to help. You can also follow us on Facebook @recyclingandwasteaberdeenshire.

Yours faithfully,

Andrew Sheridan
Team Manager (Collections and Cleansing)

FAQs

Why are the grey and blue lidded 'diamond' bins being replaced?

- The waste bins are now 15 years old which is the guaranteed lifespan of a wheeled bin.
- They are not commonly used elsewhere in the UK and sourcing replacement bins can be difficult – Aberdeenshire Council is the only local authority in Scotland to still be using 'diamond lift' bins.
- The replacement 'comb lift' bins are an industry standard in the UK.
- The 'diamond lift' bins are more expensive – almost twice the price of the industry standard 'comb lift' bins.
- They are not compatible with the majority of waste collection vehicles
- The change will mean that all of your household waste and recycling bins are standard 'comb' bins - this will mean that all collection vehicles will be compatible to empty any bin anywhere in Aberdeenshire therefore allowing for efficiencies in vehicle usage and routing.

Who will be emptying, removing and replacing the grey and blue lidded 'diamond' bins?

Aberdeenshire Council waste collection crews will empty the bins on your normal collection day. The removal and replacement of the bins will be carried out by the Council's contractor, Jett Distribution. Jett Distribution staff will be directly supported by Aberdeenshire Council staff throughout the removal and replacement process.

What will happen to the old bins?

The old bins will be broken down. The wheels and axles will be reused on other bins, and the main plastic body of the bin will be ground down and used in the manufacture of new wheeled bins.

Are the bins being replaced with bins of the same size?

Yes. The current standard bins have a capacity of 240 litres and the new standard bins have the same capacity.

I currently have a smaller 140L grey lidded or blue lidded bin. Will my new bins be the same size?

Yes, your new bin will be the same size as your existing bin.

I receive an assisted bin collection service. Will I get an assisted collection to help with the bin exchange?

- Yes, we will take care of everything. The collection crew will collect your bins from your property and empty them as normal.
- Your bins will be exchanged for the new style and the new bins will be returned to your normal bin storage area by Council staff.

Where should I place the bins for replacement?

Bins should be presented at their normal collection point on the dates highlighted in this letter. Once they are emptied, please leave your old bin in the street. They will be removed and replaced with new bins by our contractor Jett Distribution.

Where will my new bins be delivered to?

Your new bins will be delivered where you would normally present your bins for collection, outside your property, unless you have an assisted collection (please see FAQ above).

What happens if I am on holiday and therefore my old bin is not at the kerbside for you to exchange? Or, what if I forget to put my bin out?

- If you are in a position to request assistance from a near neighbour to present your diamond bins for removal, this would be appreciated.

I currently have more than one blue lidded recycling bin. Will all my blue lidded recycling bins be replaced with a new bin?

Yes, if you place all your recycling bins out for emptying on your collection day, even though they might not be full

I don't recycle therefore don't want a new blue lidded recycling bin to be delivered.

The Council will be changing to a new waste and recycling collection service from Spring 2023 which will change the frequency of collections for your waste and recycling whilst adding a new recycling bin to split the recycling into 2 streams to improve the quantity and quality of recycling collected and encourage all householders to recycle as much as they can and decrease how much waste is sent for disposal to landfill. Further details on the new service can be found at <https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/waste/waste-strategy/bin-collections-change/>. All households will receive a new blue lidded recycling bin to ensure that they have all bins required for the start of the new collection service.

When can I start to use my new bins?

You can start to use your new bins immediately and present them for collection on your next collection date. There are no changes to your existing collection schedule.

Is this related to the new 3 weekly service change?

No this is just a change of your current bins. The 3 weekly service starts next year when every household will be given a third bin with an orange lid to split their recycling. For more information use this link to our Waste Strategy web pages <https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/waste/waste-strategy/bin-collections-change/>.