

# Agenda Item 5

## Sefton Public Engagement and Consultation Panel

**Date:** Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2021

**Title:** Proposal to undertake Public Engagement and Consultation Activity – Consultation on the preference of bin as an alternative to sack collection, in a targeted area of South Sefton.

**Report of:** Marie Gosling Acting Cleansing Manager

---

### 1. **Purpose of the Report**

1.1 To receive information with regard to the consultation plans being developed with respect to the Cleansing collection method from sacks to bins in South Sefton.

### 2. **Background**

2.1 The main purpose of the Public Engagement and Consultation Panel is to coordinate and ensure the quality of public engagement and consultation, in accordance with the standards for engagement and consultation.

### 3. **Name of Issue you are Consulting On**

3.1 Cleansing Services has been reviewing the way that refuse and recycling is currently collected on street collections that have a sack collection method. To date we have transferred approximately 4,000 terraced and similar properties from sack collection to wheeled bin. We recognise that the containment of refuse and recycling in wheeled bins is the best possible collection method. This ongoing review has identified approximately 8,500 properties that remain suitable for a wheeled bin collection method. These properties currently have a weekly sack collection. The method of wheeled bin is far more beneficial to residents as it provides clearer pavements and cleaner neighbourhoods.

There are no bags of refuse left out on the streets causing obstruction and attracting vermin. It reduces the current problem of litter from bags that have been split open on the pavements before and during collections. It also provides a safe and hygienic storage for resident's waste prior to collection day.

The 8,000 properties identified contain properties of mixed layout and design. These properties could qualify to have either a wheeled bin or communal bins.

#### 3.2 **Section 46 of The Environmental Protection Act 1990 (and subsequent amendments to said Act):**

##### **46 Receptacles for household waste:**

*"Where a waste collection authority has a duty to arrange for the collection of household waste from any premises, the authority may, by*

## Agenda Item 5

*notice served on him, require the occupier to place the waste for collection in receptacles of a kind and number specified."*

- 3.3 Though the law affords the Authority the right to provide its vessel of choice, Cleansing Services are keen to engage and consult wherever possible with residents on their preferred method. Ultimately the decision we take will be based on public opinion but also taking into consideration route optimisation of fleet and alternative weekly collection services.

### **4. The Consultation**

- 4.1 Whilst the decision to change from a sack collection has been taken for the the properties identified, the method in which waste is stored has not. Cleansing Services plan to contact approximately 8,500 properties within the South Sefton area to request their view on what would be their preferred vessel of collection going forward. The consultation will be open for approximately 4 weeks starting **XXXXXXX** and ending **XXXXXX**. Residents will be asked to give their views and opinions on a choice of 2 containers, Wheeled Bin or Communal Bin as being their preference. Each property will be given 1 unique reference number to either go online or call to have their views documented by a staff member on their behalf. Cleansing will make the decision based on the majority vote in each area documented on the attached maps.

The decision will be reached based on the following consideration:

Residents preferred method – based on the findings of the consultation

Route optimisation – Vehicle deployment will require an optimised route providing best value and economics of the operation.

Current rounds – where possible to include the new collection method within the current fleet/vehicle.

Information will be provided to residents individually. This communication will be in letter form to every property identified in the attached mapping exercise. Residents will be encouraged via letter and media outlets to send in their views and engage with the authority on this important topic.

### **5. Reporting and Publishing the Findings**

- 5.1 All findings and proposed amendments to collection methods following the consultation process will be sent by letter directly to residents at their home address.

### **6. Legal Department Comments**

- 6.1 Sefton's Legal Department has considered the consultation plans contained in this report and has no comments to make.

## Agenda Item 5

### 7. Recommendations

7.1 The Public Engagement and Consultation Panel is recommended to:

- a) Appraise the public engagement and consultation plan for the consultation on the preference of bin as an alternative to sack collection, in a targeted area of South Sefton.
- b) Request that the officers return to the Panel to provide details of their feedback and evaluation resulting from the above consultation.

## Agenda Item 5

### Annexes

- Consultation letter to residents
- Mapped areas of properties included in the consultation process.
- Mapped areas of properties including surrounding areas current collection method.
- List of addresses with reference numbers.