

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

| | |
|---|---|
| Question 1 | Carl Warnell to ask Cllr Tim Hoskin, the Executive Member for Environmental Sustainability |
| <p>I notice the Simplifying Recycling legislation proposed by DEFRA in October 2023 has been published today (9th May 2024) and contains requirements for a single commingled dry waste bin and at worst, fortnightly collection of residual waste bins (more regular preferred). Could the executive member explain how this impacts the 2025 waste recycling and street cleansing contract (discussed in the Extraordinary Executive meeting on 21st December 2023) from both a financial and non-financial perspective?</p> | |
| Response from Councillor Tim Hoskin | |
| <p>My thanks to Carl Warnell for his question.</p> <p>The Council is aware of the published government response to the consultation on the statutory guidance for simpler recycling. It is disappointing to see that whilst 80% of respondents disagreed with the proposals regarding fortnightly collections, the government has chosen to ignore local authority and waste professionals and press ahead regardless. I believe this to be short sighted as it is potentially both prohibiting Councils from managing their spending effectively and preventing a drive to increase material collected for recycling.</p> <p>The legislation and statutory guidance has not yet been published but the Council will seek legal advice before it presses ahead with its plans for improvements to waste and recycling services.'</p> <p>East and North Herts are in the middle of the procurement process to secure the next contract that is due to start in 2025. I can update the meeting with a couple of key dates, the first will be a paper in July that will communicate the outcome of the competitive tender so announce the new contractor taking us through the next 8 years of</p> | |

waste collection and a further paper in September which will bring forward the service implementation plan.