

# Member Briefing

Number: 2872

**Title:** New charges for replacement waste containers and bulky item collections from 19 May 2025

**Summary:** An update on new charges that will apply for the supply and delivery of lost, damage and stolen replacement waste and recycling containers and replacement parts. There will also be an increase in charge for bulky item collections and a change to reduced charges.

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## Background

The Council are introducing a charge for replacement waste and recycling containers. This is based on full cost recovery, to ensure that procurement, depreciation, storage, administration and delivery costs are fully recovered. It was agreed at Full Council in February 2024 to charge for replacement waste and recycling containers from 2024/25 onwards.

Budget Proposals at Full Council 16 February 2023 & 7 February 2024:

[Appendix D - Budget Proposals.pdf \(cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk\)](#)

[Agenda for Cabinet on Wednesday, 7th February 2024, 10.00 am - Cheshire West & Cheshire Council \(cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk\)](#)

Separately, the Council offers a chargeable collection service for large items such as white goods and furniture. From 19 May 2025, the charge will increase from £15 to £25 per item and by £5 to £15 per item for those in receipt of full council tax reduction at the point of paying for an item to be collected.

## What is happening

### Replacement container charges

The new charging process will apply to residents requesting a replacement waste container because it is damaged, lost or stolen. The charge will also apply to residents in owned or rented accommodation and landlords or property management agents who are responsible for management of communal bin areas.

Councils who have introduced this measure have found that it encourages people to take greater care of bins and containers and store them securely on their own property. The Council delivered new recycling bins to most residents in 2022, and these containers remain the property of the Council. These bins are expected to last for a further eight years on average.

Developers have been charged for containers for new build properties for several years and there are no changes to this existing process at this time. However, they will now be liable for the cost of supply and delivery of replacement of containers, including bulk containers (1100, 660L bins for example).



## Exemptions to the charge:

- 23L and 7L replacement food waste caddies will remain free of charge, as we encourage more homes to take up food waste recycling.
- This new charge does not apply to new or replacement garden waste containers as residents already pay for the supply of bins through their subscription charge.
- The charge does not apply if the bin is damaged or falls into the waste collection vehicle during the emptying process. Crews will automatically order a free replacement through their in-cab system and leave a postcard for the resident to let them know a new bin has been ordered.

Homes qualifying for additional residual waste capacity because they meet our larger family criteria or have a medical condition that requires a larger or extra bin will be provided with additional containers free of charge on a temporary basis. However, replacements will be subject to charges if lost, damaged or stolen.

Cheshire West Recycling are also introducing a bin repair service where residents will be able to pay for replacement parts to be delivered and fitted to their wheeled bins instead of paying for a full replacement container. This offers a cheaper alternative and is better for the environment as the life of the bin will be extended.

When residents apply for a container, a payment in full will need to be made. Residents in receipt of full council tax reduction (FCTR) at the time of making a request will be able to pay a reduced rate. Costs are shown below:

Container Type	Reason	Cost without FCTR	Cost with FCTR applied
180L Black Domestic	Damaged/lost/moved to another property/remove	40	30
	Replacement parts (Lid, wheels, axels)	15	10
240L Black Domestic	Damaged/lost/moved to another property	45	35
	Replacement parts (Lid, wheels, axels)	15	10
180L Blue or Red Recycling	Damaged/lost/moved to another property/additional/remove	30	20
	Replacement parts (Lid, wheels, axels)	15	10
240L Blue or Red Recycling	Damaged/lost/moved to another property/additional/remove	30	20
	Replacement parts (Lid, wheels, axels)	15	10
55L Green or Grey Box & Lid	Damaged/lost/moved to another property/additional/remove	15	10

Box Lid	Damaged/lost/moved to another property/remove	9	4
Dustbin for storage	Damaged/lost/moved to another property/remove	25	15

A full list of charges is available on the Council's website:

[Fees and charges schedule 2025-26](#)

## **Changes to bulky item collection charges**

The Council offers a chargeable collection service for large items such as white goods and furniture. From 19 May 2025, the charge will increase from £15 to £25 per item and by £5 to £15 per item for those in receipt of full council tax reduction at the point of paying for an item to be collected.

The charge for the service has not been reviewed since 2010 and new charges will be in place from May to reflect the inflation increase over the last 15 years. The increase is necessary to ensure full cost recovery of this service. Charges cover collection costs and all associated administration but exclude disposal costs which we are not permitted to charge for.

Historically, residents in receipt of a pension were eligible to a £5 discount meaning they paid £10 per item collected as opposed to the full price of £15. Analysis has shown that around 50% of customers were claiming the discount. It was not possible to verify the eligibility due to resource constraints and it is unlikely that all those claiming the discount were entitled to it. The eligibility criteria for a discount has been changed to those in receipt of full council tax reduction which is consistent with other services. The discount has been increased from £5 to £10.

## **When it is happening**

The charges will be introduced from 19 May 2025. The webpages will be updated on that day. A list of Questions and Answers for the container charges have been developed (See appendix) and will be included on the webpage.

You can view the new webpages from 19 May 2025.

## **Action for members (if any)**

If you receive any concerns from residents, please escalate these via the Councillor Portal using the following link: [Self \(cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk\)](#)

Please encourage residents to label all their waste containers with their address. It is acceptable to mark the bins permanently (with paint, for example), and free address labels can be requested through the council contact centre. Labelling will help us identify the owner of a container if it is accidentally broken during the emptying process so we can make sure

the replacement is sent to the correct address. This also helps to reduce the risk of it going missing.

**For further information, contact:** Mark Brazil, Head of Environmental Services

**Email:** [mark.brazil@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:mark.brazil@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)

**Responsible Committee, Cabinet Member:** Cllr Karen Shore, Cabinet Member for Highways, Environment and Strategic transport.

**Date:** 16 May 2025

