



**Report To:** Officer Decision

**Date:** 23 December 2024

**Subject:** Food waste caddies

**Purpose:** To exercise officer delegations in the Contract Procedure Rules to enter into a contract for the capital purchase of food waste caddies, with a value of £154,200.

**Key Decision:** Yes

**Portfolio Holder:** Councillor Butler – Environmental Services

**Report Of:** John Leach, Deputy Chief Executive, Communities

**Report Author:** Victoria Burgess, Assistant Director, Neighbourhoods

**Ward(s) Affected:** All

**Exempt Report:** No

### Summary

The Environment Act 2021 introduced the mandatory requirements for all councils in England to introduce a separate weekly collection of food waste to all households in their area. Food waste is stored in kitchen caddies ahead of presentation at the kerbside in a larger caddy for collection by the Council's waste service. Defra has provided New Burdens funding of £217,146 for this purpose.

This report recommends that the Assistant Director for Neighbourhoods, exercises their delegations in the Council's Contract Procedure Rules, and enters into a contract with the supplier of caddies offering the lowest cost, following a procurement exercise across Lincolnshire waste collection authorities to secure best value from the economies of scale. The contract price of £154,200 delivers a saving on the funding allocated by Defra of £62,824, which will be used to support the capital cost of food waste vehicle purchases.

## Recommendations

To enter into a contract with the Lincolnshire Waste Collection Authorities for the supply of kitchen and kerbside caddies for separate collection of food waste.

## Reasons for Recommendations

To obtain value for money from the economies of scale by procuring across the county and enabling the surplus from the allocated New Burdens funding to be used to support the vehicle replacements required to deliver food waste collections.

## Other Options Considered

Do nothing – Waiting until nearer the implementation date for the introduction of food waste collections in 2026 risks prices increasing as the demand for caddies increasing across the country. As demand increases suppliers may be unable to manufacture sufficient caddies in the numbers required to ensure all waste collection authorities in England have stock in place ahead of collections being introduced.

## 1. Background

1.1 The Environment Act 2021 introduced the Waste Reforms Programme for England, which affects councils' waste collection and disposal arrangements. A central pillar of these reforms is 'Simpler Recycling' which requires local authorities to provide a separate weekly food waste collection to all households from April 2026. There is also a requirement for obligated businesses and non-domestic premises to arrange a weekly food waste collection from April 2025.

1.2 New Burdens funding is available in three pots to assist Local Authorities in funding the implementation of food waste collections:

1.2.1 Capital New Burdens. The Council has received £1,440,450 from Defra for the capital purchase of the additional vehicles and caddies required to provide a food waste collection is set out in the table below:

**Table 1: New Burdens capital funding**

Kitchen caddies	Kerbside caddies	Total funding for caddies	Communal bins	Vehicles	Total capital funding
£65,785	£151,039	£216,824	£322	£511,500	£728,646

1.2.2 Transitional New Burdens. The transitional costs are those that are incurred in order to introduce the new service such as procurement, project management, communications and engagement, and container delivery. This funding is for 2024/25,

although no further information has been received regarding amounts the council can expect.

1.2.3 Revenue New Burdens. There is no further information regarding this, however this funding will not be available to the council until April 2026.

## **2. Report**

- 2.1 Working with colleagues within the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership, a countywide procurement exercise has been undertaken which has sourced a contract for 23 litre kerbside caddies for presenting food waste on collection day, and a smaller 5 litre kitchen caddy to store food waste in the house. The price is based on a consolidated purchase for all the seven Lincolnshire Waste Collection Authorities.
- 2.2 The prices obtained by Procurement Lincolnshire are lower than the framework pricing, however this is dependent on purchase orders being placed by all seven authorities, with the supplier by the end of December 2024.
- 2.3 The Officer group of the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership has visited other authorities already providing food waste collections to identify the best colour for the caddies, taking into account visibility, cost, and householder preferences. The caddies for the kitchen will be silver, and the caddies for presenting food waste at the kerbside will be black with an orange lid.
- 2.4 The cost to this Council of entering into this contract for the provision of both a kitchen and kerbside caddy to all households in the borough is £154,000. This will be funded via the New Burdens capital grant provided from Defra for this purpose. This contract price delivers a saving on the funding allocated in Table 1 of £62,824, which will be used to support the capital cost of food waste vehicle replacements.
- 2.5 As this is a national requirement to introduce separate weekly food waste collections to all households in England, many local authorities will be placing orders with suppliers. Placing an order now for delivery ahead of the roll out of food waste collections ensures that receptacles will be available to Lincolnshire.

## **3. Conclusion**

- 3.1. The procurement exercise for the supply of food waste caddies to all households in Lincolnshire has identified a price below framework pricing, and therefore demonstrates value for money obtained due to the size of the order placed.
- 3.2. As the Council has already received funding for this purpose, it is recommended that an order is placed to provide both caddies to every household in East Lindsey, and by doing so will ensure that provision is secured ahead of the food waste collections starting in 2026.

## **Implications**

### **South and East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership**

None

### **Corporate Priorities**

None

### **Staffing**

None

### **Workforce Capacity Implications**

None.

### **Constitutional and Legal Implications**

This is an urgent decision due to the need to secure value for money for the council in the delivery of a mandatory service. Advice has been taken from the Monitoring Officer regarding exercising officer delegations in the Contract Procedure Rules to enter into a contract for the purchase of food waste caddies.

This is a key decision as the value of the contract is above the key decision threshold within the Contract Procedure Rules.

### **Data Protection**

None

### **Financial**

The cost of purchase will be met from New Burdens capital funding allocated to East Lindsey for this purpose.

### **Risk Management**

Not entering into this contract for food waste caddies now, may place the council at risk of being unable to provide food waste collections should suppliers be unable to manufacture sufficient caddies to fulfil the demands from the majority of councils in England. There is also a risk that as demand increases the cost of caddies also increases.

### **Stakeholder / Consultation / Timescales**

The separate weekly collection of food waste is mandatory and therefore consultation on the provision of caddies has not been undertaken, however the Portfolio Holder has been consulted on the price and colour of the caddies as a member of the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership.

### **Reputation**

Not placing an order risks a negative reputational impact, should the remaining Lincolnshire Waste Collection Authorities lose economies of scale from a Lincolnshire wide contract, and therefore the competitive price.

### **Contracts**

None

### **Crime and Disorder**

None

### **Equality and Diversity / Human Rights / Safeguarding**

None

### **Health and Wellbeing**

None

### **Climate Change and Environmental Implications**

None

### **Acronyms**

LWP – Lincolnshire Waste Partnership

### **Appendices**

None

### **Background Papers**

No background papers as defined in Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the production of this report.

### **Chronological History of this Report**

A report on this item has not been previously considered by a Council body.

### **Report Approval**

Report author: Victoria Burgess, Assistant Director (Neighbourhoods)

Signed off by: John Leach, Deputy Chief Executive (Communities)

Approved for publication: