PLACE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 19TH APRIL, 2012

REFUSE COLLECTION

I have requested a call-in of the decision of Cabinet in relation to the Refuse Collection (Minute C147(2)/Apr/12). The reason I have requested the call-in is to scrutinise the proposals, particularly in relation to health and safety, the financial implications and to consider whether there are any other options. I also would like to ascertain whether the decision of Cabinet was taken with due consultation with residents.

In accordance with the Council's call-in procedure, this request is supported by two other Members of the Scrutiny Committee.

Councillor E.A. Richmond

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DRAFT MINUTE EXTRACT FROM CABINET 3RD APRIL, 2012

C147. KEY DECISIONS (2) Refuse Collection - The Leader introduced the report of the Director of Place (previously circulated) requesting that consideration be given to collection arrangements for residual household waste and to the introduction of a wheeled bin service.

A representative from Darlington Association on Disability (DAD) addressed Cabinet in respect of the introduction of a wheeled bin service and made particular reference to a number of issues including the Equality Impact Assessments that had been undertaken to date; the problems that would be caused to disabled and visually impaired people, should residents not follow the recommendations contained within the submitted report; and the enforcement currently undertaken in respect of the current black bin bag collection service. The Director of Place and the Leader responded to those issues and concerns thereon.

Discussion ensued on the possible involvement of Scrutiny in the introduction of a wheeled bin service.

RESOLVED - (a) That wheeled bins be introduced across the Borough and an allocation of £314,000 per annum be made within the Medium Term Financial Plan.

(b) That a one-off allocation of £60,000 be included within the Medium Term Financial Plan for the 2012/13 financial year.

(c) That the policies contained with the submitted report at paragraph 47 be adopted for the implementation of wheeled bins.

(d) That the Director of Place be authorised to apply for funding from the Government's Weekly Collection Support Scheme.

(e) That a further report be brought back to Cabinet on the procurement of wheeled bins.

REASONS - (a) Release of funding into the Medium Term Financial Plan to enable wheeled bins to be implemented.

(b) One-off funding allocation to employ additional resources for the implementation period of wheeled bins.

(c) Need to implement agreed policies for the smooth operation of the wheeled bin service.

(d) To facilitate enhancements to the waste collection service.

(e) To enable Members to consider the procurement strategy for wheeled bins.