

Assisted collections

An assisted collection is the collection of waste or recycling by the collection team from an agreed collection point within the boundary of the resident's property and the return of the container to this collection point following emptying.

An assisted collection scheme is operated for all waste and recycling streams for those persons whom request the scheme because they are unable to present the waste containers for collection. The demand for this service increases each year and it is reasonably foreseeable that this will increase further with the expansion of garden waste and recycling services and alternate week collections. Assisted Collections are resource intensive and the increase in provision of this service if not managed will create operational difficulties and increase operational costs.

In order to manage this service the following policy is proposed to enable an assessment of the residents' application to be undertaken to determine eligibility and also enable a review of their situation.

Assisted Collection Policy:

- **The criteria for assisted collection eligibility will be based on the rules of the 'Blue Badge' scheme for parking and where no able-bodied person is resident at the property.**
- **Where a householder does not meet the 'Blue Badge' criteria the assisted collection service may still be granted on the grounds of poor health or disability. The Council would reserve the right to ask for medical evidence if deemed appropriate.**
- **A formal application for an assisted collection will have to be completed.**
- **An Officer visit will be made to assess eligibility and suitability for assisted collections for the recycling, food, garden and residual waste collections.**
- **A maximum period of 12 months for assisted collections.**
- **Residents will be required to apply and renew their assisted collection request by means of an application form for re-assessment.**
- **Non-return of re-applications will lead to removal from the service.**
- **Provision of the assisted collection service will also be dependent on the property being assessed as suitable to receive the service in accordance with Health & Safety procedures.**
- **The criteria used for the 'Blue Badge' scheme requires applicants to meet one of the points below:**

- **Registration as totally blind under the National Assistance Act 1948. This does not apply to partially sighted registration;**
 - **Receipt of Mobility Allowance or the higher rate of the mobility component of the Disability Allowance;**
 - **Receipt of a War Pensions Mobility Supplement;**
 - **You have severe disability in both upper limbs, regularly drive, but cannot turn the steering wheel by hand, even if the wheel is fitted with a steering knob;**
 - **You have a permanent substantial disability that means you are unable to walk or have very considerable difficulty walking. In this last case, the issuing of a badge would be required to be supported by evidence from your GP. People with a psychological disorder will not normally qualify unless their impairment causes very considerable difficulty in walking.**
- **All residents current receiving a non-standard collection service, will be considered in view of the new policy and where applicable these may be retrospectively applied.**