

Full Council

11 March 2025



Report of: Tim O’Gara, Director Legal and Democratic Services

Title: Petition Debate: Say no to monthly bin collections in Bristol

Recommendation

That Full Council debates the petition and refers it to the Leader / relevant Policy Committee Chair for a formal response.

Summary

Under the Council’s petitions scheme, where a petition has 3,500 or more signatures from people who live, work or study in Bristol, the petition organiser can request a Full Council debate.

The Council has received a petition in relation to Say no to monthly bin collections in Bristol.

The petition organisers have requested that Full Council debates the petition.



Details of the petition

1. The wording of the petition is as follows:

Petition title / subject: **Say no to monthly bin collections in Bristol**

The Green Party-led Bristol City Council is currently planning to scrap your bi-weekly bin collection, and instead only collect your black bins once a month. We want Green Party councillors to reconsider.

Why is this important?

The Green Party-led Bristol City Council is currently planning to scrap your bi-weekly bin collection, and instead only collect your black bins once a month.

Yet, they are also proposing a 15% rise in council tax – adding £245 to the bills of the average household. **Bristolians shouldn't have to pay more and get less.**

Missed collections are already a problem across Bristol. These problems need to be fixed first.

Under these plans, if someone misses their monthly collection, they will have rubbish in their house for a whole extra month before the next bin collection. This could lead to increases in fly-tipping – which is already a scourge across our city.

Monthly bin collection will have a disproportionate impact on larger families and households. As well as this, parents know how quickly new-borns' nappies fill up their black bins – this especially isn't workable for them.

Bristol has the highest recycling rate of the English Core Cities. To improve recycling rates further, the council needs to improve the recycling services offered to include additional materials, like nappies and soft plastics, and ensure that all residents that live in flats have an equal opportunity to recycle, which is currently hit and miss.

Monthly black bin collections won't work. Let the Green Party know – no to monthly black bin collections.

Sources:

[Bristol black bin collections 'could be reduced to once a month' - BBC News](#)
[Bristol City Council opens consultation over 15% council tax rise - BBC News](#)

2. The petition has been organised by Councillor Tom Renhard.
3. The petition has secured 11,563 signatures to date, 10,600 from Bristol residents. Verified as of 27 February 2025.
4. Full Council is asked to debate the petition.
5. Under the petition scheme, the petition organiser is permitted up to 5 minutes to present and speak to the petition. The petition scheme allows a further period of up to 15 minutes for

discussion of the petition by councillors at the Full Council meeting.

6. The Full Council has agreed the following in relation to dealing with petitions with over 3500 signatures: The topic of the debate should be referred to the Leader / relevant Policy Committee Chair, or other relevant body with the petitioner's views and Full Council's views.

RECOMMENDATION

That Full Council debates the petition and refers it to the Leader / relevant Policy Committee Chair for a formal response.