

## DECISION NOTICE OF AN INDIVIDUAL MEMBER OF GWYNEDD COUNCIL CABINET

**DATE OF DECISION** 19 January 2024

**DATE DECISION PUBLISHED** 22 January 2024

**DATE DECISION WILL COME INTO FORCE** and implemented,  
unless the decision is called in, in accordance with section 7.25 of  
the Gwynedd Council Constitution 29 January 2024

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Cabinet Member: Councillor Councillor Dafydd Meurig, Cabinet Member for the  
Environment

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**SUBJECT**  
**Garden Waste Collections**

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### **DECISION**

To approve changing the garden waste collection term to run from the beginning of  
February until the end of November and to approve a fee of £37 per bin for 2024.

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### **REASON WHY THE DECISION IS NEEDED**

Please see attached officer report

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### **DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND ANY RELEVANT DISPENSATIONS APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL'S STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

None

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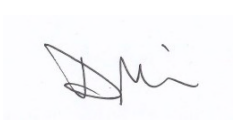
### **ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION**

Consultation with  
Gwynedd Council Statutory Officers

The results of the consultations are reported upon in the attached report

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## DECISION NOTICE OF AN INDIVIDUAL MEMBER OF CYNGOR GWYNEDD CABINET – OFFICER'S REPORT

Name and title of Cabinet Member(s):	Councillor Dafydd Meurig, Cabinet Member for the Environment
Name and title of the Report's Author:	Roland Thomas - Assistant Head of Department - Environment
Date of Decision:	19.12.23
Cabinet Member/s Signature:	

**Subject:** Garden Waste Collections

### **Recommendation for the Decision:**

To approve changing the garden waste collection term to run from the beginning of February until the end of November and to approve a fee of £37 per bin for 2024.

### **The reason for the need for a Decision:**

See below

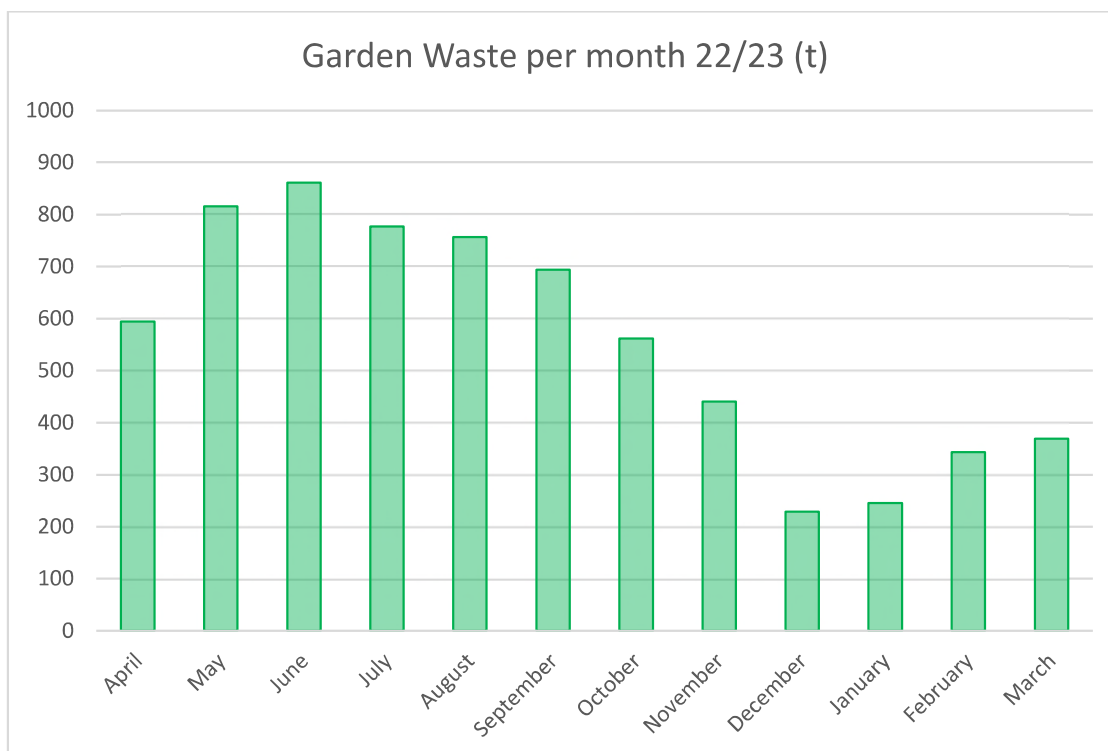
### **Rationale and justification for reaching the Decision:**

Garden waste collection is one of the services offered by the Waste and Recycling Service, Environment Department. Since 2016, Gwynedd residents have had to pay a fee for the collection of these bins, and around 16,500 homes per year buy the service.

It is a service provided for 12 months of the year and brown bins are collected every fortnight. The Council recycles the waste collected, and this % contributes to the national recycling target.

Because of the way the service is implemented, the vehicles have to travel to every property that pays for collection. Often during the winter months these vehicles make empty journeys because residents do not present their bins. This is clearly a waste of resources in terms of employment costs and running costs of vehicles. We would not only spend our money more prudently, but we will also reduce our carbon emissions by not travelling purposeless trips.

For the 2024 term, we have reviewed the volume of tonnage collected each month and have made the decision to reduce the collections from 12 months to 10 months, but continue to collect every fortnight. Clearly the volume collected is seasonal, and in a year the Council collects about 6,700 tonnes of garden waste from our residents. We have analysed that only around 7% of this that is collected during the months of December and January (see graph).



Therefore, for this year, we will pilot collecting garden waste from 1 February until 30 November. It is acknowledged that this will create a difficulty for some of our residents, but it is possible to continue being able to recycle garden waste by using one of our eight recycling centres in Gwynedd. We are moving towards a seasonal pattern that is favoured by many other authorities in Wales by now.

The fee has increased with inflation since 2016, but because we are intending on reducing the collection period this year, it is recommended to keep the fee the same as last year at **£37 per bin**. It is felt that this fee is fair for the service; it works out to be about £1.70 per collection, and is comparable to other authorities in Wales.

The financial 'gap' of not increasing the fee with inflation will be addressed in the savings made by not collecting (travelling, etc.) and garden waste disposal fees.

**Any consultations undertaken prior to making the decision:**

Cabinet Member

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**Chief Finance Officer:**

"I am satisfied that the fee levels for 2024/25, and their obligations on the budget, have been the subject of detailed consideration. I have no objections to the decision sought."

**Monitoring Officer:**

I am satisfied with the propriety of the recommendation noting that the department has provided for the transition to the new timetable.

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