

Containerisation Programme - Marchmont

City of Edinburgh Council

26 June 2003

Purpose of report

- 1 To refer to Council a request from Marchmont residents to postpone the introduction of containerisation in Marchmont.

Details

- 2 The Executive at its meeting on 17 June 2003 agreed to hear a deputation on behalf of Marchmont residents concerning the implementation of the roll-out of the Council's containerisation programme in their area to take place on 23 June 2003.
- 3 The deputation highlighted the following six points as areas of concern if the containerisation were to go ahead:
 - Lack of consultation
 - Residential amenity
 - Loss of parking
 - Planning and legalities
 - Health and safety
 - Recycling
- 4 Concerns were expressed that the appearance of the containers was not in keeping with Marchmont as a Conservation Area with many B listed buildings. It was felt that the size of the containers would make it awkward for elderly or less able people to use them. In addition, the Council's arrangements for cleaning the containers had not been made clear.
- 5 The proposed sites for the containers were inadequate with many being placed only yards from people's bedroom windows. There would also be a loss of 125 car parking spaces, adding to an already major parking problem in the area.
- 6 In terms of planning, the deputation understood that there was an ongoing consultation exercise taking place on revised guidelines for siting containers. They felt it would be useful if the Executive waited for the results of this consultation before proceeding with siting any containers in Marchmont.
- 7 The residents felt there were also health and safety issues surrounding the containers, ie. being set alight, used for fly-tipping.

- 8 They also expressed the view that the containers undermined the Council's recycling initiatives by encouraging people to dispose of their rubbish at source rather than recycling.
- 9 The deputation indicated they were opposed to containerisation in Marchmont but wished to work with the Council in identifying other options. They urged the Executive to postpone the implementation date until full consultation with local residents had taken place.
- 10 Photographs of problems at containerised sites elsewhere were passed round the meeting and a petition was submitted.
- 11 The Executive Member for the Environment intimated that the consultation period for the Council's containerisation programme had commenced in June 2000. He felt that in areas already served by containers, there was an improvement in both the environment and general standard of cleanliness in the streets.
- 12 Leaflets had been distributed in the Marchmont area and there had been a Public Meeting together with two drop-in meetings to allow residents to discuss the proposals.
- 13 The Executive Member gave an assurance that even after implementation of the programme he and the Director of Environmental and Consumer Services would be happy to receive constructive comments, regarding any aspect of the scheme, including siting of the containers. Where possible, action would be taken to address any concerns and improve the service as had happened in other areas of the City.
- 14 The Leader thanked the deputation for their presentation.
- 15 The Executive agreed :-
- (a) To note the request by the deputation to postpone the introduction of containerisation in Marchmont until full consultation with local residents had taken place and to refer that request to the Council on 26 June 2003.
 - (b) To instruct the Director of Environmental and Consumer Services to take no action on the implementation of the containerisation programme in Marchmont until the Council had considered the matter at its meeting on 26 June 2003.

Recommendation

- 16 That the Council considers the deputations request to delay the implementation of the containerisation in Marchmont.

Donald Anderson
Leader

Appendices

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Wards affected 47

**Background
Papers** None

[h:cmtserv/common/lesley/executive/reports/170603/Equality and Diversity](h:cmtserv/common/lesley/executive/reports/170603/Equality%20and%20Diversity)