

Transport and Environment Committee

10.00am, Tuesday, 21 March 2017

Waste and Cleansing Improvement Plan – Progress Update

Item number	7.4
Report number	
Executive/routine	Executive
Wards	All wards

Executive Summary

There continues to be good progress made in delivering the actions contained within the Waste and Cleansing Improvement Plan.

There also continue to be signs of improvement, with indications that the actions taken are having a positive impact on the overall performance of the service. This is expected to continue whilst officers focus on delivering the remaining actions and the changes made become embedded into the service.

There have been delays to some actions and these are detailed in the report, however, the majority of the actions are either on target or have been completed.

Links

Coalition Pledges	P44, P49, P50
Council Priorities	CP8, CP9
Single Outcome Agreement	SO4

Waste and Cleansing Improvement Plan – Progress Update

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 That the Committee note the progress made on implementing the actions within the Improvement Plan to date, with majority of actions being on track or completed.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Waste and Cleansing Improvement Plan was developed in response to concerns from elected members and members of the public over the perceived poor quality of waste collection and street cleansing services.
- 2.2 The [Improvement Plan](#) was approved at Transport and Environment Committee [1 November 2016](#) and the first progress update provided to Committee on [17 January 2017](#).
- 2.3 As part of the approval of this plan, elected members requested that regular progress updates are provided to the Committee to provide assurance that actions are being completed or on target.

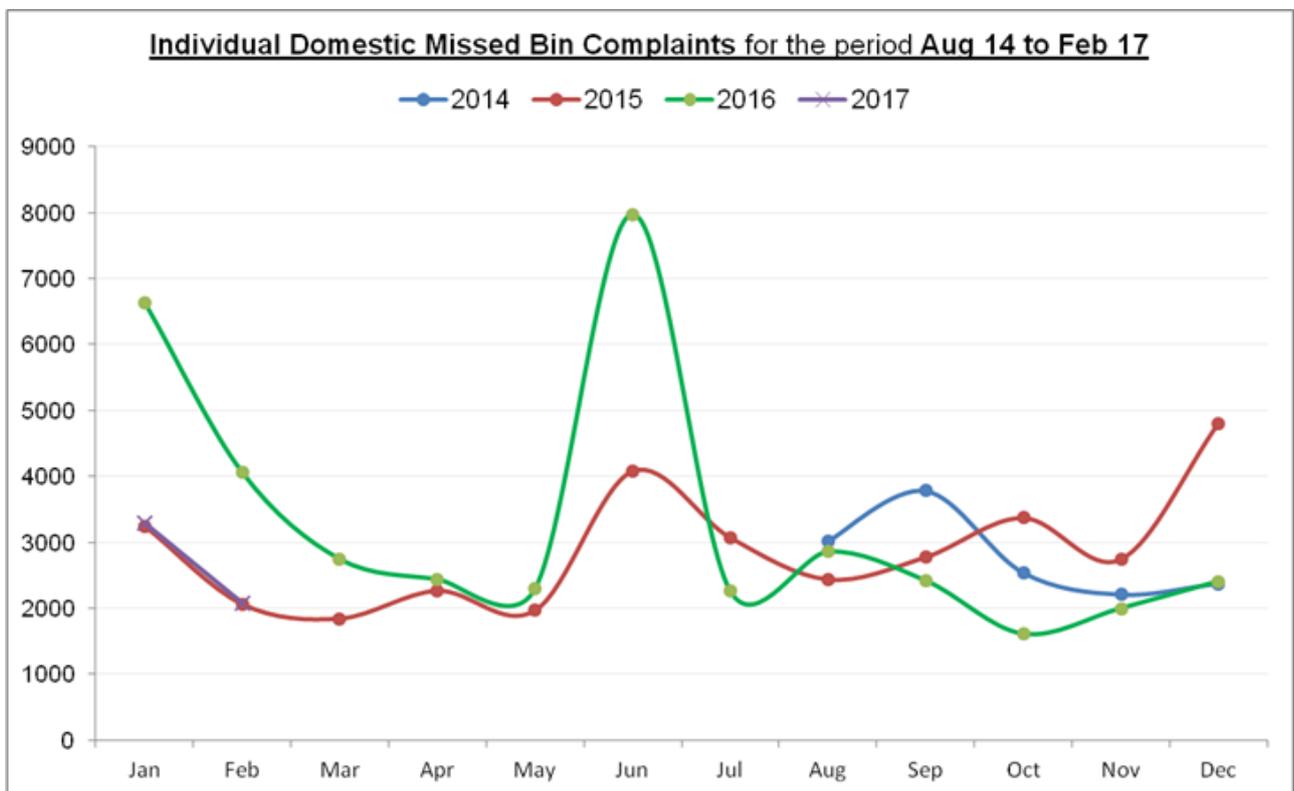
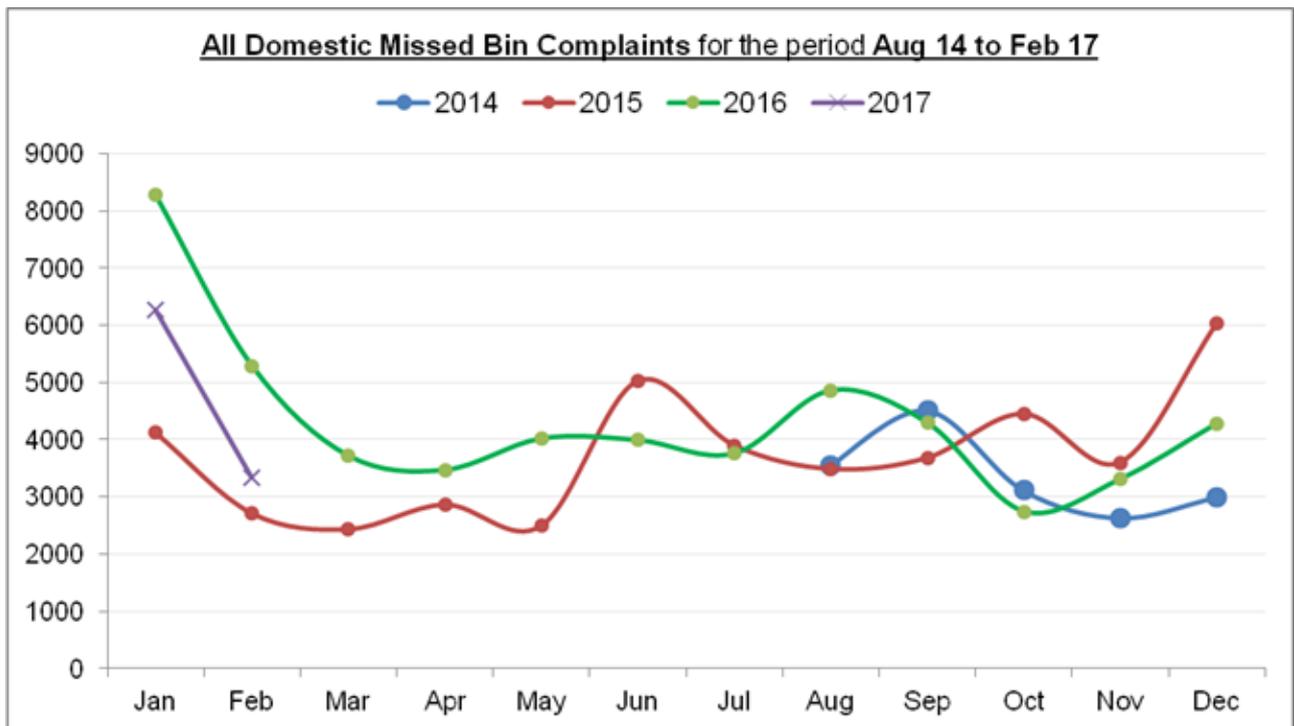
3. Main report

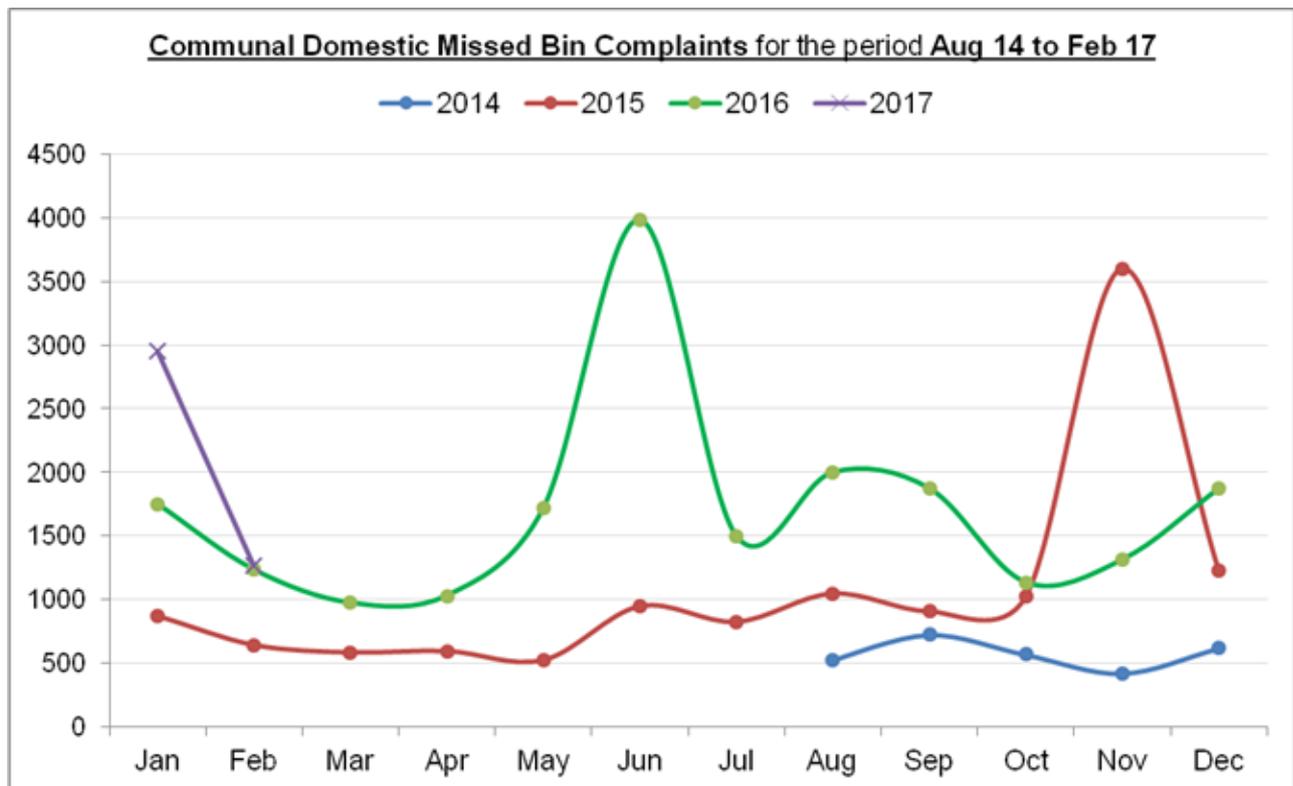
- 3.1 The Waste and Cleansing Improvement Plan sets out 65 key actions required to help move the service forward and to deliver an improved local environment in Edinburgh.
- 3.2 Updates on all actions are attached at Appendix 1.
- 3.3 Good progress has been made to date. Out of a total of 65 actions, 47 actions have been achieved and three actions are progressing on target. The remaining 15 actions are being taken forward as detailed in the appendix.

Impact to date

- 3.4 There continue to be positive signs of improvement, with indications that the actions taken towards delivering the plan are having a positive impact on the overall performance across the service.

3.5 The following graphs show the number of missed bin complaints between August 2014 and February 2017. These have been shown as total missed bins complaints, and further split between individual bins and communal bins.





3.6 An analysis of the data shows that:

- Individual missed bin complaints in 2017 closely match those seen in 2015; and a reduction of 3,332 (or 50%) in January and 1,986 (or 49%) in February against the same periods in 2016.
- Communal missed bin complaints in 2017 were significantly higher in January compared to previous years (1,207, or 69%, higher) however dropped back to a comparable figure in February (33, or 3%, higher).
- Overall, missed bin complaints in January and February 2017 have been lower than those experienced in 2016 (24% and 37% lower respectively) however remain higher than those experienced in 2015 (52% and 23% higher respectively).

3.7 At 96%, February's city-wide performance for street cleansing enquiries resolved within timescale exceeds the minimum 85% target. This is an improvement on the previous month (94% resolved within timescale) and a marked improvement on February 2016 when 77% of enquiries were resolved within timescale. There was also a 19% drop in the number of enquiries received in February compared to the previous month. Moreover, there were 25% less enquiries compared to the same period last year.

3.8 A continued proactive approach to dumping and fly tipping has seen a significant decrease in reports in February; with a 28% decrease in reports logged for the same period last year.

Progress against key actions

- 3.9 At the outset of the Improvement Plan a number of households were identified as having repeat issues with missed collections. The root cause of the issues was investigated and resolutions identified for all locations. Where a resolution has been implemented the issues have been resolved. Some resolutions, particularly in communal areas, are longer term and will continue to be progressed as a priority.
- 3.10 Good progress continues to be made in recruiting additional permanent supervisors and frontline staff. As the service builds a settled, permanent workforce with a settled supervisory structure a further reduction in missed collections is expected as crews become more familiar with their routes.
- 3.11 The Spend-to-Save proposal for Routesmart Routing Software was approved by Finance and Resources Committee on [19 January 2017](#) and Full Council on 9 February 2017 and a presentation of the system, and its benefits, has been made to elected members following the request at January's Transport and Environment Committee.
- 3.12 Routesmart will be implemented on a phased approach and the plan for this is currently being developed with the Council's ICT provider, CGI.
- 3.13 The ongoing focus on trade waste abuse of communal bins has been very successful, with significant local and national media coverage and positive feedback from residents and businesses. As a supplement to their annual business rates statements, all businesses within the city have received an information leaflet on their requirement to have a sufficient trade waste contract in place. Contact has been made with colleagues from the Business Gateway service to help promote requirements to have trade waste contracts in place.
- 3.14 The rollout of the 'Our Edinburgh' campaign in the Leith Walk area was well received, with good coverage on social media. The second phase of the campaign took place in Gorgie/Dalry (commencing on the 6 February 2017 and continuing throughout February). This phase of the campaign tackled dumping, dog fouling, trade waste abuse and correct use of recycling bins. As with the first phase, the second phase has been well received. The campaign has been shortlisted for two Awards at the LEQ Awards (Local Environment Quality Awards) in the 'Campaign of the Year' and 'Programme of the Year' categories.
- 3.15 On Tuesday 17 January 2017, Committee approved the introduction of a new charging structure for Special Uplifts. The revised charges were implemented on Monday 23 January 2017. The impacts of the new charges will continue to be monitored over the course of the 2017/18 financial year.

- 3.16 The table below compares the number of bookings and items in February 2016 and 2017 against the number of dumping and fly-tipping reports:

	Special Uplifts		Dumping and fly-tipping
	Uplifts	Items	
February 2016	676	2,753	558
February 2017	1,345	3,383	399
Difference	+669 (+99%)	+630 (+23%)	-159 (-28%)

- 3.17 Whilst the change to the Special Uplifts will be a factor in this, a number of the other actions outlined in the plan will also contribute towards the reduction in dumping and fly-tipping such as: the increase in resources to deal with fly-tipping; staff proactively dealing with any dumping and fly-tipping they find; and the communication campaign to raise residents' awareness on disposing of their waste correctly.
- 3.18 The feasibility study into the opportunities to work with the voluntary sector to undertake collections is currently being carried out by Changeworks and AEA Riccardo via funding from Zero Waste Scotland. Positive discussions have taken place with a variety of charities to determine their interest and capability to work with the Council to undertake collections and increase the reuse of items. A findings report from this feasibility study is due and will be considered by management before progressing.
- 3.19 The three weekly garden waste collection service commenced on 6 March 2017. The change was communicated to residents via the 2017 calendar; information on the website; residents' bins stickered and tagged; lamppost wraps; social media and targeted online digital campaign; and a press release. An additional uplift was provided the week of 27 February 2017 for residents waiting over four weeks between uplifts during the changeover to aid with the transition.
- 3.20 Whilst progress has been positive, it is acknowledged that a significant and sustained improvement is required. This requires a major focus from the Council and the delivery of all the actions within the plan, alongside a high quality day-to-day frontline service. Staff within the service continue to have a good understanding of the need for change and their role in achieving this.

4. Measures of success

- 4.1 The number of complaints about waste and cleansing services will reduce.
- 4.2 Customer satisfaction with waste and cleansing, as measured by the Edinburgh People's Survey, will increase.
- 4.3 The percentage of enquiries relating to Waste and Cleansing services logged via the Customer Service Centre that are resolved at the point of contact will increase.

5. Financial impact

- 5.1 Any expenditure associated with the Improvement Plan is anticipated to be contained within existing resources. If a need for additional funding is identified, then this will be progressed through a separate report following the appropriate governance arrangements.

6. Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact

- 6.1 The information contained in this report is a progress update on an approved plan. There are no perceived governance, policy or risk implications associated with this report. Where policy changes may be required as a result of the actions within the Improvement Plan, these matters will be taken forward by way of a separate report to the relevant committee for approval.

7. Equalities impact

- 7.1 There are no identified equalities impacts resulting from this report.

8. Sustainability impact

- 8.1 Improvements in the quality of our Waste and Cleansing Service will contribute towards a reducing the amount of waste to landfill, increasing the amount of recycling and improving the quality of Edinburgh's local environmental quality.

9. Consultation and engagement

- 9.1 Officers from the Waste and Cleansing Service have been attending local community meetings to give an overview of the plan to residents
- 9.2 A consultative forum with a focus group of residents has been convened, with the first meeting taking place in December 2016. The second meeting is due to take place in April 2017.

10. Background reading/external references

- 10.1 [Waste and Cleansing Improvement Plan – Item 7.1](#) Transport and Environment Committee 1 November 2016.
- 10.2 [Waste and Cleansing Improvement Plan - Progress Update - Item 7.7](#) Transport and Environment Committee 17 January 2017.

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11. Links

Coalition Pledges	P44 Prioritise keeping our streets clean and attractive P49 Continue to increase recycling levels across the city and reduce the proportion of waste going to landfill P50 Meet greenhouse gas targets, including national target of 42% by 2020
Council Priorities	CP8 – A vibrant, sustainable local economy CP9 – An attractive city
Single Outcome Agreement	SO4 -Edinburgh's communities are safer and have improved physical and social fabric
Appendices	Appendix 1 – Waste and Cleansing Improvement Plan Action Tracker – March 2017

Waste and Cleansing Improvement Plan Action Tracker - March's Transport and Environment Committee

Action Point	Action	Target Date	Forecasted Date	Lead Team	Comments	Status
Waste Collection Route Management and Information	Our approach to organising and completing waste collection routes needs to change to provide information in a format that allows crews to complete collections on a 'right first time' basis. We should design the service to avoid repeat complaints. Anticipated Outcome A reduction in the number of reported missed collections and repeat missed collections					
1	Complete the trial of the 'Routesmart' system and in-cab device and evaluate the effectiveness of the system	Oct-16	n/a - complete	CGI	Trial complete. Evaluation completed and shows successful outcome.	Achieved
2	Work with CGI to procure and embed the 'Routesmart' system within all operational routes	Feb-17	Sep-17	Technical Team	Spend-to-save proposal reported to Finance & Resources Committee on 19 January and Full Council on 9 February. Presentation of the system, and its benefits, has been made to Elected Members following the request at January's Transport & Environment Committee. There will be a phased roll-out of routes starting with garden waste (to link with Actions 11 & 12) and mechanical sweeping (to link with Action 41) followed by the remaining routes. The overall delay to the implementation has been due to receiving the final sign off of the Business Case.	Open
3	Undertake a rapid improvement event to identify the most missed properties by stream and resolve the root cause of the misses	Nov-16	n/a - complete	Technical Team	372 most missed properties investigated in November. A number of corrective actions have taken place to date with work ongoing to address the more difficult, lengthy, issues to resolve (such as streets with challenging access issues that would require double yellow lines).	Achieved - with additional activities underway
Workforce Management	It is recognised that improvements need to continue to be made to the working practices, management and working culture within Waste and Cleansing services in order to further move the service forward and reduce the number of complaints received. Anticipated Outcome A settled workforce of City of Edinburgh Council employees, at all levels, who are properly trained in the role they perform with that role being performed to a consistently high standard.					
4	Reduce the use of agency staff and recruit a full establishment of permanent staff to improve route knowledge and ownership	Dec-16	Depend on Action 5	Waste Operations	This action links to Action 5 below with agency being reduced as permanent staff are recruited. Controls are in place to manage the use of, and minimise the need for, agency staff.	Open
5	Finalise the implementation of the new Waste and Cleansing service structure and recruit to all vacant posts	Nov-16	Apr-17	Waste and Cleansing Manager	Recruitment into the remaining posts continues to progress. 27 Waste and Cleansing Driver/Crew Leaders and two Supervisors were recruited in January/February.	Open
6	Cease the practice of 'Task and Finish' across the Waste Collection Service	Nov-16	n/a - complete	Waste Operations	The 'Task and Finish' practice ended 1 November.	Achieved - manage transition

Action Point	Action	Target Date	Forecasted Date	Lead Team	Comments	Status
7	Ensure a full and effective training programme is in place for all frontline staff	Dec-16	n/a - complete	Technical Team	A training programme for the service has been developed in conjunction with the central Learning and Development Team; and priority training requirement identified. This programme also incorporates the SWITCH (Scottish Waste Industry Training, Competency, Health & Safety) competency framework developed by Zero Waste Scotland to promote safe working within the industry. A range of key training has taken place to date to provide support and ensure consistency amongst the service supervisors in workforce management, complaints handling and undertaking investigations. Frontline staff have received crucial health and safety training such as on-the-job manual handling training which helps ensure the job is undertaken safely and reduce the risk of injuries. Investment has also continued in LGV driving licence training.	Achieved - with additional activities underway
8	Ensure that Supervisors and Managers are conducting regular team briefings (i.e. at least monthly) with all frontline staff on an ongoing basis	Ongoing	n/a - complete	Waste and Cleansing Operations	Monthly briefings have been scheduled and are taking place.	Achieved - monitor effectiveness
9	Provide refresher briefings to all waste collection staff on the importance of removing side waste, litter and spillage as appropriate	Oct-16	n/a - complete	Waste and Cleansing Operations	Frontline staff have been briefed to report issues they come across if they cannot deal with it immediately. A formal briefing has been given to staff and will be repeated at key points of the year, such as the festival season.	Achieved - monitor effectiveness
Garden Waste Collections	It is recognised that improvements need to continue to be made to the working practices, management and working culture within Waste and Cleansing services in order to further move the service forward. Anticipated Outcome An appropriately resourced garden waste collection service that is reliable and consistent with reduced missed bin complaint levels.					
10	Assess the number of properties with more than one garden waste bin	Nov-16	n/a - complete	Technical Team	A review of information held on the system has taken place to assess the number of properties with more than one garden waste bin. This data has been progressed in Actions 11 and 12.	Achieved
11	Adjust the existing garden waste routes to account for up to date information on bins per property and participation	Dec-16	n/a - complete	Technical Team	This action has been carried out as part of Action 12.	Achieved
12	Implement the new 3 weekly garden waste collection service, to replace the current fortnightly and four weekly service, with new fit for purpose routes	Mar-17	n/a - complete	Waste Operations	The 3-weekly garden waste collection service commenced 6 March 2017. An additional uplift was provided the week of 27 February 2017 for residents waiting over 4 weeks between uplifts during the transition. The change was communicated to residents via the 2017 calendar; information on the website; residents' bins stickered and tagged; lamppost wraps; social media and targeted online digital campaign and a press release. New routes were created for the change in service and are being actively monitored to address any issues that may arise.	Achieved - monitor effectiveness
Communal Bins	Anticipated Outcome Reduced complaints relating to missed and overflowing communal bin collections. Bins are located in the right areas with reductions in inappropriate use and according reductions in landfill waste.					

Action Point	Action	Target Date	Forecasted Date	Lead Team	Comments	Status
13	Undertake a rapid improvement event to identify the most missed communal bins by stream and resolve the root cause of the misses.	Nov-16	n/a - complete	Technical Team	306 sites were visited with the top three root causes identified as access issues, contamination and resourcing/routes not running. As highlighted at January's Transport & Environment Committee the frequency of uplifts was found to contribute to the issue of overflowing communal bins. As a result of this a review of this collection service has been proposed and highlighted in the Tenement Recycling Report to this committee. In addition to this a new Stage 2 investigation process has been developed under Action 59 which will see full, detailed, investigations carried out on all Stage 2 complaints.	Achieved - with additional activities underway
14	Increase supervision resource within the communal bin collection services to improve service quality and resolve customer issues more effectively	Nov-16	n/a - complete	Waste Operations	Supervision within the communal bin collection service has increased from one supervisor per shift to two per shift covering the east and west of the city.	Achieved - monitor effectiveness
15	Develop a communications campaign to make residents in communal areas aware of how to manage their waste and recycling effectively	Jan-17	n/a - complete	Communications	Initial campaign phase in the Leith Walk area has showed positive results with increased donations to the Reuse hotline and increased visits to relevant trade waste pages on the Council's website. There has been positive feedback on social media and positive media coverage. The next phase focused on the Gorgie/Dalry area which took place for four weeks over February with a focus on resident behaviour/issues such as dumping and dog fouling (along with trade waste abuse). Further targeted communication in communal areas is being developed for the coming financial year.	Achieved - with additional activities underway
16	Develop a communications campaign to ensure that businesses are aware of their legal responsibilities when disposing of their waste	Nov-16	n/a - complete	Communications	Focused compliance visits took place in the Leith Walk area between 14 and 25 November with further visits in the Gorgie/Dalry area during February as part of the 'Our Edinburgh' campaign. This has had positive results with a number of businesses found to be non-compliant since the campaigns there has been an increase to the relevant trade waste pages on the Council's website. Communal bins reported by the public; Elected Members or operations (as well as those identified through the sensor trial as having unusual fill levels) are also being searched for potential trade waste abuse with appropriate action being taken against identified businesses. Contact has also been made with Business Gateway to help raise business awareness of their legal responsibilities as part of the support framework they have in place for businesses. A trade waste leaflet will also be included in the annual business rates statement sent to all businesses within the city.	Achieved - with additional activities underway
17	Improve the labelling and information on communal bins to illustrate the types of waste the bin can receive and how and where to dispose of bulky items	Jan-17	Apr-17	Communications	The boards used on the side loading bins have proved successful and represents a significant, and high visibility improvement, on labelling of these bins before. This approach cannot be replicated on the standard communal bins. The stickers purchased for Phase 1 of the Our Edinburgh campaign require to be of a more durable standard. Revised costs are therefore being sought for a higher specification.	Open
18	Investigate the use of QR codes to allow residents to easily report missed or overflowing communal bins and locate collection dates	Nov-16	n/a - complete	Technical Team	The practicality of using QR codes has been assessed and found to require a high level of administration to maintain; however the improved web forms and responsive website should make it easier for people to report issues.	Achieved

Action Point	Action	Target Date	Forecasted Date	Lead Team	Comments	Status
19	Assess options for the containerisation of those streets that remain on gull proof sack or sack collections	Jan-17	n/a - complete	Technical Team	All 120 streets included in this action have been assessed for the viability of placing bins through a desktop exercise. Those more challenging streets are receiving a site visit to further assess options. Should containerisation be assessed as a possibility this will be investigated further as part of the review of the wider communal bin collections referenced in Action 13.	Achieved - with additional activities underway
20	Work with Parking Services to implement enforceable TROs to protect communal bins wherever possible	Mar-17	May-17	Waste Operations	Discussions are underway with Parking Services to trial TROs which place double yellow lines in front of communal bins at a few selected sites. Should this prove successful it will be rolled out wider as part of the communal bin review referenced in Action 13. Other local authorities have also been contacted to identify the approaches taken to protect communal bins and capture best practice and any lessons they have learnt that we can incorporate.	Open
21	Ensure access to communal bins for residents and waste collection staff is accounted for in traffic management arrangements when road works take place	Oct-16	n/a - complete	Transport	Guidance circulated by Network Management to all Locality Teams and the Central Roads Network team to ensure that waste collections are factored into roadworks planning and applications.	Achieved - monitor effectiveness
22	Develop a policy on holiday lets and party flats to identify whether this waste should be treated as commercial waste	Jan-17	Apr-17	Technical Team	A discussions paper with options has been drafted, including approaches taken by other Local Authorities. This is currently being circulated to relevant service areas, such as Planning, to ensure a consistent approach is taken for these types of properties. This will then be consideration by management before a policy is created.	Open
23	Identify those communal bin sites where bins can be moved to improved locations where there is less opportunity for misuse	Jan-17	n/a - complete	Technical Team	Sites identified as being misused/potential misuse are being assessed and Environment Wardens involved. If the relocation of the bin is determined as necessary and simple to carry out these are being progressed. Should the relocation of the bin be more complex to arrange these will be addressed through the review of the wider communal bin collections referenced in Action 13.	Closed - Ongoing
24	Identify costs to fit key containers to all bin stores (where applicable) to ensure that all crews have access to the required key therefore avoiding missed collections due to access issues	Dec-16	n/a - complete	Building Services	Costs have been identified to fit key containers to bin stores. Whilst progressing this action, and Action 25, other potential options have been identified that may address this issue more effectively than key containers. Further consideration is being made into these options before moving to implementation.	Achieved - with additional activities underway
25	Ensure that a standard lock specification for bin stores is enforced for new developments as part of the planning process	Jan-17	n/a - complete	Planning	Amendments to the Instructions for Architects and Developers is complete. Officers are working closely with developers throughout the design and build process to ensure that the standard lock is incorporated.	Achieved - monitor effectiveness
26	Identify those communal properties where there are multiple individual bins and provide an alternative communal bin solution where this is required and appropriate	Feb-17	n/a - complete	Technical Team	Due to the quantity of communal properties with individual bins, and the upcoming review of communal bin collections referenced in Action 13, this action will be split into two phases. The first phase has been focusing on problematic sites initially putting a communal bin solution in place to try rectify the issues. The second phase, which covers the remaining communal properties, will be considered as part of the communal bin review due to the scale of properties and the impact the review could have on what is put in place.	Achieved - with additional activities underway

Action Point	Action	Target Date	Forecasted Date	Lead Team	Comments	Status
Maintenance of Communal Bins	<p>The appearance and cleanliness of our communal bins is not in line with that which we should expect on Edinburgh's streets. Improving the appearance of our communal waste and recycling bins will contribute to fostering greater care and ownership in our communities.</p> <p>Anticipated Outcome An improvement in the appearance of our communal bin stock with reductions in complaints regarding bin maintenance and cleanliness.</p>					
27	Identify potential solutions to procure a contract for the supply and/or maintenance (repair, cleaning and renewal) of all communal bins and quantify the cost implications of these solutions	Mar-17	n/a - complete	Corporate Procurement	Research has identified that there is market interest and ability to deliver this service on behalf of the Council. The service specification will be developed and progressed through procurement with the aim of having a contract put in place during 2017/18.	Achieved - with additional activities underway
28	Work with Criminal Justice and other partners to build communal bin maintenance and painting into programmes for restorative work	Apr-17	n/a - complete	Criminal Justice	Discussions have taken place with the Criminal Justice team however due to the limitations they are bound by they cannot support the proposed restorative work. However, positive work is being undertaken in partnership with Police Scotland and the North East Locality to remove graffiti tags referred by the police.	Closed
29	Investigate the potential to install bin housings around wheeled communal bins to create more attractive and formal sites	Dec-16	Dependant on Leith Project	Technical Team	The Leith Walk Improvement Project is funding the use of bin housings/screens as part of their project. This will act as a trial which, should this prove successful, will be rolled out wider as part of the review of communal bin collections.	Open
Seasonal Resourcing	<p>We need to deliver a service that is responsive to the changing demands of the city that our student and tourist population bring and ensures that Edinburgh is portrayed in the best possible way.</p> <p>Anticipated Outcome Reduced complaints relating to Waste and Cleansing Services during peak seasons. A reduction in the amount of waste that is sent to landfill in areas containing high levels of student housing.</p>					
30	Work with Universities, landlords and letting agents to ensure students and tenants are aware of how to dispose of waste appropriately	Jan-17	Mar-17	Technical Team /Changeworks	Discussions underway with the Edinburgh University Students' Association; with a proposal developed on working with students on how to dispose of their waste appropriately. Discussions underway with the relevant Council services and Changeworks to identify landlords and letting agents, and work in partnership, to engage and inform tenants.	Open
31	Work with the Universities to investigate the potential for mini-CRCs in areas of higher student population around the beginning and end of the academic year	Mar-17	Mar-17	Technical Team	Links to the action above with the potential for mini-CRCs included in the proposal.	Open
32	Conduct a review of Waste and Cleansing resource requirements for the Edinburgh Festival and Fringe and implement the new requirements	Jul-17	Jul-17	Waste and Cleansing Operations	Work to commence on reviewing resource requirements for the Edinburgh Festival and Fringe. This will incorporate best practice from previous years.	Open
33	Work with Parks, Greenspace and Cemeteries colleagues to allocate staff and mechanical sweepers to tackle leaf fall during the autumn/winter months	Nov-16	n/a - complete	Cleansing Operations	Cleansing and Parks, Greenspaces and Cemeteries coordinated resources to concentrate on leaf fall for winter 2016. Leaf routes will be developed in Routesmart ahead of autumn 2017 to ensure leaf fall clearance is effectively managed in future years.	Achieved - monitor effectiveness
34	Work with Parks, Greenspace and Cemeteries to allocate resources to undertake a clearance of street weeds to allow for an effective base level to be treated going forward	Nov-16	n/a - complete	Cleansing Operations	Cleansing and Parks, Greenspace and Cemeteries are coordinating resources to address street weeds through a targeted blitz approach. The future management of street weeds will be through hand weeding and weed spraying.	Achieved - monitor effectiveness

Action Point	Action	Target Date	Forecasted Date	Lead Team	Comments	Status
Food Waste	<p>Waste Composition Analyses have shown that there is still a significant amount of food waste that is being sent to landfill. However, our success in recycling around 10,000 tonnes of food waste has placed strain on our current vehicles and meant that we need to equip our workforce to ensure that we can continue provide the best quality service to encourage increased use of this service. The procurement of new larger vehicles will assist with this aim.</p> <p>Anticipated Outcome Reduced missed collections and uncompleted food waste routes as of a result in increased productive time that has been created by a reduced need to tip midway through the shift.</p>					
35	Replace the existing 7.5 tonne vehicles with the purchase of 12 tonne vehicles to increase collection capacity and reduce the need for trips to tipping facilities	May-17	Jul-17	Fleet Services	The vehicles have been procured and expected delivery is June/July.	Open
36	Replace the existing 7.5 tonne vehicles with hired 10 tonne vehicles as an interim solution pending the arrival of the 12 tonne vehicles	Oct-16	n/a - complete	Fleet Services	There are currently three 10t vehicles hired as an interim solution however we will not be able to replace them all due to the short-term nature of the hire and therefore is not cost-effective	Achieved
Manual Street Cleansing	<p>Our manual street cleansing resource needs to be visible and effective and focussed on those areas where it is needed most at an appropriate frequency. We need to move to a model where brushes are used as the norm and there is less of a reliance on litter pickers.</p> <p>Anticipated Outcome A reduction in litter complaints and an improvement in our LEAMS score as a result of more effective manual sweeping in those areas where it is most required.</p>					
37	Conduct a review of all resources available to undertake manual sweeping and the current areas of deployment. Re-align routes to address hotspot areas where appropriate	Jan-17	n/a - complete	Cleansing Operations	An interim review of the manual sweeping routes has been carried out and routes re-aligned as appropriate. A full routing review will be undertaking as part of the wider roll-out of the revised Code of Practice of Litter and Refuse (COPLAR) and the associated rezoning exercise that will take place across Scotland (which impacts the cleanliness standard and response times for different types of areas).	Achieved - with additional activities underway
38	Identify options for the deployment of barrow beat staff and suitable accommodation for the employees and barrows in the immediate area	Nov-16	n/a - complete	Cleansing Operations	Routes have been identified for barrow beats, along with potential accommodation options. Further work is taking place to implement these routes.	Achieved - with additional activities underway
39	Procure replacement street cleansing vans that will allow crews to be properly equipped to be able to tackle all issues that they face during the working day	May-17	Dependant on Fleet Replacement Programme	Fleet Services	Work underway with Fleet Services to confirm the replacement requirements of all Cleansing vehicles. This has concentrated on the specialist vehicles first due to the additional lead time required for delivery and the annual financial limitations in place for vehicle procurement Council-wide.	Open
40	Introduce an effective post-work inspection regime to ensure that street cleansing is being delivered to the required standard	Nov-16	n/a - complete	Cleansing Operations	Supervisors are now undertaking daily post-work inspections of street cleansing with up to 25 a day carried out across the city with action taken to address those that do not meet the required standard. These are currently carried out using a paper-based system until the Code of Practice of Litter and Refuse (COPLAR) toolkit (including inspection forms) is put in place as part of the review of the Code of Practice referred to in Action 37.	Achieved - with additional activities underway
Mechanical Street Cleansing	<p>We have a significant amount of funding invested in large mechanical sweepers that can not access the areas where we need them. We need to reconfigure this fleet to provide more small mechanical sweepers that can operate on footpaths and in areas around parked cars.</p> <p>Anticipated Outcome An increase in small and medium mechanical sweepers will contribute to an improvement in our LEAMS score as well as improved customer satisfaction in recognition of the increased visibility of service.</p>					

Action Point	Action	Target Date	Forecasted Date	Lead Team	Comments	Status
41	Re-design mechanical sweeper routes to ensure that the fleet is being effectively utilised	Mar-17	May-17	Technical Team	Data gathered on the routes is complete, such as vehicle size to utilise in different areas and the frequency to sweep. Implementation of routes is dependant on uploading these to Routesmart; as these are new routes (rather than revised routes) the timescales of this are unknown.	Open
42	Reduce the fleet of large mechanical sweepers and procure additional small and medium sized sweepers to focus on pavement areas and streets with limited access	Mar-17	Jun-17	Cleansing Operations	The routing exercise in Action 41 will determine the number of sweepers required; with procurement following after.	Open
43	Reconfigure the current fleet to place additional mechanical sweeping resource into the night shift to make a more significant impact on those areas that can not be accessed during the day	Nov-16	n/a - complete	Cleansing Operations	Two nightshift staff members have been trained on the mechanical sweeper and will be allocated additional mechanical sweeping duties.	Achieved - monitor effectiveness
Litter Bin Emptying	<p>There are around 3000 litter bins in the city. We regularly receive complaints from members of the public regarding overflowing litter bins. We need to employ effective collection schedules that minimise complaints.</p> <p>Anticipated Outcome A reduction in the number of complaints regarding overflowing litter bins.</p>					
44	Adopt a standard of providing larger capacity litter bins where locations allow	Oct-16	n/a - complete	Cleansing Operations	A major review of bins in city centre has been carried out and a number of bins changed to larger capacity litter bins with housings. Protocol agreed to assess whether a larger bin would be suitable for the location when placing bins.	Closed - Ongoing
45	Continue with the trial of fill sensors to identify optimal collection schedules and trends relating to overflowing bins	Mar-17	n/a - complete	Technical Team	The trial of fill sensors continues . As outlined in Action 16, communal bins with unusual fill rates are being investigated for potential commercial waste abuse.	Closed - Ongoing
46	Procure replacement mini-RCVs for litter bin emptying to allow for a more reliable collection service	May-17	Nov-17	Fleet Services	Mini-RCVs are in the process of being procured. Tenders have been returned and are currently being evaluated.	Open
47	Provide a more joined up service in relation to the emptying of bins in parks, open spaces and cemeteries alongside street litter bins where appropriate	Dec-16	n/a - complete	Cleansing Operations	Agreement reached that Cleansing will be notified when events are taking place in cemeteries and parks and will require the emptying of bins at weekends.	Achieved - monitor effectiveness
Fly-tipping and Dumped Bulky Waste	<p>We have problems with many levels of fly-tipping, ranging from serious incidents as a result of organised crime through to dumped items of furniture around communal bins. We need to be better at removing this waste quicker and preventing future recurrences through engagement and enforcement efforts.</p> <p>Anticipated Outcome A reduction in the number of fly-tipping incidents reported by members of the public, and increase in the number of fly-tipping incidents reported by our own staff and an improvement in response times when removing fly-tipping. An improved special uplift service that encourages compliance with the law and not fly-tipping and an effective enforcement resource that gets positive results where required.</p>					
48	Undertake a review of the special uplift service with particular focus being placed on the charging structure (e.g. moving to a service that charges £5 per item) and opportunities to work with the voluntary sector to undertake collections	Jan-17	Apr-17	Technical Team	<p><u>Charging</u>: Change to £5 per item was implemented 23 January. The waiting time between booking an appointment and the uplift taking place is being regularly monitored and managed.</p> <p><u>Voluntary sector</u>: Feasibility study currently being carried out by Changeworks and AEA Riccardo via funding from Zero Waste Scotland. Positive discussions have taken place with a variety of charities to determine their interest and capability to work with the Council to undertake collections and increase the reuse of items. A findings report from this feasibility study is due and will be considered by management before progressing.</p>	Open

Action Point	Action	Target Date	Forecasted Date	Lead Team	Comments	Status
49	Improve information to residents on the disposal of bulky items and the opportunities for reuse and recycling	Dec-16	n/a - complete	Communications	The use of lamp post wraps in areas targeted through the 'Our Edinburgh' campaign and an increase in social media/media engagement continues to provide information to residents on disposing of their bulky items correctly. Results from the 'Our Edinburgh' phase in Leith indicate that although special uplift bookings across the city have decreased by 7% citywide (24% in Leith Walk ward) during the campaign compared to the previous month, contacts to the National Reuse helpline have increased by 16% citywide (39% in Leith Walk ward).	Achieved - with additional activities underway
50	Add additional resources into the existing special uplift service to minimise waiting times for residents	Oct-16	n/a - complete	Waste Operations	A review of current resources, and allocation of available appointments, for special uplifts has identified capacity to increase appointments to 25 per day per crew (resulting in a total of 50 appointments a day across the city). Additional resources were temporary added following the introduction of the £5 per item charge implemented through Action 48 to manage any increases in demand.	Achieved - monitor effectiveness
51	Add additional resources into Street Cleansing teams to focus on responding to fly-tipping complaints and removing waste in a more timely manner	Oct-16	n/a - complete	Cleansing Operations	Additional staff have been added to clearing fly-tipping activities.	Achieved - monitor effectiveness
52	Place a focus on increasing the number of incidents of fly-tipping that are proactively reported by Council employees versus those reported by members of the public	Oct-16	n/a - complete	Cleansing Operations	Frontline staff have been advised to report issues they come across if this cannot be dealt with immediately. In addition to this, the possibility of having the 'Love Clean Streets' app on all Council mobile phones is being investigated; this would all employees Council-wide to proactively report fly-tipping.	Achieved - with additional activities underway
53	Focus resources from the Environment Warden and Waste Compliance Teams on regularly investigating those incidents of fly-tipping where there is evidence to pursue and investigate options to use CCTV to enhance evidence gathering	Nov-16	n/a - complete	Environmental Wardens	Local Transport and Environment Managers to focus Environment Wardens on investigating fly-tipping. Refresher training will be arranged once a number of vacancies within the warden service are recruited into.	Achieved - with additional activities underway
Branding and Visibility	Our service needs to be visible and recognisable so that we are noticed for the good work that we do and not for failings in services. It is essential that residents and businesses know how to access our service and what we do. Anticipated Outcome Increased customer satisfaction in reflection of the improved visibility of our staff and vehicles.					
54	Ensure all staff are consistently wearing the correct PPE/uniform and area easily identifiable as Council employees	Oct-16	n/a - complete	Waste and Cleansing Operations	Specification of PPE has been outlined in the risk assessments. This is being enforced by management with any issues being actively addressed.	Achieved - with additional activities underway
55	Brand all newly purchased Waste and Cleansing vehicles so that members of the public can identify them easily	May-17	n/a - complete	Fleet Services	This is standard practice now when procuring new fleet, however branding requirements will also be built into the specifications for the new fleet.	Closed - Ongoing
56	Ensure that all contact channels that can be used to access the Waste and Cleansing service are well advertised and effectively monitored	Oct-16	n/a - complete	Customer Services	Review of reporting have been options undertaken. Website information revised where appropriate. Members waste account is in place and staffed by Customer Services staff.	Achieved - monitor effectiveness
Customer Service	The current customer journey is frustrating for residents and Elected Members. We need to ensure that we minimise failures in service, but when we can't then our customers need to be able to report issues easily and receive timely and relevant feedback. Anticipated Outcome Improved response times to enquiries and an increase in the percentage of contacts that are resolved at the point of contact by Customer Services colleagues. Simpler but more effective customer journeys that allow customers to report issues easily and receive timely updates.					

Action Point	Action	Target Date	Forecasted Date	Lead Team	Comments	Status
57	Co-locate staff from Customer Services and Waste and Cleansing Services to allow for quicker customer resolutions and reduced duplication	Nov-16	n/a - complete	Waste and Cleansing / Customer Services	Two Waste & Cleansing Officers now co-located, alongside a Support Officer, within the Contact Centre.	Achieved - monitor effectiveness
58	Provide Elected Members with key local contacts from the Waste and Cleansing service to allow to issues to be resolved routinely as required	Oct-16	n/a - complete	Waste and Cleansing Manager	Circulated as part of the wider Locality Directory.	Achieved
59	Carry out a review of the existing reporting processes and make improvements to allow for quick resolutions and accurate customer feedback	Jan-17	Apr-17	Customer Services	Quality Assurance Procedures are being put in place. Call allocations and call flows are being reviewed. New Stage 2 complaint investigation protocol established to ensure root cause is identified. A review of the process for addressing missed bins and complaints is underway through support from the Transformation Team.	Open
Communications and Behaviour Change	<p>Notwithstanding the importance of getting our operational services right, we need to engage the wider population of Edinburgh in playing a role in maintaining the quality of our local environment.</p> <p>Anticipated Outcome Increased advertising and media coverage of our campaigns alongside increased resident and business awareness of the importance of maintaining our local environment and how they can assist in doing so.</p>					
60	Continue to develop the 'Our Edinburgh' campaign to focus on social responsibility and community participation	Ongoing	Ongoing	Communications	Our Edinburgh' campaign continues to be developed. Initial focus was on litter in the festival, message testing in Leith to tackle trade abuse and latterly focusing on dog fouling and dumping in Gorgie/Dalry. The campaign has also been shortlisted for 2 Awards at the LEQ Awards (Local Environment Quality Awards) in the Campaign of the Year and Programme of the Year categories.	Open
61	Develop improved links with key partners such as the Business Improvement Districts, Commerce Groups and Community Groups to share key messages and raise awareness around waste management and street cleanliness	Ongoing	Ongoing	Technical Team /Localities	Waste and Cleansing Officers continue to develop working relationships with key partners including Business Improvement Districts, Commerce Groups, Community Groups, Housing and Environment Wardens to share key messages and raise awareness around waste management and street cleanliness	Closed - Ongoing
62	Establish a consultative forum with representatives from groups whom have an interest in the local environment to discuss current performance and customer perceptions and frustrations	Oct-16	n/a - complete	Waste and Cleansing Manager	The consultative forum has now been established. The first meeting took place on 16 December 16 with future meetings to take place quarterly.	Closed - Ongoing
Partnership Working	<p>We need to establish and maximise partnerships where there is the shared aim of improving the quality of Edinburgh's local environment and reducing the amount of waste sent to landfill.</p> <p>Anticipated Outcome We exploit more opportunities for external or joint funding for local environment improvement initiatives. We continue to work at a local level to understand the needs of our communities and accommodate these needs into service delivery schedules.</p>					
63	Clarify roles and remits for environmental issues with Locality Teams. Establish mechanisms for ensuring responsiveness to local priorities and hotspots and accountability for levels of service	Nov-16	n/a - complete	Technical Team	Agreement reached on roles and responsibilities for central and locality services with monthly meetings taking place between the central and locality Waste & Cleansing Officers.	Achieved - monitor effectiveness
64	Initiate dialogue with Registered Social Landlords regarding public realm management partnering arrangements	Feb-17	n/a - complete	Housing Services	Registered Social Landlords contacted to clarify responsibilities in regards to the management and maintenance of the public realm and discuss potential partnering arrangements.	Closed - Ongoing

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65	Continue to work with organisations such as Keep Scotland Beautiful, APSE and Zero Waste Scotland to explore opportunities for external funding and keep abreast of best practice within the sector	Ongoing	Ongoing	Technical Team	A bid to access ZWS funding for food waste communications was not progressed. As an alternative discussions are underway with the Council's food waste recycling partner to assist in funding communications activities to build on the positive performance improvements that the food waste service is showing. Continue to review opportunities for funding from Zero Waste Scotland and other bodies. Using Waste Managers network effectively to benchmark new initiatives and existing levels of service.	Closed - Ongoing