



Kim Webber B.Sc. M.Sc.
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Monday, 21 October 2019

TO: COUNCILLORS

Dear Councillor,

Please see attached responses to the questions raised under item 6 A at the meeting of **COUNCIL** held on **WEDNESDAY, 16 OCTOBER 2019**.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Kim Webber', written over a horizontal line.

Kim Webber
Chief Executive

6. **TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 10.2 QUESTION & RESPONSES** 931 - 932

We can provide this document, upon request, on audiotape, in large print, in Braille and in other languages.

For further information, please contact:-
Jacky Denning on 01695 585384
Or email jacky.denning@westlancls.gov.uk

AGENDA ITEM 6

TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 10.2

1. Damaged Wheelie Bins – Questions received from Councillor Jane Thompson

- a. *How many residential wheelie bins used for general waste; recyclates; or green waste have been damaged during the bin emptying/collection process and had to be replaced as a result since 1st October 2018? I believe new bins were bought 18 months ago by the Council that are not up to the same standard.*
- b. *What is the total cost to the council of replacing the bins/lids damaged and replaced at a) above?*
- c. *What is the total cost charged to residents of West Lancashire for replacing the bins damaged and replaced at a) above?*
- d. *What steps the council has or will take to ensure that this problem does not continue to occur?*
- e. *How many new bins have been reported damaged by the bin wagons and how many reported to customer services over the last year and a half?*

Response

Since October 2018, a total of 642 bins have been reported as damaged. It is not possible to identify how many of these relate to damaged lids, this is total that includes bins that have split or have damaged wheels. It is also not possible to identify how old these bins are, if they are from the new supply or bins that were issued many years ago.

There is no charge to a resident when there is evidence that a bin has been damaged during the collection process.

Discussions have taken place with the supplier and samples of bin lids have been taken away for analysis. It appears that there has been a design change to the bin lid, which may be a contributing factor to the lid failing. The supplier has now redesigned the lid and has agreed to supply and fit the new redesigned lid to bins in stock at the depot. Any damaged bins replaced, where possible, are repaired and returned to stock.

The supplier has confirmed that their bins are tested to EN840 Standard Quality and additionally they are subjected to a drop test.

The Council will continue to deal with any enquiries received from customers or reported by staff.

2. Treasury Management Income – Questions received from Councillor David Whittington

- a. *In percentage terms, how was the Treasury Management income in 2018/19 split between the GRA & the HRA?*

The income was split HRA 50.0%, GRA 50.0%.

- b. *What were the percentages for 2017/18?*

The income was split HRA 44.4% GRA 55.6%.

- c. *Approximately what would be the percentages if all other factors remained the same, but the rate of return increased to, say, 3% per annum due to a change in our approach to risk when investing cash?*

The percentage split of income between the GRA and HRA wouldn't change as they are not determined by the rate of return.

- d. *Why do the percentages change with the amount of interest earned & how is the split calculated?*

The income credited to the HRA is calculated based on the value of its cash balances during the year multiplied by the average rate of return earned on investments. Similarly the income credited to the GRA is based on the value of its cash balances multiplied by the average rate of return on investments.