

Frequently Asked Questions

Proposed changes on the collection frequency of household beige bins
for paper and cardboard

Why has the Council decided to reduce the collection frequency of the beige bin for paper and card?

Over the years, we are seeing a significant reduction in the purchase of newspapers, as news becomes readily available on our screens, and the same applies to paper in general. When our crews visit properties in Bolton, they are seeing many beige bins that are not full. This doesn't deliver maximum efficiencies for the service, particularly when considering the cost of operating a bin wagon and the associated carbon footprint. Since 2017/18, the amount of paper collected from households has reduced on average by around 14 kilograms per household per year.

Can a resident who needs support still get assistance with their bins?

Yes, if a resident has assistance with their beige bin now, this service will continue.

Is there a risk of increased fly tipping with a four-weekly collection?

Incidents of fly tipping are managed in line with the statutory processes available to the Council. Any reports of fly tipping should be logged on the [Council's website](#). The most common fly tipped items are bags of general waste, furniture and business waste – not paper from households.

Could I request a second beige bin as a result of the proposed monthly collections?

In line with the current processes for grey bins, the council proposes to allow residents to [request a waste audit](#) where the council can provide residents with information and advice on recycling. This audit may result in a resident being approved for a second beige bin, subject to the resident paying an admin and delivery fee.

How do these collection changes support our climate change ambitions?

These changes will reduce the carbon footprint of the service. We will have fewer vehicles operating across the borough which means a reduction in fuel usage. We expect to see a more efficient service both financially and from a climate change perspective.

Can the service increase beige bin collections over Christmas to ensure that all recyclable materials are actually recycled?

The service tends to see a slight increase in paper recycling tonnages over the 2-week period following Christmas. The household waste recycling centres are open over the holiday period, with the exception of Christmas Day and New Years Day. There are a number of social media posts planned for Bolton residents reminding them of accepted recyclables over the holiday season.

Will there be a reduction in green bin waste collections?

The green bins are also used for food and garden waste. There is already a reduction to the green bin service over the holiday service. It is not advised to reduce this service further.