



Oadby & Wigston

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Dear resident,

This letter is to inform you of an upcoming change to our household bin collection schedule, effective from Monday 2nd September, 2024.

Following a review of our waste collections, we will be moving to an **alternate weekly** schedule with general waste taken one week and recycling the following.

Here's what you need to know:

- New collection dates will be posted to you in August, clearly outlining your specific household collection days for both general waste and recycling bins.
- We encourage you to prepare by **reducing, reusing, and recycling** as much as possible
- You can buy a bigger black household waste bin for £38, if you need one
- By March 2026, we expect to be introducing a weekly food waste collection, a new service that all councils are currently preparing for.

If you are interested in paying £38 to swap for a bigger black household waste bin, we strongly encourage you to trial the new system first to see how you get on – you will be able to pay for a swap later.

If you are certain you will need a bigger black bin when the scheme starts, you will need to request and pay for your swap in our early bird window between 20th May and 5th July. This will allow us to purchase the correct number of bins and deliver them before 2nd September.

The quickest and easiest way to book a bin swap is online at www.oadby-wigston.gov.uk/waste. If you are unable to submit your request online, you can also call us on 0116 288 8961.

We're making these changes for several important reasons:

- **Environmental responsibility:** Less frequent collections mean fewer collection vehicles on the road, a significant reduction in harmful emissions and a smaller carbon footprint, helping us to achieve our Net Zero goals
- **Saving money:** By streamlining our collection process, we can reduce operational costs, ensuring a sustainable council in the long run
- **Preparing for the future:** The Government is planning to introduce mandatory weekly food waste collections in the near future. New regulations will also see packaging reduced and a consistent approach to recycling introduced across the UK. The changes we are making now will allow us to adapt our system efficiently when that time comes.

Thank you for your support,

Yours faithfully,

Anne Court – Chief Executive

Samia Haq – Council Leader

Frequently asked questions

How does an alternate household weekly waste service work?

Currently residents have their black general waste bin and recycling bin collected every week.

From 2nd September, residents will have their black general waste bin collected one week and their recycling bin collected on the following week... and so on in that continuing pattern.

From 2nd September, what day will my waste/ recycling be collected? Can I find out early?

You will receive another letter in August to advise you of your collection dates – **please do not contact us to ask for your dates before then** as we won't have the information available.

Are garden waste, medical waste or assisted collections affected?

If you have specialised medical waste or assisted collections booked with us, they will continue. We don't anticipate any change to your garden waste collection dates.

Can I put additional waste out by the side of my bin?

Additional large cardboard can be flattened and left next to your recycling bin for collection on your recycling week.

Please do not leave any other additional general / landfill waste or recycling out by your bins as we are unable to collect this.

Can I have multiple waste or recycling bins?

We are not able to offer additional bins to residents. Our routes are optimised for maximum efficiency and we are unable to increase the number of bins we collect.

Do you recommend paying the £38 to swap for a bigger black household waste bin?

We strongly encourage residents to see how they get on in the first few weeks, before deciding if they wish to pay £38 for a bigger black bin swap. Everything that goes into your black bin goes to landfill and this is something we all want to see reduce.

We appreciate that some residents will be certain they want a bigger black household waste bin for 2nd September, which is why we are offering the early bird window from 20th May to 5th July. From 14th October, six weeks into the new scheme, this will be made permanently available to everyone.

For more FAQs and information, visit www.oadby-wigston.gov.uk/waste

