



Garden waste collections - temporary suspension of service (Review: June 2020)

Due to the uncertainty surrounding the impact of Coronavirus (Covid-19), the council has taken the reluctant decision to temporarily suspend garden waste collections for a period of up to three months with effect from Monday, March 23.

Why are these changes happening?

The spread and severity of the virus is unknown. What is clear, is that it is widespread and accelerating in spread. We do not know exactly how many people may need to self-isolate and/or will contract the virus and exactly how they will be affected. We have reluctantly taken this decision in order to safeguard other collections.

We apologise to everyone affected by this.

Can you guarantee the suspension will work?

By not collecting green waste, we expect that we will free up crews and vehicles to enable us to complete domestic, glass, cans and plastic, paper and card and trade waste collections to schedule.

Are you the only local council taking this action?

No. Copeland council has already suspended its garden waste collections. They had been due to resume following the winter break but, as a result of the flexibility required to deliver core services when staff are unavailable, they did not restart.

Carlisle City Council has also suspended its green waste collections until further notice. In addition, it has stopped taking bulky household waste collection bookings.

What should I do with my green waste?

We very much encourage home composting as an alternative option while this suspension is in place.



Compost bins can be purchased from <https://getcomposting.com/composters/> at a reduced [cost](#)

How long is the suspension in place?

The suspension is in place until further notice but we aim to resume collections as soon as possible. We will review the situation in June.

Can I get a Council Tax refund?

Unfortunately, this is not possible because Council Tax is a local taxation that is used to fund services such as education, police, planning, etc.

Allerdale bills on behalf of the county council, police and parishes as well as for its own share of the tax.

As a form of taxation, the payment of Council Tax is not contingent on the regular delivery of services and therefore residents cannot withhold payment in respect of the Council Tax they are liable for.

We would like to remind residents of the importance of keeping payments up to date to avoid the legal consequences of non-payment.

Will this increase fly tipping?

We'd encourage everyone to dispose of their waste appropriately as fly-tipping is anti-social and an offence.

This is only a temporary measure and we are doing what we can to limit the impact on the public. However, we apologise for any inconvenience.

Are other collections affected?

No. We are doing this in order to help protect other regular collections, such as domestic waste.

What are the implications for the council's budget?

There will be a limited impact on the council's recycling budget, due to the tonnages of waste that will not be collected, meaning recycling credits cannot be claimed.