Request for Information from Candidate

Issue	Candidate	Response Date
Kerbside Collection	All Candidates	9 October 2007

Issue	Kerbside Domestic Waste Collection and Rubbish Bags	
Candidate's name	All candidates	
Request for information	See information below	
(issue or question)		
Date of response	9 October 2007	
Response provided		
	To: Candidates	
	From: Mark Christison, City Water and Waste Unit Manager	
	Christchurch kerbside domestic waste collection and rubbish bags	
	There has been recent publicity around the future use of the black bag for the collection of household rubbish. A decision on this has yet to be made by Council.	
	Last year the Council set up the Zero Waste Working Party to work with staff on the implementation of the Council's Waste Management Plan 2006 including the introduction of a new kerbside domestic waste service.	
	The Council is progressing through a process to introduce this service. Earlier this year, staff worked through an interactive process with prospective contractors.	
	Two months ago month tender documentation was issued for contracts to collect and process Christchurch's domestic waste and included requirements for:	
	1. A household kerbside service including a fortnightly collection of recyclables, a weekly collection of organics (food scraps and green waste) and a fortnightly collection of residual rubbish.	
	2 . Organic processing including the design, build and operation of an organics processing facility (composting plant).	
	3. Recycling processing including the design, build and operation of a materials recycling facility.	
	The results of the tender are expected to be presented to Council and contracts awarded in December 2007. A staged rollout of services is currently planned to start in February 2009.	
	The Council agreed through the 2006 Waste Management Plan for the use of wheelie bins in the collection of recyclables and organics.	

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At this stage no decision has been made about the use of wheelie bins or user-pays black bags in the collection of residual rubbish.
However, evidence both nationally and overseas, and comments made by very experienced contractors during the interactive tender process indicate the long-term use of rubbish bags is not sustainable because of the health and safety of the collector.
The future of the black bag will be something for the Council to take account of when it considers the proposals received through the tender process.
More information Mark Christison, City Water and Waste Unit Manager tel: 941 6231