

## Recycling efforts to increase

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From autumn next year not only will Herefordshire residents keep their weekly plastic sack rubbish collection but the kerbside recycling service will be extended to cover nearly every property.

Recycling will be collected every fortnight and can be mixed together in a wheeled bin that will be provided free of charge to each household. In this bin people will be able to put plastic, cans, paper, cardboard and, for the first time, glass. Glass makes up a significant percentage of recycling that is currently not collected. The reason the council has to move to wheeled bins is that plastic sacks are clearly not safe when collecting glass and by using a bin we will save the production of 2.25 million bags every year.

Of course there are some properties that simply could not use wheeled bins and the council will continue to collect recycling from these households in a plastic bag. However, this will be a very small minority of properties and it is expected that the vast majority to use the wheeled bin.

Councillor John Jarvis, Herefordshire Council's cabinet member for the environment and strategic housing, said: "We will also make sure we help anyone who has difficulty in presenting their rubbish and recycling at the kerbside. In these cases we will agree with each resident a place from which our staff will collect their rubbish and recycling to make sure they have the chance to participate in this really important area of our work.

"We are not proposing to bring in any draconian measures to force people to recycle. Rather we are seeking to make it as simple and easy as possible. If, however, we do not achieve our recycling targets – 40 per cent rising to 50 per cent in a few years – then we will, as a county, face very heavy penalties indeed. So it is vital we have your support as we roll out this new service in the autumn of next year," he added.