

Wheeling out the wheelie bins

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Herefordshire council is pleased to announce that county residents are to get exactly what they asked for when consulted about the new waste collection contract.

Following extensive public consultation, it was clear that the people of Herefordshire wanted to keep their weekly collections, so they are being retained. Furthermore they said they wanted to recycle more so we are also making it easier for them to do this by adding a fortnightly collection of recyclable materials, using wheeled bins. Councillor John Jarvis, Herefordshire Council's cabinet member for the environment and strategic housing, said: "This comes at a cost and we are delighted to announce the contract has been awarded to Focsa and pleased we will be continuing to enjoy the good service we currently get and build on our existing good relationship.

"Throughout the tendering process Focsa showed they could provide a high quality service with excellent value for money for the council tax payer.

"I would urge residents to look out for future updates about the new system and also let them know that their collection date and times may change during this process but they will be informed nearer to the start time about this," he added.

Focsa will operate the new contract starting in November 2009 and it will involve weekly collections of household waste in refuse sacks as well as a fortnightly collection of recyclable materials using a wheeled bin.

The fortnightly collection will take all sorts of recyclable materials, including glass, from the doorstep of more than 95 per cent of homes in the county.

The contract has been awarded for a seven year period and residents will be kept updated on progress towards the new system.