



Press Release

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Free, weekly food waste collections coming to Fenland in 2026

National food waste changes designed to help residents recycle more and reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill are coming to Fenland next summer.

Fenland District Council is launching free, weekly food waste collections in June 2026 to meet new Government legislation, which requires all councils to introduce separate food waste collections next year.

The new service will allow people in Fenland to recycle their food waste for the first time, turning leftovers, peelings, and other food scraps into renewable energy and fertiliser for farmers. It will also free up space in household green bins and, with weekly collections, there'll be less smell from rotting food too!

Recycling food waste also reduces the environmental impact of sending waste to landfill, where food breaks down and produces harmful greenhouse gases.

The Government has provided full funding for the service – including for new collection vehicles and food waste bins – so there will be no strain on local taxpayers as a result.

Cllr Steve Tierney, Fenland District Council's Portfolio Holder for waste and recycling, said the new food waste collections are a win-win, and hopes residents will embrace the service.

"We have a fantastic waste and recycling service here in Fenland, and these new food waste collections will make it even better," he said.

"Around a third of the waste currently in our green bins is food waste – much of which can be recycled. By introducing free weekly collections, we're not only meeting national requirements, but helping people recycle their food waste in an environmentally friendly way while freeing up space in their green bins.

"The service is completely optional too," he added. "Residents can decide whether to take part, but we're confident that once people try it, they'll see how simple and beneficial it is."

In preparation for the new service, households will receive two new food waste containers: a five-litre indoor caddy to collect food waste in the kitchen and a small 23-litre outdoor food waste bin, plus a roll of caddy liners. The outdoor bin will be emptied every week on the same day as current blue and green bin collections.

The roll-out of the service will be in two phases, with food waste collections for flats and other communal properties launching later, in winter 2026.

Further information will be provided in the coming months to help residents get ready for the new service. In the meantime, answers to frequently asked questions can be found on the Council's website at: fenland.gov.uk/foodwaste

Ends