

CHRISTMAS REFUSE COLLECTION ARRANGEMENTS 2008/09

1. CHRISTMAS REFUSE COLLECTION

1.1 The Portfolio Holder for the Environment proposes to revise the refuse collection arrangements for Christmas 2008 and New Year 2009 in order to accommodate Public Holidays on Thursday 25 December 2008 (Christmas Day), Friday 26 December 2008 (Boxing Day) and 1 January 2009 (New Years Day). The proposed refuse collection arrangements are as follows:

Monday 22 December 2008	Normal MONDAY Collection
Tuesday 23 December 2008	Normal TUESDAY Collection
Wednesday 24 December 2008	Normal WEDNESDAY Collection
Thursday 25 December 2008	No Collection
Friday 26 December 2008	No Collection
Saturday 27 December 2008	No Collection
Sunday 28 December 2008	No Collection
Monday 29 December 2008	Normal MONDAY Collection
Tuesday 30 December 2008	Normal TUESDAY Collection
Wednesday 31 December 2008	Normal WEDNESDAY Collection
Thursday 1 January 2009	No Collection
Friday 2 January 2009	Double THURSDAY Collection
Saturday 3 January 2009	Double FRIDAY Collection

1.2 These proposed arrangements will have the following effect:

REFUSE COLLECTION DAY	REVISED ARRANGEMENTS
MONDAY	No Change
TUESDAY	No Change
WEDNESDAY	No Change
THURSDAY	No collection on 25 December 2008 or 1 January 2009. Double collection Friday 2 January 2009.
FRIDAY	No collection on 26 December 2008 Double collection on Saturday 3 January 2009

1.3 The revised refuse collection arrangements for Christmas 2008 have been agreed with Trade Union representatives. There is an additional holiday for New Forest District Council staff on Wednesday 24 December, but the Council's refuse collectors have agreed to work on that day.

2. REASON

2.1 Disruption to refuse collection at Christmas is unavoidable because of the Public Holidays on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day. For 2008/09 there are Public Holidays on Thursday 25 December 2008, Friday 26 December and Thursday 1 January 2009. The Waste Disposal sites will be closed on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day. The proposed revised refuse collection arrangements will inconvenience some New Forest residents but disruption to services at Christmas time is inevitable. These revised arrangements minimise disruption and allow the refuse collection service to get back to normal as quickly as possible. Normal collections resume on Monday 5 January 2009.

3. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

3.1 Two alternatives have been considered:

3.1.1 Collecting refuse on some or all of the Public Holidays. This would require staff to work all or some of the holidays. There would be practical difficulties in providing a refuse collection service on these public Holidays, such as missed collections, problems gaining access to residential areas, noise and disturbance. Refuse collection could only be provided on Public Holidays if Hampshire County Council agreed to open the waste disposal sites. The waste disposal sites are usually closed on Public Holidays.

3.1.2 Putting back refuse collection and catching up on the first three Saturdays in January 2009. This would mean that nobody would miss a refuse collection, but that everybody would have their refuse collection delayed. Refuse collection for all residents would be put back by up to 3 days and the normal pattern of refuse collection would not resume until Monday 19 January 2009.

Signed CLLR E J HERON

Date: 20th June 2008.

Cllr Edward Heron
Portfolio Holder for the Environment

Date on which notice given of this Decision - 20 June 2008

Last date for call-in - 30 June 2008