

To ALL Central Bedfordshire Town and Parish Councils

Dear Chairman / Clerk

I am writing to make you aware that the kerbside collection of household garden waste will be suspended from Monday 5 December 2016 until Friday 24 February 2017.

This week we are publicising the suspension and encouraging residents to check their last collection date, which will be either the week commencing Monday 21 or Monday 28 November.

The decision to stop the kerbside collection service during the quietest time of the year for garden waste was made as part of the Councils' financial planning process and comes as a result of Government funding cuts. Council Tax alone doesn't raise enough to cover the services the Council provides and so we are focusing on tailoring services to meet periods of high demand, in this case during the growing season.

A press release will be sent out today (Thursday 27 October) and regular social media posts and email bulletins will remind residents of their last collection dates. A page on the website provides details of the suspension and encourages residents to check their collection dates and links to the bin collection calendar. This can be accessed via a short link www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/garden-waste.

A bin hanger with a reminder about the suspension and a list of household waste and recycling collections over Christmas will be delivered to all households between Monday 14 and Friday 24 November.

During the suspension, green waste can be recycled at Household Waste Recycling Centres and we are urging residents to help out any neighbours who do not have access to transport. For details of opening times and up to date information about the redevelopment of the Leighton Buzzard site please visit www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/tidy-tips.

Where residents have enough space in their gardens, they are encouraged to compost at home. For those that want to give home composting a go, subsidised compost bins and accessories are available through Central Bedfordshire Council. Residents can purchase a 220 litre compost bin and get it delivered to their home for as little as £13 (plus £5.99 delivery). Please visit www.getcomposting.com or call 0844 571 4444 quote reference CBC12L for more details.

For more information about the suspension, please visit www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/garden-waste.

Kind regards

Ian McMurdy
Waste Awareness Officer
Waste Services