

38895 Waste and Recycling Services Strike Impact

Questions on costs:

Were the waste and recycling collection people / companies employed by Edinburgh Council paid more or given Time Off In Lieu for working on the Public Holiday, 19th September?

Any staff working a bank holiday receive double-time or single-time and a day in lieu.

If so, what was the offer made regarding time off?

One day if they wished to take a day in lieu.

Also, if so, what was the estimated additional cost?

The estimate is £15,966.20, as most people took the double-time option. This value was taken from the mid-scale point.

Have the waste and recycling collection people / companies employed by Edinburgh Council been paid any overtime or received additional payments for clearing the backlog of waste and recycling as a consequence of the strike?

How much?

The clear up was mainly undertaken during the normal working week for employees. There was limited overtime worked during the weekends following the strike action.

The estimated cost is £18,698.55 for the work over the weekend. This value is based on the mid-point.

Questions regarding recycling:

Will it be possible to determine any change in the amount of landfill versus recycling as a consequence of the strike?

If so, can it be quantified?

I am thinking along the lines of variance in total lorry loads between the start of the strike and having finally caught up (which clearly has not finished yet), or tonnes per week extra or fewer in landfill and recycling (so that an estimate can be made of how much recycling has gone to landfill as a consequence.)

No. We do not have the information as of the date of this request.

Ideally, can the variance in quantities by mass or volume per type of material be determined at the recycling centres as a consequence of the strike and catch-up period?

No. We do not have the information as of the date of this request.

If it is too soon for this information to be determined, will it be possible to find out and can you suggest when and who to contact?

We do not have the information as of the date of this request. Information may be available November 2023. Please submit an FOI request towards the end of November.

Question regarding lessons learned sharing policy:

If the impacts of the strike on recycling in Edinburgh can be determined, will this be made available for publication so that citizens and other local authorities can prepare for and respond to future suspensions of waste and recycling services?

We are not aware of plans to make the impact of strike being made available to the public. Lessons learned are captured and shared with other Local Authorities through the Waste Managers' network.