

UNISON REPORT FOR ECF 4/7/06

Vehicle Flexibility Within The Waste Department

The lack of flexibility when producing a service to every residential property of the Borough has now become more critical. Due to the fact of vehicle parking, new builds with limited access and existing roads without parking restriction the need for 'flexibility' within the department is a non starter and makes the required collection service on the correct day almost impossible to achieve. The extra burden of time and damage to both footways and vehicles is on the increase and this then leads to low morale for the staff working at the sharp end of the service together with frustrations of the operation management teams who find themselves inundated with MVM complaints to resolve relating to the implementation of the (complaints missed collection) organic collection.

Both Unison and the GMB raised the issue for the need of a narrow access vehicle to assist and carry forward the service to the narrow areas of the Borough, this has never been addressed or resolved. Now we are moving towards the change in frequency. The vehicle problem is still at the forefront of the issues we have now. The service is changing and the need for more flexibility within the vehicles contract is required to address the government land fill tax allowance schemes and reduce serious financial implication that these have on the Waste Service within Harrow.