

Council-provided black waste sacks to be phased out in Herefordshire

[Herefordshire Council website](#)

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Herefordshire Council has reluctantly taken the decision to stop supplying black refuse sacks to residents this autumn. The move will save the authority, being squeezed by severe cutbacks in government funding, £200,000 a year; it will cost households less than the price of a pint of beer to buy 52 black sacks to last 12 months.

The decision also means the council can continue to provide weekly refuse collection to residents across the county.

“We’ve found that due to the high levels of recycling in Herefordshire, residents were often only leaving out half-filled black sacks each week,” said council leader, Councillor John Jarvis. *“By the time you take into account the cost of buying the black sacks, advertising in the local media and having them delivered, the cost was more than £3 per property,”* he added.

“Residents buying their own black sacks can now decide how many they need depending on how much waste they produce and people can buy a year’s supply of 52 black sacks from local supermarkets for as little as £1.69”.

It will also mean a greener county - delivery vans distributing the black sacks travel around 22,400 miles, which is nearly the circumference of the earth at the equator, and pump out an estimated ten tonnes of carbon.

Herefordshire Council now falls into line with the majority of councils locally and nationally which require residents to buy their own black waste sacks.