



# Rubbish and Recycling Collection Data

Supporting Document





## Introduction

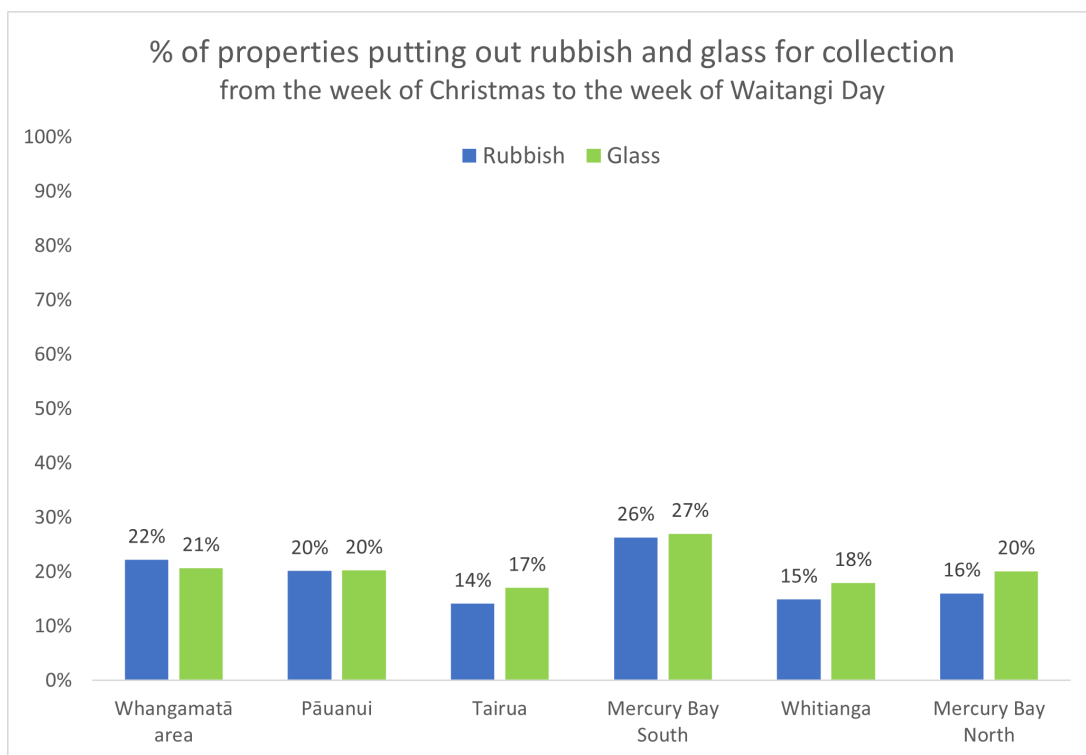
This document provides additional details on the proposal to reduce peak summer rubbish and glass recycling collections in our Eastern Seaboard communities from twice per week to once per week. We have been monitoring how many properties put out rubbish and glass for pick up over the peak summer period, and have found that on average, less than half of our properties are making use of each collection. As a result, we are proposing to change the frequency of collections over the peak period from twice weekly to weekly. Our analysis indicates that this change would optimise service efficiency, reduce environmental impacts, and lower costs while continuing to meet community needs.

*Note: After publication of our consultation documents, we noticed an error in our kerbside rubbish and glass collection data calculations. The error does not affect the proposal we are consulting on, but we want to ensure our community has accurate information, so we have amended the graphs throughout this document.*

## Key Findings

### 1. Current Collection Usage

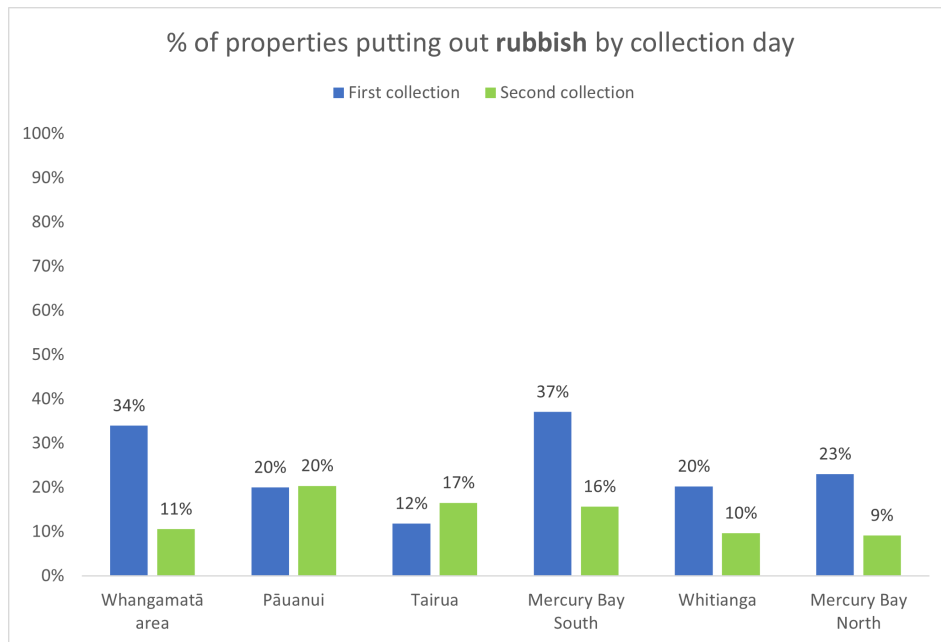
Our data shows that the second collection during the peak period is often significantly under-utilised. On average, **less than 50%** of properties use the collection service, regardless of what day the pick-up is (see Graph 1). This suggests that the overall demand for twice-weekly collections is lower than initially anticipated and supports a shift to a single weekly collection.



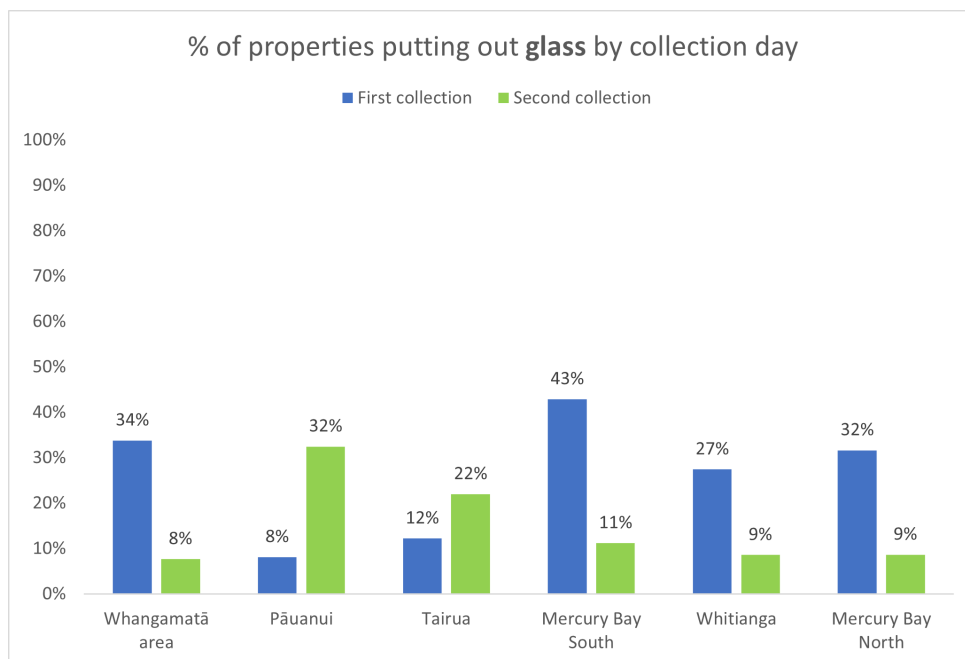
*Graph 1 – Percentage of properties putting out rubbish and glass each collection from week of Christmas to week Waitangi Day (on average)*

In most areas, the average percent of bins presented for the second pick-up is much lower than for the first pick-up. Graphs 2 and 3 show what percentage of properties use the first and/or second collection each week (averaged across the peak period).

Graph 2 – percentage of properties putting out **rubbish** on the first and second collection days, from week of Christmas to week Waitangi Day (on average).



Graph 3 - percentage of properties putting out **glass** on the first and second collection days, from week of Christmas to week Waitangi Day (on average).



This information suggests that many residents and visitors already manage their waste effectively with a single weekly collection.

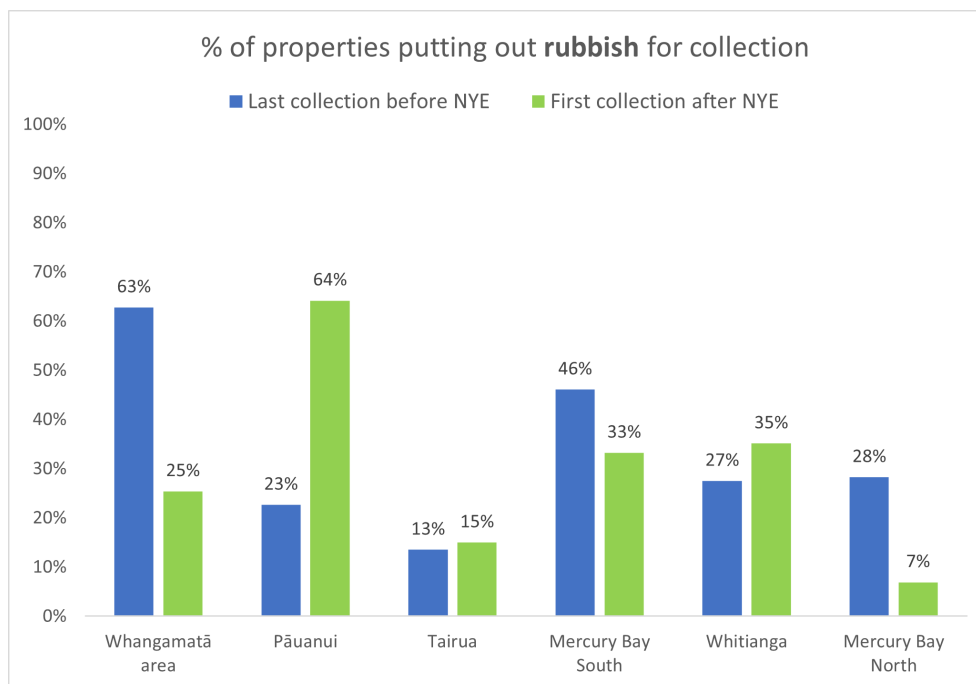
## 2. Uptake Over New Year's Eve Week

Our waste collection monitoring results show a noticeable increase in bin usage during the New Year's Eve week. This is not unexpected as this week is one of the busiest of the year for many of our Eastern Seaboard communities.

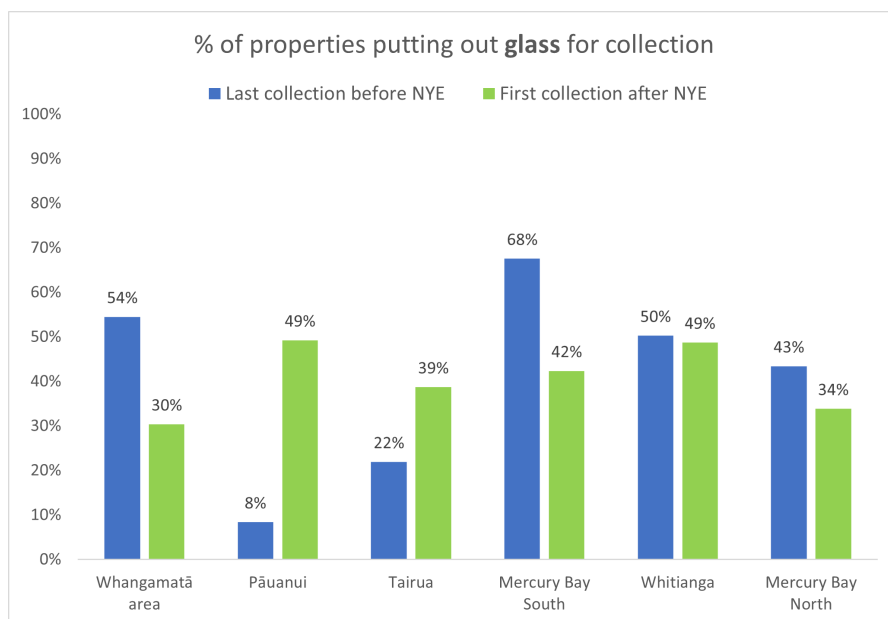
While this period sees a temporary spike, most east coast communities still saw less than 50% of properties using the rubbish and glass collections. The exceptions were Whangamatā and Pāuanui, where 63% and 64% of properties respectively put out rubbish for collection in the week of New Years Eve, while 68% of Mercury Bay South put out glass for collection (see Graphs 4 and 5). This tells us that demand is greater in the few days *before* New Years Eve.

We don't think the temporary spike in Whangamatā, Pāuanui and Mercury Bay South means that maintaining twice-weekly collections for the entire peak summer season is justified from a cost perspective. We think that a single weekly collection can accommodate demand, and other options remain available to people, including using our Refuse and Recycling Transfer Station (RTS) facilities and. However, we'd like to hear whether you feel the same.

*Graph 4 – percentage of properties putting out **rubbish** for collection, before and after 2024-25 New Years.*



Graph 5 – percentage of properties putting out **glass** for collection, before and after 2024-25 New Years.



### 3.Environmental and Financial Benefits

#### *Lower Carbon Emissions*

Fewer truck trips will reduce fuel consumption and emissions, supporting the Council’s climate objectives.

#### *Cost Savings for Ratepayers*

Read through the consultation document for a full breakdown of reducing the collection frequency or maintaining the status quo.

The proposal to decrease the collection frequency would result in an average rate reduction of \$33.33 per household, with the eastern seaboard areas seeing even greater savings.

These savings will mostly stem from reduced contractor costs associated with the second collection.

This rates reduction accounts for the slightly reduced amount of income we would receive from the sale of bin tags.



### ***Encouraging Better Waste Habits***

The reduced collection frequency encourages responsible waste management and better recycling habits in our communities. It improves efficiency for our communities and contractors, including being cost efficient.

Of course, alternative disposal options such as our Refuse and Recycling Transfer Stations remain available daily for residents with higher waste needs.

We welcome feedback on this proposal and encourage residents and ratepayers to share their thoughts before finalising any changes.