

PROVISION OF RECYCLING BRING BANK SITES

Submitted by: T Nicoll

Portfolio: Environment and Recycling

Ward(s) affected: All

Purpose of the Report

- To provide background to the current Recycling Bring Bank Service.
- To review locations and material collected at Recycling Bring Banks within the Borough, including opportunities to achieve further performance and financial advantages.
- To agree an appropriate level of future service provision.
- Agree the contractor/s involved with the collection of materials.

Recommendations

(a) That Cabinet agree with the redevelopment of Bring Sites as detailed within the report.

(b) That the range of material collected from the Bring Site includes paper, mixed glass, cans, plastic on all site and where possible textiles, WEEE and cartons.

(c) That the Executive Director (Operational Services) be authorised to enter into agreements with the contractors detailed in this report and align with the extension of the Council kerbside recycling and treatment contracts until July 2016.

(d) That a project budget as detailed is agreed to deliver cost savings through new agreements, site improvements and servicing.

Reasons

- To provide a significant financial saving to the Council over the next four years.
- To provide the security of an established and productive contractual arrangement and guarantee the associated level of service and investment.
- To provide a stable platform to enable the Council to maintain and develop the recycling and waste service and to further increase its recycling rates.

1. Background

1.1 The council's current recycling and waste strategy has been prepared following the principles agreed by Cabinet in October 2007 and consultation with stakeholders. It sets out the direction for the Waste Management services up to 2016. The strategy was prepared taking account of national guidance (Waste Strategy for England 2007) and the 'principles and policies' set out in the Integrated Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent (2020 Vision). Within these Strategies and the new government 'Waste Review 2011' there are requirements to provide residents with recycling facilities away from the home.

1.2 The Council currently provides 18 bring sites across the borough, however the types of materials and the quality of the infrastructure varies across these sites.

2. **Issues**

- 2.1 Currently we have a number of contractors collecting material from these sites on various formal and informal arrangements. The service received varies greatly and there is limited power to enforce an improved service from them. This variable service can include failure to empty the containers in a timely manner, provision of unsuitable containers, lack of management and site information and failure to cleanse the site after collection.
- 2.2 The general appearance of a number of some sites is poor; this includes the provision of old containers, cluttered sites due to multiply containers for the same material; and poor general signage. On this basis within the next year some investment would be required by the Council even if collection arrangements did not change.

Newcastle under Lyme Bring Sites Tonnages by material type 2010/2011

Bring Site	Paper	Mixed Cans	Plastics	Glass
Audley – Nantwich Road	13.26	2.23	N/A	20.73
Clayton - Clayton Road	12.90	1.57	2.27	7.19
Crackley Birch House Road	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.742
Keele Campus – Barns Hall	2.86	N/A	N/A	2.38
Keele Students Union	5.63	0.26	0.56	3.33
Keele Hawthorns – Keele Village	1.80	0.28	0.46	2.87
Kidsgrove Main Tesco Store	46.66	4.54	3.93	50.33
Knutton – High Street	10.51	1.50	1.50	10.55
Loggerheads – Eccleshall Road	15.56	0.72	N/A	14.58
Wolstanton Marsh - Jubilee Road	37.83	1.85	4.96	28.10
Milehouse – Morrison’s	33.69	2.74	N/A	25.44
Newcastle - Sainsbury’s	23.63	1.26	1.83	19.96
Newcastle – King Street	10.39	0.66	1.39	13.03
Newcastle - Morrison’s	44.71	2.26	N/A	43.49
Silverdale – Bath Road	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.33
Bring Site	Paper	Mixed Cans	Plastics	Glass
Silverdale – The Parade Shops	26.13	2.57	4.72	22.92
Talke Pits – Freeport Centre	4.37	0.04	1.10	8.28
Wolstanton – Asda Morris Square	8.65	N/A	N/A	N/A

Wolstanton – Asda off A500.	31.41	1.64	2.73	31.75
Totals	329.99	24.12	25.45	303.13

Materials currently collected from these sites account for in the region of 3% of the Councils overall recycling performance.

3. Proposal

It is proposed to undertake a full programme of container replacement and site design. The table at the end of this section details what material may be collected at each site.

3.1 Review of Site Location

A review of site locations and usage has determined that in most cases the sites are correctly located and are serving residents of the borough well. During the review we have taken in to account reports from residents or site owners that leave us with the following proposal.

- **Morrisons, Milehouse Lane** - bring site to be relocated within the car park away from residential properties.
- **Freeport Centre, Talke Pits** - bring site to be relocated within the car park to a more prominent site, to increase usage and security.
- **Keele** - currently there are three bring site at Keele, (Student Union, Hawthorns Halls of Residence and Barns Hall) we are working with the University to develop one single site which would be easy to access by both residents and students.
- **Crackley, Birch House Road** - currently only glass is collected at this site and the tonnage is extremely low. Due to issues on the site we are looking at other locations in the general area.
- **Silverdale, Bath Road** - currently only glass is collected at this site and the tonnage is extremely low, it is suggested that this site is removed. The next nearest site is in the village centre at The Parade.
- **Madeley** - currently there is no bring site in the northwest region of the borough, we are currently looking for a suitable site in the Madeley area.

This proposal would result in a net reduction of two bring sites across the borough; however there would be improved access for a number of residents once a new location in Madeley can be identified. This is demonstrated by the 'Map of Bring Site Locations' included with this report.

3.2 Review of Materials collected on Site

Over the last few years, material presented at the bring sites has been monitored and reviewed and a number of trials undertaken with the reprocessor for the collection of additional material at some locations have been carried out.

Glass – currently glass collected at our bring sites is separated into three colours, this does not reflect the kerbside service and involves having three different containers for glass at the bring site and specialist vehicles are required to collect the material from our sites. If

collected mixed glass is collected at the bring sites this would align the services and reduce space requirements at each site.

Small WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment) (such as radios, toasters, kettles and hairdryer) – Work is ongoing with Cannock Chase and East Staffordshire Council on a small WEEE trial on three of our bring sites. If this trial is successful and if the contractor is willing to continue to provide the service free of charge, it is proposed to continue to collect this material on a limited number of sites. If this service is not provided much of the material will be presented in the household bin thus increase our waste figures.

Cartons – We are currently half way through a trial with Tetra Pak on five site across the borough. If this trial is successful and if the contractor is willing to continue the provision of the service free of charge we propose that we continue to collect this material on a limited number of sites. The provision of collection points for this material is important as currently the material is not collected at the kerbside.

Textiles – We currently collect textiles across the borough via our kerbside collections however over the last couple of year we have been experiencing a large volume of this material being stolen when it is present at the kerbside, due to its value. In addition there is an ongoing issue with rogue textile operators placing banks on both private and public land across the borough. Most of these banks are operated by illegal companies, and the banks are of a poor and potentially unsafe design. Officers work hard to ensure that these banks are removed as soon as possible however it is sometime not possible, and in many case the banks have already collected significant amounts of valuable of materials

We propose to work with Wilcox Textiles, in Bilston, who are the UK leading textile reprocessor employing over 400 staff and have thousands of banks UK wide. Wilcox will provide the latest design textile banks that are designed with smaller apertures to reduce access and no side opening thus removing opportunities for someone to gain access to the bank. We will also be in full control of the livery of the bank provided to us, so residents will be able to clearly identify official textile banks. Wilcox is also able to provide the council with clear audit routes for all material collected to end markets.

3.3 Linking to Kerbside Service

Following the extension of kerbside recycling to 2016 it is now possible that core bring site materials of paper, mixed glass, plastic and cans can be collected by Acumen Distribution and bulked via their waste transfer station. The service will be managed by a variation to the main contract and this will reduce the risk of poor service that we sometime receive from our current contractors.

The proposal is that the bring sites will be emptied regularly (either weekly or fortnightly) depending on volumes, thus reducing the number of containers required on each Bring Site. At each visit the operative will also be required to undertake a general inspection, cleanse the site were possible or report any large issue back to the Council.

3.4 Communication to Residents

It is proposed that once we have completed the roll out of new containers and signage at all sites, and a borough wide communication programme is carried out highlighting this improved service. To aid communication and uniformity we propose to introduce 'Euro' bins with different coloured lids for paper, glass, plastics and cans; and specially designed containers for textile, cartons and WEEE. This would include a detailed leaflet being sent to all households in the borough. We will also update and enhance details about the bring site on the Council website and partner site Recycle for Staffordshire.

Table of proposed Material streams at each location.

Bring Site	Paper	Mixed Cans	Plastics	Glass	Textiles	Cartons	WEEE
Audley – Nantwich Road	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Crackley	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Clayton - Clayton Road	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Keele Campus	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Kidsgrove Main Tesco Store	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Knutton – High Street	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Loggerheads – Eccleshall Road	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Wolstanton Marsh - Jubilee Road	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Milehouse – Morrison’s	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Newcastle - Sainsbury’s	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Newcastle – King Street	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Newcastle - Morrison’s	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Silverdale – The Parade Shops	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Talk Pits – Freeport Centre	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Wolstanton – Asda Morris Square	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Wolstanton – Asda off A500.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

4. **Outcomes Linked to Sustainable Community Strategy and Corporate Priorities**

4.1 The proposals relate to the effective delivery of the improved collection arrangements for bulky waste items, which would contribute to the following:

- Creating a Cleaner, Greener Safer Borough
 - Action to ensure waste is minimised, recycled and reused.
- Transforming our Council to Achieve Excellence
 - Action to manages the Council's finances so that it has enough resources to deliver its priorities
 - Action to ensure that resources follow priorities

5. **Legal and Statutory Implications**

5.1 The Councils Legal and Procurement teams, have reviewed the proposals and advised that due to the level of spend and nature of the risks there would not be a need to undertake a full procurement process including formal tenders, however there will be a need to ensure that we are achieving 'Value for Money' for the service and the Council, as part of the supplier engagement process and that officers ensure that formal agreements are in place. Agreement with Acumen will be as an amendment to main dry recycling kerbside collection contract.

5.2 The Landfill Directive (99/31/EC) requires a reduction in bio-degradable waste to be landfilled by 75% in 2010, when compared against the 1995 level.

5.3 The waste strategy is designed to increase recycling and therefore meet the legislative requirements without incurring financial penalties. The Government's Waste Strategy requires 40% of domestic waste by weight to be recycled by 2010 and 50% by 2020.

5.4 The Environmental Protection Act 1990 empowers the Council as a Waste Collection Authority to direct householders how to present waste.

6. **Equality Impact Assessment**

6.1 An Equality Impact Assessment was undertaken in 2008 the service has not changed since then. A number of the issues that were identified will be resolved with the change of service. It is proposed that a further assessment should be undertaken once the service is in place.

7. **Financial and Resource Implications**

7.1 Financial implications are based around the cost of providing the service and excluding recycling credits as this income will be retained by the Council, however with a re-launch of the service it is likely that tonnages at the bring site may increase thus increasing further income from recycling credits.

7.2 The cost of providing the current bring site service is budgeted at £45,961 for the current year, which is likely to increase in future years.

Material	Annual Cost
Paper	£0
Plastic	£34,177
Glass	£4,734
Cans	£7,050
Total	£45,961

- 7.3 Initial discussions have taken place with Acumen Distribution, regarding them undertaking the collection of paper, glass, cans and plastics from all bring sites in the borough. Acumen have advised they would be willing to undertake the collection from bring sites for free of charge for the next four year until July 2016 to mirror the kerbside contract. For this Acumen Distribution will retain all income from the sale of these materials; and any risk of changes in volumes or income from this material will fall on them. They would also support the Council with the change over of containers with both staff resources and a one off payment of £15,000 towards the cost of new containers. At the end of the contract period all purchased containers would remain in the Council ownership. As detailed above the council currently pays approximately £45,961 for this service.
- 7.4 Initial discussions have also taken place with Wilcox Textiles who have indicated that they are willing to provide specialist textile containers free of charge and would pay the Council £370 per tonne of textiles. This figure would vary depending on the market rate of the material however it will remain a positive amount.
- 7.5 We are currently in discussion with the collection contractors for WEEE and Cartons, and if these trials are successful it is envisaged that these material will be collected free of charge.
- 7.6 There will be additional one-off infrastructure costs associated with the change of containers, securing containers and signage at the bring sites. It is estimated that this is likely to be approximately a one off cost in the region £40,000, this will be met via the £15,000 payment from Acumen, £10,000 remaining from a LSPG2 grant already secured by the Council and £15,000 from the first year revenue savings for this service.
- 7.7 Undertaking this proposal will provide the council with a revenue saving of £30,000 in 2012/13 and further ongoing annual savings of £45,000 in 2013/14, 2014/15 and 2015/16, a total saving of £165,000 over four years.

8. **Major Risks**

- 8.1 The majority of the major risks associated with the decision to change the Council Recycling Bring Site Service have been transferred to the contractor, however the major risks are considered to be:
- Change in European and National Waste Strategy.
 - Failure to continue to provide value for money from contractors.
 - Failure to obtain a high quality service from contractor.
 - Contractor failure through financial difficulties.
 - Major changes in the recycling markets in terms gate fees and material value, most of this risk would be transferred to contractor.

9. **Key Decision Information**

- The decision is one that would affect all wards and has a significant positive budgetary implication for the Council. It has therefore been included on the Forward Plan.

10. **Background Papers**

Textile Bring Bank Specification

Paper, glass, can and plastic Bring Bank Specification

Map detailing Bring Bank Location.