

# FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

## Report to Streetscene Policy Development and Review Panel

**Date**                **7 September 2017**

**Report of:**        **Director of Operations**

**Subject:**           **ANNUAL REPORT ON RECYCLING**

### **SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to provide information on the performance of the recycling facilities offered by the Council to residents of the Borough.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

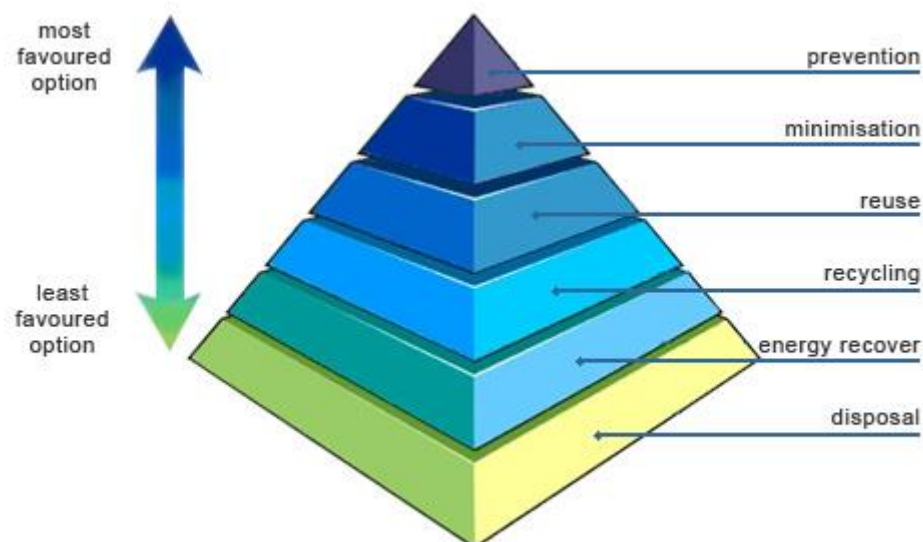
That members note the contents of this report.

## INTRODUCTION

1. Fareham Borough Council collects recycling at the kerbside (in the blue top bins and garden waste sacks), and through a network of bring bank sites (mainly glass and textiles).
2. For the last few years the Council has maintained a position whereby 33-35% of the total domestic waste generated is sent for recycling or composting. This is one of the highest rates in Hampshire. As well as the environmental benefits, the Council receives a significant income from the sale of materials sent for recycling.
3. The waste disposal and recycling facilities are managed through the Project Integra partnership, comprising Hampshire County Council (HCC), all of the waste collection and unitary authorities in Hampshire, together with Veolia Environmental Services. Almost all of Hampshire's residual waste is now incinerated at an energy recovery facility (ERF) which generates electricity from the process.

## THE WASTE HIERARCHY

4. The Waste Hierarchy establishes a priority approach to waste, to protect the environment and conserve resources through policy and legislation.
5. The best environmental option is to prevent the waste arising, for instance using left-over food rather than throwing it away. Further down the hierarchy, re-use saves the energy required to recycle something into a new product.
6. The Waste Hierarchy



## **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

7. Talks and events are held as requested, to promote recycling and waste prevention and these are provided by the Council's Recycling Co-ordinator. Groups visited over the last year include FBC Tenants and Leaseholders Forum, residents groups, and schools. A day of workshops was run at Fareham Academy as part of Year 7s Citizenship Day.

## **WASTE PREVENTION**

8. The Project Integra Waste Prevention Plan aims to reduce waste generation levels, to be more in line with the England average. The HCC area has one of the highest rates of residual waste generated per household of any shire county, and Southampton and Portsmouth City Councils have some of the highest of England's unitary authorities.
9. Waste prevention activities will reduce collection and disposal costs. These activities also have a positive knock-on effect of increasing recycling tonnages, due to the increased publicity. It is very difficult to quantify the amount of waste avoided by prevention or minimisation measures, since by definition, if waste has been prevented it is not there to weigh.
10. The main priorities for the Waste Prevention Plan are to:
  - reduce avoidable food waste focussing on the Love Food Hate Waste campaign
  - increase home composting
  - promote furniture reuse organisations for bulky waste
  - develop a central website to promote examples such as the Mail Preference Service, reusable nappies and smart shopping
11. The work to reduce food waste complements Fareham's work in this area. Following the successful bid to Sainsbury's for funding, a temporary Project Officer has been appointed to work with local residents, schools and Housing providers, focussing on Round 4 in the south Fareham area.
12. There is evidence that people do not realise how much food they actually waste, so the work will encourage people to keep a simple diary for a week, and note down all the food they throw away. Tips and recipe ideas will be shared on the web and social media.
13. A competition will be held for children to design a take-out bag, for local restaurants to offer diners to take left-overs home. Pop-up displays will be held outside blocks of flats, in school playgrounds at the end of the school day, and at Community Centres.
14. In May, HCC staff held a home composting exhibition at the Council Connect stand in Fareham Shopping Centre. They spoke to a lot of people, and signed up about 35 people to receive a free composter. For a number of years Hampshire residents have been able to buy reasonably price composters.
15. To reduce bulky waste, some councils in Hampshire, including Fareham, are helping residents divert furniture to re-use organisations. When a resident calls to book a bulky waste collection, they are offered a phone number of a local charity who will collect the item for re-use, if the item is in good condition.

16. The Smart Living website has been developed to promote the Mailing Preference Service and re-usable nappies, as well as ways to avoid food waste and repair clothes. <https://www.hants.gov.uk/wasteandrecycling/smartliving>

### KERBSIDE RECYCLING

17. The Council continues to collect paper, card, tins, cans, aerosols and plastic bottles from all households in the Borough. The amount of contamination in recycling bins is one of the lowest in Hampshire. This relates to the wrong materials put in the recycling bin; either as the result of misunderstandings about what can be recycled, or a handful of residents misusing the bin for domestic waste.

### GARDEN WASTE

18. The Council collects one sack of garden waste fortnightly from all households, at no extra charge. Residents wishing to dispose of additional garden waste can purchase disposable bags at a cost of £25.00 for 25 bags, or £6 for 5 bags. This covers the cost of collecting and disposing of the extra material.

### RECYCLING BANKS

19. There is a network of 34 bank sites across the Borough, for recycling glass bottles and jars. In addition, 20 blocks of flats have small glass recycling banks.

20. There are 37 textile recycling banks across the Borough. There are a mix of banks on public land run under contract to the Council, and those on private land provided by charities.

21. There are a few recycling banks for books, CDs and DVDs, which are operated by charities to collect these materials for sale in their shops.

### RECYCLING STATISTICS

22. The tables below show a comparison of recycling figures from the year 2014-15 and 2015-16.

<b>Statistic (total tonnage)</b>	<b>Apr-Mar 14/15</b>	<b>Apr-Mar 15/16</b>	<b>Apr-Mar 16/17</b>
Overall Recycling %	35%	33%	33.6%
Total Recycling Tonnage	12290	11990	12222
Total Residual Tonnage	22899	24410	24129

<b>Breakdown of Recycling Tonnage</b>	<b>Apr-Mar 14/15</b>	<b>Apr-Mar 15/16</b>	<b>Apr-Mar 16/17</b>
Recycling (blue top bin) total tonnage	6970	6876	6742
Bring Bank Glass total tonnage	2029	2089	2102
Textile bank total tonnage	248	244	267
Garden waste total tonnage	3924	3782	3969
Paper bank total tonnage	74	35	0
Book bank total tonnage	75	63	58

23. The overall Recycling Rate has increased slightly, mainly because of an increase in tonnages of garden waste and glass collected. The paper banks have been removed, due to the downturn in the recycled paper market, which is partly as a result of the reduction in sales of print newspapers.

24. Oxfam removed their book bank in February 2016, because their book-shop was unable to handle the capacity. Material reused through charity shops is not measured.

## **INCOME**

25. The income derived from the sale of recycling materials is passed back to each authority according to the tonnages collected, and the market price of each material. In the financial year 2016-17, Fareham Borough Council received over £280,000 from the sale of recycled materials sent to the MRF. This sum is derived from a profit share arrangement with Veolia Environmental Services whereby 50% of the sale proceeds from dry mixed recyclables is allocated back to participating councils in proportion to the tonnages collected.

26. Over £44,000 has been generated from the sale of textiles collected from blue banks across the Borough. The amount received from the sale of glass and textiles has increased slightly from the previous year, due to stability in the markets and slightly increased prices for recyclables. Full details of all income received from recycling for the last five financial years can be found at Appendix A.

27. In addition to income from sale of materials, Recycling Credits are paid to waste collection authorities (WCA) by their waste disposal authority (WDA). The WCA receives Credits in direct proportion to the saving of cost that would otherwise have been incurred to dispose of the material as waste. The Council receives Recycling Credits from Hampshire County Council for glass and textiles collected from bring bank sites. The current rate is £44.60 per tonne, a rise of 3% on last year.

## **RISK ASSESSMENT**

28. There are no significant risk considerations in relation to this report.

## **CONCLUSION**

29. The Council currently provides a variety of recycling services that have both environmental and financial benefits. Through Project Integra, the Council regularly reviews the type of recycling services it can provide, giving due consideration to issues of sustainability and affordability.

30. Waste prevention is an important way of stopping material which still has value from entering the waste stream. This is an increasing focus of work for both Fareham Borough Council and Project Integra.

### **Background Papers:**

None

### **Reference Papers:**

None

### **Enquiries:**

For further information on this report please contact Sue Hand. (Ext 4554).

**Summary of Income and Credits Received for Recycling for the Last Five Financial Years**

	<b>2012-13</b>	<b>2013-14</b>	<b>2014-15</b>	<b>2015-16</b>	<b>2016-17</b>
Sale of material from the MRF	£300,300	£297,880	£230,347	£234,467	£284,267
Sale of glass	£26,369	£56,081	£40,049	£15,056	£18,286
Glass recycling credits	£76,286	£72,220	£69,463	£72,715	£75,839
Sale of Textiles	-	£78,506	£81,918	£44,173	£44,405
Textile recycling credits		£4,877	£6,880	£7,381	£5,795
<b>Total</b>	<b>£402,955</b>	<b>£509,564</b>	<b>£428,657</b>	<b>£373,792</b>	<b>£428,592</b>