

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to Streetscene Policy Development and Review Panel

Date **23 October 2014**

Report of: **Director of Environmental Services**

Subject: **ANNUAL REPORT ON RECYCLING PERFORMANCE**

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

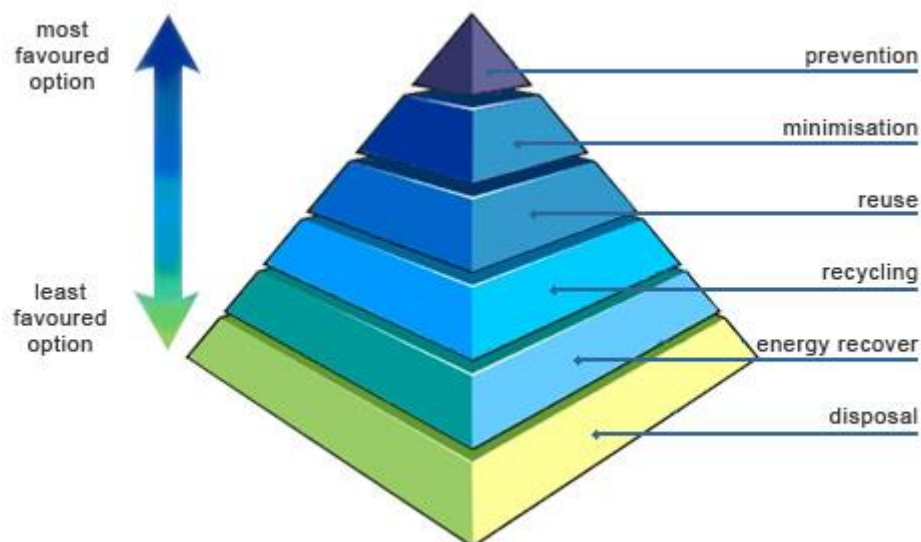
That members note the contents of this report.

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 approximately 36% of the total domestic waste generated is sent for recycling. This is one of the highest rates in Hampshire.
3. This has both environmental and financial benefits. The Council receives a significant income from the sale of materials sent for recycling.
4. The waste disposal and recycling facilities are managed through Hampshire County Council in partnership with all of the waste collection authorities in Hampshire, working together with Veolia Environmental Services.

THE WASTE HIERARCHY

5. The Waste Hierarchy is a process used to protect the environment and conserve resources through a priority approach established in waste policy and legislation. It has been part of the European Union's Waste Framework Directive since 1975 and in 2008 the stepped process outlined in the pyramid diagram below was introduced. As well as recycling, there are benefits to avoiding the waste arising in the first place.
6. The best environmental option is to prevent the waste in the first place, for instance using left-over food rather than throwing it away. If waste is re-used, it saves the energy required to recycle something into a new product. Re-use might include giving away a wardrobe for someone else to use. It is better to incinerate the remaining waste with energy recovery, than landfilling it.
7. The Waste Hierarchy



8. The Waste Hierarchy can be applied to Fareham's waste arisings. The table below shows the proportion of Fareham's waste according to the treatment of it, for the year 2013-14.

Treatment Option	Percentage of total waste
Re-use (books, shoes and some textiles)	0.6 %
Recycling (includes other textiles, blue top bin, glass, paper and garden waste)	34.84 %
Energy recovery (includes refuse, rejected recycling, bulky waste, street sweepings, fly tipped waste)	56.56 %
Landfill (includes waste from HWRC and bottom ash)	8 %*
Total waste	100 %

(*landfill figure is estimated for Fareham as data is only available for Hampshire)

9. Almost all of Hampshire's residual waste is now incinerated with energy recovery. General waste from the Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC) and bottom ash from the incinerators are landfilled. This waste is very difficult to apportion to each individual Borough Council. Across Hampshire, only 8% of the whole County's waste is landfilled.
10. 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.
11. Approximately 70% of textiles collected are reused with the remainder being recycled into new products and non-recyclable items being sent for energy recovery. Due to the nature of collections and the individual makeup of the textiles collected, it is difficult to apportion the exact re-use and recycling amount. Therefore, Hampshire County Council categorise textile bank material as recycling within the waste hierarchy. This ensures that all textiles collected contribute towards the Recycling Rate.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

12. A number of talks and events are held to promote recycling and waste prevention. Love Food Fareham workshops have been held at sheltered accommodation complexes and community centres to raise awareness of food waste. The Project Integra Education Officer works with schools to promote recycling, and liaises closely with the Council to deliver consistent messages.

WASTE PREVENTION

13. In June 2014 the Project Integra Strategic Board approved the Waste Prevention Plan. If waste is prevented, the cost of collecting, transporting and disposing of that waste is avoided.

14. The main priorities for the Waste Prevention Plan are to:

- increase home composting
- reduce avoidable food waste focussing on the Love Food Hate Waste campaign
- develop a central website to promote examples such as the Mail Preference Service, reusable nappies and smart shopping
- promote furniture reuse organisations for bulky waste

KERBSIDE RECYCLING

15. All households in the Borough have access to a fortnightly collection for the following materials:

- **Paper** - Including yellow pages. Shredded paper cannot be collected as it gets blown around in the sorting plant, and can also clog the machinery.
- **Card** - Soiled cardboard such as take-away pizza boxes cannot be recycled.
- **Food tins and drink cans**
- **Aerosols**
- **Plastic bottles** - No other sort of plastic, such as yoghurt pots and food trays are currently accepted.

16. The materials are taken to the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in Portsmouth, where they are sorted and sent for re-processing into new products.

17. Recycling must be placed loose in the bin, not in bags, as staff at the MRF are unable to see if there is potentially hazardous material in them. The only exception is clear plastic bags, because staff can see if they contain recyclable materials. Clear plastic bags are sent out on request to residents waiting for a recycling bin, or who occasionally have a large amount of recyclable material. Residents are permitted two recycling bins if required.

GARDEN WASTE

18. The Council collects one sack of garden waste fortnightly from all households. Residents wishing to dispose of additional garden waste can purchase disposable bags at a cost of £22.50 for 25 bags, or £5.50 for 5 bags.

19. No income is received by the Council for the recycling of garden waste; however, the tonnage is included in the recycling figures. In the first five months of the current financial year (April-August 2014) a total of 2089 tonnes of garden waste was collected.

GLASS RECYCLING BANKS

20. There is a network of 31 glass bring bank sites across the Borough. In addition, 15 blocks of flats have small glass recycling banks. Approximately 2,000 tonnes of glass is collected per annum.

CLOTHING AND TEXTILE RECYCLING BANKS

21. Since April 2013, clothing and textile recycling banks on public land in Fareham have been managed by the European Recycling Company (ERC), under a four year contract with the Council.

22. There are 29 textile recycling banks across the Borough, and along with those on private land provided by charities, residents have access to 40 such facilities. In the year to March 2014, 252 tonnes were collected. The banks are performing equally well so far this year.

PAPER RECYCLING BANKS

23. There are eight paper bank sites around the Borough, operated by Palm Recycling. Since the last report, the contractor has imposed a cost of £10 per tonne collected. Previously there was no cost to operate them. No income is received for the paper. This is due to changes in market conditions and a reduction in the amounts collected. It is reviewed on an annual basis.

24. Most of the material can be put in the blue top bin at home. As well as paper and card, the banks provide a disposal route for large cardboard and shredded paper. In the last year (2013-14), 84 tonnes of paper and card was collected for recycling, which contributes to the Recycling Rate.

RECYCLING BANKS FOR BOOKS, DVDS AND CDS

25. There are nine recycling banks across the Borough operated by charities to collect these materials for sale in the charity's shops. Weights collected contribute to the Recycling Rate.

RECYCLING STATISTICS

26. The tables below show a comparison of recycling figures from the year 2012-13 and 2013-14.

Statistic (total tonnage)	Apr-Mar 12/13	Apr-Mar 13/14
Overall Recycling %	36.74%	35.44%
Total Recycling Tonnage	13671	13594.7

Breakdown of Recycling Tonnage	Apr-Mar 12/13	Apr-Mar 13/14
Recycling (blue top bin) total tonnage	7453	7171
Bring Bank Glass total tonnage	2004	2025
Textile bank total tonnage	262	252
Garden waste total tonnage	3812	3991
Paper bank total tonnage	81	84
Book bank total tonnage	58	71
Shoe bank total tonnage (separate banks on private land)	1	0.7

27. The overall Recycling Rate has reduced by 1.3% compared to the previous year. This is due to the total amount of residual waste collected increasing, whilst the amount of recyclables collected has reduced slightly. Tonnages of glass collected for recycling have remained about the same.

28. The increase in residual waste collected along with the reduction in the Recycling Rate is a trend seen across the Project Integra partnership, and nationally across the UK.

INCOME

29. The income derived from the sale of recycling materials is allocated back to each authority according to the tonnages collected, and the market price of each material. In the financial year 2013-14, Fareham Borough Council received nearly £300,000 from the sale of recycled materials sent to the MRF.

30. Over £78,000 has been generated from the sale of textiles collected from blue banks across the Borough. Full details of all income received from recycling for the last four financial years can be found at Appendix A.

RISK ASSESSMENT

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

CONCLUSION

32. The Council currently provides a variety of recycling services that have environmental and financial benefits. However, market prices do vary and, as a result, the levels of income are not guaranteed.

33. Through Project Integra, the Council regularly reviews the type of recycling services it can provide, giving due consideration to issues of sustainability and affordability.

34. The Council continues to work with community groups to promote recycling and waste minimisation, whilst making efficient use of current resources.

Background Papers:

None

Reference Papers:

None

Enquiries:

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

Appendix A

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

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Sale of material from the MRF	£213,539	£376,372	£300,300	£297,880
Sale of glass	£34,370	£20,095	£26,369	£56,081
Glass recycling credits*	£79,021	£66,143	£76,286	£72,220
Sale of Textiles	-	-	-	£78,506
Total	£326,930	£462,610	£402,955	£504,687

*Recycling credits are paid to waste collection authorities (WCA) by their waste disposal authority (WDA). The WCA receives recycling credit in direct proportion to the saving of cost that would otherwise have been incurred to dispose of the waste. The Council receives recycling credits from Hampshire County Council for glass, paper and textiles collected from bring bank sites.