

## JOINT WASTE DISPOSAL BOARD

### NOTICE OF MEETING

THURSDAY 2 0000 2021

**TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE JOINT WASTE DISPOSAL BOARD**

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Joint Waste Disposal Board on **Thursday 2 December 2021 at 9.30 am** . An agenda for the meeting is set out overleaf.

Oliver Burt  
Re3 Strategic Waste Manager  
and Project Director

#### **Members of the Joint Waste Disposal Board**

Councillor Mrs Dorothy Hayes MBE, Bracknell Forest Council  
Councillor John Harrison, Bracknell Forest Council  
Councillor Adele Barnett-Ward, Reading Borough Council  
Councillor Tony Page, Reading Borough Council  
Councillor Parry Batth, Wokingham Borough Council  
Councillor Gregor Murray, Wokingham Borough Council

#### **EMERGENCY EVACUATION INSTRUCTIONS**

**If you hear the alarm:**

- 1 Leave the building immediately**
- 2 Follow the green signs**
- 3 Use the stairs not the lifts**
- 4 Do not re-enter the building until told to do so**



If you require further information, please contact: Hannah Harding  
Telephone 01344 352308  
E-mail: [hannah.harding@bracknell-forest.gov.uk](mailto:hannah.harding@bracknell-forest.gov.uk)





category of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972:

- (3) Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person.

8. **DATE OF THE NEXT BOARD MEETING**

3 March 2022

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**JOINT WASTE DISPOSAL BOARD  
7 SEPTEMBER 2021  
(9.30 - 10.36 am)**

Present: Bracknell Forest Borough Council  
Councillor Mrs Dorothy Hayes MBE  
Councillor John Harrison

Reading Borough Council  
Councillor Adele Barnett-Ward  
Councillor Tony Page

Wokingham District Council  
Councillor Parry Batth

Officers           Monika Bulmer, re3 Marketing & Communications Officer  
Oliver Burt, re3 Strategic Waste Manager  
Andy Edwards, Reading Borough Council  
Kevin Gibbs, Bracknell Forest Council  
Sarah Innes, Reading Borough Council  
Jayne Rowley, Reading Borough Council  
Damian James, Bracknell Forest Council  
Richard Bisset, Wokingham Borough Council

Apologies for absence were received from:

Councillor Gregor Murray, Wokingham Borough Council

**37. Election of Chairman**

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Mrs Hayes MBE be elected Chairman of the Joint Waste Disposal Board for the municipal year 2021/22.

**38. Appointment of Vice-Chairman**

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Page be nominated Vice Chairman of the Joint Waste Disposal Board for the municipal year 2021/22.

**39. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**40. Minutes of the Meeting of the Joint Waste Disposal Board**

The minutes of the meeting of the informal Joint Waste Disposal Board held on the 17 June 2021, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**41. Urgent Items of Business**

There were no urgent items of business.

**42. Progress Report**

The Board received a report on progress in the delivery of the re3 Joint Waste PFI Contract.

The report covered:

- re3 and Council Performance Statistics
- Rigid Plastics Recycling Trial
- e3Grow
- Communications
- Bike Reuse

Sarah Innes reported the performance statistic for all three Council, the provisional recycling rates for April to July were:

BFC – 58.3%

RBC – 52.9%

WBC – 56.7%

It was noted that as expected all three recycling rates were higher than the previous year, which was due to the changes that all three Councils had made to their kerbside collections earlier in the year.

The recycling rates for the re3 recycling centres were 67.84% at Longshot Lane and 72.10% at Smallmead, this was lower than the previous year, but it was thought that this was due to the amount of residual waste being collected. However, across all three Councils there was a reduction in the rates from the previous year in the amount of residual waste being collected, which showed that the recycling changes were having a positive impact. The recycling rate for Longshot Lane was lower, this was due to the way in which the rate was calculated, and it was expected that this would level up over the coming months.

Contaminated waste in the kerbside mixed recycling was starting to slightly increase in Bracknell, a close eye would be kept on this in the coming weeks. A breakdown of materials found in the sampling results varied and the data would be circulated with the Board.

Following a successful sale of re3grow compost in 2020/2021, the re3 Project Team planned to increase the order to 10,000 bags of 40L compost for the next year. The compost was set to arrive early Spring 2021. As requested, the Marketing and Communication Officer would strengthen messages about the composting process, focusing on the peat-free quality of re3grow compost and would explain further to residents, the cost structure, showcasing that the price per bag had been calculated to cover the costs of producing and supplying the compost only. Communications would be ready for sign off by Christmas and would be publicised prior to residents being able to purchase the compost.

There was not a link between the green waste recycling issues and being able to produce the re3grow compost. Members would be receiving briefings by their Council's on the green waste recycling.

At the Joint Waste Disposal Board Meeting in June 2021, Officers reported that a rigid plastics recycling trial would commence at both Recycling Centres in early July. The purpose of the trial was to enable the costs and benefits of the service to be assessed. The trial was still ongoing but it was reported that 33 tonnes of rigid plastics had been sent for recycling in the first six weeks. There had been positive feedback from the offtaker about low levels of contamination. The costs of recycling the rigid plastics were presented in the report, and officers were liaising with the Contractor to optimise the haulage of the material and would be presenting the

conclusions of the trial during the next meeting in December. It was expected that the cost of the haulage could be reduced during the trial. There was not a correlation between the amount of waste produced and cost, as the price was linked to the transportation of the waste. Currently during the trial light load had been transported but it was thought that this could now be increased.

Members had previously requested that the Partnership explore the purchase of products that could be used to purposefully demonstrate the circularity of the recycling process. Officers have liaised with the hard plastics reprocessor and confirmed that it would be possible, but the details had not yet been provided. Officers reported on the development of an online calculator for re3 residents at the JWDB in June 2021. The calculator illustrated the importance of collective and consistent action in helping to achieve necessary climate change adaptations. The Calculator was now being advertised on the social media and newsletters and Members and officers were encouraged to share the link whenever appropriate.

re3 Officers and Contractor were currently preparing for the installation of England's first retrofittable AI-powered robotic waste picking system, at the Material Recycling Facility in Reading. The recycle-picking robot, known as Recycleye Robotics was able to perform the physical tasks of identifying, picking and placing materials at a rate of 55 successful picks per minute making it extremely efficient. Further communications on the operational benefits would be provided as soon as the testing period was completed. This would not be displacing any members of staff.

The arrangements had been made for installation and the robot was already onsite. Officers were working very closely with the FCC communications team to deliver activities locally and nationally. Once the trial period had been completed further communications would be provided.

It was requested that Board Members see a demonstration of the robot as it was expected that there could be media interest.

It was suggested that there could be a naming competition for the robot, similar to the trucks.

At the end of September are two national weeks of action, Recycle Week and Great Big Green Week would be taking place. More locally the wider Reading Climate Change Festival would be returning for a second year. re3 would be engaging in each event, providing an online webinar for residents to learn about the councils and their partnership, as well as limited tours on a first come first served basis.

Previous webinars had proven successful with residents and would be promoted on social media and in newsletters. It was suggested that this could be promoted at each Council at their Council meetings. Tours had previously been very popular, with 7 tours a week. It was expected that due to Covid there would only be 2-3 tours a week which could be increased over time.

The Annual Environmental Report 2020/2021, a document summarising activities and achievements of the Partnership had been published on the re3 website. The report had been circulated with the Officers and press release had been issued to the local and trade media.

A number of bikes had been delivered to the Recycling Centres when no longer of use to residents. Primarily the bikes were provided to the Sue Ryder charity as well as Precycle on a regular basis. In the past year re3 has made it possible for a local organisation to benefit from the bike including My Journey Wokingham. re3 wished to

keep the bikes within the local community, so were open to suggestions from Officers and Members to achieve this.

During lockdown it was noted that the number of bikes being recycled had increased. It was requested by the Chair that Officers look at opportunities within their Councils to look at recycling the bikes. It was requested that this be brought back to a future meeting of the Board.

**RESOLVED** that

- i. Members noted the contents of the report.
- ii. Members requested an update on the rigid plastics recycling trial, including costings and as described at 5.18 in the report, to be presented at the next meeting.

#### 43. **Booking System Report**

The Board received a report briefing them on access options for the re3 recycling centres.

The report was broadly similar to the one received by the Board at its meeting in June 2021. The report covered the aims and benefits of the booking system.

It was highlighted that a survey was currently being conducted with neighbouring business in the Longshot Lane Industrial Estate regarding the booking system and the impact it has had on their access. The survey was still ongoing, but based on some feedback already received, the site was now allowing for residents to queue onsite at the recycling centre prior to the site opening at 8am. This was in order to remove cars from the road, and help access to the site.

The booking system was upgraded on the 18 August 2021. The upgrade included a postcode look up function which was working really well and would allow for good patronage data to be provided to the Board. There was only currently two weeks of data, but based on this data at Longshot Lane 61% of bookings were Bracknell residents, 38% were Wokingham residents and a handful of bookings were Reading residents. At Smallmead 57% of bookings were by Reading residents, 43% by Wokingham residents and a small number of bookings by Bracknell residents. This data would be monitored and shared when appropriate.

At the last meeting of the Board, Members asked for a number of options to be trialled.

The options were:

Option 1 – Removal of the booking system

This option was not trialled, as the contractor had plenty of experience of using the sites without a booking system.

Option 2 - Retention of the booking system, with current profiling and additional slots

As part of a trial, Officers, in consultation with the Contractor sought to progressively increase bookable slots to reach an optimised but practically operable level. Officers

profiled increases of between 5% and 20%, based on our existing principles and previous booking levels, and trialled progressive increases at both Recycling Centres across June, July and August. During the peak of the trial, there were 13,134 slots available across both sites which 74% of the visitor numbers received back in 2019. This number did develop a slight queue at points.

Option 3 - Retention of the booking system, with weekday profiling and additional weekend slots

Under Option 3, the re3 Partnership could retain booking-slot profiling during the working week (Monday to Friday) similar to the numbers currently available, in order to maintain easy access for other service users and then at the weekend, from 1pm on Saturday and throughout Sunday, a larger number of bookable visits would be scheduled. Two weekend trials were held over the summer. Feedback from the first weekend trial was used to assist how the second weekend trial would be operated. During the trial Longshot Lane was not fully booked, but Smallmead was, with 87% of residents happy with the length of time spent queueing. It was noted that higher levels of booking were kept in during the Monday to Friday.

It was recommended that a variant option between option 2 and option 3 be agreed by the Board, which would see a slightly increased number of bookings between Monday and Friday and slightly increased bookings again on the Saturday and Sunday, which would lead to 14,000 visitors across both of the sites. This would be kept under review, with the no show rate monitored, as well as the length of time residents were spending onsite to make sure that level of booking remained appropriate but based on the trials so far, there was demand for the bookings and the queues could be managed successfully.

Arising from the Member's comments and questions, the following points were made:

- The variation could be adjusted if numbers changed.
- It would have been helpful to have a recommendation that was the variant option.
- The Board should agree and communicate to residents that was now how the recycling centres worked, as Members were still getting questions to when the system would be removed.
- Readings Green Waste had been paused for a short period and there had been feedback to Members that there had been queuing due to the green waste recycling at Smallmead. Officers were not aware of any long queues or significant issues due to the green waste.
- There had been some issues with queuing on the first weekend trial, but this had fed into the second trial weekend and adjustments made accordingly.
- Numbers had been increased due to the pause in the Green Waste collection.
- Emails had been sent to residents whether they did or didn't use their booking slot. There seemed to be a higher number of no shows at Smallmead than at Longshot Lane. Data into people making multiple bookings had not been looked at but this could be reviewed. There were currently a large of number of available slots, with next day booking availability.
- Slots could currently be booked for the afternoon on the same day, which was a very different scenario to a few months ago.
- Patronage numbers could be reviewed and brought back to future meetings, to see the variants changed over the year.

The Chair requested that booking system be continued, and that officers bring it back to the next meeting for review if required.

It was agreed that a variant option on options 2 and 3 was a sensible proposal and gave the operators of the site and booking system the ability to amend the system accordingly and as appropriate.

**RESOLVED** that Members endorse the continuation of the booking system and that a variant on options 2 and 3 for access to the re3 recycling centres, as presented at the meeting and detailed from 5.10 within the report be approved.

**44. Exclusion of Public and Press**

That pursuant to Regulation 21 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) Regulations 2000 and having regard to the public interest, members of the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the consideration of item 10 which involves the likely disclosure of exempt information under the following category of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972:

- (3) Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person.

**45. Finance Report**

The Board received the Finance Report which briefed the re3 Joint Waste Disposal Board on the Partnership's current financial position and confirmed the second draft budget.

**RESOLVED** that

- i. Members note the Partnership's financial position for the year to date.
- ii. Members endorse the option to replace the Gainshare provisions in the re3 Contract with a supplement, for food waste only, as described at 5.22 of the report.
- iii. Members note the contents of this report.

**46. Date of the Next Board Meeting**

The next meeting would be held at 9.30am on 2 December 2021.

Further meetings will be held at 9.30am on 3 March and 9 June 2021.

**CHAIRMAN**

**TO: JOINT WASTE DISPOSAL BOARD**  
**2nd December 2021**

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**PROGRESS REPORT**  
**Report of the re3 Project Director**

**1 INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to brief the re3 Joint Waste Disposal Board on progress in the delivery of the re3 Joint Waste PFI Contract.

**2 RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 That Members note the contents of this report.
- 2.2 That Members restate their commitment to preparing a service development programme, for kerbside glass collection, once there is clarity over the strategic status, scale and funding for such a service, as described at 5.15 below.
- 2.3 That Members approve the recommendation at 5.35 to extend the rigid plastic trial until June 2022.
- 2.4 That Members approve the recommendation to implement the new charging structure, as shown at 5.51.

**3 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

3.1 None for this report.

**4 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

4.1 The purpose of this report is to brief Members in relation to progress in delivery of the re3 Joint Waste PFI Contract.

**5 PROGRESS IN RELATION TO WASTE MANAGEMENT**

**re3 and Council Performance Statistics**

5.1 The provisional recycling rates for April to October are presented below, with a comparison with 2020/21 shown in Appendix 1.

	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sept	Oct	YTD
BFC	58.4%	56.9%	58.3%	57.7%
RBC	53.0%	51.8%	50.6%	52.2%
WBC	55.3%	57.6%	48.5%	55.6%

5.2 As Members will be aware, recycling rates are usually highest in the first half of the year and are often slightly higher in quarter 1 than in quarter 2. In Wokingham the recycling rate in quarter 2 was higher. Levels of garden waste in this authority were a relevant factor. The decline in recycling rate in October is also linked to garden waste. The suspension of the kerbside service for much of the month has had a noticeable impact. However the resumption of this service in November may lead to a recovery later in the quarter.

5.3 At the Joint Waste Disposal Board meeting in September, Officers advised that

decreases in residual waste capacity had the potential to lead to increases in MDR contamination, and that a slight decrease in the levels of target materials had been seen in Bracknell Forest. The inclusion of the most recent data has resulted in contamination rates more similar to those of last year, and we continue to see no increase in contamination in Reading. Officers will continue to monitor this.

- 5.4 The recycling rates for the re3 recycling centres are 70.3% for Longshot Lane and 73.9% at Smallmead. They are shown in Appendix 1, alongside a comparison from last year.

### **Environment Bill**

- 5.5 On 10<sup>th</sup> November 2021, the Environment Act was passed into UK law. The process of the Act had been delayed by the Covid-19 pandemic.
- 5.6 Members will recall that during the Spring of 2021, consultation responses were prepared by the re3 Project Team and submitted by the re3 partnership, on the subjects a deposit return scheme (DRS) and extended producer responsibility (EPR). A further response was drafted for the respective councils on consistency in waste collection.
- 5.7 The outcome of the three consultations are expected, most likely, in early 2022. Thereafter, secondary legislation will be passed which provides the specific details and obligations, in each area.

### **Kerbside Glass Recycling**

- 5.8 At the re3 Board meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2020, Members undertook to consider kerbside glass collection following the important roll-out of new kerbside waste collections, for recyclables and food, that were planned for Bracknell Forest and Reading (earlier changes having been made in Wokingham).
- 5.9 Those service introductions were, as with the progress of the Environment Bill, delayed for a short period of time due to the Covid-19 pandemic. They have been successful in many regards and the appropriate focus of resources has undoubtedly been a factor. They are now nearing completion.
- 5.10 There remain many important aspects of the likely local authority obligations, from the Environment Act, that are still unclear.
- 5.11 As an example, it is not obviously apparent, from the impact assessments appended to the Government consultations, earlier this year, that protected characteristics such as age and disability have been given consideration in relation to DRS. The concern articulated in the re3 consultation response (and potentially other responses), was that there may be a large number of residents for whom accessing a reverse-vending location, and/or using a reverse-vending terminal, may be quite difficult.
- 5.12 It is hoped that when the consultations are fully analysed and their findings incorporated into future Secondary Legislation, such considerations will be addressed.
- 5.13 A business case for procuring vehicles and staff sufficient to serve all households in the three-council area, alongside a comprehensive DRS, would be unlikely to represent value for money. The two services would seek to capture the same source of material and would overlap, and duplicate effort, to a great extent.
- 5.14 It will be important for the re3 councils to ensure that any new service can be efficiently specified – both to ensure it serves the genuine needs of local residents but also to

manage the potentially significant financial impacts.

- 5.15 As described above at 5.7, secondary legislation, drafts of which have yet to be made public, will determine the scale of any DRS. The legislative and strategic detail will need to be considered in a local context, alongside the specifics and timing of any 'new net burdens' funding. Once those essential pre-requisites for the re3 councils (and no-doubt many other local authorities across the country) can be put together, it will be possible to prepare a programme for a kerbside glass collection service.
- 5.16 In the interests of clarity, Members of the Board, on behalf of the re3 councils, are recommended to re-state their commitment to exploring kerbside glass collection when the aforementioned pre-requisites have been clarified by Government.

### **Mixed Glass**

- 5.17 The re3 Partnership operates more than 570 bring banks for glass, across 138 sites. Residents are asked to separate glass bottles and jars according to their colour; green, brown or clear. Separation by colour was previously necessary to ensure that re3 glass could be recycled back into bottles and jars.
- 5.18 With the introduction of colour sorting technology at reprocessor facilities, mixed glass can now be separated into different colour streams by machinery. As a result, all of the re3 glass recycling banks will begin accepting mixed glass from the middle of November. The re3 glass will continue to be recycled via a closed-loop process.
- 5.19 The Contractor has calculated that 25% of re3 glass is brown, 34% is clear and 41% is green. As many bring bank sites currently have one bank for each colour, mixed glass collections should help to optimise the collection schedules and reduce the likelihood of overflows. Mixed glass collections will also help to optimise space in the collection vehicles and at the re3 transfer stations.
- 5.20 As well as financial and environmental benefits, it is anticipated that the change will also make recycling at the bring banks easier for re3 residents.
- 5.21 New stickers will be added to the collars of the existing bring banks to inform residents of the change. A press release has also been published and the information accessible via the QR code on the banks and on the re3 website has been updated.
- 5.22 In addition, this information is being publicised using re3 social media and newsletter as well as via the council own social channels. An advert on the mixed glass was produced and placed in the resident's magazine that is going to be distributed amongst Bracknell's residents.

### **Reuse Pop-Up Shop**

- 5.23 The first ever re3 Reuse Pop-Up Shop was organised on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> October at the Reading Recycling Site. The pop-up shop was located at the car park allowing residents to visit without a booking.
- 5.24 The event was organised and supported by the Contractor, who was responsible for gathering suitable items for reuse, arranging its storage and performing quality and safety checks.
- 5.25 The pop-up shop was promoted to the public using available re3 channels such as social media and the newsletter and was also publicised in the local news outlets.

- 5.26 Visitors to the reuse shop were able to purchase items from a wide range of kids toys and games including electronic games, board games and books, sporting goods including kids and adults' bicycles; garden tools, pots and planters; electrical and a selection of furniture.
- 5.27 Over the weekend, we registered 350 items being sold and re-homed, at a total weight of just over 2.76 tonnes.
- 5.28 All profit generated during the weekend was donated for a good cause, Sue Ryder.
- 5.29 Feedback from the event was exceptional with visitors praising the concept, value of items and friendly behaviour of staff.
- 5.30 The event provided opportunity to learn some important lessons about running similar activities in the future. A decision about hosting regular event of the similar nature will be made after the next trial event at the Bracknell site that is currently planned for January 2022.
- 5.31 Photos from the event can be seen in Appendix 2.

#### **Rigid Plastics Recycling Trial**

- 5.32 Members will recall that a rigid plastics recycling trial commenced at both Recycling Centres in early July 2021. The purpose of the trial was to enable the costs and benefits of the service to be assessed.
- 5.33 At the meeting of the Joint Waste Disposal Board in September 2021, Officers reported that the cost to recycle rigid plastics was a little higher than the cost of sending the same waste to landfill. Officers have liaised with the Contractor in relation to haulage of the material and the weight per load has been slightly increased. Updated costs are therefore presented in Appendix 3. Members will note that the average cost per tonne in September and October stood at £133. This compares to £147 per tonne to send the same waste to landfill.
- 5.34 The reprocessor remains predominantly happy with the quality of the re3 material and residents have continued to make good use of the service. In the four months between July and October (inclusive), over 120 tonnes of rigid plastics have been sent for recycling.
- 5.35 Whilst Officers continue to work with the Contractor ensure transport of loads is efficient, it is recommended that the trial be extended for another six months, until June 2022.

#### **Recycling Centre Usage**

- 5.36 Members will recall that a number of trials were undertaken over the summer to progressively increase the number of bookable slots available at the recycling centres. The intention was to reach an optimised and practically operable level.
- 5.37 A proposal for increased levels of slots was approved at the Joint Waste Disposal Board in September, leading to 7,080 slots being available per week at Smallmead, by the end of September, and 6,978 slots being available at Longshot Lane.
- 5.38 As a result of the winter opening hours coming into effect from 1<sup>st</sup> October, the number of available slots is currently 6,192 per week at Smallmead and 6,096 per week at Longshot Lane.

- 5.39 Following the increase in available slots, the Recycling Centres are no longer becoming fully booked, and same-day appointments are routinely available. A graph showing the percentage of booked slots during the 8-week period in September and October is shown in Appendix 4. On average, 84% of slots at Smallmead, and 87% of slots available at Longshot Lane were booked per week, during this period.
- 5.40 Some time slots are more in demand than others, and this is also shown in Appendix 4. Members will observe that some slots remain fully booked and that the booking system continues to manage the flow of users to the sites.
- 5.41 The recent data also indicates that the 'no show rate' at Smallmead appears to be declining. Whilst the reason for this is unclear, the availability of additional slots may be a relevant factor. Officers will continue to monitor this data.

### **User Satisfaction**

- 5.42 The annual User Satisfaction Survey for the re3 Recycling Centres was conducted in the autumn of 2021.
- 5.43 Following the successful use of an online survey in 2020, residents were again invited to participate in an online survey after their trip home.
- 5.44 The survey was conducted between the 27<sup>th</sup> October and 18<sup>th</sup> November and 1,479 responses were received for Longshot Lane, whilst 1,383 responses were received for Smallmead.
- 5.45 At Smallmead the number of respondents rating their overall satisfaction levels as 4 or 5 out of 5 was 91%. At Longshot Lane, this figure was 88%.
- 5.46 A further comparison of the two sites is presented in Appendix 5. Whilst the results are mixed, there have been no significant changes since the 2020 survey, and overall levels of satisfaction at Smallmead have slightly increased. The proportion of residents giving the highest marks for how safe they felt on site also increased in 2021; rising from 94% at both sites in 2020 to 96% at Smallmead and 97% at Longshot Lane.
- 5.47 During the 2021 survey, resident opinion on the booking system was sought and the final results are presented in Appendix 6. There was a balanced response with regards to the preference to come to site 'whenever you like'. However the other responses demonstrate that the vast majority of residents find the booking system to use and that it has positive benefits in terms of queue length and ability to recycle.
- 5.48 Officers will review the full results of the survey with the Contractor to identify further areas for improvement.

### **Chargeable Wastes at HWRC**

- 5.49 Members will recall that the chargeable waste prices at the Recycling Centres were reviewed when the Trade Waste trial became a permanent service and that the amended prices were implemented in April 2021.
- 5.50 As a result of inflation, an increase in fees and charges is being proposed by one of the re3 Councils. Following on from this, Officers have reviewed the prices being charged for disposal of waste at the re3 recycling centres.

5.51 As Members have previously requested that prices be rounded there are some materials for which a 5% increase in costs is effectively already covered. However there are a small number of materials where an increase would be unavoidable. These are detailed below.

User	Material	Unit	Current Price	Proposed Price (where different)
Residents and Businesses	Plasterboard	25L	£1.50	
	Rubble	25L	£2.50	
	Soil	25L	£2.50	
	Asbestos	20kg	£8.00	
	Gas Canisters	Per item	£6.00	
Businesses	Bagged General Waste	25L	£1.50	
	Garden Waste	25L	£0.50	£1.00
	Wood	25L	£0.50	£1.00
	Paper, Cardboard, Tins, Cans, Plastic Bottles, Pots, Tubs and Trays	25L	£0	
	Glass bottles and jars	25L	£0	
	Scrap Metal	25L	£0	
	Textiles	25L	£0	
	Bulky Residual Items	Per item	£7.00	
	Small Electrical Items	Per item	£0.50	£1.00
	Large Electrical Items (WEEE)	Per item	£4.50	
	Computers/TVs	Per item	£1.50	
	Fridge/Freezers	Per item	£5.00	
	Commercial Fridge/Freezers	Per item	£62.00	£65.00
	Ink Cartridges	Per item	£1.00	
	Engine Oil	5L	£1.00	

5.52 Any agreed changes to the charges will be implemented from April 1<sup>st</sup> 2022.

### re3Grow Compost

5.53 Following the successful sale of re3grow compost in 2020/21, Officers have ordered 10,000 bags of 40L compost for next year. The compost is set to arrive in early Spring 2022.

5.54 To cover the costs, the price per bag will be £4, or residents can purchase three bags for £11.

### Communications

5.55 At the end of September during the Recycle Week, re3 Officers with the support of Contractor delivered a webinar that focused on benefits of recycling and its impact on the climate change. The event was very well received and was attended by almost 70 participants. Registered participants who were unable to attend (in total 160) received the link to the recording which can be access via re3 YouTube channel.

5.56 MRF Robot picker has been successfully installed at the Reading facility and is currently at the machine optimisation stage, for example is learning how to target materials with varying labels (images attached in the Appendix 6). A current overall

successful pick up rate is around 80% with the plastic pick up rate exceeding 90%. Further communications activities, including naming of the robot are being planned.

- 5.57 Festive communication activities are being planned with a social content to be provided to the respective teams.

## **6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY**

### Head of Legal Services

- 6.1 None for this report.

### Corporate Finance Business Partner

- 6.2 None for this report.

### Equalities Impact Assessment

- 6.3 None.

### Strategic Risk Management Issues

- 6.4 None

### Climate Impact Assessment

- 6.5 Each of the re3 Councils has made commitments relating to climate change, and the UK Government declared a Climate Change emergency in 2019. As a result, a high-level assessment has been undertaken on the impact of mixed glass collections on carbon emissions.

- Energy Use – No known impacts
- Waste Generation – No known impacts
- Transport – Additional lifts take place in addition to scheduled lifts, when a bank has overflowed, or is likely to overflow before its collection. If all additional lifts could be prevented via mixed glass collections, the Contractor estimates that almost 2000 fewer miles would need to be driven per year. In addition, mixed glass will generally be processed at a site closer than the one used for colour separated glass. For each load processed at the closer site, this saves 114 miles.

- 6.6 It has also been assessed whether the decision will improve resilience to climate change impacts.

- Heatwaves – No known impacts
- Drought – No known impacts
- Flooding – No known impacts
- High Winds/Storms – No known impacts
- Disruption to Supply Chains – No known impacts

- 6.7 The overall rating assigned to this change is a 'low positive' one.

## **7 CONSULTATION**

### Principal Groups Consulted

Not applicable.

7.2 Method of Consultation

Not applicable.

7.3 Representations Received

Not applicable.

Background Papers

October 2020 re3 Board

Contacts for further information

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**APPENDIX 1 – WASTE STATISTICS**

**Bracknell Forest**

Category	Background	April-Oct 2021/22		April-Dec 2020/21	
		C1A Statutory Recycling Target	This target is the traditional 'recycling rate' target that should be comparable with other councils in the UK.	57.72%	
C1B Kerbside Recycling	Using the respective weekly council kerbside collections is an effective way to recycle. This indicator looks at this service alone.	38.54%		25.93%	
C1C Including Incinerator Bottom Ash (IBA)	<i>Despite displacing 'virgin' materials, the recycling of IBA into building blocks is not yet counted as 'recycling' by the Government. Nonetheless, re3 recognises the value of this activity.</i>	7%		8%	
C1E Contamination	<i>Contamination is the term used to describe items which are not supposed to be present within recyclables. The level of contamination is, therefore, an indicator of the effectiveness of waste collection arrangements. It also has an impact on recycling because at high levels of contamination it can become harder to separate 'good' recyclables from the unwanted items.</i>	Target	83.96%	Target	83.89%
		Non Target Paper and Card	1.88%	Non Target Paper and Card	2.59%
		Other Non-Target and Non-Recyclable Material	14.16%	Other Non-Target and Non-Recyclable Material	13.52%

**Reading**

Category	Background	April-Oct 2021/22		April-Dec 2020/21	
		C2A Statutory Recycling Target	This target is the traditional 'recycling rate' target that should be comparable with other councils in the UK.	52.16%	
C2B Kerbside Recycling	Using the respective weekly council kerbside collections is an effective way to recycle. This indicator looks at this service alone.	35.84%		21.92%	
C2C Including Incinerator Bottom Ash (IBA)	<i>Despite displacing 'virgin' materials, the recycling of IBA into building blocks is not yet counted as 'recycling' by the Government. Nonetheless, re3 recognises the value of this activity.</i>	9%		10%	
C1E Contamination	<i>Contamination is the term used to describe items which are not supposed to be present within recyclables. The level of contamination is, therefore, an indicator of the effectiveness of waste collection arrangements. It also has an impact on recycling because at high levels of contamination it can become harder to separate 'good' recyclables from the unwanted items.</i>	Target	82.11%	Target	80.08%
		Non Target Paper and Card	2.28%	Non Target Paper and Card	3.83%
		Other Non-Target and Non-Recyclable Material	15.61%	Other Non-Target and Non-Recyclable Material	16.08%

**Wokingham**

Category	Background	April-Oct 2021/22		April-Dec 2020/21	
<b>C3A</b> Statutory Recycling Target	This target is the traditional 'recycling rate' target that should be comparable with other councils in the UK.	55.58%		50.85%	
<b>C3B</b> Kerbside Recycling	Using the respective weekly council kerbside collections is an effective way to recycle. This indicator looks at this service alone.	35.97%		33.97%	
<b>C3C</b> Including Incinerator Bottom Ash (IBA)	<i>Despite displacing 'virgin' materials, the recycling of IBA into building blocks is not yet counted as 'recycling' by the Government. Nonetheless, re3 recognises the value of this activity.</i>	7%		8%	
<b>C1E Contamination</b>	Contamination is the term used to describe items which are not supposed to be present within recyclables. The level of contamination is, therefore, an indicator of the effectiveness of waste collection arrangements. It also has an impact on recycling because at high levels of contamination it can become harder to separate 'good' recyclables from the unwanted items.	Target	86.29%	Target	74.11%
		Non Target Paper and Card	3.59%	Non Target Paper and Card	13.82%
		Other Non-Target and Non-Recyclable Material	10.12%	Other Non-Target and Non-Recyclable Material	12.07%

**Recycling Centres**

Category	April-Oct 2021/22		April-Dec 2020/21	
<b>D</b> Longshot Lane	70.31%		73.75%	
<b>D</b> Smallmead	73.91%		78.35%	

**APPENDIX 2**

**a) Reuse Pop Up event**



**b) MRF robot**

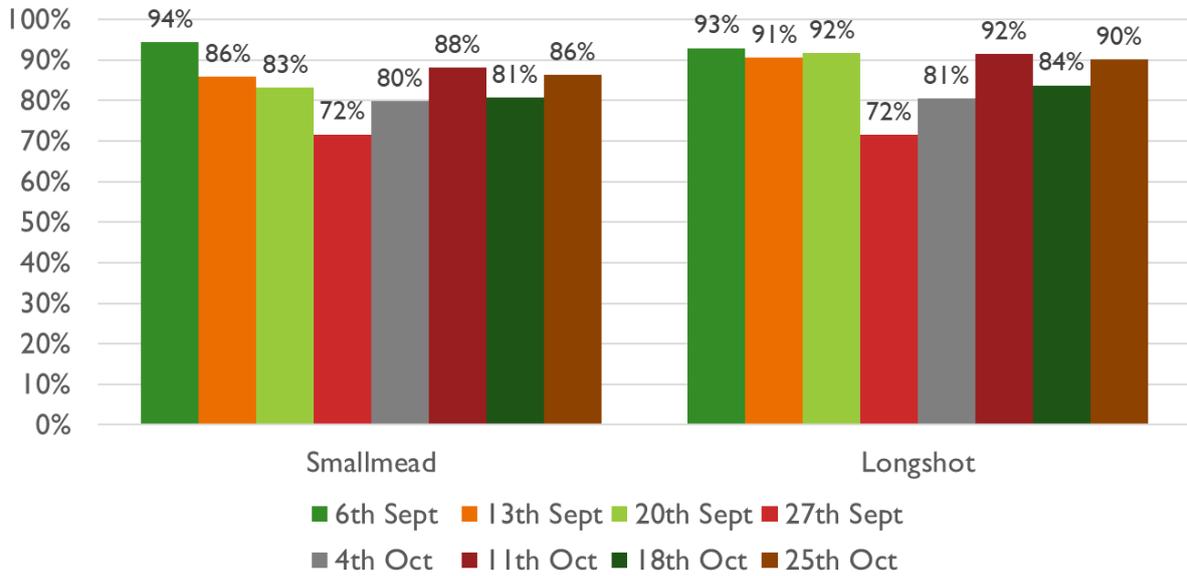


**APPENDIX 3 – RIGID PLASTICS RECYCLING COSTS (6<sup>th</sup> Sept 2021 – 31<sup>st</sup> Oct 2021)**

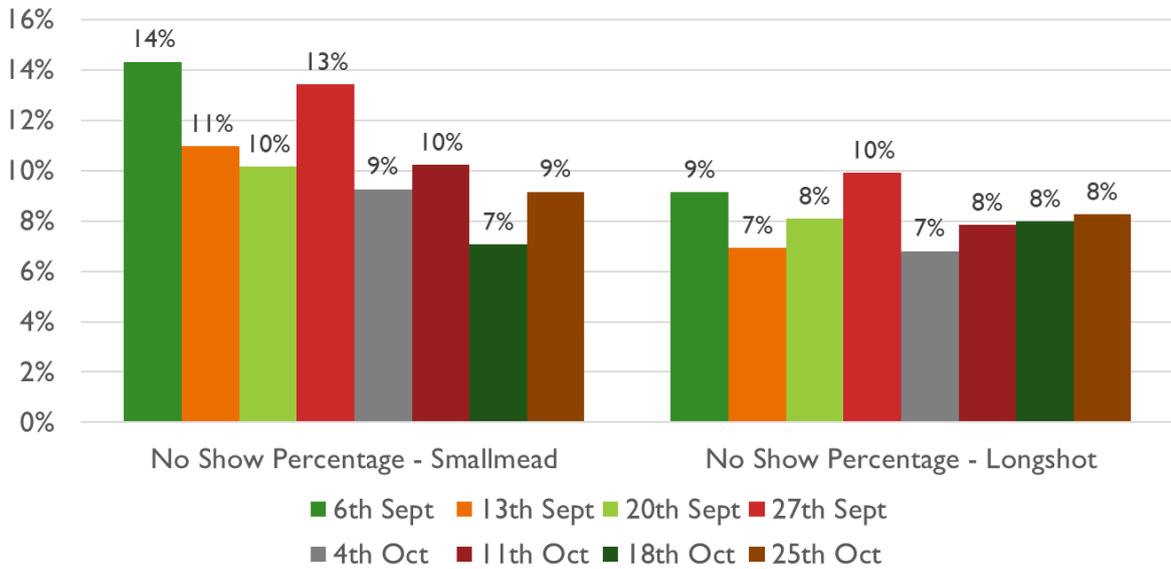
Description	Unit	Cost per Unit	No of Units	Total
Bin Hire at Longshot	Per week	£50	8	£400
Transport - Longshot to Smallmead	Per trip	£120	15	£1,800
Transport - Smallmead to Haulaway	Per trip	£360	10	£3,600
Gate Fee/Processing	Per tonne	£50	70	£3,503
Contamination Payment	Per tonne	£140	0	£0
<b>Total - For 8 weeks</b>				<b>£9,303</b>
<b>Approx cost per tonne</b>				<b>£132.79</b>

**APPENDIX 4 – RECYCLING CENTRE USAGE**

**Percentage of Slots booked per week**



**No Show Rate per week** – Based on recycling centre barrier count



**Smallmead Bookings by 30-minute slot (October 2021)**

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDA	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
8:00am	40%	44%	48%	43%	64%	85%	55%
8:30am	20%	20%	14%	34%	35%	60%	33%
9:00am	36%	30%	36%	45%	72%	94%	60%
9:30am	77%	70%	89%	90%	96%	93%	79%
10:00am	98%	97%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%
10:30am	90%	94%	96%	98%	100%	100%	94%
11:00am	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%
11:30am	95%	93%	88%	93%	100%	100%	100%
12:00pm	96%	98%	100%	97%	99%	100%	100%
12:30pm	89%	80%	98%	91%	100%	100%	80%
1:00pm	93%	89%	97%	89%	100%	98%	97%
1:30pm	72%	63%	88%	87%	100%	45%	67%
2:00pm	100%	97%	100%	100%	99%	86%	99%
2:30pm	83%	83%	88%	98%	100%	71%	80%
3:00pm	85%	83%	77%	87%	100%	82%	95%
3:30pm	85%	68%	66%	73%	95%	66%	87%
4:00pm	82%	67%	76%	76%	96%	100%	94%
4:30pm	77%	64%	72%	61%	92%	100%	100%
5:00pm	96%	97%	89%	92%	95%	100%	100%
5:30pm	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

**Longshot Lane Bookings by 30-minute slot (October 2021)**

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDA	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
8:00am	53%	47%	53%	54%	59%	73%	42%
8:30am	28%	31%	33%	33%	48%	61%	36%
9:00am	54%	73%	58%	50%	82%	94%	80%
9:30am	98%	98%	72%	83%	96%	98%	67%
10:00am	100%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%
10:30am	99%	100%	99%	94%	100%	100%	88%
11:00am	100%	100%	97%	100%	100%	100%	100%
11:30am	99%	101%	87%	96%	100%	100%	97%
12:00pm	99%	96%	93%	86%	100%	101%	100%
12:30pm	95%	92%	71%	74%	89%	100%	84%
1:00pm	96%	92%	78%	86%	88%	83%	95%
1:30pm	91%	93%	71%	77%	86%	49%	61%
2:00pm	99%	99%	94%	100%	100%	83%	99%
2:30pm	99%	100%	93%	99%	100%	58%	84%
3:00pm	98%	88%	100%	100%	100%	96%	99%
3:30pm	84%	87%	84%	94%	94%	72%	90%
4:00pm	99%	92%	90%	99%	100%	100%	100%
4:30pm	91%	86%	81%	91%	100%	100%	95%
5:00pm	100%	88%	90%	96%	100%	100%	100%
5:30pm	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

**APPENDIX 5 – USER SATISFACTION STATISTICS**

	Smallmead		Longshot Lane	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
Overall Rating	91%	89%	88%	88%
Queuing	82%	84%	80%	80%
Cleanliness	83%	85%	85%	87%
Meet and Greet	83%	83%	84%	86%
Customer Care	81%	81%	79%	83%

**APPENDIX 6 – BOOKING SYSTEM FEEDBACK**

<b>Smallmead</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>		<b>Disagree</b>		<b>Neither Agree nor Disagree</b>		<b>Agree</b>		<b>Strongly Agree</b>	
With the booking system in place, I find I can recycle more effectively at the site	44	3.2%	41	3.0%	196	14.2%	454	32.8%	648	46.9%
With the booking system in place, I find I queue for less time to access the recycling centre	31	2.2%	33	2.4%	115	8.3%	390	28.2%	814	58.9%
I dislike having to plan my trip in advance	390	28.2%	454	32.8%	278	20.1%	173	12.5%	88	6.4%
I find it hard to get a slot when I need one	445	32.2%	600	43.4%	215	15.5%	80	5.8%	43	3.1%
The online booking system is easy to use	16	1.2%	20	1.4%	38	2.7%	476	34.4%	833	60.2%
I don't always remember to cancel bookings I no longer need	456	33.0%	334	24.2%	485	35.1%	82	5.9%	26	1.9%
I preferred being able to access the site whenever I liked	221	16.0%	272	19.7%	461	33.3%	233	16.8%	196	14.2%

<b>Longshot Lane</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>		<b>Disagree</b>		<b>Neither Agree nor Disagree</b>		<b>Agree</b>		<b>Strongly Agree</b>	
With the booking system in place, I find I can recycle more effectively at the site	53	3.6%	75	5.1%	223	15.1%	491	33.2%	637	43.1%
With the booking system in place, I find I queue for less time to access the recycling centre	36	2.4%	43	2.9%	105	7.1%	494	33.4%	801	54.2%
I dislike having to plan my trip in advance	393	26.6%	447	30.2%	301	20.4%	222	15.0%	116	7.8%
I find it hard to get a slot when I need one	421	28.5%	652	44.1%	269	18.2%	93	6.3%	44	3.0%
The online booking system is easy to use	20	1.4%	29	2.0%	52	3.5%	568	38.4%	810	54.8%
I don't always remember to cancel bookings I no longer need	540	36.5%	312	21.1%	500	33.8%	90	6.1%	37	2.5%
I preferred being able to access the site whenever I liked	243	16.4%	307	20.8%	442	29.9%	255	17.2%	232	15.7%

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

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