BARNSLEY, DONCASTER AND ROTHERHAM JOINT WASTE BOARD

Date and Time:- **Monday 16 November 2026 at 2.00 p.m.**

Venue:- **Rotherham Town Hall, The Crofts, Moorgate Street, Rotherham. S60 2TH**

Membership:- **Councillors Jones, Marshall and Goddard.**

The items which will be discussed are described on the agenda below and there are reports attached which give more details**.**

Rotherham Council advocates openness and transparency as part of its democratic processes. Anyone wishing to record (film or audio) the public parts of the meeting should inform the Chair or Governance Advisor of their intentions prior to the meeting.

AGENDA

1. Joint Waste Board Arrangements (Pages 3 - 9)
- Appointment of New Chairman
- Appointment of New Vice-Chairman
- Authorised Representatives
- Introductions

2. Apologies for absence

3. Declarations of Interest

4. Minutes of the previous meeting held on (copy attached) (Pages 10 - 13)

5. BDR Managers Report (Pages 14 - 33)
- Update on contract for 26/27
- 26/27 Budget Requirement

6. Biffa
- Parent Company Guarantee rejection
- Acid Scrubber Update

7. Risk Register (Pages 34 - 38)

8. Any Other Business (Pages 39 - 43)
For information purposes only

- Community Liaison Group Newsletter Q3
- BDR Manager Role Update

9. Date and Time of Next Meeting
Tuesday 9th February 2027 at 2.00pm

Rotherham Town Hall

JOHN EDWARDS,
Chief Executive.

Agenda Item 1

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

BRIEFING	**TO:**	BDR Joint Waste Board
	DATE:	16/11/2026
	LEAD OFFICER:	Carl Hewlett Interim BDR PFI Waste Manager
	TITLE:	Annual Rotation of Chair

1. Background

1.1 One of the contractual documents entered into between Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council, Doncaster City Council and Rotherham Borough Council (the "Authorities") at financial close of the BDR Waste PFI project was an Inter-Authority Agreement ("IAA3") being the third joint working agreement between the Authorities following on from procurement phase and pre-financial close versions. This IAA3 creates the Joint Waste Board ("JWB") as a joint committee pursuant to section 101(5) of the Local Government Act 1972, which is established as part of the joint working arrangements between the Authorities for the management and administration of what are termed Relevant Contracts under the IAA3. At the date of this meeting, the BDR Waste PFI Contract is the only Relevant Contract to which IAA3 applies and is referred to as the "Principal Contract".

This briefing details how the functions of the JWB will be delegated down to the BDR Steering Committee chair and then to the BDR Manager (as chair of the Joint Waste Team which reports to the BDR Steering Committee) to more efficiently deal with the day-to-day decisions that will be required under the Principal Contract. All decisions of the JWB, BDR Steering Committee chair and BDR Manager will be made in accordance with the provisions of the prevailing IAA3.

Local authorities may arrange for the discharge of functions by (i) a joint committee or (ii) by an officer of one of them under section 101(5)(a) of the Local Government Act 1972. In this case, a group of officers is established under IAA3 called the BDR Steering Committee, which will be empowered to make the day-to-day decisions required for the management and administration of the Principal Contract. However, the Local Government Act 1972 does not allow the delegation of powers to be exercised jointly by a committee of officers.

To fit with the legislative requirements the Joint Waste Board (JWB) as a joint committee of members therefore delegates its powers to one of the BDR Steering Committee officers (the "Authorised BDR Steering Committee Member"), who will then act in consultation with the other officers from the Authorities on the BDR Steering Committee.

It has been agreed previously that the roles of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the JWB will rotate between the three Authorities on an annual basis at the AGM in June/July. For the municipal year 2025/26, this delegation was made to the Barnsley Metropolitan Council member of the BDR JWB, who also acted as the Chairman of that body.

	The structure of the BDR JWB for 2026/27 will be as follows: **Rotherham Borough Council Representative: Chair** **Councillor Lynda Marshall** Waste Services, Leisure and Green Spaces Deputy: Councillor Saghir Alam **City of Doncaster Council representative: Vice Chair** **Councillor Glyn Jones** Deputy Mayor and Portfolio Holder for Environment, Housing and Safer Communities Deputy: Councillor James Church - Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods, Planning and Public Health **Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council representative: Member** **Cllr David Goddard** Cabinet Spokesperson Environment & Transport Deputy: Cabinet Support Member – Alan Parker In line with this principle, it has been agreed that the Authorised BDR Steering Committee Member will also rotate annually. For the municipal year 2026/27, this delegation will therefore be made to the Barnsley Borough Council member of the BDR Steering Committee. This officer, as Authorised BDR Steering Committee member, will subsequently delegate certain functions to the BDR Manager to more efficiently deal with the day-to-day decisions that will be required under the Principal Contract. The structure of the BDR Steering Committee will be as follows: **Barnsley Metropolitan BC representative: Chair** The Service Director (Environment & Transport) or in their absence the Head of Commercial and OP Support Services (Environment and Transport) **City of Doncaster Council representative: Vice Chair** The Assistant Director (Environment) or in their absence Head of Waste and Highways Infrastructure **Rotherham Borough Council representative: Member** Service Director (Regeneration and Environment) or in their absence Service Manager (Regeneration and Environment).
2. Key Issues	
2.1	Delegation of decisions in the manner requested facilitates the smooth running of the Joint Waste Board. Without such delegations in place, given that this is a high value, long term joint project involving three local authorities with central government revenue support funding, there would be a serious risk that proper and prompt decision making would prove to be very difficult, with a consequent adverse effect on the efficient operation of the PFI project
3. Key Actions and Timelines	
3.1	The delegations and rotation of Chair and Vice-Chair of the JWB are a contractual requirement of the IAA3 and should take place at the AGM of the JWB in June each year.

4. Recommendations	
4.1	That the JWB note that: 1. Apart from the decisions reserved to the Authorities for a unanimous decision under the IAA3, all other decisions in respect of the Principal Contract are delegated by the JWB to the chair of the BDR Steering Committee (the "Authorised BDR Steering Committee Member"). 2. The Authorised BDR Steering Committee Member may elect to delegate certain decisions to the BDR Manager. 3. The BDR Manager may delegate any decisions delegated to them to a member of the Joint Waste Team (if the right to delegate is granted by the Authorised BDR Steering Committee Member).

Item 4

BDR Joint Waste Board

Terms of Reference

1.0	**Membership of the BDR Joint Waste Board**
1.1	The BDR Joint Waste Board will consist of Portfolio Holders with responsibility for Waste Services (or their deputy) and will be chaired by a Portfolio Holder on an annually rotating basis.
1.2	Members will be identified at the June Annual Meeting of the BDR Joint Waste Board.
1.4	For the BDR Joint Waste Board to be quorate, a minimum of three Portfolio Holders (or their deputies) must be present at the meeting.
1.5.	The end date for the Joint Waste Board is the expiry of the BDR PFI Contract, or such other date as unanimously agreed in writing.
2.0	Objective is to Work together towards efficiencies and the sharing of best practices and opportunities
3.0	**Scope of the BDR Joint Waste Board**
3.1	The scope of the BDR Joint Waste Board is to: - ➢ consider the performance of joint contracts i.e. o BDR PFI and Royalty Deed o Household Waste Recycling Centres o Organic o Treatment and disposal ➢ Consider the effectiveness of management of the above contracts. ➢ Develop a procurement strategy to gain further opportunities from joint working. ➢ Agree resources for projects to deliver efficiencies/savings including allocation of budgets. ➢ Agree the Operational Management Budget for the BDR PFI Contract ➢ Agree proposed communication strategies for joint working. ➢ Recommend items for consideration by Steering Committee and the Joint Waste Team
3.2	The members of the BDR Joint Waste Board will be asked to: - ➢ Give due consideration to the management of the BDR Operational Management Budget ➢ provide strategic direction to any project. ➢ monitor the progress of agreed projects against any project plans, ➢ agree allocation of funds for the projects subject to approval by the Authorities. ➢ receive regular reports from the project team and provide any comments and/feedback on these reports,

	➢ act as 'critical friends' throughout the process by providing challenge, feedback, and comments, ➢ agree and assign resources to support any projects and ensure sufficient priority is given to the projects to allow them to progress, ➢ Provide a responsive decision-making group to the Project Leads to ensure the project timelines are achieved. ➢ Make approvals at key stages, subject to delegation by their Authority. ➢ Ensure that any project is delivered on time and within budget. ➢ Review and manage the risks associated with projects.
3.3	Any procurement project that is proposed as part of the actions for this Joint Waste Board will be run in accordance with the Lead Authorities Procedure Rules and will be in accordance with The Public Contracts Regulations 2015.
4.0	**Format of Meetings**
4.1	The Joint Waste Board will be facilitated by the BDR Manager and supported by the BDR Senior Contracts Manager and Technical/Admin Officer. The agenda and reports will be set by the Joint Waste Board Chairperson in consultation with the BDR Manager and sent to the Joint Waste Board at least 5 days in advance of the meeting.
4.2	The meetings will be held every 4 months (3 times per year) unless otherwise agreed at meetings. The venue for the meetings will be in the administrative area of the Chairperson.
4.3	The following may be invited to attend meetings: ➢ Waste Service Managers ➢ Legal Officers ➢ Finance Officers ➢ Communication Officers ➢ Development Planning Officers ➢ Technical Advisors ➢ Legal Advisors ➢ Financial Advisors ➢ Waste Infrastructure and Development Transactor ➢ Contractors Representatives The above list is not exhaustive
4.4	➢ If BDR Joint Waste Board wish specific issues to be considered these can be raised at the meeting and officers will research these issues and present them to a future meeting of the Joint Waste Board. ➢ The Joint Waste Board will report key milestones during any project, and any decision the Joint Waste Board wishes their Individual Authorities to take, to their individual Councils. ➢ The internal approvals process that is necessary for any specific project should be provided to the Project Lead Officer for inclusion in the overall project plan.
5.0	**Working Manner**

5.1	The overriding principle for working together is that all parties should: - ➢ act in good faith, ➢ be open, honest, and transparent, ➢ willing to contribute and commit, ➢ treat everyone with respect. ➢ mutually support and co-operate with each other. ➢ share learning and best practice. ➢ Respect the mutual need for commercial confidentiality. ➢ seek to fully motivate Officers to act with drive, enthusiasm, and a determination to succeed
6.0	Review of the Terms of Reference
6.1	These terms of reference to be reviewed every two years, at the written request of an Authority or if a significant change occurs

BARNSLEY, DONCASTER AND ROTHERHAM JOINT WASTE BOARD
Tuesday 3 February 2026 at 1.30pm

Present:- Councillor Higginbottom (in the Chair); Councillors Jones and Marshall.

Also in attendance were Paul Castle, Sam Barstow, Rhonda Fletcher, Jim Busby and Carl Hewlett.

35 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Matt O'Neill.

The Chair asked for it to be noted that the Board wished to extend their sincere condolences to Paul Hutchinson, BDR Manager, who had recently suffered the loss of his wife.

36 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

37 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 7 OCTOBER 2025 (COPY ATTACHED) AND ANY MATTERS ARISING

Resolved:- That the minutes of the meeting held on 7 October 2025, be approved as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

38 BDR MANAGERS REPORT

At the invitation of the Chair, the Interim BDR Manager (BDR Manager) provided an update relating to the BDR Managers Report, during which the following points of note were highlighted and discussed:

- The Operational Management Budget Forecast showed a projected underspend of £68,401. If not spent, this underspend would be rolled into the 2026-27 financial year. Delays had been experienced in obtaining information from the contractor relating to outstanding issues and ongoing projects, which meant that planned work was not carried out and would continue into the next financial year. It was also hoped that staffing costs could be better forecasted in the next financial year and the budget would need to cover potential increases in pay and increased consultant fees. It was noted that the BDR budget had not increased since the financial year 2022-23.

- The forecasted Unitary Charge had been sent to all councils for the 2026-27 financial year. Once the January RPIX figure was confirmed in February, it would be updated and sent again as this was the figure used under the contract. This figure would be confirmed to Members once available.

- There were no major issues to report on contract delivery. KPI targets were being met. Some delays to waste deliveries at the Manvers site had been experienced before Christmas, due to issues at the Ferrybridge Energy from Waste (EfW) site, which were compounded by equipment issues on site. The Contract Director from Biffa had thanked the councils for their patience over this period in a recent meeting.

- Due to these issues before Christmas and higher stock levels, landfill figures had increased but were still below the contractually allowed amount.

- There had been no recent complaints, which was to be expected at this time of year, as fly activity did not usually become an issue on sites until the spring.

- The insurance for the BDR waste facility had switched to AON as their insurance broker, following the sale to Biffa. AON had reported an increased appetite from insurers to accept more options for PFI arrangements, such as the BDR waste facility, due to the good preventative and control measures in place. The insurance had been placed and confirmed on 24th December 2025, as required. The Board's insurance consultant was currently reviewing the policy to ensure that sufficient cover was provided.

- Delays were still being experienced in obtaining the information from the Contractor for the updates to the Acid Scrubber. It was reported that the deadline set by the Environment Agency of April 2026 would not be met and that service had been promised an update on the current position by mid-February 2026. Once received, the BDR team and its consultants would carry out due diligence and review all material as required, to ensure that it meets the needs of the contract, while minimising financial risk to the Councils.

- With regard to the completed dilapidations works on the Barnsley Transfer Station (BTS) at Grange Lane, meetings had taken place between Barnsley MBC, the BDR team and Biffa, and a baseline condition survey was due to be agreed within the next few months. Once this survey had been completed, a deed of variation to the BTS contract would be drafted by legal teams to agree on the baseline and condition of the facility moving forwards, until the contract hand-back date in 2040.

- The breakdown of Health & Safety figures against previous years, which had been requested by Councillor Marshall at the last meeting, had been provided within the Report.

- The Report set out details of the work done this year by the

Community Education Liaison Officer (CELO). There was a current underspend on the 2025-26 budget of £100,000 (excluding forecasted works that were subject to change). The BDR Manager confirmed that service would engage with the CELO team to explore ways in which this money could be spent and asked for this to be cascaded down by each Member.

The Chair welcomed the update on the work of the CELO and was pleased to see the constructive progress made on engagement. It was suggested that the CELO be invited to the next meeting.

Paul Castle, Service Director for Environment & Transport at Barnsley MBC, commented on the recent work done by the service with Biffa on the safe disposal of vapes, and suggested that Members could receive a more detailed update on this at the next meeting. It was agreed that this item should be added to the agenda of the next BDR meeting.

The Chair thanked the BDR Manager for the updates contained within the BDR Managers Report.

39 RENEWI / BIFFA SALE

The sale of Renewi UK Services Ltd to Biffa had been completed and the BDR contract was fully implemented, with all services and systems transferred across. An update on the parental company guarantee was awaited and an SPV meeting was due to take place the following week, which would provide an update.

Councillor Marshall asked whether the BDR Manager was satisfied that contract delivery would be maintained and that staffing levels would remain resilient, in light of the current lack of a parent company guarantee. The BDR Manager confirmed that at a contract level, everything remained the same, and that full due diligence had been carried out on the new arrangements. There would be little change in day-to-day operations, and monthly meetings would take place to monitor performance. The BDR Manager explained that if the parent company guarantor offered was not deemed to be sufficient, the Board could reject it and ask for a better deal, as the current one with Renewi would still be place, and it was in Biffa’s interest to resolve this issue as soon as possible.

40 RISK REGISTER

The BDR Manager commented that there was little to update in relation to the Risk Register. Further information from Biffa and new legislation could change some of the entries, but the register was reviewed every two months, with a full review carried out every year before the AGM. The Risk Register had been considered at steering group level recently, so the BDR Manager was confident that it was accurate and comprehensive.

41 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chair advised that there were no other items of business requiring the Board's consideration.

Resolved:- The next meeting of the Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham Joint Waste Board will be held on Monday 6 July 2026, commencing at 2.00 p.m. in Rotherham Town Hall.

BDR WASTE PFI CONTRACT

BDR MANAGER REPORT 2026-27

1 Governance

1.1 BDR Team

1.1.1 The BDR Team continues to work flexibly across the BDR Partnership and the PFI Waste Treatment facility at Bolton Road, and home working.

1.1.2 **The BDR Team comprises:**

1.1.2.1 **BDR Manager – Paul Hutchinson** has formally handed in his notice to retire following an extended absence from September 2025. His post will be going out to advert in due course.

1.1.2.2 The BDR Legal and Financial Advisors were available to function as mentors, support, gatekeepers, and critical friends for the BDR Team on matters contractual for the team during this time.

1.1.2.2.1 RMBC's Waste Manager functioned as a mentor for the team on administrative matters within the RMBC system (Budgets, HR, Governance structure, and Rules).

1.1.2.2.2 Waste Managers from BMBC and CoDC functioned as mentors for the team on matters of BDR Partnership and Council/Site interface.

1.1.2.3 **Senior Contract Officer – Carl Hewlett** (stepped up as BDR Manager in the interim)

1.1.2.4 **Technical Officer / Admin – Rhonda Fletcher**

1.2 External Support

1.1.3 The BDR Team continues to receive external legal, financial, and technical advice from specialists who have been advising the BDR Team on PFI matters and partnership working.

1.1.3.1.1 Neil Tindall Legal Services (Legal)

1.1.3.1.2 Roamine Advisory Limited - Craig Pember (Finance)

1.1.3.1.3 Stantec UK Limited (Technical)

1.1.3.1.4 IDRisk (Insurance)

1.1.4 The BDR Team and their external advisers continue to work on major and minor variations to the contract to improve the overall service delivery, processes, performance, and contractual interaction between BDR and the contractor.

1.1.5 Advisors are / will be assisting with negotiation / due diligence on:

1.1.5.1 Contract Parent Company Guarantee (PCG) change request - rejected.

1.1.5.2 Ferrybridge offtake contract Parent Company Guarantee (PCG) change request – Awaiting Detail from Biffa.

1.1.5.3 Deliverable Matrix Variation – ongoing.

1.1.5.4 Dispute Resolution Pannel agreement.

1.1.5.5 Landfill diversion Incentive - DRIM (annually).

1.1.5.6 Change in Law implications for the contract (and cost mitigation) arising from the Environment Act 2021 (R&WS, EPR, DRS & Simpler Recycling, etc)

1.1.5.6.1 Biffa indicated they wish to discuss potential implications to contract resulting from this.

1.1.5.7 Joint Insurance Cost Report (Bi-annually – Number 5 Received Jan 25 - Rejected)

1.1.5.7.1 Biffa indicated may wish to take to dispute but nothing further currently.

1.1.5.8 Annual Insurance Placement (24/2/25 for 2026) and waiver request for some aspects of Insurance requirements

1.1.5.9 Change request to remove the old Fire suppression system.

1.1.5.10 Qualified Change in Law (QCiL) claim for Environmental Permit changes and installation of Best Available Technologies (BAT's)

1.1.5.10.1 BDR Team awaiting technical and financial date from Biffa (for QCiL claim) to allow due diligence and interrogation.

1.1.5.11 Changes/rebuild of AD Pasteurisation Tunnels and Acid Scrubber due to errors in the original design.

1.1.5.12 Review of new carbon Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) requirements on Energy from Waste (EfW) sites (Ferrybridge) and potential (2030) budgetary impact on BDR Councils. Possibly including financial burden mitigation options/initiatives

1.1.5.13 Review of maintenance plans and lifecycle of Bolton Road plant and equipment.

1.1.5.14 Any future amendments to managing Persistent Organic Pollutants (POP's) from EA directives.

1.1.5.15 Site condition survey and hand back obligation for Barnsley transfer station.

2 Financial

2.1 26/27 Operational Management Budget

2.1.1.1 For 26/27, the Interim BDR Manager was unable to propose to the Joint Waste Board AGM on 6th July 2026 that the budget increase from £340,000 to £380,000 (one-third paid by each Council), as the meeting was not quorate; therefore, the proposal was taken to the next meeting on 16th November 2026. The proposal would meet the Teams' anticipated requirements for 26-27. The budget was last increased in the contract year 22/23 to the current £340,000.

2.1.1.2 This increase is to reflect better annual pay increases for staff, temporary uplifts in pay due to covering the BDR manager position and increases in BDR Consultants' fees for the current year.

2.1.2 Some re-profiling of individual budget header amounts may be required as the year progresses, but it is hoped these costs and savings will be neutral across the budget.

2.1.3 A breakdown of the 26/27 anticipated BDR PFI Operational Management Budget will be presented today at the Joint Waste Board meeting on 16th November 2026 and is below for scrutiny and approval. It is anticipated to be as follows:

2.1.3.1 **Table 1 - Operational Management Budget Forecast 2026/27**

26/27 Budget - To be approved by JWB 16.11.26			
	Budget	**Forecast**	**Variance**
Management	£168,000	£0	£0
Administration	£35,000	£0	£0
Call off Legal	**£83,000**	£0	£0
External Finance	**£54,000**		
External Legal	**£0**		
External Technical	**£30,000**		
External Insurance	**£10,000**		
Call off Finance	£0		
Call off Technical	**£0**		
Projects	£0	£0	£0
Total	**£380,000**	**£0**	**£0**

2.1.4 The BDR team proactively manages its Operational Budget, but it is anticipated that all the 26/27 budget may be utilised, and it is not anticipated that significant budgetary savings will be possible in 26/27.

2.2 25/26 Net Unitary Charge Payment

2.2.1 The Interim BDR Manager has now verified the 2025/2026 unitary charge reconciliation and has provided Waste and Finance managers with its outcome.

2.2.2 Throughout the 2025/26 financial year, over 213,000 tonnes of contract waste from Barnsley, Doncaster, and Rotherham Councils were processed through the contract. This is an increase of 0.65% on the previous year. The forecasted amount for the year was 212,000 tonnes.

2.2.3 No additional payments are anticipated, and each Council received credit on its 25/26 July UC.

2.2.4 Savings to the Unitary Charge have been obtained in:

2.2.4.1 Landfill Diversion Incentive
2.2.4.2 Recycling Performance Deduction
2.2.4.3 Royalty Payment for spare capacity use

2.3 26-27 Unitary Charge Forecast

2.3.1 The PFI Unitary charge has an annual indexation mechanism that is set by the January RPIX figure. The January 2026 figure was 3.2%.

2.3.2 Waste arisings for 26-27 are anticipated to remain at the same levels as 25/26 and have been forecast at 212,000 tonnes again, and with no unexpected or unanticipated additional costs, expenditure, or income. The following Unitary Charge amount is anticipated for 2026/27.

2.3.2.1 **Table 2 - 26/27 Unitary Charge Forecast.**

Unitary Charge	**Barnsley**	**Doncaster**	**Rotherham**	**Total**
Invoice Payment to Biffa	£10,114,116.58	£11,478,408.61	£8,433,273.45	£30,025,798.64
Internal Adjustments				
Anticipated Credits	£1,933,164.03	£2,577,552.04	£1,933,164.03	£6,443,880.09
Budget Out-turn	**£8,180,952.55**	**£8,900,856.58**	**£6,500,109.42**	**£23,581,918.55**

2.4 Energy Gainshare Payment.

2.4.1 It is calculated that there will be no Energy Gainshare Payment in 2026/27. This payment is calculated over a three-year rolling average of electricity prices, and as prices have fallen sufficiently since their peak in 21/22 & 22/23, the rolling average will no longer fall within the calculation to trigger a payment.

3 Contract Delivery

3.1 Contract Strategic Meetings

3.1.1 BDR Liaison Committee Meeting – Held every 6 months, the Liaison Committee meetings between the Councils, the contractor, and the operating contractor continue to be positive; the representatives across all parties have been in post for some time, and this allows for a collective understanding of contractual positions. The last meeting was held on 20th May 2026, and the next meeting was due to take place on 11th November 2026, but this is having to be rearranged due to issues with availability.

3.1.2 Operating Contractor (OpCo) - Monthly meetings are held between the BDR team and Biffa, the operating contractor. At these meetings, the BDR team receives updated reports on plant performance and maintenance, duty of care, health and safety, any projects, contractual performance targets, and site inspection outcomes. The BDR team raises any performance issues and agrees deductions that should be applied, and the Contractor is measured against contractual performance requirements.

3.1.3 Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV OpCo) - Bi-monthly meetings are held between the BDR team (with its Legal and Financial external consultants) and the SPV Director(s) and Biffa contract director. At these meetings, the BDR team receives updated reports on contractual compliance, contractual variations, potential changes in law affecting the contract, insurance, and performance of the PFI financially etc. The BDR team raises any (non-operational) contractual issues at this meeting.

3.2 Contract Data

3.2.1 Performance reports are produced by the contractor on the 14th of each month, including information up to the end of the previous month. Current contract year data will only be included until the 30th of September, as the October monthly report will not be available before this meeting on 16th November 2026.

3.2.2 By undertaking continuous monitoring of the contract through site inspections, report scrutiny, performance monitoring mechanisms, and procedures within the BDR Team, and direct communication with the contractor, we are satisfied with contractual performance, service delivery, and compliance. The BDR team currently has no major concerns with Biffa's delivery and will continue to monitor them in accordance with the contract and raise any issues with the Biffa management team as soon as possible for further discussion and investigation.

3.3 Waste Treatment

3.3.1 Waste Treatment – Bolton Road Facility – Contract Waste Received.

3.3.1.1 Table 3 – 26/27 Year-to-date contract tonnes processed.

Inputs			2025/26	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	YTD 2026/27
		Contract Waste (Limbs)	**53668.30**	4801.62	4368.72	4250.08	4686.50	3935.30	4664	**26705.78**
Barnsley	A	(Household)	**5026.88**	400.34	370.54	396.38	402.22	323.90	413.38	**2306.76**
	B	(Commercial)	**6157.08**	602.48	588.08	540.34	575.06	566.14	513.72	**3385.82**
	C	(HWRC)	**1247.36**	98.88	92.88	100.82	104.62	93.96	107.12	**598.28**
	D	(Public Highways etc)	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**
	E	(Grounds Maintenance)	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**
Doncaster	A	(Household)	**73622.60**	6504.56	6281.56	5902.52	6621.46	5668.64	5953.16	**36931.90**
	B	(Commercial)	**2748.52**	151.38	120.68	170.48	178.10	117.18	148.42	**886.24**
	C	(HWRC)	**8189.62**	763.30	767.14	684.98	726.44	797.38	711.28	**4450.52**
	D	(Public Highways etc)	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**
	E	(Grounds Maintenance)	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**
Rotherham	A	(Household)	**52253.26**	4542.90	4242.94	4481.40	4505.96	4070.00	4486.74	**26329.94**
	B	(Commercial)	**2971.38**	246.60	227.50	227.32	211.92	185.00	259.50	**1357.84**
	C	(HWRC)	**7202.10**	721.70	698.08	612.74	672.74	727.40	658.74	**4091.40**
	D	(Public Highways etc)	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**
	E	(Grounds Maintenance)	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**

3.3.2 Waste Treatment – Bolton Road Facility - Third-party waste received.

Table 4 – 26/27 Year-to-date third-party waste tonnes processed.

Inputs - 3rd Party	2025/26	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	YTD 2026/27
Biffa	10609.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	358.08	358.08

3.3.2.1 The amount of third-party waste being accepted is monitored and managed by the Contractor against Council delivered tonnage to ensure sufficient capacity to process and prioritise BDR contract waste. This will also allow for smoother acceptance of the contract waste from the Councils and increased reception area cleaning as part of Biffa's ongoing fly management measures.

3.4 Waste Treatment Performance

3.4.1 Annually, the two primary monitoring metrics for the contract are recycling performance and diversion from landfill. The contract sets targets for the facility of 17% recycling (with a default-termination trigger if below 10.5%) and 96.71% diversion of waste from landfill (with a default termination trigger if below 68.5%) in the 2026/27 contract year.

3.4.2 Table 5 – 26/27 Year-to-date Bolton Road Process Outputs

Contract Outputs	2025/26	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	YTD 2026/27
Landfill	**1988.84**	**1487.44**	**1791.22**	**606.04**	**592.63**	**83.1**	**1397.67**	**5958.1**
Recovery (RDF + Moisture)	**186226.70**	13380.31	13602.68	15285.63	15395.99	16203.17	12912.47	**86780.25**
Ferrous	**1253.55**	115.42	143.42	129.32	110.16	116.70	134.05	**749.07**
Non-Ferrous	**347.68**	21.88	28.90	25.50	23.56	36.34	24.83	**161.01**
Fines	**16645.31**	1281.54	1398.52	1441.18	1302.90	1144.96	726.23	**7295.33**
Glass & Stone	**1312.35**	127.34	78.04	215.22	241.56	127.36	141.99	**931.51**
Plastic	**1906.81**	152.98	75.46	152.68	102.56	165.52	158.41	**807.61**
Direct Delivered	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**
Recycling Sub-Total	**21465.70**	1699.16	1724.34	1963.90	1780.74	1590.88	1185.51	**9944.53**
Ferrybridge Metals	**2242.71**	153.93	142.25	185.13	187.32	205.10	155.22	**1028.95**
AWM-Recycling	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**
Fines CLO Uplift	**3116.93**	239.98	261.88	269.87	243.98	214.40	135.99	**1366.10**
Recycling Total	**26825.33**	2093.06	2128.28	2418.90	2212.04	2010.38	1476.72	**12339.38**
Outbound Total	**209681.24**	16566.91	17118.24	17855.57	17769.36	17877.15	15495.65	**102682.88**

Performance	2025-26	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	YTD 2026/27
Recycling (%)	**14.10%**	12.57%	13.63%	15.68%	13.32%	14.06%	9.27%	13.09%
Diversion (%)	**97.47%**	80.07%	86.31%	99.37%	91.93%	107.94%	78.69%	90.72%
Moisture Loss (%)	**29.18%**	30.66%	30.74%	30.57%	30.47%	28.98%	31.66%	30.51%

4 Complaints

4.1 Complaints Received

Table 6 – 26/27 Complaints received by month.

2026/27	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Flies	**1** (1) *	2 (1) *	2 (2)	2 (2)	0 (0)	1 (1)							0 (0)
Noise	**0** (0)	**0** (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	2 (2)							0 (0)
Odour	**0** (0)	**0** (0)	2 (2)	1 (1)	1 (1)	0 (0)							0 (0)

(#*) Classified immediately as unsubstantiated by the EA (Distance from site, wind direction, closeness to other sources, description of complaint levied (burning waste!) or Hygiene/lack of own fly management at complainant's address).

4.1.1 So far this year, Biffa has received eight fly complaints, two noise and four odour complaints:

4.1.1.1 07/09/2026 – Fly complaint from Ullswater Close, Bolton upon Dearne.

4.1.1.2 27/09/2026 – Noise complaint, Bolton upon Dearne.

4.1.1.3 28/09/2026 – Noise complaint, Bolton upon Dearne.

4.1.1.4 19/08/2026 – Odour related, unable to investigate due to no address.

4.1.1.5 14/07/2026 – Next - Increase in fly activity.

4.1.1.6 16/07/2026 – Manvers Way- Increase in fly numbers and odour from previous year

4.1.1.7 16/06/2026 – Broomhill View, Bolton upon Dearne: report of odour.

4.1.1.8 04/06/2026 – Farfield Park, report of flies.

4.1.1.9 02/06/2026 – Lowfield Meadows, Bolton upon Dearne: report of odour and flies.

4.1.1.10 02/06/2026 – Mexborough Road, Bolton upon Dearne: report of flies.

4.1.1.11 29/05/2026 – One local business resident, investigated by Biffa and awaiting a reply from EA.

4.1.1.12 01/05/2026 – One local resident, sample found cluster flies, not BDR related.

4.1.1.13 30/04/2026 – One from local business residents, the complaint was investigated by site management, and the EA came to the site, who determined that the issue was not related to site activities.

.

4.1.2 Biffa is currently following its fly management plan, as approved by the EA, increasing fly treatments due to rising temperatures in the warmer months, and monitoring / treating as needed going into the cooler months.

4.1.3 Environmental health officer Adam Cattell attended the site on Monday 22nd June regarding one of the fly complaints. Dave Aston (Environment Agency) unfortunately could not attend.

4.1.4 As part of Biffa's ongoing fly management, a reviewed and updated Fly Management Plan (with additional preventive measures) has been submitted to the EA and approved by them. In addition, Biffa has adapted the application of pesticides to drive flies deeper into the plant on application (not towards exit points), fully inspected the tipping hall to seal all gaps at access and egress points, installed air curtains on the entrance and exit of the tipping Hall to prevent fly egress, and has reduced the time that vehicle entrance and exit doors take to open and close.

4.1.5 Biffa continues dialogue (MD Keith Sinfield personally) with Next in respect of previous complaints of fly issues at their large warehouse that immediately neighbours the Bolton Road site. Dialog between Biffa and Next is ongoing with Biffa receiving praise on the most recent meeting for the reduction in flies labelling it as the best it has ever been. Biffa's fly management plan improvements have been welcomed by all parties and will be monitored going forward.

5 Environmental Report

5.1 26/27

5.1.1 In 26/27, there have been 8 x environmental incidents (unsubstantiated fly, noise, and odour complaints) and 7 x Car forms issued:

5.1.1.1 1 x AIR 1 submission.
5.1.1.2 1 x IC2 submission review
5.1.1.3 1 x Bioaerosol emission monitoring schedule
5.1.1.4 1 x Visit to local business resident following fly complaint.
5.1.1.5 1 x BTS Inspection
5.1.1.6 1 x Bolton Road Site Familiarisation for new EA officer
5.1.1.7 1 x Grange Lane transfer station - Waste returns error

5.1.2 In 26/27, there have been 5 x Schedule 5s submitted:

5.1.2.1 1 x Scada glitch
5.1.2.2 2 x AD Stack Emissions results
5.1.2.3 1 x AD Biogas release
5.1.2.4 1 x Compactor Oil leak

5.1.3 Table 7 - Details of Communications with any relevant Authority in 26/27

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
EA inspections @ BDR Bolton Road				1								
EA inspection @ Barnsley Transfer Station			1									
CAR Received BDR Bolton Road	2	2		1								
WAR Received BDR Bolton Road												
CAR Received Barnsley Transfer Station			1			1						
Schedule 5 submitted to EA		1	3			1						
HSE Enforcement notices BDR Bolton Road												
HSE Enforcement notices Barnsley Transfer Station												
HSE Cautions BDR Bolton Road												
HSE Cautions Barnsley Transfer Station												
New Permits, Variations, Revocations & Suspensions issued. (All Operations)												

6 Other Updates / Issues

6.1 Biffa Sale

6.1.1 The BDR Team and its legal, financial, and technical advisors closely monitored the sale of the PFI contract to Biffa from RUK, being in contact with Senior figures in Biffa, the retained personnel in both the SPV and OpCo. The Team also liaised with other Councils with RUK's/BIFFA PFI's, WIDP, Defra and the Senior Lenders who finance the project, to be aware of wider issues/requests and sense check the sale. So far, no significant issues, risks, or worries are circulating.

6.1.2 The only outstanding request arising from the sale is for the Parent Company Guarantee (PCG) in the contract's various agreement documents to be changed from Renewi PLC to Biffa Bid Co. After taking advice from our consultants this request has been rejected as the new proposed guarantor does not fulfil the requirements of a guarantor as set out in the contract. Renewi PLC remains the guarantor. We have received an update on this in June, and this is currently being reviewed by our legal and financial consultants and the BDR team.

6.2 Insurance

6.2.1 The Contractor obtained full cover of insurance for 2026. Although in general the insurance market for waste still sees difficulties in placement and higher premiums, the Contractor's previous insurance advisor Marsh Limited, stated that for the BDR PFI they have seen an increased appetite from insurers to accept more options, which has seen a slight decrease in premiums. This is due to the BDR Site demonstrating good fire prevention by investment into control measures, equipment, and fire risk reduction.

6.2.1.1 The first meeting between the Contractor, BDR Team and AON has taken place for obtaining insurance for 2027 with a similar message to last year in that they have no major concerns.

6.2.2 Following the sale to Biffa, the contractor has switched to AON as their insurance broker. Following several meetings with them, they are reporting a similar position to Marsh previously and have seen an increase in appetite from the insurers also. Biffa confirmed that insurance had been placed by the deadline of the 24th of December 2025 as needed.

6.2.3 Insurance, cover, and availability will be scrutinised closely to ensure that under the new contractor (Biffa) it continues to be placed and that it is sufficient to cover and meet the contractual requirements.

6.2.4 The SPV has advised that they will be writing to obtain the same waivers to levels of insurance as they have in previous years, and we anticipate the following.

6.2.4.1 A hot works condition applied to the Material (Property) Damage and Business Interruption

6.2.4.2 A deductible for Material (Property) Damage, Machinery Breakdown, and Business Interruption.

6.2.4.3 The Material (Property) Damage and Business Interruption policy has a Loss Limit.

6.2.4.4 Deductibles for Public and Products Liability policy and individual aspects sub-limits

6.2.5 We have engaged with IDRisk (Insurance Specialist) to undertake a review of these requests along with the cover documents. Once received, the BDR Team will make a judgement on whether to grant the waiver or if more information is needed.

6.3 Joint Insurance Cost Report (JICR)

6.3.1 The position for the 25/26 to 26/27 JICR remains the same as in previous iterations, and the BDR Team has rejected any claim for payment from the contractor, citing the contract drafting and calculation. We now await a response from the Contractor if they wish to pursue their claim.

6.3.2 The 5th JICR was received in February 2025 (every 2 years), making an initial claim of £1.13M from the Councils for increased insurance costs. Full interrogation and due diligence of the report (for accuracy and against the Contract specification) had been undertaken by the BDR Manager with his Legal, Financial, and Insurance advisors. The conclusion of all is a rejection of the JICR. A Rejection letter was sent to the Contractor on the 25th of March 2025, confirming rejection on the grounds of:

6.3.2.1 Mathematical errors
6.3.2.2 Incorrect data used
6.3.2.3 Incorrect (or lack of evidence) for assumptions in the report
6.3.2.4 Incorrect interpretation of the contract.
6.3.2.5 When the correct data is used, we calculate that the Councils are not liable to make payment.

6.3.3 Therefore, the position for the 5th JICR remains the same as the previous four iterations, rejecting any claim for payment from the contractor, citing the contract drafting and calculation. We now await a response from the Contractor if they wish to pursue their claim.

6.3.4 It should be noted that the BDR position on JICR is not unique, and many PFI's JICR's are not yet agreed. Further guidance from the Infrastructure Projects Authority (IPA) on the application of the contract about JICR has recently been issued, but although it was anticipated to give clarity, on review, this (non-binding guidance) seems watered down and lacking clarity.

6.3.5 We are still awaiting an official response from the SPV on our rejection letter. Although it should be noted that the time limit as stipulated in the contract to take our rejection through the Dispute process has lapsed. The Contractor has recently intimated that they may seek to take several JICR's (3 to 5) to adjudication and dispute. This could be in 2026, but they may initially pursue a "test case" with another PFI First.

6.3.6 The BDR team and its advisors will keep a review of the situation with IDRisk having reviewed the previous 5 JICR's already.

6.3.7 The sixth JICR is due in January 2027, and we anticipate an update from the Contractor prior to this being issues to agree a position going forward.

6.4 AD Pasteurisation Tunnel & Acid Scrubber

6.4.1 Biffa's legal action against the original contractor (JCBE), who designed and built the AD facility, has been to Adjudication in December 23 /January 24, with the adjudication being found in favour of Biffa.

6.4.2 JCBE has disputed the findings of the adjudication through the submission of a Notice of Dissatisfaction. Unless the parties agree on a position on liability, the case will now be heard in court.

6.4.3 JCBE's parent company have now been in contract with Biffa to agree a way forward on this with several meetings taking place. Recent updates indicate that this is moving forward with a planned resolution soon.

6.4.4 As the Acid Scrubber is integral to the AD facility and is physically positioned on top of the AD plant, Biffa feels it may not now be as simple as making the original design work. Biffa is investigating if a new positioning or a new (enhanced) system may be required. The BDR team will ensure that any cost for any enhancing of the system above what is required is not passed to the Councils.

6.4.5 Biffa will continue to progress the rectification of the acid scrubber on the AD facility. The base for the course of action is a report they commissioned from their consultant Otto Simon. A design path has been chosen by Biffa, which is being worked through with a suitable contractor appointed to build and commission the equipment. Again, the BDR team, along with our legal, technical, and financial consultants, will endure due diligence of the suggested solution is undertaken to mitigate any additional cost pass through to the Council.

6.5 Permit emission amendments (Best available Technologies – BATS)

6.5.1 Biffa has received a draft revised permit from the EA detailing the new required emissions levels from the acid scrubber stack. Biffa has formally written to the Councils to notify us that they believe this is a Qualifying Change of Law and therefore, once the changes in the permit have been analysed, there may be a claim for any additional resource/expenditure to meet the new permit requirements.

6.5.2 Biffa has also been set a hard delivery date in 2026 by the EA to comply with their permit requirement, and are being closely monitored by the EA. This now looks likely to be pushed back to 2027.

6.5.3 The BDR Team has asked for Biffa to provide a detailed analysis of the changes and an in-depth justification for any Qualified Change in Law (QCiL) payment they feel is required from the council. Biffa have advised quotation and procurement for the solution has been undertaken and they are hoping to have further information soon (costings, solution proposed, technical specification of solution, and technical specification of existing and cost to replace as is).

6.5.4 Following extra monitoring carried out in December 2025, we are still awaiting an update from Biffa that will provide us with the cost model and engineering solution details for us to review. This is now expected in June/July.

6.5.5 Once received the BDR team will undertake due diligence of any claim, taking legal, financial, and technical advice from external experts to ascertain if the claim is correct and then if any payment is required form the Councils.

6.5.6 Technical consultants, Stantec, have been provided with details of the system and have provided an independent evaluation of the contractual performance baseline requirements. And they will assist with phase two – Analysis of the proposed solution by Biffa.

6.6 External Maintenance Review

6.6.1 The review conducted at the BDR Waste Treatment Facility examined lifecycle maintenance activities from 2019 to 2025, comparing Biffa's annual maintenance records against the original Schedule 46 – Lifecycle Works. The aim was to identify discrepancies in maintenance frequency and provide BDR Councils with a clearer understanding of the condition of key equipment. The analysis revealed several instances of non-conformance, with some assets maintained less frequently than scheduled and others more frequently. Biffa attributed these variances to factors such as third-party maintenance, asset descriptions, improved inspection regimes, and operational decisions based on the knowledge of operating the facility over the previous 10 years.

6.6.2 The findings from Stantec found no significant issues to raise regarding the ongoing maintenance and lifecycle activities at the facility. The findings also suggesting opportunities for cost savings through potential reductions in maintenance frequency for certain equipment, provided these changes are justified and agreed upon. Conversely, where increased maintenance is necessary, Biffa should supply detailed explanations to ensure transparency and support future contract hand back planning.

6.6.3 The findings by Stantec have given the BDR team confidence that Biffa is managing maintenance and lifecycle activities well. The report also recommends improving the format and clarity of future maintenance data sharing—preferably in Excel—to facilitate easier analysis and consistent terminology. Going forward the BDR team will use this data annually to review the planned and actual maintenance, promoting better contract management and informed decision-making.

7 Barnsley Transfer Station – Grange Lane

7.1 Dilapidation Works

7.1.1 All delaps works have now been completed for some time. BMBC Asset Management has commissioned a survey of a schedule of conditions to record a standard for Biffa to keep the site in a good and tenable condition to the end of the contract, which was being reviewed by BMBC (two years ago).

7.1.2 The BDR manager has been pushing BMBC asset Management (without response to numerous e-mails) to allow the survey to be reviewed and agreed by Biffa, to allow a variation to the BTS contract to be drawn up to agree on the maintenance of the facility moving forward, how the paintwork on the steel should be managed, and, more specifically, the agreed hand-back condition expected by BMBC from Biffa at contract end.

7.1.3 Recently, after numerous unanswered requests and with Biffa planning to undertake their own condition survey, we were contacted by the group leader for BMBC Estates late in 2025 and are currently in the process of working through the outstanding works to enable an agreement on the baseline condition survey between the contractor and BMBC as soon as possible.

7.1.4 This will allow all parties to agree what the condition of the site will be when it comes to handing back the site at the end of the contract period.

7.2 Other

7.2.1 Due to long-term sickness, staffing levels were high at Barnsley transfer station. Agency workers covered long-term sick duties. Although all long-term sickness has returned to work, two are on phased returns, meaning cover is still required from Bolton Road site.

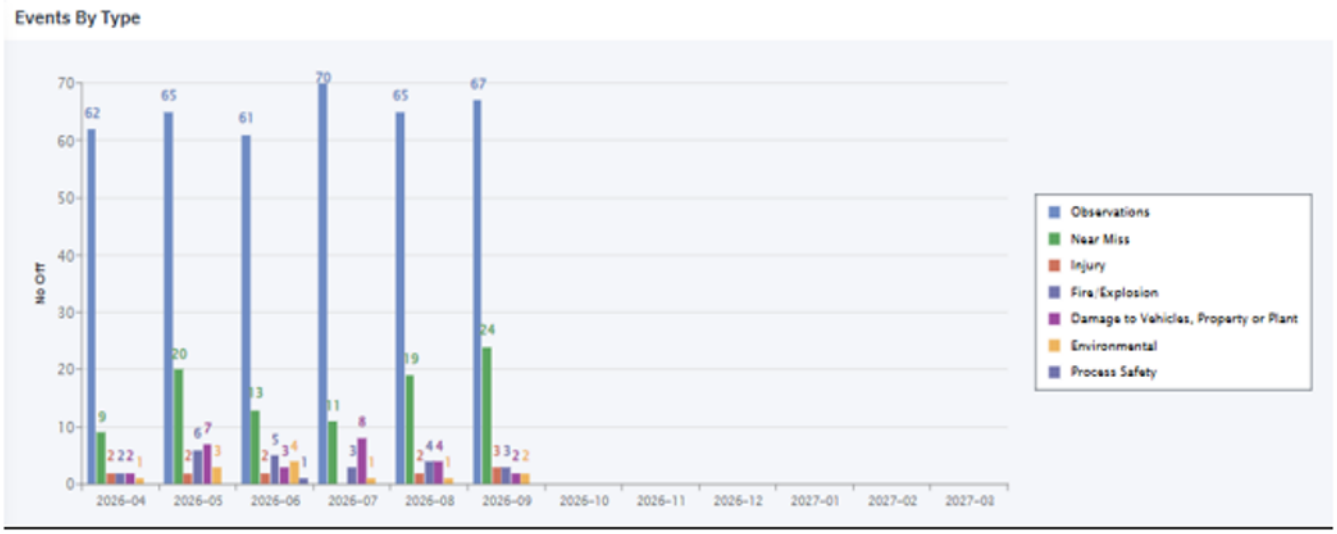
8 Health and Safety

8.1 26/27

8.1.1 Table 8 – 26/27 Year-to-date Health and Safety

H&S data supplied up to September 2026, as the October 2026 data will not be contractually available until 14th November 2026 (after this report is issued).

Events year to date April 2026 – March 2027



9 Community Education Liaison Officer (CELO)

9.1 26/27

9.1.1 Press Releases

9.1.1.1 New site tour dates for 2026/27.

9.1.1.2 CSR volunteer hours

9.1.2 Social Media

9.1.2.1 Recycle Week 2026 (25th September to 1st October) **-** posts were shared during rom the official campaign. These received 2,592 views on the social media channels.

9.1.2.2 International E-Waste Day 2026 (14th October) - the Great Cable Challenge was repeated this year.

9.1.2.3 International Compost Awareness Week (May 2026) - Social media content was shared on Facebook and Instagram. The posts received 35,154 views. The giveaway received 419 entries. The winner of the giveaway was selected, and the bundle was delivered.

9.1.2.4 Three social media posts have been created on disposing of BBQs safely, warnings on using BBQs in natural settings, and disposing of gas canisters safely. The post received 10,732 views.

9.1.2.5 A social media post was shared for World Refill Day (July). This received 478 views on Facebook and seventy-eight views on Instagram.

9.1.2.6 Four blogs were published about the Hot bin giveaway and reasons to start composting as part of International Compost Awareness Week.

9.1.2.7 Blogs are posted regularly on a range of topics including borrowing the swap shop kit and making quesadillas.

9.1.2.8 Eighty-nine posts were shared on the Waste Less South Yorkshire. They received 339,951 views on Facebook and 35,113 views on Instagram, and ten posts were shared on TikTok about using coffee grounds in the garden, waste ‘horror stories’, wardrobe decluttering, using leftover bread, eco-friendly day at the shops, buying second-hand books, borrowing instead of buying, the ‘kinda chic’ trend applied to sustainable habits, Shop your wardrobe competition launch, and autumn wardrobe.

9.1.3 Prevention/Reduction Activities

9.1.3.1 **Single Use Plastics** - Between April and August the CELO team established a collaboration with Hey Girls to provide reusable period products to residents of Barnsley, Doncaster, and Rotherham. This included setting them up as a supplier, a website landing page being made and a new platform being created. The homepacks were promoted through food banks, social supermarkets, women’s shelters, domestic violence groups, sexual health organisations, and other similar places to try to get the packs to people who would benefit most from them. Between August and October home packs were sent to 265 people.

9.1.3.2 **Plastic Free July Giveaway** - which focuses on a different area of life each week by 31st July 2026. Giveaway bundles were purchased to promote plastic-free products in different areas of life. The bundle categories are in the kitchen, for the kids, out and about, beauty and hygiene. Social media posts and a press release are now complete.

In July, four giveaways ran on the Waste Less South Yorkshire social media channels, focused on plastic-free swaps in different areas of life. Winners were selected, and prizes were posted out. The total number of entries was 444. The entries per giveaway are as follows:

Kitchen – 137 entries. Kids – 51 entries. Out and about – 135 entries. Beauty – 121 entries

9.1.4 **Food Waste Reduction Campaign – Phase 2** –All events and promotion of the kitchen kits have now ended. Ten events were undertaken in total, and the scheme promoted at talks and via social media.

635 surveys have been completed in total and over five hundred packs distributed. In addition, 118 follow-up surveys have been completed and follow up surveys will continue to be sent out until December.

9.1.4.1 **Recipe Ideas** – Artisan Cooks were commissioned to create ten recipe videos to be used across social media. In July, the recipe videos were uploaded to YouTube and have been included in social media plans.

9.1.5 **Clothing Waste Prevention Campaign 'Shop Stop'** - In June, a meeting took place with personal stylist Laura Fawcett, to discuss creating personal style videos for social media. Ideas for the videos were discussed and agreed on, including styling basics, styling old microtrends, and shopping your own wardrobe. A series of six videos were produced by Laura and shared throughout September and October. In October, a further seven videos were commissioned for November to January to be used throughout the year.

9.1.5.1 Social media assets were developed for a 'shop your wardrobe' clothing competition. The competition ran in September and into October, receiving multiple entries; winners were selected in October and received their prizes through Thankbox.

9.1.5.2 **Team Repair** – Team Repair sessions have been promoted to schools through education and enterprise contacts at the three Councils. There were thirty-three sessions available in total. To date three have been completed in Barnsley, with a further six sessions booked and one more school expressing interest; three have been completed in Doncaster, with a further two schools expressing interest; and one has been completed in Rotherham with a further two schools expressing interest. The details continue to be shared regularly on social media and via contacts.

9.1.6 **Second Hand September -** Second-hand September content has been created as part of the next social media plan.

In July, content was included in the next social media plan and has been approved by the comms group.

In September, posts were shared throughout the month, including from the official Oxfam campaign, and a blog post about shopping at charity shops.

9.1.7 **Batteries, Vapes and Electronics -** The specific changes required by Barnsley and Doncaster were discussed with Material Focus, and they have agreed to schedule these with their design team. A timeline for the localised designs has been requested but not yet supplied.

In July, the revised Material Focus designs were distributed to the Councils and responses chased.
In August, the amends requested by the Councils were shared with Material Focus. Once a response is received, the Councils will be updated on the expected timeline. There has been no progress in September.
Three posts have been created for social media, promoting take-back schemes, proper disposal and the hazards of batteries, vapes and electronics.

9.1.4 **Community Activities –** So far this year, seven tours of the BDR Waste Treatment Facility have taken place with forty-two participants.

9.1.5 **Education Workshops –** So far this year, five 3Rs sessions and two assemblies occurred with five hundred and thirty-three participants.
In September, one education session took place. This was a Rubbish Adventure session with Whiston Brownies.

9.1.6 **Community Talks and Presentations -** two talks took place. A Love Food Hate Waste talk for St Wilfrid's Fellowship was attended by approximately twenty-five people, and a Love your Clothes talk for the Inner Wheel Club of Doncaster was attended by approximately thirty-five people. St Wilfrid's Fellowship has booked a talk for 2027, and a group of Magistrates has expressed interest in a talk later this year.

9.1.7 **Biffa BDR Community Social Responsibility (CSR) (grants and volunteer hours)** - In April, 6.5 hours of volunteer hours took place with Kids Plant Trees.
In July, the CELO team attended the Kids Plant Trees celebration event as volunteers.
In October 4.5 volunteer hours took place with the Doncaster Clothing Swap and a further 9 hours are scheduled for later in the year. Information and the application form for volunteer hours are now on the BDR website. This information was also distributed to Parish Councils in the area.

9.1.8 **Community Liaison Group Newsletter** – The Q1 (Jan-Mar 26), Q2 (Apr-Jun) and Q3 (July-Sept) newsletter updates have been shared with CLG and added to the BDR online website.

9.1.9 **Waste Composition Analysis -** Data and reports from the Spring 2026 analysis have now been shared with the Councils.
The next compositional analysis took place in October 2026, and the details will be provided to the councils when received.

9.1.10 **BDR Online Website Management** - Website checks occurred in April, June and August, and any needed changes were requested.

9.2 CELO Budget 26/27

9.2.1 Below shows the agreed 26/27 budget and current spend used by the CELO team to deliver the projects for the councils. This includes the £15k set aside for each Council to utilise on projects specific to their area that align with the goals of the fund.

9.2.1.1 Agreed 26/27 CELO Budget: £172,468.27.

9.2.1.2 Current Spend as of end of September 2026: £22,371.85.

10 Joint working and BDR support 25/26 and 26-27

10.1 Updates

10.1.1 The BDR team and its External Advisors have been assisting Barnsley, Doncaster, and Rotherham councils with joint and individual projects. There is additional support as required, from a legal locum, internal and external technical advisors, and financial advisors, for more complex matters. It should be noted that the increase in consultation activity from central government departments is putting pressure on resources. Once the outcome of the consultations is known, more resources will be required to implement changes to contracts and services.

10.1.2 Listed below are the current projects and areas where the BDR team is helping to support the individual Councils or co-ordinate joint work 25/26 and 26-27:

10.1.3 BMBC

10.1.3.1 Support on Paper and Card recycling off-taker re-contracting and specification.
10.1.3.2 Support on Dry Mixed Recycling off-taker re-contracting and specification.
10.1.3.3 Support on Skips and Bulky Waste off-taker re-contracting and specification.
10.1.3.4 Finalisation and Support for delivery of new HWRC contract
10.1.3.5 Support for re-tender of Garden Waste Contract

10.1.4 CoDC

10.1.4.1 Finalisation and Support for the delivery of the new HWRC contract
10.1.4.2 Legal support for review of Collection Contract

10.1.5 RMBC

10.1.5.1 Support for the re-tender of Garden Waste Contract
10.1.5.2 Support for delivery/take-back of new HWRC contract.

10.1.6 B.D.R

10.1.6.1 Co-ordination, collation, and submission to numerous Government/Defra consultations from around the waste sector.
10.1.6.2 Assisting with HWRC contract variation requirements
10.1.6.3 Lobbying the Government on the delays in the R&WS outcomes
10.1.6.4 Changes required due to Resource and Waste Strategy
10.1.6.5 Pre-work on Strategic Review of SYMWS as requested at JWB.

10.2 Report Contact:

10.2.1 Paul Hutchinson, BDR Manager (on sick leave) – Paul.hutchinson@rotherham.gov.uk
10.2.2 Carl Hewlett, BDR Senior Contract Officer – Carl.Hewlett@rotherham.gov.uk

Agenda Item 7

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

BRIEFING		
	TO:	Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham Joint Waste Board
	DATE:	16th November 2026
	LEAD OFFICER:	Carl Hewlett – Senior Contract Officer (acting BDR manager)
	TITLE:	BDR PFI Project Risk Register

1. Background

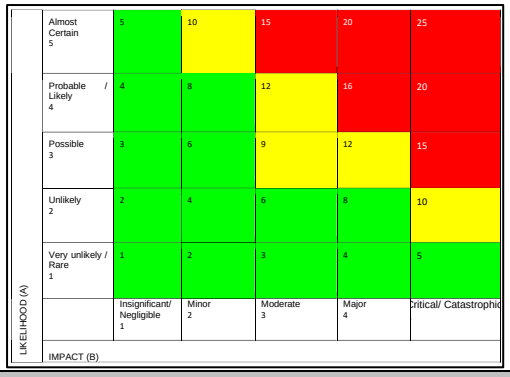
1.1 Barnsley MBC, City of Doncaster Council and Rotherham Borough Council (the **Councils**) entered into a principal agreement called the Project Agreement (the **PA**) in March 2012 with 3SE (Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham) Limited (the **Contractor**). The agreement is to build, design and operate a facility to manage the residual waste for the Councils from July 2015 to end of June 2040 and manage Barnsley Transfer Station. The PA also requires the Contractor to achieve agreed levels of recycling and landfill diversion.

1.2 The Contractor is a special purpose vehicle company set up purely for this PFI project, meaning it has no significant balance sheet strength or assets. It sub-contracts its service obligations, and most of its PA obligations, to Biffa PLC a waste management service company as its operator (the **Operator**). The Operator produces solid recovered fuel (**SRF**) from contract waste, which is shipped to Enfinium Multi-Fuel, Ferrybridge for thermal treatment. The Councils pay a unitary charge each month to the Contractor who then pays the Operator through an operating contract. The total Councils' payments between 2015 and 2040 are approximately £721M (as forecast at PA signature) so this scheme is, for each Council, one of the highest value contractual commitments.

1.3 Initially, the Contractor was initially owned by two of shareholders in the proportion 75:25 through a Renewi investment vehicle and an SSE investment vehicle. In October 2020 SSE announced the sale of their "Multifuel Energy" business (Ferrybridge FM1 and FM2 energy from waste facilities plus other assets) and the Contractor ownership changed. Following SSE's exit from Ferrybridge, Renewi became full owners of the Contractor through an investment vehicle and renamed as Renewi BDR Limited. In 2024 Renewi PLC announced their desire to exit the UK market and in October 2024 subsequently sold the UK division Renewi UK Services Ltd (that owned Renewi BDR Limited) to Biffa PLC. Although the ownership of the Contractor has changed twice, there is no change in the PA between Biffa and the BDR Councils, nor the offtake supply contract terms between Biffa and the offtaker at Ferrybridge so the SRF will continue to be supplied to that offtaker throughout the term of the PFI contract which ends in 2040.

1.4 The BDR Joint Waste Board last considered the risk register at its previous meeting in February 2026. Since that date, the Risk register has been updated bi-monthly. In April 2026 a deep dive of the project risks was undertaken by the acting BDR Manager and submitted to Steering Committee for review by BDR Assistant Directors. The register was last reviewed at their September 2026 Meeting.

1.5 The risk categories are split between red, amber, and green (RAG) representing varying degrees of exposure. Each category contains a range of risk scores, and the table below shows how the RAG rating and score are derived.



2. Key Issues

2.1 **Changes**

2.2 There have been no new risks added to the Register.

2.3 There have been no increases or decreases to the currently listed risks following a review prior to the last Steering Committee meeting and the Joint Waste Board meeting. These will continue to be reviewed by the BDR Waste Manager / Senior Contract Officer which any changes noted.

2.4 **Summary of Risks**

Current RAG Rating	**October 2026** (Feb26 position)	Target RAG Rating	**October 2026** (Feb26 position)
Red	**0** (0)	Red	**0** (0)
Amber	3 (2)	Amber	**0** (0)
Green	**16** (17)	Green	**19** (19)
Total	**19** (19)	**Total**	**19** (19)

Risks continue to be considered against for the current perceived risk profile of – Council Changes, recent legislation changes, planned legislation changes and recently purchase of contract by Biffa PLC and economic and ecological landscape.

The risks contained in the register require ongoing management action. In some cases, additional resources may be necessary to implement the relevant actions or mitigate risks. Any additional costs associated with the risks are reported to the BDR Steering Committee for consideration.

3. Key Actions and Timelines

3.1 **Monitoring**

The PFI project risk register is reviewed by the BDR Steering Committee at their regular meeting every 4 months and reported corporately every 2 months via the individual Councils' risk registers. Additionally, the BDR Manager reports to the Joint Waste Team and draws attention to issues to allow internal challenge.

The BDR Manager and the Council's core contract management team will review and update the risk register on a two-month cycle to ensure risks are able to be effectively monitored and managed.

4. Recommendations

4.1 BDR Joint Waste Board is asked to consider and note the attached updated risk register and, after consideration, advise of any further risks to be added to or deleted from the risk register.

Risk Number	Risk	Consequence /effect: - *What would actually happen as a result? How much of a problem would it be? To whom and why?*	Existing actions/controls - What are you doing to manage this now?	Risk Score with existing measures (See scoring table) I	L	Current Score	Further management actions/controls required - What would you like to do in addition to your controls?	Target Score with further management actions/controls I	L	Target Score	Risk Owner (Officer responsible for managing risk and controls)	Risk Review Date	Movement
23 (CSS13)	Changes in Technology due to innovation or Government Law/Regulations (Carbon Capture*) at Energy from Waste Plant*	Potential financial implications if due to change in law. Initial negotiation with Biffa and Enfinium. Biffa/Enfinium may wish to cascade effects. Would trigger clauses covering this scenario (changed to EFW downstream contract). Cardon Capture required at Enfinium facility, likely to become mandatory . Additional Persistent Organic Pollutant restraints and disposal tech' needed. Likely new Acid Scrubber tech needed at site to meet permit requirements.	Procedure incorporated in the Contract Conditions. Impact and actions to be jointly agreed with the Contractor to negate or mitigate costs as far as possible. In-depth negotiation will be undertaken with (already procured) Legal and Financial expertise working for the Councils. Application of the downstream Changes to EFW contract Clauses within the contract. Enfinium requested to supply situational update via monthly OpCo meeting.	3	4	12	In-house Legal & Financial expertise has worked on the PFI Contract from inception - Large in-depth knowledge of PFI contract and clauses. Experienced negotiators to be brought on board Changes and/or claims for additional Financial costs from Biffa/ Enfinium to be monitored, challenged and evaluated. Instructed Technical consultants to undertake evaluation and due diligence on ETS, POP's and Permit position and conditions.	2	3	6	BDR MANAGER (Senior Contract Officer acting up currently)	14/10/26	
22 (CSS13)	Lack of resources due to contractor staff restructures, staff resignations, or leaving company. Failure to have a knowledge of current level of management of facility and contract. Current contractor selling business or handing facility back	Failure to deliver the contract effectively, and deliver the terms of the contract to ensure not in breach of the contract requirement. Reduction in the good working relationship between contractor and client. Loss of key staff through either Sale of Business by Biffa or handing facility back.	Documentation, Spreadsheets and process in BDR PFI team to monitor that contractual requirements are being delivered. Used, maintained and updated weekly and when changes occur. Checks that knowledge of contractual processes and procedures to be held on contractors management system. Checks on Staff training and development. Continued dialogue (site visits weekly, Meetings monthly) with current contractor and staff. Sale of RUKS to Biffa know finalised (Oct24) and Biffa take-over of staff and site completed .	3	3	9	To ensure regular operational meetings where staffing and contingency is discussed. Obtain prior knowledge of staff changed due. Work with new staff members to maintain client Contractor relationship and adherence to contract delivery. Further work to improve Contract Monitoring and recording within the BDR team. Requires continued monitoring of working practices of Biffa in the initial first 12 months as they incorporate the BDR PFI in to their organisation to ensure no reduction in Staff, their productivity, training and competences.	3	2	6	BDR MANAGER (Senior Contract Officer acting up currently)	14/10/26	
17 (CSS13)	Contractor is in Financial Default due to financial failure of contractor	Funders assess the position and decide whether to step in and avoid Contractor Default. If they do not then the Contractor could be terminated by the Councils.	Contractor to limit exposure to unnecessary costs and protect income during any negotiations of change. Councils have standard HMT approved contract drafting to manage termination process. Due diligence and review of financial situation undertaken with sale of RUKS to Biffa (Biffa received £100m cash injection from RUKS for sale)	4	2	8	Ensure appropriate application and understanding of the contract. Continue to maintain a good contractual relationship with SPV and directors. SPV meeting held every 2 months, Liaison Meeting every 6 months. BDR PFI team's Financial Advisor keeping financial oversight of Biffa.	4	1	4	BDR MANAGER (Senior Contract Officer acting up currently)	14/10/26	
2 (CSS13)	Contractor default needing emergency action and/or leading to contract termination.	Service disruption. Temporary full or partial closure of facilities.	A series of performance bond and Parent Company Guarantees exist to provide and/or pay for interim/alternative arrangements to be made. Funders would work with BDR to bring in a new contractor to deliver the service. Contingency arrangements may be implemented in the short term. Robust contract monitoring procedures. Due diligence and review of contractual situation undertaken with sale of RUKS to Biffa (Biffa received £100m cash injection from RUKS for sale)	4	2	8	Ensure appropriate application and understanding of the contract. Ensure monitoring staff are sufficiently skilled to manage this situation. Continue to maintain a good contractual relationship with SPV and directors. SPV meeting held every 2 months, Liaison Meeting every 6 months. BDR PFI team's Financial Advisor keeping financial oversight of Biffa. Liaison with DEFRA, WIDP and other PFI Contract Managers to keep oversight and knowledge transfer.	4	1	4	BDR MANAGER (Senior Contract Officer acting up currently)	14/10/26	
6 (CSS13)	Serious injury/death of a member of staff or public through service operation (MAJOR INCIDENT AT ITS/AD)	Personal tragedy. Health and Safety Executive intervention. Possible service disruption. Possible corporate liability offence	Contractor has completed and regularly reviews full Risk Assessments. Staff training, H&S Inspections, Contract Monitoring and performance deductions for non compliance. External Audit has been undertaken by Consultants and RMBC Health and Safety Team Regular monitoring of the Contractual requirements in relation to Health and Safety Consistent application of the Payment Mechanism	4	2	8	Regular visits by health and safety officers. Quarterly health and safety meetings. Continued H&S training of BDR PFI team to ensure ability and skills to assess H&S on site during Monthly physical site inspections, and assessment of practices, documentation and records.	4	1	4	BDR MANAGER (Senior Contract Officer acting up currently)	14/10/26	
14 (CSS13)	Insurance for the BDR Waste Treatment Plant is not available	The Councils would become the insurer of last resort. The Contractor would have to approach the market every 4 months to attempt to obtain insurance/ Contract would be terminated. Also sale of business or hand back of facility may see new owner/Council have more issues obtaining insurance.	Contractor in liaison with Insurer is progressing upgrade of the Fire Protection systems. Insurance broker is working with Insurance market to build confidence. Regular meetings with insurance broker, two month leading up to renewal to understand where contractor is with placement of insurance & any issues, movement away by insurers and cover obtained.	3	2	6	For 2026, improvements seen in ability to place insurance, and breadth of insures willing to insure BDR. Ensure current collaborative approach on being informed of insurance placement duplicated with new Broker and new owner. Work with Council Insurance teams and external advisors if facility handed back. Look at Self insurance? For 2026, independent Insurance advise sought to review market position to fully understand insurance placement and position.	3	2	6	BDR MANAGER (Senior Contract Officer acting up currently)	14/10/26	
8 (CSS13)	Changes to Collection services and that impact on the PFI Contract - ***waste volumes change***	Potential to impact on the performance of the plant. Potential to impact on the Third Party Revenue Share due to the Councils. Implications on PFI Credits. Implications on Inter Authority Agreement. Introduction of Deposit Return Scheme, Extender Producer Responsibility and Simpler Recycling could impact.	Inter Authority Agreement measures. Significant collection change clause in the PFI Contract. Current WIDP/DEFRA position in terms of Credit Allocation position requires BDR to abide by the terms and conditions in the Promissory letter and the Final Business Case. Further clarity of R&W legislation changes and Councils current conforming delivery has helped ease the risk.	3	2	6	Dialogue with WIDP/DEFRA and between BDR Councils. Test potential impacts to the contract/Councils against the IAA3. Lobby Government on recycling definitions.	2	2	4	BDR MANAGER (Senior Contract Officer acting up currently)	14/10/26	

13 (CSS13)	Closure of facility or inability to provide the service due to a force majeure event (major incident at ITSAD Facility)	Service disruption. Temporary full or partial closure of facilities.	Contractual conditions provide a shared responsibility to agree measures to mitigate the effects and facilitate the continuation of the service. There is a contractual requirement to have a contingencies plan and other controls within the contract to divert waste to other waste facilities.	4	2	8	Use contingency sites and/or other contracts where possible e.g. Use emergency procurement if absolutely necessary. Currently developing contingency plans for both sites to map out what would happen in several possivble situations over differing time periods, 12 hours, 24 hours, 48 hours etc.	3	2	6	BDR MANAGER (Senior Contract Officer acting up currently)	14/10/26	
9 (CSS13)	Changes in Government Law/Regulations including W&RS ***(Legislative Change)***	Potential financial implications due to change in law triggering negotiated changes to BDR PFI contract and financial model to cover the required service / disposal change . Councils could take more risk than anticipated	Procedure incorporated in the Contract Conditions. Impact and actions to be jointly agreed with the Contractor to mitigate costs as far as possible. In-depth negotiation will be undertaken with (already procured) Legal and Financial expertise working for the Councils. Application of the Change in Law Clauses within the contract. Further clarity of R&WS legislation changes and Councils current conforming delivery has helped ease the risk.	3	2	6	Consider the need for the Change in Law retention fund. Ensure contribution to consultations. In-house Legal & Financial expertise has worked on the PFI Contract from inception - Large in-depth knowledge of PFI contract. Legislation changes are currently happening . Contingency planning, dialog with other councils and within the waste sector, understanding contractors position and from taking expert advise isn't foreseeing a detrimental risk profile at this point. Further clarity of R&W legislation changes and Councils current conforming delivery has helped ease the risk.	2	2	4	BDR MANAGER (Senior Contract Officer acting up currently)	14/10/26	
11 (CSS13)	Failure of plant and/or major equipment results in withdrawal of credits ***(Review of WICS)***	Reputational damage and adverse publicity emanating from poor performance of state of the art facility. Potential for Local/National interest. Budget impact	Regular contract meetings/Monitoring and review procedures/Contingency facilities in place/Performance deduction , Step in provisions exist. It is likely that the Funders would step in an appoint another Contractor if performance is poor. Alternately the Councils could step in until the Contract could be retendered	3	2	6	Ensure monitoring staff are sufficiently skilled to manage this situation. Liaison with other PFI Contract Managers, knowledge transfer close liaison with DEFRA. Contractor has improved the refinement and is introducing further measures to ensure plant performance continues to improve	3	1	3	BDR MANAGER (Senior Contract Officer acting up currently)	14/10/26	
12 (CSS13)	Lack of resources due to restructures, and insufficient staff retention. Failure to maintain a knowledge of PFI contract requirements in BDR PFI team (***Business Continuity - BDR)***	Insufficient capacity/ability to monitor the contract effectively, resulting in failing performance of contractor, inadequate oversite of maintenance of PFI Plant and incorrect financial accountability or failure to make payments resulting in contractual breach.	Contract manuals to document the processes and procedures and Performance/Action spreadsheet created to map a full years monitoring/contractual requirement checks by . To be continually maintained and updated when changes occur, with transparency through the team . Contract information held on CIPFA site and on a Sharepoint portal. Staff training and development. Knowledge management plan. Team currently down to 2 due to long term sickness leave for BDR manager. Senior Contract Officer is standing in for the interim.	3	3	9	Staff retention could be improved if a clear career path existed. CIPFA Asset Management system to hold all relevant documentation for staff access. Review of PFI structure to ensure fit for purpose and building skill of existing staff through training and upskilling. Timely succession planning to be undertaken (PFI Manager currently on long term sickness and may not return) so planning for all eventualities needed. Ensure new members of team learn contract and contract management to ensure continue succession planning. Contingency planning needed if BDR manager does not return and no internal replacement found (possibility of external consultants, other council staff to be looked into).	3	2	6	BDR MANAGER (Senior Contract Officer acting up currently)	14/10/26	
16 (CSS 13)	Operating sub-contractor exits UK Municipal market due to financial pressures	This could be in the form of "selling" the business or Handing back to facility to the Council. This may see a new operator who may wish to re-negotiate the contract or change operating procedures, or may see the councils having to take over the running of the facility. All may cause Service disruption, financial pressures, risk transfer to the Councils.	The PFI model anticipates several stages where the private sector entities - Operating Sub-Contractor, Contractor (Equity and Junior Debt Investors) and Senior Lenders - all progressively take risk (and lose their investment/loans) before the Councils bear additional costs risk. The Contractor would be required to replace the Operating Sub-Contractor and pay the costs of doing so. Compensation would be payable by operating sub-contractor in addition to the letter of credit they have in place.	3	2	6	The Councils will identify areas where they could work with the Contractor and operating sub-contractor to help reduce the losses they are currently facing whilst maintaining the intended risk transfer and achieving the required service performance. However, they should ensure that they outcome of any negotiations does not result in the Council being liable for increased compensation on termination costs should a termination still be likely as a result of the contract being considered more valuable on a market tendering exercise. Ensure appropriate application and understanding of the contract. Continue to maintain a good contractual relationship with operator and key staff. Contingency planning, dialog with exiting contractor, planned dialog with new potential contractor, understanding contractors position in waste sector and from taking expert advise isn't foreseeing a detrimental risk profile at this point.	3	1	3	BDR MANAGER (Senior Contract Officer acting up currently)	14/10/26	
21 (CSS13)	Changes in Local Authority policy.	Potential financial implications due to change in service negotiated for changes to BDR PFI contract and financial model to cover the required service delivery .	Procedure incorporated in the Contract Conditions. Impact and actions to be jointly agreed with the Contractor to mitigate costs as far as possible. In-depth negotiation will be undertaken with (already procured) Legal and Financial expertise working for the Councils. Risk may be transferable to Council if changes requested by them and not national change in law.	3	2	6	In-house Legal & Financial expertise has large in-depth knowledge of PFI contract, will ensure that if possible any changes are covered under contract change protocols, or minimise risk and costs re-charged to the Authority. Councils to have a Joint Waste Strategy (currently ongoing) Changes driven by Government legislation still within in local authority gift on how to interoperate and implement and BDR team will contribute to discussion with Waste Team.	3	1	3	BDR MANAGER (Senior Contract Officer acting up currently)	14/10/26	
24 (CSS13) (New Apr25)	Increased Insurance Costs for the BDR Waste Treatment Contract becoming due by the Councils	Within the contract there is an mechanism (Reviewed every 2 years accompanied by Joint Insurance Cost Report)that the Contractor is interoperating to calculate that Council is liable to pay the increased insurance premiums or the Waste Treatment Plant. Currently 5 JICR have been produced, latest Feb25 (all rejected)	Correct interpretation of the Contractual Position (BDR Managers interpretation after advise significantly different to Contract). Taking advise from Defra & WIDP, as well as the BDR's external Legal and Financial Advisors. Also liaising with other Waste PFI contractors, both ones with Biffa Contract as well as PFI's with other contractors. Ensuring a consistent approach to interpretation of the contract and responses in rejection of claim to contractor. Contractor has left previous 5 JICR in abeyance, not pushing claim but not conceding claim.	3	2	6	Continue with consistent approach on interpretation and rejection. Look to push contractor to either take to dispute to resolve matter once and for all or concede claims. Seeking additional external Insurance advise from market leading consultant to stress test BDR interpretation of contract and position (currently ongoing)	3	1	3	BDR MANAGER (Senior Contract Officer acting up currently)	14/10/26	

10 (CSS13)	Environmental Impact to Local Area from Noise/Odour/Flies/Vermin etc ***(Compliance)***	Reputational damage and adverse publicity from pollution emanating from State of the Art Facility. Potential for Local/National interest	Contractual controls and performance measures. Monitoring the contract. Pro-active engagement with the local community . Sharing data Regular monitoring outside the perimeter of the plant. Biffa in close liaison with the Local Environment Agency officer agree Fly and Odour Management Plans. New Treatments in recent years (confirmed by data) has seen a dramatic reduction in fly numbers inside the plant. Further improvements and preventative measures introduced by Biffa winter 24/25	2	2	4	Increased fly spraying during the fly season. Use of different insecticides. Increased pit management and emptying. Communicate to householders to wrap waste. Ensure biofilters are adequately maintained . Continued EA monitoring. Installation of air curtains on reception hall doors. Changes also made to timing of the treatments to better control flies on site.	2	1	2	BDR MANAGER (Senior Contract Officer acting up currently)	14/10/26	
15 (CSS 13)	Recycling Markets	Lack of recycling markets impacts on Contractors ability to achieve recycling rate	Reviewing disposal points, ensuring Contractor has contingency in place. Contract now with Biffa. As a UK based Waste Management Company with a wide raging portfolio, the Company now has larger internal operation to place material for recycling or disposal.	2	2	4	Councils may consider taking on more risk (as long as this is properly assessed) to deliver savings. Encourage market development of local Waste Treatment / recycling infrastructure through Waste Management Plan and DPD	2	1	2	BDR MANAGER (Senior Contract Officer acting up currently)	14/10/26	
18 (CSS13)	Pandemic	Lack of staff/consumables due to a Pandemic results in facility not being able to function	Contingency plan in place. Staff able to work from home, social distancing measures in place. Provision of information to staff on preventative measures e.g. hygiene measures. Minimising the amount of person to person contact. Minimising sharing of handheld equipment. Use of PPE e.g. gloves. Closely monitoring all developments internationally as well as advice from Governments and local health experts	3	2	6	Work closely with partners to monitor situation and communicate if any cases occur locally. Escalate risk as appropriate. BDR team work from home where necessary, also have meetings virtually from home if situation escalates to minimise chance of cross infection. Testing/Immunisation program for contractors staff and household members. Liaison with Statutory bodies to ensure waste operators have essential status for accessing PPE if necessary. Source several suppliers.	2	2	4	BDR MANAGER (Senior Contract Officer acting up currently)	14/10/26	
19 (CSS13)	UK having exited the European Union / Global Econonis up-heaval - impacts on supply chain	Potential financial implications to cover the cost of supply chain if involves markets in the EU.	Contractor to limit exposure to unnecessary costs and delays in supply chain from the EU. Ensuring long term planning of stocks and supplies. Ensuring waste off-take is primarily UK based.	2	2	4	For main off-take of EFW is contracted long-term to UK based Ferrybridge MF EFW facility. Encourage development of local development of supply chains for key equipment through DPD.	2	1	2	BDR MANAGER (Senior Contract Officer acting up currently)	14/10/26	
4 (CSS13)	Fraud	Contractor could attempt to charge for more than they are entitled to/Client team could collude with Contractor	Process for checking Tickets from each Council is in place. Financial and Legal Officers form part of team. Information shared across all 3 Councils Direct debit mandate is in place for Barnsley and Doncaster to pay Rotherham. All deductions are accounted for in line with the IAA3. Guaranteed minimum tonnage requirement for the Councils. Regular reports to Steering Group/Joint Waste Board. Systems in place to pay the Contractor Internal and External Audits undertaken	3	1	3	Continue to ensure open door policy maintained and easy access to information (contract requirement) continues. Regular site visits. Maintain good contractor client relationship. Duty of care audits with 3rd party off-takers	3	1	3	BDR MANAGER (Senior Contract Officer acting up currently)	14/10/26	

BDR Barnsley Doncaster Rotherham Waste Partnership

Biffa

BDR Waste Treatment Facility
Community Liaison Group Newsletter

July-September 2026

Please see below updates from the BDR team.

Contact details for Council waste services can be found on the last page.



Biffa Update

Council inputs year on year are increasing more than expected:

22/23 = 207,700t

23/24 = 209,400t

24/25 = 211,760t

25/26 = 213,000t

2026 to date = 107,036t

A very warm summer hasn't affected the waste much with good processing figures and capture rates. Working conditions have been challenging due to the heat in and out of work

Environmental compliance has been maintained throughout the summer even with >30c degree heat.

Danny Tadd, Contract Director, Biffa

Recycling performance July 2026 to Sept 2026 is at 12.19%. Steady outputs and capture percentages have been maintained and in line with budget.

Ferrybridge FM2 brought their outage forwards meaning FM1 became busy with some queuing but all inputs from the councils were received and processed.

BDR Update

BDR General Update

The Contractor (Biffa formerly Renewi) continues to manage the project well with minimal issues reported, the BDR team continue to monitor their performance and raise any issues as needed.

There have been no issues with contract waste deliveries over the last several months, all waste has been accepted and processed as required by the contract.

The BDR team continue to work with the Contractor on updates and changes to the facility to meet contractual requirements and environmental permits. These include work on the anaerobic digestion pasteurisation, ammonia scrubbing system, reduction in emissions, enhanced fly management/suppression, and infrastructure improvement/repair work.

Legislation Changes

As previously advised the government has announced new waste initiatives and changes to its environmental policies. They are introducing Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) -now live, Simpler Recycling - March 2026 for households, a Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) - October 2027 (planned but could be delayed) and the Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) -now delayed until 2030.

Simpler Recycling

As previously stated, all councils have an exemption to separately collect food waste due to the Bolton Road waste treatment facility meeting the aims of the policy by diverting waste from landfill and into a compost like output while also generating electricity to be used on site.

All councils meet or are working towards being compliant with the policy requirements for recycling collections including rolling out new services and bins.

As with most councils nationally, the BDR councils have expanded the range of materials to be collected from commercial premises this year (commenced 2025, a year before the Household Requirements).

DRS / ETS / EPR

The BDR team is working closely with the Contractor, along with external contractors, to monitor, forecast, and ensure that the contract meets the requirements of these policies when they are implemented over the remainder of the contract.

Carl Hewlett – Senior Contract Officer, BDR PFI Waste Team

CELO Updates

Site tours, Education Sessions, and Community Talks

We are still running public site tour every month. These are on different days of the week and at different times throughout the year to allow as many people as possible to join us.

We are continuing to deliver our education sessions and community talks this year.

More information on our community outreach activities can be found on the BDR website.

Volunteer hours

Our volunteer hours are open for applications. Groups in Barnsley, Doncaster, and Rotherham can apply for up to 30 hours. Some examples of how volunteer hours have been used in the past:

- Painting walls and varnishing floors in community centres.
- Painting fences and gates of community spaces.
- Moving furniture between community buildings
- Planting community gardens.
- Administration for community group.
- Supporting youth organisation education visits.

More information and application form can be found on the BDR website.

Food Waste Campaign

Since the start of the campaign, we have received 635 responses to our survey about food storage habits of fresh fruits and vegetables and distributed over 500 Kitchen kits.

The survey closed at the end of September. Follow up surveys will continue until the end of December, 118 have been completed to the end of September.

Plastic Free July

In July, we did a campaign to encourage residents to reduce single-use plastics. Throughout the month, social media posts were shared about easy reusable alternatives.

Four giveaways were done throughout the campaign of reusable items relating to different areas of life. Over 400 Entries were received. The winners were as follows:

- Sarah D from Barnsley – Plastic Free Kitchen Bundle
- Belle I from Rotherham – Plastic Free Kids Bundle
- Laura A from Doncaster – Plastic Free Out & About Bundle
- Jane W from Doncaster – Plastic Free beauty & Hygiene Bundle



The different giveaway bundles for Plastic Free July.

Batteries, vapes and BBQs

Throughout the warmer months we promoted messaging about correct disposal of BBQs and gas canisters. With this being a really dry summer and active alerts of wildfires being more prominent, the messaging was adapted as needed.

Vapes and batteries disposal messaging has been shared on our social media platforms as incorrect disposal of these materials means greater risk of fires in bin lorries and at waste treatment facilities. These messages will continue to be shared throughout the year.



Team repair

We are working with Team Repair to deliver free green skills workshops to schools. Workshops are aimed at students aged 10-14, letting them take apart gadgets and repair them, fostering both a repair mindset and STEM engagement.

To express interest and request a repair workshop schools can email edu@team.repair with the school's name and location.

Second-hand September

In September, we focused our social media on clothes and textiles. This included messaging about Second-hand September – a national campaign by the charity Oxfam to encourage people to shop second-hand and donate to help the planet and raise money for charity.

Abi has written a blog with some tips on shopping at the charity shop. You can find this on the Waste Less South Yorkshire website.

Shop Your Wardrobe

Following on from the second-hand clothing challenge we did last year, we are back with another competition for residents. This time, we have focused on showcasing the clothes already in your wardrobes. We have asked entrants to style an item of clothing 3 ways to show the versatility of the clothes they already own.

The competition will close in October.



Recycle Week

We also took part in the national Recycle Week campaign from the 14th of September. The theme of this year's campaign was rescuing recycling – targeting often forgotten materials such as shampoo bottles, toilet roll tubes, and perfume bottles.

Upcoming campaigns

Keep an eye out for some more of our campaigns that will be happening:

- **International E-waste Day (14th October)** – Annual awareness day highlighting the problems caused by E-waste and the benefits of recycling electricals. The official campaign this year will focus on 'The Great Cable Challenge'. More information can be found on the Recycle Your Electricals Page: https://recycleyourelectricals.org.uk
- **Waste Myth Busting (November) -**We will be focusing our social media messaging on de-bunking common myths about waste and recycling throughout the month of November.
- **Christmas** – Waste increases over the festive period, therefore we will be focusing on our messaging on reduction, reusing and recycling tips throughout December and into January.

Rebecca Wilson – Assistant Community Education Liaison Officer, Biffa

Where to find out more:

Council

For individual Council Waste and Recycling information e.g. HWRCs, collection dates and materials:

- Barnsley Council: www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/bins-rubbish-and-recycling
- City of Doncaster Council: www.doncaster.gov.uk/services/bins-recycling-waste
- Rotherham Council: www.rotherham.gov.uk/environment

Biffa BDR

- For information on site, site tours, and education sessions visit the BDR Online website: www.bdronline.co.uk
- For enquires relating to site, please contact BDR.Enquires@biffa.co.uk

Waste Less South Yorkshire

- Website: www.wasteless-sy.co.uk
- Facebook: www.facebook.com/WLSYorks
- Instagram: www.instagram.com/wastelesssouthyorkshire
- TikTok: www.tiktok.com/@wastelesssy