

**ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS**

<b>1.</b>	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Cabinet</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2014</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Title:</b>	<b>2014/15 Budget – Review of the Provision of Household Waste Recycling Centres – All Wards Affected</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Directorate:</b>	<b>Environment and Development Services</b>

## **5. Summary**

This report reviews the current provision of the Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) in Rotherham and recommends reducing the days of operation to achieve the budgetary savings required for Financial Year 2014/15.

## **6. Recommendations**

### **6.1 It is recommended that Cabinet approves:**

- 1. The closure of Warren Vale HWRC on Tuesday and Wednesday each week**
- 2. The closure of Lidget Lane HWRC on Thursday and Friday each week**

## 7. Proposals and Details

- 7.1 The Council as a Waste Disposal Authority has a statutory obligation under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 for “places to be provided at which persons resident in its area may deposit their household waste and for the disposal of waste so deposited”.
- 7.2 It is up to the Council to decide how it fulfils its duty in 7.1 above. In respect of how many Centres are provided, where they are situated and their opening days and hours.
- 7.3 The management of Rotherham’s HWRCs is arranged through a joint BDR (Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham) contract with FCC Environment Limited.
- 7.4 The contract with FCC Environment Limited sets out their duties in relation to the Council’s network of HWRCs, including the opening days and hours of each Centre.
- 7.5 In order to change any contractual obligation, a variation to contract will need to be agreed with the service provider. Within the existing contract is a schedule of rates which makes provision for and quantifies the financial adjustment to the weekly contract management fee, resultant from any changes in the opening hours and/or whole day Centre closures.
- 7.6 All our Centres are currently open daily at the following times:

April 1 <sup>st</sup> to September 30 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am to 6:30 pm
October 1 <sup>st</sup> to March 31 <sup>st</sup>	10:00 am to 4:00 pm

In previous financial years the required budgetary savings have been achieved by cutting back on the daily opening times. It is now considered that normal opening times stand at a minimal level. Further narrowing of the daily opening times would leave insufficient hours in the day for it to be worthwhile opening a Centre.

- 7.7 Closing selected Centres on specific days would best address the key issue of achieving the required budgetary saving. Still avoiding the need to permanently close a Centre and minimising the impact on the majority of Rotherham’s service users.
- 7.8 In order to achieve the required level of savings we need to close the equivalent of one Centre for four days per week (the level of contractual savings do not differ between Centres). However, to avoid disadvantaging one population area unfairly, it should not be the same Centre which is closed on each day.
- 7.9 In determining which Centres to close on which day we have taken account of: location, travel distance to alternative Centres, facility size, tonnage throughput (customer usage), previous recycling performance, provision for permitted vehicles. In discussion with the service provider, FCC Environment Limited, account has also been taken of their existing staffing rotas to limit, as far as possible, any requirement for compulsory redundancies.

#### **7.10 It is proposed that:**

- **Warren Vale HWRC closes on Tuesday and Wednesday each week**
- **Lidget Lane HWRC closes on Thursday and Friday each week**
- **Car Hill and Magilla HWRCs operating hours remain unchanged**

### **8. Finance**

- 8.1** Savings have been calculated on the basis of a contractual Schedule of Rates and agreed with FCC Environment Limited.
- 8.2** Reducing the number of operational days impacts upon the number of FCC staff required to manage our HWRC service. The proposal to close two Centres for two days each per week provides the best fit with FCC Environment Limited staffing rotas. This helps minimise the number of compulsory redundancies required. It has been identified that two posts will be lost through this proposal.
- 8.3** FCC Environment Limited have indicated that any costs incurred through redundancy payments resulting from the Council action will be passed back to the Council. These potential costs could be £10,000 per redundancy.
- 8.4** FCC Environment Limited have acknowledged that they currently have two vacant posts on the Rotherham Centres. It has been agreed that an immediate freeze be placed on filling these posts to avoid the need for any compulsory redundancies.
- 8.5** The freeze on filling the vacant posts will mean that casual labour will need to be employed to cover the service until the reduced days of operation commence. There is an additional differential cost to FCC in employing casuals as opposed to permanent employees. FCC have indicated that they may raise a claim against the Council to cover any additional costs they incur in restructuring their staffing levels as a result of our changes.
- 8.6** The estimated saving from this proposal in Financial Year 2014/15 is £26,000 per annum (less a "one-off" contingency sum should FCC claim for the reimbursement of any staff restructuring costs - see 8.5 above). The detailed calculation is provided in APPENDIX 5

### **9. Risks and Uncertainties**

- 9.1** Reducing the number of operational days will generate some customer dissatisfaction. This may be minimised by the careful selection of which Centre closes on which day. Ensuring that the travel time to the nearest open Centre is kept to a minimum and no specific population area is unfairly affected.
- 9.2** There is a risk that incidents of fly tipping may increase. Fly Tipping is often linked to businesses illegally avoiding the payment of waste disposal costs. It is

considered this situation will not be exacerbated by the limited closure of our Centres, where the deposit of trade waste is already prohibited. Alternative HWRC provision will remain for Rotherham householders to use and it is thought the majority of the general public will not resort to illegal behaviour. If required, on days when a Centre is closed, there will be increased surveillance of the local vicinity by Enforcement Teams.

- 9.3 The financial savings have been calculated on the assumption that when a Centre is closed, the waste that would have gone to that Centre will be delivered to another HWRC.

## 10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

- 10.1 The provision of HWRCs contribute towards achieving the Corporate priority “All areas of Rotherham are safe, clean and well maintained”.
- 10.2 Reducing the days of operation should have no impact upon equalities and diversity. Days of operation will be proportionately reduced across the whole service dependant upon site usage and tonnage throughput. The HWRC network will be left intact and able to continue to provide a high quality service to residents with no particular group or area adversely affected.
- 10.3 The impact on the Council’s recycling rate should be minimal as there are other opportunities for householders to recycle their waste. Including kerbside collections and the bring bank network.

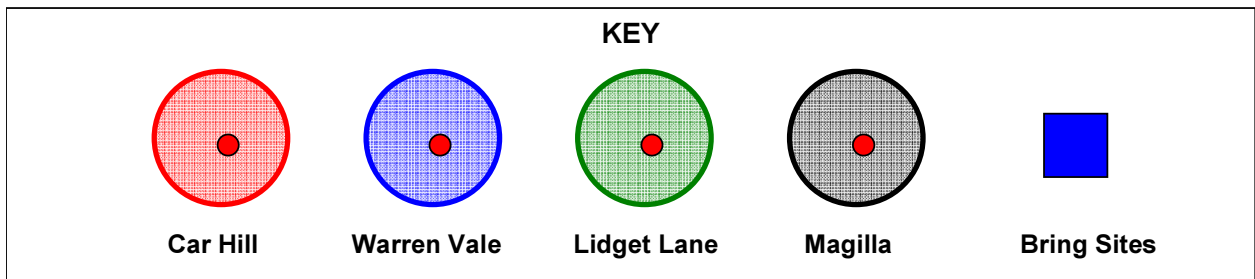
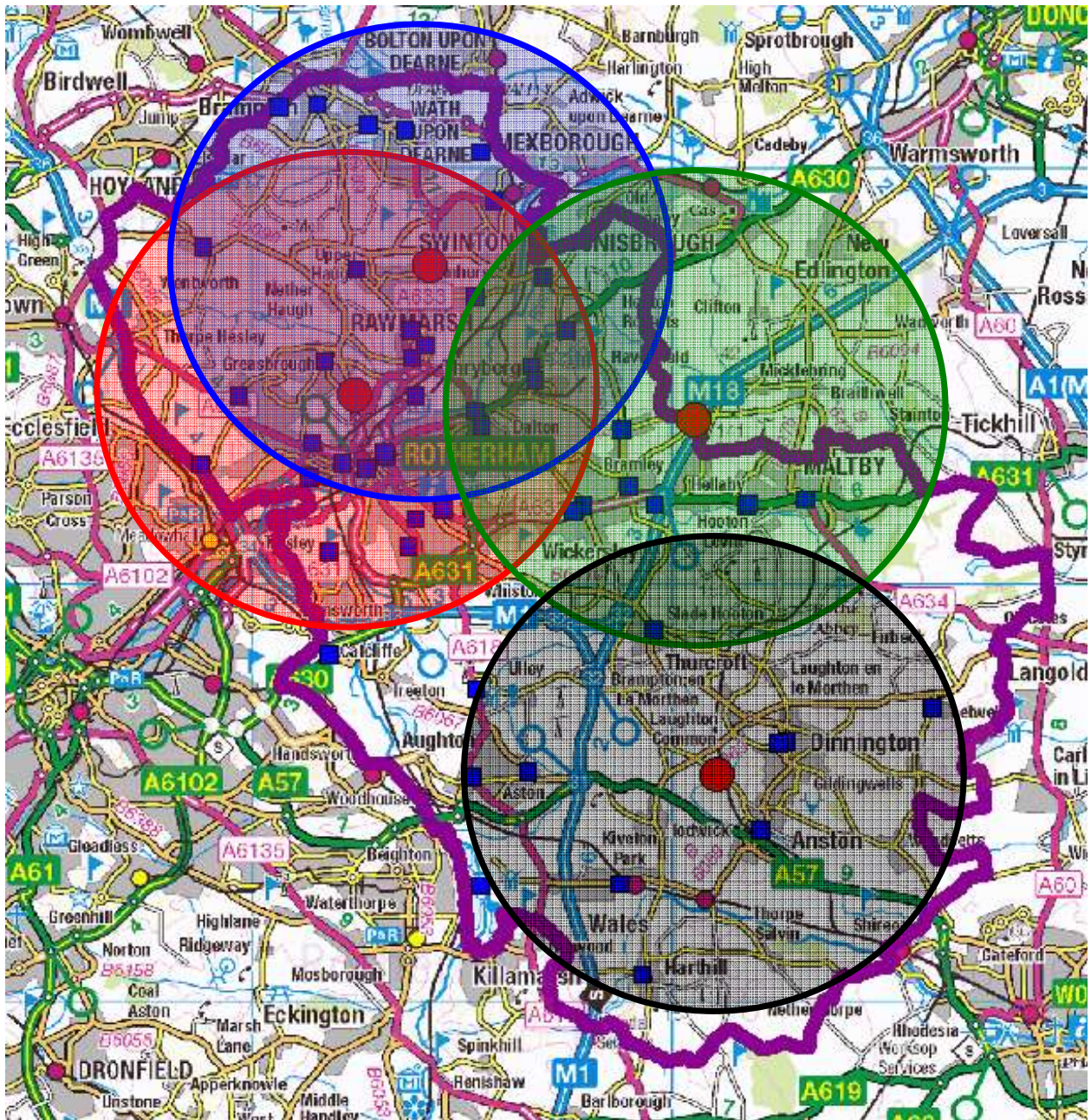
## 11. Background Papers and Consultation

- 11.1 The National Assessment of Civic Amenity Sites Report 2004 and the WRAP Guidance on the Management of Household Waste Recycling Centres 2012 identify the average catchment radius per HWRC in England to be 4.3 miles. Applying the average catchment radius to each of Rotherham’s HWRCs shows that over 90% of the Borough receives at least average HWRC provision. **APPENDIX 1** refers.
- 11.2 The same WRAP Guidance recommends that at least one HWRC is provided per 143,750 residents. Provision in Rotherham is much more favourable, with one HWRC being provided for every 64,320 residents.
- 11.3 **APPENDIX 2** – Shows the level of HWRC provision made by neighbouring Local Authorities. Some of these Local Authorities have previously taken the decision to close selected sites on specific days. Where applicable, the Rotherham HWRC(s) most likely to receive cross border traffic from neighbouring Local Authorities is identified.
- 11.4 **APPENDIX 3** – Provides performance data for each of our HWRCs.
- 11.5 **APPENDIX 4** – Journey distances to alternative Centres in Rotherham.

**11.6 APPENDIX 5** – Detailed calculation of the anticipated savings resulting from this proposal.

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**APPENDIX 1 – Catchment Radius for each Rotherham HWRC (based upon average for England (4.3 miles) in 2010/11)**



**HOUSEHOLD WASTE RECYCLING CENTRES**  
**Neighbouring Local Authority Provision**

**APPENDIX 2**

LA Area	HWRC Location	Post Code	Summer Hours		Winter Hours		Days Open							Potential for Cross Border Inputs at:
			Apr	Sept	Oct	Mar	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	
<b>Barnsley</b>	Goldthorpe	S63 9AT	09:00	17:00	09:00	16:00	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Car Hill & Warren Vale
	Smithies Lane	S71 1NL	09:00	17:00	09:00	16:00	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
	Penistone	S36 6HH	09:00	17:00	09:00	16:00	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
	West St. Worsbrough	S70 5DJ	08:00	19:00	08:00	16:00	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Car Hill & Warren Vale
<b>Doncaster</b>	Armthorpe	DN2 5QB	08:30	19:00	08:30	19:00	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
	Balby	DN4 9AJ	09:30	19:00	09:30	17:00	Y	Y			Y	Y	Y	Lidget Lane
	Carcroft	DN6 7BD	09:30	19:00	09:30	17:00	Y	Y			Y	Y	Y	
	Conisbrough	DN12 2AE	09:30	19:00	09:30	17:00	Y	Y	Y	Y			Y	Lidget Lane & Warren Vale
	Hatfield	DN7 4JT	09:30	19:00	09:30	17:00	Y	Y	Y	Y			Y	
	Rossington	DN11 0PS	09:30	19:00	09:30	17:00	Y	Y			Y	Y	Y	Lidget Lane
<b>Sheffield</b>	Beighton	S13 7PS	10:00	18:00	10:00	16:00	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Magilla
	Blackstock Road	S14 1FY	10:00	18:00	10:00	16:00	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	
	Deepcar	S36 2DT	10:00	18:00	10:00	16:00	Y	Y			Y	Y	Y	
	High Green	S35 4GR	10:00	18:00	10:00	16:00	Y	Y	Y			Y	Y	Car Hill
	Shirecliffe	S5 8WA	10:00	18:00	10:00	16:00	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
<b>Bassetlaw (NCC)</b>	Worksop	S80 3HA	08:00	20:00	08:00	16:00	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Magilla
	Retford	DN22 7LE	08:00	20:00	08:00	16:00	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	

**ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**Household Waste Recycling Centres**  
**Performance Data**

**APPENDIX 3**

	<b>Site Area (sq. metre)</b>	<b>Annual Throughput (tonnes)</b>	<b>Congestion Measure (tonnes per sq. metre)</b>	<b>Recycling Rate (incl. Inert)</b>	<b>Recycling Rate (excl. Inert)</b>
<b>Car Hill</b>	5,700	6,214	1.09	69%	48%
<b>Warren Vale</b>	2,200	4,711	2.14	71%	48%
<b>Lidget Lane</b>	3,300	4,300	1.30	76%	54%
<b>Magilla</b>	3,800	4,779	1.26	75%	53%

*Note: a traffic count is not taken routinely at any of our HWRCs*

**JOURNEY DISTANCES TO ALTERNATIVE CENTRES**

**APPENDIX 4**

<b>Miles</b>	<b>Car Hill</b>	<b>Warren Vale</b>	<b>Lidget Lane</b>	<b>Magilla</b>
<b>Car Hill</b>		3.2	6.7	10.9
<b>Warren Vale</b>	3.2		6.1	11.8
<b>Lidget Lane</b>	6.7	6.1		5.4
<b>Magilla</b>	10.9	11.8	5.4	



**ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**Waste Management**  
**HWRC Estimated Savings 2014/15**

**APPENDIX 5**

Month	Opening Hours per day	Potential Working Days in Month	Car Hill		Warren Vale		Lidget Lane		Magilla		Total Revised Cost			Current Cost	Saving
			No Closures		Close Tues & Wed		Close Thurs & Fri		No Closures		£ 37.52	£ 15.36	Total	£ 37.52	
			Open Day	Closed Day	Open Day	Closed Day	Open Day	Closed Day	Open Day	Closed Day	Open Day	Closed Day		Total	
Apr-14	8.5	30	30		20	10	22	8	30		£ 32,530	£ 2,350	£ 34,880	£ 38,270	£ 3,390
May-14	8.5	31	31		23	8	21	10	31		£ 33,806	£ 2,350	£ 36,156	£ 39,546	£ 3,390
Jun-14	8.5	30	30		22	8	22	8	30		£ 33,168	£ 2,089	£ 35,257	£ 38,270	£ 3,014
Jul-14	8.5	31	31		21	10	22	9	31		£ 33,487	£ 2,481	£ 35,967	£ 39,546	£ 3,579
Aug-14	8.5	31	31		23	8	22	9	31		£ 34,124	£ 2,220	£ 36,344	£ 39,546	£ 3,202
Sep-14	8.5	30	30		21	9	22	8	30		£ 32,849	£ 2,220	£ 35,068	£ 38,270	£ 3,202
Oct-14	6.0	31	31		22	9	21	10	31		£ 23,638	£ 1,751	£ 25,389	£ 27,915	£ 2,526
Nov-14	6.0	30	30		22	8	22	8	30		£ 23,412	£ 1,475	£ 24,887	£ 27,014	£ 2,127
Dec-14	6.0	29	29		19	10	23	6	29		£ 22,512	£ 1,475	£ 23,987	£ 26,114	£ 2,127
Jan-15	6.0	30	30		22	8	21	9	30		£ 23,187	£ 1,567	£ 24,754	£ 27,014	£ 2,260
Feb-15	6.0	28	28		20	8	20	8	28		£ 21,612	£ 1,475	£ 23,086	£ 25,213	£ 2,127
Mar-15	6.0	31	31		22	9	23	8	31		£ 24,088	£ 1,567	£ 25,655	£ 27,915	£ 2,260
<b>TOTAL</b>											<b>£ 338,412</b>	<b>£ 23,017</b>	<b>£ 361,429</b>	<b>£ 394,635</b>	<b>£ 33,207</b>
<i>Contract Rates used are at 2013/14 level</i>											Less contingency for FCC restructuring costs			-£ 7,000	
											<b>TOTAL SAVING - FINANCIAL YEAR 2014/15</b>			<b>£ 26,207</b>	