
TITLE: NEIGHBOURHOOD RECYCLING CENTRE PROVISION

Committee: Regulatory Services Committee

Date: 10th September 2018

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[T88]

1.0 ISSUE

1.1 To determine the future provision of neighbourhood recycling centres.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION(S)

2.1 Following on from an additional consultation process with parish councils, Members are requested to:

- i. Note the results of the additional consultation process;
- ii. Recommend that all bring banks are removed across East Cambridgeshire, apart from the ones located in high performing areas; and;
- iii. That the bring banks located in the high performing areas are reviewed in 12 months' time

3.0 BACKGROUND/OPTIONS

3.1 Bring banks provide local residents with an alternative to recycling their waste within kerbside collections or travelling to a recycle centre.

3.2 A previous Committee report highlighted that the current bring bank providers are no longer prepared to carry on their collection service as it is uneconomical to do so (this will not include textile banks which will continue to be provided).

3.3 On 23.7.2018 Committee was presented with the results of a consultation with parish councils on the future provision of neighbourhood recycling centres (also known as bring banks).

3.4 The original consultation presented three options:

- 1) Remove all of the bring banks (except textiles)
- 2) That the Council provides an in-house combined service to a limited number of sites using ECDC banks and vehicles
- 3) That the Council provides an in-house service at all current sites using ECDC banks and vehicles

3.5 The Committee was informed that some respondents ticked more than one option in the original options appraisal survey. This made it difficult to interpret the consultation results. Officers were therefore instructed to carry out an additional follow up consultation with the 8 parish council respondents and their ward councillors to confirm their decision.

N.B. Littleport Parish Council has requested to remove their bring banks so were not included within this consultation but were in the initial consultation.

These are their updated responses:

1. Out of 8 parish councils who responded, two indicated that they would consider financing a bring bank in the parish, the rest stated that they would not be prepared to contribute any funds
 2. Feedback included comments from 1 parish council that residents have ample opportunity to recycle using the blue lidded bins, however their preference would be to keep the bring bank sites where they had the highest amount of recycling levels
 3. Two parish councils and 3 ward councillors were satisfied that their recycling banks will be removed as the parish council would not contribute financially for their sustainability
 4. Four parish councils showed full support for keeping the highest performing bring bank sites but were not prepared to contribute to the costs
- 3.6 The feedback from parish councils concluded that The Council (via ECSS) should provide Option 2; an in-house service for the high performing areas at; Tesco and Waitrose in Ely, Fountain Lane in Soham, High Street in Chippenham and High Street in Cheveley.
- 3.7 As the current service and resources are provided by external contractors as part of their service level agreement, an initial budget of approximately £6,000 will be required to purchase 20 new bring banks across the 5 sites at a cost of £300 each (based on a collection every fortnight).
- 3.8 In addition, costs would be incurred for time attributed to emptying the 5 sites by ECSS crews and the additional fuel costs (at this stage it is impossible to estimate the true costs as the sites may need to be emptied more frequently due to the reduction in bring bank sites).
- 3.9 At present The Council pays some sites £7.50 per bank, per month to house the banks on parish council owned land. This currently equates to £4,770 per year. The new proposal would mean that the annual cost would reduce to £990 (£630 for Chippenham and £360 for Cheveley).
- 3.10 Option 2 would bring in £2,322.87 in recycling credits to ECSS.

3.11 The total breakdown of costs and income for Option 2 as follows;

Proposed number of bring bank sites from Option 2	5
a) Cost of new bring banks for highest performing sites	£6000 (one off cost)
b) Cost of rental of site for Chippenham and Cheveley	£990
c) Estimated income from recycling credits for highest performing sites	(£2,322.87)
Total initial cost to ECSS a+b-c (n.b- this does not include fuel costs or crew time)	£4,667.13

4.0 ARGUMENTS/CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1 The amount of material being deposited at the recycling banks has seen a 68% reduction and the cost of recyclates has declined which has resulted in the cost of the service increasing to more than the value of the recyclable materials.
- 4.2 The current bring bank providers will cease to provide a collection service from the end of September.
- 4.3 Residents have the opportunity to recycle using the road side collection service. This opportunity to recycle is further enhanced by the offer of a second blue lidded bin.
- 4.4 Feedback from parish councils concluded that they support option 2; the Council provides an in-house solution and retains only the highest performing sites across the district i.e. Tesco Ely, Waitrose Ely, Fountain Lane, Soham, High Street, Chippenham and High Street, Cheveley.
- 4.5 Two parish councils said that they understood that bringing this service in-house would contribute to increased capacity levels and an increased financial burden on ECSS. It is therefore suggested that a review is conducted the impact of Option 2 after 12 months of delivery to enable the Council to assess the impact and associated costs on ECSS.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 5.1 Retaining the bring banks in the highest performing sites would initially cost East Cambs Street Scene £6,000 to replace the recycling banks.
- 5.2 Equality Impact Assessment (INRA) is not required at this point.

6.0 APPENDICES

6.1 none

<u>Background Documents</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact Officer</u>
Neighbourhood Recycling Centre Provision, Regulatory Services, 22 January 2018. And 23 July 2018.	Room (Location: i.e. The Grange,) Ely	(Name) Nick Wyatt (Position: e.g. Sustainability Officer (01353) 616221 E-mail: nick.wyatt@eastcambs.gov.uk