

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

TRANSPORT, ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE

22 JANUARY 2014

HOUSEHOLD WASTE RECYCLING CENTRE SAVINGS – CONSULTATION

Report of the Corporate Director – Business and Environmental Services

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Committee of the outcome of the recent consultation on proposals relating to savings in the provisions of the Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) service.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Current Council HWRC Policies, adopted in 2005, include policies relating to construction and demolition wastes. They are:
- Policy 13- North Yorkshire County Council will provide facilities at all HWRCs, where space allows, for green waste to be segregated for composting and for soil and rubble, timber, metals, paper and cardboard to be collected for recycling or recovery.
- Policy 19- North Yorkshire County Council will accept reasonable amounts of domestic building waste as household waste, in accordance with published guidelines.
- Policy 20- North Yorkshire County Council will charge for the disposal of more than reasonable amounts of domestic building waste delivered on any one occasion at its prevailing commercial waste rate.
- 2.2 In 2008 the County Council published guidance in relation to these policies which limited the largest type of construction and demolition waste being disposed of at HWRCs, soil and rubble. The guidance said: “Residents are allowed to deliver the equivalent of two full car boot loads of soil and rubble free of charge each month”.
- 2.3 The Environmental Protection Act 1990 51(3) allows for charges to be made for wastes other than household wastes delivered by residents.
- 2.4 The Controlled Waste Regulations 2012 describes waste from construction or demolition works, including preparatory works as industrial waste.

- 2.5 The report to the Council meeting on 24 July 2013 considered the Revenue Budget 2013/14 and Medium Term Financial Strategy, stated that:

“Council policy is to allow limited free access for disposal of construction and demolition material, including soil and rubble. Charges can be made, or restrictions imposed, for the receipt and disposal of waste which is not household waste, such as soil and rubble, delivered by a resident of the area. The cost of disposal of soil and rubble is £240k per annum. Charges or restrictions could be introduced to recoup this cost / make the activity cost neutral. As a change in policy, it is suggested that a formal consultation takes place for a period of 3 months. Details of the consultation would be drawn up and commenced as soon as practicable. The consultation will include a wider stakeholder group, including users and operators and also communities, parishes and stakeholder groups. The outcomes would be analysed with a view to considering an implementation date as soon as possible during 2014/15 and as relevant to the outcome of the consultation”

- 2.6 The Council resolved that:

“The Corporate Director, Business and Environmental Services be authorised to begin a consultation exercise on the disposal of construction and demolition material, including soil and rubble, which could potentially realise savings of £240k.... the outcome of the consultation and any proposals in relation to savings affecting these services following that process be reported back to the Executive for approval.”

https://www3.northyorks.gov.uk/n3cabinet_cc/minutes_/20130724countyc/20130724countyc.pdf

3.0 THE CONSULTATION

- 3.1 The consultation exercise was carried out between 14 October and 22 December 2013 and was publicised at HWRCs, libraries, through parish and town councils, on the County Council’s consultation web pages, by letters to businesses and charities who use the service, through staff bulletins, a member briefing email, press releases and a radio interview. The consultation period was eventually reduced from the 3 months suggested in the report to Council on the 24 July 2013 to 10 weeks in order to ensure the ability to meet programme deadlines. The 10 weeks period used for this consultation is adequate and considerably in excess of minimum requirements.
- 3.2 Those wishing to find out more detail about the proposals could read the consultation document on the council website consultation page or by requesting a copy from customer services. Responses to the consultation could be made through onsite surveys, using the council website consultation page or by completion of a paper consultation questionnaire.

- 3.3 The primary purpose of the consultation was to seek views on the disposal of soil and rubble (and similar materials) however the opportunity was also taken to consult on other areas of the HWRC service at the same time. These aspects of the consultation have yet to be analysed and do not form part of this report.
- 3.4 The consultation document described the need to save money and options to deal with soil and rubble, and plasterboard.

The consultation response form asked people to provide their views on the following options:

- The County Council's HWRCs should not accept soil and rubble waste;
 - All the County Council's HWRCs should accept soil and rubble waste but at a charge;
 - Some of the County Council's larger HWRCs should accept soil and rubble waste at a charge and the remaining HWRCs would not accept this waste;
 - The County Council should treat plasterboard in the same way as soil and rubble waste.
- 3.5 The consultation also allowed people to provide any other comments on the proposals.

4.0 RESPONSES TO THE CONSULTATION

- 4.1 At the time of drafting this report detailed responses are being analysed but initial indications show that:
- The majority of respondents agree that we should accept soil and rubble at HWRCs but at a charge.
 - If we introduce charges, then it should be at all HWRCs rather than just a selected few.
 - Plasterboard should be treated in the same way.
- 4.2 The comments that respondents have made will be analysed in detail, but an initial review shows that there are 3 main themes:
- any restriction or charge will lead to increased fly tipping
 - this in turn will reduce savings/increase costs
 - waste will be placed in the bins collected by the district/ borough councils

5.0 COMMENTS ON CONSULTATION/ISSUES RAISED

- 5.1 It was anticipated that some concerns would be raised over increased fly tipping however feedback from some other authorities who have implemented charges for wastes at HWRC's suggests that whilst there may be a slight increase after the initial introduction of charging, this will decline over time, and will have a minimal impact on projected savings. The national fly tipping database (Flycapture) shows that when this council put restrictions in place in

2008 to limit the amount of soil and rubble that could be disposed of without charge, this did not result in significant increases in fly tipping in North Yorkshire. Similarly in 2011 when we closed all HWRCs on Wednesdays no great increases in fly tipping were observed.

- 5.2 Some people have also raised concerns that a restriction or charges would also lead to the waste being placed in district/borough council bins. Feedback from other authorities who have implemented charging suggests that this is not the case.

6.0 OPERATIONAL ISSUES

- 6.1 Discussions have been held with the council's HWRCs contractors who will be key to any approach taken. If this waste is no longer accepted at HWRCs the contractors' resources will need to be transferred from encouraging customers to segregate this waste and placing it into the correct container, to ensure this waste is not brought into the HWRCs for disposal. This will have unknown impact on HWRC operating costs and efficiency as staff resources are redirected to enforcing policy over encouraging recycling. This option may therefore lead to claims from operating contractors for compensation for any losses incurred as a result.
- 6.2 If the approach to deal with this waste is to accept it at a charge then the contractors would need additional resources to operate and administer any charging mechanism.
- 6.3 To ensure this cost is not passed to the council and that soil and rubble waste is not transferred into the residual waste it is proposed that responsibility for managing this waste be passed to the HWRC contractors by reclassifying it as a 'contractor waste'. The contractors will be incentivised to manage the waste appropriately by being able to recover a commercial charge, which will then ensure the amounts of soil and rubble entering the residual waste stream are minimised, and recycling performance maintained. HWRC operating contractors have indicated their support for this approach.
- 6.4 reclassifying soil and rubble as a 'contractor waste' requires an amendment to HWRC operating contracts which cannot be done without the agreement of the HWRC operating contractors. If the decision is taken to allow charging for soil and rubble at any or all HWRCs, formal agreement will therefore be needed with the HWRC contractors to make the necessary changes to the contracts.

7.0 NEXT STEPS

- 7.1 The detailed analysis of the consultation responses will be completed and reported to the Executive on the 4 February with a recommendation on how to proceed. On the basis of the analysis so far, it is likely that this

recommendation will be to seek to agree contract variations with HWRC operating contractors to enable them to charge for soil and rubble, and plasterboard from 1 April 2014, or as soon as practicable thereafter as a short delay may be necessary in order to finalise legal agreements, and develop charging systems.

- 7.2 The County Council cannot compel the HWRC operating contractor to take responsibility for soil and rubble although they have indicated their willingness to do so, and to charge for this waste. However in the event that formal contract variations cannot be reached the only practicable option will be for the Council to stop receiving this waste at the relevant HWRCs.

8.0 FINANCIAL IMPACT

- 8.1 Either option of no longer accepting soil and rubble, or continuing to accept it as a 'contractor's waste' and allowing the Contractor to charge is capable of realising the required savings of £240,000 p.a., although the savings realised by no longer accepting it may be reduced if operating contractors incur significant costs in enforcing the policy. An agreement to allow the operating contractor to charge for this waste will be at no cost to the Council and will therefore deliver the full required annual saving. An additional saving of up to £90,000 p.a. will be made if plasterboard is treated in the same way.

9.0 EQUALITIES IMPACT

- 9.1 No equality and diversity issues were identified as a result of the changes outlined in the proposal to full council in July 2013 and no additional equality and diversity issues have been identified as a result of the consultation process informing this report.

10.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 10.1 Committee Members are asked to note the outcome of the initial analysis of the HWRC savings consultation and to provide comments on the proposals for consideration by the Executive.

DAVID BOWE
Corporate Director Business and Environmental Services

Author of Report: Andy Holmes

Background Documents: HWRC Consultation Document and Questionnaire



North

Yorkshire County Council

Changing the way we deal with waste at Household Waste Recycling Centres - **tell us what you think**

Public consultation on Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs)
14 October 2013 - 22 December 2013

Business and Environmental Services

A responsive County Council providing excellent and efficient local services

Changing the way we deal with waste at Household Waste Recycling Centres - tell us what you think

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Introduction

As many people will be aware, the budget for public services is being reduced as a result of Government funding cuts. This includes services delivered by local authorities such as North Yorkshire County Council and as a result this council needs to deliver millions of pounds of savings.

The County Council is committed to saving £92 million in the four years ending 31 March 2015. As part of the remaining £4 million of savings to be found for this period, the Council has considered a set of savings proposals for 2014/15, all of which are now subject to a public consultation.

We are consulting on options for savings in 2014/15 and options for saving more in the future if this becomes necessary. Your opinions will be taken into account when making decisions.

This consultation document explains how we propose to achieve savings on what we spend on the Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) and includes:

- **background information about HWRCs in North Yorkshire;**
- **information about the changes we are proposing;**
- **information about the equality impact assessment we have done; and**
- **details on how to take part in the consultation.**

Background

North Yorkshire County Council is responsible for:

- Arranging for the disposal of residual waste (the rubbish that remains after re-use and recycling has taken place) collected by the district councils;
- Providing HWRCs where the public can dispose of bulky items of household waste and arranging for the re-use, recycling, composting or disposal of waste deposited at HWRCs; and
- The payment of incentives to community groups and district councils to encourage recycling and/or re-use. These are known as recycling or re-use credits.

The 24 policies that the County Council's HWRC service is based upon are available at www.northyorks.gov.uk/hwrcconsultation

Our current budget for providing the HWRC service is £5.9 million. We need to make savings of £240,000 in 2014/15, and future savings may be required.

HWRCs are paid for by residents as part of their council tax. Businesses and charities do not pay council tax and so do not receive the same levels of service at HWRCs. However, in some cases waste from businesses is accepted at HWRCs at a charge.

The County Council is under extreme and unprecedented pressure to cut costs, and the amount we spend on waste management has already reduced by £1.9 million over recent years, £230,000 of which is from savings made on the HWRC service. We have done this with limited effect on our residents by:

- encouraging 'waste prevention' and reducing the amount of waste produced;
- cutting back on the amount of commercial waste wrongly taken to household waste recycling centres;
- closing HWRCs on all Wednesdays; and
- improving efficiency in the way sites and contracts are run.

In 2012/13 at our 20 HWRCs:

- we had 1.3 million customer visits;
- received 68,300 tonnes of waste;
- re-used, recycled and composted 67% of household waste.

We have some proposals for ways to save money now and in the future and we would like to know

what you think.

Our proposal to save money now is to:

A. charge customers for soil and rubble OR refuse to accept it at our HWRCs and treat plasterboard in the same way.

Our proposals to save money in the future are to:

B. change the way we deal with other non-household waste;

C. look at how we deal with wastes from charities;

D. make changes to how we deal with non-North Yorkshire residents wanting to use our HWRCs;

E. review our policy on HWRC provision and accessibility (i.e. how many HWRCs we provide);

F. reduce the days some HWRCs with low numbers of customers are open; and

G. close all or some of our HWRCs earlier in the day when they are used least.

Our proposal to save money now

A. Charge customers for soil and rubble or refuse to accept it at our HWRCs and treat plasterboard in the same way

We provide HWRCs for residents to dispose of their household waste; however, we currently accept some wastes that are not household wastes. We call this 'discretionary waste'. The largest amount of discretionary waste, 17% of total waste into our HWRCs, is soil and rubble (e.g. breezeblocks, bricks, ceramics, concrete, flagstones, gravel, hardcore, pottery, rubble, slates, soil, stones, tarmac, tiles, turf etc.). It currently costs £240,000 per year to manage and dispose of this waste.

Until recently, we collected plasterboard within the same container as soil and rubble. Due to the environmental impact of the gypsum contained in plasterboard, we now have to dispose of it separately. This costs £90,000 per year.

We cannot continue to take these wastes free of charge. We need your opinion on whether the HWRCs should no longer accept these wastes, or if our contractors should make a charge to cover their costs. This would mean this council would not have to fund the management and disposal of this discretionary waste and we could make the required £240,000 per year savings.

If we no longer accept soil and rubble and/or plasterboard at HWRCs, you would need to arrange for disposal using a private waste contractor, skip hire firm or find someone who may be able to re-use or recycle your waste.

If HWRCs continue to accept this waste our contractors would need to charge and commercial customers (builders etc.) may also be able to dispose of this waste.

Questions:

The consultation response form asks you to tell us what you think about each of the following options:

- A.1** The County Council's HWRCs should not accept soil and rubble waste;
- A.2** All the County Council's HWRCs should accept soil and rubble waste but at a charge;
- A.3** Some of the County Council's larger HWRCs should accept soil and rubble waste at a charge and the remaining HWRCs would not accept this waste;
- A.4** The County Council should treat plasterboard in the same way as soil and rubble waste.

A1, A2 and A3 would each make the £240,000 savings. A4 would make £90,000 of additional savings.

Our proposals to save money in the future

We are likely to be asked to make additional savings over the next few years. We would like to seek your thoughts now on how we might deliver them. We have outlined possible proposals in B to G below.

B. Change the way we deal with other non-household wastes

There are several other non-household wastes that we currently accept free of charge e.g. cement bonded asbestos, gas bottles, fire extinguishers, vehicle batteries, engine oil and tyres. There are alternative options available for dealing with these wastes, which would remove the costs from council budgets. Some of these wastes need to be treated carefully as they are of a hazardous nature but the costs for us to deal with them are not as significant as for soil and rubble, or plasterboard.

Questions:

The consultation response form asks you to tell us what you think about each of the following options:

- B.1** The County Council's HWRCs should no longer accept these wastes;
- B.2** All of the County Council's HWRCs should accept these wastes, but at a charge to cover the costs;
- B.3** Some of the County Council's larger HWRCs should accept these wastes but at a charge to cover the costs; the remaining HWRCs would not accept these wastes.

C. Dealing with wastes from charities

HWRCs are for residents to dispose of their household waste. We allow businesses with relatively small amounts of commercial waste to dispose of their waste at some sites and recover our costs through charging. We also allow charities (charitable organisations and voluntary and community groups) to dispose of their waste in certain circumstances free of charge. Charities tend to use large vehicles and deliver large quantities of waste. Some charities re-use, recycle and compost household waste. We would like to understand your views on how we should deal with waste from charities.

Questions:

The consultation response form asks you to tell us what you think about each of the following options:

- C.1** The County Council's HWRCs should not accept waste from charities and voluntary groups;
- C.2** The County Council's HWRCs should only accept waste from charities and voluntary groups that is household waste which can be re-used, recycled or composted free of charge.

D. Make changes to how we deal with non-North Yorkshire residents wanting to use our HWRCs

Councils have to provide free waste services only to people resident in their area. We do not have to accept waste from residents of neighbouring areas, but other than those residents using commercial / commercial-like vehicles to dispose of their household waste, we currently do not prevent them.

However, some neighbouring councils have implemented 'resident only' schemes and have given their residents permits to use household waste recycling centres. Residents of North Yorkshire cannot use these sites (or have to pay), even if the site is the closest one to where they live. There is nothing we can do about this.

We estimate that accepting waste at HWRCs in North Yorkshire from residents of other councils costs this council more than £75,000 per year. We do not currently enforce any restrictions on the use of our HWRCs, based on where people live, other than those using commercial /commercial-like vehicles. If we did, we would have to introduce a permit scheme, which would have a cost and could inconvenience all customers who would need to ensure they had their permit with them when using the site.

Questions:

The consultation response form asks you to tell us what you think about each of the following options:

- D.1** The County Council's HWRCs should accept waste from non-North Yorkshire residents if we can recover costs or if North Yorkshire residents are able to use other council's HWRCs;

D.2 The County Council’s HWRCs should not accept waste from non-North Yorkshire residents (or charge the customer direct) and apply a North Yorkshire resident’s only permit scheme.

E. Review our policy on HWRC provision and accessibility

Our policy about how many HWRCs we provide was established in 2005 in a time of relative prosperity and not a time of budget pressures. The policy is that **North Yorkshire County Council will locate Household Waste Recycling Centres across the county on the basis that a minimum of 95% of the public live within 20 minutes’ drive of a facility.**

We would like your view on whether this policy is still appropriate. The table below shows national guidance on the recommendations for providing HWRCs.

	National guidance - reasonable levels <i>with exceptions for very rural areas shown in italics</i>	NYCC current provision of 20 HWRCs
Maximum number of households per HWRC	50,000	12,900
Maximum number of inhabitants per HWRC	120,000	30,100
Maximum catchment radius for a large proportion of the population	3 to 5 miles	68% of population within 5 miles
	<i>7 miles for very rural areas</i>	74% of population within 7 miles
Maximum driving times for a great majority of residents in good traffic conditions	20 minutes	97% of population are within 20 minutes’ drive time
	<i>30 minutes for very rural areas</i>	99.9% of population are within 30 minutes’ drive time

Currently we over-provide against our own policy and we are above the national guidance. Our 20 HWRCs mean that 99% of residents are within 30-minutes’ drive time of a HWRC and 97% of residents are within 20-minutes’ drive time. We could reduce the number of sites we provide and still deliver a service that meets our policy, or change our policy based on the national guidance and reduce the number of sites even further.

Assuming waste from any closed HWRC goes to other HWRCs we think we could save around £110,000 per year per HWRC that is closed.

Questions:

The consultation response form asks you to tell us what you think about each of the following options:

E.1 The provision of HWRCs in North Yorkshire should be reduced to fit our policy;

E.2 The provision of HWRCs in North Yorkshire should be reduced to fit national guidance for very rural areas.

F. Reduce the days some HWRCs with low numbers of customers are open

Our 20 HWRCs are open six days per week and closed on Wednesdays. **Six** of our HWRCs continue to have very low numbers of customers. We would like your opinion on the potential for reducing costs at these sites.

We estimate that reducing the number of days the **six** least used HWRCs are open by one day per week could save up to £40,000 per year in total. The other HWRCs would remain open six days per week.

Questions:

The consultation response form asks you to tell us what you think about the following:

F.1 The number of days the least used HWRCs should be open should be 5 days per week;

F.2 The number of days the least used HWRCs should be open should be 4 days per week.

G. Close all or some of our HWRCs earlier in the day when they are used least

The table below shows the times when our HWRCs are currently open.

Month(s)	Opens	Closes	
March	08:30	17:00	All HWRCs are closed on Wednesdays and on 25 and 26 December and 1 January
April - September	08:30	19:00	
October	08:30	17:00	
November - February	08:30	16:00	

All of our 20 HWRCs have relatively low numbers of customers after 17:00 hours between April and September. We could reduce our costs by closing all or some of our HWRCs earlier between April and September.

Questions:

We have yet to identify exact levels of savings for each of the following options, so we have ordered them based upon which option we think will give us the greatest savings. We believe

Option G.1 will give us the greatest saving down to option G.4, which will give us the least amount of saving.

The consultation response form asks you to tell us what you think about each of the following options:

- G.1** The County Council should close all HWRCs at 17:00 each day between April and September;
- G.2** The County Council should keep seven HWRCs (spread across the county) open until 19:00 (existing time) between April and September and change the closing time at the other sites to 17:00 each day in these months;
- G.3** The County Council should close all HWRCs at 18:00 each day between April and September;
- G.4** The County Council should keep seven HWRCs (spread across the county) open until 19:00 (existing time) between April and September and change the closing time at the other sites to 18:00 each day in these months.

Additional ways to save money on our HWRC service

At the beginning of this consultation document, we talked about the ways we have already saved money, and our proposals to save the additional amount that we need to find. We would welcome your ideas for other ways we could save money on our HWRC service. When you respond to the HWRC questionnaire please let us know your ideas for reducing our HWRC costs.

Equalities impact assessment

A copy of the decision not to impact assess can be found on our consultation web page at www.northyorks.gov.uk/hwrcconsultation

Responding to the consultation and how to find out more

You can find out more and tell us what you think about the proposals by completing the consultation questionnaire in the following way:

- complete a questionnaire on-line at www.northyorks.gov.uk/hwrcconsultation
- email us at customer.services@northyorks.gov.uk
- call customer services on **0845 8727374**; or
- complete a paper questionnaire and post it to us: Waste and Countryside Services, Business and Environmental Services, North Yorkshire County Council, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AH.

Closing date for the consultation

Responses to be received no later than 22 December 2013.

What happens when the consultation finishes?

All the responses we receive by the closing date of 22 December 2013 will be used to inform the final report and recommendations to County Councillors (or appropriate delegated decision makers) in early 2014. The County Councillors will then decide if the proposals are to be taken forward.

Contact us

North Yorkshire County Council, County Hall, Northallerton, North Yorkshire, DL7 8AD

Our Customer Service Centre is open Monday to Friday 8.00am - 5.30pm (closed weekends and bank holidays). Tel: **0845 8727374** email: **customer.services@northyorks.gov.uk**

Or visit our website at: **www.northyorks.gov.uk**

If you would like this information in another language or format such as Braille, large print or audio, please ask us.

Tel: 01609 532917 Email: communications@northyorks.gov.uk



Changing the way we deal with waste at Household Waste Recycling Centres - **tell us what you think**

We have some proposals for ways to save money now and in the future and we would like to know what you think. You will find more details and an explanation of each option in our consultation paper.

Our proposal to save money now is to:

A. charge customers for soil and rubble OR refuse to accept it at our Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) and treat plasterboard in the same way.

Our proposals to save money in the future are to:

- B.** change the way we deal with other non-household waste;
- C.** look at how we deal with wastes from charities;
- D.** make changes to how we deal with non-North Yorkshire residents wanting to use our HWRCs;
- E.** review our policy on HWRC provision and accessibility (i.e. how many HWRCs we provide);
- F.** reduce the days some HWRCs with low numbers of customers are open; and
- G.** close all or some of our HWRCs earlier in the day when they are used least.

Please complete the following questions and submit your form by **Sunday 22nd December 2013**

Thank you for your time.

a. Are you completing this questionnaire as a...? (Please tick one box that best describes you)

- Resident of North Yorkshire

 Charity/voluntary/community group
 Commercial organisation/business

 Other (please specify): _____

b. Please let us know your postcode.

B	D	2	3		3	A	E
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c. If you use a HWRC, which one do you use the most? (Please tick one box)

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Burniston HWRC | <input type="checkbox"/> Ripon HWRC | <input type="checkbox"/> Tadcaster HWRC |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Catterick Bridge HWRC | <input type="checkbox"/> Seamer Carr HWRC | <input type="checkbox"/> Tholthorpe HWRC |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Harrogate (Stonefall) HWRC | <input type="checkbox"/> Selby HWRC | <input type="checkbox"/> Thornton le Dale HWRC |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Leeming Bar HWRC | <input type="checkbox"/> Settle HWRC | <input type="checkbox"/> West Harrogate HWRC |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Leyburn HWRC | <input type="checkbox"/> Skipton HWRC | <input type="checkbox"/> Whitby HWRC |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Malton & Norton HWRC | <input type="checkbox"/> Sowerby HWRC | <input type="checkbox"/> Wombledon HWRC |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Northallerton HWRC | <input type="checkbox"/> Stokesley HWRC | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify below): |



Our proposal to save money now

A. Charge customers for soil and rubble OR refuse to accept it at the County Council's HWRCs

We provide HWRCs for residents to dispose of their household waste; however, we currently accept some wastes that are not household wastes. We call this 'discretionary waste'. The largest amount of discretionary waste, 17% of total waste into our HWRCs, is soil and rubble (e.g. breezeblocks, bricks, ceramics, concrete, flagstones, gravel, hardcore, pottery, rubble, slates, soil, stones, tarmac, tiles, turf etc.). It costs £240,000 per year to manage and dispose of this waste. Until recently, we collected plasterboard in the same container as soil and rubble but we now have to dispose of it separately. This costs £90,000 per year.

Please tell us what you think of the following proposals (Please tick one box per row)

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly disagree
A.1 The County Council's HWRCs should not accept soil and rubble waste.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A.2 All of the County Council's HWRCs should accept soil and rubble waste but at a charge.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A.3 Some of the County Council's larger HWRCs should accept soil and rubble waste at a charge and the remaining HWRCs would not accept this waste.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A.4 The County Council should treat plasterboard in the same way as soil and rubble waste.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Our proposals to save money in the future

We are likely to be asked to make additional savings over the next few years. We would like to seek your thoughts now on how we might deliver them. We have outlined possible proposals in B to G below.

B. Change the way we deal with other non-household waste

There are several other non-household wastes that we currently accept free of charge e.g. cement bonded asbestos, gas bottles, fire extinguishers, vehicle batteries, engine oil and tyres. There are alternative options available for dealing with these wastes, which would remove the costs from council budgets. Some of these wastes need to be treated carefully as they are of a hazardous nature but the costs for us to deal with them are not as significant as for soil and rubble, or plasterboard.

Please tell us what you think of the following proposals (Please tick one box per row)

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly disagree
B.1 The County Council's HWRCs should no longer accept these wastes.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
B.2 All of the County Council's HWRCs should accept these wastes but at a charge to cover the costs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
B.3 Some of the County Council's larger HWRCs should accept these wastes but at a charge to cover the costs; the remaining HWRCs would not accept these wastes.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



C. Dealing with wastes from charities

HWRCs are for residents to dispose of their household waste. We allow businesses with relatively small amounts of commercial waste to dispose of their waste at some sites and recover our costs through charging. We also allow charities (charitable organisations and voluntary and community groups) to dispose of their waste in certain circumstances free of charge. Charities tend to use large vehicles and deliver large quantities of waste. Some charities re-use, recycle and compost household waste. We would like to understand your views on how we should deal with waste from charities.

Please tell us what you think of the following proposals *(Please tick one box per row)*

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly disagree
C.1 The County Council's HWRCs should not accept waste from charities and voluntary groups.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C.2 The County Council's HWRCs should only accept waste from charities and voluntary groups that is household waste, which can be re-used, recycled or composted, free of charge.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

D. Make changes to how we deal with non-North Yorkshire residents wanting to use our HWRCs

We estimate that accepting waste at HWRCs in North Yorkshire, from non-North Yorkshire residents costs this council more than £75,000 per year.

Please tell us what you think of the following proposals *(Please tick one box per row)*

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly disagree
D.1 The County Council's HWRCs should accept waste from non-North Yorkshire residents if we can recover costs or if North Yorkshire residents are able to use other council's HWRCs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D.2 The County Council's HWRCs should not accept waste from non-North Yorkshire residents (or charge the customer direct) and apply a North Yorkshire resident's only permit scheme.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

E. Review our policy on provision and accessibility

Currently we over-provide against our own policy and we are above the national guidance. Our 20 HWRCs mean that 99% of residents are within 30-minutes' drive time of a HWRC and 97% of residents are within 20-minutes' drive time. We could reduce the number of sites we provide and still deliver a service that meets our policy, or change our policy based on the national guidance and reduce the number of sites even further.

Assuming waste from any closed HWRC goes to other HWRCs we think we could save around £110,000 per year per HWRC that is closed.

Continues...



Please tell us what you think of the following proposals *(Please tick one box per row)*

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly disagree
E.1 The provision of HWRCs in North Yorkshire should be reduced to fit our policy.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
E.2 The provision of HWRCs in North Yorkshire should be reduced to fit national guidance for very rural areas.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

F. Reduce the days some HWRCs with low numbers of customers are open

Our 20 HWRCs are open six days per week and closed on Wednesdays. **Six** of our HWRCs continue to have very low numbers of customers. We would like your opinion on the potential for reducing costs at these sites. We estimate that reducing the number of days the **six** least used HWRCs are open by one day per week could save up to £40,000 per year in total. The other HWRCs would remain open six days per week.

Please tell us what you think of the following proposals *(Please tick one box per row)*

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly disagree
F.1 The number of days the least used HWRCs should be open should be 5 days per week.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
F.2 The number of days the least used HWRCs should be open should be 4 days per week.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

G. Close all or some of our HWRCs earlier in the day when they are used least

All of our 20 HWRCs have relatively low numbers of customers after 17:00 between April and September. We could reduce our costs by closing all or some of our HWRCs earlier between April and September. We have yet to identify exact levels of savings for each of the following options, so we have ordered them based upon which option we think will give us the greatest savings. We believe Option G.1 will give us the greatest saving down to option G.4, which will give us the least amount of saving.

Please tell us what you think of the following proposals *(Please tick one box per row)*

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly disagree
G.1 The County Council should close all HWRCs at 17:00 each day between April and September.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
G.2 The County Council should keep seven HWRCs (spread across the county) open until 19:00 (existing time) between April and September and change the closing time at the other sites to 17:00 each day in these months.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
G.3 The County Council should close all HWRCs at 18:00 each day between April and September.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
G.4 The County Council should keep seven HWRCs (spread across the county) open until 19:00 (existing time) between April and September and change the closing time at the other sites to 18:00 each day in these months.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



H Do you have any other ideas as to how we could reduce the cost of the Household Waste Recycling Centre service in North Yorkshire? If so, please write below

For the purposes of equality monitoring, please complete the following questions. Any information provided will be kept confidential.

a What is your gender? (please tick one box)

Male

Female

b Which age group do you belong to? (please tick one box)

16 - 19

30 - 39

50 - 64

75 - 84

20 - 29

40 - 49

65 - 74

85 and over

c Do you consider yourself to be a disabled person or to have a long-term, limiting condition? (please tick one box)

Yes

No

d If yes, how would you describe the nature of your impairment or condition? (please tick all that apply)

Physical impairment or disability

A learning disability or difficulty

Sight or hearing loss

A long standing illness

A mental health problem or illness

Other

Thank you for completing this survey. Your views will be taken into account when decisions are made about the proposals.

For more information, contact 'Waste and Countryside Services, Business and Environmental Services, North Yorkshire County Council, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AH'

Please return all completed questionnaires to the address above by Sunday 22nd December 2013

