



Meeting: Environment Directorate - Corporate Director & Executive Member for Managing our Environment

To: Councillor Greg White.

Date: Monday, 30th October, 2023

Time: 3.00 pm

Venue: Via Microsoft Teams

AGENDA

Items for Executive Member decision

1. Options to revise Household Waste Recycling Centre Policies (*Pages 3 - 12*)
2. Non Statutory Public Consultation Plan for the NY & York Local Nature Recovery Strategy (*Pages 13 - 22*)

Items for Corporate Director decision

3. Garden Waste Subscription charge 2024-25 (*Pages 23 - 34*)

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21 October 2023

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North Yorkshire Council

Environment Executive Members

30 October 2023

Options to revise Household Waste Recycling Centre Policies

Report of the Assistant Director - Environmental Services and Sustainability

<p>1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT</p> <p>1.1 To inform the Executive Member for Managing Our Environment of options to amend the Household Waste Recovery Centre policies.</p> <p>1.2 To seek approval to undertake a public engagement exercise regarding the Household Waste Recycling Centre options so that the findings are considered when the decision whether to amend the policies is taken.</p>

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The current network of Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) consists of 20 facilities across the county, complimented with mobile sites in hard-to-reach areas. In 2022/23 the network handled c.57,000 tonnes of waste and received 1.3 million visits.
- 2.2 This report presents information on the use of North Yorkshire's HWRCs by non-residents, the frequency of visits made by vans and trailers or 'Commercial Like Vehicles', and the receipt of chargeable trade waste; and recommends undertaking an engagement exercise to enable residents and businesses to express their views on the options under consideration.

3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Directorates of the Council are seeking to identify savings to help the new Unitary Authority achieve a balanced budget and to deliver efficient and effective services as part of a transformation initiative. At the same time Government has announced that charging for DIY materials at HWRCs will be abolished. Government intends to make the changes in late 2023, which means that North Yorkshire Council along with many others, will need to withdraw charging. In North Yorkshire, the loss of revenue and the expected increase in DIY materials delivered will cost circa £800,000 per annum. In response to these challenges a review of the HWRC service has been undertaken and has identified the following areas of interest:
- Access arrangements for non-residents
 - Frequency of visits made by Commercial-Like-Vehicles (CLVs)
 - Acceptance of trade waste

4.0 REVIEW OF HWRC SERVICE

4.1 Access arrangements for non-residents

Surveys in 2015 and 2022 establish that on average 1 in 6 users or 17% are not made by North Yorkshire residents. There were 1,348,900 visits to the HWRCs in 2022/23, of which an estimated 229,300 were undertaken by out of county users. Legislation¹ requires waste

¹ Section 51, Environmental Protection Act 1990

disposal authorities to “arrange for places to be provided at which persons resident in its area may deposit their household waste” and that “each place is available for the deposit of waste free of charge by persons resident in the area”. Most neighbouring local authorities provide their HWRC networks for their own residents and seek to restrict access to North Yorkshire and other ‘out of area’ residents as set out in table 1 below:

Table 1: Restrictions in neighbouring authorities

Area	No of sites	Restriction
North Yorkshire	20	No (resident permit at 1 site)
Bradford	8	Resident permit
City of York	2	No
Cumberland/ Westmorland & Furness	14	Permit for waste type (checks address)
Durham	13	Resident Permit
East Riding	10	Resident permit & proof of address
Leeds	8	Provided for residents (booking system withdrawn)
Middlesbrough & Stockton-on-Tees	1	Booking System
Redcar	1	Booking System

- 4.1.1 Due to a high influx of non-residents from the Middlesbrough & Stockton-Tees areas, a resident only permit scheme was put in place in 2016 at Stokesley HWRC, and successfully reduced the tonnage throughput by 22%. Out of county residents can pay to dispose of their waste at Stokesley HWRC although this option is rarely taken.
- 4.1.2 Once the responses are received, there are several approaches the Council could consider including:
- Retention of existing arrangements, whereby access is regulated at only Stokesley HWRC.
 - Subject to compliance with data protection legislation, ask residents to bring proof of address when visiting the HWRCs. Staff greet cars near the entrance. If proof of address is not available, site operatives could potentially access an online postcode ‘council checker’ to ascertain if resident lives within North Yorkshire Council administrative area. This process takes seconds using existing site devices.
 - Extend the permit scheme in place at Stokesley, either paper permits or e-permits.
 - Put in place an advanced booking system, whereby residents select a date and time convenient to them at a site of their choosing. If Government withdraws the ability to charge for DIY materials, advanced booking systems are one of the few ways to regulate the frequency of visitors with DIY waste.
- 4.1.3 An options appraisal will be undertaken, to understand the benefits of each approach and the ease and convenience to residents. If a resident only access approach is progressed, all neighbouring authorities will be contacted prior to implementation to explain the introduction of a residents only policy in North Yorkshire. If there is an opportunity to consider alternative collaborative arrangements such as reciprocal arrangements whereby each local authority pays for its residents to deposit waste at a neighbouring authority’s facility, then these options will be explored at this stage.
- 4.1.4 It will be appropriate to consider fly-tipping. Whilst not directly associated with a restriction on non-residents, demand management measures at HWRCs are explored in a 2021 WRAP report “The relationship between fly-tipping rates and HWRC charging”. The WRAP report explores the relationship between fly-tipping rates and HWRC charging concluded that “Comparison of fly-tipping rates does not show that those local authorities that have introduced charges for some HWRC waste have higher fly-tipping rates than those without charges”. There is no reasonable interpretation of available evidence in North Yorkshire

between any historic changes in service provision at HWRCs and an increase in fly tipping e.g., reduction in opening hours and charges for DIY materials.

4.2 **Frequency of visits made by Commercial-Like-Vehicles (CLVs)**

North Yorkshire Council currently operates a registration scheme that requires residents with vans or pickup vehicles to pre-register with the Council before they visit a HWRC. Once registered there is no restriction on the number of times a CLV can visit. It is very difficult for site operatives to determine whether a CLV is carrying household or commercial waste. The absence of a threshold means that the council will be accepting commercial waste free of charge for which it has no obligation to do so.

4.2.1 By cross referencing vehicle details from the registration scheme with the ANPR system, we believe that 7% of CLVs visit the HWRCs more than 12 times per annum. Benchmarking with 37 local authorities shows that 87% regulate access by CLVs either through permits or advanced booking systems, with the most common limit being 12 annual visits. On this basis 12 visits per year is sufficient for most residents depositing household waste, but effective in deterring tradespersons depositing business waste. A bench marking discussion with a local authority illustrated that 99.6% of their residents do not use the full allocation of 12 permits per year, so the threshold is sufficient. We anticipate that a limit of 12 visits per year will see a reduction of 36,000 visits in vehicles designed to accommodate large payloads and volumes.

4.2.2 North Yorkshire Council currently allows trailers of unlimited size access to HWRCs, the only restriction is that agricultural vehicles are not permitted. Large trailers are challenging to manoeuvre, especially at small sites where space is at a premium and where members of the public in close proximity. The carrying capacity of large trailers is similar to CLVs – we are seeking views on limiting trailer size and where trailers are accepted, being subject to the 12 visits per year restriction. The impact of retaining the existing approach is that residents in regular size cars are impeded by those with CLVs and trailers, longer queues because of the time taken to unload these larger vehicles, and a source of conflict for site operatives when attempting to establish whether the waste is household or commercial.

4.2.3 Once the views are received, there are several approaches the Council could consider including:

- Retention of the existing registration system, which is ineffective in deterring excessive amounts of waste from being delivered.
- Introduce a permit system, either paper or e-permits, to enable owners of CLVs and trailers to apply for their permits in advance via self-serve or customer services, or the site operatives can do this on the customer's behalf.
- Introduce an advanced booking system, whereby residents choose a timeslot that is convenient to them, which assists site operatives to regulate the number of large vehicles and trailers on site at any one time. This approach will improve the customer experience for residents in regular vehicles and will help to address queues.

4.2.4 An options appraisal will be undertaken, to understand the benefits of each approach and the ease and convenience to residents.

4.3 **Acceptance of trade waste**

North Yorkshire Council currently accepts trade waste at all 20 HWRCs. Trade waste is accepted subject to a charge, but there is no weighing equipment on any of the HWRCs. Charges are levied by the site operatives estimating the volume delivered, such as the number of bags or whether the vehicle is $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{3}{4}$ or full. In reality it is very difficult for the site operatives to estimate the weight delivered and the appropriate charge, which has led to trades persons being undercharged and the Council not recovering costs. The inability to accurately quantify the weight of trade waste delivered to HWRCs is the single biggest source of confrontation faced by site operatives. Benchmarking with other authorities

shows that trade waste is not accepted unless there is a weighbridge to accurately quantify the weight and charge to customers. In tandem with the engagement exercise, the service will review the technology available and cost of procuring weighing equipment that meets the needs of UK weights and measures legislation to be able to charge by weight.

4.3.1 Once the responses are received, there are several approaches the Council could consider including:

- Retention of the existing system whereby trade waste is accepted at all HWRCs without weighing equipment.
- Assess whether purchasing weighing equipment for some/ all HWRCs is economically viable.
- Divert trade waste to existing waste disposal facilities already equipped with weighbridges.
- Do not accept trade waste. There is no obligation for the Council to accept trade waste at HWRCs and the majority of LAs benchmarked do not accept it. The unitary authority provides a trade waste collection service and meets its obligation to arrange for the collection of commercial waste. In addition to Council provided services, tradespersons can also use private waste disposal facilities.

5.0 ENGAGEMENT UNDERTAKEN AND RESPONSES

5.1 The report seeks a decision to undertake an engagement exercise on how the proposals would impact site users. The draft questions are listed in Appendix A. The engagement duration is likely to be 12 weeks and will help to understand the impact of the proposals, and whether to seek recommendations from the Executive and Full Council to change HWRCs policies and practices.

6.0 CONTRIBUTION TO COUNCIL PRIORITIES

6.1 The proposals contribute towards the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy and deliver an efficient and effective HWRC service.

7.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

7.1 The report seeks a decision to undertake an engagement exercise on how the proposals would impact site users. It is desirable to understand stakeholder's views before a decision on HWRC policies is made. Alternative proposals to reduce the service were considered and not taken forward, for example providing fewer HWRC facilities and/ or reducing the number of days the sites are open.

8.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 The report seeks a decision to undertake an engagement exercise. The financial implications of implementing proposals will be considered should a decision be sought to implement changes to policies and practices.

9.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 North Yorkshire Council has a duty to comply with its obligations under the Environmental Protection Act, Section 51 requires waste disposal authorities to arrange "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" and that "each place is available for the deposit of waste free of charge by persons resident in the area". In relation to commercial waste, section 45 requires waste collection authorities "if requested by the occupier of premises in its area to collect any commercial waste from the premises, to arrange for the collection of the waste".

9.2 The Government has announced that they will amend the Controlled Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2012 to prevent local authorities charging for the disposal of DIY waste from small-scale projects by householders at HWRCs. The Government expects to bring these changes into force late 2023.

10.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

10.1 The report seeks a decision to undertake an engagement exercise. The equalities implications of implementing proposals will be considered should a decision be sought to implement changes to policies and practices.

11.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

11.1 The report seeks a decision to undertake an engagement exercise. The climate change implications of implementing proposals will be considered should a decision be sought to implement changes to policies and practices.

12.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

12.1 The report seeks a decision to undertake an engagement exercise. The policy implications of implementing proposals will be considered should a decision be sought to implement changes to policies and practices. Outside the scope of the engagement exercise, the Council may look to amend the existing friends & family guidelines to ensure fair usage and review pedestrian access on a site-by-site basis to ensure the safety and wellbeing of site users.

13.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

13.1 Directorates of the Council are seeking to identify savings to help the new Unitary Authority achieve a balanced budget and to deliver efficient and effective services as part of a transformation initiative. The options under consideration avoid the need to reduce the service but do impact certain site users. We are seeking a decision to undertake an engagement exercise to consider those impacts before reviewing existing HWRC policies and practices.

14.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 14.1
- i) To inform the Executive Member for Managing our Environment of options to amend the Household Waste Recovery Centre policies.
 - ii) To seek approval to undertake a public engagement exercise regarding the Household Waste Recycling Centre options so that the findings are considered when the decision whether to amend the policies is taken.

APPENDICES:

Appendix A – Proposed Engagement Exercise

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS: None

MICHAEL LEAH

Assistant Director Environmental Services and Sustainability

Report Author – Peter Jeffreys, Head of Waste (Contracts)

Presenter of Report – Peter Jeffreys, Head of Waste (Contracts)

Note: Members are invited to contact the author in advance of the meeting with any detailed queries or questions.

Appendix A : Proposed Engagement Exercise

Share your views to help develop the household waste recycling centres across North Yorkshire

We have a legal duty to provide household waste recycling centres for residents to dispose of any additional household waste, free of charge.

We currently provide 20 household waste recycling centres (plus mobile sites) across North Yorkshire and this service, including the disposal of the waste delivered, costs more than £5 million per year.

We face many significant challenges now and the years ahead. Including the impact of inflation, increased demand for our services, climate change, and the impact of the cost-of-living crisis on our communities. Government also plans on scrapping charges for household DIY waste at household waste recycling centres, which will also have an impact on our budget and the services we provide.

To help make savings we are looking at various options while ensuring we maintain our frontline services.

We are therefore asking residents to share their views about changes to the following services;

- Restricting the use of the household waste recycling centres to North Yorkshire residents only
- Limiting the access for commercial-like vehicles
- Changes to commercial waste

Firstly, we would like to know a bit about you and how you use the household waste recycling centres.

1. Do you live in North Yorkshire?

- Yes
- No

2. What do you use a household waste recycling centre for?

- Disposal of household waste
- Disposal of commercial waste
- I do not use a household waste recycling centre

3. How often do you visit a household waste recycling centre?

- Once a week
- Once or twice a month
- A few times a year
- Once a year or less

4. How satisfied are you with the service you receive?

- Very satisfied
- Fairly Satisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly Dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied

a. If you are dissatisfied, please could you elaborate.

5. Which household waste recycling centres do you normally use? (Please select all that apply)

- Burniston
- Catterick Bridge
- Harrogate (Stonefall)
- Leeming Bar
- Leyburn
- Malton and Norton
- Northallerton
- Ripon
- Seamer Carr
- Selby
- Settle
- Skipton
- Sowerby
- Stokesley
- Tadcaster
- Tholthorpe
- Thornton-le-Dale
- West Harrogate (Penny Pot Lane)
- Whitby
- Wombledon

15% of household waste recycling centre users live outside of North Yorkshire. If only North Yorkshire residents were allowed to use the household waste recycling centres, this could generate savings of approximately £140,000 per year.

6. We propose restricting the use of the household waste recycling centres to North Yorkshire residents only.

- I agree with this proposal
- I disagree with this proposal

a. Please explain why (optional)

7. Should we restrict access to North Yorkshire residents only, we propose that non-residents should pay a fee to use one of our household waste recycling centres.

- I agree with this proposal
- I disagree with this proposal

Commercial-like vehicles

93% of commercial vehicles visit less than 12 visits per year. If we limit these vehicles to 12 visits per year we could bring in savings of around £370,000 and could also reduce congestion at sites to improve the experience for everyone. It is believed that some waste being deposited from these vehicles could be commercial waste, which should be paid for.

8. We are proposing to limit the number of times per year that commercial-like vehicles can use the household waste recycling centres?

- I agree with this proposal
- I disagree with this proposal

9. We believe up to 12 visits a year per household in a commercial-like vehicle is a reasonable amount to dispose of household waste and recycling items? ([A list of items that can be accepted are available on our website](#))

- I agree with this proposal
- I disagree with this proposal

a. Please explain why (optional)

10. Do you use a trailer to bring your waste to a household waste recycling centre?

- Yes
- No

11. Cars can currently bring trailers of any size into the HWRCs. Trailers can be difficult for household waste recycling centres to deal with, especially at busy periods. Would you agree with any of the following options? (Please tick all that apply)

- Limiting the number of visits to up to 12 per year
- Restricting the times trailers can visit by using a pre-booking system
- Restricting some size of trailers

Commercial waste accepted at household waste recycling centres and whether this should be changed

Commercial waste, which is a paid for service, is currently accepted at all household waste recycling centres (except Harrogate Stonefall). Providing this service costs the council nearly £140,000 a year.

We have no legal obligation to accept commercial waste at household waste recycling centres but we understand that this is a useful service to very small businesses that operate from home in rural areas.

12. Do you think we should continue to accept commercial waste at household waste recycling centres?

- Yes
- No

13. Do you think this should be accurately weighed and paid for?

- Yes
- No

14. To accurately weigh and price commercial waste, weighing equipment could be offered at dedicated household waste recycling centres or at dedicated commercial waste disposal sites across North Yorkshire. Which option would you support?

- Dedicated weigh bridges at household waste recycling centres
- Commercial waste disposal sites across North Yorkshire, therefore reducing waiting times at household waste recycling centres

15. If you could not dispose of commercial waste at a household waste recycling centre, how else would you dispose of your waste?

- Commercial waste collection service from your premises
- Hire a skip
- Waste disposal site
- Other

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North Yorkshire Council

Environment Executive Members

30 October 2023

Non-Statutory Public Consultation Plan for the North Yorkshire and York Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS)

Report of the Assistant Director – Environmental Services and Sustainability

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To recommend that the Executive Member for Managing the Environment following consultation with the Corporate Director of Environment authorises the non-statutory public consultation plan for the North Yorkshire and York Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS).

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 During June 2023, Defra appointed North Yorkshire Council as the Responsible Authority (RA) to lead production and publishing of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) covering the whole administrative county of North Yorkshire and the City of York.
- 2.2 The LNRS Regulations and Statutory Guidance require all consultation draft LNRS strategies to go through public consultation. Statutory public consultation needs to be preceded by formal consultation with North Yorkshire Council's Supporting Authorities (City of York Council, Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, North York Moors National Park Authority and Natural England) and the seven neighbouring LNRS Responsible Authorities. It is expected that formal consultation with the Supporting Authorities and neighbouring Responsible Authorities will take place during early summer 2024, with statutory public consultation following in autumn 2024.
- 2.3 In advance of the statutory public consultation, North Yorkshire Council proposes non-statutory public consultation with the citizens of North Yorkshire and York so they can help shape the LNRS. The plan for the non-statutory public consultation has been prepared in consultation with the four Supporting Authorities.

3.0 NON-STATUTORY PUBLIC CONSULTATION PLAN

- 3.1 The proposed approach to the non-statutory public consultation will involve a launch in early November 2023 with a news release, social media post and an article in Your North Yorkshire. An online survey consultation (see Appendix A) will open in early November and will be available to the general public for 12 weeks. The findings will be reviewed, reported on during early 2024 and will help to shape the LNRS. The online survey will signpost interested parties to volunteering opportunities and engagement in citizen science and the option to stay informed with progress on the LNRS. During November, two early evening webinars on the LNRS are proposed for town and parish councils and interested parties respectively. In person workshops with youth councils in York and the North Yorkshire area are also being considered.

3.2 In addition to the online survey and webinars, introductory emails will be sent to MPs across North Yorkshire and York, a North Yorkshire all-member briefing on LNRS and biodiversity net gain (BNG) is scheduled for 8 November and six-monthly briefings are proposed for the six area constituency committees.

4.0 CONTRIBUTION TO COUNCIL PRIORITIES

4.1 The LNRS will contribute to the following specific Council Plan (2023-2027) ambitions:

- Place and Environment
 - A clean, environmentally sustainable and attractive place to live, work and visit
- Economy
 - Culture, heritage, arts and sustainable tourism all play their part in the economic growth of the county
- Health and Wellbeing
 - People are supported to have a good quality of life and enjoy active and healthy lifestyles
- People
 - People can achieve their full potential through lifelong education and learning

5.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 No alternative options were considered. The report is for information only.

6.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Costs incurred by the public consultation plan will be covered by the S31 grant from Defra, accepted by NYC on 28 July 2023. The revenue grant monies of £206,971.00 for tax year 2023-2024 was received by North Yorkshire Council on 22 August.

6.2 The public consultation exercise is being led by the NYC Comms Team and is expected to cost up to £5,000.

7.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no legal implications.

8.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

8.1 An Equality Impact Assessment screening has been undertaken and there is no requirement for a full EIA.

9.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

9.1 A Climate Change Impact Assessment screening has been undertaken and there is no requirement for a full CCIA. See Appendix B.

10.0 RECOMMENDATION

10.1 To recommend that the authorisation of the non-statutory public consultation plan for the North Yorkshire and York Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS).

APPENDICES:

Appendix A – Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) online survey

Appendix B – Climate Change Impact Assessment

MICHAEL LEAH

Assistant Director, Environmental Services and Sustainability

County Hall

Northallerton

13 October 2023

Report Author – Michael Leah, Assistant Director Environmental Services

Presenter of Report – Tim Johns, Policy Officer, Local Nature Recovery Strategy

Local Nature Recovery Strategy consultation

To address the decline of nature and to improve the environment, every county in England will be required by law to produce a [Local Nature Recovery Strategy](#).

The collective strategies will aim to restore, create and connect habitats across England through action plans and objectives.

They are also a way for nature specialists, professional experts, businesses and local residents to come together to find out about ways to restore and enhance nature.

We need your help to prepare our Local Nature Recovery Strategy for North Yorkshire and York and want to know more about why you care for nature, your thoughts on wildlife species and if you've seen examples of projects in your local area to restore or protect nature.

The survey should take you no longer than 10 to 15 minutes to complete.

1. I care most about nature because... Please rank your top 3 in order of preference:

- It is important for our mental health and wellbeing
- To help tackle climate change
- It is important for our heritage and sense of identity
- It protects us from natural hazards like flooding
- It is good for our physical health and keeping active
- It is important for our jobs and businesses
- It helps attract visitors
- Nature is not important to me

2. Which of the following habitats and landscapes in North Yorkshire and York do you think are the most important for nature recovery?

	Definitely agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Definitely disagree
Grasslands (e.g. meadows and pastures)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Woodlands and forests	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wetlands (e.g. reed beds)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Rivers, lakes and streams	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Urban green spaces	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Coastline and sea	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Moorlands	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

3. If applicable, please add any other areas of habitats and landscapes that you believe need protecting

4. Which groups of wildlife species do you think are most in need of nature recovery?

	Definitely agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Definitely disagree
Birds (e.g. lapwings, yellow hammers and red kites)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Land mammals (e.g. otters, water voles and hedgehog)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Amphibians (e.g. frogs, toads and newts)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Reptiles (e.g. lizards and snakes)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pollinators (e.g. bees, butterflies and moths)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other invertebrates (e.g. beetles and spiders)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fish (e.g. salmon, trout)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Marine mammals (e.g. dolphins and whales)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

5. If applicable, please add any details about any other groups of wildlife species you think are most in need of nature recovery?

6. What examples have you seen of people working together to restore and protect nature and/or the natural environment in North Yorkshire and York?

- No mow May (national campaign to encourage people not to mow grass during May)
- Areas of new tree planting
- Creating meadows
- Nature friendly spaces in towns and villages
- Restoring areas of degraded peat on moorland
- Restoring old quarries with ponds, grasses, trees and shrubs
- Reconnecting to our historic floodplains
- Creating ponds
- Restoring rivers
- Work along the coastline, including cleaning beaches
- Other

- I've not seen examples

a. For the examples where you ticked 'yes, where were they located?

7. At the present moment in time, how concerned are you about nature in North Yorkshire and York?

Not concerned at all	Slightly concerned	Somewhat concerned	Quite concerned	Very concerned
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

8. Which of the following are giving you the greatest concerns about nature decline? (Please rank your top 3, with 1 being most important to you):

- New developments (housebuilding, employment sites and roads)
- Agricultural practices
- Climate change
- Water quality
- Air quality
- Mining and quarrying
- Other

9. If you have anything else you would like to share about how we can improve nature, please let us know.

10. Which of these statements best represent you?

- North Yorkshire resident
- City of York resident
- Landowner, farmer or land tenant
- Business
- Community organisation
- Town or parish council
- Environmental professional
- Utility company
- Student or young person
- Visitor to North Yorkshire

11. How old are you?

- 15 and under
- 16-24
- 25-34
- 35-44
- 45-54
- 55-64
- 65-74
- 75 and above
- Prefer not to say

Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey.

Your response will help support the creation of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy for North Yorkshire and York.

If you would like to be kept informed and share your views on the draft strategy, please include your contact details below.

Name

Email address

Volunteering opportunities

There are many organisations in the North Yorkshire and York area that carry-out nature recovery projects across the area.

There are also many opportunities to get involved in many types of volunteering including tree planting, hedgerow planting and clean ups of natural spaces. If you are interested in getting involved, please visit the following organisations:

- [Yorkshire Wildlife Trust](#)
- [North York Moors National Park](#)
- [Yorkshire Dales National Park](#)
- [Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty](#)
- [Forest of Bowland Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty](#)
- [Howardian Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty](#)
- [The Conservation Volunteers \(TCV\)](#)

Initial Climate Change Impact Assessment (Form created August 2021)

The intention of this document is to help the council to gain an initial understanding of the impact of a project or decision on the environment. This document should be completed in consultation with the supporting guidance. Dependent on this initial assessment you may need to go on to complete a full Climate Change Impact Assessment. The final document will be published as part of the decision-making process.

If you have any additional queries, which are not covered by the guidance please email climatechange@northyorks.gov.uk

Title of proposal	Non-Statutory Public Consultation Plan for the North Yorkshire and York Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS)
Brief description of proposal	The proposed approach to the non-statutory public consultation will involve a launch in early November 2023 followed by an online survey consultation (papers copies available on request via the NYC call centre) will open in early November and will be available to the general public for 12 weeks. The findings will be reviewed, reported on during early 2024 and will help to shape the LNRS. The online survey will signpost interested parties to volunteering opportunities and engagement in citizen science and the option to stay informed with progress on the LNRS. During November, two early evening webinars on the LNRS are proposed for town and parish councils and interested parties respectively. In person workshops with youth councils in York and the North Yorkshire area are also being considered.
Directorate	Environment
Service area	Environment and Climate Change
Lead officer	Tim Johns
Names and roles of other people involved in carrying out the impact assessment	n/a

The chart below contains the main environmental factors to consider in your initial assessment – choose the appropriate option from the drop-down list for each one.

Remember to think about the following;

- Travel
- Construction
- Data storage
- Use of buildings
- Change of land use
- Opportunities for recycling and reuse

Environmental factor to consider	For the council	For the county	Overall
Greenhouse gas emissions	No effect on emissions	No Effect on emissions	No effect on emissions
Waste	No effect on waste	No effect on waste	No effect on waste
Water use	No effect on water usage	No effect on water usage	No effect on water usage
Pollution (air, land, water, noise, light)	No effect on pollution	Decreases pollution	Decreases pollution
Resilience to adverse weather/climate events (flooding, drought etc)	Increases resilience	Increases resilience	Increases resilience
Ecological effects (biodiversity, loss of habitat etc)	Positive impact on ecology	Positive impact on ecology	Positive impact on ecology
Heritage and landscape	Increases protection of heritage and landscape	Increases protection of heritage and landscape	Increases protection of heritage and landscape

If any of these factors are likely to result in a negative or positive environmental impact then a full climate change impact assessment will be required. It is important that we capture information about both positive and negative impacts to aid the council in calculating its carbon footprint and environmental impact.

Decision (Please tick one option)	Full CCIA not relevant or proportionate:	✓	Continue to full CCIA:	
Reason for decision	Much of the public consultation will be undertaken online using the survey and webinars. Paper copies of the survey will be available on request; however it is predicted that very few requests will be made for this service. Workshops with youth councils will need to be accessed by car, however the number of workshops will be very low in number, with no more than four events taking place during the consultation period. Any greenhouse gas emissions would be kept to a minimum. The community and social benefits of meeting the young people in person is considered to be an effective way of engaging them in nature recovery and wider environmental benefits. Undertaking the same workshop online would be considered less effective.			
Signed (Assistant Director or equivalent)	Michael Leah			
Date	13 October 2023			

North Yorkshire Council

Environment Directorate

Executive Member

30 October 2023

Garden Waste Subscription Charge 2024/25

Report of the Assistant Director – Environmental Services and Sustainability

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To obtain approval of the garden waste subscription charge for 2024/25

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 To enable residents to subscribe to the garden waste service for the 2024 season from early January 2024, a decision is required on the garden waste subscription charge for 2024/25. To meet this deadline, this decision is being brought forward ahead of approving the rest of the Environment directorate fees and charges for 2024/25 which will be the subject of a separate report as part of the budget setting process.

3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 On 20 June 2023, Executive approved:
- That a subscription-based garden waste service be introduced in the Selby area in line with the rest of North Yorkshire at the harmonised rate
 - That in Selby subscription open from 3 July 2023 with the charged service beginning w/c 28 August 2023 and a pro-rata rate of £29 be charged for 2023/24
 - To agree the further harmonisation of the garden waste service across the North Yorkshire Council area including charging periods, subscription periods and winter closedown based on the proposals for the Selby area.
- 3.2 The garden waste subscription charge was harmonised in 2023/24 for all former district and borough Councils excluding Selby area, where charging for garden waste was introduced in July following the approval of (i) and (ii) above.
- 3.3 Work has taken place post vesting day to enable further harmonisation of the garden waste service following the approval of (iii) above.

4.0 OVERVIEW OF THE CURRENT POSITION

- 4.1 The current charge for one garden waste subscription is £43.50, with a pro-rata charge of £29 in Selby.
- 4.2 All areas provide a 240-litre wheeled bin for garden waste except Richmondshire, who currently provide a 140-litre wheeled bin and a pro-rata charge has applied in 2023/24.

- 4.3 For the 2024 season the garden waste service will be harmonised for all residents who subscribe across North Yorkshire in the following areas:
- The window for renewing garden waste subscriptions will open to all residents from January 2024 which has been brought forward to reduce customer contact in March at a peak time for customer services.
 - Residents will have the option to subscribe online or by telephone. These methods will be promoted however cheques will also be accepted. Still to be confirmed once review completed
 - The charging period for 2024 will be from Monday 4 March to Friday 6 December 2024
 - The 2024/25 winter closedown period will be December, January and February
 - All residents will have a 240-litre garden waste wheeled bin. Richmondshire residents who subscribe will have their smaller 140-litre wheeled bin replaced with a 240-litre bin for garden waste which requires the purchase of 7,000 additional bins in 23/24 at a cost of £161k to be funded from the environment directorate revenue budget.
 - All residents will receive the same licence for 2024/25 which will be a sticker (subject to confirmation)
- 4.4 Residents in Craven, Hambleton and Ryedale will pay a reduced subscription charge for the 2024 season as their subscription for 2023/24 already includes a payment for March 2024.
- 4.5 It is expected that full harmonisation of subscribing to the garden waste service will take place from 2025.
- 4.6 The total number of garden waste licences purchased for 2023/24 is forecast to be 126,750 generating an annual income of £4.996m which is £302k above the original budget for 2023/24.
- 4.7 The current forecast is £302k above the original budget which is due to Selby achieving an impressive participation rate of 43% since introducing charges with total subscriptions at 18,500 compared to the target of 6,900 exceeding the budget by £355k. In addition, there has been no impact on the level of subscriptions as a result of harmonising the garden waste subscription charge in any of the former district and boroughs who already charged for the service who are collectively achieving 23/24 savings targets already built into the budget.

5.0 PROPOSED CHARGES AND INCOME

- 5.1 To enable the window to open in January 2024 for residents to renew their garden waste subscriptions for the 2024 season, the charge for the 2024 subscription needs to be set.
- 5.2 The proposed charge for 2024/25 is £46.50 which has a 6.9% inflationary increase applied.
- 5.3 The proposed pro-rata charge for 2024/25 is £42.00 which reflects a reduced charge for residents who subscribe in Craven, Hambleton and Ryedale as they have already paid for March 2024 in their charge for 2023/24.
- 5.4 Income from garden waste subscriptions based on current participation rates continuing in 2024/25 at proposed rates would increase budgets by £375k for inflationary price increases, as well as the expected additional waste harmonisation savings of £750k already included in MTFs to reflect the full year charge for Selby waste and remaining harmonisation savings relating to Richmondshire.

6.0 CONTRIBUTION TO COUNCIL PRIORITIES

- 6.1 Place and Environment - To encourage and assist everyone to reduce, reuse and recycle.
- 6.2 Organisation – To provide good customer service and understand the needs of our customers and to ensure customers can access services in the most appropriate way, with customers being able to self-serve where they are able to do so.

7.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 7.1 A lower inflationary increase could be applied to the garden waste subscription charge however the garden waste is a discretionary service where waste collection authorities are able to make a charge under the Controlled Waste Regulations 2012. It is therefore considered reasonable to apply an inflationary increase to the current charge.

8.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 The financial impact is set out in detail in section 5 of this report. In summary the proposed increase to fees for 24/25 is an increase of 6.9% and is expected to generate an increase in income for NYC of £375k which will be added to existing budgets.

9.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 Garden waste collection is a discretionary service where waste collection authorities can make a charge under the Controlled Waste Regulations 2012

10.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 Consideration has been given to the potential for any adverse equality impacts from the recommendation and there is no adverse impact of any of the protected characteristics identified in the Equalities Act 2010. (EIA Screen Form attached at Appendix A)

11.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 Consideration has been given to the potential for any adverse climate change impacts arising from the recommendation. If people choose not to subscribe to the garden waste collection service, experience from other authorities shows that residents tend to compost at home instead as there is no corresponding rise in residual waste tonnages to match the reduction in garden waste tonnages, therefore there is little impact on the environment. (Climate Change Impact Assessment attached at Appendix B)

12.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 12.1 To enable the subscription window for the 2024 garden waste collection season to open in January 2024 it is essential that the garden waste subscription charge is set ahead of the rest of the fees and charges for the Environment Directorate.
- 12.2 Agreeing the 2024/25 charge also enables the appropriate communication to residents to promote subscribing to the garden waste service together with the necessary changes to the IT and payment systems to accommodate this.

13.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

13.1 That the Corporate Director of Environment in consultation with the Executive Member for Managing our Environment approves:

- i. The full year charge for the garden waste collection service increases to £46.50 in 2024/25.
- ii. The pro-rata charge applicable to residents in Craven, Hambleton and Ryedale is £42.00 in 2024/25.

APPENDICES:

Appendix A – Equalities Impact Assessment Screen Form
Appendix B – Climate Change Impact Assessment

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS: Executive Report 20 June 2023 – Selby Area Garden Waste Service

MICHAEL LEAH
Assistant Director – Environmental Services & Sustainability
County Hall
Northallerton

20 October 2023

Report Author – Beckie Bennett, Head of Waste and Environment (Ryedale)

Presenter of Report – Beckie Bennett, Head of Waste and Environment

Note: Members are invited to contact the author in advance of the meeting with any detailed queries or questions.

Initial equality impact assessment screening form			
This form records an equality screening process to determine the relevance of equality to a proposal, and a decision whether or not a full EIA would be appropriate or proportionate.			
Directorate	Environment		
Service area	Environmental Services including Climate Change and Waste Services		
Proposal being screened	Garden waste subscription charge 2024/25		
Officer(s) carrying out screening	Beckie Bennett		
What are you proposing to do?	To seek approval of the garden waste subscription charge for 2024/25.		
Why are you proposing this? What are the desired outcomes?	To apply an inflationary increase to the current garden waste subscription charge and ensure that the cost of delivering the services is covered by the charge. The charge needs to be set ahead of the rest of the Environment directorate fees and charges to enable residents to subscribe to the garden waste service for the 2024 season from early January 2024.		
Does the proposal involve a significant commitment or removal of resources? Please give details.	No.		
Impact on people with any of the following protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010, or NYCC's additional agreed characteristics			
As part of this assessment, please consider the following questions:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To what extent is this service used by particular groups of people with protected characteristics? Does the proposal relate to functions that previous consultation has identified as important? Do different groups have different needs or experiences in the area the proposal relates to? 			
If for any characteristic it is considered that there is likely to be an adverse impact or you have ticked 'Don't know/no info available', then a full EIA should be carried out where this is proportionate. You are advised to speak to your Equality rep for advice if you are in any doubt.			
Protected characteristic	Potential for adverse impact		Don't know/No info available
	Yes	No	
Age		X	
Disability		X	
Sex		X	
Race		X	
Sexual orientation		X	
Gender reassignment		X	
Religion or belief		X	
Pregnancy or maternity		X	
Marriage or civil partnership		X	
NYCC additional characteristics			
People in rural areas		X	
People on a low income		X	
Carer (unpaid family or friend)		X	
Does the proposal relate to an area where there are known inequalities/probable impacts (e.g. disabled people's access to public transport)? Please give details.	No.		
Will the proposal have a significant effect on how other organisations operate? (e.g.	No.		

partners, funding criteria, etc.). Do any of these organisations support people with protected characteristics? Please explain why you have reached this conclusion.				
Decision (Please tick one option)	EIA not relevant or proportionate:	X	Continue to full EIA:	
Reason for decision	<p>The charges are levied on a range of customers who may choose to pay for the services in question. Some of those customers will fall within the group of protected characteristics within the equality act. However, there is no evidence that the charges will disproportionately impact on customers within any of the protected characteristic groups.</p> <p>Of the local North Yorkshire characteristics, those on lower incomes may be impacted however there are other free options for the disposal of garden waste such as HWRCs and home composting plus residents are also encouraged to share bins to split the cost.</p>			
Signed (Assistant Director or equivalent)				
Date				

Climate change impact assessment

The purpose of this assessment is to help us understand the likely impacts of our decisions on the environment of North Yorkshire and on our aspiration to achieve net carbon neutrality by 2030, or as close to that date as possible. The intention is to mitigate negative effects and identify projects which will have positive effects.

This document should be completed in consultation with the supporting guidance. The final document will be published as part of the decision making process and should be written in Plain English.

If you have any additional queries which are not covered by the guidance please email climatechange@northyorks.gov.uk

Version 1: 6 October 2023

Please note: You may not need to undertake this assessment if your proposal will be subject to any of the following:

Planning Permission
Environmental Impact Assessment
Strategic Environmental Assessment

However, you will still need to summarise your findings in the summary section of the form below.

Please contact climatechange@northyorks.gov.uk for advice.

Title of proposal	Garden Waste Subscription Charge 2024/25
Brief description of proposal	To seek a decision for the subscription charge for garden waste collections for 2024/25
Directorate	Environment
Service area	Environmental Services including Climate Change and Waste Services
Lead officer	Beckie Bennett, Head of Waste and Environment (Ryedale)
Names and roles of other people involved in carrying out the impact assessment	Not applicable
Date impact assessment started	6/10/23

Options appraisal

Were any other options considered in trying to achieve the aim of this project? If so, please give brief details and explain why alternative options were not progressed.

The subscription charge for 2024/25 has been calculated by applying a minimum inflationary increase of 6% with rounding to propose a reasonable annual charge.

This provides the most desirable outcome ensuring a harmonised charge for garden waste collections across the county and that the authority can cover its legitimate costs in delivering the garden waste collection service.

What impact will this proposal have on council budgets? Will it be cost neutral, have increased cost or reduce costs?

Please explain briefly why this will be the result, detailing estimated savings or costs where this is possible.

The proposed charges apply an inflationary increase to the current charges in line with the financial policy when setting budgets. The additional income generated assumes the number of residents subscribing remains constant, offsets the rising costs of delivering the service and harmonises the garden waste service across the county.

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<p>How will this proposal impact on the environment?</p> <p>N.B. There may be short term negative impact and longer-term positive impact. Please include all potential impacts over the lifetime of a project and provide an explanation.</p>	<p>Positive impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>No impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>Negative impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>Explain why will it have this effect and over what timescale?</p> <p>Where possible/relevant please include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes over and above business as usual • Evidence or measurement of effect • Figures for CO₂e • Links to relevant documents 	<p>Explain how you plan to mitigate any negative impacts.</p>	<p>Explain how you plan to improve any positive outcomes as far as possible.</p>	
<p>Minimise greenhouse gas emissions e.g. reducing emissions from travel, increasing energy efficiencies etc.</p>	Emissions from travel		X		<p>Charging for the garden waste service does represent a potential risk that some existing users of the garden waste collection service choose to dispose of their garden waste at the Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs). However, charging has been in place for a number of years and the evidence suggests that residents tend to compost at home which creates a positive overall impact.</p>	<p>Provide communication to residents to explain that whilst there is a financial cost of the service it still offers good value.</p>	<p>Provide educational support to residents who choose to home compost.</p>
	Emissions from construction		X		N/A		
	Emissions from running of buildings		X		N/A		
	Emissions from data storage		X		N/A		

<p>How will this proposal impact on the environment?</p> <p>N.B. There may be short term negative impact and longer-term positive impact. Please include all potential impacts over the lifetime of a project and provide an explanation.</p>	<p>Positive impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>No impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>Negative impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>Explain why will it have this effect and over what timescale?</p> <p>Where possible/relevant please include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes over and above business as usual • Evidence or measurement of effect • Figures for CO₂e • Links to relevant documents 	<p>Explain how you plan to mitigate any negative impacts.</p>	<p>Explain how you plan to improve any positive outcomes as far as possible.</p>	
<p>Other</p>		X			N/A		
<p>Minimise waste: Reduce, reuse, recycle and compost e.g. reducing use of single use plastic</p>		X		Residents who choose not to subscribe to the garden waste collection service still can compost their garden waste either through HWRCs or through home composting.			
<p>Reduce water consumption</p>		X		N/A			
<p>Minimise pollution (including air, land, water, light and noise)</p>		X		N/A			
<p>Ensure resilience to the effects of climate change e.g. reducing flood risk, mitigating effects of drier, hotter summers</p>		X		N/A			
<p>Enhance conservation and wildlife</p>	X			For those residents who choose not to subscribe to the service, there is an increased likelihood			

<p>How will this proposal impact on the environment?</p> <p>N.B. There may be short term negative impact and longer-term positive impact. Please include all potential impacts over the lifetime of a project and provide an explanation.</p>	<p>Positive impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>No impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>Negative impact (Place a X in the box below where</p>	<p>Explain why will it have this effect and over what timescale?</p> <p>Where possible/relevant please include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changes over and above business as usual Evidence or measurement of effect Figures for CO₂e Links to relevant documents 	<p>Explain how you plan to mitigate any negative impacts.</p>	<p>Explain how you plan to improve any positive outcomes as far as possible.</p>
<p>Page 33</p>				<p>that they choose not to cut back the grass and vegetation in their garden, giving a mild positive impact to conservation.</p>		
<p>Safeguard the distinctive characteristics, features and special qualities of North Yorkshire's landscape</p>		<p>X</p>		<p>N/A</p>		
<p>Other (please state below)</p>		<p>X</p>		<p>N/A</p>		

Are there any recognised good practice environmental standards in relation to this proposal? If so, please detail how this proposal meets those standards.

N/A

Summary Summarise the findings of your impact assessment, including impacts, the recommendation in relation to addressing impacts, including any legal advice, and next steps. This summary should be used as part of the report to the decision maker.

Residents have a choice whether or not to subscribe to the garden waste collection service and if people choose not to subscribe experience shows that residents tend to compost at home or use household waste recycling centres. There is no corresponding rise in residual waste tonnages to match the reduction in garden waste tonnages, therefore there is little impact on the environment by charging for this service.

There is a risk that residents will instead choose to dispose of their garden waste at HWRCs therefore increasing traffic movements and associated emissions. Conversely, there is a positive in that some residents may choose to compost at home reducing overall demand and traffic movements.

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Sign off section

This climate change impact assessment was completed by:

Name	Beckie Bennett
Job title	Head of Waste and Environment (Ryedale)
Service area	Environmental Services including Climate Change and Waste Services
Directorate	Environment
Signature	Beckie Bennett
Completion date	6 October 2023

Authorised by relevant Assistant Director (signature):

Date: