

CABINET

DATE	11/08/2021
REPORT OF	Councillor Stewart Swinburn – Portfolio Holder for Environment and Transport
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	Sharon Wroot, Executive Director for Environment, Economy and Resources
SUBJECT	Review of Bring To Site Provision
STATUS	Open
FORWARD PLAN REF NO.	CB 08/21/05

CONTRIBUTION TO OUR AIMS

The effective deployment of Bring to sites and the resulting impact on the wider remit of Waste Services contribute to NELC's outcomes for Sustainable Communities under the indicator of waste recycled, and its priorities of Stronger Economy and Stronger Community, by ensuring fit for purpose, cost effective and efficient waste management.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report details the current situation in regard to all Bring to sites across the borough, the options available to ensure their effective deployment, the risks and benefits for each option and the recommended approach by the service.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Cabinet:

1. Considers the detail in this report on the current usage and issues relating to Bring to sites across the borough and the options available to the Council in respect of these.
2. Delegates authority to the Executive Director for Environment, Economy and Resources in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Transport to proceed with the gradual removal of all Bring to sites, with the least used sites (50%) removed by Autumn 2021 and remaining sites removed by Autumn 2022.

REASONS FOR DECISION

The use of Bring to sites in the borough was shown to be decreasing when last reviewed in 2019. Improvements to kerbside recycling collections made in 2020 have had a further impact on the use of Bring to sites. Most households in the borough now have two 240l recycling bins, increasing the capacity available to them to dispose of household recycling. Volumes of recycling left at the Bring to sites have decreased since the new recycling bins have been issued and no excess waste was experienced at these sites during the busy Christmas period of 2020.

With usage typically reducing and sites often attracting fly tipped waste and requiring regular maintenance and refurbishment a further review and decision on future provision is now required.

1. BACKGROUND AND ISSUES

1.1 North East Lincolnshire Council's (NELC) Waste service aims to provide adequate and efficient waste and recycling services and facilities for residents and visitors to the borough to:

- encourage responsible waste handling,
- increase the take up of recycling,
- look after our environment and
- ensure a clean and tidy street scene.

1.2 Waste Services provide waste and recycling facilities which include provision of a kerbside waste and recycling collection service, public litter bins, Community Recycling Centres (CRCs) and Bring Sites in certain locations.

1.3 The use of Bring to sites has been steadily decreasing in recent years and this has been further impacted by the introduction of an improved kerbside recycling service in 2020. The last review of Bring to sites in 2019 found that paper and card were the only commodities that had not reduced at the sites. However, since the introduction of the 240l household recycling bins, there has also been a reduction in paper and card at Bring to sites. Best practice from other authorities who have completed similar improvements to kerbside recycling also evidence a reduced need for Bring to sites following the change.

1.4 The successful continuation of the Bulky Waste collection service is also expected to further reduce the need for Bring to sites, as it offers residents an easy alternative method of waste disposal.

1.5 The introduction of new schemes by DEFRA (Department for Food, Environment and Rural Affairs) to improve recycling and eliminate waste that are expected to be introduced in the next 2-3 years will further reduce the need for Bring to sites. Most notably:

- a tax on packaging with less than 30% recyclable material, which it is expected will reduce the volume of material used for packaging.
- a deposit return scheme to encourage members of the public to recycle plastic bottles with retailers rather than disposing of them in their household waste or at Bring to sites.

1.6 To ensure a good offer of supplementary recycling facilities remain available to residents, work is underway to explore options to improve the CRC provision in the borough, further helping residents to dispose of their waste and recycling responsibly. This project may see two new, purpose-built Community Recycling Centres that are easy to access and use, improving the flow of traffic and ease of disposal to cut down on waiting times. Options for site locations are currently under review with an ambition to provide better geographical coverage for all residents in the borough.

1.7 With Bring to site use reducing and sites often attracting fly tipped waste and

requiring regular maintenance and refurbishment, it is proposed that a review is undertaken of the remaining sites with a view to removing some or all of these. This would release staff to concentrate on other priority tasks. A reduction in sites would also deliver further savings in relation to costs of vehicles, fuel, equipment, waste disposal and fly tipping removal.

1.8 This report recommends the gradual removal of all sites, with the least used sites (50%) removed by Autumn 2021 and remaining sites removed by Autumn 2022.

1.9 The report in Appendix A details the planned phasing of removals and which sites are proposed to be removed.

2. RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES

2.1 There may be some reputational risk to the council linked to negative responses from residents who use the sites, but this is likely to be balanced by the positive responses brought about by the reduced incidences of fly tipping in these areas.

2.2 Volumes of recycling may increase in kerbside collections, but this is expected to be manageable due to the large capacity of the wheelie bins. Waste service will continue to monitor rates of recycling across rounds and take action to resolve any issues as they arise.

2.3 The gradual removal of sites will release Waste Service operatives to work on other priority tasks such as street cleansing. It will also deliver savings relating to collection from and maintenance to the sites, as less vehicles will be needed, and less fuel used.

2.4 The expected reduction in fly tipping incidents at the sites will also result in savings on staff time, vehicle costs and the cost of disposing of fly tipped waste.

3. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

3.1 A full options appraisal has been undertaken with the following options also being considered:

3.2 Do nothing and continue with existing sites: This option is not considered to be viable considering the low usage of many sites. This would not be a cost-effective use of council resources and would not deliver the savings committed in relation to vehicle and fuel.

3.3 Complete removal of all sites by Autumn 2021: Whilst the long-term aim is to remove all sites this option would not allow enough time for the full impact of the new kerbside recycling offer and the new DEFRA schemes to take effect. Householders are still adjusting to the new model of collection and work is ongoing to educate residents on the best ways to reduce waste and recycle correctly in their household bins.

3.4 Removal of least used sites by Autumn 2021 with retention of remaining sites:

To retain the most used sites indefinitely would not be a good use of Council resources. The DEFRA schemes mentioned above will begin to impact on their usage once introduced and the proposed improvements to CRC provision will also reduce the need for Bring to sites. Many of the better utilised sites are regular fly tipping hot spots or are suspected to be used by businesses who are taking advantage of these sites, which are meant to be for residential use only.

4. REPUTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1 There will be both positive and negative reputational implications for NELC based on the decision to proceed, however an engagement and communication plan has been drawn up, which will run for the duration of project. This will keep the public informed about the decision and proposed changes and will fulfil statutory communication requirements.

5. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 5.1 The recommended option will bring longer term savings of around £100,000 relating to staff resources, vehicle hire and maintenance, fuel usage and waste disposal costs. Staff already in engaged in maintaining the sites can remove the unwanted sites at no extra cost to the authority.

6. CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The recommended option will reduce carbon emissions by reduced travelling and supports the Council's environmental policy and environmental priorities:
- Leading North East Lincolnshire towards consuming resources more efficiently and supporting and developing the green economy and infrastructure.
 - Recognising and realising the economic and social benefits of a high-quality environment.
 - Working towards a low carbon North East Lincolnshire that is prepared for, and resilient to, the impacts of climate change.

7. CONSULTATION WITH SCRUTINY

- 7.1 Consultation has been undertaken with the Communities Scrutiny Panel in February and July 2021.

8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 As detailed above, the recommended option is anticipated to deliver recurrent savings of around £100,000. It is assumed that costs associated with the decommissioning of existing sites can be absorbed within current budgets.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 The Council, as a statutory waste collection authority, has a duty to collect household and other waste (Environmental Protection Act 1990). Coupled with this is the statutory duty to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness (s3 Local Government Act 1999).

- 9.2 With the provision of larger capacity waste receptacles and direction of general policy it is clear that an improving methodology underpins the proposals based around efficiency and effectiveness.

10. HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct HR implications

11. WARD IMPLICATIONS

This decision will affect all wards in the borough.

12. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

13. CONTACT OFFICER(S)

Sharon Wroot, Executive Director for Environment, Economy & Resources

sharon.wroot@nelincs.gov.uk

Tel: 01472 324423

Carolina Borgstrom, Assistant Director, Environment

carolina.borgstrom@nelincs.gov.uk

Tel: 01472 326207

COUNCILLOR STEWART SWINBURN
PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT

Proposal for phased removal of sites

There are currently 28 Bring to sites in the borough. Four of these sites, as shown below, are used by residents who have no access to kerbside recycling. These sites need to be retained but can be incorporated in to household waste collection rounds. This can be done with immediate effect.

SITE	COMMODITY	CURRENT % USAGE*	NOTE ON USAGE	PLACING	COMMENTS	NOTES
Neville Turner Way	PLASTIC / CANS	25%	Quiet / poor use	Residential		Residents have no access to the kerbside recycling service
Orchard Ct, Waltham	PLASTIC / CANS	NOT KNOWN	No use information	Residential		Residents have no access to the kerbside recycling service
Wardle Street	PAPER	127%	Busy site / well used	Residential	Possible business use	Residents have no access to the kerbside recycling service
Wardle Street	GLASS	25%	Busy site / well used	Residential	Possible business use	Residents have no access to the kerbside recycling service
Wardle Street	PLASTIC / CANS	105%	Busy site / well used	Residential	Possible business use	Residents have no access to the kerbside recycling service
Woodyard Court	PAPER	100%	Busy site / well used	Residential		Residents have no access to the kerbside recycling service
Woodyard Court	PLASTIC / CANS	55%	Busy site / well used	Residential		Residents have no access to the kerbside recycling service

Of the remaining 24 sites it is proposed that these be removed in a 3-phase approach over a one-year period as shown in the tables in the following pages.

Appendix A – Bring To Site Review – Cabinet August 2021

1. Removal of the following 12 sites by Autumn 2021:

SITE	COMMODITY	CURRENT % USAGE*	NOTE ON USAGE	PLACING	COMMENTS	NOTES
Beeson Street	PAPER	42%	Reduced usage	Community Centre		
Beeson Street	PLASTIC / CANS	20%	Reduced usage	Community Centre		
Butt Lane, Laceby	PLASTIC / CANS	27%	Quiet / poor use	Park Area		Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
Conistone Avenue Shops	PLASTIC / CANS	25%	Quiet / poor use	Residential		Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
Greenlands, New Waltham	PLASTIC / CANS	32%	Reduced usage	Residential		Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
Haverstoe Park, Hardy's Road	PAPER	55%	Reduced usage	Park Area		Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
Haverstoe Park, Hardy's Road	PLASTIC / CANS	36%	Reduced usage	Park Area		Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
Haverstoe Park, Aldrich Road	PAPER	54%	Reduced usage	Park Area		Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
Haverstoe Park, Aldrich Road	PLASTIC / CANS	41%	Reduced usage	Park Area		Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
Hope Court, Cromwell Road	PAPER	62%	Reduced usage	Park Area		Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service

Appendix A – Bring To Site Review – Cabinet August 2021

Hope Court, Cromwell Road	PLASTIC / CANS	69%	Reduced usage	Park Area		Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
Seafront, Meridian Road	PAPER	60%	Reduced usage	Open space	Seasonal	Litter / recycling bins now installed
Seafront, Meridian Road	PLASTIC / CANS	40%	Reduced usage	Open space	Seasonal	Litter / recycling bins now installed
Seafront, Pier	PAPER	2%	Reduced usage	Open space	Seasonal	Litter / recycling bins now installed
Seafront, Pier	PLASTIC / CANS	10%	Reduced usage	Open space	Seasonal	Litter / recycling bins now installed
Seafront, Brighton Slipway	PAPER	45%	Reduced usage	Open space	Seasonal / possible business use	Litter / recycling bins now installed
Seafront, Brighton Slipway	PLASTIC / CANS	52%	Reduced usage	Open space	Seasonal / possible business use	Litter / recycling bins now installed
Seafront, Boating Lake	PAPER	65%	Reduced usage	Open space	Seasonal	Litter / recycling bins now installed
Seafront, Boating Lake	GLASS	15%	Reduced usage	Open space	Seasonal	Litter / recycling bins now installed
Seafront, Boating Lake	PLASTIC / CANS	80%	Reduced usage	Open space	Seasonal	Litter / recycling bins now installed
Wybers Shops	PLASTIC / CANS	36%	Quiet / poor use	Open space		Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service

2. Removal of the following sites by Spring 2022:

SITE	COMMODITY	CURRENT % USAGE*	NOTE ON USAGE	PLACING	COMMENTS	NOTES
Cromwell Road, Leisure Centre	PAPER	109%	Busy site / well used	Open space	Fly Tipping Hot Spot	Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
Cromwell Road, Leisure Centre	GLASS	10%	Busy site / well used	Open space	Fly Tipping Hot Spot	Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
Cromwell Road, Leisure Centre	PLASTIC / CANS	95%	Busy site / well used	Open space	Fly Tipping Hot Spot	Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
Sainsbury's	PAPER	122%	Busy site / well used	Supermarket Space	Fly Tipping Hot Spot	Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
Sainsbury's	GLASS	30%	Busy site / well used	Supermarket Space	Fly Tipping Hot Spot	Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
Sainsbury's	PLASTIC / CANS	84%	Busy site / well used	Supermarket Space	Fly Tipping Hot Spot	Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
Sutcliffe Avenue	PAPER	80%	Busy site / well used	Open space	Fly Tipping Hot Spot	Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
Sutcliffe Avenue	PLASTIC / CANS	30%	Busy site / well used	Open space	Fly Tipping Hot Spot	Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
Willows Shops	PAPER	90%	Busy site / well used	Open space	Fly Tipping Hot Spot	Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
Willows Shops	GLASS	12%	Busy site / well used	Open space	Fly Tipping Hot Spot	Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
Willows Shops	PLASTIC / CANS	74%	Busy site / well used	Open space	Fly Tipping Hot Spot	Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service

3. Removal of the following sites by Autumn 2022:

SITE	COMMODITY	CURRENT % USAGE*	NOTE ON USAGE	PLACING	COMMENTS	NOTES
Asda, Ellis Way	PAPER	150%	Busy site / well used	Supermarket space	Possible business use	Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
Asda, Ellis Way	GLASS	60%	Busy site / well used	Supermarket space	Possible business use	Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
Asda, Ellis Way	PLASTIC / CANS	110%	Busy site / well used	Supermarket space	Possible business use	Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
Doughty Road Depot	PAPER	88%	Busy site / well used	Open space		Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
Doughty Road Depot	GLASS	10%	Busy site / well used	Open space		Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
Doughty Road Depot	PLASTIC / CANS	68%	Busy site / well used	Open space		Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
Duchess Street	PAPER	95%	Busy site / well used	Open space	Possible business use	Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
Duchess Street	GLASS	8%	Busy site / well used	Open space	Possible business use	Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
Duchess Street	PLASTIC / CANS	65%	Busy site / well used	Open space	Possible business use	Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
Kennedy Way, Immingham	PAPER	101%	Busy site / well used	Open space	Possible business use	Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
Kennedy Way, Immingham	GLASS	38%	Busy site / well used	Open space	Possible business use	Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
Kennedy Way, Immingham	PLASTIC / CANS	81%	Busy site / well used	Open space	Possible business use	Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service

Appendix A – Bring To Site Review – Cabinet August 2021

Kirkgate, Waltham	PAPER	110%	Busy site / well used	Open space	Possible business use	Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
Kirkgate, Waltham	PLASTIC / CANS	60%	Busy site / well used	Open space	Possible business use	Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
St Peter's Avenue	PAPER	92%	Busy site / well used	Open space	Possible business use	Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
St Peter's Avenue	GLASS	14%	Busy site / well used	Open space	Possible business use	Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
St Peter's Avenue	PLASTIC / CANS	68%	Busy site / well used	Open space	Possible business use	Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
Waltham Road Car Park	PAPER	104%	Busy site / well used	Open space	Possible business use	Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
Waltham Road Car Park	GLASS	20%	Busy site / well used	Open space	Possible business use	Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
Waltham Road Car Park	PLASTIC / CANS	75%	Busy site / well used	Open space	Possible business use	Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
Weelsby Woods	PAPER	70%	Busy site / well used	Park area		Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
Weelsby Woods	GLASS	25%	Busy site / well used	Park area		Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service
Weelsby Woods	PLASTIC / CANS	66%	Busy site / well used	Park area		Residents have access to the kerbside recycling service

Appendix A – Bring To Site Review – Cabinet August 2021

* COLOUR KEY:

GREEN	0% to 24% full on collection
BLUE	25% to 49% full on collection
YELLOW	50% to 74% full on collection
ORANGE	75% to 100% full on collection
RED	More than 100% full on collection (side waste)