

**SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF ALTERNATE WEEKLY COLLECTIONS****(a) Impact of Different Collection Services in Wiltshire**

	<b>East</b>	<b>West</b>	<b>South</b>	<b>North</b>
<b>Collections</b>	One week rubbish, one week recycling	One week rubbish, one week recycling	Weekly rubbish, fortnightly recycling	Weekly rubbish, fortnightly recycling
<b>Special features</b>		Free garden waste	plastic bottles and card	
<b>Recycling Rate</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>28%</b>
<b>Cost of Collection per household 2009/10</b>	<b>£31</b>	<b>£48.50</b>	<b>£69</b>	<b>£50</b>

**(b) National Evidence**

- A report published in April 2007 by the Local Government Association stated that:
  - The top 10 councils for recycling in England were all using AWC.
  - 8 out of 10 councils showing the biggest improvement were using AWC.
  - On average authorities using AWC had recycling rates 30% higher than those who collect unrecycled waste weekly.
- The House of Commons Select Committee for Communities and Local Government report on Refuse Collection (July 2007) stated that:
  - 140 English collection authorities (about 40%) had switched to AWC. Some have been operating this service for over 10 years.
  - A number of examples of significant increases in recycling performance with AWC were noted, e.g. Uttlesford District Council from 23% to 50% and City of Lincoln recycling rate tripled.
  - 19 out of the top 20 recycling authorities were using AWC.
- According to a report commissioned jointly by Chartered Institution of Waste Management (CIWM) and Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP) in 2009<sup>1</sup> almost 50% of waste collection authorities were using AWC. The report comments:

<sup>1</sup> Scoping study of potential health effects of fortnightly residual waste collection and related changes to domestic waste systems, Final Report July 2009. <http://www.ciwm.co.uk/mediastore/FILES/18156.pdf>

“As of March 2009, 216 out of 434 UK waste collection authorities were using fortnightly collections. All of the 20 statistically highest performing authorities in England in 2007/08 were using fortnightly collection. The Best Value Performance Indicator (BVPI) for combined recycling and composting rates of these authorities ranged from 45.08% to 51.72% (Defra 2007a). Some of these headline figures can be misleading without detailed analysis and the mechanisms responsible for improvement are not always clear. It could be due to the operational aspects of the system, the information, guidance and publicity that accompany the change in collection scheme, or an increase in the range of materials collected. However, the effect is generally to improve the participation, set out and capture rates and it is now clear that capacity is a key driver – restricting the capacity for residual waste whilst enhancing the capacity for diversion.”

“No evidence was found that changing to a fortnightly collection creates risks that cannot be dealt with by following the good practice guidance already available.”