

## Questions from Colin Gale, Pewsey Community Area Partnership Member & Rushall Parish Councillor

**Councillor Bridget Wayman – Cabinet member for Highways, Transport and Waste**

### **Everleigh Household Recycling Centre**

#### **Background**

Following the continued concerns on the future of Everleigh Household Recycling Centre (HRC), the Wiltshire Council Associate Director for Waste Management, Tracy Carter, attended the Pewsey Area Board on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2018 to provide an update on the 'Current Status of Everleigh' and to answer pre-tabled questions. The update was in the form of a presentation brief which PCAP was subsequently provided with a copy. Answers to the pre-tabled questions are still awaited. The following questions have been generated as a result of considering the presentation brief in more detail:

#### **Question**

1. Three of the slides covered a combination of tonnage of individual materials collected from the 1<sup>st</sup> October 2016 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2017 plus the tonnage of individual materials which are not currently accepted at Everleigh for the same period. The total waste for all of the materials adds up to 2032.87 tonnes. However, a later slide showing the comparison of HRC's for the same period identifies the total waste for Everleigh as 2,244 tonnes.
  - a. Clearly the tonnage data is wrong, therefore what is the correct total waste tonnage with the associated breakdown?

Note! The type of materials for which tonnage figures are quoted on the slides do not include books, clothes, electricals, TV's and computer monitors, paper and plasterboard (Gypsum) which were all separately recycled at Everleigh during the period.

#### **Answer**

The total of 2032.87 tonnes is made up of the tonnes of the five most popular materials which we continue to collect at Everleigh (1,902 tonnes) and the tonnes of those materials which we are not currently collecting (130.85 tonnes). The breakdown of the total tonnes of material collected at Everleigh from 1 October 2016 to 30 September 2017 is set out in the following table.

Material	Tonnes collected 1.10.16 to 30.9.17
Paper	30.96
Books	0.45
Cardboard	73.34
Glass	29.58
Cans	1.28
Plastic bottles	1.24
Food and drink cartons	0.55
Rigid plastics (pots, tubs and trays)	41.20
Scrap metal	117.26
Garden waste	449.63
Chipboard/MDF	329.88
Plasterboard	34.08
Soil and rubble	424.86
Car batteries	4.23
Domestic batteries	0.84
CDs and DVDs	0.15
Vegetable oil	0.50
Mineral oil	1.93
Textiles	13.20
Carpet	0.00
Furniture	0.03
Tyres	6.74
Gas bottles	6.30
WEEE (A) – Large household appliances	24.65
WEEE (B) – Fridges/freezers	21.95
WEEE (C) – TVs and PC monitors	15.85
WEEE (D) – Gas discharge lamps	0.21
WEEE (E) – Small domestic appliances	31.63
Mobile phones	0.20
Residual waste to landfill (non-hazardous)	579.80
Residual waste to landfill diversion (hazardous)	1.35
Total	2,243.88

### Question

2. Two of the slides were provided to give a pictorial comparison of HRC visits per hour by site and total visits by site for the period 1<sup>st</sup> October 2015 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2016 and 1<sup>st</sup> October 2016 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2017.
  - a. The slides do not provide any indication that Everleigh is not open for the same level of operating hours as all the other sites, it is a comparison of 'Apples and Oranges'. This is a gross misrepresentation of data to pictorially mislead both council representatives and the public. Will Wiltshire Council undertake to stop continuing in portraying information on Everleigh in this manner?

## **Answer**

The number of visits reported per hour were based on actual opening hours so the chart that sets out this data does compare like with like. We will ensure that a note is added to the chart reporting the total visits by site to highlight the different opening hours. The opening hours at Everleigh were not extended during the summer because there was no demand to justify incurring the additional expenditure.

## **Question**

- b. The level of visits to Everleigh for 1<sup>st</sup> October 2016 to September 2017 is shown as 38,475. However, the metro count automatic equipment for counting vehicle traffic was broken for the whole of this period and a new metro count capability was only installed earlier this year. Visit counts were reliant on human manual counts which were unreliable at best and certainly could not be substantiated. Since the visit data for this period is unreliable will Wiltshire Council undertake to stop using this information?

## **Answer**

Hills Waste Solutions have confirmed that the automatic count equipment at Everleigh was working during this period and if it ever broke it was quickly repaired. The system required site staff to record the visitor count number every hour and at the same time re-set the counter to zero to start counting again. This was the same system that was used at all sites. The record sheets provided by Hills set out figures recorded for Everleigh HRC by day and by hour with the number of cars queuing at opening time and site closures recorded, suggesting that the site staff complied with the system.

## **Question**

3. The final information slide was a 'Comparison with other councils – Number of households per HRC'. This same slide and data was presented at the Joint Tidworth and Pewsey Area Board at the Tidworth Garrison Theatre on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2015. A significant number of houses have been built in Wiltshire since that date so the data cannot be considered to be the current status in line with the context of the overall presentation. If Wiltshire Council are going to use old data or reuse slides will they undertake to include a date of origin on the slide to indicate the status of the data?

## **Answer**

Tracy Carter apologises for this error. The number of households reported in Wiltshire for February 2018 is 217,092. This means that the ratio of houses to sites is now 19,736. In the previous slide Tracy had rounded up the figure to state that Wiltshire Council provides one site per 20,000 households. Your suggestion of adding a date of origin for the data is welcomed. As you are aware all other data provided was referenced to the correct months and years.

**Question**

4. The Pewsey community are concerned that Wiltshire Council continues to try to compare the tonnage and visit usage of Everleigh HRC which serves a wide rural community with densely populated urban located HRC's. Following the Tidworth Garrison Meeting and using Wiltshire Council data PCAP produced a slide showing the 'Comparison of HRC's tonnage, costs, population served & per head', copy attached. This slide clearly demonstrated that Everleigh was not the most costly site to operate per head and provided a more balanced representation between rural and urban HRC's. Will Wiltshire Council undertake to provide a balanced representation of HRC's when comparing rural and urban locations in the future?

**Answer**

Cabinet notes the data you have presented. It remains the case that of all the sites Everleigh receives the lowest number of visits and collects the lowest tonnage of waste compared to the other sites across Wiltshire.