

MINUTES

Meeting: TIDWORTH AREA BOARD
Place: Tidworth Garrison Theatre, St Andrew's Road, Tidworth, SP9 7EP
Date: 21 December 2015
Start Time: 7.00 pm
Finish Time: 9.05 pm

Please direct any enquiries on these minutes to:

Kevin Fielding (Democratic Services Officer), Tel: 01249 706612 or (e-mail) kevin.fielding@wiltshire.gov.uk

Papers available on the Council's website at www.wiltshire.gov.uk

In Attendance:

Wiltshire Councillors

Cllr Toby Sturgis - Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning (strategic and development management), Property, Waste and Strategic Housing

Cllr Jerry Wickham - Portfolio Holder for Waste

Cllr Chris Williams - Chairman of the Tidworth Area Board

Cllr Jerry Kunkler – Chairman of the Pewsey Area Board

Cllr Paul Oatway – Pewsey Vale

Cllr Mark Connolly – Tidworth

Cllr Charles Howard – The Collingbournes and Netheravon

Wiltshire Council Officers

Martin Litherland - Head of Waste Management

Kevin Fielding – Democratic Services Officer

Total in attendance: 148

<u>Agenda Item No.</u>	<u>Summary of Issues Discussed and Decision</u>
1	<p><u>Welcome and Introductions</u></p> <p>Cllr Chris Williams (Chairman of the Tidworth Area Board) welcomed everyone to a special meeting to discuss the future of the Everleigh Household Recycling Centre.</p> <p>Cllr Williams introduced the Wiltshire Councillors and Wiltshire Council Officers in attendance, and outlined the format of the meeting:</p> <p>Cllr Toby Sturgis - Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning (strategic and development management), Property, Waste and Strategic Housing</p> <p>Cllr Jerry Wickham - Portfolio Holder for Waste</p> <p>Cllr Jerry Kunkler – Pewsey</p> <p>Cllr Paul Oatway – Pewsey Vale</p> <p>Cllr Mark Connolly – Tidworth</p> <p>Cllr Charles Howard – The Collingbournes and Netheravon</p> <p>Martin Litherland - Head of Waste Management</p> <p>Kevin Fielding – Democratic Services Officer</p>
2	<p><u>Apologies for Absence</u></p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from:</p> <p>Cllr Stuart Wheeler – Pewsey Area Board member. Burbage + Bedwyns, Wiltshire Council</p> <p>Humph Jones – Tidworth Town Council</p> <p>Ian Gibbons - Associate Director Legal & Governance, Wiltshire Council</p>
3	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>There were none.</p>

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Household Recycling Centres in Wiltshire

Cllrs Toby Sturgis and Jerry Wickham outlined the reasoning for closing the Everleigh Household Recycling Centre.

Points made by Cllr Toby Sturgis included:

Wiltshire Council – budget context

- Wiltshire Council currently spends around £900 million each year on more than 350 services.
- Changing demographics, such as people living longer, coupled with rising inflation and ongoing cuts in funding from central government mean significant savings continue to need to be found.
- This year the council received £104 million from the Government – next year we anticipate will get £91.6 million. This cut of more than £12 million, combined with the rise in demand for some key front line services and inflation costs, means the council needs to find a further £24 million of savings this financial year.
- Unfortunately due to the budget situation the council faces, we have been forced to consider further savings from all council services.

Wiltshire Council's statutory duty

- Section 51 Environmental Protection Act 1990.
- Waste Disposal Authorities must provide places where persons resident in its area may deposit their household waste, free of charge.
- Each place to be situated either within the area of the authority or so as to be reasonably accessible to persons resident in its area.

Other constraints

- Government carried out consultation in 2015. Legislation now prevents local authorities for charging residents for **entry** to use household recycling centres.
- Any council's/authorities that charge for entry will have to provide free access to their residents from 2020.
- Can charge non-householders (e.g. Charities) to use sites, or charge householders for non-household waste (e.g. Tyres, soil and rubble) - *our*

HRCs or online payment systems not currently configured to achieve this.

- Many other authorities issue permits or have other limitations on entry. Wiltshire is also considering similar approaches.

Other councils changing their HRCs provision

- Oxfordshire – Closed their smallest site in 2011, now consulting on reducing sites from 7 to 14.
- Staffordshire – Proposed reduction from 14 sites to 12.
- Norfolk – Closing one site, reducing days of opening at three sites and reducing hours.
- Hampshire – Consultation on proposals, including closing two sites.
- Surrey – Proposal agreed to reduce opening hours.
- Lincolnshire – Reduced hours and days (now open four days per week).

The current Wiltshire HRC network

- 11 sites (*1 per 19,242 households av.*)
- Opening hours reduced from July 2015, and now open 5 days per week instead of 7. Hours also now reduced from 9-5pm, to 10-4pm.
- Staggered closures mean 1 site remains available all week in each of the former Wiltshire district areas.
- Currently no charges for non-household items, or restrictions on access (permits). Now under consideration in Wiltshire.

Flytipping

- Do not anticipate increase as a result of *householders* deciding to dump waste if a site were to close.
- Most waste would be likely to be taken to other HRCs.
- Flytipping is illegal, and majority of householders are law abiding.
- Majority of flytipping is of a scale and nature that suggests it is from commercial sources (commercial waste not accepted at HRCs).

- Cost of clearing fly tips @ £29 per car boot load. Received approx 745 reports of fly tips of loads suitable for a HRC (i.e. not commercial) in 2014/15. Cost approx £21,605 to clear.

Summary of proposal

- The council acknowledges queues at start of day at many HRC sites following reduction of opening hours and days.
- Wish to provide extra hours over the summer (April – Oct) for 94% of Wiltshire residents and users of the HRCs.
- Recognises the very low usage at Everleigh in terms of tonnages and visitor numbers.
- Provides an opportunity to reduce HRC sites by 1 and fund additional hour opening for remaining HRCs at their busiest times.
- Benefits the majority of HRC users, and increases availability at other sites.
- Closing Everleigh would save £135k per year. £60k would be utilised to provide an extra hour at the remaining 10 sites.
- Not out of step with neighbouring authorities.
- Suitable alternative sites exist within 20 minute drive time.

Cllr Jerry Wickham then outlined the data sheets (tables 1-7) which had been given to attendees as part of their agenda packs. These data tables were displayed as part of the power point presentation.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Sturgis and Wickham for their presentations.

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Pewsey & Parish Councils Presentation

Paul Cowan gave a presentation on behalf of the community areas of Tidworth, Pewsey and the villages of Alton Barnes, Stanton St Bernard, Woodbrough, Hilcot, Wilsford, North Newnton, Rushall, Upavon, Enford, The Manningsfords, Wilcot, Huish and Oare, Wootton Rivers, New Mill, Easton Royal, Milton Lilbourne, Burbage, East and West Grafton, Wilton, Wexcombe, Martin,

Collingbourne Kingston & Ducis, Brunton, Ludgershall Perham Down and Everleigh.

Points made included:

What we know

Wiltshire has a financial shortfall that requires addressing by all departments. Hills Waste Management claims that by closing Everleigh there would be an annual saving of 135,000K There are 11 household recycling centres county wide.

Everleigh RC is one of the oldest and smallest.

Everleigh supports a very large rural area, it has had little or no investment since 1997. There are 905 visits a week. 47060 per year.

Access to Marlborough RC is poor and creates serious congestion on the approach roads; this also applies to Devizes plus the traffic to and from Devizes is appalling.

Everleigh has good access for the public and the contractor.

The Wiltshire Core Strategy identifies 700 + houses in Tidworth, 290 in Pewsey plus 280 in the villages of the Pewsey area Board by 2026. (1300plus).

What we think we know

An estimated additional average of 5 miles each way will have to be travelled to visit the alternative sites. $10 \times 47060 = 470600$ miles per annum, (1/2 million)

HMRC's and Wiltshire Council's agree mileage costs are between 46.9p for a 1000cc and up to 65p for a 1200cc car.

At 0.48p per mile as an average this closure will cost this community 470600 X

0.48p = 225888 pounds per annum and rising. This is not equitable with the rest of the county.

What We Don't Know

The future recycling policy and plans to meet the increasing national targets and requirements of our communities, and how they will be achieved.

How much this closure will cost Wiltshire Council, i.e decommissioning, ongoing monitoring costs, compensation's etc?

How much the additional fly tipping will cost.

What alternatives to closure of this site have been considered? What income revenue streams have been considered?

What provision has been made for Army Rebasing and the additional 1300 plus houses in the area? How this proposal will meet Wiltshire Councils C02 reduction requirements ½ million extra car miles and rising?

Why has no investment been made to keep this site to a modern standard?

Wiltshire Recycling Centres are in effect end of life centres. No products are accepted and recycled to a third party in its delivered state as in many other Counties, this raises revenue, avoids landfill, reduces reprocessing costs and C02 emissions. Has this been considered?

Our Recommendations

This proposal is withdrawn until the contract renewal 2017 ongoing cost 270000 pounds. Full and open discussions are had on the future of "*recycling*" in Wiltshire post 2017.

The redistribution of toys, cycles, furniture, reclaimed builders materials, bath room suits, etc are not Hills core business so they will have little interest in performing this task (are they the right contractor for the way forward post 2017).

Any future proposal is the same across the whole county and not one section being asked to support the service disproportionately.

	<p>To support the service in the long term and for future investment a form of visit charge is made even if <u>we</u> need to lobby Parliament to change the present ruling.</p> <p>One pound per visit would net 1.6 million pounds which could be spent in much needed investment in recycling.</p> <p>.</p> <p>Look at the merits of setting up a task force of Councillor's including Town and Parish, Wiltshire Officers to see the way ahead.</p> <p>Any solution has to be fair to every taxpayer in our County</p> <p>The Chairman thanked Paul Cowen for his presentation.</p>
6	<p><u>Questions from the floor</u></p> <p>The Chairman then invited any questions from the floor.</p> <p>These included:</p> <p>Wiltshire Council charges £40 per annum to collect its residents garden/green waste. Could the money raised through this offset the costs of keeping the Everleigh HRC open?</p> <p><i>a. Money raised through the collection of garden/green waste is not pure profit. Twice as many residents signed up for the new scheme which means that more refuse collections are required to collect the waste etc, which have increased costs of running extra vehicles and collection crews etc.</i></p> <p>By closing the Everleigh HRC Wiltshire Council only expects to save £135k per year.</p> <p><i>a. Any saving that Wiltshire Council can make are important to trying to balance its books against the continued cuts imposed by Central Government. The harsh reality is that austerity is beginning to bite, Wiltshire Council has to make savings across the board.</i></p> <p>Why does Wiltshire Council need to close an important facility that will impact on local communities?</p> <p><i>a. Wiltshire Council has tried not to impact its communities when having to make savings, many other local authorities have cut services that Wiltshire Council have been able to leave untouched during this time of austerity. It should also be remembered that Wiltshire Council has not increased its council tax for five</i></p>

years.

Could Wiltshire Council keep Everleigh open but perhaps reduce its openings times to two days per week?

a. Cllr Sturgis advised that he would discuss with Hills how much it would cost to run Everleigh HRC as a two day opening centre. (Note that attendees felt that Friday & Saturday would be the two best days for the HRC to be open).

Could Wiltshire Council not charge residents to use its recycling centres?

a. Unfortunately Central Government legislation prevents local authorities from charging to use its HRCs.

Could Wiltshire Council not re-negotiate a better contract with Hills?

a. Wiltshire Council would be discussing its contract with Hills during January 2016.

Wiltshire Council should be looking at all its HRCs, not just Everleigh.

a. No decision has been made by Wiltshire Council as yet as to the possible closure of the Everleigh HRC.

If the Everleigh HRC is not used enough, then maybe Wiltshire Council should improve its marketing of this HRC, perhaps using social media.

a. Wiltshire Council advertises/markets its HRCs on its website, the communities of Pewsey and Tidworth are not using the Everleigh facility enough.

What will happen to the site if the HRC is closed?

a. The land could be used for other uses, probably not suitable for housing.

Surely with the ongoing housing developments being built in and around Tidworth, and Army Rebasing the area needs a local HRC?

a. The Pewsey/Tidworth community area would still be adequately covered by the Amesbury, Devizes and Marlborough HRCs.

Points made from the floor included:

All residents should have reasonable access to HRCs, Wiltshire cannot expect local residents to drive to Marlborough, Devizes or Amesbury to do their recycling.

	<p>Both Marlborough and Devizes HRCs are not reasonable alternatives to Everleigh, both can be difficult to get in and out of due to their locations.</p> <p>That flytipping would increase if the Everleigh HRC was to close.</p> <p>Wiltshire Council should be able to operate its HRCs at a profit.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked the attendees for their questions, which would be feedback to the Wiltshire Council cabinet.</p>
7	<p><u>Recommendation</u></p> <p>The following recommendation was tabled by Cllr Chris Williams and was agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>That the Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning, Property Waste and Strategic Housing having listened to and taken into account the weight of public correspondence and representations made at this meeting, is requested to make a recommendation to keep Everleigh Household Recycling Centre open for the good and benefit of the residents of the Pewsey and Tidworth community areas.</i>
8	<p><u>Close</u></p>

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The Future of the Everleigh HRC



Welcome and introductions
Cllr Chris Williams – Chairman, Tidworth
Area Board

Apologies and Declarations of interest



Future of Everleigh household recycling centre – Wiltshire Council

Cllr Toby Sturgis

Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning (strategic and development management), Property, Waste and Strategic Housing

Cllr Jerry Wickham

Portfolio Holder for Waste

Martin Litherland

Head of Waste Management

Wiltshire Council – budget context

- Wiltshire Council currently spends around £900 million each year on more than 350 services.
- Changing demographics, such as people living longer, coupled with rising inflation and ongoing cuts in funding from central government mean significant savings continue to need to be found.
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- Unfortunately due to the budget situation the council faces, we have been forced to consider further savings from all council services.

Statutory duty:

- Section 51 Environmental Protection Act 1990
- Waste Disposal Authorities must provide places where persons **resident in its area** may deposit their **household waste**, free of charge.
- each place to be situated either within the area of the authority or so as to be **reasonably accessible to persons resident in its area**

Guidance.

- No specific direction on number of sites to be provided. Duty to provided “places”, so more than one where practicable.

WRAP guidance states:	Wiltshire Council provision:
Max drive time to a HRC (urban) should not be more than 20 mins	Currently, 98.52% of Wiltshire households are served within these parameters.
Max drive time to a HRC (rural) should not be more than 30 minutes	
At least one site to be provided per 143,750 residents	Wiltshire currently provides 1 site per 42,980. This would change to 1 site per 47,278 if Everleigh closed.
Each site should not exceed a maximum throughput of 17,250 tonnes.	Each Wiltshire site is permitted by the EA to receive up to 25,000 tonnes PA (standard permit). However, no site handles more than 11,000 tonnes PA, with an average of less than 6,500 tonnes per site, per annum

Other constraints

- Government carried out consultation in 2015. Legislation now prevents local authorities for charging residents for **entry** to use household recycling centres.
 - Any council's/authorities that charge for entry will have to provide free access to their residents from 2020.
 - Can charge non-householders (e.g. Charities) to use sites, or charge householders for non-household waste (e.g. Tyres, soil and rubble) - *our HRCs or online payment systems not currently configured to achieve this.*
 - Many other authorities issue permits or have other limitations on entry. Wiltshire is also considering similar approaches.
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Comparison of no. of households per HRC

	Authority	H'hlds	No. Of sites	Ratio (sites : h'hld)
1	Somerset	245,780	16*	1 : 15,361
2	Dorset	198,060	11	1 : 18,005
3	<i>Wiltshire (11 x sites)</i>	<i>211,665</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>1 : 19,242</i>
4	Devon	357,370	18	1 : 19,854
5	Cornwall	265,570	13	1 : 20,428
6	<i>Wiltshire (10 x sites)</i>	<i>211,665</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>1 : 21,665</i>
7	Hampshire	573,580	24	1 : 23,899
8	Bath & North East Somerset	77,490	3	1 : 25,830
9	South Gloucestershire	112,830	3	1 : 37,610
10	Oxfordshire CC	274,670	7	1 : 39,239
11	Borough of Poole	67,500	1	1 : 67,500
12	Swindon Borough	93,210	1	1 : 93,210
13	Bristol City	192,350	2	1 : 96,175

Other councils changing their HRCs provision

Authority	Change	Population
Oxfordshire	Closed their smallest site in 2011, now consulting on reducing sites from 7 to 4	666,100
Staffordshire	Proposed reduction from 14 sites to 12	806,700
Norfolk	Closing 1 site, reducing days of opening at 3 sites and reducing hours	858,000
Hampshire	Consultation on proposals, including closing 2 sites	1,370,000
Surrey	Proposal agreed to reduce opening hours	1,085,000
Lincolnshire	Reduced hours and days (now open 4 days per week)	548,700

Note: Wiltshire has a population of 462,449 (source: Wiltshire Intelligence Network)

The current Wiltshire HRC network

- 11 sites (*1 per 19,242 households av.*)
- Opening hours reduced from July 2015, and now open 5 days per week instead of 7. Hours also now reduced from 9-5pm, to 10-4pm
- Staggered closures mean 1 site remains available all week in each of the former Wiltshire district areas.
- Currently no charges for non-household items, or restrictions on access (permits). Now under consideration in Wiltshire.

Relative performance of HRCs - visits

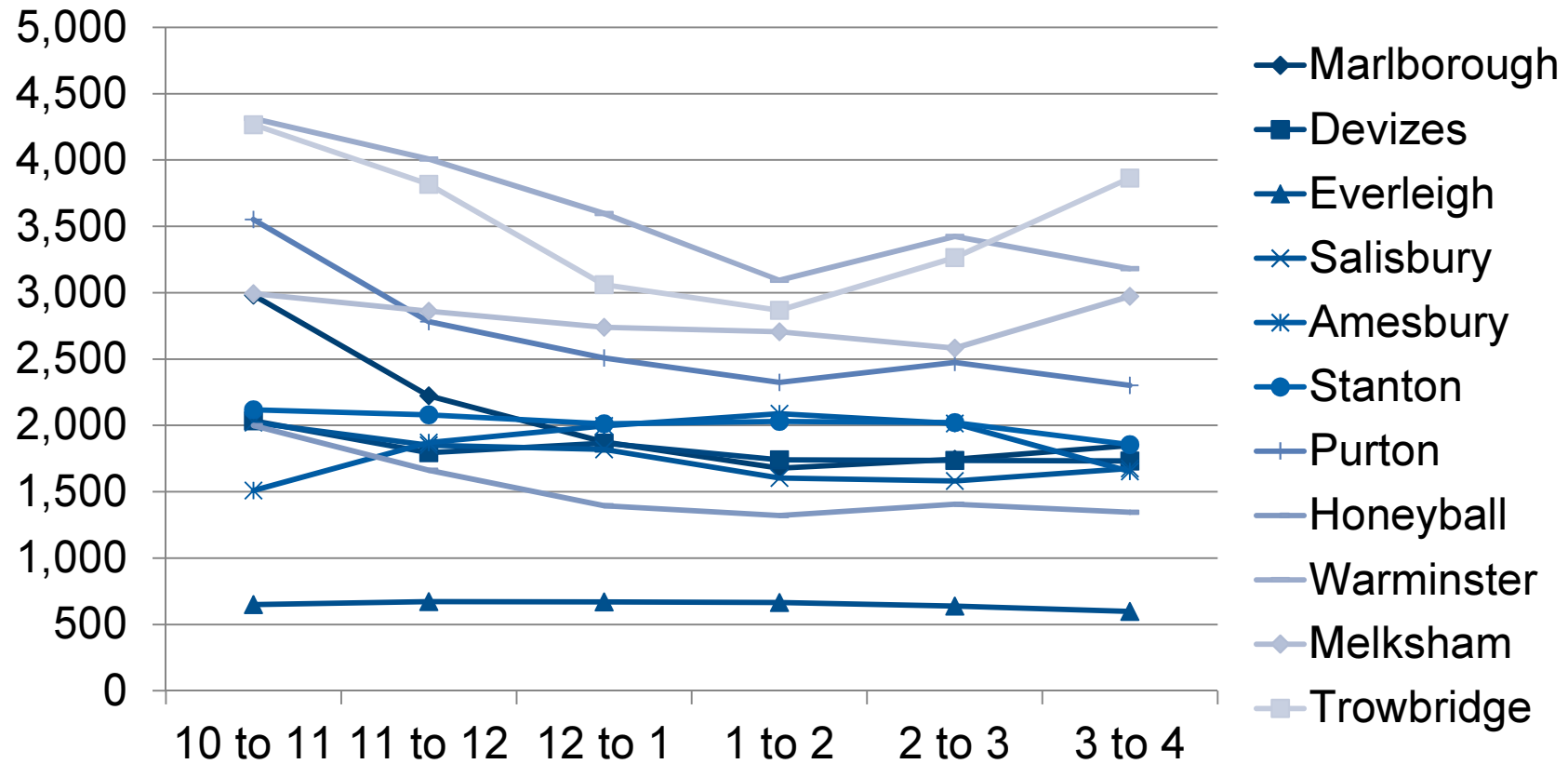
	2014 (July-Oct)	2015 (July-Oct)	2015 (% of total visitors)	2015 (Visitors / day)	2015 (Visitors / hour)
Total Visitors (in 20 wks)					
Warminster	97,215	80,772	14%	808	135
Trowbridge	81,399	76,548	13%	765	128
Melksham	80,532	64,529	11%	645	108
Purton	75,789	62,133	11%	621	104
Amesbury	65,267	56,012	10%	560	93
Salisbury	67,311	49,974	9%	500	83
Marlborough	64,933	49,096	8%	491	82
Stanton	55,012	46,308	8%	463	77
Devizes	52,421	44,391	8%	444	74
Lower Compton, Calne	34,042	34,909	6%	349	58
Everleigh	25,385	17,217	3%	172	29
Total	699,306	581,889	100%	5,819	88

HRC visits by hour – August (busiest month)

HRC	Aug-15						Total visitors
	10 to 11	11 to 12	12 to 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	
Marlborough	2,982	2,224	1,874	1,677	1,745	1,848	12,350
Devizes	2,034	1,794	1,865	1,740	1,735	1,731	10,899
Everleigh	649	671	670	664	638	597	3,889
Salisbury	2,020	1,851	1,820	1,604	1,580	1,676	10,551
Amesbury	1,510	1,870	1,997	2,088	2,015	1,652	11,132
Stanton	2,118	2,079	2,011	2,030	2,022	1,854	12,114
Purton	3,551	2,781	2,509	2,325	2,475	2,301	15,942
Lower Compton, Calne	1,999	1,661	1,395	1,321	1,405	1,345	9,126
Warminster	4,312	4,008	3,597	3,094	3,424	3,182	21,617
Melksham	2,992	2,860	2,740	2,706	2,582	2,972	16,852
Trowbridge	4,265	3,816	3,061	2,868	3,264	3,863	21,137
Total	28,432	25,615	23,539	22,117	22,885	23,021	145,609

Usage per hour

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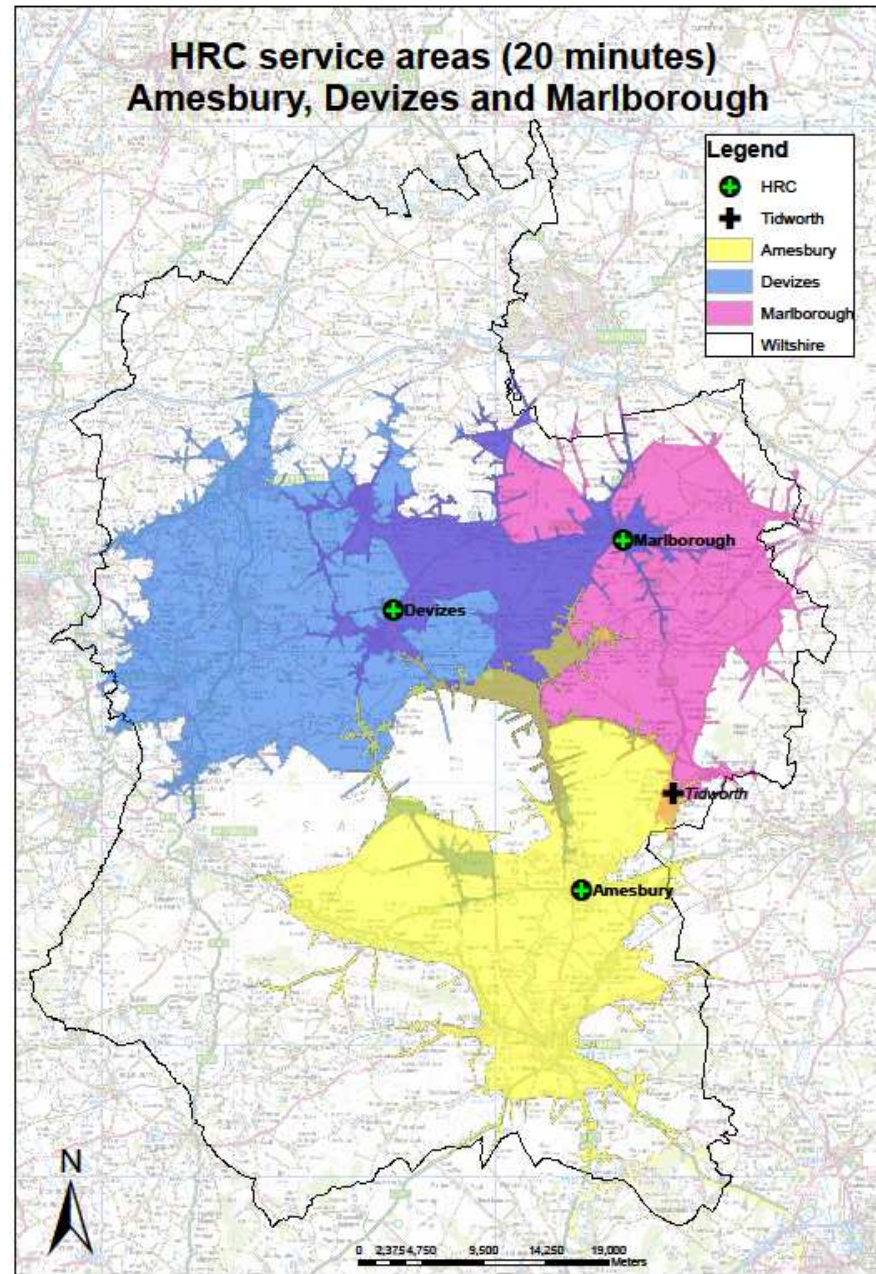
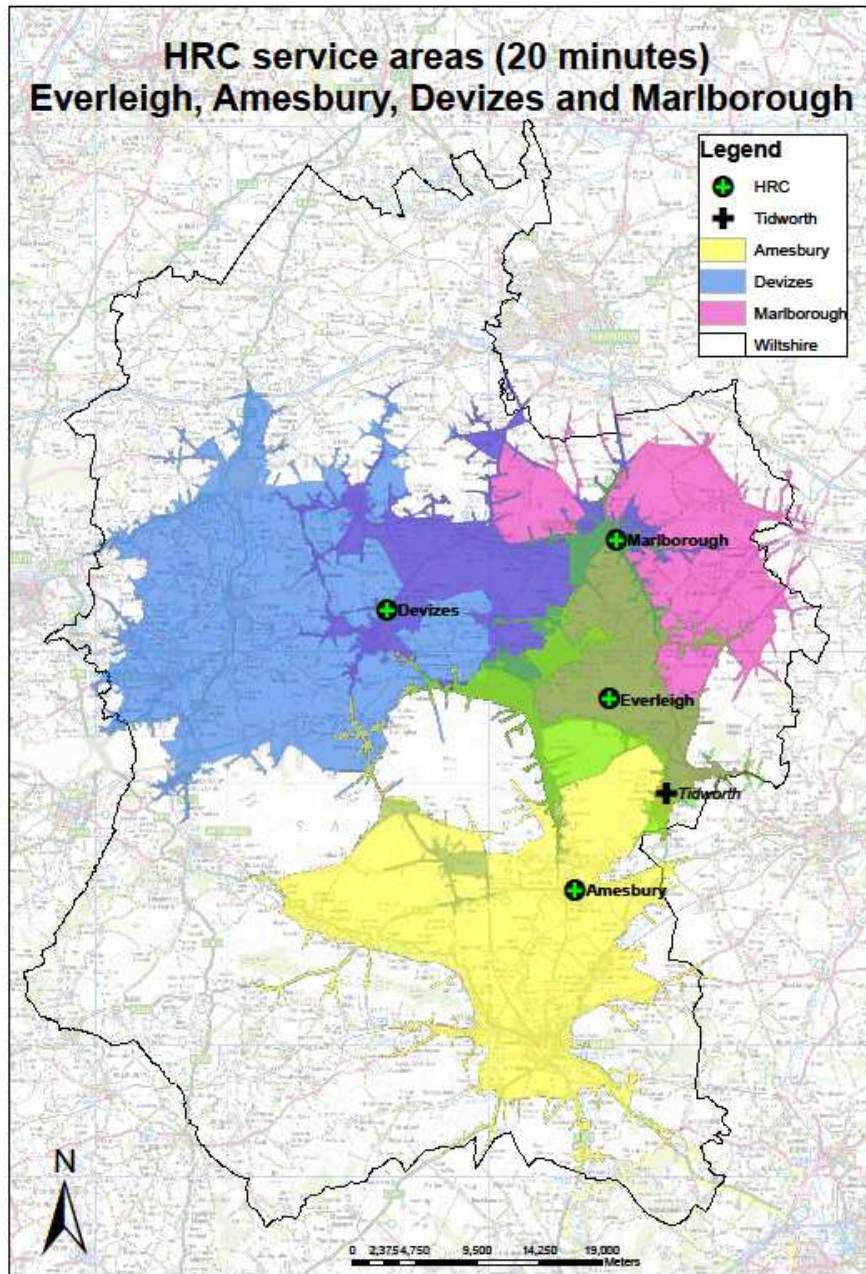
Comparison of HRCs – tonnage & costs

Household Recycling Centre	Total Tonnes, 2014/15 FULL YEAR	% of Total Tonnes	Total tonnes diverted from Landfill	% of Total tonnes diverted from Landfill	Estimated costs per tonne by site
Salisbury	10,337	14.5%	7,863	76.1%	£34.26
Trowbridge	9,533	13.4%	7,755	81.4%	£38.20
Stanton	8,317	11.7%	6,545	78.7%	£38.92
Warminster	7,449	10.4%	6,036	81.0%	£37.41
Purton	6,755	9.5%	5,319	78.7%	£46.83
Melksham	6,705	9.4%	5,494	81.9%	£39.66
Amesbury	5,564	7.8%	4,260	76.6%	£54.03
Devizes	5,229	7.3%	4,087	78.1%	£39.47
Lower Compton, Calne	4,763	6.7%	3,609	75.8%	£34.29
Marlborough	3,917	5.5%	3,228	82.4%	£53.07
Everleigh	2,719	3.8%	2,047	75.3%	£67.48
Total	71,289	100.0%	56,243	78.9%	

Relative performance of HRCs – population served by site

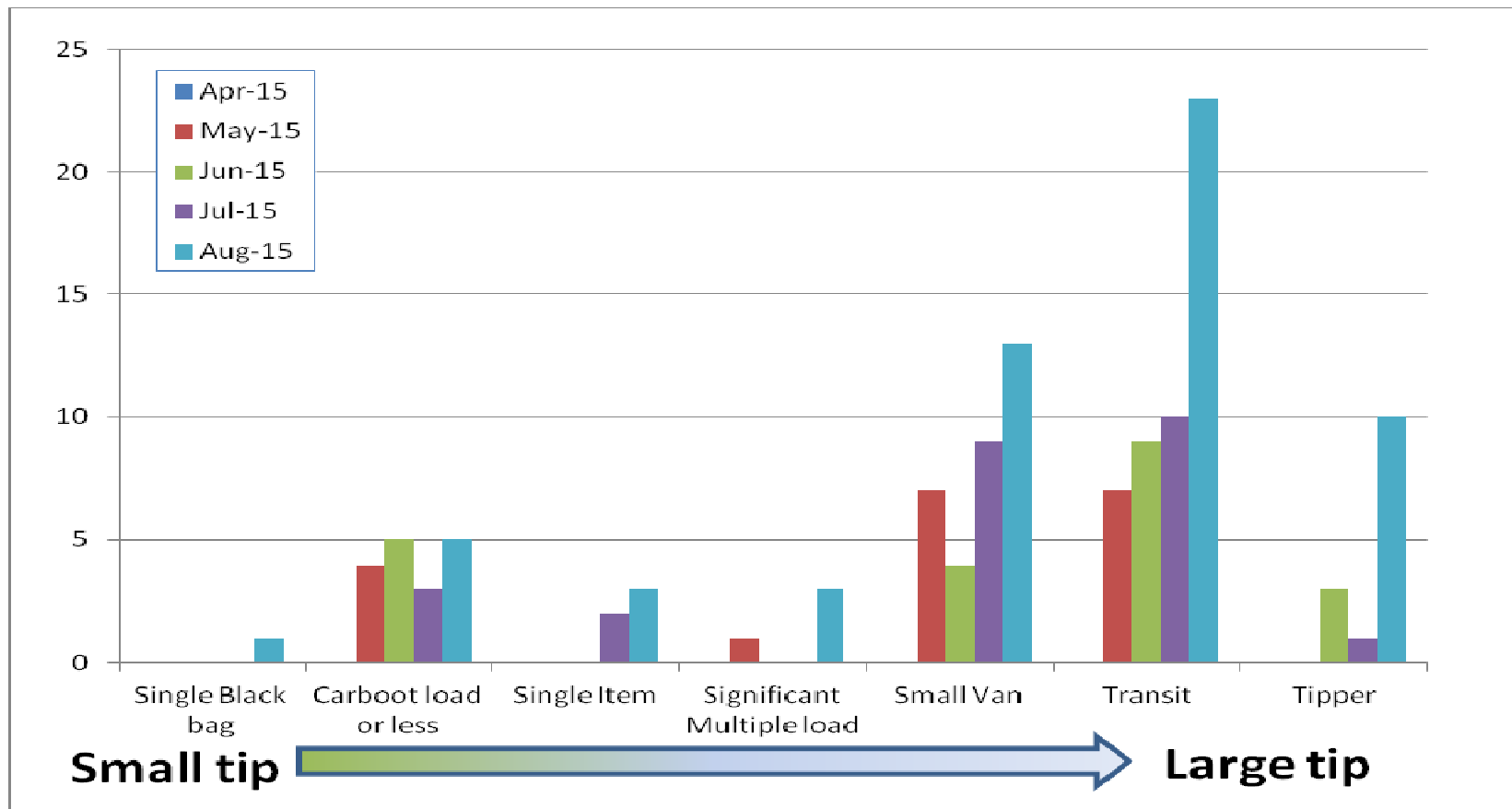
HRC PERFORMANCE 2015/16 (Apr-Sep 15)				
HRC	Total waste	Total Recycled	Rec rate	Population served
Trowbridge	5,500.30	4,580.37	83.27%	64,167
Salisbury	5,380.47	4,175.35	77.60%	68,105
Stanton	4,786.82	3,854.21	80.52%	77,720
Warminster	4,378.09	3,638.87	83.12%	45,750
Melksham	4,093.80	3,431.78	83.83%	37,555
Purton	3,750.69	3,061.73	81.63%	28,640
Amesbury	3,328.18	2,574.43	77.35%	35,457
Devizes	3,020.49	2,429.67	80.44%	32,380
Lower Compton, Calne	2,925.01	2,296.92	78.53%	28,640
Marlborough	2,143.10	1,797.25	83.86%	19,220
Everleigh	1,441.90	1,088.41	75.48%	24,818
TOTAL	40,748.85	32,928.99	80.81%	462,449

NACAS recommends no site exceeds a maximum throughput of 17,250 tonnes per annum



Flytipping incidents – Wiltshire 15/16

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Flytipping...

- Do not anticipate increase as a result of **householders** deciding to dump waste if a site were to close.
- Most waste would be likely to be taken to other HRCs.
- Flytipping is illegal, and majority of householders are law abiding.
- Majority of flytipping is of a scale and nature that suggests it is from commercial sources (commercial waste not accepted at HRCs).
- Cost of clearing fly tips @ £29 per car boot load. Received approx 745 reports of fly tips of loads suitable for a HRC (i.e. not commercial) in 2014/15. Cost approx £21,605 to clear.
- Alternatives to using HRCs exist; Freecycle, Ebay, Charity shops / re-use

Summary of proposal

- The council acknowledges queues at start of day at many HRC sites following reduction of opening hours and days.
- Wish to provide extra hours over the summer (April – Oct) for 94% of Wiltshire residents and users of the HRCs.
- Recognises the very low usage at Everleigh in terms of tonnages and visitor numbers.
- Provides an opportunity to reduce HRC sites by 1 and fund additional hour opening for remaining HRCs at their busiest times.

Summary of proposal (cont...)

- Benefits the majority of HRC users, and increases availability at other sites
- Closing Everleigh would save £135k per year. £60k would be utilised to provide an extra hour at the remaining 10 sites.
- Not out of step with neighbouring authorities.
- Suitable alternative sites exist within 20 minute drive time.



Questions

Close.



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