

Royal Wootton Bassett & Cricklade Area Board – Wednesday 25 January 2012

Chairman's Announcements

New Waste & Recycling Collection Service

Wiltshire Council has decided to offer all residents the same, high quality, waste and recycling service and offer improved recycling opportunities for all. Wiltshire currently sends 37% of the waste it collects to landfill and recycles 41% of household waste. We need to recycle more and landfill less. Landfill Tax currently costs £56 per tonne and this will rise to £80 per tonne by 2014.

Before Christmas the council introduced the new kerb-side plastic bottles and cardboard collection. Over 700 tonnes a month are being collected county-wide, with over 210 tonnes a month of plastic bottles and cardboard being collected from households in north Wiltshire.

From early February 2012, the council will be delivering new, green lidded, garden waste bins to those residents who signed up before 1 December 2011. If you missed the deadline but want to opt-in to the new, non-chargeable, garden waste collection service, you can sign up to receive your bin in summer 2012. You can do this on-line via the council's website, by telephoning the council or by completing a form. If you currently receive a garden waste collection service or if you have already signed up for the new service you don't need to take any further action.

The new garden waste service will commence from early March and at the same time the council will introduce a fortnightly collection of household waste. The new waste and recycling collection service should enable Wiltshire Council to increase recycling to 50% and reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill to less than 25%.

During February residents of north Wiltshire will receive a collection calendar and information leaflet through the post setting out collection dates for all the services. Information and advice will be available from council staff at road shows, on the council's website, by telephoning the council and in the Wiltshire Council magazine. Residents will also be reminded on the date of their last weekly collection of household waste that future collections will be fortnightly.

While the vast majority of residents will manage the new waste and recycling collection services well, the council is aware that some residents may experience some difficulties. This could be because you do not have storage space for the new bins, you have a large family or a member of your family creates medical waste. Please contact the council if you are experiencing difficulties and we will work with you to resolve any problems.

The council would like to take this opportunity to remind residents that:

- All households are entitled to up to two black boxes for recycling glass bottles and jars, paper, food tins, foil, clothes, shoes, aerosols and drinks cans
- Only plastic bottles and cardboard can be collected in blue lidded bins
- All containers need to be out by 7am on the day of collection
- With the exception of the black box collection service, no side waste will be collected

For further information residents can: visit www.wiltshire.gov.uk/waste, call 0300 456 0102 or look out for further information coming in due course.