

RESOURCES AND SERVICES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

1 NOVEMBER 2021

REPORT OF PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC SPACES

A.2 WASTE AND RECYCLING SERVICE

(Report prepared by [*Jonathan Hamlet*])

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

Bring Sites, Public litter bins, A120 transfer site and recycling levels within Tendring.

INVITEES

Councillor Michael Talbot Portfolio Holder for Environment and public spaces and Andy White, assistant director who will be in attendance to answer questions.

BACKGROUND

Information requested on the following topics:

Litter along the A120 connected to the waste transfer station.

The provision of public litter bins.

The utilisation and optimisation of bring sites.

Progress in increasing recycling levels.

DETAILED INFORMATION

1. A120 Transfer station and litter

All vehicles associated with the ECC transfer site are sheeted to secure their load and ECC continue to monitor vehicles and welcome any information relating to witnessed incidents where materials from vehicles contracted to this facility are contributing to litter along the A120. It must be noted that other commercial vehicles not associated to the ECC transfer site utilise the entrance/exit lanes for this facility to access sites in Ardleigh and this section of A120 is also used by a magnitude of commercial waste carriers.

Officers monitor the carriage way for cleanliness with laybys along the A120 litter picked on a weekly basis to help reduce the amount of windblown litter ending up along the verges and carriageway and to remove any fly tipped materials. The verges are litter picked four times per annum and the scheduling coincides so that the works are carried out before the start of the main summer period. Additionally the central reservation between the Frating/Clacton junction upto the Frating car auction roundabout is litter picked once per annum again these works are carried out before the start of the main summer season to provide a high level of cleanliness. The resultant scheduled cleaning of the A120 verges, laybys and central reservation helps to promote a positive impact upon the residents of and visitors to the Tendring district.

2. Provision of public litter bins

Currently a total of 1100 litter bins, 150 seasonal litter bins, 280 dog waste bins and 40 special event litter bins.

Emptying schedule varies from once per week upto twice per day and relates to footfall and associated demand (Town centres and seafronts are the higher demand).

Seafront locations are serviced twice daily during the summer (Easter to September) and then twice weekly remainder of the year.

2021 saw the introduction of “blue” seafront bins, at 340L capacity these are 100L larger than the previous 240L bins equating to an extra 15,000 Litres capacity or equivalent to an extra 62 x 240L bins. With a capital outlay of £7000 (£35 per bin) but following negotiations with Veolia no additional service costs (contract stipulates 240L bin) were borne by the authority. These bins were introduced to reflect the increased visitor numbers expected to the district.

During the summer period (Easter to September) an additional 150 bins are installed along the seafronts and were serviced twice daily, seven days a week as a direct response to COVID and anticipated increased visitors to the seafronts. Contractually this number then decreases during the winter period. Both installation and removal process are monitored to assist in correct number of bins being installed/removed.

Annual budget for litter bins procurement is £14,910. With floor mounted litter bins (110L capacity) costing between £300 and £390

each. The team continues with the long term project of where the impact will be positive and justified, replacing smaller post bins and dog bins (both 45L capacity) with larger floor mounted litter bins and so increasing capacity to the area along with improving the street scene.

Changing the type of bin has no impact upon the contract cost.

This budget also used to repair or replace broken, damaged, vandalised or even missing bins reported to us by contractor, public or through inspections utilising the authorities engineering team to carry out the works and reduces installation costs compared to previous use of sub contractor

Members of the public and the contractor enquire to possible locations for additional bins; These are logged and passed on to the Officer to monitor the area over a period of time to establish if, at the taxpayers expense there is a need for a waste receptacle to be installed.

It must be noted that the current contract (2012) had a set number of litter/dog bins and the contract allows the authority to install up to an additional 10% of bins based on this number at NIL cost to the contract. Once this figure is passed then the associated servicing costs will be applied to each additional installation with costs ranging from £79 (twice weekly) to £480 (twice daily) per bin per year. Currently the additional bin installation is at approximately 7.5% with 5 years left on the current contract.

2. Bring Sites

The authority has 80 sights across the district, located in supermarkets, car parks and village Halls. Residents can access information of their nearest or most convenient site through our website which offers a easy to use table or a search engine tool to locate sites.

Glass is offered at all the sites with the larger bring sites also offering textiles, paper, tetrapak and books.

New signage has been introduced to the glass banks, directing users to the correct bank which will increase capacity whilst also informing them that materials left on the ground will not be recycled and treated as fly tipping. To supplement this message new No Flytipping signage has been designed and introduced at identified sights.

The larger supermarket sites are typically cleaned on a three times per week schedule with other sites cleaned on demand as and when reports of cleanliness are reported by members of the public, members, contractors or through Officer inspections.

Glass tonnage is recorded for all sites and below is an indication of the top ten sites

Site	Aug-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	TOTAL Kg per month
Manningtree Fiveways Superstore	18876	19055	185785	21448	22027	26450	24403	21466	N/A	22128	40182
Clacton Tesco	22992	16545	164410	25890	23338	24031	22923	22036	27187	14901	36425
Frinton Triangle Shopping Area	21897	18454	163710	19043	20819	25263	24795	18813	25716	16703	35521
Clacton Morrisons	20399	14041	159017	23525	16900	22600	23645	18706	17578	13220	32963
Harwich Morrisons	20641	14348	162421	20143	10507	18810	N/A	13909	15937	15925	32516
Brightlingsea Fiveways Store	16526	11675	141085	13565	3955	26436	N/A	13616	19048	11905	28646
Clacton Waterglade Retail Park	12356	11296	114133	12836	14442	16745	14887	10186	11842	11384	23011
Holland On Sea Ipswich Rd CP	11012	7312	95787	N/A	8414	N/A	8972	7242	9695	7214	19456
Clacton Scout HQ	6244	3373	58003	4734	5311	6015	4446	4184	4567	8510	10539
Thorpe Le Soken Scout Hut	6607	4130	21317	3518	3674	5984	6099	4773	5237	6434	6777

A number of sites are just a single glass bank in a pub carpark, which whilst only attract small tonnage, provide an invaluable access for the local residents to recycle glass.

The Recycling Officer is currently working on the additional provision of tetra pak banks across the district with 6 key sites identified as suitable based on both footfall/demand, geographical location along with site capacity to house an additional bank. Sites identified include Alresford, Gt Bentley, Harwich, Walton, Little Clacton and Manningtree. Whilst the bank installations and on going service costs associated with tetrabanks are greater than revenue received through recycling credits, increasing the scope of recycling this complex material supports the authorities vision to increase recycling.

Along with ASDA in Clacton where glass banks were recently re-introduced the Recycling Officer has also identified and worked with Ardleigh PC to arrange for glass banks to be installed in the PC car park, providing a key location for glass recycling in this area.

The vast majority of bring sites are located on land which is under private ownership, the authority works closely with the landowners to ensure that the sites can remain viable for the bring sites but this can be challenging and to increase the number of banks at many of

the sites is either physically not possible or is not granted permission.

Progress with Increasing Recycling rates

Defra/WDF data published March 2021 for latest period 2019/20 indicates the following data (source letsrecycle) for a number of authorities in East Anglia/Essex.

Authority	Recycling Rate %
Westminster City Council	20.4
Gt Yarmouth	30.0
Thurrock	34.8
Tendring DC	35.1
Ipswich	35.1
Breckland Council	38.7
Norwich	39.4
Fenland	40.0
West Suffolk Council	40.1
North Norfolk Council	40.8
Harlow	41.1
Mid Suffolk DC	42.8
Suffolk County Council	43.6
Norfolk County Council	44.4
East Suffolk Council	45.2

TDC data for 2020/21 provisionally 40.93%

Aspiration is to concentrate resources on areas of low participation (Jaywick Sands, Bathside) with intensive resources required for door to door engagement, provision of recycling containers followed by on going monitoring and further engagement and encouragement with householders.

The authority continues on a weekly basis to deliver wheeled bins to new build properties along with householders moving house and finding that the previous occupier has taken the bin. These deliveries especially to the new build properties includes the delivery of recycling containers at the same time ensuring that the household can immediately participate in the recycling service.

Garden waste service: Unlike many other authorities where garden waste is provided to all households and thus results in greater tonnages contributing to the overall recycling rate Tendring is a subscription service. Working with Veolia we aim to improve the experience of customers subscribed to the garden waste service by reducing missed collections via the use of in-cab technology, the cost of which is being burdened of Veolia. Currently in the soft phase of release this technology will hopefully reduce the number of missed collections associated with new customers joining the service and assisted collection customers and ultimately assist in customer retention and attract further customers to the service. Since the introduction of the service in 2014 there are no over 18,000 customers.

Four year aspiration:

Environment Bill set to become legislation in late 2023, currently at consultation stage, the Bill aspiration is to provide consistency in collections across England with core materials to be collected at the kerbside by all authorities with these materials including glass, range of plastics, paper/card, cans, food and free garden waste service to all. Costs for implementation and on going service costs are to be supported by central government and DRS (Deposit return scheme). The deadline is ambitious (October 2023) and if the Bill is passed will require additional vehicles, containers, operatives, Officers and support staff to implement the new service.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee determines whether it has any comments or recommendations it wishes to put forward to the relevant Portfolio Holder or Cabinet.