

## **SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**REPORT TO:** Neighbourhood and Community Services Scrutiny Panel  
**DATE:** 21<sup>st</sup> April 2021  
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**WARD(S):** All

### **PART I** **FOR INFORMATION**

#### **UPDATE ON WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITIES – HWRC SERVICE**

1. **Purpose of Report**

This report sets out the services provided at, and the performance of, our Chalvey Household Waste & Recycling Centre (Chalvey HWRC).

2. **Recommendation(s)/Proposed Action**

The Panel is requested to note details of the report.

3. **The Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy, the JSNA and the Five Year Plan**

3a. **Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy Priorities**

No action recommended or decision requested, this report is for information only

3b. **Five Year Plan Outcomes**

Provision of HWRCs impacts our waste management strategy, including our recycling rate, and potentially influences fly-tipping behaviour:-

- Outcome 3 - Slough will be an attractive place where people choose to live, work and stay

4. **Other Implications**

(a) **Financial**

No change, ongoing operational service operating within budget

**Risk Management**

No change, ongoing operational service

(b) Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications

The Council's household recycling centres service is provided under the Environmental Protection Act 1990. Section 51 requires the waste disposal authority to arrange for places to be provided at which residents may deposit household waste and for the disposal of any waste deposited. The arrangements should secure that each place is:

(a) situated within the area or so as to be reasonably accessible to persons resident in its area;

(b) available at all reasonable times (including at least one period on the Saturday or following day or each week, except the 25<sup>th</sup> December or 1<sup>st</sup> January); and

(c) available for the deposit of waste free of charge by residents.

However, the arrangements may restrict the availability of specified places to specified descriptions of waste.

The Council may also include arrangements for the household recycling centres provided under s.51 to be available for the deposit of household or other controlled waste by other persons on such terms as to payment (if any) as the authority determines.

Household waste is defined in the Controlled Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2012. Construction and demolition waste is defined as industrial waste, regardless of whether it is produced from a domestic premises or not.

The Local Authorities (Prohibition of Charging Residents to Deposit Household Waste) Order 2015 prohibits WDAs from charging its own residents to enter into, or exit from, a HRC or deposit household waste at a household recycling centre.

(c) Equalities Impact Assessment

No change, ongoing operational service

(d) Workforce (*Please delete if no workforce implications*)

No change, ongoing operational service

5. **Supporting Information**

5.1 We provide a HWRC at Chalvey for receipt of household waste. Use of the site is free to users.

5.2 The table below sets out the range of materials which we currently separate out for recycling with the remainder disposed of via Energy from Waste (EfW) – we have zero waste to landfill. Some general waste is small enough to go straight to EfW, other items of general waste are shredded first before being sent to EfW.

<b>HWRC Tonnes/Calendar Year</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>Recycled</b>				
Aerosols	0.82	0.9	3.61	0.21
Asbestos	2.54	4.62	3.32	3.64
Books	0.3	7.28	4.8	
Car Batteries	13.34	12.28	12.86	13.8
Cardboard	121.44	130.04	185.44	222.82
Carpets	122.1	128.74	154.7	98.52
Cartridges	0.28	0.64	0.42	0.4
Clothes Bank	58.26	58.98	70.66	47.76
Cooking Oils	1.88	1.44	0.76	1.46
Dry Cell Batteries	0.9	1.1	2	0.96
Electricals	12.95	7.91	27.46	27.36
Engine Oils	4	4.44	5.86	4.9
Fluorescent Tubes	0.46	0.22	0.36	0.36
Foil			0.84	
Fridge Reuse	1.04			
Fridges	81.62	83.43	84.68	89.46
Gas Cylinders	2.52	2.6	2.82	2.14
Green	2,697.26	3,431.38	3,023.38	3,160.62
Hardcore	260.6	262.14	252.48	297.7
LDA	139.56	133.62	131.38	118.02
Mattresses	252.64	275.56	269.07	323.39
Metals	581.68	570.24	592.22	533.96
Monitors	34.12	30.82	17.22	21.22
Oil Filters/Containers	4.26	2.16	2.16	1.96
Paint	56.31	23.28		1.74
Paint Flammable		52.93	77.74	62.41
Plaster Board	54.92	22.38	22.28	17.12
Plastics	19.38	29.16	14	3.66
Just 4 Recycling	99.86	43.8	46.7	28.02
Shoes	5.04	4.8	6.58	5.5
Synergy Gas Cylinders	7.1	3.38	3.36	3.76
Tetra Packs	0.22	0.26	0.46	0.22
Wood	72.14	14.9	57.22	424.7
<b>Total Recycling</b>	<b>4,709.54</b>	<b>5,345.43</b>	<b>5,076.84</b>	<b>5,517.79</b>
General Waste (straight to EfW)	10,839.84	220.4	2,407.38	2,044.64
General Waste (shredded then EfW)	708.9	10,973.57	9,054.94	8,248.08
<b>Total Waste</b>	<b>11,548.74</b>	<b>11,193.97</b>	<b>11,462.32</b>	<b>10,292.72</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>16,258.28</b>	<b>16,539.40</b>	<b>16,539.16</b>	<b>15,810.51</b>

<b>Chalvey HWRC</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
% Recycled	29%	32%	31%	35%
% Energy from Waste	71%	68%	69%	65%

5.3 Our ability to recycle is dependent on the availability of “markets” for recycled products.

- 5.4 Our % recycling has improved in 2020 to 35%. This improvement is due to a number of reasons, including changing composition of waste, but the key one is the availability of a market for good quality unpainted wood.
- 5.5 Other key elements underpinning our recycling rate include:-
- Cardboard
  - Greenwaste
  - Metals, and
  - Hardcore
- 5.6 To increase recycling rates we need to:-
- Ensure that we capture all items which we are able to recycle by preventing them from being carelessly thrown away as general waste (improve the recovery rate), and
  - Find markets for items which we currently have no option but to dispose of as part of general waste
- 5.7 **Improving recovery rate** - we operate a meet and greet service where our site operatives ask customers what they have brought to site and direct them to the appropriate container. Some customers bring mixed waste in plastic bags and some of this waste is potentially recyclable. A future step, once we are out of lockdown / covid measures, is to have an area where customers are asked to split their plastic bags and then take items to a range of containers rather than throw black sacks into the general waste container
- 5.8 **Secure additional recycling markets** – here we continually review the contents of the general waste container and seek to establish end points (markets) for remaining elements. Items received in large volumes include furniture made from a composition of different materials, chip board, other manufactured wood, painted wood, hard plastic furniture for which there is no current recycling markets.
- 5.9 Waste received at HWRCs includes waste which is classed as non-household waste for which we have the power to make a charge. Slough BC don't currently charge for small quantities of non-household waste arising from domestic properties providing it meets our Acceptance Criteria which is summarised below and which is set out in full at Appendix 1:-
- Building and demolition materials - one visit/month with up to 6 sacks
  - Plasterboard – one visit per month maximum 2 boards
  - Tyres – one visit per month maximum 2 tyres
- 5.10 On the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 Bucks Council made a series of changes across Buckinghamshire including:-
- Reduced opening hours at Burnham HWRC by closing on Wednesdays and Thursdays
  - Introduced charges at all HWRCs across Buckinghamshire for non-household waste as set out in the table below. This includes waste resulting from the construction, demolition, renovation or alteration of homes and outbuildings, and rubble, soil and treated wood resulting from garden landscaping.

Bucks Council pricing schedule for construction and demolition waste

Item	Price
<b>Hardcore &amp; Soil per bag*</b>	
Concrete, bricks, rubble, stones & any other building materials	£2.50
Soil	£2.50
Ceramic tiles	£2.50
<b>Bathroom Suites</b>	
Bath	£5.00
Toilet pan or cistern	£10.00
Wash basin or kitchen sink	£2.50
Shower door or shower tray	£10.00
<b>Kitchens</b>	
Kitchen work top	£7.50/m
Kitchen unit (with door) (wall or floor)	£5.00
Door or window (including panes of glass)	£10.00
<b>Wood</b>	
Wood from construction/demolition - 2m x 1m	£10.00
External door	£10.00
Internal door	£2.50
Fence/shed panel	£2.50
<b>Roofing Materials</b>	
3m length of guttering or drain pipe	£2.50
Roof felt tiles or sections of roof felt – smaller than 1.5m x1.5m	£2.50
Roll of roof felt up to 3mx5m	£2.50
<b>Other</b>	
Asbestos	
Asbestos sheet per 1m x 1m	£3.50m <sup>2</sup>
Plaster/plasterboard per bag	£6.00
Plasterboard sheet up to 2m x 1m	£7
Car or motorcycle tyre	£4

- A bag is 25 litres with a weight of 10kg or equivalent volume of loose material.
- Part bags will be charged as per whole.
- Other construction & demolition items may be liable to be charged at a similar rate as stated in the table, in line with current legislation.
- Prices will form part of implementation proposals and officer delegations.
- Prices will also be reviewed annually and in line with legislation changes.
- The prices will be published on BCC website and available across the HRC sites.
- Please note that this is not an exhaustive list.

5.11 The reduction in opening hours at Burnham HWRC (closed on Wednesdays and Thursdays) has not had a significant impact on non-chargeable waste coming to Chalvey HWRC – overall waste tonnage at Chalvey HWRC was slightly up in calendar year 2019 but down in 2020.

5.12 The decision by Bucks Council to charge for non-household waste at the Burnham HWRC and the Langley HWRC may or may not have seen an increase in this type of waste received at Chalvey HWRC, for instance hardcore is up by 50 tonnes (17%) but plasterboard has fallen by 5 tonnes (22%) and overall total waste tonnage has decreased. Customers are asked where they have come from (at times these are recorded as formal surveys) and, in addition, anecdotally there is no discernable difference year on year according to our long standing site staff who recognise many of our customers

## **Fly Tipping**

- 5.13 Fly-tipping is usually large volumes of non-household waste and is usually done by rogue traders and/or rogue landlords. Large volumes of non-household waste are already excluded from Chalvey HWRC and Bucks Council HWRCs so there is no change to these fly-tippers as a result of Bucks Council charging for small quantities of non-household waste at Burnham and Langley.
- 5.14 Bucks Councils decision to charge ordinary householders for small quantities of non-household waste at Burnham HRC and Langley HRC has not resulted in an increase in this type of fly-tipping in Slough.

## 6. **Comments of Other Committees**

None

## 7. **Conclusion**

Our ability to increase the % recycled at our Chalvey HWRC is dependent on sustained availability of markets, including for a broader range of wood and for hard plastics, together with tenacity to ensure that customers are vigilant in using the right container for their items.

## 8. **Appendices**

Appendix 1 - Acceptance Criteria at the Chalvey HWRC

## 9. **Background Papers**

None

## **Appendix 1 - Acceptance Guidance – Chalvey Household Waste Recycling Centre**

Residents from Slough and the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead can bring most household items of waste free of charge for reuse, recycling or safe disposal.

Please check the acceptance criteria for your waste before taking it to the Chalvey Household Waste Recycling Centre. You may be asked for proof of address and photo ID (driver's license or passport) to confirm that you are eligible to use the site and may be refused entry if unable to supply this.

Please ensure your vehicle (no vans) can access the site through the 1.7m (5' 9") height barrier. **Residents of Royal Borough unable to do so will need to apply for a permit for Stafferton Way HWRC in Maidenhead.**

### **Items we don't accept**

- Items that do not meet the acceptance criteria.
- Business, commercial or trade waste (take to the transfer station).
- Clinical waste.
- Medicines (take back to your local chemist or doctor's surgery).
- Invasive plants i.e. Japanese knotweed.
- Explosives e.g. flares.
- Flammable liquids e.g. petrol (use it up or contact your local garage).

### **Items we do accept Household items only.**

**Asbestos** Chalvey HWRC can only accept up to 5 small (which can be carried in a car) sheets of bonded asbestos, i.e. asbestos cement products. Quantities above this amount will need to be taken to the Chalvey Waste Transfer Station where there will be a charge. This service is by appointment only. Call 01753 475111 option 4 to make an appointment.

You must also meet the following conditions:

- be a resident of Slough
- bring proof of address with you such as a recent utility bill and photo ID (drivers licence or passport)
- the cement bonded asbestos must be arising from a domestic property e.g. a shed roof, drainpipes, water tank
- the asbestos must be damped down and then double bagged or wrapped tightly in plastic as this prevents release of dust
- either bring help with you or bring manageable sized pieces, as staff are not able to assist you.

**Please note:** You must inform a member of staff on site that you are planning to dispose of asbestos.

### **Automotive**

- Car batteries
- Used engine oil
- Tyres (2 tyres max.) Only one visit per month (no return visit within 28 days) is permitted. Tyres above this quantity will not be accepted.

## **Building and demolition materials**

Building and demolition waste is considered, by law, to be commercial waste and as such you may be charged for disposal. Chalvey HWRC can only accept a small amount of demolition and building waste from residents carrying out their own small-scale home improvements. This includes, but is not limited to, items such as:

- bathroom suites, baths, sinks and toilets
- bricks
- doors and window frames (maximum 2 doors)
- hardcore and rubble
- kitchen cupboards
- large pieces of timber, old sheds, fence panels
- old tiles and plaster
- paving
- soil
- plasterboard (2 boards max.) Only one visit per month (no return visit within 28 days) is permitted. Disposed of at the Waste Transfer Station, Open Monday to Friday 7am – 4pm, Saturday 7.30am – 12pm, last entry 15 minutes prior to closing. Closed Sunday and Bank Holidays

This is limited to one car boot load (6 small sacks) of this type of waste per visit. Only one visit per month (no return visit within 28 days) is permitted. Quantities above this allowance will need to be disposed of at the Waste Transfer Station where a charge is calculated at £173.68 (inc VAT) per tonne, with a minimum charge of £31.26 (inc VAT).

**Contact a site attendant to dispose of any building or demolition waste.**

## **Hazardous waste**

Please contact site attendant to dispose of any hazardous waste. **All chemicals must be in its original container or clearly marked.**

**Please note:** Maximum quantity for household and garden chemicals is 5 litres (one visit per month, no return visit within 28 days).

## **Other**

Mattresses (maximum 2 mattresses) - only one visit per month (no return visit within 28 days) is permitted. Amounts over this limit are charged at £15.12 (inc VAT) per mattress.