



This information is available free of charge in electronic, audio, Braille and large print versions on request.

For assistance in understanding or reading this document or specific information about this Agenda or on the "Public Participation" initiative please call Democratic Services on 01629 761133 or e-mail committee@derbyshiredales.gov.uk

24 May 2016

To: All Councillors

As a Member or Substitute of the **Community & Environment Committee**, please treat this as your summons to attend the meeting on **Thursday 2 June 2016 at 6.00pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Matlock.**

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sandra Lamb', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Sandra Lamb
Head of Corporate Services

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES

Please advise Democratic Services on 01629 761133 or e-mail committee@derbyshiredales.gov.uk of any apologies for absence and substitute arrangements.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

17 March 2016

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

To enable members of the public to ask questions, express views or present petitions, **IF NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN**, (by telephone, in writing or by electronic mail) **BY NO LATER THAN 12 NOON OF THE WORKING DAY PRECEDING THE MEETING.**

4. INTERESTS

Members are required to declare the existence and nature of any interests they may have in subsequent agenda items in accordance with the District Council's Code of Conduct. Those interests are matters that relate to money or that which can be valued in money, affecting the Member her/his partner, extended family and close friends.

Interests that become apparent at a later stage in the proceedings may be declared at that time.

5. QUESTIONS PURSUANT TO RULE OF PROCEDURE NUMBER 15

To answer questions from Members who have given the appropriate notice.

Page No.

6. LEISURE REVIEW: Update

3 - 7

To consider progress with the Review of Leisure Services.

7. ESTATE REGENERATION PROGRAMME: EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

8 - 13

To inform the Committee of the submission to the government of an expression of interest to be part of an ambitious estates regeneration programme. £140m in loan funding has been set aside for partnerships and joint venture arrangements. The Department for Communities and Local Government have made available resources to help develop ideas. This report sets out the background to the programme and the work to date.

8. CONSULTATION ON A PROPOSAL TO CHARGE FOR REPLACEMENT WASTE CONTAINERS

14 - 24

To seek approval to consult with Derbyshire Dales residents on the subject of charging for replacement waste containers and supply of bags. This would take place during the summer and then feed into the review of existing policies.

9. MATLOCK BUS STATION PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

25 - 30

To seek approval for a reduction of the opening times of the public conveniences at Matlock Bus Station subject to public consultation.

10. WASTE & RECYCLING COLLECTION CONTRACT CUSTOMER SATISFACTION

31 - 35

To consider the results of the customer satisfaction surveys undertaken on performance of the Waste and Recycling services.

11. DERBYSHIRE LAW CENTRE

36 - 37

To consider a request for funding by the Derbyshire Law Centre to support their operation within the Derbyshire Dales

Members of the Committee - Councillors Jason Atkin, Jennifer Bower, Richard Bright, Sue Bull, Martin Burfoot, Albert Catt, Phil Chell, Ann Elliott, Vicky Massey, Tony Morley, Joyce Pawley, Mike Ratcliffe, Lewis Rose, OBE, Andrew Statham (Vice Chairman), Colin Swindell, Philippa Tilbrook, Jo Wild (Chairman)

Substitutes - Councillors Deborah Botham, David Chapman, Tom Donnelly, Richard FitzHerbert, Steve Flitter, Alyson Hill, Susan Hobson, Neil Horton, Angus Jenkins, Tony Millward, BEM, Jean Monks, Garry Purdy, Irene Ratcliffe, Mark Salt, Jacquie Stevens, John Tibenham

COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
2nd June 2016

Report of the Head of Community Development

LEISURE REVIEW: Update

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report sets out the progress with the review of Leisure Services.

RECOMMENDATION

That the work undertaken, progress and direction of the review be noted

WARDS AFFECTED

All Wards

STRATEGIC LINK

Leisure Services support the District Council's Corporate Aim to promote quality of life and also makes a significant contribution to the safety and health of the community Derbyshire Dales. The review has reflected on the District Council's priorities whilst also seeking to ensure that we deliver value for money and work effectively with partners.

1 REPORT

- 1.1 On 26th September 2013, the District Council considered the Medium Term Financial Plan which showed that over the following three years, savings of over £1.4 million were required. At the same meeting, the Council considered a report on 'Planning for the Future', which approved a series of service reviews, including a review of Leisure Services, which would be carried out with the intention of achieving savings to contribute towards the overall savings target.
- 1.2 As with all Service Reviews, the scope of the Leisure Review would consider three questions:
- Does the service need to be provided at all?
 - Does the service need to be provided by the District Council or could it be provided by someone else, and
 - What level of service is needed?
- 1.3 On the 16th January 2014, the Community Committee was presented a report which set out the review process and the methodology for bringing the review to a conclusion. The report reflected upon the substantial contribution Leisure Services has made across the District and the Peer Review which noted that the level of subsidy support provided by the District Council, whilst reducing was still considered to be high.

- 1.4 A Leisure Service review team was formed to support the process, comprising of officers from across the District Council. During the course of the year a range of meetings with staff from Leisure Centres, Sports Development, elected members and external agencies such as Sport England, Derbyshire Sport and representatives from Hathersage Swimming Pool were held.
- 1.5 The review was split into two phases, the first was to identify operational improvement and efficiencies, and the second was to consider the longer term management and delivery arrangements.
- 1.6 A report on the outcomes of the first stage of the review was considered on by the Community Committee on 10 July 2014. This identified a number of opportunities to achieve greater savings, protect and enhance income and/or achieve more efficient working arrangements. In total savings amounting to £111,500 were identified and an action plan to achieve these by implementing the measures before 31 March 2015 was been put into place and achieved.
- 1.7 The second phase of the review included numerous visits and discussions with other Local Authorities, to help identify alternative models for delivering the Leisure Service in the longer term which help in reducing costs.
- 1.8 The visits were extremely useful in helping to understand those issues which contribute towards the delivery of an efficient and effective service. The main conclusion drawn by the review team was that the specific management arrangement in place (whether delivered by a private contractor, a trust or local authority) is not the defining factor in whether a quality product is delivered at an affordable price. Good (and sometimes not so good) practice was observed in all of the differing management arrangements.
- 1.9 The most important thing is that a service needs to have a clear focus, be efficiently managed, be responsive and customer orientated. In many cases costs have been reduced by investing in measures such as new equipment and facilities (e.g. gym equipment and fitness studio space) that are designed to increase and participation and thereby maximise income.
- 1.10 In addition to the visits, and after a successful tendering process, FMG Consulting Ltd was appointed to support the second phase of the review. FMG were commissioned to provide a detailed Business Options Appraisal, outlining the financial implications and feasibility of the alternative management options currently available. In order to determine the most effective choice for Derbyshire Dales in line with the District Council's local priorities and local needs.
- 1.11 After several months of review and consultation with management, staff and stakeholders, the final Options Appraisal report was completed and provided in October last year highlighting five possible options (table).

Options	Leisure Centre	Sports Development
One	In-house	In-house
Two	Outsourced	In-house
Three	Outsourced	Outsourced
Four	New NPDO	New NPDO
Five	Retain: Arc & Ashbourne CAT: Bakewell & Wirksworth	In-house

- 1.12 On 14 January, a presentation was given via a Members Workshop outlining the work carried out, options available and related benefits. The main report was then circulated to Members for reference. A second workshop was held on 24 February to allow Members to an opportunity to discuss the options in greater detail. Given the amount of work required in considering the feasibility of each option, Members were asked to provide a steer as to which option(s) they considered most appropriate.
- 1.13 Although it was clear most Members wished to retain all four Leisure Centres and the Sports Development team, given the District Councils financial position, this option was considered as not sustainable. It was agreed that Options 2 and 5 were the most appropriate options, and that further information should be gathered and presented on the viability of each model.
- 1.14 In addition to the Members Workshops, several discussions with relevant stakeholders and staff have taken place, including two meetings with representatives from Anthony Gell School.
- 1.15 Work is now underway, with FMG Consulting to provide greater detail on the financial and service benefits of options 2 and 5, using current year-end figures, as well as exploratory work on the possibility of Community Asset Transfers for Bakewell Swimming Pool and Wirksworth Leisure Centre. The timeline for this work is outlined in Appendix One. This information will be presented to Members by the end of the year, and via regular updates throughout to the relevant committees.
- 1.16 The future report will include:
- Updated financial projections for both option 2 and 5, using the 2015/6 end of year figures
 - Information from soft market testing of interested parties to help clarify the financial and non-financial benefits of Option 2
 - The outcomes of working with DDCVS to identifying interested groups/organisations for the community asset transfer of Bakewell Swimming Pool and Wirksworth Leisure Centre
 - Reviewing and detailing the possible remodelling of staffing structures, financial

projections and future direction of the service (inc. identifying areas for growth) under Option 5 to maximise efficiencies

- Examples of other community asset transfers, outlining successes and potential pitfalls
- A risk analysis for each option
- Required actions and timescales involved in the completion of each option

2 RISK ASSESSMENT

5.1 Legal

The report provides an update on the current position with regard to a fundamental review of the provision of a significant discretionary service. During the review a thorough assessment of risk will be evaluated in terms of all options to be pursued and again at the point of any decision being made. At this stage the legal risk is low.

5.2 Financial

The review process includes a more detailed evaluation of the financial implications of options 2 and 5, taking into account 2015/16 year-end figures. It is expected that this information will be presented to Members by the end of the year.

The additional work to be carried out by FMG Consulting will cost £12,500, which will be financed from the Invest to Save Reserve. Any savings achieved as part of this review will contribute towards the corporate savings target of £700,000. At this stage the financial risk is low.

3 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has also been considered: prevention of crime and disorder, equality of opportunity, environmental health, climate change, legal and human rights, financial personal and property considerations.

4 CONTACT INFORMATION

Ashley Watts, Head of Community Development
Tel: 01629 761367
ashley.watts@derbyshiredales.gov.uk

5 ATTACHMENTS

Appendix 1 - Options Appraisal Phase 2

BACK TO AGENDA

Work Stream	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Member Workshop (1)	14.1.16											
Staff Briefings at Leisure Centres (1)	15.1.16											
Staff Workshop with Sports Development Team	19.1.16											
Anthony Gell School Briefing (1)	22.1.16											
Member Workshop (2)		24.2.16										
Staff Briefings at Leisure Centres (2)		26.2.16										
Staff Briefing with Sports Development Team			1.3.16									
Anthony Gell School Briefing (2)			4.3.16									
Preparation of Phase 2 Specification												
Discussions with FMG Consulting												
FMG Consulting appointed												
Phase 2 Work undertaken FMG												
Consultation												
Phase 2 Report reviewed by LMT and CLT												
Member Workshop (3)												
Final Report to Full Council											24.11.16	

COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
2ND JUNE 2016

Report of the Head of Housing

ESTATE REGENERATION PROGRAMME: EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The government is seeking expressions of interest for an ambitious estates regeneration programme with 100 estates from around the country. £140m in loan funding has been set aside for partnerships and joint venture arrangements. The Department for Communities and Local Government have made available resources to help develop ideas. An expression of interest to be part of the programme has been submitted by the District Council. This report sets out the background to the programme and the work to date.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Members note the District Council's Expression of Interest in the Estate Regeneration programme
2. That a future report is brought back to Committee on progress with any potential regeneration programme

WARDS AFFECTED

Matlock St Giles

STRATEGIC LINK

Estate regeneration can be an effective way of improving the wider environment, tackling poor housing conditions and supporting vulnerable people in their housing choices.

1 REPORT

- 1.1 Derbyshire Dales DC transferred its housing stock of 3200 homes to Dales Housing in 2002 but retained its strategic housing role and homelessness and housing advice service. Since transfer the Council has had the provision of affordable homes as one of its top priorities, enabling the provision of over 1200 new affordable homes.
- 1.2 One area of work which has received less attention concerns estate regeneration and 'defective' properties. After the 2nd World War, at a time of labour and building material shortages, successive governments commissioned significant house building programmes using new methods of system built construction. Many of these system built homes were later found to be defective. During the 1980s councils across the country accessed government funding to reinstate many of the defective homes. In the Derbyshire Dales, estates in Matlock, Darley Dale and Ashbourne received funding to improve the majority of the homes. A further round of improvements was undertaken by Dales Housing after stock transfer in 2002 of the social housing units in their ownership. However, like many councils, there remains a spread of owner occupied homes across 3 estates (Matlock, Darley Dale and Ashbourne) all in their original state. Some of the residents who bought their homes in the late 1970s and

early 1980s missed the application deadline for government funding to reinstate their property.

- 1.3 The programme announced by government represents an opportunity to provide a focus on estate regeneration issues which are broader than the defective homes on the three estates. Various council services and external agencies are investing time and resources to improve a wide range of issues important to local people. Whether or not any funding is secured, closer working between all the partners and the community, will have a positive impact.
- 1.4 There are an estimated 60 non traditional, defective homes in the district, with the greatest concentration in Matlock and the remaining in Ashbourne and Darley Dale. There is a need to establish a better understanding of the condition of the defective homes and the wishes of occupiers in developing any proposals. Non traditional homes are difficult to heat and cannot benefit from a mortgage, leaving owners at a particular disadvantage. Chesterfield BC commissioned a survey of the non-traditional homes in their ownership in 2014. The defective 'Unity' house types which are the same as those in Matlock, had an estimated reinstatement cost of £51,000 per home.
- 1.5 The Government is seeking expressions of interest that would lead to estate regeneration proposals. There are no limitations about the stage these may be at – fully developed, or early days, or from whom the expression comes. The expression will be needed however as a precursor to a formal engagement with the Government team. The team will be in a position to assist with advice to potential bidders, and will also convey key issues to a Panel of experts chaired by Lord Heseltine, for wider consideration.
- 1.6 The District Council submitted an Expression of Interest (EOI) to the Estate Regeneration programme through the government's surveymonkey online questionnaire. A copy of the EOI is attached at Appendix 1. There is an established organisation representing residents of Hurst Farm, 'The Friends of Hurst Farm'. Their support was sought before submitting the EOI, as was comments from Ward and leading Members. Unfortunately the publication date of the government's proposals and the Committee timetable did not allow sufficient time to bring a report to Committee prior to the submission of the EOI.
- 1.7 The District Council's EOI has been acknowledged by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG). The regional contact officer for the programme is based in Sheffield and has advised that there are three specific assessment areas, financial planning, links with the local authority and community engagement. Clearly there is some considerable work to do in order to achieve a realistic financial plan, particularly with limited capital resources available to the District Council. In addition the current programme is relatively small when considering the scale of regeneration needed across the country and is based on loan finance. There will be considerable interest in the funding from many of the larger city and metropolitan councils. However further funds may be available going forward.
- 1.8 The Friends of Hurst Farm are receiving support from Derbyshire Dales CVS and Dales Housing. The District Council's Sports Development Team is already working with residents and delivering a wide range of activities on the estate.
- 1.9 Given the established residents group in Matlock and the greater number of defective homes on the Hurst Farm estate, it is proposed to focus resources on Hurst Farm initially. It is difficult to assess the impact on the District Council's resources at this

stage. Officer time will be required to help develop any proposals in order to build a workable bid for funding and attract other agencies to support the project. Working with the Derbyshire Dales CVS, it is proposed to hold a workshop for residents and interested groups to put forward their ideas. This will then be developed further to produce a draft financial plan. Further reports will be brought back to this Committee in order to ensure the District Council fully informed of progress.

2 RISK ASSESSMENT

Legal

A thorough risk assessment will be required should the District Council's bid be successful. Currently the legal risk is therefore low.

Financial

The financial implications will be assessed in a future report if the Council's bid is successful. At the present time the financial risk is assessed as low.

3 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

In preparing this report, the relevance of the following factors has also been considered: prevention of crime and disorder, equalities, environmental, climate change, health, human rights, personnel and property.

4 CONTACT INFORMATION

Robert Cogings, Head of Housing, Tel. 01629 761354, email robert.cogings@derbyshiredales.gov.uk

5 BACKGROUND PAPERS

5.1 The DCLG Estate Regeneration can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/estates-regeneration-statement>

6 ATTACHMENTS

Appendix 1 – Survey Monkey Responses

BACK TO AGENDA

Survey Monkey Responses

Q1. Short description of current housing on site and project aims, including the number of units to be demolished and to be provided, by tenure and by size (number of bedrooms).

E.g. Estate comprises three 6-storey buildings and a row of 12 terraced houses with a total of 212 units. Of these 200 are secure social tenancies, and the remaining 12 are freeholds; 110 are one-bedroom, 65 are two-bedroom, and the remaining 37 are three-bedroom units.

Our aim is to refurbish one of the buildings and demolish two others. As a result, 60 units will be refurbished (30 one-bedroom, 20 two-bedroom and 10 three-bedroom, all for social rent) and 210 new units will be built (110 one-bedroom, 50 two-bedroom and 50 three-bedroom, 140 for social rent, 20 for shared ownership and 60 for market sale).

Hurst Farm comprises just under 600 homes with 65.5% social rented and 34.5% Right To Buys. The majority of homes are of a 3 bed semi detached nature with two small groups of flats within the estate. Within the RTB stock are 36 non traditional Unity homes with the majority occupied by older people.

Q2 What kind of support do you need? E.g. investment finance, capacity resource, consultancy for masterplanning and/or viability, long-term investment partner, community engagement

Consultancy for masterplanning and capacity resource is sought as our inhouse capacity is limited. There are opportunities to use s106 contributions from neighbouring developments but we have limited experience of delivering financial models that would assist estate regeneration. Community engagement is already working through the local CVS and an established Friends of Hurst Farm group.

Q3 Site description, including land ownership, e.g. a 10 ha site with three blocks of flats and a bus depot, the whole site is owned by the local authority.

The 'site' is essentially the Hurst Farm estate, a contained social housing estate. Dales Housing is the predominant housing association with 387 homes

Q4. Stage of proposal, e.g. masterplanning complete, planning permission granted, consultation started, financial partner sought.

The proposal is at an early stage, consultation has started and the Trustees of the Friends of Hurst Farm support the EOI. The District Council is leading the bid and is fully supportive. Work is focusing on understanding the problems faced by the community and working with them to develop work streams to tackle issues.

Q5 Financial arrangements and viability, e.g. partner for a joint venture secured, funding from the Affordable Homes programme and other Government funding streams sought (list); other sources of funding secured (list), cost reduction interventions and mechanisms considered.

The District Council has secured £16,000 to support improvements to the play park on the estate. Planning is not a restraining issue at this stage and indeed offers some opportunity to support proposals on the estate. To the North of the Hurst Farm estate, 110 units have been granted planning consent (Asker Lane 14/00527/OUT). There is an onsite contribution of 18 rent and 10 shared ownership affordable homes plus an offsite financial contribution. In considering estate regeneration proposals for Hurst Farm, the Asker Lane site represents a significant opportunity. No other resources have been secured at this stage.

Q6 Rough project timeline, e.g. agreement from partners, business plan completion consultation, planning permission sought/granted, decant started/finished, build-out started/finished.

This project is very much at the concept stage but there are clear work streams concerning non traditional homes, parking and transport on the estate, environmental improvements, demographics and the needs of older residents, play facilities and crime/antisocial behaviour. In stage 1 (2016/17), the Delivery Plan will initially focus on developing the District Council's understanding of all the estate issues, working with the Trustees, Derbyshire Dales CVS and Dales Housing. Stage 2 (end 2016/17) will focus on identifying resources, both revenue and capital. Stage 3 (early 2017/18) will concern developing an offer for residents and the wider Estate with Stage 4 (end 2017/18 into 2018/19) about delivery.

Q7 Short description of offer to existing tenants, including cost, e.g. right to return, number of moves

In terms of tenants, the offer is very much about wider estate issues, the existing play area on the Hurst Farm estate, parking with parts of Hurst Farm feeling cramped and car dominated, particularly on hammer heads. The other issues concern environmental improvements, boundary walls, gardens, access to individual homes, antisocial behaviour and low level crime.

Q8 Short description of offer to homeowners, including cost, e.g. homeswap, shared ownership.

The offer to owner occupiers living in the remaining non traditional homes is support for some form of homeswap potentially utilising adjacent or nearby s106 contributions on market sites. We are keen to explore this idea. There are real issues for older people needing to downsize to more appropriate accommodation

Q9 What social impact is your project expected to have? E.g. number of anticipated opportunities for employment or training, improvements in health and well-being, education and skills indicator.

Health and poverty will be the most positively affected by any programme to improve the estate. Environmental improvements will improve the feel of the estate. Reduction in co2 emissions from better insulated homes, tackle fuel poverty, options to improve access to employment, education and training are also possible through the works programme that would follow. The project will also link with the local primary school, already an academy and making significant steps to work with the local community. The Trustees of the Friends of Hurst Farm talked about 'respect' and if an area looks better residents will be more inclined to keep it that way. Existing food banks and breakfast clubs will also be encouraged by attempts to improve the estate.

**COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
2nd JUNE 2016**

Report of the Head of Environmental Services

**CONSULTATION ON A PROPOSAL TO CHARGE FOR REPLACEMENT
WASTE CONTAINERS**

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report seeks approval from members to consult with Derbyshire Dales residents over the summer, on the subject of charging for replacement waste and recycling containers and the supply of black and compostable sacks, to feed into the review of existing policies.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) That members approve the consultation with Derbyshire Dales residents on the subject of charging for replacement containers. (This includes all wheeled bins, recycling paper inserts and kerbside caddies)
- 2) That consultation on the provision of the annual supply of free black sacks and compostable garden waste sacks is also undertaken.
- 3) That a further report, to feedback the results of the public consultation and outline any policy changes, be brought back to this committee by the end of the year.

WARDS AFFECTED

All

STRATEGIC LINK

Ensuring that waste is collected and recycled effectively helps to protect and enhance the environment, and to improve the quality of life of local people. Improvement's to the District Council's service facilitates the provision of excellent services.

BACKGROUND

As part of the Waste & Recycling Collection Contract it was agreed that Derbyshire Dales District Council would continue to fund the provision of replacement waste & recycling containers, and an annual supply of black sacks and compostable garden sacks on top of the annual cost of the contract.

However, within the contract an annual replacement cap fee was put in place for the replacement of different wheeled bins, recycling bin inserts and food caddies, see appendix 1. Should the number of bins go over the replacement cap (currently 2% for bins and 3% for caddies) the cost of these containers is recovered from the contractor on an annual basis.

In 2014/15 the replacement of waste containers cost approximately £32,000, see appendix 2 and approximately £5,000 was recovered from the contractor. Appendix 4 gives the

breakdown of replacement containers and where the cap has been exceeded. Previously the cost of replacement containers had been funded by the capital programme but more recently an amount has been set aside in the revenue budget.

The Waste & Recycling Collection contract also agreed that Derbyshire Dales District Council would provide, free of charge, an annual supply of 52 black sacks and 44 compostable garden waste sacks to all residents unable to have a wheeled bin.

In 2015/16 the cost of supplying black sacks was £9,774(including delivery costs) and £20,681 (including delivery costs) to supply compostable garden waste sacks. In total the cost of supplying sacks is approximately £30,455 per annum.

The waste contractor currently provides one roll of food waste caddy liners to each household per annum, free of charge. It is proposed that there will be no change to this and that this will continue for the remaining years of the contract.

Some charges for containers already exist. Currently residents have to pay for any additional food waste caddy liners or compostable garden waste sacks above the annual supply. Residents who move into a newly constructed property or purchase an existing property where the wheeled bin is missing have to purchase a grey household waste bin but receive recycling containers free of charge. Also properties which can accommodate a garden waste bin can purchase a second garden bin.

The Council is under increasing pressure to reduce budgets and find significant savings due to central government cuts in funding. The changes proposed could make significant savings for the Council. However, consultation with residents needs to be undertaken before these changes can be properly considered any further.

CONSULTATION

If approved by members, local consultation would be planned to take place over the summer for a period of 12 weeks. The consultation will include ward members, Parish Council and Town Councils and residents of the District. An electronic questionnaire has been developed, attached in appendix 3 and will be available online through the Council's website, through Council meetings such as the Area Forums and attendance at any events. Awareness of the questionnaire will be promoted through social media channels and through the Council's e-newsletter. There may also be scope to include some questions in the customer satisfaction survey conducted by the Contractor in November.

Survey monkey will be the media used to allow residents to take part in the consultation. (Appendix 3) However some electronic/paper copies will be produced and circulated to the Ward Members, Parish and Town Councils and at Area Forums or events.

It is recommended that consultation be undertaken over the summer and that a future report be presented to this committee by the end of the year, outlining the findings and any changes proposed.

RISK ASSESSMENT

Legal

The legal risk is currently assessed as low and will be reviewed following the public consultation.

Financial

If members agree to carry out public consultation on this subject, there are no financial risks arising directly from this report and the risk is assessed as 'low'. A further report will be presented to future committee or Council meeting which will inform the members of the results of the public consultation and set out any financial risks with any future action.

Corporate Risk

The contract relates to one of the most visible public services delivered by the Council which has the potential to impact positively and negatively on the Council's reputation and customer satisfaction ratings. The Corporate risk is currently assessed as low and would be reviewed after the public consultation.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors is also been considered prevention of crime and disorder, equality of opportunity, environmental health, legal and human rights, financial personal and property considerations.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Heidi McDougall, Head of Environmental Services

Heidi.mcdougall@derbyshiredales.gov.uk tel: 01629 761372

BACK TO AGENDA

Appendix 1

Annual replacement cap.

Within the contract it was agreed that there would be a capped limit placed on the number of container replacements each year by the District Council. If in any contract year the replacement of containers exceeds the capped replacement rate for a specific container then Derbyshire Dales District Council recover the cost of each unit replaced over and above the capped limit from the contractor.

Container	Annual Replacement Rate Cap (as a % of bin stock in use)
Two wheeled bins for all services	2%
Any insert of additions to two wheeled bins to facilitate Dry Recycling Collections	2%
Recycling Boxes, Recycling Box lids or nets	2%
Multiple use polypropylene sacks for Dry Recycling Collections	4%
Food Waste Kerbside Caddies	3%
Wheeled bins for Commercial Waste. Communal Households and Schedule II premises	3%

Appendix 2

Financial information on replacement containers

Year	Overall cost of containers per contract year (August – July)	Contractor cap recharge per contract year	Total cost minus recharge per contract year
2013/14	£37,374.18	£8,563.39	£28,810.79
2014/15	£32,236.52	£5,139.09	£27,098.43
2015/16	*	*	*

*Costs not available until July 2016



Charging for replacement containers consultation

Due to significant budget cuts the council needs to save £700,000 over the next 4 years. Currently the provision of replacement waste and recycling bins is costing the council (and therefore the tax payer) approximately £28,000, the annual supply of black sacks costs £9,774 (including delivery costs) and biodegradable garden waste sacks cost £20,681 (including delivery costs).

The council can no longer afford to provide the replacement containers (including sacks) free of charge. We are therefore consulting on introducing a charge for the supply of sacks and replacement containers where they have been lost/stolen or damaged by a party other than the refuse collectors.

1. Would you support a charge for replacement grey bins?

- Yes
- No

Please add any comments here

2. Would you support a nominal charge for replacement recycling containers?

- Yes
- No

Please add any comments here

3. How much would you feel is a reasonable charge for a replacement container? (* This is how much it currently costs the District Council to provide residents with a bin)

	£25 - £30	£35 - £40	£45 - £50
140L grey bin (*£35 - £40)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
240L blue lidded bin (*£45 - £50)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
green lidded bin (*£45 - £50)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

4. How much would you feel is a reasonable charge for the following replacement container?(* This is how much it currently costs the District Council to provide residents with a bin)

	£10 - £15	£16 - £20
blue container insert (*£10 - £15)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

	£10 - £15	£16 - £20
kerbside caddy (*£10 - £15)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
blue box	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

5. Would knowing there was a charge for a replacement recycling container* make you less likely to continue recycling if your container was lost/stolen or damaged

- Yes
- No

Please add any comments here

6. Would you take better care of your container if there was a charge for it?

- Yes
- No

Please add any comments here

Currently the council provides one roll of black sacks and one roll of garden waste sacks to residents without bins. This currently costs the council £27,470 per annum.

7. If your household waste is collected in black sacks would you support the withdrawal of the annual supply and purchase your own?

- Yes
- No

Please add any comments here

8. If you would not be willing to purchase council approved biodegradable garden waste sacks, what would you do with your garden waste?

- Household waste recycling centre
- Compost
- Other (please specify)

9. If you currently have biodegradable sacks for your garden waste would you be willing to purchase council approved biodegradable garden sacks to dispose of your waste.

- Yes
- No

Please add any comments [here](#)

Equal services for all means fairness for all

Please help us to be fair to everybody whatever their situation. We will only use this information to check if we are providing fair services to everybody. This information is totally confidential and will be kept separately from your personal information. You don't have to fill in this form but if you do, it will help us to help you.

10. Are you?

- Male
- Female

11. What is your age?

- 16-17 years
- 18-24 years
- 25-34 years
- 35-44 years
- 45-54 years
- 55-59 years
- 60-64 years
- 65-74 years
- 75 years and over

12. Do you consider yourself to be disabled?

The definition of disability in the Equality Act 2010 is: "A physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long term adverse effect on a person's ability to carry out normal day to day activities"

- Yes
- No

Done

Powered by
See how easy it is to [create a survey](#).

DSurvey Preview

Thanks for taking the time to review this survey. This version of the survey will allow you to see exactly what the respondents will see when they take the survey, however, no data will be collected or recorded. The preview will allow you to test if your randomization and skip logic settings will work the way you want.

When you're done, please send email feedback through the link below.

Appendix 4 Summary of Broken/Missing Containers 5 August 2014 - 4 August 2015

Type of Container	Number Broken/Missing	No. of properties	% Broken/Missing	Annual Replacement Rate Cap	No. of Missing/Broken bins allowed based on Replacement Rate Cap	Difference between Actual and Replacement Rate Cap	Unit Rate £	Amount Owed £
Kerbside Caddies	1214	33395	3.64	3%	1002	212	3.10	657.665
140 Litre Grey Bins	417	22415	1.86	2%	448	-31	17.1	0
240 Litre Grey Bins	83	3585	2.32	2%	72	11	19.75	223.175
240 Litre Blue Bins	182	26000	0.70	2%	520	-338	19.75	0
240 Litre Green Bins	705	26000	2.71	2%	520	185	19.75	3653.75
Blue Bin Inserts	1065	26000	4.10	2%	520	545	4.29	2338.05
							Total	6872.64

Type of Container	Number Broken/Missing *	No. of properties	% Broken/Missing	Annual Replacement Rate Cap	No. of Missing/Broken bins allowed based on Replacement Rate Cap	Difference between Actual and Replacement Rate Cap	Unit Rate £	Amount Owed £
Kerbside Caddies	1214	33395	3.64	3%	1002	212	3.10	657.67
140 Litre Grey Bins	396	22415	1.77	2%	448	-52	17.1	0.00
240 Litre Grey Bins	76	3585	2.12	2%	72	4	19.75	84.92
240 Litre Blue Bins	177	26000	0.68	2%	520	-343	19.75	0.00
240 Litre Green Bins	591	26000	2.27	2%	520	71	19.75	1402.25
Blue Bin Inserts	1065	26000	4.10	2%	520	545	4.29	2338.05

								Total	4482.89
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--------------	----------------

*excluding bins with broken lids and wheels

Lids	Number	Unit Rate £	Total £
140 Litre Grey Bins	14	5.20	72.80
240 Litre Grey Bins	7	5.20	36.40
240 Litre Blue Bins	1	5.20	5.20
240 Litre Green Bins	104	5.20	540.80
	126		655.20

Wheels	Number
140 Litre Grey Bins	7
240 Litre Grey Bins	0
240 Litre Blue Bins	4
240 Litre Green Bins	10

Amount Owed Overall £:	5138.09
-------------------------------	----------------

BACK TO AGENDA

COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
2ND JUNE 2016

Report of the Head of Environmental Services

MATLOCK BUS STATION PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

SUMMARY

This report seeks approval from Committee to consult for a period of six weeks on a proposal to change the opening hours of the public conveniences at Matlock Bus Station.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That consultation is carried out for a period of six weeks on a proposal to change the opening hours of the public conveniences (including waiting room) and that the findings of the consultation be reported back to the committee in September 2016.

WARDS AFFECTED

All

STRATEGIC LINK

The Public Conveniences facilities contribute towards the Council's priority of providing a "clean green and prosperous Dales" and "thriving town centres".

1 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Council provides the Matlock Bus Station toilets that serve the town centre, Bus Station and adjacent Train Station. The facilities consist of separate blocks for males and females, there is a separate disabled toilet and parent and toddler room all connected by a lobby area. In addition, there is a waiting area for passengers using the bus station. The toilets and waiting area are opened by the Clean and Green team from approximately 7am until they are both locked by a security company at around 11pm, once the final train has left Matlock train station.
- 1.2 The public conveniences at Matlock Bus Station are the only provision that is currently locked by a security company. All other facilities provided across the District are either locked by the operational staff at the end of their shift or left open 24 hours/7 days a week.
- 1.3 This report outlines a proposal to close the toilets at Matlock Bus Station at the same time as other facilities, subject to consultation due to the rising cost of undertaking repairs caused by vandalism.

2 REPORT

- 2.1 Vandalism and anti-social behaviour is becoming a growing concern and over recent months a number of reports of vandalism in the toilet facilities at the Bus Station has increased causing disruption to the service and imposes increased costs in running the service.
- 2.2 The public convenience service is discretionary but provides a valuable facility for both residents and visitors to the District. They contribute towards having strong thriving town centres but the increased cost of running the service is of concern with the current pressures on the budget.
- 2.3 The cost of running the toilets across the District in 2015/16 was approximately £508,000, of which £72,000 is the approximate cost of undertaking repairs in the facilities some of which is due to vandalism.
- 2.4 The toilets are opened at around 7pm by the Clean and Green Team and left unattended throughout the day until they are closed by a security company at 11pm. Usually the facilities will be visited by the cleaner, twice a day between the hours of 10am and 6pm (9am and 5pm during the winter). The role of the toilet cleaner is to deal with what they find so, generally, unless damage that requires a qualified trade mans to attend the small scale stuff is not officially recorded.
- 2.5 There are many instances of vandalism and abuse of this facility reported. Since October 2015, there have been 20 incidents reported by staff, members of the public or the security company which include sinks and toilet pans being ripped off the wall, resulting in flooding, broken bottles, toilet paper stuffed in plug holes and taps left running causing flooding, toilet roll holders and dryer ripped off the walls, toilet seats pulled off, graffiti, baby changing table ripped off wall and the radar key lock on the disabled toilet being blocked up to prevent it from being used.
- 2.6 There have also been a number of serious issues reported connected to the Waiting Room, including the windows removed, automatic door broken, regular signs of drinking and drug taking as well as a small fire.
- 2.7 The cost of the repairs undertaken since October is approximately £1,300.

OPTIONS TO REDUCE THE PROBLEM

2.8 Reducing the Hours of Opening

The premises are currently checked and locked each night at 11pm by a security company, including locking the Waiting Room at an annual cost of £2,992. One option would be to reduce the locking time to 8pm but this would still require a security company to callout and the cost associated with this would still be incurred by the service.

Another option is for the Clean and Green staff involved in cleaning and locking the toilets to incorporate the locking up of these toilets into their current schedule. This would mean that the toilets at the bus station would be locked after the toilets in Hall Leys Park, by 6pm in the summer and by 5pm in the winter. This would result in the toilets at Hall Leys Park being closed by 5.30pm in the summer and by 4.30pm in the winter.

Closing the toilets earlier than 11pm would enable the council to reduce the cost of the service, resulting in them being the same as others that are locked and help safeguard against vandalism. The cleanliness would also improve, at present they are cleaned before 6pm and then left open until 11pm. The toilets are locked late at night and opened in the morning in the same condition as they were left the night before until the cleaner arrives later in the morning. This gives rise to complaints about the condition.

2.9 CCTV Cameras

Following recent incidents the cost of providing a CCTV camera has been explored as a means of reducing the level of activity in this area if the toilets were to be left open until 11pm. A quote recently obtained suggests that this could be in the region of £3,200. Whilst, the CCTV may help to identify who is hanging around in this area it would not be able to capture footage from inside the toilet blocks. The CCTV will not be monitored and any recordings will only be able to be used as evidence after the event.

It is proposed to address some of the issues by altering to an earlier closing time, therefore ensuring the majority of users can still access the toilets but limiting the access vandals have to cause damage or problems.

2.10 Consultation with Ward Members and the public

Ward Members have been notified of the issues and consulted on the option of closing the toilets and waiting room earlier than at current. Members recognise the need to reduce the opening times and the majority of respondents were in favour of them being closed earlier.

2.11 It is proposed that consultation takes place over a period of six weeks on the proposal to close the toilets earlier than currently. A survey has been developed for use on the website, see appendix 1 and signs will be erected around the bus station, train station and toilet area informing people of the consultation. In addition, a letter has been sent to the transport operators to seek their views. Officers will also spend some time at the toilets consulting residents and users of the transport network on the proposal. A further report on the findings of the consultation will be presented to this committee in September.

3 RISK ASSESSMENT

3.1 Legal

The Council is required to consult on the proposals to withdraw service provision. The report deals with that requirement. The legal risk is therefore low and is a mitigation measure given the history of vandalism to the premises.

3.2 Financial

The cost of undertaking repairs is increasing and putting additional pressure on the revenue budget. The recommended option offers a saving of £2992 per annum in addition to any costs saved through not having to undertake repairs due to vandalism. The financial risk is therefore low.

3.3 Corporate Risk

Changes to opening times are likely to result in some residents/visitor being dissatisfied with the service. The council cannot continue to deliver the service with increasing costs and therefore the option proposed is likely to safeguard against the level of vandalism and maintain the condition of the facility in the future. The Corporate risk is therefore medium.

4 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

In preparing this report, the relevance of the following factors has also been considered: prevention of crime and disorder, equalities, environmental, climate change, health, human rights, personnel and property.

5 CONTACT INFORMATION

Heidi McDougall, Head of Environmental Services
Tel: 01629 761372 E-mail: heidi.mcdougall@derbyshiredales.gov.uk

6 ATTACHMENTS

Appendix 1 – Matlock Bus Station Consultation Document

BACK TO AGENDA

MATLOCK BUS STATION CLOSING TIMES

The Matlock Bus Station toilets and waiting room are currently open until 11pm and experiencing increased levels of vandalism which is costing the local tax payers a disproportionate amount of money.

To reduce the burden of cost to the local tax payer, whilst retaining some level of service, the Council is proposing to close the toilets much earlier in the evening to reduce the opportunity for vandalism.

The savings this will make will be the reduction in repairs through vandalism and potentially if closed within normal cleaning hours a saving of £2,700 per annum.

The times will remain the same for both the toilets and the waiting room. The options are:

- November to March close at 5pm and April to October close at 6pm, these closing times are within normal working hours so there will be no additional cost to the service
- All year close at 8pm, additional cost incurred to close toilets
- All year close at 11pm, additional cost incurred to close toilets

MATLOCK BUS STATION TOILETS

- If you use the toilets, please tell us about yourself. Are you:

Local Visiting the town Driving by

- Please tell us how you arrived:

Public Bus Journey Parked in car park Taxi Journey
Train Journey On a walk Coach stop

- Are you commuting to/from work/college/university/school?

Yes No

- Do you regularly use the public toilets here?

Yes Occasionally No

- What times do you usually use the toilets?

7am to 9am 9am to 5pm 5pm to 6pm
6pm to 8pm 8pm to 11pm

- What time do you think the toilets should close?

Please note that all other town centre toilets within the District are closed overnight between 5/6pm and 8am. Please indicate which time you would prefer.

Summer 6pm 8pm 11pm
Winter 5pm

- Any other comments about Matlock Bus Station toilets?

MATLOCK BUS STATION WAITING ROOM

- For those using the waiting room, please tell us your reasons:

Public Bus Journey	<input type="checkbox"/>	Train Journey	<input type="checkbox"/>	Taxi Journey	<input type="checkbox"/>
Meeting someone	<input type="checkbox"/>	On a walk	<input type="checkbox"/>	Coach stop	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<hr/>				

- Are you commuting to/from work?

Yes No

- Do you regularly use the waiting room here?

Yes Occasionally No

- What times do you usually use the waiting room?

7am to 9am	<input type="checkbox"/>	9am to 5pm	<input type="checkbox"/>	5pm to 6pm	<input type="checkbox"/>
6pm to 8pm	<input type="checkbox"/>	8pm to 11pm	<input type="checkbox"/>		

- What time do you think the waiting room should close?

Summer 6pm	<input type="checkbox"/>	8pm	<input type="checkbox"/>	11pm	<input type="checkbox"/>
Winter 5pm					

ALL RESPONDENTS:

- What is your Age Group?

0 to 10	<input type="checkbox"/>	11 to 17	<input type="checkbox"/>	18 to 24	<input type="checkbox"/>
25 to 34	<input type="checkbox"/>	35 to 44	<input type="checkbox"/>	45 to 54	<input type="checkbox"/>
55 to 64	<input type="checkbox"/>	65 to 74	<input type="checkbox"/>	75 and over	<input type="checkbox"/>

- Are you Male/Female/Prefer not to say

- Do you have a disability? Yes/No

- Postcode of home

All responses must be received by Derbyshire Dales District Council by 5pm Friday 1st July.

**COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
2nd JUNE 2016**

Report of the Head of Environmental Services

**WASTE & RECYCLING COLLECTION CONTRACT CUSTOMER
SATISFACTION**

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report seeks to inform members on the results of the customer satisfaction surveys undertaken on performance of the Waste and Recycling services.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) That members note the customer satisfaction results on performance of the contract achieved in 2014 and 2015.
- 2) That future customer satisfaction results on performance of the services be reported to committee.

WARDS AFFECTED

All

STRATEGIC LINK

Ensuring that waste is collected and recycled effectively helps to protect and enhance the environment, and to improve the quality of life of local people. Improvement's to the District Council's service facilitates the provision of excellent services.

BACKGROUND

The Waste & Recycling Collection Contract specifies that the contractor will undertake customer satisfaction surveys on behalf of the District Council, twice yearly for the life of the contract. They are carried out twice yearly to allow for the different seasons and demands that this places on different services, for example garden waste.

The surveys are undertaken by Future Thinking over the telephone. Residents are contacted using random digit dialling and then screened to ensure they live in the Derbyshire Dales catchment area. Using this method ensures the inclusion of residents who are ex-directory; this is important because if the sample is limited to those in published telephone directories it will skew the survey towards older adults and those who have not moved for many years.

The company make contact with residents until 450 responses have been achieved to ensure that a representative sample of the district is undertaken.

SATISFACTION RESULTS

The surveys so far have been undertaken in November 2014, May 2015 and November 2015. The survey for May 2016 has only recently been undertaken and therefore the results are not yet available for comparison.

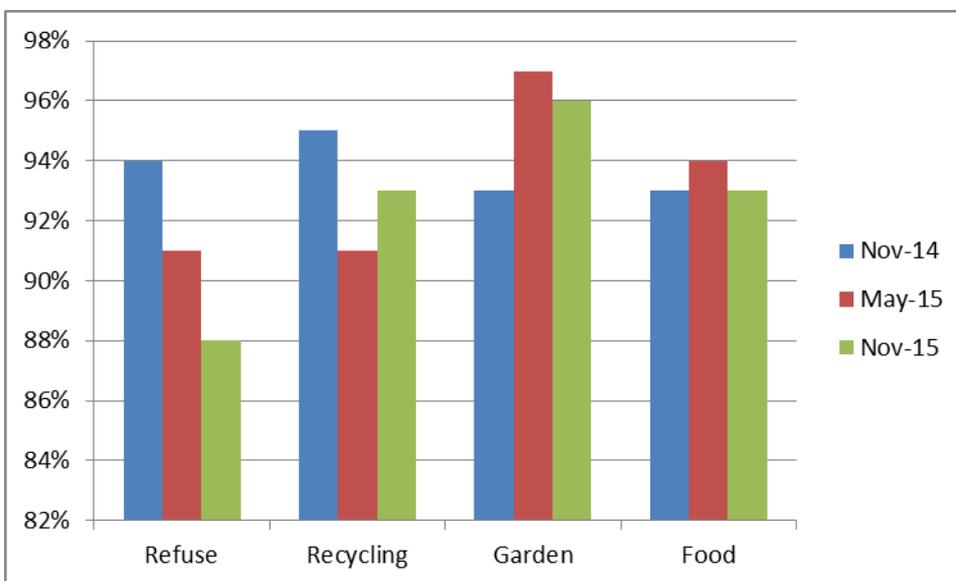
Overall Customer satisfaction

The Environmental Services Department's service plan target for customer satisfaction on performance of the waste and recycling services is currently set at 91%. The survey results compiled so far show that with an overall satisfaction result of 93% our residents are extremely satisfied with the overall service provided.

Customer satisfaction by service

The satisfaction levels reported per service have remained relatively constant throughout each survey with customer satisfaction remaining high at 90% for each service (Figure1). There was a slight drop in satisfaction (3% in May 2015) with the household waste service in November 2015 and the survey shows that customers become dissatisfied with the service mainly when collections are missed.

Figure 1



It is recognised that the biggest contributing factor to satisfaction levels is the number of missed bins. Missed collections happen for a number of reasons and generally arise because of problems associated with access due to parked cars, changes in regular staff and changes in customer behaviour. Missed collections are ad hoc and monitored on a weekly basis at weekly meetings with the contractor. Any repeat problems are further monitored and where necessary changes will be implemented, such as sending a different vehicle or carrying out the collection on a different day. Missed collections are usually resolved quickly.

Missed container statistics show that in 2015/16, there were on average 49 missed collections a week across all services, out of a total of 33,095 collections. Whilst these statistics show a low level of missed bins we are constantly striving to improve and reduce the level of missed bins.

Other comments were received around the size of the bin for recycling and garden waste and some residents thought the food waste caddies were smelly and unhygienic. These issues require greater publicity around additional containers and food caddy liners.

When customers were asked why they are satisfied with the service the top three reasons across all services were:-

Waste is collected regularly

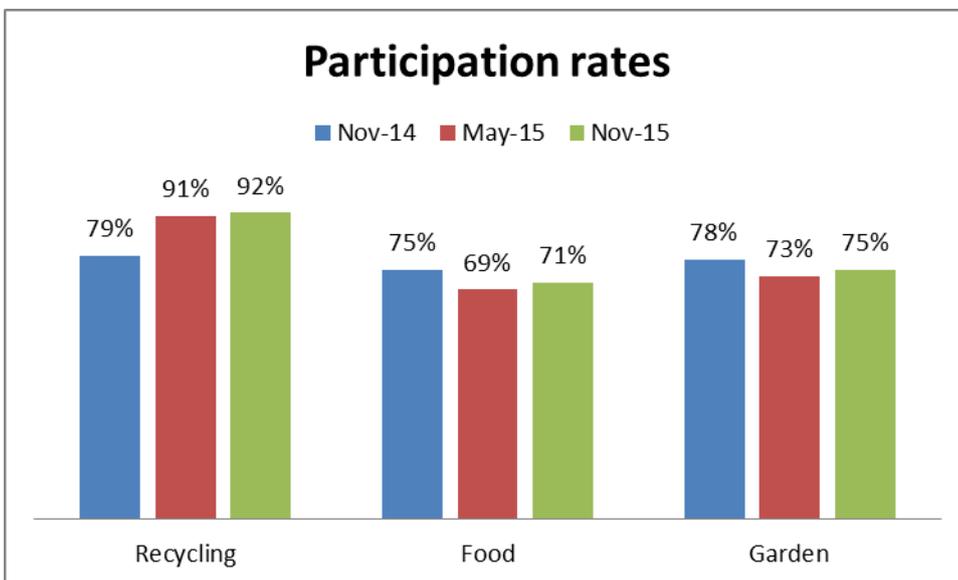
Reliable, efficient, well organised collections

No complaints or problems relating to the service provided

Participation rates

The survey shows that participation rates are high. The participation in the blue lidded bin/bag/box scheme has increased from 79% in Nov 2014 to 92% in Nov 2015 (Figure 2). Participation in both the food and garden waste collections dropped slightly in May 15, but shows positive signs of recovery in Nov 2015. Currently we have an officer monitoring participation and visiting lower performing households with information and advice. We are also developing some food waste publicity material to help educate and encourage residents to take part.

Figure 2

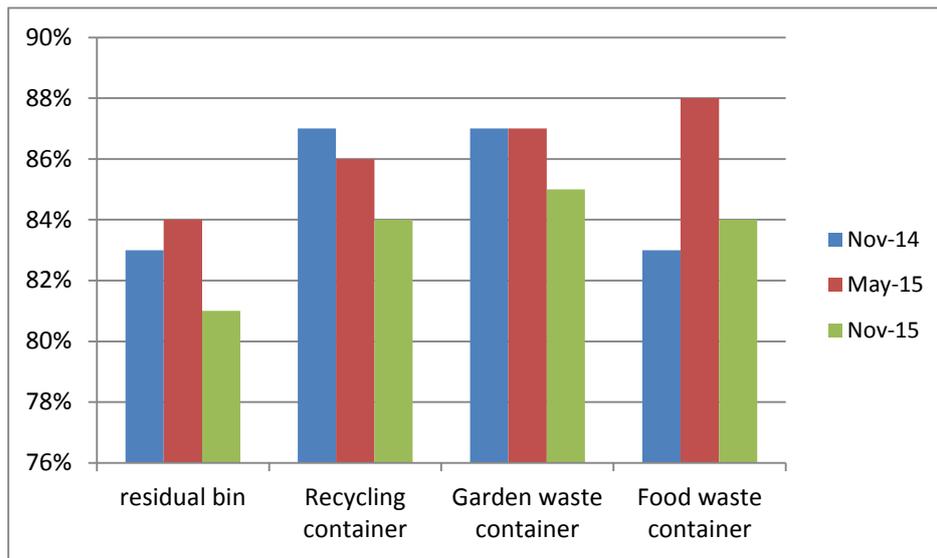


Customer satisfaction levels regarding return of containers

Whilst there has been a slight drop in satisfaction regarding containers returned in November 2015 (see figure 3), the scores still remain in the very good/good category. The average satisfaction rate over the three surveys is 85% showing that according to residents Derbyshire Dales still remains within the very good/good category.

In summer of 2015, a number of regular staff was taken ill resulting in long term sickness. Temporary agency cover had to be provided by the contractor and this effected continuity and levels of knowledge on the rounds.

Figure 3



CONSULTATION

The survey itself covers the following areas of customer satisfaction

Refuse, Recycling, Food and Garden waste collections

Returning of empty bins after collection

Local Recycling facilities

Use of the District Council website

Marketing.

In the May 2016 survey the category dealing with local recycling facilities had been taken out following the removal of recycling sites earlier in the year. These questions may be replaced in the future.

Use of the District Council's website for reporting missed bins and ordering container is starting to increase and will be further developed in the future and promoted to allow services to be more accessible and self service.

The results of the survey show positive results and high levels of customer satisfaction. The surveys will continue to be carried out twice yearly and future results will be reported to the committee.

RISK ASSESSMENT

Legal

The consultation undertaken on performance allows services to be monitored and where necessary improvements made. This mitigates the risk of challenge, the legal risk is therefore considered low.

Financial

There are no financial risks highlighted in this report.

Corporate Risk

The contract relates to one of the most visible public services delivered by the Council which has the potential to impact positively and negatively on the Council's reputation and customer satisfaction ratings. The Corporate risk is currently assessed as low and would be reviewed after the public consultation.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors is also been considered prevention of crime and disorder, equality of opportunity, environmental health, legal and human rights, financial personal and property considerations.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Heidi McDougall, Head of Environmental Services

Heidi.mcdougall@derbyshiredales.gov.uk tel: 01629 761372

BACK TO AGENDA

COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
2nd JUNE 2016

Report of the Head of Corporate Services

DERBYSHIRE LAW CENTRE

SUMMARY

This report sets out a request for funding by the Derbyshire Law Centre to support their operation within the Derbyshire Dales.

RECOMMENDATION

That the request to grant aid Derbyshire Law Centre is refused.

WARDS AFFECTED

All

STRATEGIC LINK

The Law Centre's work in supporting the residents of the Derbyshire Dales has links to the District Council's top priority of providing decent, affordable housing.

1 REQUEST FOR FUNDING

- 1.1 Derbyshire Law Centre Limited (DLC) is a registered charity operating as a company limited by guarantee. The aim of DLC is to increase access to justice for disadvantaged communities by the provision of free legal advice, information and representation to individuals and groups within a specified area. Volunteers are a crucial part of the team and provide a front of house assessment service which directs clients to the appropriate service.
- 1.2 Currently DLC is working alongside the Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) and has an active client base within the Derbyshire Dales, working primarily on employment, housing and debt services.
- 1.3 In 2015, the District Council agreed a one off contribution of £10,000 towards the running costs of the organisation. A request for continued funding has now been received.
- 1.4 The accounts showed a small surplus in the audited accounts for 2014/15. The accounts for 2016/16 have yet to be finalised and audited.
- 1.5 The current economic climate is increasing the demand for DLC's services at the same time as national funding is decreasing and specific funding for debt advice almost deplete.

- 1.6 Locally DLC is funded by Derbyshire County Council, Bolsover and North East Derbyshire District Councils. Amber Valley Council has recently withdrawn its support.
- 1.4 The Head of Housing has been consulted on the merit of the application who has confirmed the working relationship between DLC and the Community Housing Team. Whilst the CAB offers a similar service in relation to debt and housing related services, DLC is able to specialise in repossession cases involving self-employed residents. A focus on this area of work together with general support in employment issues would be welcomed. However, we would not want to see duplication of general debt work which the CAB appears to be able to deliver more cost effectively
- 1.4 Whilst the District Council does not operate a specific grant scheme which may be directed to this cause, should the Committee wish to fund the organisation, grant aid may be possible from the General Reserve. In view of the decision taken to offer a one off commitment to the Law Centre, a grant is not recommended this year due to financial constraints.

2 RISK ASSESSMENT

2.1 Legal

The provision of grant aid is entirely discretionary and in this case may be seen to indirectly support the Council's objectives and the residents of the Derbyshire Dales. The legal risk is therefore low.

2.2 Financial

As the report states, there is no budgetary provision available to fund this request and, if approved, it would have to be funded from the general reserve.

3 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

In preparing this report, the relevance of the following factors has also been considered: prevention of crime and disorder, equalities, environmental, climate change, health, human rights, personnel and property.

4 CONTACT INFORMATION

Sandra Lamb, Head of Corporate Services, Tel. 01629 761281 email sandra.lamb@derbyshiredales.gov.uk

5 BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

BACK TO AGENDA