

HOUSEHOLD WASTE RECYCLING CENTRES

**Charging for non-household waste policy
(soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard)**

PUBLIC CONSULTATION APPENDICIES

November 2018

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**APPENDIX A:
WASTE DISPOSAL AUTHORITY – LEGAL OBLIGATIONS**

WASTE DISPOSAL AUTHORITY LEGAL OBLIGATIONS

• **Waste Disposal Authority legal duty**

Kent County Council is the statutory waste disposal authority for the county. There has been a duty on the waste disposal authority to provide household waste recycling centres originally going back as far as the Civic Amenity Act 1967. The duty is now embodied within section 51 of the Environmental Protection act 1990.

In summary, the act states that entry to household waste recycling centres must be provided by the WDA free of charge for its residents, and open over part of a weekend. The lowest possible level of provision is two sites in Kent, open at weekends only and entry provided free of charge to householders in Kent.

The Act also includes a power to charge for waste other than household waste at household waste recycling centres.

• **Environmental Protection Act 1990: Section 51**

Functions of waste disposal authorities

(1) It shall be the duty of each waste disposal authority to arrange—

(a) for the disposal of the controlled waste collected in its area by the waste collection authorities; and

(b) for places to be provided at which persons resident in its area may deposit their household waste and for the disposal of waste so deposited;

(2) The arrangements made by a waste disposal authority under subsection (1)(b) above shall be such as to secure that—

(a) each place is situated either within the area of the authority or so as to be reasonably accessible to persons resident in its area;

(b) each place is available for the deposit of waste at all reasonable times (including at least one period on the Saturday or following day of each week except a week in which the Saturday is 25th December or 1st January);

(c) each place is available for the deposit of waste free of charge by persons resident in the area;

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

- (3) A waste disposal authority may include in arrangements made under subsection (1)(b) above arrangements for the places provided for its area for the deposit of household waste free of charge by residents in its area 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.

APPENDIX B: LEGAL ADVICE

POWER TO CHARGE FOR DISPOSING OF CONSTRUCTION WASTE ADVICE NOTE

We have been asked by KCC Waste Management to advise on the legal position with regards to the power of Kent County Council as waste disposal authority (WDA) to charge a fee for receiving any soil, rubble and hardcore, and plasterboard, which is delivered to Kent Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) by householders.

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1. Under the Controlled Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2012, waste from construction or demolition works, even if produced at a domestic property, is to be treated as industrial waste for the purposes of the legislation.
- 1.2. Accordingly, soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard (which for the purposes of this note are referred to collectively as construction waste) delivered to Kent HWRCs by householders would be classified as industrial waste and not household waste and, as a result, the duty of the WDA to receive such waste at HWRCs free of charge would not apply.
- 1.3. In the absence of any provision to the contrary, we read the Environmental Protection Act 1990 as allowing, but not requiring, the WDA to receive non-household waste from any persons at its HWRCs. Accordingly, this is a provision of a service for which the WDA could, under the Local Government Act 2003, levy a charge.
- 1.4. Practice by other local authorities, as well as governmental and non-governmental advice, shows that it is relatively common practice for WDAs to levy a charge for accepting construction waste at their HWRCs.
- 1.5. The position may change in pending guidance from DEFRA which wishes to avoid “backdoor charging” for ‘DIY’ waste as part of its litter and fly-tipping avoidance strategy. That guidance may lead to a change in the law (for example a reclassification) which would obviously change the legal answer. However, it may be non-statutory guidance which means that the *policy* position may be different from the *legal* position, but we anticipate few Councils would depart from that.
- 1.6. In summary: our advice is that as matters stand it is lawful to charge for the acceptance of construction waste at HWRCs. This may change with pending guidance.

2. WASTE DISPOSAL AUTHORITY FUNCTIONS

- 2.1. Sections 51(1) and 51(2) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (EPA) state that a WDA is under a duty to provide a place for the deposit of household waste, free of charge, by residents in its area.
- 2.2. Section 51(3) of the EPA provides that the WDA may, at such waste disposal sites, also take waste (whether household, commercial or industrial) from persons from outside their area and may charge a fee for doing so.

- 2.3. The EPA does not expressly address the WDA’s role in respect of non-household waste deposited by residents from its own area.

3. WASTE FROM CONSTRUCTION OR DEMOLITION WORKS

- 3.1. The Controlled Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2012 (the Regulations), which replaced the Controlled Waste Regulations 1992, describes at Schedule 1 Paragraph 3 waste which is to be treated as a particular category of waste because of its nature or the activity which produces it, regardless of the place where it is produced.

Item 9 deals with ‘construction or demolition’ waste:

No.	Description	Classification	Exemptions
9	Waste from construction or demolition works, including preparatory works	Industrial waste	The waste is to be treated as household waste for the purposes of section 34(2) and(2A) of the Act only (disapplication of section 34(1) and duty on the occupier of domestic property to transfer household waste only to an authorised person or for authorised transport purposes)

- 3.2. Therefore, waste from construction or demolition works, even if produced at a domestic property, is to be treated as industrial waste for the purposes of the legislation.
- 3.3. It is worth noting that the word ‘construction’ for the purposes of the Regulations “includes improvement, repair or alteration”.
- 3.4. Accordingly, construction waste delivered to Kent HWRCs by householders would be classified as industrial waste and not household waste. The duty to provide facilities free of charge, under s51(1) EPA, would therefore not apply to such waste.

4. LOCAL AUTHORITY POWERS TO CHARGE

- 4.1. Section 93 of the Local Government Act 2003 (LGA) permits a relevant authority (which, by virtue of section 1 of the Local Government Act 1999, includes an English local authority) to charge a person for providing a service if: (a) the authority is authorised but not required to provide such a service by an enactment, and (b) the person has agreed to its provision.
- 4.2. While section 51(3) of the EPA does not expressly deal with non-household waste brought to an HWRC by a resident, the fact that it acknowledges that the WDA may wish to accept non-household waste brought to an HWRC by a non-resident, indicates that it also envisages the acceptance of non-household waste brought to an HWRC by a resident. In the absence of any provision to the contrary, we would conclude that the legislation intended to allow the acceptance of non-household waste by both a resident and non-resident.
- 4.3. Accordingly, the provision of a facility by the WDA to receive construction waste brought by a person (whether or not a resident of its area) would satisfy s93(1)(a) LGA as being authorised but not required by law.
- 4.4. In order to exercise its power under s93 LGA to charge for the provision of a service, the local authority must not be granted by any other statute the power to charge for such a service or be prohibited by a statute from charging for such a service.
- 4.5. The Local Government (Prohibition of Charges at Household Waste Recycling Centres) (England) Order 2015 stipulates that a local authority is not permitted to use the s93 LGA power to charge a resident for entering or exiting an HWRC, or for depositing household waste at a HWRC. It is clear however that this restriction applies to household waste and recycling only. The Explanatory Memorandum accompanying the Order states at paragraph 7.9 that “Charges for the deposit of other types of waste are permitted and the Secretary of State is not using this order to prevent local authorities from charging for household waste and/or household recycling for non-residents; waste and/or recycling from commercial operators or **“non-household” waste and/or recycling from residents** or non-residents” (Emphasis added).

- 4.6. The imposition of charges by a WDA on persons bringing construction waste to its HWRCs would fall within these limitations – being neither expressly required nor prohibited by law.
- 4.7. It is important to note that, under s93 LGA, the income derived from the charges must not exceed the costs of the provision of the relevant service within one financial year. Therefore, any charges imposed by Kent County Council in relation to construction waste, must be set by reference to this guideline, to prevent falling foul of s93, and rendering any such charges unlawful.
- 4.8. It is worth noting that the local authority has the discretion to charge only some persons for the service, and charge different persons different amounts for the same service. Therefore, it is possible for the WDA to apply different treatment to, for example, residents and non-residents, or private householders and contractors, who dispose of their construction waste at its HWRCs. The WDA may also wish to impose different charges (or indeed, no charges) on different categories of persons, and has the discretion to do so, by virtue of s93(5) LGA.

5. GUIDANCE AND MARKET PRACTICE

WRAP Guidance to HWRCs

- 5.1. The Waste and Resources Action Programme published a guidance in January 2016 on household waste recycling centres, which suggests that ‘DIY Waste’, including inert material such as rubble and concrete; bricks and roof tiles; plasterboard; and soil from landscaping activities, are materials for which a charge can be levied upon receipt at a HWRC, in certain circumstances ¹

DCLG Guidance

- 5.2. Under the previous government, the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) ran a consultation entitled “Preventing ‘backdoor’ charging at household waste recycling centres”.
- 5.3. The response, published in January 2015, concluded that “The Government recognises that many local authorities charge at household waste recycling centres for the deposit of ‘non household’ waste such as car tyres and/or for users not resident within the local authority area. The discussion paper made clear that it did not intend to prevent local authorities from charging in either such way and this remains its view.”
- 5.4. However, the Litter Strategy document published jointly by DCLG, Defra and the Department for Transport in April 2017, states the following: “Government’s view is clear: DIY waste is classed as household waste *if it results from work a householder would normally carry out*. A number of local authorities have introduced additional charges for the deposit of waste which local authorities categorise as ‘waste other than household waste’. However, as Government made clear following the consultation on preventing ‘backdoor’ charging at HWRCs, this can inconvenience residents and make disposing of their waste more difficult. There is also a risk these charges can be counterproductive and simply transfer costs to dealing with additional fly-tipping and littering. It is therefore important that, where charges are proposed, they are proportionate and transparent and are made in consultation with local residents so that local services meet local needs.”
- 5.5. The document goes on to state that Government will work together with WRAP and local authorities to “review current guidance to ensure this reflects changes in the law and to make clear what can and cannot be charged for at HWRCs (including in respect of DIY waste); and explore ways of managing HWRC services to facilitate access for local householders (and their waste other than household waste) and for small businesses at proportionate cost. Revised guidance will be published by the end of 2017.”
- 5.6. We are not aware at the date of this note that any such guidance has been published yet.
- 5.7. Pending that guidance, the *legal* position is that construction waste may be charged but the *policy* position is that it should not. Whether the guidance published has any standing in law will depend on its terms and whether it will be accompanied by any change in the statutory position. It will also be interesting to see how the expression “*if it results from work a householder would normally carry out*”

¹ See Table 5.1, WRAP – Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) Guidance – January 2016

is defined and how widely. The emphasis may be on the “householder” (i.e. it is work that a lay person who is not a tradesman may tackle) or it may be on the “normally” (i.e. it is work that is day to day as opposed to a major project).

Existing Local Authority Treatment

- 5.8. A number of WDAs, including Kent’s neighbours, impose charges or other restrictions on ‘DIY’ waste brought to their HWRCs.
- 5.9. Surrey County Council has since December 2017 been charging for the disposal of ‘DIY’ waste brought to its community recycling centres².
- 5.10. Northamptonshire County Council limits the amount of ‘DIY’ waste that people can bring free of charge to its HWRCs in any two-month period. Waste over this amount or frequency would be treated as trade waste to be brought to the appropriate facilities and charged accordingly³.
- 5.11. East Sussex County Council takes a similar approach to Northamptonshire’s, but stipulates that ‘DIY’ waste can only be accepted at its HWRCs if the work has been carried out/removed by the householder themselves. “Where residents use a contractor to do works at their property the contractor must arrange for the disposal of the waste either by arranging a skip hire or taking it to a licensed commercial waste facility.”⁴
- 5.12. However, in light of the Government’s indications that it does not approve of charging householders for ‘DIY’ waste at HWRCs, some local authorities have suspended their charging policies for such waste.

6. CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1. The Regulations require that ‘construction or demolition’ waste be treated as industrial waste rather than household. Accordingly, the WDA is not under any duty to accept such waste at its HWRCs free of charge.
- 6.2. According to our analysis above and the approach taken by many local authorities, the WDA has the discretion to impose charges and/or restrictions on construction waste brought to its HWRCs.
- 6.3. However, it is clear from Government statements, including those set out in the Litter Strategy April 2017, that the Government intends to publish guidance which will most likely restrict the ways in which WDAs can charge householders for bringing construction waste to HWRCs. There is a suggestion that some charges may be permitted, but no further detail is available yet on what these might be.
- 6.4. If the Council wishes to establish a policy for charging in respect of construction waste before such guidance is published, it ought to bear in mind the following statement from the Litter Strategy: “where charges are proposed, they are proportionate and transparent and are made in consultation with local residents so that local services meet local needs.” It should also be prepared for the possibility that new guidance might be published imminently which could render any new charging policy at odds with Government policy.

SHARPE PRITCHARD LLP

March 2018

² <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling/where-to-take-your-waste-and-recycling/community-recycling-centres/introduction-of-charging-at-surreys-community-recycling-centres>

³ <http://www3.northamptonshire.gov.uk/councilservices/waste-and-recycling/Pages/Restrictions-at-household-waste-recycling-centres.aspx>

⁴ <https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/environment/rubbishandrecycling/recyclingsites/permits/#subtitle5>

**APPENDIX C:
MRW (Materials Recycling World) article citing DCLG (Department for Communities and Local Government) comments regarding HWRC charges for non-household waste**

MRW article:

Councils assured over DIY waste charge legality

2 February 2017 By Rob Preston

An assurance from Whitehall over the legality of recently introduced charges for DIY materials at household waste recycling centres (HWRCs) is being reported by a waste partnership.

Bracknell Forest, Reading and Wokingham borough councils, which constitutes the Re3 partnership, began charging residents to dispose of soil, rubble, plasterboard, asbestos and gas bottles at its FCC Environment-run HWRCs in September 2016.

Other waste authorities, including Hampshire, Leicestershire and North Yorkshire county councils, introduced similar charges at the time.

In response to an *MRW* query in October, the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) pledged to “take action” against councils that introduced such charges, although there has been no evidence of this as yet.

A DCLG spokesperson had said: “We are determined to boost recycling, and that is why we have brought in legislation to stop councils charging residents for household waste. Guidance is clear that it should include any household waste from DIY.”

Following these comments, Hampshire council postponed further changes to its HWRC provision, calling for clarity from the Government. It did not withdraw the charges it introduced on 1 October.

Re3 has now said that the DCLG confirmed in correspondence that “local authorities can of course charge for disposal of non-household waste such as car tyres and construction and demolition waste”.

In a statement it said: “Waste such as rubble is deemed to be ‘non-household’, regardless of whether it is from the property or home of a resident.

“Another way of looking at it is to consider that non-household waste is the type of waste that would normally form the fabric of a property, and thus would not be taken with the owner when moving house.

“Re3 chargeable items – soil and rubble, asbestos, plasterboard – fall under this category.”

It added: "The charging system applies to a small range of materials only, is non-profit-making, has been calculated to cover the cost of disposal and is part of an efficiency and savings programme introduced to protect council tax payers from unnecessary waste management costs".

**APPENDIX D:
WASTE DISPOSAL STRATEGY CROSS PARTY MEMBERS GROUP
(CPMG)**

- 1. Cllr Michael Payne (chair of CPMG)**
Deputy Cabinet Member for Planning, Highways, Transport and Waste
Tonbridge (Tonbridge and Malling)
Conservative
- 2. Cllr Trevor Bond**
Deal & Walmer (Dover)
Conservative
- 3. Cllr Ian Chittenden**
Maidstone North East (Maidstone)
Liberal Democrat
- 4. Cllr Peter Homewood**
Malling North East (Tonbridge and Malling)
Conservative
- 5. Cllr Barry Lewis**
Margate (Thanet)
Labour
- 6. Cllr Martin Whybrow**
Hythe West (Folkestone and Hythe)
Green Party
- 7. Cllr Clair Bell**
Cllr Clair Bell left the CPMG in September 2018 due to a change in Cabinet Committee commitments
Ashford Rural East (Ashford)
Conservative

**APPENDIX E:
SOCIAL MEDIA DATA (TWITTER AND FACEBOOK)**

Twitter

Date	KCC Twitter Post	Comments	Retweets	Likes
6th September 2018	Share your views on the proposal to charge for soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard delivered to #Kent Household Waste Recycling Centres #HWRC. Increased waste tonnages, non-Kent resident usage of Kent facilities, and the need to make critical savings has resulted in the proposal to charge for these materials, and to help KCC maintain a comprehensive service for residents. Have your say! 6 September – 1 November 2018 https://buff.ly/2wBGXSQ	18	11	3
17th September 2018	It's your opportunity to have your say and share your views on #Kent's #Household Waste Recycling Centre proposed charging policy (soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard). We are proposing to introduce charges, which are in line with other councils, to recover the cost of dealing with these types of waste, classed as non-household, and continue to offer a disposal option. These charges are intended to help KCC achieve critical savings while still maintaining a comprehensive service for residents. Have your say! 6 September – 1 November 2018 https://buff.ly/2x52eVe	1	3	0
24th September 2018	It's not too late to have your say on the #Household Waste Recycling Centre consultation and share your views on the proposal to charge for soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard. Increased waste tonnages, non-Kent resident usage of #Kent facilities, and the need to make critical savings has resulted in the proposal to charge for these materials, and to help KCC maintain a comprehensive service for residents. Have your say! Ends 1 November 2018 https://buff.ly/2x52eVe	11	17	5
1st October 2018	It's your opportunity to have your say and share your views on #Kent's #Household Waste Recycling Centre proposed charging policy (soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard). We are proposing to introduce charges, which are in line with other councils, to recover the cost of dealing with these types of waste, classed as non-household, and continue to offer a disposal option. These charges are intended to help KCC achieve critical savings while still maintaining a comprehensive service for residents. Have your say! 6 September – 1 November 2018	0	2	1
8th October 2018	Share your views on the proposal to charge for soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard delivered to #Kent Household Waste Recycling Centres #HWRC. Increased waste tonnages, non-Kent resident usage of Kent facilities, and the need to make critical savings has resulted in the proposal to charge for these materials, and to help KCC maintain a comprehensive service for residents. Have your say! 6 September – 1 November 2018	2	7	0
15th October 2018	It's not too late to have your say on the #Household Waste Recycling Centre consultation and share your views on the proposal to charge for soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard. Increased waste tonnages, non-Kent resident usage of #Kent facilities, and the need to make critical savings has resulted in the proposal to charge for these materials, and to help KCC maintain a comprehensive service for residents. Have your say! Ends 1 November 2018	11	9	4
22nd October 2018	Share your views on the proposal to charge for soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard delivered to #Kent Household Waste Recycling Centres #HWRC. Increased waste tonnages, non-Kent resident usage of Kent facilities, and the need to make critical savings has resulted in the proposal to charge for these materials, and to help KCC maintain a comprehensive service for residents. Have your say! 6 September – 1 November 2018 https://buff.ly/2ySEDbh	0	2	0
30th October 2018	Only 2 days left to have your say on the #Household Waste Recycling Centre consultation! Share your views on the proposal to charge for soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard. These charges are intended to help KCC achieve critical savings while still maintaining a comprehensive service for residents. Have your say! #Kent Ends 1 November 2018 https://buff.ly/2x52eVe	1	3	0
12th November 2018	Thank you to everyone that took part in the #Household Waste Recycling Centre consultation regarding the proposal to charge for soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard – your feedback is really important. Analysis is underway, and the consultation report and updates will be available at https://buff.ly/2x6V8jX in due course. #Kent	0	2	0

Facebook

Date	KCC Facebook Post	Comments	Shares	Likes	Heart Emoji	Laugh Emoji	Shocked Emoji	Crying Emoji	Angry Emoji
6th September 2018	Share your views on the proposal to charge for soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard delivered to #Kent Household Waste Recycling Centres #HWRC. Increased waste tonnages, non-Kent resident usage of Kent facilities, and the need to make critical savings has resulted in the proposal to charge for these materials, and to help KCC maintain a comprehensive service for residents. Have your say! 6 September – 1 November 2018 https://buff.ly/2wBGXSQ	29	28	2	0	0	0	0	5
17th September 2018	It's your opportunity to have your say and share your views on #Kent's #Household Waste Recycling Centre proposed charging policy (soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard). We are proposing to introduce charges, which are in line with other councils, to recover the cost of dealing with these types of waste, classed as non-household, and continue to offer a disposal option. These charges are intended to help KCC achieve critical savings while still maintaining a comprehensive service for residents. Have your say! 6 September – 1 November 2018 https://buff.ly/2x52eVe	10	17	4	0	1	0	0	1
24th September 2018	It's not too late to have your say on the #Household Waste Recycling Centre consultation and share your views on the proposal to charge for soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard. Increased waste tonnages, non-Kent resident usage of #Kent facilities, and the need to make critical savings has resulted in the proposal to charge for these materials, and to help KCC maintain a comprehensive service for residents. Have your say! Ends 1 November 2018 https://buff.ly/2x52eVe	11	14	3	0	0	0	0	0
1st October 2018	It's your opportunity to have your say and share your views on #Kent's #Household Waste Recycling Centre proposed charging policy (soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard). We are proposing to introduce charges, which are in line with other councils, to recover the cost of dealing with these types of waste, classed as non-household, and continue to offer a disposal option. These charges are intended to help KCC achieve critical savings while still maintaining a comprehensive service for residents. Have your say! 6 September – 1 November 2018	13	3	2	0	0	0	0	3
8th October 2018	Share your views on the proposal to charge for soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard delivered to #Kent Household Waste Recycling Centres #HWRC. Increased waste tonnages, non-Kent resident usage of Kent facilities, and the need to make critical savings has resulted in the proposal to charge for these materials, and to help KCC maintain a comprehensive service for residents. Have your say! 6 September – 1 November 2018	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
15th October 2018	It's not too late to have your say on the #Household Waste Recycling Centre consultation and share your views on the proposal to charge for soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard. Increased waste tonnages, non-Kent resident usage of #Kent facilities, and the need to make critical savings has resulted in the proposal to charge for these materials, and to help KCC maintain a comprehensive service for residents. Have your say! Ends 1 November 2018	6	10	3	0	0	0	0	2
22nd October 2018	Share your views on the proposal to charge for soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard delivered to #Kent Household Waste Recycling Centres #HWRC. Increased waste tonnages, non-Kent resident usage of Kent facilities, and the need to make critical savings has resulted in the proposal to charge for these materials, and to help KCC maintain a comprehensive service for residents. Have your say! 6 September – 1 November 2018 https://buff.ly/2ySEDbh	10	12	0	0	0	0	0	4
30th October 2018	Only 2 days left to have your say on the #Household Waste Recycling Centre consultation! Share your views on the proposal to charge for soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard. These charges are intended to help KCC achieve critical savings while still maintaining a comprehensive service for residents. Have your say! #Kent Ends 1 November 2018 https://buff.ly/2x52eVe	4	4	3	0	0	0	0	0
12th November 2018	Thank you to everyone that took part in the #Household Waste Recycling Centre consultation regarding the proposal to charge for soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard – your feedback is really important. Analysis is underway, and the consultation report and updates will be available at https://buff.ly/2x6V8jX in due course. #Kent	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0

2/2018

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

**Charging for non-household waste at
Household Waste Recycling Centres**

August 2018 – November 2018



KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Directorate: Growth, Environment and Transport

Name of policy, procedure, project or service:

Charging for non-household waste at Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs)

Assessment of service:

Kent County Council (KCC) operates as the Waste Disposal Authority (WDA). The 12 District/Borough/City Councils of Kent operate as the Waste Collection Authorities (WCAs). KCC arranges the recycling/disposal of waste collected from households by the WCAs. In addition, KCC provide Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) in accordance with the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (EPA).

EPA Section 51: Functions of waste disposal authorities

(1) It shall be the duty of each waste disposal authority to arrange:

(b) For places to be provided at which persons resident in its area may deposit their household waste and for the disposal of waste so deposited.

Responsible Owner/ Senior Officer

David Beaver, Head of Waste Management and Business Services

Date of Screenings:

A: Initial screening: 1st March 2018

B: Interim screening: None

C: Final screening: 27th November 2018

Version	Author	Date	Comment
1	Casey Holland	01/03/2018	Initial draft
2	Casey Holland	16/04/2018	Update following proposal amends
3	Casey Holland	08/08/18	Update following stakeholder feedback
4	Hannah Allard	27/11/2018	Final screening post consultation

Date of Screening

- 1. Initial screening:** 1st March 2018 - To consider recommendation to introduce a Policy to charge for non-household waste at Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs).
- 2. Final screening:** 27th November 2018 – To re- evaluate the impacts (positive and negative) on the Protected Characteristics in light of the consultation feedback and identify actions to prevent/ limit negative impacts.

Initial EqIA screening conducted for charging for non-household waste at the Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs)

Characteristic	Could this policy, procedure, project or service affect this group differently from others in Kent? YES/NO	Could this policy, procedure, project or service promote equal opportunities for this group? YES/NO	Assessment of potential impact HIGH/MEDIUM/LOW/ NONE/UNKNOWN		Provide details: a) Is internal action required? If yes, why? b) Is further assessment required? If yes, why? c) Explain how good practice can promote equal opportunities
			Positive	Negative	
Age	Yes	No	Low	Low	<p>Non-household waste charges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where legislation permits, introduce charges for the disposal on non-household waste items; Soil rubble and hardcore and Plasterboard. • Maintain charges for tyre disposal as under the current policy. <p>Details of Impact: Introducing material charges and limits has the potential to lessen vehicle movements on site, improving manoeuvrability, access to containers and easing congestion on site.</p> <p>Introducing charges will mean consideration will be made to payment mechanisms employed on site to ensure these are accessible for everyone.</p>

Disability	Yes	No	Low	Low	<p>Non-household waste charges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where legislation permits, introduce charges for the disposal on non-household waste items; Soil rubble and hardcore and Plasterboard. • Maintain charges for tyre disposal as under the current policy. <p>Details of Impact: Introducing material charges and limits has the potential to lessen vehicle movements on site, improving manoeuvrability, access to containers and easing congestion on site.</p> <p>Introducing charges will mean consideration will be made to payment mechanisms employed on site to ensure these are accessible for everyone.</p>
Gender	No	No	None	None	
Gender identity	No	No	None	None	
Race	Yes	No	Low	None	<p>Non-household waste charges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where legislation permits, introduce charges for the disposal on non-household waste items; Soil rubble and hardcore and Plasterboard. • Maintain charges for tyre disposal as under the current policy. <p>Details of Impact: Introducing charges will mean consideration will be</p>

					made to ensure information about charges and payment mechanisms employed on site to ensure these are accessible for everyone.
Religion or belief	No	No	None	None	
Sexual orientation	No	No	None	None	
Pregnancy and maternity	No	No	None	None	

NOTE: The Literacy Trust states that 1 in 6 people in the UK live without literacy. Although literacy is not recognised as a disability or included as a Protected Characteristic, it is important that consideration is made to support residents with low or no literacy where there may be a negative impact through service changes.

Part 1: INITIAL SCREENING (August 2018)

Context, aims and objectives

KCC Waste Management operates within a two-tier system as the Waste Disposal Authority (WDA), for receiving and disposing or onward processing of Kent's household waste.

This waste is collected by the district and borough councils as the Waste Collection Authorities (WCAs) or delivered directly by householders to HWRC's around the County.

It is the statutory responsibility of the WDA to provide a Household Waste Recycling Centre service to residents in accordance with the Environmental Protection Act 1990;

EPA Section 51: Functions of waste disposal authorities

(1) It shall be the duty of each waste disposal authority to arrange:

(b) For places to be provided at which persons resident in its area may deposit their household waste and for the disposal of waste so deposited.

KCC currently operate 18 HWRCs around the County.

The Kent Waste Disposal Strategy (2017-2035) was adopted in February 2017, and sets out the overarching ambition for KCC Waste Management.

To deliver the Strategy, the Waste Management Team have commenced Phase One Implementation which encompasses an analytical and data led review of the Household Waste Recycling Centre and Enforcement Policies, resulting in a recommendation for a policy change.

This recommendation will be subject to Public Consultation in Autumn 2018, before any changes are formally agreed and adopted by the Cabinet Member.

This EqIA considers the impact of charging residents for non-household waste disposal at the HWRCs.

Beneficiaries:

- Kent Householders as users of the Household Waste Recycling Centres and Kent taxpayers through the services provided by KCC Waste Management being accessible, fit for purpose and providing value for money.

Information and data

Kent Profile

The initial screening has recognised that there may be a low negative impact on Age, Disability and Race characteristics through the implementation of the proposed policy change.

With a resident population of around 1.6 million, Kent has the largest population of all of the English counties.

Kent's population grew by 10.9% between 2006 and 2016 and is forecast to increase by more than 20% between 2016 and 2036.

Age

Kent has an aging population. Forecasts show that the number of 65+ year olds is forecast to increase by 57.5% between 2016 and 2036, yet the proportion of population aged under 65 is only forecast to increase by 13.5%.

Disability

81.6% of Kent residents describe their health as being very good or good and 17.6% of Kent's population have an illness or condition which limits their day to day activities in some way. The number of Kent residents who are claiming disability benefits is 122,230 (8.0%). This is higher than the South East region (6.6%) but slightly lower than the national figure (8.2%).

Race

The largest ethnic group in Kent is White. 93.7% of all residents are of white ethnic origin, and 6.6% are of Black Minority Ethnic (BME) origin. The largest single BME group in Kent is Indian representing 1.2% of the total population

HWRC Customer Profile

This EqIA draws upon existing service delivery data and previous EqIA assessments undertaken:

- Waste Disposal Strategy (1/2016WM)

Customer satisfaction surveys are undertaken by a surveying company on behalf of KCC Waste Management across all 18 HWRCs (approx. 400 surveys per site).

Surveys are carried out on a yearly basis at two seasonal sample points in April and October. 'About you', protected characteristic information is gathered from customers who wish to disclose age, gender, ethnicity and disability.

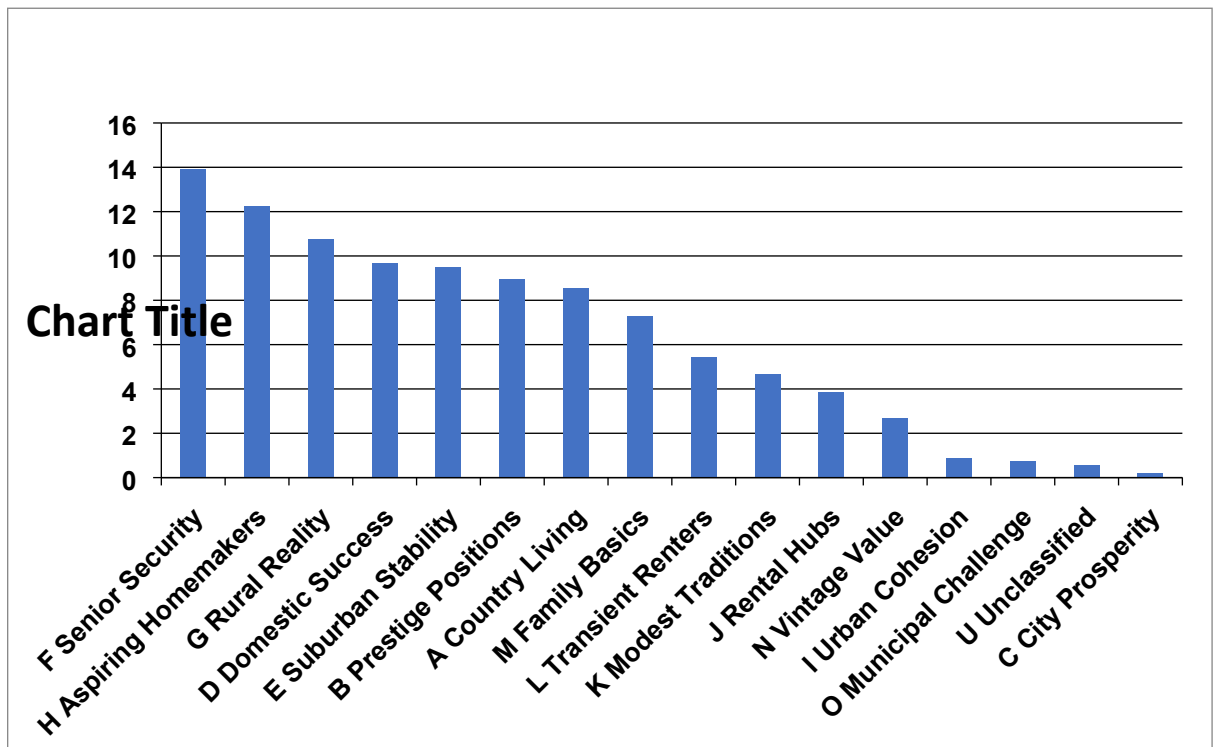
Surveys undertaken in 2017⁵, suggest that;

- Almost half (49%) of HWRC customers are aged 56 and over.
- 38% of HWRC customers are female, 62% male.
- 96% of customers identify themselves as English/ Welsh/ Scottish/ Northern Irish or British.
- 5% of HWRC customers consider themselves to be disabled.

By collecting this information, it enables us to understand more about our customer base and helps to plan services and inform changes. The customer satisfaction survey also collects respondents' postcodes which is used to gain a better understanding of our customers through customer profiling software (MOSAIC) analysis

The graph below reflects the overall profile for Kent of customers using the 18 HWRCs across the County.

⁵ 7,126 Surveys were undertaken in 2017.



The Graph that the most common customer group using the HWRC are Group F- Senior Security (14%).



Key Features

- Elderly singles and couples
- Homeowners
- Comfortable homes
- Additional pensions above state
- Don't like new Technology
- Low mileage Drivers



Communication preferences

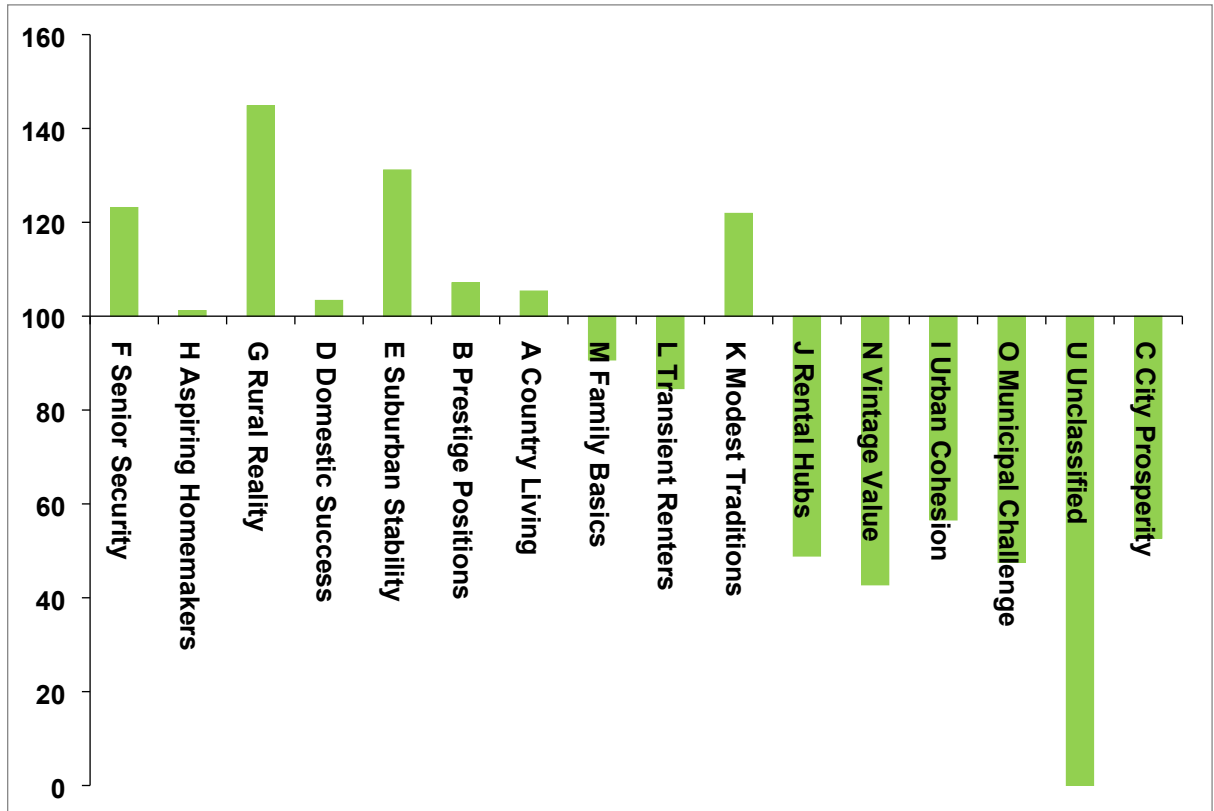


Telephone



Post

The table below compares the profile of customers using the HWRCs with the overall profile for Kent. This enables the HWRC customer profile to be compared relatively with the rest of Kent. An index score of 100 suggests that the profile of HWRC customers is around average when compared with the profile of households in the whole of Kent. An index of more than 100 suggests that the group is over-represented amongst the customer population whilst an index of below 100 suggests that the group is under-represented.



The table shows that the most popular customer group, 'Group F- Senior Security', is over represented at the HWRC's, with above average visitors from this group. Conversely, when compared with the number of residents in Kent in 'Group C- City Prosperity' is under-represented as a customer group using the HWRCs.

This is not surprising when you consider that Kent has an aging population.

Overall, all groups in Kent are either under or over represented in terms of HWRC usage.

Involvement and engagement

Any recommendation made will be subject to public consultation. A subsequent EqIA has been undertaken to understand the impacts of undertaking consultation and make consideration to engagement methods used and ensure equal opportunity to respond (please see EqIA 1/2018- available on request).

Prior to taking the recommendations out to public consultation, they have been shared with a number of key stakeholders in order to gain their views and feedback. These include;

- Internal consultation with Waste Management officers, and the waste strategy steering group.
- Through meetings with the district and borough councils, in collaboration with the Kent Resource Partnership (KRP).
- Through the Informal Members Group, prior to recommendations being made to the Cabinet Member and subsequently the Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee.
- Meetings with the HWRC providers to share findings.

In addition to public engagement for Kent residents, information will be circulated through our key stakeholders and partners, the district and borough councils, parish councils and our contractors. It will also be circulated through appropriate equality and diversity groups.

Other key consultees include; HWRC Providers, internal KCC Groups and service teams as appropriate, local business (regarding trade waste), parish councils, neighbouring local Authorities (including Medway), other WDAs, Environment Agency, and WRAP.

The consultation will need to be specifically accessible for disabled, age and race characteristics who may not have the opportunity to engage and respond through traditional methods.

Potential Impact

Adverse Impact:

Currently three of the Protected Characteristics may be potentially negatively impacted by a number of the recommendations proposed;

- 1) Age
- 2) Disability
- 3) Race

The screening table (pages 4-26) details these impacts and the internal actions and activities that will be undertaken in these instances, however it is recognised that **further assessment** will need to be carried out once service changes are fully known.

Positive Impacts:

Currently two of the Protected Characteristics may be potentially positively impacted by this activity;

- 1) Age
- 2) Disability

The screening table (pages 4-26) details these impacts, however it is recognised that further assessment will need to be carried out once service changes are fully known.

JUDGEMENT

Option 1 – Screening Sufficient - YES

Option 2 – Internal Action Required – NO (*subsequent EQIAs to be undertaken prior to any implementation*)

Option 3 – Full Impact Assessment - NO

Only go to full impact assessment if an adverse impact has been identified that will need to undertake further analysis, consultation and action

Sign Off

I have noted the content of the equality impact assessment and agree the actions to mitigate the adverse impact(s) that have been identified.

Senior Officer

Signed: Name: David Beaver

Job Title: Head of Waste Management Date:

Director

Signed: Name: Simon Jones

Job Title: Director of Highways,
Transportation and
Waste Date:

Part 2: Final Screening (November 2018)

Context, aims and objectives

On 6 September 2018, an 8-week consultation commenced, closing on 1 November 2018 to gain views from the public and stakeholders regarding introducing charging for the following streams of non-household waste at the KCC Household Waste Recycling Centres:

- Soil, rubble and hardcore
- Plasterboard

This final screening has been undertaken to re-evaluate the impacts (positive and negative) on the Protected Characteristics in light of the consultation feedback and identify actions to prevent/ limit negative impacts.

Beneficiaries:

- Kent Householders as users of the Household Waste Recycling Centres and Kent taxpayers through the services provided by KCC Waste Management being accessible, fit for purpose and providing value for money.

Information and data

In total, 2,841 consultation responses were received. This comprised of 2,757 online questionnaires, 62 paper copies (3 of which were scanned and sent) and a further 22 representations by email or letter from members of the public, and other stakeholders.

As part of the consultation questionnaire, respondents were asked for any comments about the EqIA. The key comments were:

- Concerns regarding those on low incomes being able to afford the disposal
- Waste disposal must be made easy for older people and people with disabilities, including for those reliant on family and friends to be able to access the HWRCs
- Concerns regarding differing abilities to be able to lift bags dependent on weight
- Comments regarding specific HWRCs
- Views that an EqIA is not applicable or required for this consultation, 'waste of time'

In the initial screening, age, disability and race were identified as being potentially impacted upon as a result of the proposed charging. The public consultation

responses did not reveal any further impacts to these protected characteristics or any others. However, some further issues were identified that were not-related to any one protected characteristic, namely the impact of disposal costs to those on low income and the ability of people to lift different weights of bags. These issues have been included within the 'action plan'.

Involvement and engagement

Please refer to the Post Consultation Analysis Report, which provides comprehensive information concerning the involvement and engagement activity of the consultation. Table 1, provides a record of consultation engagement mechanisms informed by the initial EqIA screening and **EqIA 1/2018** (available on request - which was undertaken to make consideration to engagement methods used in consultation).

Potential Impact

Adverse Impact:

After reviewing the consultation responses, three of the Protected Characteristics remain as being potentially negatively impacted;

1. Age
2. Disability
3. Race

The initial screening table (pages 4-26) details these impacts and the final action plan details actions to be taken.

Positive Impacts:

Furthermore, two of the Protected Characteristics still may be potentially positively impacted by this activity, again as identified within the initial screening table;

- 1) Age
- 2) Disability

Table 1: Record of consultation engagement mechanisms with residents identified as being potentially impacted as a result of the proposal and/or consultation engagement itself

Protected characteristic	Engagement mechanism informed by initial EqlA screening (both 1/2018 and 2/2018)	Consultation response
Age	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information will be provided for display at libraries, Gateways and HWRCs, with postcards to take away with details of how to participate in consultation activities. • Information will be shared with KCC Equality groups for distribution to age-related organisations and groups in Kent. • Face to face engagement will take place in HWRCs and other accessible locations as Mosaic suggests that older people are more receptive to this form of communication. • Hard copies of consultation questionnaires will be available at Household Waste Recycling Centres, council offices, some central libraries, and on request from Waste Management (via telephone, post or email) with a Freepost address for hard returns. • Large print formats of printed materials will be made available on request from Waste Management (via telephone, post or email) with a Freepost address for hard returns, should older people have visual impairments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large print – no requests • A number of hard copy requests received – primarily via the KCC contact centre • Age profile of those that responded: 65+ represents 31% 35 – 64 represents 63% 0 – 34 represents 7% • Emails sent to 19 age related organisations and groups in Kent
Disability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All communication will be subject to a Plain English test. • A mixture of auditory and visual communication will be used, recognising that one channel limits customers' accessibility if they have a visual or auditory impairment. • Information will be shared with KCC Equality groups for distribution to disability organisations and groups in Kent. • Information will be provided for display at libraries, Gateways and HWRCs, with postcards to take away with details of how to participate in consultations. • Face to face engagement will take place in HWRCs and other accessible locations. • A range of alternative formats of printed materials including large print, Easy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large print – no requests • Easy Read – 2 responses returned • Plain English – used throughout materials • Braille format – no requests • Audio format – no requests • Emails sent to 41 health and disability groups in Kent • 8% of respondents report to have a disability

	Read, Braille and audio will be made available on request from Waste Management (via telephone, post or email) with a Freepost address for hard returns, disabled people have visual impairments.	
Gender	N/A	
Gender identity	N/A	
Race	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information will be shared with KCC Equality groups for distribution to race-related organisations and groups in Kent. Engagement materials and consultation questionnaires will be made available in alternative languages on request from Waste Management (via telephone, post or email) with a Freepost address. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alternative languages – no requests Respondents represented 12 ethnic groups Emails sent to race/ religion/ minority groups in Kent
Religion or belief	N/A	N/A
Sexual orientation	N/A	N/A
Pregnancy and maternity	N/A	N/A

Final EqIA Action Plan (November 2018)

This action plan has been developed to reflect the potential impacts should a Member Decision be taken to adopt charging for the non-household waste materials consulted upon.

Protected Characteristic	Issues identified	Action to be taken	Expected outcomes	Owner	Timescale / Cost implications
AGE	Communication of change to operational policies Ensure older people are communicated with appropriately to meet their needs and ensure messages are conveyed appropriately	Develop and deliver an implementation plan for introduction of new operational policies, which provides for engagement with older customers – to replicate communication methods employed for consultation engagement e.g. face to face opportunities	Outcome of HWRC Review made available to older people.	Head of Waste Management	Ensure significant time for communication in advance of implementation – date TBC Waste Management budget – cost TBC
	Equal access to payment method	Payment for the disposal of non-household waste materials will be card payment only. Ensure payment terminal/ device is wireless to avoid the need for customers to access buildings.	Payment system that can be accessed by all customers.	Head of Waste Management	Ensure all payment technology is in place in advance of implementation. Waste Management budget cost TBC
	Strong customer	As with overarching operational	HWRC site staff trained and	Head of	Ongoing

	care which meets the needs of all customers	delivery of the HWRCs, ensure site staff are trained to ensure they are equipped with knowledge and skills to meet the need of all customers.	high level of customer service provided.	Waste Management	
DISABILITY	<p>Communication of change to operational policies</p> <p>Ensure people with disabilities are communicated with appropriately to meet their needs and ensure messages are conveyed appropriately</p>	Develop and deliver an implementation plan for introduction of new operational policies, which provides for engagement with customers who have disabilities - to replicate communication methods employed for consultation engagement e.g. alternative formats of any communication materials available on request	Outcome of HWRC Review made available to people with disabilities	Head of Waste Management	<p>Ensure significant time for communication in advance of implementation – date TBC</p> <p>Waste Management budget – cost TBC</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
	<p>Equal access to payment method</p> <p>Strong customer</p>	<p>Payment for the disposal of non-household waste materials will be card payment only. Ensure payment terminal/ device is wireless to avoid the need for customers to access buildings.</p> <p>As with overarching operational</p>	<p>Payment system that can be accessed by all customers.</p> <p>HWRC site staff trained and</p>	<p>Head of Waste Management</p> <p>Head of</p>	<p>Ensure all payment technology is in place in advance of implementation.</p> <p>Waste Management budget cost TBC</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

	care which meets the needs of all customers	delivery of the HWRCs, ensure site staff are trained to ensure they are equipped with knowledge and skills to meet the need of all customers.	high level of customer service provided.	Waste Management	
RACE	<p>Communication of change to operational policies</p> <p>Ensure people are communicated with appropriately to meet their needs and ensure messages are conveyed appropriately</p>	<p>Ensure that the outcome of the HWRC Review and public consultation is made available in alternative languages and appropriate formats for ethnically diverse residents of Kent - to replicate communication methods employed for consultation engagement e.g. alternative languages of any communication materials available on request</p>	<p>Outcome of HWRC Review made available to organisations / groups representing ethnic groups in Kent.</p>	Head of Waste Management	<p>Ensure significant time for communication in advance of implementation – date TBC</p> <p>Waste Management budget – cost TBC</p>
Other 'equality' issues not protected characteristic specific	<p>Ability to lift different weights of bags. A 5 bag/ item per day limit has been applied. However, it was identified through the consultation that some people may be unfairly disadvantaged if they are unable to</p>	<p>Site staff to provide help to those that need it, inline with their own health and safety procedures.</p> <p>To ensure those who cannot lift heavy bags are not disadvantaged, HWRC staff will be able to use their discretion in cases where several 'part bags' are used as a result of weight lifting challenges.</p>	<p>Customers are not disadvantaged as a result of being unable to life heavy bags.</p>	Head of Waste Management	<p>From implementation</p>

	<p>lift heavy bags.</p> <p>Although not related to a protected characteristic, there was a concern identified through the consultation that people on lower incomes may not be able to afford the disposal.</p>	<p>None – whilst there is a recognised need for residents to dispose of non-household waste items on occasion, KCC do not legally have to provide a disposal outlet for these materials. However, a reasonable charge mechanism has been proposed to be able to continue to provide the service.</p>	<p>A modest fee is introduced for the non- household waste materials.</p>		
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JUDGEMENT

Option 1 – Screening Sufficient - YES

Option 2 – Internal Action Required – YES – action plan prepared

Option 3 – Full Impact Assessment - NO

Only go to full impact assessment if an adverse impact has been identified that will need to undertake further analysis, consultation and action

Sign Off

I have noted the content of the equality impact assessment and agree the actions to mitigate the adverse impact(s) that have been identified.

Senior Officer

Signed: _____ Name: David Beaver
Job Title: Head of Waste Management Date: _____

Director

Signed: _____ Name: Simon Jones
Job Title: Director of Highways, Transportation and Waste Date: _____

**APPENDIX G:
ENGAGEMENT MATERIALS**

CONSULTATION DOCUMENT (cover):



kent.gov.uk/wasteconsultation
6 September to 1 November 2018



POSTER:

Kent Household Waste Recycling Centre Consultation 2018

**Household Waste
& Recycling Centre**



**We would like your views on our
proposal to charge for soil, rubble,
hardcore and plasterboard**

kent.gov.uk/wasteconsultation
6 September to 1 November 2018



POSTCARD:



kent.gov.uk/wasteconsultation
6 September to 1 November 2018



Kent County Council operates 18 Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC) for residents, providing facilities for the recycling and safe disposal of more than 30 different types of household waste. Each year the HWRC network receives approximately 185,000 tonnes of waste and 3.5 million visits. 99% of this waste is recycled or used to produce energy, with just 1% disposed of to landfill.

KCC has no statutory requirement to accept certain waste types classed as non-household waste e.g. soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard at the HWRCs. However, it is appreciated that from time to time Kent residents may need to dispose of these materials, therefore KCC is proposing to maintain the service and charge for these non-household wastes, to cover the cost of managing them.

**Visit kent.gov.uk/wasteconsultation
6 September to 1 November 2018**

Please contact us on 03000 41 73 73 if you would like a paper copy of the consultation questionnaire, or require this in an alternative format

HRWC - SITE SIGNAGE:

Banner:



Have your say on proposals to charge for soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard at Household Waste Recycling Centres.

kent.gov.uk/wasteconsultation
6 September to 1 November 2018



Sign:



Kent Household Waste Recycling Centre Consultation 2018

Household Waste & Recycling Centre



We would like your views on our proposal to charge for soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard

kent.gov.uk/wasteconsultation
6 September to 1 November 2018



PRESS RELEASE:

A consultation has been launched on a proposal to charge for the disposal of non-household waste (including soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard) at the Household Waste and Recycling Centres (HWRCs).

Kent County Council (KCC) is not obligated to accept waste materials classified as non-household at its sites.

KCC operates 18 HWRCs, providing facilities for the recycling and safe disposal of more than 30 different types of waste.

Each year Kent's sites receive approximately 185,000 tonnes of waste and 3.5 million visits, at a cost of approximately £10 million.

KCC Cabinet Member for Planning, Highways, Transport and Waste Mike Whiting said: "We're proud to have made significant progress in our environmental performance over the last 10 years.

"More than 99% of Kent's household waste is recycled or recovered to produce energy, with less than 1% sent to landfill.

"However, we need to reduce our annual waste and recycling budget, while providing residents with an accessible HWRC service.

"At a time when many local authorities are closing some of their sites, reducing opening hours or not accepting certain waste types at all, that is something KCC does not want to do.

"Although KCC has no statutory requirement to accept non-household waste (soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard) we appreciate from time to time Kent residents may need to dispose of these materials. Therefore, KCC would like to continue to offer a service and propose a modest charge to off-set the cost of providing this disposal service. Before any decisions are made, we would like to hear your views".

There are several factors that place pressure on the HWRC service, including the use of facilities by non-Kent residents.

Many councils already charge for non-household waste. Some of these are Kent's neighbouring authorities such as Surrey and Bromley. East Sussex County Council has also recently taken the decision to charge for non-household waste and to close several of its HWRCs close to the Kent border late 2018.

Evidence has found that many people come to Kent to dispose of their waste as it costs nothing, for example in Sevenoaks alone, 17% of customers at Dunbrik and 10% of customers at Swanley HWRCs do not live in Kent.

Kent's population is set to increase by approximately 400,000 in just over a decade, putting further pressure on the HWRC service.

The anticipated costs would be:

- Soil, rubble and hardcore £4 per bag (or part bag) / item
- Plasterboard £6 per bag (or part bag) / sheet

The consultation launches on 6 September and runs until 1 November 2018.

You can complete the online questionnaire at www.kent.gov.uk/wasteconsultation

SOCIAL MEDIA AND OTHER PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Example of Facebook posts:



The screenshot shows a mobile phone interface with a Facebook search for 'Kent County Council'. The post is from the official page, dated 22 October, and has 9.4K views, 4 likes, 8 comments, and 5 shares. The text of the post discusses a proposal to charge for soil, rubble, hardcore, and plasterboard at Kent Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC). It mentions increased waste tonnages and non-Kent resident usage as reasons for the proposal. Below the text are three images: soil, a piece of white plasterboard, and rubble. The post concludes with a call to action for a consultation on 1 November 2018. The bottom navigation bar shows icons for home, friends, profile, notifications (with a red '1'), and a menu.

O2-UK 4G 10:36 95%

Kent County Council

Home Posts Events Videos About Note

9.4K views

4 8 comments 5 shares

Like Comment Share

Kent County Council 22 October · 🌐

Share your views on the proposal to charge for soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard delivered to **#Kent Household Waste Recycling Centres #HWRC**. Increased waste tonnages, non-Kent resident usage of Kent facilities, and the need to make critical savings has resulted in the proposal to charge for these materials, and to help KCC maintain a com... See more



HWRC Waste Consultation (soil, plasterboard & hardcore)
Have your say by 1 November 2018

Home Friends Profile Notifications (1) Menu

Home Posts Events Videos About Note

5 4 comments 4 shares

Like Comment Share



Kent County Council

12 November at 10:30 · 🌐

Thank you to everyone that took part in the **#Household** Waste Recycling Centre consultation regarding the proposal to charge for soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard – your feedback is really important. Analysis is underway, and the consultation report and updates will be available at <https://buff.ly/2x6V8jX> in due course. **#Kent**



CONSULTATIONS.KENT.GOV.UK

Consultation Homepage - Kent Household Waste Recycling Cent...

Kent County Council (KCC) is seeking the views of service users, members of the...

2 1 Share

Like Comment Share



Kent County Council shared a post.



Examples of K-mail inserts (KCC internal communications channel):

Don't 'waste' your opportunity to have your say

KCC Waste Management are reviewing the Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) service and would welcome your response to the consultation.



We are seeking views on the proposal to charge for soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard delivered to Kent HWRCs.

The consultation will inform delivery of the [Kent Waste Disposal Strategy](#), which presents the overall 'Ambition' for KCC as the Waste Disposal Authority up to 2035.

[Have your say](#) before 1 November and help us maintain a sustainable service for all.

Don't 'waste' your opportunity to have your say

It's not too late to have your say on our proposal to charge for soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard at Household Waste Recycling Centres, helping us maintain a sustainable waste management service for all.



[The consultation closes on 1 November.](#)

**APPENDIX H:
CONSULTATION DOCUMENT AND QUESTIONNAIRE**

Household Waste Recycling Centres

Consultation Questionnaire 2018

Household Waste
& Recycling Centre



Have your say

On our proposal to charge for soil, rubble,
hardcore and plasterboard

kent.gov.uk/wasteconsultation
6 September to 1 November 2018



Requesting alternative formats

If you require any of the consultation documents in an alternative format or language, please email alternativeformats@kent.gov.uk or call 03000 421553 (text relay service number 18001 03000 421553). This number goes to an answering machine, which is monitored during office hours.

The purpose of this consultation

The consultation opens on 6 September 2018 and closes on 1 November 2018.

Kent County Council (KCC) is not legally obligated to accept non-household wastes e.g. soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard at Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs).

KCC is seeking the views of service users, members of the public and other interested parties, on a proposal to charge for non-household waste at the HWRCs (sometimes known as the 'tip').

Non-household waste included in this consultation;

- **Soil, rubble and hardcore**
- **Plasterboard**

Even if originating from a domestic property, these materials are to be treated as non-household waste in accordance with the Controlled Waste Regulations 2012⁶.

KCC already charges for car and motorbike tyres which are also categorised as non-household waste.

Context

KCC is proud to have made significant progress in its environmental performance over the past 10 years. More than 99% of Kent's household waste is now recycled, treated or recovered to produce energy, with less than 1% sent to landfill.

KCC operates 18 HWRCs for residents, providing facilities for the recycling and safe disposal of more than 30 different types of waste. Each year this HWRC network receives approximately 185,000 tonnes of waste and 3.5 million visits, at a cost of approximately £10m.

Kent Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs):

Ashford	Margate
Canterbury	New Romney
Dartford	Pepperhill
Deal	Richborough
Dover	Sevenoaks
Faversham	Sheerness
Folkestone	Sittingbourne
Herne Bay	Swanley
Maidstone	Tunbridge Wells

Savings of £2.3m have already been made since the introduction of HWRC policies in 2012, including material limits and a vehicle access policy.

However, we need to reduce our annual Waste and Recycling budget further, while providing residents with an accessible HWRC service.

We have looked at how other Councils across the country are approaching the future of HWRCs. It is clear that many have looked to save money by closing facilities, reducing opening hours, charging for some wastes or not accepting various types of waste at all.

⁶ The Controlled Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2012 schedule 1 paragraph 3.

KCC Members are very clear they wish for the HWRC service, which is highly valued by residents, to be retained in Kent.

KCC has never been obligated to accept soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard free of charge, and current demand on the service is likely to increase further as neighbouring Councils impose charges or restrict services. Therefore, KCC proposes to charge for these materials at the HWRCs.

KCC believes this option will reduce the cost to Kent taxpayers of disposing of waste from 'cross border' users and help protect the HWRC service. Other options considered are detailed later in this document.

Background

Kent's population is set to increase by approximately 19% between now and 2035. This will put further pressure on the HWRC service which highlights the need to ensure it is open and available for Kent residents as a priority.

There are several factors that place pressure on the HWRC service, including the use of facilities by non-Kent residents.

HWRCs should accept household waste only. Businesses have a duty of care to pay for the disposal of their waste, rather than utilising a free service at HWRCs⁷. There are several policies in place which aim to prevent business waste being brought to HWRCs⁸. These policies are monitored using CCTV and Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR), in some instances this may include the use of body-worn cameras.

Cross-Border use

A number of bordering Councils already charge for non-household waste – a large number of authorities across England have been charging for many years. Some of these are Kent's neighbouring authorities such as Surrey and Bromley. East Sussex County Council has also recently taken the decision to charge for non-household waste and to close several of its HWRCs close to the Kent border from September 2018.

At the KCC waste sites which are close to these borders, we have seen growing volumes of waste and experience a greater demand for our free service. This is because residents who do not live in Kent deposit material such as soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard rather than pay for the service at their local Councils.

Kent residents therefore pay for dealing with this waste, and in addition this leads to increased queuing times at the sites and places further pressures on capacity and site infrastructure.

⁷ Waste Duty of Care Code of Conduct, 2016.

⁸ [HWRC Operating Policies- kent.gov.uk](http://kent.gov.uk)

KCC Members want to protect the HWRC service and make it more efficient. KCC intends to create capacity at its existing sites by deterring cross-border usage, preventing unlawful use and recovering the cost of disposing of non-household waste.

Proposal

Moving forward it is vital that there is enough capacity in the county for Kent residents to dispose of their household waste and to protect these services.

KCC has no statutory requirement to accept non-household waste (soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard). However, it is appreciated that from time to time Kent residents may need to dispose of these materials, therefore KCC would like to continue to offer a service.

KCC already makes a charge to accept domestic tyres for recycling (classed as non-household waste), with the fee covering the cost of managing this service. In order to continue to provide a disposal service for these materials in the future, KCC is proposing to extend the non-household waste charging policy to include:

- **Soil, Rubble and Hardcore**
 - This also includes other materials such as ceramics which are recycled in the soil, rubble and hardcore container.
 - A daily limit on soil, rubble and hardcore, in-line with current restrictions will apply – a maximum of 5 bags / items (a bag can be up to the size of a standard black sack). The policy to limit these materials was introduced in 2012 to prevent trade waste abuse.

- **Plasterboard**

KCC is open minded to charging a modest fee. The disposal charge would be in line with our neighbouring Councils that already charge for these materials and will off-set the cost of providing and maintaining this valuable service.

Neighbouring Council charges for non-household waste:

	Soil, rubble & hardcore	Plasterboard
East Sussex*	£4 per bag / item	£4 per bag / sheet
Surrey	£4 per bag / item	£12 per bag / sheet

*From September 2018

Bromley Council apply charges on a weight basis - £23 minimum fee (up to 100kgs) of these waste types.

In line with neighbouring Councils, in Kent we anticipate the charge to be:

- Soil, Rubble and Hardcore: £4 per bag (or part bag) / item (a bag being up to the size of a standard black sack)
- Plasterboard: £6 per bag (or part bag) / sheet (a bag being up to the size of a standard black sack)

Other options considered

As part of the development of this proposal, KCC examined several alternative options which were subsequently assessed as not appropriate or sustainable. These included;

- Keeping the service as is - this will lead to even greater demand on the service with materials coming into Kent from Council areas where charges apply. Meeting the cost of 'cross-border' waste will impact the viability of the HWRC network. This demand will lead to longer delays at sites where capacity is limited, as well as placing greater financial demand on Kent residents.
- Not accepting these types of waste at all. This would certainly deal with 'cross-border' and unpermitted business waste but would also remove a valuable service for Kent residents. We are well aware that householders value the ability to dispose of waste arising from alteration or repair of their home and garden. If we did not accept these categories of waste at all, it would leave only costly commercial options being available to Kent residents for the disposal of 45,000 tonnes of waste yearly. Our proposal maintains a service, albeit with a modest charge.
- We have considered asking users to provide proof of Kent residence at all HWRCs, by way of a permit scheme (currently in operation at Dartford HWRC), but this is likely to have significant impacts on the convenience, speed and cost of using our HWRCs for all users. This option would cost upwards of £25,000 per site, per year to manage which is not cost effective and would likely add to delays at sites.

Have your say

Your participation in this consultation and views on this proposal are important and will help KCC to carefully consider options and inform any decision.

Whether you are a past, current or future user of these services, a member of the public, a carer or relative of a service user, an existing or potential provider of services, or another stakeholder, we would now like to hear your views before a final recommendation is discussed by the Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee, prior to the Cabinet Member taking the decision late 2018 / early 2019.

Tell us what you think by completing the online questionnaire, which can be found at www.kent.gov.uk/wasteconsultation along with all supporting documents;

- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
- Chargeable Materials/Items (what's included in this proposal)
- Charging for non-household waste at HWRCs Equality Impact Assessment

Alternatively, if you wish to complete a paper copy, please place the completed questionnaire into an envelope and use the following freepost address;

- Freepost KCC WASTE MANAGEMENT

You will not be required to pay postage costs. Please ensure the address is written as shown above. No other address details are required.

If you have any questions about the proposal, or require paper copies of any of the supporting documents, please contact: wastedisposalstrategy@kent.gov.uk or 03000 41 73 73

Please ensure your response reaches us by **1 November 2018**.

What happens next?

After the consultation closes on 1 November 2018, we will collate all the consultation responses and review feedback. A report will be written to let Kent County Council Members know what you think of these proposals. The final decision about changes to the HWRC service will be made by the Cabinet Member for Planning, Highways, Transport and Waste late 2018 / early 2019.

We will publish this report on our website at www.kent.gov.uk/wasteconsultation. KCC values all feedback and views provided. By completing the questionnaire, you will be helping us to ensure these services meet the needs of Kent residents.

Questionnaire

Section 1: About You

Q1. Are you responding as...

Please select the option from the list below that most closely represents how you will be responding to this consultation.

Please select one only.

<input type="checkbox"/>	A Kent resident
<input type="checkbox"/>	A non-Kent resident
<input type="checkbox"/>	As a KCC Member/ Councillor
<input type="checkbox"/>	A business
<input type="checkbox"/>	On behalf of a District / Borough / Parish /Town Council in an official capacity
<input type="checkbox"/>	A carer or relative of a service user
<input type="checkbox"/>	A Charity, Voluntary or Community Sector organisation (VCS)
<input type="checkbox"/>	A member of KCC staff and a Kent resident
<input type="checkbox"/>	A member of KCC staff and a non-Kent resident
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other <i>Please specify:</i>

Q1a. If you are responding on behalf of a council, business, VCS or any other organisation, please tell us the name of your organisation here:

If you are responding on behalf of a council, business, VCS or any other organisation, please go straight to question 6.

Q2. Which Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) do you *normally* visit?

Ashford	<input type="checkbox"/>	New Romney	<input type="checkbox"/>
Canterbury	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pepperhill	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dartford	<input type="checkbox"/>	Richborough	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dover	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sevenoaks	<input type="checkbox"/>
Deal	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sheerness	<input type="checkbox"/>
Faversham	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sittingbourne	<input type="checkbox"/>
Folkestone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Swanley	<input type="checkbox"/>
Herne Bay	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tunbridge Wells	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maidstone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/>
Margate	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<i>Please Specify:</i>	

Q3. How frequently do you visit the HWRCs?

Weekly	<input type="checkbox"/>	Once every 6 months	<input type="checkbox"/>
2-3 times a month	<input type="checkbox"/>	Every 6-12 months	<input type="checkbox"/>
Once a month	<input type="checkbox"/>	Less often than 12 months	<input type="checkbox"/>
Once every 3 months	<input type="checkbox"/>	Don't Know	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q4. What is the main reason for your use of the HWRC? Please select one.

<input type="checkbox"/>	To supplement my kerbside collection
<input type="checkbox"/>	I prefer to dispose of my waste more frequently than my kerbside collection allows
<input type="checkbox"/>	To dispose of waste following a sort / clear out
<input type="checkbox"/>	It is part of my regular routine / I enjoy visiting
<input type="checkbox"/>	To dispose of waste/recycling on behalf of a friend/relative/neighbour
<input type="checkbox"/>	Undertaking home improvements
<input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other
	<i>Please specify:</i>

--

Q5. Have you brought soil, rubble, hardcore and/or plasterboard to the HWRCs in the last two years?

Yes

No

Don't know

Section 2: Your Feedback

KCC has no statutory requirement to accept non-household waste (soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard). However, it is appreciated that from time to time Kent residents may need to dispose of these materials, therefore KCC would like to continue to offer a service.

Q6. KCC is proposing to introduce a modest charge for the following non-household wastes, to off-set the cost of providing the service:

- **Soil, Rubble and Hardcore**
 - This also includes other materials such as ceramics which are recycled in the soil, rubble and hardcore container.
 - In line with neighbouring Councils we anticipate the charge to be: £4 per bag (or part bag) / item (a bag being up to the size of a standard black sack
 - A daily limit in-line with current restriction will apply – a maximum of 5 bags / items

- **Plasterboard**
 - In line with neighbouring Councils we anticipate the charge to be: £6 per bag (or part bag) / sheet (a bag being up to the size of a standard black sack

To what extent do you agree or disagree with this proposal?

Strongly Agree

Agree

Neither Agree nor disagree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Q6a. If you have any further comments you wish to make on this proposal, please provide them here: *Please add comments in the box below.*

KCC have no statutory obligation to accept waste at its HWRCs from non-Kent residents.

Q7. Do you think that non-Kent residents should be able to deposit their waste at Kent HWRCs?

Yes, for a charge

Yes, free of charge

No

Don't Know

Q8. How satisfied are you overall with the HWRC service?

Very satisfied

Satisfied

Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied

Dissatisfied

Very dissatisfied

Don't know

Q9. Do you have any further comments or suggestions you would like to make?

Please add comments in the box below.

Q10. We have completed an initial Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) on our proposal.

An EqIA is a tool to assess the impact any service change, policy or strategy would have on age, gender, gender identity, disability, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, pregnancy or maternity, marriage and civil partnership and carer's responsibilities. The EqIA is available online at www.kent.gov.uk/wasteconsultation or on request.

If you have any comments about the Equality Impact Assessment, please provide them here: *Please add comments in the box below.*

Q11. How did you hear about this consultation? *Please select all that apply.*

<input type="checkbox"/>	Kent.gov.uk website
<input type="checkbox"/>	Received an email
<input type="checkbox"/>	Social media (Facebook, Twitter)
<input type="checkbox"/>	At a Household Waste Recycling Centre
<input type="checkbox"/>	At a Library or Gateway
<input type="checkbox"/>	At a DIY store or Garden Centre
<input type="checkbox"/>	Poster
<input type="checkbox"/>	Press advertisement / article
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other <i>Please specify:</i>

Section 3: More About You...

If you would rather not answer any of these questions, you don't have to.

We want to make sure that everyone is treated fairly and equally, and that no one gets left out. That's why we are asking you these questions. We won't share the information you give us with anyone else. We'll use it only to help us make decisions and improve our services. It is not necessary to answer these questions if you are responding on behalf of an organisation.

Q12. Please tell us your postcode.

We use this to help us analyse our data. It will not be used to identify who you are.

Q13. Which of these age groups applies to you? Please tick one only.

<input type="checkbox"/>	0-15	<input type="checkbox"/>	25-34	<input type="checkbox"/>	50-59	<input type="checkbox"/>	65-74	<input type="checkbox"/>	85 + over
<input type="checkbox"/>	16-24	<input type="checkbox"/>	35-49	<input type="checkbox"/>	60-64	<input type="checkbox"/>	75-84	<input type="checkbox"/>	I prefer not to say

Q14. To which of these ethnic groups do you feel you belong?

Please select **one** box. (Source: 2011 Census)

White English	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mixed White & Black Caribbean	<input type="checkbox"/>
White Scottish	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mixed White & Black African	<input type="checkbox"/>
White Welsh	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mixed White & Asian	<input type="checkbox"/>
White Northern Irish	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mixed Other*	<input type="checkbox"/>
White Irish	<input type="checkbox"/>	Black or Black British Caribbean	<input type="checkbox"/>
White Gypsy/Roma	<input type="checkbox"/>	Black or Black British African	<input type="checkbox"/>
White Irish Traveller	<input type="checkbox"/>	Black or Black British Other*	<input type="checkbox"/>
White Other*	<input type="checkbox"/>	Arab	<input type="checkbox"/>
Asian or Asian British Indian	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chinese	<input type="checkbox"/>
Asian or Asian British Pakistani	<input type="checkbox"/>	I prefer not to say	<input type="checkbox"/>
Asian or Asian British Bangladeshi	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Asian or Asian British Other*	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>

***Other Ethnic Group - If your ethnic group is not specified on the list, please provide details:**

The Equality Act 2010 describes a person as disabled if they have a longstanding physical or mental condition that has lasted, or is likely to last, at least 12 months; and this condition has a substantial adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities. People with some conditions (cancer, multiple sclerosis and HIV/AIDS, for example), are considered to be disabled from the point that they are diagnosed.

Q15. Do you consider yourself to be disabled as set out in the Equality Act 2010? Please tick one only.

Yes No I prefer not to say

Q15a. If you answered 'Yes' to Q19, please tell us the type of impairment that applies to you. You may have more than one type of impairment, so please tick *all* that apply. If none of these applies to you, please select 'Other', and give brief details of the impairment you have.

- Physical impairment
- Sensory impairment (hearing, sight or both)
- Longstanding illness or health condition, or epilepsy
- Mental health condition
- Learning disability
- I prefer not to say
- Other

A Carer is anyone who cares, unpaid, for a friend or family member who, due to illness, disability, a mental health problem or an addiction cannot cope without their support. Both children and adults can be carers.

Q16. Are you a Carer? Please tick one only.

Yes
 No
 I prefer not to say

How we use your information

The information you provide on this form is collected and dealt with in compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation.

We are relying on the lawful bases of the *'performance of a public task in the public interest'* to process your personal data for a specific purpose of facilitating a consultation.

We also rely on *'processing is necessary for reasons of substantial public interest'* as the lawful basis on which we collect and use your special category data for the purposes of equalities monitoring.

Kent County Council may share your details with services within the Council who are responsible for carrying out analysis of consultation responses.

Responses will be held securely stored for the period of 6 years.

Returning your response

You can return your feedback in the following ways

- Complete the online questionnaire at www.kent.gov.uk/wasteconsultation
- Complete a paper copy and return to:

Freepost KCC WASTE MANAGEMENT

Please place the completed questionnaire into an envelope. You will not be required to pay postage costs. No other address details are required.

If you have any questions about the proposal, or require paper copies of any of the supporting documents, please contact:

wastedisposalstrategy@kent.gov.uk

03000 41 73 73

Please make sure your response is returned by 1 November 2018.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this consultation response.

**APPENDIX I:
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
(Supporting Consultation Document)**

Kent County Council (KCC)

**Proposed charges at Kent's Household Waste Recycling Centres
(for the disposal of soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard)**

Frequently asked questions (FAQs)

- 1 Why is KCC proposing charges for soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard?
- 2 Would KCC make money out of residents by charging for these waste types?
- 3 Can chargeable waste be brought in vans, pick-ups and other larger vehicles to the HWRCs?
- 4 Can traders bring business waste to the site if there is a charge?
- 5 Will there be charges for garden waste?
- 6 Won't this increase fly-tipping?
- 7 Won't this scheme increase queuing at the sites?
- 8 Does everyone have to pay for chargeable waste?
- 9 What can I tip for free?
- 10 Will there be any restrictions on how much chargeable waste I can bring to the site?
- 11 Why is there a limit on the amount of soil, rubble and hardcore I can bring?
- 12 What are my disposal options for large quantities of chargeable waste?
- 13 How should I bring my waste?
- 14 Will site staff weigh my material on site?
- 15 What if I disagree with the site staff's assessment of the charges to be applied?
- 16 How do I pay?
- 17 What happens if I can't pay?
- 18 What are you going to do if waste is left outside the site?
- 19 What if I disagree with the chargeable waste policy?
- 20 What if I deliver my chargeable waste and then decide to take some back home?
- 21 Is VAT included?
- 22 What will KCC do with the income and money saved if the charges are implemented?
- 23 Can I pay a reduce rate if my bag isn't full?
- 24 Are other non-household wastes already charged for?

1. Why is KCC proposing charges for soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard?

KCC is required to provide a place for Kent residents to deposit household waste free of charge. However, the types of waste in the charging scheme are not classified as household waste, so the council can choose not to accept this material, to put limits on the amount we accept and/or charge to accept it.

In recent years the amount of waste from household alterations and building works that is being brought to our HWRCs has increased. Furthermore, with neighbouring authorities adopting charging, this will have an impact on KCCs HWRCs with regards to cross border usage. Therefore, we are proposing to introduce charges, which are in line with other councils, to recover the cost of dealing with these types of non-household waste and continue to offer a disposal option. These charges are intended to help KCC achieve critical savings while still maintaining a comprehensive service for residents.

2. Would KCC make money out of residents by charging for these waste types?

The charges would cover the cost of managing the treatment of these waste materials, and to allow re-investment into the infrastructure at the HWRCs.

3. Can chargeable waste be brought in vans, pick-ups and other larger vehicles to the HWRCs?

Yes, as long as the vehicle has a valid [vehicle voucher](#) if required, and all other site policies are adhered to.

4. Can traders bring business waste to the site if there is a charge?

No, HWRCs are only for waste from residents' properties. Any tradesmen producing waste as part of their business will be redirected to one of the council's [waste transfer stations](#).

5. Will there be charges for garden waste?

You will still be able to dispose of 'green' garden waste free of charge at HWRCs including:

- Grass cuttings
- Hedge trimmings, twigs, small branches
- Plants, flowers, leaves and weeds (please refer to our [garden waste](#) web page for advice on intrusive weeds)

If you take these types of waste to any of our sites in a restricted vehicle (van, pickup or large vehicle) you will require a valid [vehicle voucher](#).

If the charges are implemented, please note soil and stones would not be accepted free of charge and a charge will be incurred. Turf can be accepted free of charge and should be placed in the green garden waste area.

6. Won't this increase fly-tipping?

KCC understands that making changes to its Waste Management services raises concerns about the potential for increased incidents of fly-tipping. However, there is no clear evidence which shows that there is a link between charging at Household Waste Recycling Centres and increases in fly-tipping.

Where charges are already made for these non-household waste materials in other Authorities such as Hampshire and Surrey, they have either seen no increase in fly-tipping as a result, or only a slight increase in line with national trends.

Fly-tipping is a criminal offence and should not be considered a viable alternative to paying to dispose of waste legally. The majority of residents are law abiding citizens that would never consider fly-tipping.

KCC will continue to monitor this moving forward.

7. Won't this scheme increase queuing at the sites?

We do not expect this scheme to impact queuing, but KCC will continue to monitor this moving forward.

8. Does everyone have to pay for chargeable waste?

Yes. If these changes are made there will be no dispensations or subsidised rates under the charging scheme.

9. What can I dispose of for free?

The proposed charges will not apply to general household waste or 'green' garden waste. Other categories of DIY waste, such as kitchen units, non-ceramic sinks and baths and doors may still be brought to the HWRCs and deposited free of charge. Visit the [KCC waste website](#) for further details.

10. Will there be any restrictions on how much chargeable waste I can bring to the site?

Yes, there is already a limit of 90kgs per day for soil, rubble, hardcore and other items placed in this container for recycling such as ceramics and concrete. The proposal will amend this limit to 5 bags/items per day (up to the size of a standard black sack), which will also include plasterboard. Provided staff are satisfied that the waste has come from your own home and it is not business waste, you will be able deposit your waste.

11. Why is there a limit on the amount of soil, rubble and hardcore I can bring?

The policy to limit these materials was introduced in 2012 to prevent trade waste abuse.

12. What are my disposal options for large quantities of chargeable waste?

For larger quantities of soil, rubble, hardcore and associated materials from home renovation projects, please consider hiring a skip, skip bag or using a commercial waste contractor to dispose of your waste. The HWRCs were not designed to accept large quantities of this type of waste.

13. How should I bring my waste?

If the charges are implemented, waste included in the charging scheme should be brought to the site in appropriate sized bags (no bigger than a standard black sack). Items that don't fit into bags will be priced per item, such as a sheet of plasterboard, paving slab, concrete fence post or a sink. See proposed Chargeable Materials/Items. Waste such as soil and stones must be bagged and will not be accepted loose.

If you take these types of waste to any of our sites in a restricted vehicle (van, pickup or large vehicle) you will require a valid [vehicle voucher](#).

14. Will site staff weigh my material on site?

No, the proposed charging scheme is based on bag, sheet or item quantity.

15. What if I disagree with the site staff's assessment of the charges to be applied?

The site staff will have received training and guidance on how to assess your chargeable waste in bag(s), by sheet or by item. The site managers decision is final. How the proposed charge is being administered will be monitored to ensure that it complies with the policy.

16. How do I pay?

All payments must be made via debit or credit card. (JCB, American Express and Diners cards are not accepted). **No cash or cheques** will be accepted on site.

17. What happens if I can't pay?

You will not be allowed to dispose of any proposed or existing chargeable materials unless you can pay for disposal. You can dispose of any household waste free of charge. Legal proceedings may be taken against any persons disposing of chargeable waste without paying.

18. What are you going to do if waste is left outside the site?

Leaving waste outside the site is fly-tipping. This is a criminal offence and can carry an unlimited fine or a five-year prison sentence. Vehicles suspected of being used for fly-tipping can be seized and destroyed on conviction. All incidences of fly-tipping outside the HWRCs will be investigated and may result in prosecution.

19. What if I disagree with the proposed chargeable waste policy?

Please complete the 'HWRC – Proposal to charge for soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard' [consultation questionnaire](#).

20. What if I deliver my chargeable waste and then decide to take some back home?

Waste already deposited in the waste containers/areas cannot be retrieved due to health and safety reasons. You must decide if you want to take waste home without paying before it is deposited into the containers/areas. If charges are implemented no refunds will be issued for waste that you decide to take back home.

21. Is VAT included?

Yes, VAT is included in the pricing.

You can request a VAT receipt by asking a member of the site staff and they will organise this for you.

22. What will KCC do with the income and money saved if the charges are implemented?

The savings will be used to operate the HWRCs and re-invest into the HWRC service.

23. Can I pay a reduced rate if my bag isn't full?

No. The prices are set per bag (or per part bag), item or sheet.

24. Are other non-household wastes already charged for?

Yes, KCC currently charges £2.50 per tyre for the disposal of car and motorbike tyres. Commercial tyres are not accepted.

**APPENDIX J:
CHARGEABLE MATERIALS / ITEMS LIST
(Supporting Consultation Document)**

Household Waste Recycling Centre – non-household waste charging policy

Kent County Council (KCC) is proposing to charge for the disposal of some non-household waste materials at its 18 Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs). The charges are for:

- Soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard

Even if produced at a domestic property, these materials are to be treated as non-household waste in accordance with the Controlled Waste Regulations 2012

Non-household waste already charged for at HWRCs includes tyres from cars and motorcycles.

The HWRCs do not accept waste emanating from a business.

The table below lists waste materials with details of whether they are/proposed to be chargeable waste materials.

Plasterboard and tyres have designated recycling containers. Other chargeable materials noted below must be placed in the soil, rubble and hardcore recycling area.

Ceramic Bathroom and Kitchen Items (including baths, bidets, cisterns, shower trays, sinks, toilet pans, wash basins)
Breeze blocks and bricks
Cement
Concrete
Drainpipes (ceramic types)
Flagstones
Garden ornaments (clay and concrete)
Granite
Hardcore, rubble, gravel and rocks
Marble
Plasterboard
Sand
Slate

Soil and stones
Tiles (ceramic / clay / slate)
Tyres (car and motorbike etc.) – already charged for

Please see KCC's [vehicle policy](#) regarding vehicles which require a valid permit to access Kent HWRCs.

Waste to be charged for at Kent HWRCs should be brought to the site in appropriately sized bags (no larger than a standard black sack). Items such as sheets of plasterboard, paving slabs and sinks that don't fit into bags will be charged per item.

***A daily limit on soil, rubble and hardcore, in-line with current restrictions will apply – a maximum of 5 bags / items (a bag can be up to the size of a standard black sack). The policy to limit these materials was introduced in 2012 to prevent trade waste abuse.**

The decision of the site staff is final.

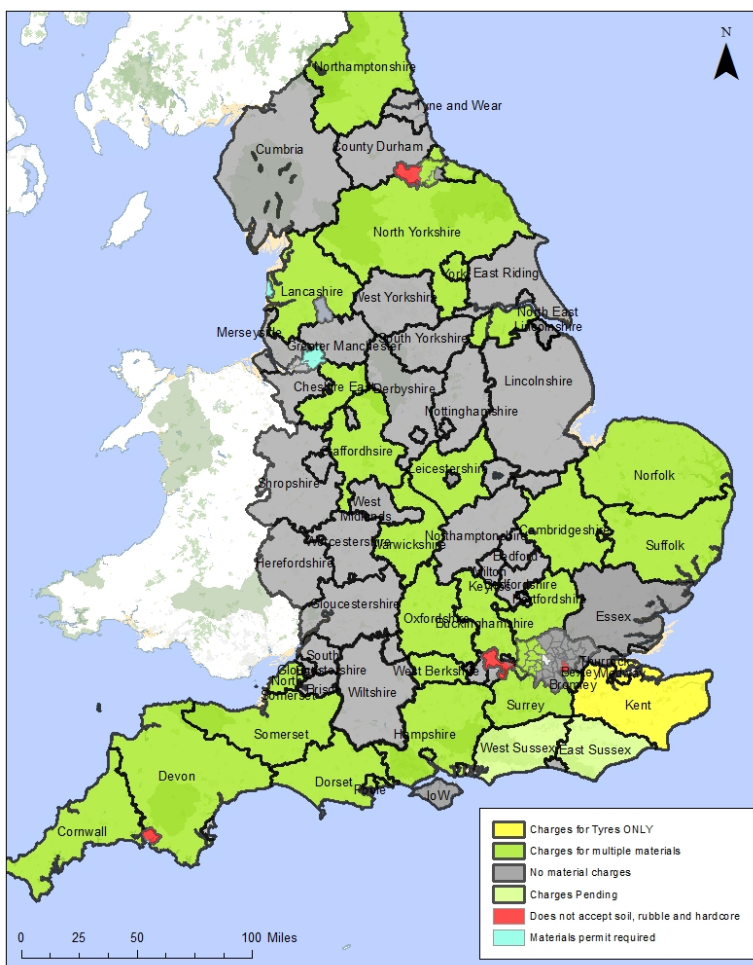
APPENDIX K: NON-HOUSEHOLD WASTE CHARGING POLICIES IN OTHER COUNCIL AREAS

There is no requirement on HWRCs to accept waste which is non-household waste, as described in the controlled waste regulations of 2012. It is on the strength of those regulations that several authorities have now stopped accepting certain items all together, or stopped accepting them free of charge, at their HWRCs. The types of waste that are now being classed as non-household waste can include waste from construction projects on the home including but not limited to; soil, rubble, hardcore, plasterboard, asbestos and tyres.

The following map indicates UK Councils charging for non-household waste.

UK Councils and charging policies

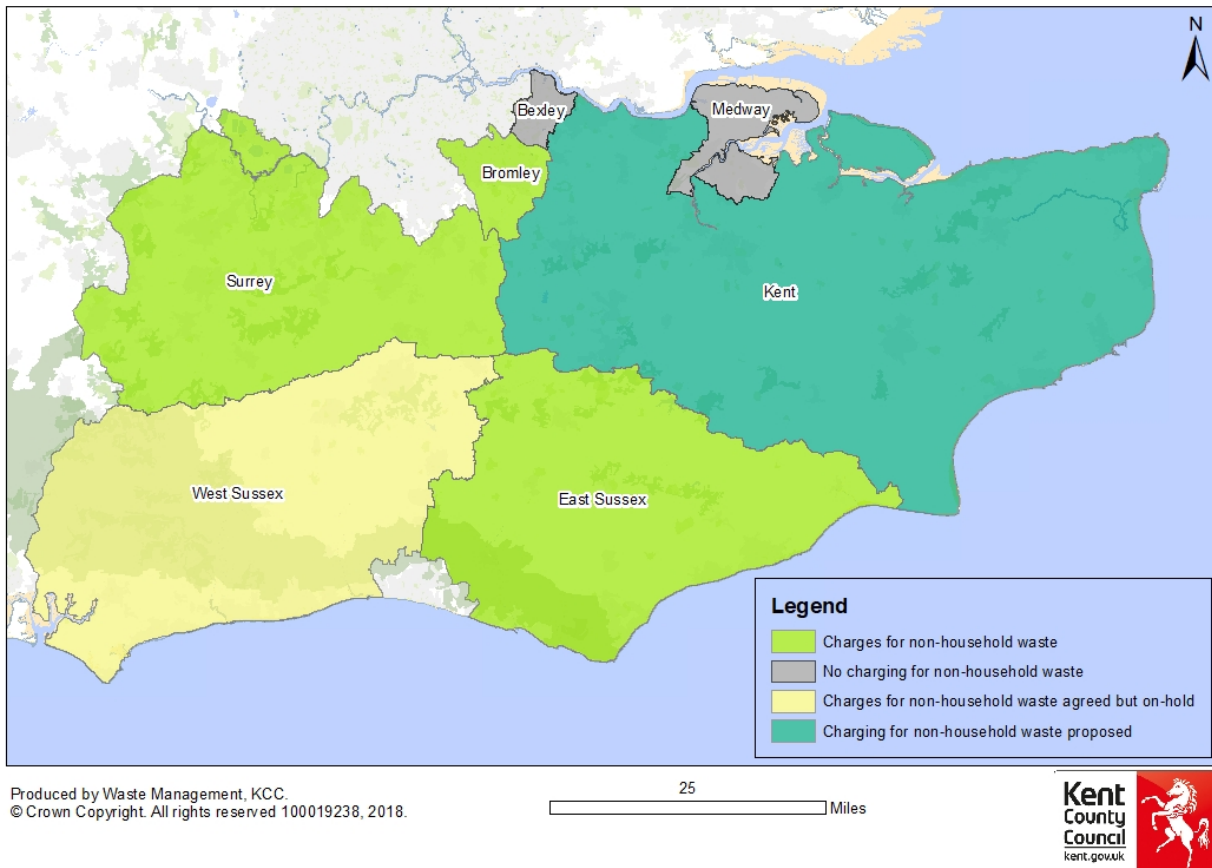
HWRC Material Charging- England Authorities



Produced by Waste Management, KCC.
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Please note: This map is correct as of January 2018. It does not account for any authorities which may have started charging for non-household waste since this time.

Bordering councils and charging policies



The policies of some other Waste Disposal Authorities (WDAs) were researched to establish how they charge for certain materials. The findings of the WDAs explored are as follows:

OTHER AUTHORITY CHARGING POLICY CASE STUDIES

SURREY

Surrey County Council operates a non-household waste charging policy at 9 of its 15 Community Recycling Centres (CRCs), introduced in April 2016.

▪ **Policy details:**

Material	Cost	No of CRCs accept
Soil, rubble, hardcore	£4 per bag*/item	9
Plasterboard	£12 per sheet	9
£50 per car load if the above materials are delivered loose.		
Tyres <i>Limited to x per month, per household</i>	£5 per tyre	9
*Maximum bag size 50cm x 77cm		

- Non-household waste/chargeable materials are only accepted in cars. Vans, trailers and pickups are not permitted to deliver these materials at CRCs and are required to use the sites with a weighbridge (4 sites) and are charged accordingly
- This policy was introduced in April 2016
- See Appendix H for examples of chargeable waste included in the policy

• **Current consultation:**

Surrey CC are seeking further savings and efficiencies and have recently launched a consultation asking for comments on proposals affecting their CRC service. These include:

- increase charges for the disposal of non-household waste they already charge for (soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard)
- increase the range of materials charged for by including construction wastes (including wood)
- close and/or change opening times at several of its HWRCs.

All which could further impact cross border usage experienced at Kent HWRCs.

BROMLEY

Bromley Council have historically operated a non-household waste charging policy at both of its Reuse and Recycling Centres.

▪ **Policy details:**

Material	Cost	No of RRCs accept
Soil, rubble, hardcore	£170 per tonne min fee £23 (100 kgs)	2
Plasterboard	As above	2

- These materials are accepted at both Reuse and Recycling Centres which also accept trade waste via a weighbridge and are therefore able to weigh materials to be charged accordingly
- Bromley has historically charged for non-household waste including soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard. The start date is unknown.
- Bromley residents require a permit to access the Reuse and Recycling Centres with bulky, household and garden wastes. Cross border customers (inc. Kent residents) are required to pay £3 per visit to access Bromley sites for the disposal of other materials, plus any chargeable materials costs
- See Appendix H for examples of chargeable waste included in the policy

EAST SUSSEX

East Sussex County Council operate 10 Household Waste Recycling Sites (HWRSs) and introduced a non-household waste charging policy in October 2018.

- **Policy details:**

Material	Cost	No of HWRS accept
Soil, rubble, hardcore	£4 per bag*/item	10 (1 accepts soil only)
Plasterboard	£4 per bag*/sheet	4
Bonded Asbestos <i>Limited to 6 bags or 4 sheets per month</i>	£6 per bag*/sheet	4
Tyres <i>Limited to 4 per month, per household</i>	£2 per tyre	5
*Maximum bag size 55cm x 85cm (standard hardcore sack)		

- This policy was recently introduced (October 2018)
- See Appendix H for examples of chargeable waste included in the policy. In addition to this list ESCC also charge for Asbestos Cement Products

HAMPSHIRE

Hampshire County Council operate 26 Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) and introduced a non-household waste charging policy in October 2016.

- **Policy details:**

Material	Cost	No of HWRC accept
Soil, rubble, hardcore	£2.50 per bag*/item	25
Plasterboard	£10 per sheet £6 per bag*	26
Bonded Asbestos <i>Limited to 15 sheets</i>	£12 per sheet	5
*Maximum bag size 53.5cm x 82cm (when laid flat)		

- Tyres are not accepted at HWRCs
- The policy was introduced in October 2016
- See Appendix H for examples of chargeable waste included in the policy (except tyres). In addition to this list HCC also charge for Asbestos Cement Products

**APPENDIX L:
CONSULTATION EXPENDITURE**

CONSULTATION EXPENDITURE

Public Consultation KCC Household Waste Recycling Centres (charging for non-household waste including soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard)		
	Quantity	Cost (£)
DESIGN COSTS		
Design of artwork for a variety of resources and the consultation document		£240
PRINT COSTS OF RESOURCES		
Consultation document	500	£385
Postcards	56,000	£603
Posters A4	1,500	£70
Roller banners	2	£144
HWRC site signage (external banners, correx signs, A1 posters)	18 each	£670
ADDITIONAL		
Easy read version (to print on request)		£462
Distribution/postage costs		£366
ANALYSIS AND DATA ENTRY		
In-house (core revenue budget)		
KALC		
TOTAL SPEND		£2,940