

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING	Planning, Transportation & Environment Policy Development & Scrutiny Panel	
MEETING DATE:	3rd March 2015	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:
TITLE:	The provision of Mini Recycling Centres	
WARD:	All	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report: None		

1 THE ISSUE

To provide information on communal recycling facilities called Mini Recycling Centres (MRC's) provided for people living in flats or similar accommodation.

2 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 The content of the report is noted.

3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

3.1 The cost of providing each new Mini Recycling Centres is approximately £1,500pa, which is funded through the Recycling Contract budget.

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS AND BASIS FOR PROPOSAL

4.1 This report is for information. The Council does not have a statutory duty to provide mini-recycling centres, but does now have a legal duty to collect paper, metal, plastic and glass by way of separate collection where it is "technically, environmentally and economically practicable". The mini-recycling centre service meets our statutory obligations.

5 THE REPORT

5.1 Communal recycling facilities called Mini Recycling Centres (MRC's) are provided for people living in flats or similar accommodation as an alternative to the recycling green box service which is not appropriate for this type of accommodation.

- 5.2 MRC's are provided as part of our kerbside recycling service which is carried out by a contractor, Kier.
- 5.3 MRC's have been provided for over 10 years and there are now 164 sites across the district. Each site is usually made up of 6 x 240litre wheeled bins collecting paper, mixed plastic & cans and mixed glass. In December 2010 card collections were also provided to all of the sites.
- 5.4 MRC's are emptied by two vehicles a standard refuse collection type vehicle for the cardboard and a specialist vehicle that has three different compartments to collect the other materials. Collections usually take place on a weekly basis.
- 5.5 The contract with our recycling services provider (Kier) has provision for the installation of up to 10 new MRC sites each year, with an annual contract payment made for each site. Additional sites above 10 can be negotiated if specifically required.
- 5.6 Residents and management companies (including CURO) can request a new MRC site; this request is usually made via Council Connect. Initial contact is then followed up by a site visit to agree a suitable location and once appropriate permissions have been given, it is added to the installation schedule.
- 5.7 When the bins are installed, officers from the waste campaigns team carry out door knocking visits to make residents aware of the new facilities and deliver leaflets to all residents.
- 5.8 When an MRC is installed, Kier will monitor the usage of the site. If a site has any specific issues such as less usage than expected or excess contamination, then the campaigns team will revisit the residents to carry out further door knocking activities to seek to resolve the issue or increase participation.
- 5.9 In Snow Hill specifically we have 3 MRC sites, located at Inman House, Saffron Court and Snow Hill House. They all have bins for paper, mixed plastics & cans, mixed glass and cardboard. Snow Hill was included in the original list of sites when MRC's were first introduced and is a long established site.
- 5.10 To continue to develop the range of materials collected at MRC sites between April and June 2014, food waste collections were introduced at 68 of the sites.
- 5.11 As this was a new material stream an information and education campaign was carried out at the start, which included door knocking residents. Ongoing detailed monitoring of the amount of material collected at the sites has been carried out, which has shown that some of sites are not being well used, with very low tonnages being collected.
- 5.12 In response to this a door knocking campaign is currently being carried out at the lower performing sites to establish why they are not being as well used and to raise awareness of the service.

6 RATIONALE

- 6.1 This report is for information only.

7 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 7.1 This report is for information only.

8 CONSULTATION

- 8.1 Consultation has been carried out with the section 151 officer.

9 RISK MANAGEMENT

A risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations has been undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.

Contact person	<i>Sarah Alder 01225 394187</i>
Background papers	<i>None</i>
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	