

Single Member Cabinet Decision

**Executive  
Forward Plan  
Reference**

**E2951**

**Neighbourhood Environmental Services - Approval of capital expenditure for 17/18**

<b>Decision maker/s</b>	Cllr Martin Veal, Cabinet member for Community Services
<b>The Issue</b>	<b>Revisions to operating policies at the Council's Household Waste &amp; Recycling Centres</b>
<b>Decision Date</b>	<b>On or after : 24 March 2017</b>
<b>The decision</b>	<p>The Cabinet Member for Communities is asked to approve the following to be implemented from Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2017:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The residents permit scheme will change from electronic pre-registration to providing proof of residency at the recycling centres.</li> <li>b) Vans (non-hired), trailers and other vehicles will be required to apply for an electronic permit and will not be able to use the recycling centres on a Friday, Sunday or Monday.</li> <li>c) The types of vehicles that can access the recycling centres and those that require a permit are as detailed in the report.</li> <li>d) The volume of DIY waste that will be permitted to be disposed of as household waste is set at a maximum of 6 black sacks per week.</li> <li>e) Legal enforcement powers are used to ensure the sites are used only for the legitimate disposal of Bath &amp; North East Somerset residents' household waste.</li> </ul>
<b>Rationale for decision</b>	<p>Up to 3 hours of work per day is currently spent administering and updating the electronic residents' permits. When considered against the numbers of residents still using the sites without valid permits, it is considered that the residents only policy can be managed effectively by requiring proof of residence when visiting the sites, while at the same time reinforcing the message, already communicated around the recycling centres, that provision is only for BANES Council Tax payers.</p> <p>Traders using the sites in vans are known to be most likely to be disposing of trade waste illegally (as a proportion of users). Restricting the days vans are able to use the sites, and enabling staff to focus on addressing these concerns, has been proven to work in neighbouring waste authorities'. It currently costs B&amp;NES over £200k per annum for the disposal of rubble, plasterboard and wood. Restricting opening hours for vans, trailers and other vehicles that require a permit will help to reduce</p>

	<p>this expenditure.</p> <p>The current publicised limits around DIY waste are widely misunderstood and misinterpreted by site visitors. The current policy permits 10 black sacks per project but this can lead to heated debate both on site and for customer service representatives over the phone.</p> <p>For the sake of clarity '6 black sacks per week' gives a far clearer message to residents. There is no statutory obligation for the Council to accept this waste, free of charge, but the 6 bag limit offers a service for those who are not generating enough waste to justify a skip or the use of a waste disposal company and payment of associated fees.</p>
<b>Financial and budget implications</b>	<p>The Council approved budget for 2017/18 has savings detailed in relation to the operation of the recycling centres as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Residents who wish to use the recycling centres with vans and trailers will only be able to do so at specified times - £10,000</li> <li>(2) Change from electronic residents permits to proof of residency only - £10,000</li> </ul> <p>The savings for time banding vans at recycling centres have been identified to be made by a reduction in tonnage of trade or commercial material deposited unlawfully with the subsequent saving to the Council of the cost in having to treat this material.</p> <p>The savings for the change to the proof of residency scheme will be made through a reduction in administration costs. There are no redundancy implications.</p>
<b>Issues considered (these are covered in more detail in the report)</b>	Customer Focus; Sustainability; Human Resources; Property; Corporate; Health & Safety; Impact on Staff; Other Legal Considerations
<b>Consultation undertaken</b>	Ward Councillor; Cabinet colleagues; Staff; Other B&NES Services; Section 151 Finance Officer; Chief Executive; Monitoring Officer
<b>How consultation was carried out</b>	Through the Council's budget process.
<b>Other options considered</b>	A number of other options have been considered and discounted which are summarised in the report.
<b>Declaration of interest by Cabinet Member(s) for decision, including any dispensation granted:</b>	<i>None</i>
<b>Any conflict of interest declared by</b>	None

<b>anyone who is consulted by a Member taking the decision:</b>	
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<b>Signatures of Decision Makers</b>	
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<b>Date of Signature</b>	
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**Subject to Call-in until 5 Working days have elapsed following publication of the decision**