



Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee

19th March 2015

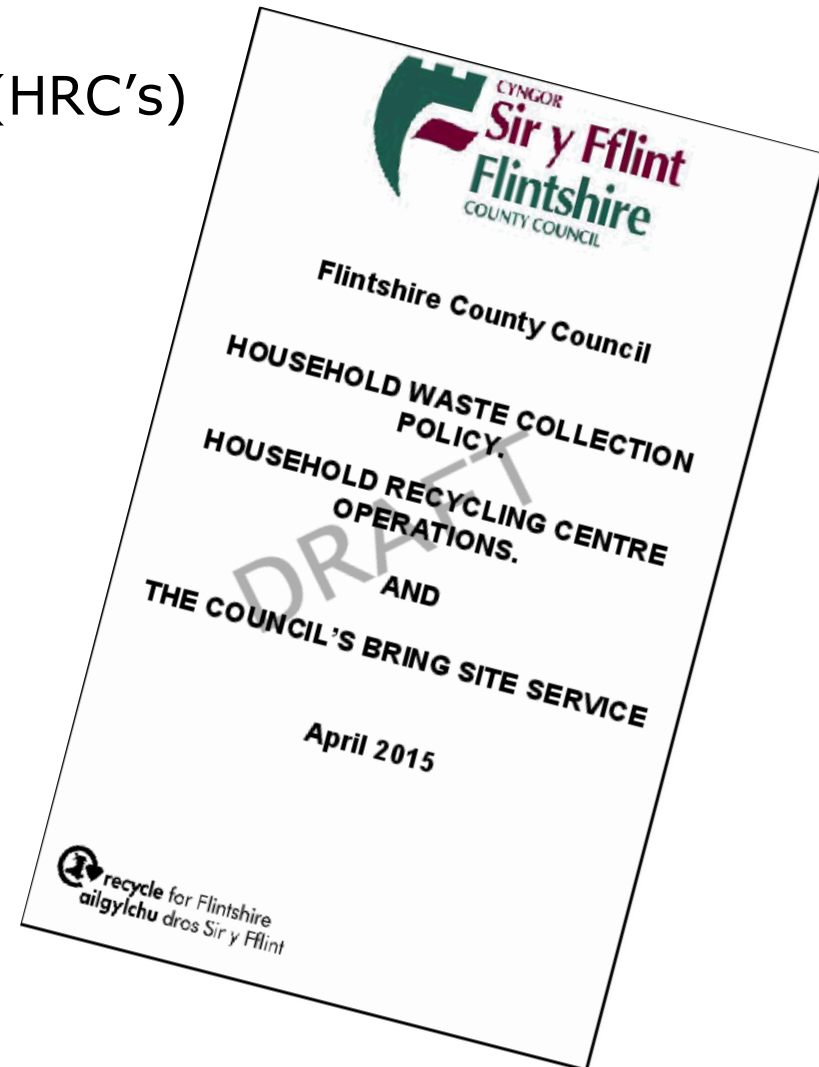


Review of the Waste Collections Policy

Harvey Mitchell – Waste Manager

Waste collection policy changes

- Household Recycling Centre's (HRC's)
- Missed Bins
- Garden Waste service
- Bulky Waste Service
- 7 day collections
- Replacement containers



Household Recycling Centres (HRC's)

- Current provision of 7 HRC's
- Sandycroft – replacing Q/Ferry and Saltney
- Current cost = £2.7 million
- Performance at 58%
- Top performers in Wales 80 to 90% (WG target of 80%)





Household Recycling Centres (HRC's)

Proposal

- Reduce to 6 sites with 2 on 3 day week
- Outsource service September 2015 on a performance based contract

Interim changes to improve performance:

Site charge hand (Additional)
Back splitting
Stricter van permit rules
Improved 'Meet and Greet'
Weekly performance reporting

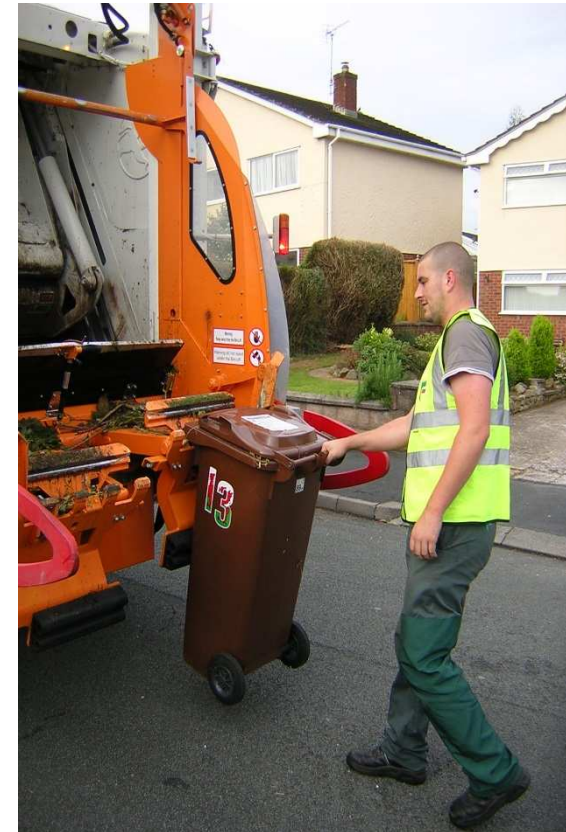
Missed collections

- Current service - Return within 24 hours
- Cost of returning = £150,000 per annum
- Fault of crew or resident ?
- Proposed - Not to return other than assisted
- Charge hand role – street sign off



Garden Waste Service (brown bins)

- Current service – No charge 24 collections per annum
- Large number with 2nd bin some with up to 6 bins
- Continue to collect 1 bin FOC
- Charge for additional bin/s maximum of 3
- Suspend collections between 1st December and 28th February





7 day collections

- Current service - Collect Monday to Saturday
- Operating since November 2011
- Increase Saturday collections by 5,000 properties
- Small number(1450) of rural properties on Sunday
- Bank Holidays but no collections on Christmas Day, Boxing day, New Year's day

Bulky Waste Service

- Current service - Up to 5 items for £15
- Pensioners/ Benefit claimants 2 free collections/year
- 5,500 requests per year with 90% FOC
- Net cost of service is £215K (Income of £20k)
- Review current charges



Replacement Containers

- Current service - direct to door delivery on report
- Number of deliveries each week 350 to 500
- 1st May residents signposted to collection sites (HRC's, Housing offices, Council Buildings)
- Reference number / proof of residency on collection
- Exemptions - Assisted collection and Wheel bin replacements

Feedback is requested on

HRC's

1. Using a 10 hour day in the summer and an 8 hour day in the winter what should the opening hours be for both Winter and Summer?
2. Should we reduce van ban permit visits from 12 to 8 per annum?
3. What should the maximum size of a trailer be before a permit is required?

Garden Waste

4. Should the charge for additional bins of £24 be reduced/increased for a 3rd bin request?
5. Should the same charging regime be applied to bowling clubs?

7 Day working

6. Should we start collections later on a Sunday?

Bulky Collection charges

7. Should we increase charges to recover all costs?
8. Should we remove subsidy for pensioners/benefit claimants?

Feedback is requested on

HRC's

1. Using a 10 hour day in the summer and an 8 hour day in the winter what should the opening hours be for both Winter and Summer?

9 – 5 Winter

9 – 7 Summer

- » **“12.7** *The opening hours for the facilities will be as follows:*
- » *Monday to Sunday for Greenfield, Sandycroft, Mold and Buckley*
- » *Saturday to Monday for Connahs Quay and Flint*

»	<i>Summer (1st April* – 30th Sept)</i>	<i>Opens</i>	<i>09.00 hours</i>
»		<i>Closes</i>	<i>19.00 hours</i>
»	<i>Winter (1st Oct – 31st Mar*)</i>	<i>Opens</i>	<i>09.00 hours</i>
»		<i>Closes</i>	<i>17.00 hours</i>

» **Summer hours will be extended if Easter falls in March”*

Feedback is requested on

HRC's

2. Should we reduce van ban permit visits from 12 to 8 per annum?

Keep to 12

3. What should the maximum size of a trailer be before a permit is required?

6' x 4'

"12.11 Resident Van Permits at HRC's

- » *In order to prevent trade waste being disposed of at the HRC's a van permit scheme will be in operation.*
- » *Residents owning the following vehicles must be in possession of a permit to dispose of their waste at a designated HRC site. The permit will allow a maximum of 12 visits per annum. This restriction applies to company vehicles, hired vehicles and borrowed vehicles and includes:*
- » *Vans*
- » *Pick-ups/crew cabs*
- » *Trailers (maximum dimensions of than 1.8m long x 1.2 wide x 1m deep) This must only be towed by a car whose registration will be on the permit*
- » *Mini-buses*
- » *Any other vehicle that might be seen as 'commercial' "*

Feedback is requested on

Garden Waste

4. Should the charge for additional bins of £24 be reduced/increased for a 3rd bin request?

Charge should be £24 for both 2nd and 3rd bin

5. Should the same charging regime be applied to bowling clubs?"

Bowling clubs should be treated same as householder

» **4.13** *Where a household produces large quantities of garden waste, they may purchase up to 2 additional 140 litre wheeled bins for the storage of this material. This additional bin/s will be subject to an annual charge for collection and can be presented on collection day with the first bin.*

» **4.14** *No garden side waste will be collected.*

» **4.15** *Any additional bin/s paid for by the resident will be issued with a coloured sticker so it is easily identifiable to the collection crew. The charge for additional brown bins will also apply to bowling clubs and will be reviewed annually*

and details of current charges are available on the Council's Fees & Charges listing".

Feedback is requested on

7 Day working

6. Should we start collections later on a Sunday?

8am start

“6.2 Wheeled bins, food containers and recycling boxes/bags should be presented for collection by 7.00 am on the day of collection Monday to Saturday (Sunday 8am) and removed after collections have taken place (which could be up until 5pm). Containers may be placed at their collection point on the evening before collection however the Council will not accept liability for any injury or damage to third parties as a result of any incidents occurring with a container left on the public highway outside of these periods unless caused by the acts or omissions of its employees, contractors or agents.”

Feedback is requested on

Bulky Collection charges

7. Should we increase charges to recover all costs?

Charges should reflect cost of service.

8. Should we remove subsidy for pensioners/benefit claimants?

All should pay for service

Reduced charges for pensioners/benefit claimants

“11.2 *Householders in receipt of Income Support, Unemployment Benefit, Disability Living Allowance, State Pension or Guaranteed Pension Credits will receive a reduction in the charge for this service and these will be reviewed annually and details of current charges are available on the Council’s Fees & Charges listing”*



Review of the Councils Grass Cutting Policy

Derrick Charlton Acting Streetscene Manager



Related Legislation

- » Well Maintained Highways – Code of Practice for Highway Maintenance Management
- » Environmental Protection Act
- » Duty of Care

Well Maintained Highways – Code of Practice for Highway Maintenance Management

- » Recommends that Authorities develop local standards based on fitness for purpose
- » Sets out recommendations and good practice for the cutting of grassed areas
 - » that adjoin the highway
 - » grassed verges
 - » soft estate areas (Amenity grass)
- » Recommends that grass on rural roads should be cut
 - » On identified visibility areas
 - » To provide a pedestrian refuge of at least 1 swath width
 - » Cut back full width of highway verge every three years to control the growth of woody vegetation and weed.



Well Maintained Highways – Code of Practice for Highway Maintenance Management

- » Recommends that grass in urban areas should be cut to a higher standard to balance the need of highway safety, serviceability and sustainability
 - » Grass should be cut to higher frequency to avoid the concealment of debris
 - » To avoid grass cuttings blocking gullies
 - » Consideration of the overall townscape management
- » Litter picking must be carried out before grass cutting takes place to reduce the risk of debris becoming missiles that could be thrown into the path of oncoming traffic. Also to avoid unsightly shredded litter being strewn over the grassed area



Duty of Care

- » To ensure that the highway is in a safe condition as possible for the public to enjoy
- » To consider the needs of the public in the amenity areas
- » To consider the environmental impact
 - » Biodiversity areas
 - » SSSI's
 - » Nature reserves

Proposed Grass Cutting Frequencies

- » Rural Roads (derestricted)
- » Visibility splays at junctions – 4 cuts per year
April - June - August - September/October
- » 2 swathe widths on all principal roads, 1 swathe width on all non- principal and unclassified roads – 1 cut per year

The timing of this one cut is variable depending upon weather conditions during the year, but the target is June.



Grass Cutting Frequencies

- » The current policy requires a full width back to boundary cut to be undertaken for weed and self sown sapling control on all classifications of rural roads once every three years.
- » The new policy reduces this standard to one cut every six years.





Grass Cutting Arrangements

- » Current Highway Verge Grass Cutting Arrangement
 - » County is split into 3 areas
 - » One area by external contract
 - » Two areas in-house

- » Proposed Highway Verge Grass Cutting Arrangement
 - » County split into 3 areas
 - » The 3 new areas to be cut by external contractors



Feedback is requested on

Principle roads – Views on reducing to 1 swathe width

The view was that 1 swathe width would be sufficient on all roads.

“1. Roadside verges Cut by tractor flail to a height of approx 50mm –

- » Frequency:
- » Visibility splays at junctions
- » 4 cuts per year in -
- » April
- » June
- » August
- » September/October
- » Remaining Verges

- » 1 swathe width on all principal, non-principal and unclassified roads”.



Feedback is requested on

The timing of the single full cut on rural verges

June commencement is acceptable, however flexibility is key – weather/growth dependant

No Policy amendment required

Timing of the commencement of all grass cutting operations

Agree with Policy – however flexibility is key – weather/growth dependant

No Policy amendment required



Feedback is requested on

Full width verge cutting for weed and self sown sapling control on all classifications of rural roads once every 6 years.

Saplings and weed growth will get too established if left for 6 years.

“Full width verge cutting for weed and self sown sapling control on all classifications of rural roads once every 4 years in September/October”



Street Lighting Policy Review

Darell Jones – Street Lighting Manager



Proposed amendments

- » Installation of Part Night Lighting
 - » 2400 hrs – 0500 hrs – Industrial
 - » 2400 hrs – 0600 hrs – Residential & Car Parks

- » Repair / Attendance Time Frame (KPI / PI)
 - » 3 Working days – Sensitive Areas
 - » 10 Working days – All Other Locations
 - » Scottish Power Faults – As per OFGEM

- » Night Inspection Regime
 - » 28 Days



Summary

- » Consideration and consultation: Members, Town and Community Councils and relevant stakeholders
- » Location assessment and identification
- » Risk assessment and Method statement process
- » Installation will take place during current activities
- » Costings (Financial, environment, safety etc)

Feedback is invited on

1. Part Night Timings

- » Are the times acceptable?
Residential – midnight to 6am Industrial – midnight to 5am

2. Risk Assessment and selection for installations

- » Criteria and assessment process
- » Part Night locations
- » Consideration, consultation and stakeholders: Members, Town and Community Councils, Police

3. Repair / Attendance Time Frame (KPI / PI)

- » 3 Working days – Sensitive Areas
- » 10 Working days – All Other Locations
- » Sensitive Area selection, criteria and assessment process

4. Night Inspection Regime, an increase to 28 days from 14 days

- » Should this be 21 days?
- » Should we select locations for priority night inspections?
If so should this be in line with the Sensitive Areas



Summary and Outcome of Workshop

1. Part Night Timings

Residential & Industrial – 2400 hrs – 0500 hrs (Switched Off)

As Policy no amendment required

2. Risk Assessment and selection for installations

Criteria and assessment process to be undertaken for all Part Night locations

Consideration, consultation will take place with the relevant stakeholders and will be

Members, Town, Community Councils, internal stakeholders and Police (Blue light services)

As Policy no amendment required



Summary and Outcome of Workshop

3. Repair / Attendance Time Frame (KPI / PI)

3 Working days – Sensitive Areas - Agreed

10 Working days – All Other Locations less Scottish Power faults -
Agreed

As Policy no amendment required

4. Night Inspection Regime

Agreement to 28 days

As Policy no amendment required



Workshop 2

Car Parking Strategy

Joanna Jones





Proposal

- » To introduce a Countywide Car Parking Strategy outlining the main principles
- » To develop 10 local strategies considering 44 car parks

Local strategies aims

- » To introduce charging in towns or communities where the parking provision is above 40 spaces
- » To introduce a workplace parking permit scheme at specific facilities where staff parking overlaps with the local parking strategy
- » Reviews the Traffic Regulation Orders within immediate area to support the proposal
- » Considers the possible displacement of vehicles and identifies areas where future residential parking schemes may be required



Feedback is requested on

1. Would you prefer the proposed hours of operation to be?

8am to 5pm, 8am to 6pm, 9am to 5pm or 9am to 6pm

8am to 5pm dependant upon location

Each local strategy will outline the charging period

2. Should we charge for parking on Sundays and / or Bank Holidays?

Agreed dependant on location

Each local strategy will outline the charging period

3. Should motorcycles be required to pay for parking?

Agreed, dedicated bays will be provided in each town / community



4. Should a level of income be passed back to the Town or Community Council for them to decide where to reinvest within the town/community?

Split decision; would you like to consider further:

- › None
- › Capped contribution
- › Incremental dependant on local charge

5. Should short stay car parks have a 1 hour prohibited return?

Agreed

Appendix 1, County Parking Strategy

- » Off-street public parking:
- » Short stay parking will have a 1 hour prohibited return from the expiry of the parking ticket.



6. Should short stay only car parks have a higher charge imposed?

Agreed, where appropriate

7. Currently we enforce 'out of bay' and misuse of 'disabled bays' in all off street car parks on Sundays and Bank Holidays, should this continue?

Agreed

Appendix 1, County Parking Strategy

- » Off-street public parking:
- » Disabled bay misuse and abuse will not be tolerated, all bays will be enforced outside of any charging period set.
- » 'Out of bay' parking will not be tolerated, all car parks will be enforced outside of any charging period set.



8. Do you support the principle of residents parking schemes?

Agreed

9. Should resident's parking cover a set period?

8am to 6pm or 24hours

24 hours agreed

10. Should resident's parking include Saturday and Sundays?

Agreed

Appendix 1, County Parking Strategy will cover all of the above

- » Off-street public parking:
- » These residential parking schemes will offer a permit which covers the full 24 hour period, including Saturdays and Sundays.



Other issues raised.....

Recommend that the same demographic areas have the same long stay tariff (excluding Talacre, and Flint and Shotton Railway Station Car Parks).

- Buckley, Connah's Quay, Queensferry and Shotton.
- Mold, Holywell and Flint
- Caergwrle and Hawarden

Change to local strategies as appropriate



Whilst it was generally agreed that charging at County Hall should be introduced, the permit banding and parking tariff received mixed opinion, the main principles debated were around the differential permit charge;

- » Recommend the same rate for all permits should be applied and which should be equitable with Town Centre parking rates.

Change to local strategies as appropriate



During the workshops it was accepted that residential parking schemes are key to the delivery of these charges in certain areas.

- » **Recommend that the implementation date for residential parking schemes be brought forward where necessary**

Change to local strategies as appropriate



TO NOTE:

The Parking Strategy is open to public consultation until 29 March 2015, therefore, further changes may be recommended as a result of feedback received.