



MERSEYSIDE RECYCLING & WASTE AUTHORITY

MERSEYSIDE... A PLACE
WHERE NOTHING IS WASTED

Proposal for an Executive Decision

ISSUE TO BE DECIDED	
<p>To amend the Free Waste Disposal Scheme to allow Charities to deposit their household waste at Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) across Merseyside from April 2014. The Scheme currently allows charities to deposit at Waste Transfer Stations for onward delivery to landfill. The opportunity to recycle some of this waste is therefore lost. The development of the Scheme will further support the work of charities in the local community who will benefit from shorter journeys, moreover the development will allow waste to be recycled/reused and consequently reduce the Authority's disposal costs for this waste stream.</p>	
REF NUMBER	DATE GENERATED
ED 01 14	Wednesday 12 th February 2014
PORTFOLIO AREA	Operations
PORTFOLIO HOLDER	Chairman
REPORTING OFFICER	Jeff Sears
IS THE REPORT PRIVATE	NO
IF YES, STATE RELEVANT PARAGRAPH UNDER SECTIONS 100 AND 100A TO 100K OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972	
SUPPORTING FACTS UPON WHICH THE PROPOSED DECISION IS BASED	
<p><u>BACKGROUND</u></p> <p>The Authority currently provides a Free Waste Disposal Scheme, whereby certain approved Charities and Not For Profit Organisations are permitted to directly deliver their Household Waste free of charge to the Authority's Waste Transfer Stations (for disposal at landfill). Approved organisations are allowed to tip waste up to a maximum of £500 worth of disposal costs per organisation per year (depending on estimated quantities of waste). The Scheme is provided entirely at the discretion of the Authority, which is not required to make facilities available for direct tipping by charities, but has historically recognised the benefits of supporting local charities in this way.</p> <p>Waste delivered under the existing Free Waste Disposal Scheme is mixed with other waste inside the Waste Transfer Stations and sent to landfill, incurring transport charges and expensive landfill costs. There is presently no opportunity to recycle or reuse this waste, and charity vehicles delivering the waste in to the Waste Transfer Stations add to vehicle congestion, particularly at busy times.</p>	

There are currently 214 charities and not for profit organisations approved to tip under the Scheme. During 2013/14 they are expected to tip 644 tonnes of waste in to the Waste Transfer Stations at a cost of £61,000 to the Authority. Deliveries of waste to the Waste Transfer Stations are done so via vans and similar commercial vehicles.

Authority officers have carried out a waste composition analysis of the waste delivered by Charities and consider that up to 75% could be recycled/reused if the waste was delivered to HWRCs. This would significantly reduce disposal costs for this waste stream and improve recycling rates at the HWRCs.

DETAILS OF THE PROPOSAL TO DIRECT ORGANISATIONS TO THE HWRCs FOR THE RECYCLING AND DISPOSAL OF WASTE

It is proposed that Charity vehicles will be granted access to the HWRCs via the Authority's existing Commercial Vehicle Permit Scheme. Approved Organisations will be issued Temporary Permits and be allowed to visit their nominated HWRCs up to a maximum of 12 times per year (per premises). Organisations will be granted a number of visits based on an assessment of their requirements via the existing application process and ensuring that £500 of disposal costs is not exceeded.

In the event that an organisation requires a greater amount of visits per year (above 12) and can demonstrate an acceptable reason for this, a greater number of visits may be granted on the basis that the limit of up to £500 of disposal costs is not exceeded. In determining these requirements the Corporate Services Manager shall liaise with the Contracts Section to determine the required amount of visits.

The availability of HWRCs described above is considered to be sufficient to allow Charities to deliver their waste, whilst also placing a limit on visits to ensure that recycling and disposal costs are controlled.

Charities will be advised of the changes to the Free Waste Disposal Scheme as part of the annual renewal of applications.

In the event that a Charity requires disposal of household waste that is not suitable for acceptance at a HWRC, or cannot deliver waste in a vehicle in accordance with the Permit Scheme's approved Access Policy, by such exceptions the organisation may be directed to a Transfer Station to deposit their waste.

For the avoidance of doubt Charities and Not for Profit Organisations will continue to be ratified by the Corporate Services Manager under this scheme, should it be approved by Members.

Under this proposal the Chief Executive shall delegate to the Corporate Services Manager all responsibility for approving organisations (and their delivery points) in to the Free Waste Disposal Scheme. In the event of any appeal regarding any aspect of the Scheme the Chief Executive reserves the right to all final decisions and to refuse any application.

This proposal does not alter the basis of approvals agreed by Members (WDA/16/04 19TH March 2004) but rather modifies the way in which the scheme is administered.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Should the proposals to accept charity waste at HWRCs be approved, this would result in shorter journey times for charities when depositing their waste and allow recycling and reuse to take place against this waste stream. As a result the management of this waste stream would move higher up the Waste Hierarchy and away from disposal via landfill, which is the least environmentally beneficial method of disposing of waste.

These factors combined will contribute to the low carbon economy on Merseyside and support the Joint Recycling and Waste Management Strategy 'Resources Merseyside 2011 – 2041'.

LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

In accordance with the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (EPA 1990) the Authority has a statutory duty, amongst others, to make arrangements for places to be provided at which residents may deposit their own household waste, this is achieved by the provision of HWRCs.

The EPA 1990 also provides that a waste disposal authority may include in these arrangements to allow for other persons to deposit household waste or other controlled waste on such terms as the authority determines.

The Controlled Waste Regulations 1992 (amended 2012) provide that waste arising from premises occupied by a charity and wholly or mainly used for charitable purposes shall be treated as Household Waste.

SPECIFY ANY AUTHORITY POLICY RELATING TO THE ISSUE

The proposals supports the Authority's Corporate Aims;

- To deliver value for money and sustainable waste services which meet the current and future needs of the Merseyside and Halton community and deliver continuous improvement in performance.
- To work with all partner authorities and lead the development and implementation of sustainable municipal waste management practices for Merseyside and Halton.

The proposal also supports the Joint Recycling and Waste Management Strategy 'Resources Merseyside 2011 – 2041'.

SPECIFY ANY RELEVANT NATIONAL OR REGIONAL GUIDANCE

N/A

OPTIONS AVAILABLE

To continue to accept waste from charities at the Waste Transfer Stations.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Officer time from within the existing Authority establishment will be necessary to;

- Implement and manage the changes to the Waste Disposal Scheme
- Undertake the required communications to inform Charities and Not for Profit Organisations about the changes to the Scheme
- Maintain existing application and approval procedures
- Process permit applications
- To monitor, evaluate and review the scheme as required

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The following table compares the costs of continuing to accept charity waste (at the current level of tonnage), at Waste Transfer Stations compared to accepting the waste at HWRCs during 2014/15.

Facility	Tonnes	Estimated Diversion from landfill %	Cost
Waste Transfer Station	644	nil	£66,744
HWRC	644	75%	£33,196
Estimated saving per annum =			£33,548

In the event charity waste is delivered to HWRCs from April 2014 it is estimated that costs would reduce by approximately £33,548 per annum, representing a 50% saving against existing costs at Transfer Stations.

RISK ASSESSMENT

Identified Risk	Likelihood Rating	Consequence Rating	Risk Value	Mitigation
Deliveries of charity waste to HWRCs increases congestion at the sites	1	2	2	Effective traffic management and assistance at HWRCs

IMPLICATIONS IN ANY OTHER AREAS OF THE AUTHORITY'S ACTIVITIES

N/A

PROPOSED DECISION AND SUPPORTED REASONINGRecommendation

To amend the Free Waste Disposal Scheme to allow Charities to deposit their household waste at Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) across Merseyside from April 2014.

This development of the Scheme will further support the work of charities in the local community who will benefit from shorter journeys, moreover the development will allow waste to be recycled/reused and consequently reduce the Authority's disposal costs for this waste stream.

Charity vehicles permitted to deliver waste under the Free Waste Disposal Scheme would be directed to local HWRCs from April 2014, this would be achieved in accordance with the existing HWRC Commercial Vehicle Permit Scheme.

It is considered that up to 75% recycling and diversion may be achieved if the waste is accepted at HWRCs, and as a consequence will generate a saving of approximately £33,548 per year in disposal costs to the Authority (equates to a 50% reduction in the waste disposal costs for this waste stream).

RECORD OF CONSULTATION**CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO THIS PROPOSAL INCLUDING
DETAILS OF VIEWS RECEIVED**

	DATE CONSULTED	DEADLINE DATE
Chief Executive	13 th February 2014	14 th February 2014
FEEDBACK	Chief Executive Approval Obtained	
PORTFOLIO HOLDER	13 th February 2014	21 st February 2014
FEEDBACK	Agreed	
MWDA MEMBERS AND SENIOR OFFICERS	21 st February 2014	3 rd March 2014
FEEDBACK		
DECISION CALLED IN?	NO	
IF YES, DATE OF AUTHORITY MEETING		
DATE DECISION IMPLEMENTED	With effect from 1 st April 2014	