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**Decision Session - Executive Member for the Environment**

6 March 2017

Report of the Assistant Director (Communities & Equalities)

**Review of Recycling Bring Banks**

**Summary**

1. This report proposes that consultation of the provision of recycling bring banks across the city is undertaken.

**Recommendations**

2. The Executive Member is asked to:
  - agree to the removal of recycling bring banks used purely by businesses.
  - agree for a process of consultation to be undertaken, looking at the provision of the recycling bring banks across the city.
  - approve the consultation approach.

Reason: To improve recycling in York, through an improved recycling bring bank service.

**Background**

3. There are currently 49 recycling bring bank sites spread around the city, Annex 1 shows the locations of these sites on a map.
4. These sites range from places with recycling banks for 1 material to sites with recycling banks for up to 12 materials. Further detail can be found in Annex 2.
5. Recycling bring banks are placed at various locations across the city with the permission of the land user, owner or site management.
6. In 2016/17 it is estimated that the recycling bring bank sites will collect approximately 1500 tonnes of recyclable material.
7. In 2016/17 it is estimated that the recycling bring bank network will cost the city approximately £56k to service.

8. The recycling bring bank network across York was originally formed before the introduction so a kerbside recycling service which enabled York residents to recycle materials with ease.
9. From April 2017 every household in York will have a kerbside collection of paper, cardboard, plastic bottles, cans and glass.
10. Over the last couple of years, York has lost four of its most well used recycling bring bank sites.
11. Two sites were removed because they were not wanted by the land user / site management:
  - Tesco, Clifton Moor
  - Ryedale Court, Haxby
12. Two sites were removed because the site management now provides their own recycling bring banks:
  - Sainsbury's, Foss Bank
  - Sainsbury's, Monks Cross
13. In addition to the recycling bring bank network, there are two Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) which are for residents to take their household waste for recycling.
14. The HWRCs have a wide range of banks available for recycling the following materials; garden waste, wood, paper, cardboard, car batteries, household batteries, metal, cans, plastic bottles, cartons, books, mineral oil, vegetable oil, glass, textiles, hard plastics, gas bottles, turf, televisions, small Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE), bikes, fluorescent tubes and fridge/freezers.
15. A number of recycling bring banks have been identified as being used purely by businesses. The recycling bring banks are funded via the council tax and are therefore for use by residents. Businesses have a legal responsibility (duty) to make sure that waste is managed properly, this includes organising and paying for appropriate collections of their rubbish and/or recycling. This duty is set out in Section 34 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990.
16. Removal of these 'Commercial' recycling bring banks would provide a cost saving in the region of £8k.

**Proposal 1** – removal of recycling bring banks used purely by businesses.

17. The recycling bring bank network has not been reviewed. As every household will have the facility to recycle paper, cardboard, plastic bottles, cans and glass at the kerbside from April 2017, it is felt that this provides an opportunity to look at the provision of the recycling bring banks.
18. We would like to work with communities to achieve better recycling areas instead of just doing the same as we always have.
19. It is recognised that there is a need to provide recycling bring bank sites that collect the materials which are collected from the kerbside as we are aware that people sometimes collect extra recycling occasionally throughout the year and like to recycling this before their next collection.
20. There are a number of recycling bring bank sites that are not well used that we believe could be removed and the resources used for improvements to other sites.
21. There are a number of charities that provide recycling bring banks in York for residents to recycle textiles, books and music. There is no intention to remove these banks from their current locations. Where banks for paper, glass, cans etc are removed from an area the charity recycling banks will be left in place. Locations of charity banks may be reviewed, we will work with the charities on this, however the responsibility of seeking permissions lies with the charities.
22. An improved recycling bring bank service could include:
  - Larger recycling banks, so that the sites can collect more material and so will not overflow so quickly
  - Refurbish recycling banks and improve the look of sites
  - Include additional banks for different materials such as; cartons, textiles, books.
23. We have information on the amount of materials being collected at each site for recycling and the cost of the service at each site. Therefore we can identify which are not providing us value for money
24. We do not know how each recycling bring bank site impacts on the lives of York residents, therefore we would like to consult with residents to find out their views and ideas on:

- the location of the recycling bring banks
- the reallocation of the service's resources
- if there are any particular sites that we should pay special attention to
- suggestions for new materials at sites
- suggestions for new / different locations for recycling bring banks (subject to site owner/user, site management permission)

**Proposal 2** – to undertake a process of consultation looking at the provision of the recycling bring banks across the city between April 2017 and June 2017 with an aim to start implementing changes to the service from September 2017

25. The consultation will be open to all residents across the city, with the following questions:

- Are there any particular sites that you would like to make a comment about? Please tell us the location of the site and give your comment
- Are there any particular sites that you think would benefit from improvement measures? Please tell us the location of the site and tell us how you think that they could be improved
- Do you have any other comments that you would like us to consider when reviewing the recycling bring bank network?

Full details of the questions and context of the consultation can be found in Annex 3: Draft Consultation Document

26. We will advertise the consultation via social media, Facebook and Twitter, Councillors, Community groups, Resident Associations, Parish Councils, members of One Planet York and internally to CYC staff via Buzz.

27. Consultation will include the site owners/users and site management

28. Consultation will include talking to internal departments including communities and equalities team, enforcement team and also consulting with contractors that undertake the collections at the recycling bring bank sites.

**Proposal 3** – the above approach to the consultation

## Options and Analysis

- Approve, or not, the removal of recycling bring banks used purely by businesses.
- Approve, or not, to undertake a process of consultation looking at the provision of the recycling bring banks across the city between April 2017 and June 2017 with an aim to start implementing changes to the service from September 2017
- Approve or amend the approach to the consultation

## Council Plan

29. The proposals contained in this report assist with the priority of a Focus on Frontline Services.

## Implications

30. **Financial:** The removal of the ‘commercial’ recycling bring banks will generate a saving of £8k which will fund the consultation costs. Any further changes to the bring bank service will be managed within the existing budget.
31. **Human Resources (HR) :** There are no HR implications
32. **Equalities:** The consultation process will be available for all to access
33. **Legal:** There are no Legal implications
34. **Information Technology (IT):** There are no IT implications
35. **Property:** There are no property implications

## Risk Management

36. In compliance with the Council’s risk management strategy the main risks that have been identified associated with the proposals contained in this report are those which could lead to the inability to meet business objectives and to deliver services, leading to damage to the Council’s reputation and failure to meet stakeholders’ expectations. The level of risk is assessed as “Very Low”. This means that periodic monitoring is required of the operation of the new arrangements.

## Contact Details

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Rachel Stewart Waste Services Delivery Manager Tel. (01904) 553279	<b>Report Approved</b>	✓	<b>Date</b> 20-2-17
<b>Specialist Implications:</b> Sara Goodhead, Waste Management Officer			
<b>Wards Affected:</b>		All	✓

## Background Papers

None

## Annexes

Annex 1: Recycling Bring Bank Locations

Annex 2: Current list of recycling sites, materials and tonnages collected

Annex 3: Draft Consultation Document

## Abbreviations

HWRC Household Waste Recycling Centres

WEEE Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment