

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9

TITLE: RESULTS OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD RECYCLING CENTRE PROVISION CONSULTATION

Committee: Regulatory Services

Date: 23rd July 2018

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[T55]

1.0 ISSUE

- 1.1 To determine the future provision of neighbourhood recycling centres in the light of a full kerbside recycling service being offered in the District, including additional wheelbins for dry recyclates.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 2.1 Members are requested to:
- (i) Note the results of the consultation;
 - (ii) Determine which option is most suitable, and;
 - (iii) Authorise Officers to implement the chosen option.

3.0 BACKGROUND/OPTIONS

- 3.1 The Committee were previously informed that two of the three contractors that provide the bring bank services would not be renewing their contract as of April 2018 because it was uneconomic for them to continue to provide the service. Currently the contractors are still providing a limited service, but the Council has been given notice that this will soon cease.
- 3.2 The current cost to the Council for this service equates to £15,398.48 per year, (including recycling credits net of recycling credits paid by CCC) as detailed in the Table 1 below.

2016/17 annual costs

3.3	Number of Bring Banks Sites	35
	a) Current annual cost to Council without recycling credits	£24,799
	b) Recycling credit value received by the Council	£9,400
	c) Annual cost to the Council (a) – b)	£15,399

Following the introduction across the District of the kerbside recycling service as in many local authorities the tonnage of recyclates being recovered from bring banks has fallen substantially as detailed overleaf.

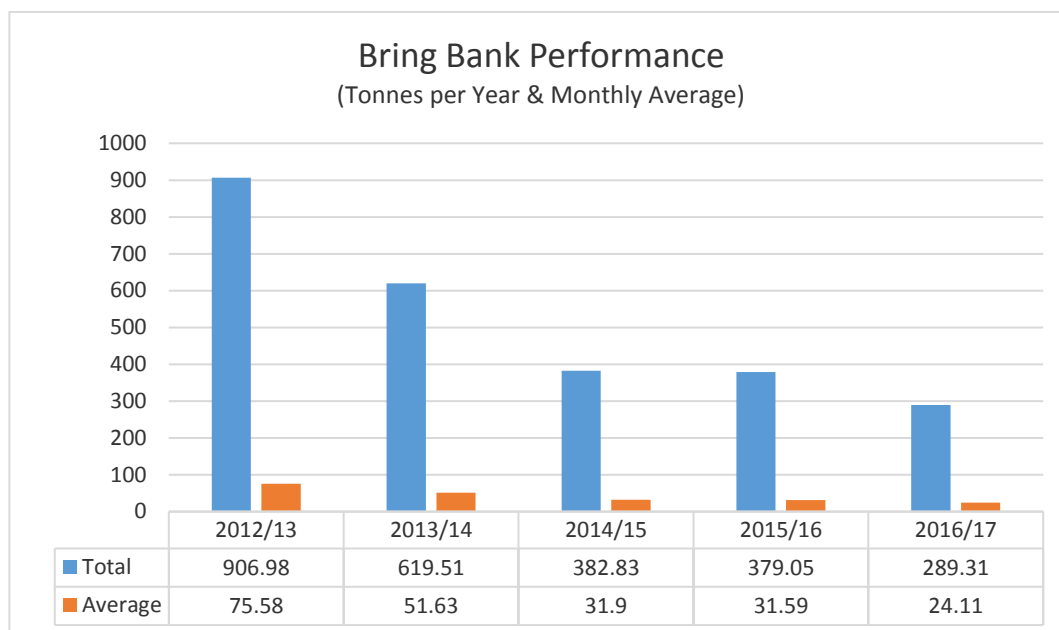


Chart 3.2.1

3.4 The cost per tonne for recyclates for recyclates collected from the bring sites can to be calculated based on the costs of the service in 2016/17 to have risen from £16.98 in 2012/13 to £53.28 in 2016/17. This can be challenged as not providing value for money against other forms of recycling.

3.5 The original contract for bring bank provision and emptying was intended to be offset by the value of material collected as follows:

- Paper price per tonne during contract: £42.69;
- Glass price per tonne during contract: £17.50;
- Mixed Cans and Plastic bottles price per tonne during contract: £30.

Subsequently, over the past five years the prices for recyclates have differed considerably and currently the market value for recyclable material is at an all-time low. Therefore, none of the three contractors are now prepared to take this commercial risk and to offer any rebate for materials collected.

3.6 To determine the future of the bring banks Members requested an options appraisal regarding the future provision of the facilities to be undertaken including a consultation exercise with residents

3.7 The consultation was widely advertised and remained open from 25th April to 20th June. The consultation asked three questions:

- a) Option 1: Should the Council remove all bring banks except textiles at the earliest opportunity?
- b) Option 2: Should the Council provide an in-house combined service to a limited number of sites using ECDC banks and vehicles?
- c) Option 3: Should the Council provide an in-house combined service at all sites using ECDC banks and vehicles?

- 3.8 The consultees were also asked if option 2 or 3 was selected would the consultee be prepared to contribute to the increased cost of providing the service in house?
- 3.9 In all options the textile recycling banks would be retained because textile recycling is not part of the kerbside collection service and still provides an income, whereas all other options would now be a cost to the authority.
- 3.10 The outcome of the consultation is summarised below:
- a) There was a total of 114 responses online and by e-mail.
 - b) Of the 114 responses, 37 respondents agreed with Option 1; 75 respondents agreed with Option 2; and 29 respondents agreed with Option 3. It should be noted that the majority of consultees agreed to more than one question, presenting a more confused picture.
 - c) Of the 9 Parish Councils that responded, 1 Parish Council agreed with Option 1; 4 Parish Councils agreed with Option 2; and 4 Parish Councils agreed with Option 3. Out of the nine Parish Councils that responded seven Parish Councils also confirmed they were not prepared to commit funds to retaining a bring bank.
 - d) Littleport Parish Council have requested that irrespective of the consultation outcome that all bring banks in Littleport be removed.

4.0 ARGUMENTS

- 4.1 Table 2 details the benefits and disbenefits of each option in the context of the consultation results

	Advantages	Disadvantages
Option 1: Remove all the bring banks except textiles at the earliest opportunity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual cost savings to the council of £15,399. • Savings in Officer time to monitor/report on full sites. • Cleansing crew time spent removing fly-tips could be used to clean streets. • Less complaints about unsightliness. • Removing the bring banks would require us to widely publicise, this could be incorporated into the Michael Recycle awareness campaign. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of service to a limited number of residents.

Option 2: Provide an in-house combined service to a limited number of sites using ECDC owned bring banks and vehicles.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain the 5 most used sites for residents who are unable to dispose of recycling. • No contractor costs. • Supplies a service to residents. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up cost to the Council of £10,000 to purchase bins, plus replacement/repairs to bins (est. £1,000 per year). • This option would only yield an annual income of £1,000 to offset the costs of providing the service. • Unseen contamination in bring banks may reduce Council's overall recycling rate because of contamination.
Option 3: Provide an in-house combined service at all sites using ECDC owned bring banks and vehicles.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reactive service to empty the bring banks. • No external contractor costs to empty the bring banks. • Supplies a service to residents. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set-up costs of £27,000 plus on-going servicing costs, replacement bins, and cost for the removal of fly-tipping.

4.2 In addition the following support would be required from East Cambs Street Scene Ltd relating to the individual options:

- a) Option 1: Putting up signage warning against fly tipping. Write to all those households who did not originally accept the offer of a blue bin when originally introduced. Continuing to promote second blue bin opportunity. Continue to actively promote recycling. Free up £15,399 to be used on activities such as fly tipping removal within the District and supporting the Michael Recycle Campaign.
- b) Option 2: Actively promote the remaining sites. Continue to promote recycling, for example, second blue bin opportunity.
- c) Option 3: Promoting the use of the sites and increase awareness on the cost of clearing fly tipping.

5. Conclusion

- 5.1 Whilst the bring banks had previously offered value for money the introduction of the kerbside dry recycling service in 2013 has resulted in a substantial reduction of material being left at the banks (68 % reduction); and also, the reduction in the value of recycling has resulted in the cost of the service increasing to more than the value of the materials collected and given the expected budget shortfall in 2020 the value of this service compared to the cost is questionable.

6.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 6.1 Option 1, would generate a saving of £15,399 per annum to the Council
- 6.2 Option 2, would include set up costs of £10,000 for the Council and then the on-going costs of providing the service of circa £2,200 per annum.
- 6.3 Option 3, would include set up costs of £27,000 for the Council and then the on-going costs of providing the service of circa £16,000 per annum.
- 6.4 Equality Impact Assessment (INRA) is not required this point.

6.0 APPENDICES

None

<u>Background Documents</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact Officer</u>
(Neighbourhood Recycling Centre Provision, Regulatory Services, 22 January 2018)	Room (Location: i.e. The Grange,) Ely	(Name Nick Wyatt (Position: e.g. Sustainability Officer (01353) 616221 E-mail: nick.wyatt@eastcambs.gov.uk