

Consultation options and supporting evidence for the proposed closure of Everleigh Household Recycling Centre (HRC)

Your responses to this questionnaire will provide the council with information about how you currently access and use the household recycling centre network in Wiltshire. In addition, the council aims to understand how you may be impacted by the proposed closure of Everleigh household recycling centre and what mitigation actions the council could consider in order to reduce the impact.

Please take a few moments to read the information below and complete the short survey by 3 September 2018.

Once the consultation is closed, the results will be evaluated and considered before being presented to the council's Cabinet for a final decision to be made on the proposed closure.

Background

Wiltshire Council needs to save £22 million during the next financial year due to changing demographics, increased demand on key services and significantly reduced government funding. In respect of waste services, the council plans to implement charges at the HRCs for non-household waste, such as tyres and construction waste. In addition, from April residents may have been asked to provide proof of address to use a Wiltshire Council HRC in order to ensure that access to sites is protected for those people resident in the Wiltshire Council area as these sites are funded by Wiltshire Council tax payers.

Wiltshire Council has a statutory duty (under section 51 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990) to provide places where persons resident in its area may deposit their household waste, free of charge. We currently have a network of 11 sites, located across the county where residents are able to dispose of their household waste as well as recycle many other items.

National best practice guidance produced by the Waste Resources Action Programme states that the majority of residents should be able to access a site within 30 minutes if living in a rural area and within 20 minutes if living in an urban area. The majority of Wiltshire residents are able to access a household recycling centre within these times. If Everleigh HRC were to close the vast majority of residents who currently use the site would be able to access Marlborough, Devizes or Amesbury HRC within 30 minutes. Guidance also states that at least one site should be provided per 143,750 residents. Wiltshire Council currently provides one site per 43,000 residents. This would change to 1 site per 47,300 if Everleigh were to close.

Issues

Everleigh HRC Site infrastructure works

During a site condition survey carried out prior to the handover of the site to the new service providers (FCC Environment), issues were identified with the drainage at the Everleigh HRC. In order to ensure compliance with environmental legislation it has been necessary to revise the layout of the site, and reduce the amount of recycling containers provided. Whilst the site had been operating using the previous layout for some time without incident and the Environment Agency had not identified this as an issue of non-compliance, the identification of the drainage issue required the council to take action as a matter of urgency in order to avoid a potential breach of environmental regulations.

This revised layout provides a smaller area on which containers can be located. This action was taken at the beginning of October 2017. An assessment has been made to assess the extent of the works required to enable the site to revert to accommodating a wider range of materials and continue to comply with the requirements of the Environmental Permit.

In addition, a drainage survey also highlighted the need for the sealed drainage tank at Everleigh to be replaced to ensure that contaminated water was contained securely, without the risk of polluting surrounding land. Finally, a site infrastructure survey highlighted the need for essential maintenance to be

carried out on the retaining wall which separates the low level bins (used for non-recycled and garden waste) from the upper, public area. The age and continued use of the retaining wall has meant that the concrete has started to fail in places.

Site usage

The council monitors the use of the sites by counting the number of vehicles which access each site. The graph below shows the number of visits to all sites in Wiltshire from October 2015 to September 2016 compared to the same period in 2016/17. This shows that the number of visits to Everleigh is significantly lower than to all other sites in Wiltshire, with 38,475 recorded visits in between October 2016 and September 2017. By comparison, all other sites received more than 80,000 visits with four sites receiving in excess of 149,000 visits over the same period.

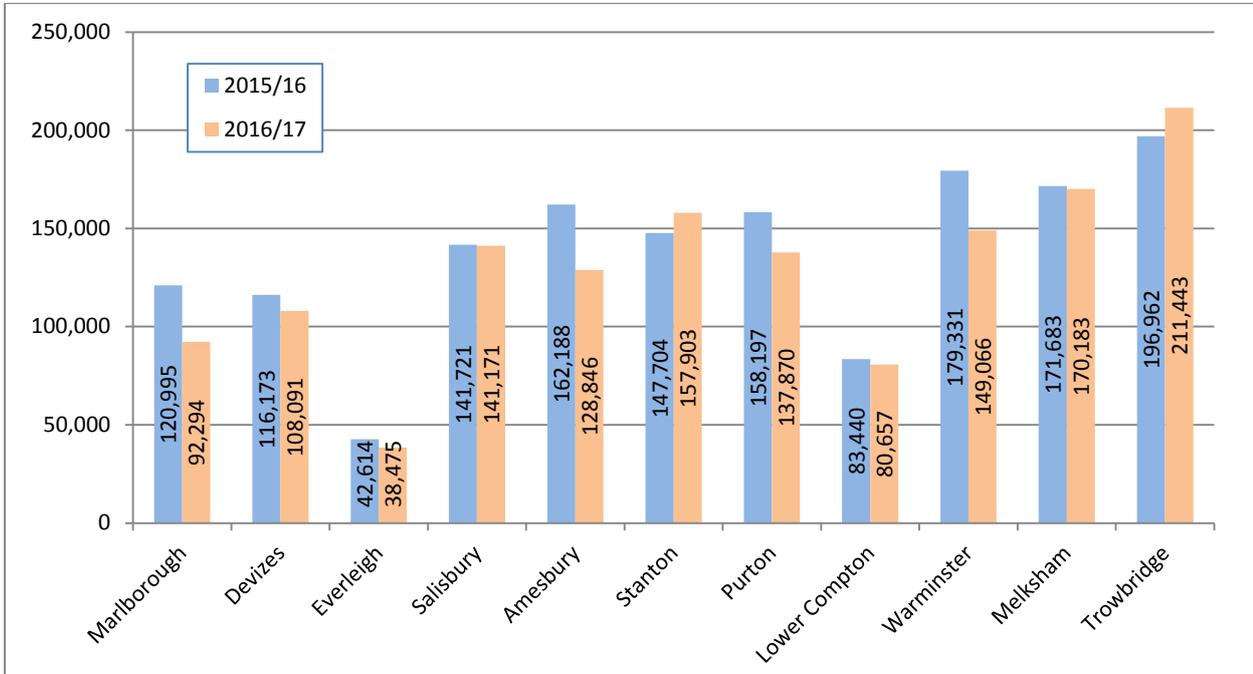


Figure 1 – Total number of visits per site between October 2015 and September 2016 compared to the same period in 2016/17

The overall number of visits per hour at Everleigh HRC is also lower than at other sites within Wiltshire. Everleigh had an average of 25 visits per hour between October 2016 and September 2017 compared to 48 visits or more per hour for all other sites.

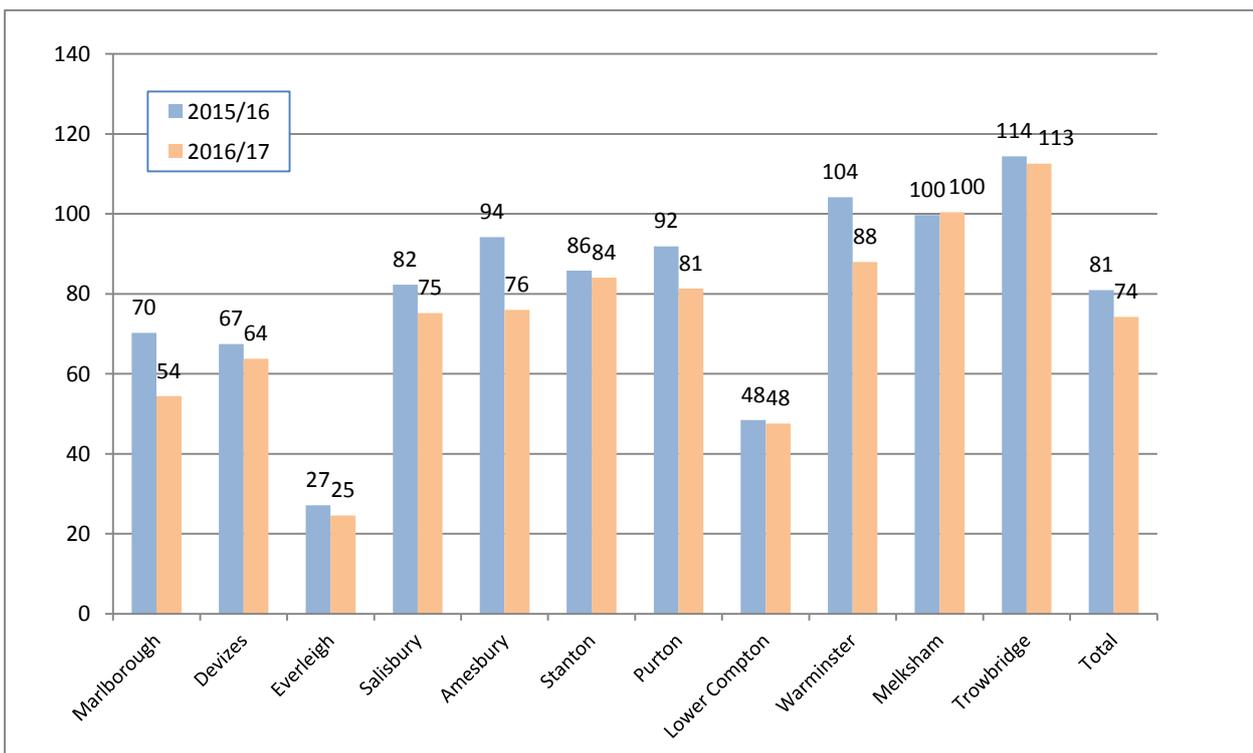


Figure 2 –Number of visits per hour, per site between October 2015 and September 16 compared to same period in 2016/17

Site performance

The council closely monitors the total amount of waste which is collected on each site and the amount of waste which is diverted from landfill through reuse or recycling.

Between October 2016 and September 2017, compared to all sites in Wiltshire, Everleigh received the lowest amount of waste and also diverted the least amount of waste from landfill.

HRC	Total waste (t)	Total diverted (t)	Diversion rate (%)
Trowbridge	8,106	6,716	83%
Salisbury	7,053	5,522	78%
Stanton	7,139	5,747	80%
Warminster	6,152	4,974	81%
Melksham	5,999	4,917	82%
Purton	4,794	3,851	80%
Amesbury	5,586	4,177	75%
Devizes	4,589	3,601	78%
Lower Compton, Calne	4,280	3,322	78%
Marlborough	3,437	2,830	82%
Everleigh	2,244	1,663	74%
TOTAL	59,378	47,320	80%

Figure 3 – Total waste received and diverted per site between October 2016 and September 2017

Consultation and options

Before any decision regarding closure of sites is made, we are holding a consultation to gauge potential impacts and investigate potential mitigation actions that could be implemented. The consultation refers to the options which have been considered as set out below (savings are shown in red).

	Option	Details	Annual revenue cost	Initial investment cost
1	Full long term investment in the Everleigh site to reinstate collections of all materials for the site to run as others in Wiltshire	Replace sealed drainage tank		£20,000.00
		Repair parapet wall		£20,000.00
		Install sealed drainage system into the western area of the site		£62,500.00
		Purchase new equipment	£43,000	
2	Full long term investment in the Everleigh site but the council to close another household recycling site to fund the required works.	Replace sealed drainage tank		£20,000.00
		Repair parapet wall		£20,000.00
		Install sealed drainage system into the western area of the site		£62,500.00
		Redundancy costs from alternative site closure		£14,000
		Average saving of fixed operating costs of the eight remaining sites in addition to avoided annual revenue costs	-£135,500	
3	Change Everleigh to collect recyclable materials only.	Replace sealed drainage tank		£20,000.00
		Repair parapet wall		£20,000.00
		Purchase new equipment	£37,000	

4	Retain current layout, with reduced suite of recycling services available.	Replace sealed drainage tank		£20,000
		Repair parapet wall		£20,000
		Purchase new equipment	£37,000	
5	Close Everleigh site to the public.	Redundancy costs from Everleigh site closure		£8,000
		Saving of fixed operating costs in addition to avoided annual revenue costs	-£100,000	
6	Open Everleigh on a Saturday and Sunday only.	Replace sealed drainage tank		£20,000.00
		Repair parapet wall		£20,000.00
		Install sealed drainage system into the western area of the site		£62,500.00
		Purchase new equipment	£37,000	
		Savings of variable costs associated with reduced opening	-£60,000	
7	Close Everleigh but invest in one further opening day at Amesbury, Devizes and Marlborough	Redundancy costs from Everleigh site closure		£8,000
		Additional costs of opening Amesbury, Devizes and Marlborough	£30,000	
		Saving of fixed operating costs in addition to avoided annual revenue costs	-£100,000	

Please take a few moments to complete the short survey which accompanies this document.