## **Public Document Pack**



# RUSHMOOR BOROUGH COUNCIL

# ENVIRONMENT POLICY AND REVIEW PANEL

at the Council Offices, Farnborough on Tuesday, 5th April, 2016 at 7.00 pm

To:

Cllr D.E. Clifford (Chairman)
Cllr Sophia Choudhary (Vice-Chairman)

Cllr M.S. Choudhary Cllr Sue Dibble Cllr D.S. Gladstone Cllr G.B. Lyon Cllr J.J. Preece Cllr L.A. Taylor Cllr D.M. Welch

Enquiries regarding this agenda should be referred to the Panel Administrator, Justine Davie, Democratic and Customer Services, Tel. (01252) 398832, Email. justine.davie@rushmoor.gov.uk.

### AGENDA

### 1. **MINUTES –** (Pages 1 - 6)

To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 26th January, 2016 (copy attached).

# 2. HOUSEHOLD WASTE RECYCLING CENTRES - RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION - (Pages 7 - 32)

To consider the Head of Community and Environmental Services' Report No. COMM1606 (copy attached), on a response to the consultation by Hampshire County Council on proposed changes to Household Waste Recycling Centres.

#### 3. ALDERSHOT TASK AND FINISH GROUP -

To receive an update on the work being carried out by the Aldershot Task and Finish Group and the latest position.

#### 4. FARNBOROUGH TASK AND FINISH GROUP -

To receive an update on the work being carried out by the Farnborough Task and Finish Group and the latest position.

### 5. **WORK PROGRAMME –** (Pages 33 - 44)

To note the Panel's Current work programme (copy attached).

#### **MEETING REPRESENTATION**

Members of the public may ask to speak at the meeting on any of the items on the agenda by writing to the Panel Administrator at the Council Offices, Farnborough by 5.00 pm three working days prior to the meeting.

Applications for items to be considered for the next meeting must be received in writing to the Panel Administrator fifteen working days prior to the meeting.

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# ENVIRONMENT POLICY AND REVIEW PANEL

Meeting held on Tuesday, 26 January 2016 at the Princes Hall, Aldershot at 7.00 pm.

### **Voting Members**

Cllr D.E. Clifford (Chairman)
Cllr Sophia Choudhary (Vice-Chairman)

Cllr M.S. Choudhary Cllr Sue Dibble Cllr D.S. Gladstone Cllr G.B. Lyon Cllr J.J. Preece Cllr L.A. Taylor Cllr D.M. Welch

#### 18. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th November, 2015 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

### 19. THE COUNCIL'S CONSERVATION TEAM

The Panel received a presentation from Ms. Louise Piper, Planning Policy and Conservation Manager, and Dr. Paul Howe, Biodiversity Officer.

Ms. Piper gave an outline of the work of the Planning Policy and Conservation Team. In respect of planning policy, Ms. Piper gave details of the Team's work on the following areas:

- the Development Plan for Rushmoor
  - Core Strategy
  - New Rushmoor Local Plan
- the wide scope of planning issues
  - housing: employment; transport; design; Farnborough Airport; and, the town centres
  - conservation: heritage assets, conservation areas
  - natural environment: biodiversity; countryside; green infrastructure, Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area; water and flooding
- Supplementary Planning Documents (e.g. Buildings of Local Importance)

Ms. Piper advised Members of the work of the team in respect of conservation, trees and biodiversity. It was noted that, in 2011, a shared service had been implemented with Hart District Council. Rushmoor's officers remained employed full-time, but some salary costs had been recouped through time spent working at Hart. The shared service had impacted on the capacity of the Conservation, Trees and Biodiversity Officers at Rushmoor, however, the shared service had enabled Rushmoor to retain officer expertise and at less cost than previously and for less than employing consultants.

In respect of conservation of the built environment, Ms. Piper advised the Panel that work was carried out providing advice on planning applications and also on listings, amendments and advice on planning applications in respect of nationally and locally listed buildings and heritage assets. Advice was also given on pre-application enquiries (e.g. Cambridge Military Hospital and Louise Margaret Hospital).

Ms. Piper also gave an outline of arboricultural issues (Tree Preservation Orders, dealing with applications for tree works and providing advice and guidance at pre-application stage). Work in connection with biodiversity issues included dealing with sites of nature conservation value at local level (Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation and Local Nature Reserves), national level (Sites of Special Scientific Interest) and international level (Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area – advice on mitigation/Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace). Wherever possible, a partnership approach was adopted to protection and enhancement of the natural environment.

Dr. Paul Howe, the Council's Biodiversity Officer, then gave a presentation on the Rushmoor Biodiversity Action Plan (B.A.P.) The Panel was advised that the B.A.P. 2009 – 2014 had been adopted in 2009 and had included an audit of biodiversity in the Borough and set out a series of actions. It provided a framework to deliver biodiversity enhancement and protection across Rushmoor. The actions had been delivered through partnership work, planning, volunteer groups and other Council departments. It was noted that the B.A.P. had four main delivery areas on which progress had been made over the five year Action Plan period:

- protect and conserve the biodiversity resource
- create new areas for wildlife
- education and awareness (external and internal)
- partnership work

Dr. Howe gave details of examples of projects that had been carried out by partners, including the Farnborough Community Centre pond, a Community Matters Partnership project, and Brickfields path creation.

The draft Biodiversity Action Plan 2016-21 was currently the subject of a consultation exercise, the closing date for which was 1st February, 2016. The document had built on the preceding Plan and had been updated in a few key areas to take account of: the National Planning Policy Framework Environment White Paper; actions designed to reflect current resource for delivery; continued commitment to partnership working; focus on enhancement on Council sites; and, the importance of communication. Dr. Howe asked for any comments on the draft

Biodiversity Action Plan 2016-21 to be sent to him for consideration for inclusion in the final document.

Ms. Piper and Dr. Howe then answered Members' questions in respect of the recording of the numbers and types of species in the Borough, the involvement of ward councillors, local groups and civic society groups, local businesses and neighbourhood groups in projects requiring volunteers, the use of the Arena magazine to publicise the need for support. It was also suggested that consideration could be given to the creation of a joint database of potential conservation projects.

On behalf of the Panel, the Chairman thanked Ms. Piper and Dr. Howe for their informative presentations.

The Panel **NOTED** the updates on the work of the Planning Policy and Conservation Team.

#### 20. CONSERVATION BODIES - UPDATES

#### (1) Rowhill Nature Reserve Society -

The Panel received a presentation from Mr. Roy Champion, Chairman of the Rowhill Nature Reserve Society. During the presentation, Mr. Champion advised Members that Rowhill Nature Reserve covered 55 acres and was now returning, in part at least, back into the working wood it had once been. Mr. Champion also made reference to the Society's work in monitoring species at the Nature Reserve and the upgrading of paths, including an accessible trail.

Mr. Champion answered Members' questions on fence making, volunteering by corporate groups and working with children.

On behalf of the Panel, the Chairman thanked Mr. Champion for the Society's on-going and valuable work for the community. The Chairman thanked Mr. Champion for his presentation and extended an invitation to attend a future meeting for a further update on the Society's work.

The Panel **NOTED** the presentation.

### (2) Blackwater Valley Countryside Partnership –

The Panel received a presentation from Mr. Steve Bailey, Manager of the Blackwater Valley Countryside Partnership. During the presentation, Mr. Bailey advised Members of the role played by the Partnership in co-ordinating projects and actions of all involved parties and stakeholders in the Blackwater Valley to increase sustainable usage of the Blackwater Valley, especially for informal outdoor recreation, and to ensure wildlife and landscape protection. Mr. Bailey spoke about the work of the Blackwater Valley Countryside Trust, a charity which had been set up ten years ago and supported the work of the Partnership. Mr. Bailey advised Members of the sites managed within Rushmoor and gave examples of works carried out in Southwood Woodland and Wellesley Woodlands. Mr. Bailey also gave details of wider Blackwater

Valley issues, including the Southwood Woodland extension, Farnham Quarry, North Camp recycling and Loddon Catchment Partnership.

Mr. Bailey answered Members' questions on engaging with local communities and Farnham Quarry.

On behalf of the Panel, the Chairman thanked Mr. Bailey for the Partnership's excellent work in the community. The Chairman thanked Mr. Bailey for his informative presentation and extended an invitation to attend a future meeting for a further update on the Partnership's work.

The Panel **NOTED** the presentation.

### (3) Basingstoke Canal Authority -

The Panel received a presentation from Ms. Fiona Shipp, Manager of the Basingstoke Canal Authority. During the presentation, Ms. Shipp advised Members that the Basingstoke Canal was 32 miles long and was jointly owned by Surrey County Council and Hampshire County Council. The Basingstoke Canal Authority had been established to manage the Canal on behalf of the two County Councils. During the presentation, Ms. Shipp advised Members of current work along the Canal: a tree-thinning project; the Ash Aqueduct inspection; a telemetry project to provide constant digital information on water levels; and, work to replace the cills at Ash Lock.

Ms. Shipp also spoke about wildlife issues, including the need for good management of vegetation to encourage a wide range of wildlife and the problems caused by crayfish. Volunteers were very important to the work of the Canal Authority and Ms. Shipp referred to examples of work carried out by volunteers. She was pleased to report that the number of volunteers had increased. In respect of future work, Ms. Shipp advised that refurbishment work would soon commence on the towpath between Ash Lock and Eelmoor Bridge and that work would be undertaken to turn Artillery Weir into a sluice which would help to manage water levels.

Ms. Shipp answered Members' questions on cyclists using the towpaths, the mooring of boats, dredging and drainage issues.

On behalf of the Panel, the Chairman thanked Ms. Shipp for the Canal Authority's important and much needed work. The Chairman thanked Ms. Shipp for her informative presentation and extended an invitation to attend a future meeting for a further update on the Canal Authority's work.

The Panel **NOTED** the presentation.

#### (4) Friends of Brickfields Country Park –

The Panel noted that, unfortunately, Mr. Mike Hatch, Chairman of Friends of Brickfields Country Park, who was to have given a presentation on the work of the group, was unable to attend the meeting due to illness. Mr. Hatch would be invited to attend a future meeting to provide an update.

### (5) Cove Brook Greenway Group -

The Panel received a presentation from Ms. Hilda Anscombe, Chairman of the Cove Brook Greenway Group. Ms. Anscombe advised the Panel that the Cove Brook Greenway Group was an environmental group of local residents in Farnborough which looked after Cove Brook. It was noted that Cove Brook drained off the hills above Farnborough Airport and ran for 3.5 kilometres through Southwood Meadows and Cove to join the River Blackwater on Hawley Meadows. The Group held conservation working parties, litter picks and open meetings and worked with Rushmoor Borough Council, Blackwater Valley Countryside Partnership, the Environment Agency and other parties.

During discussion following the presentation, it was suggested that Rushmoor could host an event to recruit volunteers for conservation groups.

On behalf of the Panel, the Chairman thanked Ms. Anscombe for the Group's excellent work in the community. The Chairman thanked Ms. Anscombe for her presentation and extended an invitation to attend a future meeting for a further update on the Group's work.

The Panel **NOTED** the presentation.

#### 21. WORK PROGRAMME

The Panel **NOTED** the current work programme.

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm.

CLLR D.E. CLIFFORD (CHAIRMAN)

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# Agenda Item 2

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 2** 

# **ENVIRONMENT POLICY AND REVIEW PANEL** 5 APRIL 2016

HEAD OF COMMUNITY REPORT NO. COMM1606

# HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL CONSULTATION – PROPOSALS FOR CHANGES TO THE HOUSEHOLD WASTE AND RECYCLING CENTRES

#### 1. Introduction

- 1.1. This paper seeks Panels views on Hampshire County Council's (HCC) consultation (appendix 1) on proposals to change the Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) service. They are seeking views of service users, members of the public and other interested parties and a proposed response from this Council is included in the consultation document at appendix 1 pages 16-19.
- 1.2. Following the recent local government settlement, HCC must make savings of circa £100 million in a number of areas to become financially sustainable by 2017. They are already planning some measures to improve the efficiency of the HWRC including:
  - Letting a more efficient contract for management of the network
  - Trade waste prevention
  - Prevention of cross county-border waste
- 1.3. In addition to the above, the level of savings sought from the HWRC service is £1.55m. They have as part of their consultation a range of options from changing operating hours and days to possible site closures.

#### 2. HWRCs in the Rushmoor area

- 2.1. HCC currently operate two HWRCs in the Rushmoor area, Eelmoor Road in Farnborough and Ivy Road in Aldershot. The Farnborough site is the fifth highest-use site in the county, taking in around 14,000 tonnes of material per year and is a modern designed split-level site that is safer for site users and minimises inconvenience when containers are being serviced. The site is located in a busy industrial estate and whilst measures have been taken to reduce the impact of queueing vehicles waiting to use the facility at peak times, there are still occasions when significant queues develop.
- 2.2. The Aldershot site is a lower use site, receiving 6,000 tonnes of material per year and is a single level site that results in site closures whenever a container

is exchanged. There are plans to provide a replacement for this site as part of the Wellesley Development in the proposed commercial area on Ordnance Road.

#### 3. Efficiency proposals

- 3.1. HCC have asked eight questions relating to the service and the way to achieve savings. Some of these relate to changing operating hours and days, whilst others relate to site closures. These questions are grouped into three proposals:
  - a) To reduce operating hours and days
  - b) To partially close one of more HWRC sites
  - c) To fully close one of more HWRC sites
- 3.2. In considering these proposals, it is important to account for the possible impacts outlined below on the service user, the local environment and the Council.
  - Flytipping it is possible that site closures or reduced operating hours could result in localised flytipping with the associated environmental and amenity impacts. Any such flytips are likely to fall on this Council to collect.
  - Traffic & congestion site closures are likely to result in greater demand for the remaining sites with increased congestion.
  - Housing growth with the projected rapid growth in housing, particularly in Aldershot, the pressure on the Rushmoor sites will increase.
  - Transfer costs to this Council with sites being open for shorter hours, fewer days or being closed altogether, there is the potential for a portion of the waste to end up in our kerbside collection scheme thereby transferring cost to this Council.

#### 4. Financial implications

4.1. It is not possible to identify the level of any financial implications at this stage.

#### 5. Conclusion

5.1. HCC have a very challenging savings target to achieve over the next year and this consultation seeks to determine how to save £1.55m per year from the HWRC service with minimum adverse impact. Against that background, whilst reduced opening hours & days are most likely, any site closures in particular could have a significant impact on residents and the local environment.

#### 6. Recommendation

6.1. Panel to give their views, which will be considered by Cabinet in developing this Council's response to the consultation.

### **Peter Amies**

**Head of Community and Environmental Services** 

Contact: James Duggin (Contracts Manager) 01252 398167

**Background papers:** Shaping Hampshire – Consultation on proposals for changes to the Household Waste and Recycling Centre Service



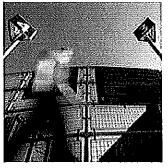
# **Shaping Hampshire**

Consultation on proposals for changes to the Household Waste Recycling Centre Service









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# Consultation on proposals for changes to the Household Waste Recycling Centres

The consultation period opens on Wednesday, 16 March 2016 and closes at midday on Wednesday, 25 May 2016.

## The purpose of this consultation

Hampshire County Council is asking for the views of service users, members of the public and other interested parties, on future changes to the Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC) service.

This supporting information document sets out the background and the proposals for changing the way the County Council's HWRC service is run. The proposals include changing opening hours and/or the possible closure of some HWRC sites.

The Executive Lead Member for Economy, Transport and Environment, will consider the feedback from this consultation at a Decision Day later in summer 2016. It is possible that a combination of the proposals, and options within them, will be considered.

## Why your views are important

The amount of funding the County Council receives from central Government has more than halved in recent years. Public sector budgets are expected to remain under pressure in the future. It is no longer feasible to deliver services at the same level, and in the same way. Therefore, the County Council is faced with having to make some difficult decisions to achieve a balanced budget, as required by law – and provide vital public services to the people of Hampshire.

To meet the current savings target the County Council is proposing to reduce the annual cost of running the HWRC network by £1.55million. However, it is likely that additional savings will be required in the future in light of further reductions in local government funding announced by the Government in February 2016. Your views on these proposals for the HWRCs are very important. The County Council will use your feedback to prioritise options and inform decisions which contribute towards the savings required of the Authority.

# How to have your say

As responding to the consultation is voluntary, you do not need to answer all the questions if you do not wish to do so. To respond to the consultation online, please visit: www.hants.gov.uk/hwrc2016. Alternatively, if you are completing the accompanying paper questionnaire (pages 16–22 of this document), please detach this questionnaire from this document and post it to:

## Freepost HAMPSHIRE

Please do not write anything else on the envelope. Also write 'HWRC' on the reverse of the envelope.

Please ensure that 'HAMPSHIRE' is written in uppercase. No stamp is required to post your response.

Responses should be received by midday on Wednesday, 25 May 2016.

Please note that responses received after this time will not be included in the findings report.

The analysis of responses from this consultation will be published and presented to the Executive Lead Member for Economy, Transport and Environment, prior to a decision in summer 2016.

## **Alternative formats**

To request this information and the questionnaire in another format such as large print, audio or braille, please email: hwrc.consultation@hants.gov.uk, or call: 0300 555 1389.

If you have any queries about this consultation, please email Hampshire County Council at: hwrc.consultation@hants.gov.uk, or call: 0300 555 1389.

## **Data protection**

Hampshire County Council adheres to the requirements of the UK Data Protection Act 1998. Hampshire County Council is registered on the public register of data controllers which is looked after by the Information Commissioner. Under the Data Protection Act the information which you have provided in this questionnaire will be used only for the purposes of this survey. All individual responses will be kept confidential, but views from organisations may be published in full.

# **Background to this consultation**

## Shaping Hampshire – spending review consultation

The amount of funding the County Council receives from central Government has more than halved in recent years and further reductions are imminent.

In February 2016, Government announced its funding plans for local authorities for 2016/17 and the following three years. The County Council lost £48 million from its grant for next year alone. Government calculations assumed that local authorities would raise Council Tax. Consequently, for the first time in six years, the County Council has agreed to increase Council Tax by 3.99 per cent, which is the maximum amount permissible without a public referendum. However, this alone will not balance the budget and 2 per cent of this increase can only be used for adult social care to help address the rise in demand for services.

In 2017/18, assuming that Council Tax increases by the same amount in that year, the County Council will still need to find savings of £98 million.

This means the County Council has to make tough choices about spending on services.

To help the County Council make the right choices, in the spring/summer 2015, a countywide consultation was undertaken. This invited views on the three main options for meeting the anticipated £98 million of savings by April 2017.

Full details of the consultation findings can be found on the County Council's website www.hants.gov.uk/spendingreviewsurvey

The three main options considered in the consultation were:

- raising the rate of Council Tax;
- using the County Council's reserves differently; and
- reducing spending on specific services.

Overall there was a high level of support for the County Council's existing financial strategy which includes a combination of these three options. This would see the funding shortfall managed through:

- running the County Council more efficiently by reducing the cost of back office functions;
- using savings to help to protect front line services;
- prudently using some reserves to manage the cost of change;
- reducing spending on some services; and
- increasing Council Tax (32 per cent of respondents were willing to see a Council Tax increase of 1.99 per cent).

Services for children, older people and vulnerable people were ranked as being the 'most important' services for the County Council to continue to support and deliver.

# Savings options for Economy, Transport and Environment

The County Council must meet a funding shortfall of £98 million by April 2017, with £14.7million planned to be met from the Economy, Transport and Environment department's budget.

In the summer of 2014, the County Council undertook a consultation on proposals relating to the HWRCs. That consultation informed the service options which were included in the new HWRC management contract which starts on 01 April 2016, and engaged the public in an ongoing debate about savings, efficiencies and the different service delivery options.

As a result of the 2014 consultation, the decision was taken to change opening hours at HWRC sites from 01 April 2015. Approval was also given to further enhance trade waste controls, operate a trade waste service at HWRC sites and charge for the disposal of non-household waste, all of which form part of the new HWRC management contract.

In the spending review consultation, the options on which respondents preferred the County Council to make savings in the service areas for the Economy, Transport and Environment Department were:

- dimming streetlights;
- reviewing the amount of waste produced by households and increasing the proportion that can be recycled; and
- reviewing local traffic management schemes which are not led by safety concerns or legal requirements.

The Economy, Transport and Environment Department is exploring proposals around some of these options, through separate consultations in 2016/17, as well as the other options considered in the Spending Review consultation.

# General information about the Household Waste Recycling Centre network

Hampshire County Council operates a network of 24 HWRC sites. Please note that both Southampton City Council and Portsmouth City Council operate one site each, and those sites are **not** included in this consultation.

The County Council has a duty under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 to arrange "for places to be provided at which persons resident in its area may deposit their household waste and for the disposal of waste so deposited". The duty states that each waste disposal site should be:

- within the area of the Authority and reasonably accessible to residents in its area;
- open and available to residents to bring waste for disposal at reasonable times, including at least a period of time on a Saturday; and
- available free of charge to persons resident in the area to bring waste for disposal.

Within this legal duty there is no set requirement for the number of HWRCs that local authorities should provide; a local authority may even decide that provision of just one site is sufficient. There is also no guidance for how much of the week sites should remain open, except for a period of time on a Saturday.

Hampshire County Council currently provides more HWRC sites than other, similar local authorities. HWRC sites are also currently open for more hours, and/or for more days of the week compared with some other networks operated by other local authorities.

Map of the Hampshire HWRC network (including Southampton and Portsmouth sites):



The table below provides some key information about each of the 24 Hampshire County Council HWRC sites:

HWRC site name	District area	Size (acres)	Site type*	How busy is the site? (tonnes of waste received (2014/15])	What proportion of the sites waste is recycled? (2014/15)	Distance by road to the nearest HWRC site (miles)	Site operating costs (range, based on cost per tonne of waste)***
Aldershot	Rushmoor	0.5	Single	5,943	76%	5.1	£££
Alresford	Winchester	0.17	Single	2,082	60%	7.7	£££
Alton	East Hampshire	0.84	Split	6,450	87%	6.8	££
Andover	Test Valley	1.4	Split	11,720	81%	18.1	£
Basingstoke	Basingstoke and Deane	1.1	Split	17,276	82%	9.9	£
Bishops Waltham	Winchester	0.55	Single	4,030	79%	3.6	£££.
Bordon	East Hampshire	0.62	Split	8,086	89%	6.8	££
Casbrook (Romsey)	Test Valley	0.35	Single	5,437	92%	8.6	£££
Eastleigh**	Eastleigh	0.3	Single	7,492	82%	5.0	££
Efford (Lymington)	New Forest	0.59	Spliit	11,381	87%	15.4	££
Fair Oak	Eastleigh	1.04	Single	4,734	88%	3.3	£££
Farnborough	Rushmoor	0.91	Split	13,952	78%	5.1	£
Gosport	Gosport	0.9	Split	16,752	80%	6.8	£
Hartley Wintney	Hart	0.27	Single	5,745	80%	8.3	£££
Havant	Havant	0.78	Split	17,458	78%	4.9	£
Hayling Island	Havant	0.15	Single	3,231	81%	6.9	£££
Hedge End	Eastleigh	0.45	Split	7,817	93%	3.3	££
Marchwood	New Forest	1.1	Single	11,463	89%	4.6	££
Netley	Eastleigh	1.17	Split	11,070	90%	-6.5	£ .
Petersfield	East Hampshire	0.4	Single	6,104	91%	11.3	££
Segensworth	Fareham	1	Split	17,274	84%	6.1	£
Somerley (New Forest)	New Forest	0.68	Split	8,607	89%	17.3	££
Waterlooville	Havant	1.85	Split	12,846	83%	4.9	£
Winchester	Winchester	1.14	Split	9,747	89%	7.4	£

<sup>\* &#</sup>x27;Site type' refers to whether the HWRC is a 'single level' or 'split level' site. 'Single level' sites are older style sites where the bins are on the same level as the public areas. 'Split level' sites are newer style sites with bins located on a level below the public areas, in keeping with current national guidance.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Eastleigh HWRC will be replaced by a new, larger split level site in late 2016 (the rebuilding costs not being funded by Hampshire County Council).

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Based on the overall cost per tonne of waste that is received. '£' refers to the top eight sites which cost the least per tonne of waste; '£££' refers to the eight sites which are the most expensive to run per tonne of waste; '££' refers to the eight sites which are in the middle of these two ranges.

# Savings already made

The County Council has already achieved, or is planning to achieve savings against the overall cost of running the HWRCs, including:

- establishing a new, more efficient contract for management of the HWRC sites;
- preventing trade waste; and
- preventing residents who live outside Hampshire using the sites.

# The proposals

To meet the current savings target the County Council is proposing to reduce the annual cost of running the HWRC network by £1.55million. Therefore, it is proposed to achieve savings by either reducing the number of hours, or days, sites are open, and/or closing down some of the smaller and less busy sites.

Sites are open seven days a week, only closing on 1 January, 25 December and 26 December throughout the calendar year.

Opening hours at the 24 HWRC sites in Hampshire (as well as at the sites in Portsmouth and Southampton) are:

Summer (1 April – 30 September) 09:00–18:00

Winter (1 October – 28 or 29 February) 09:00–16:00

Spring (1 March – 31 March) 09:00–17:00

## Options considered and rejected

In late 2014, the County Council considered options to charge site users to access HWRC sites. This would have been a nominal charge to assist in the cost of managing the service. However, in early 2015, the Government prohibited this by law. As a result, the County Council took the decision to further review the HWRC service and this consultation forms part of that review process.

## Proposal 1: to reduce opening hours

The proposal is to reduce the overall opening hours across the network. This could be done in different ways. The options being considered are, to:

Option	Approximate annual saving
Reduce opening hours at all sites by one hour per day, throughout the year	£400,000
Reduce opening hours by closing all sites on one day of the week	£450,000
Reduce opening hours by closing all sites on two days of the week, but introduce extended opening hours on one other day of the week	£800,000

Data on site usage would be used to select the most appropriate day for closure.

The potential impact of changing opening hours would be:

- all HWRC sites are open for fewer hours a day; and
- customers would have less choice regarding the times or days they were able to visit all sites.

Question 1 asks respondents to rank their preferred options for changes to opening hours.

**Question 2** asks respondents to rank their preferred options for the times of day sites should open.

## Proposal 2: to partially close one or more HWRC sites

These options relate to more significant reductions in the amount of time that a selected number of HWRCs are open. Other HWRC sites in the network would not be subject to the same reductions. The options being considered are, to:

Option	Approximate annual saving
Close up to 10 smaller sites during winter (1 October – 31 March)	£500,000
Having up to 10 smaller and less busy HWRC sites only opening on	£650,000
Saturday, Sunday and Monday	

Sites will be considered for closure according to a number of factors, including site usage, recycling performance, geographical considerations and operating costs. Information relating about this can be found in the **General information about the Household Waste Recycling Centre Network** section on pages 7–9.

The potential impact of partial site closures would be:

- the availability of certain HWRC sites would be significantly reduced;
- customers seeking to use these sites may instead have to drive further to an alternative HWRC or wait until their local site is open; and
- a core network of HWRC sites would remain unaffected by this change, and would remain open and available during the times in question.

**Question 3** asks respondents to select their preferred option for the partial closure of one or more HWRC sites.

## Proposal 3: to fully close one or more HWRC sites

This proposal is to close one or more HWRC sites. This proposal would judge the potential closure of one or more sites on the following criteria:

- site usage (tonnage of waste received);
- recycling performance;
- geographical location and distance from other sites; and
- operating costs.

The County Council is keen to understand which factors you think are the most important to take into account in making a potential decision about site closures.

**Questions 4 and 5** ask how important certain criteria are in making a judgement about potential closure: distance to next closest site, how busy a site is, recycling performance, or site operating cost. There is also space for respondents to add any other criteria they think the County Council should consider.

**Question 6** asks about preference for the closure of up to four, eight or twelve sites. Each option would make approximate annual savings of:

Option	Approximate annual saving
Fully close up to four sites	£440,000
Fully close up to eight sites	£1,050,000
Fully close up to twelve sites	£1,850,000

The potential impact of full site closures would be:

- the overall number of HWRC sites in the County would be reduced;
- customers whose local site has closed would instead have to travel further to get to the next closest site; and
- customers may find that it takes longer to dispose their waste because of the increase in the numbers using sites remaining open.

The questionnaire accompanying this supporting information document also asks:

- the respondents' order of preference of the three proposals (Changes in opening hours; partial site closures; full site closures);
- whether respondents have any other comments they would like to make, including any alternative suggestions they think the County Council should consider;
- if there are any potential positive or negative impacts the proposals would have which should be taken into account by the County Council in making a decision.

# For information only: charging for access to Household Waste Recycling Centres

The County Council is prohibited by law from charging people to use a HWRC. With around four million visits to Hampshire HWRCs each year, such an approach would be likely to generate sufficient funds so that the requirements to either further reduce opening hours at sites, and/or close HWRC sites would be greatly reduced.

The County Council is interested to hear views on this, as support for such a charge could be used as evidence for a new, future approach, if the Government were to change the law to permit charging.

It is important to note that this question is for the purposes of information gathering only and does not form part of current proposals.

The question here asks if, in principle, respondents would be prepared to pay a small charge for entering HWRC sites (for example, £1 per visit).

# **Consultation questionnaire**

To respond to the consultation online, please visit www.hants.gov.uk/hwrc2016

Alternatively, if you are completing this paper questionnaire, please detach it from this document and post it as described on page 4.

# Proposal 1: to reduce opening days and hours

Please see page 12 for more information on this proposal

**Question 1:** Please rank each of the options according to your preference, with 1 being most preferred and 3 being the least preferred. Please indicate if you have no preference.

	No preference	1	2	3
Reduce opening hours at all sites by one hour per day, throughout the year.		X		·
Reduce opening hours by closing all sites on one day of the week.	,		X	
Reduce opening hours by closing all sites on two days of the week, but introduce extended opening hours on one other day of the week.				X

**Question 2:** Please rank each of the options according to your preference, with 1 being most preferred and 3 being the least preferred. Please indicate if you have no preference.

	No preference	1	2	3
Earlier opening (open sites before 09:00) and earlier closing times	·			X
Maintain a 09:00 opening time		X		
Later opening (open sites after 09:00) and later closing times			X	

# Proposal 2: to partially close one or more HWRC sites

Please see page 13 for more information on this proposal

Question 3: Which of the following options do you prefer? (please only tick one option):

Reduce opening hours by closing up to 10 smaller sites during winter (1 October – 31 March)	
Having up to 10 smaller and less busy HWRC sites only opening on Saturday, Sunday and Monday	X
No preference	
Don't know	

# Proposal 3: to fully close one or more HWRC sites

Please see page 14 for more information on this proposal

**Question 4:** Listed below are four criteria for making a judgement about potential closures of one or more HWRC sites. Please rank each of the criteria according to your preference, with 1 being most preferred and 4 being the least preferred. Please indicate if you have no preference.

· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	No preference	1	2	3	4
Site usage (tonnage of waste received)		X			
Recycling performance					X
Geographical location and distance from other sites				X	
Operating costs			X	٠	

Question 5: If there are any other criteria which you think should be considered when making a judgement about potential closure of a HWRC site, please list them below (continuing on an additional sheet if necessary):					

**Question 6:** Please rank each of the options according to your preference, with 1 being most preferred and 3 being the least preferred. Please indicate if you have no preference.

	No preference	1	2	3
Fully close up to four sites	·	X		
Fully close up to eight sites			X	
Fully close up to twelve sites				X

**Question 7:** Please rank each of the three proposals according to your preference, with 1 being most preferred and 3 being the least preferred. Please indicate if you have no preference.

·	No preference	1	2	3
Proposal 1: To reduce opening hours		X		
Proposal 2: to partially close one or more HWRC sites			X	
Proposal 3: to fully close one or more HWRC sites				X

# **Further comments**

		•	
	•		
-			

# **Equality considerations**

Hampshire County Council has a duty to take into account the impact of their decisions on people with protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010 (age, disability, gender, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy, maternity, race, religion or belief, and sexual orientation).

sexual orientation).	
<b>Question 9:</b> Are there any positive or negative impacts relating to equalities that you be the County Council should take into account in the decision making process? Please tic only.	
Yes	
No 🗆	
If 'yes', are you able to provide any supporting evidence and suggest any ways to reduremove any potential negative impact and increase any positive impact? Please answer box below, continuing on an additional sheet if necessary:	
Charging for access to HWRC Sites  (Please see page 15 for more information)	
	part of
Please see page 15 for more information  This question is for the purposes of information gathering only and does not form	-
Please see page 15 for more information  This question is for the purposes of information gathering only and does not form current proposals to make the proposed annual savings  Please indicate whether you would be prepared to pay a small charge for entering HV	-
Please see page 15 for more information  This question is for the purposes of information gathering only and does not form current proposals to make the proposed annual savings  Please indicate whether you would be prepared to pay a small charge for entering HV for example £1 per visit. Please only tick one option:	-
Please see page 15 for more information  This question is for the purposes of information gathering only and does not form current proposals to make the proposed annual savings  Please indicate whether you would be prepared to pay a small charge for entering HV for example £1 per visit. Please only tick one option:  Yes, I would consider paying a small charge to access HWRC sites	-

# **About you**

The County Council would like to know whether you are responding to this consultation as an individual, or on behalf of an organisation, for example, a parish or town council, charity or voluntary group, borough or district council, or a local business. Feedback from individuals will be completely anonymous, but views from organisations may be published in full.

Are you responding to this consultation as an individual or on behalf of an organisation? Please only tick one option:

As an individual		
On behalf of an organisation		
If you are responding on behalf organisation below:	f of a	n organisation, please can you indicate the type of
Parish or town council		
☐ Borough, district or city counc	il	
Charitable organisation		
Local business		
Residents' association		
Local community or voluntary	grou	υp
Other – please write in the box be	elow:	:
on whose behalf you are submitt	ing tl	in organisation, please tell us which organisation or group his response. Please remember that the Response Form be subject to publication or release to other parties.
Name of organisation/group:		
		County Council ask this question for analysis purposes only ultation. Please provide your full postcode by writing in the
	<u></u>	

The County Council would like to know which HWRC site(s) you visit most.

Please indicate below which HWRC site you use the most frequently (please only tick one option):

Aldershot
Alresford
Alton
Andover
Basingstoke
Bishops Waltham
Bordon

Casbrook (Romsey)
Eastleigh
Efford (Lymington)
Fair Oak
Farnborough
Gosport
Hartley Wintney

	Havant	
	Hayling Island	
	Hedge End	
	Marchwood	
	Netley	
	Petersfield	
	Portsmouth	

Segensworth
Somerley (New Forest)
Southampton
Waterlooville
Winchester

I do not use HWRC sites

Please indicate below **any other HWRC site(s) you have used** in the last 12 months: (please tick all that apply):

Aldershot	
Alresford	
Alton	
Andover	
Basingstoke	
Bishops Waltham	
Bordon	

Casbrook
(Romsey)
Eastleigh
Efford
(Lymington)
Fair Oak
Farnborough
Gosport
Harfley Wintney

Havant	
Hayling Island	
Hedge End	
Marchwood	
Netley	
Petersfield	
Portsmouth	

Segensworth
Somerley (New Forest)
Southampton
Waterlooville
Winchester

l do not use HWRC sites
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## Thank you

Thank you for taking the time to respond to this consultation.

A summary of the findings of this consultation will be reported to the Executive Lead Member for Economy, Transport and Environment in summer 2016.



## **ENVIRONMENT POLICY AND REVIEW PANEL WORK PROGRAMME**

Set out below are the key issues which form the Panel's on-going work programme. The topics covered reflect the following:

- the development of a new policy for recommendation to the Cabinet
- scrutiny of the process of the way in which decisions have been or are being made
- reviewing issues of concern to local people or which affect the Borough
- review of performance and delivery of specific services
- monitoring and scrutinising the activities of others
- items raised by Members and agreed by the Panel for consideration
- review of policies and proposals developed by others

The purpose of the work programme is to identify the way in which topics are being dealt with and the progress made with them. An update will be submitted to each meeting of the Panel.

# Page

## **ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO ACCOUNTABILITY AND AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY**

## **β** Planning and Building Control

To carry out all functions falling to be determined by the Council in To carry out the Council's functions in respect of the necessary relation to planning policies including regional, structure and local plans and non-statutory development plans and policies.

statutory provisions in relation to all matters related to applications for and enforcement action under the building regulations and issue relating to the building acts and any other associated legislatio regulations and provisions, including provisions on dangerou buildings and structures and means of escape in case of fire.

To deal with the planning and transportation policy aspects of major. To carry out the Council's functions in respect of the definition ar development and re-development proposals.

re-definition of conservation area boundaries and policy issue relating to trees and nature conservation.

To study planning and transportation proposals outside the Borough, which may affect the Borough, and to make representations thereon as appropriate.

To exercise the Council's functions in the preparation, approval and management of schemes for environmental improvements in the Borough.

To approve and administer schemes for historic buildings and access grants

To deal with planning policy aspects of economic development proposals in the Borough

To deal with matters relating to service administration and working arrangements in relation to the Development Control Service.

# ື Economy and Regeneration

To promote the regeneration of the Borough through the To control and manage markets. Edevelopment of policies and initiatives to promote the long-term success of the local economy and through the development of partnerships with local and regional organisations in relation to town centres and local centres.

To liaise with the European Community, the Government Office for the South East and other appropriate bodies and to, where possible, seek financial assistance for initiatives to assist regeneration and the local economy.

# **Street Scene Services**

To deal with all highways matters either under statute for action by To deal with the removal and disposal of abandoned vehicles the Council or under agency arrangements with the appropriate highway authority, including:-

orders) and the provision of parking places:

Matters relating to the regulation of traffic, restrictions on the To deal with all issues in relation to the provision and management use of highways (including the making of traffic regulations of car parks (including parking charges and the provision of parking bays for the disabled).

(including the numbering of houses, siting of litter bins and other street furniture), and the exercise of the Council's powers under the New Streets Byelaws; Page 35

Matters concerning the control, naming and lighting of streets. To deal with matters relating to road safety, in conjunction with the County Council, as appropriate.

payments code;

Matters relating to private streets, including their making up To deal with matters relating to the street scene including street under private street works procedures or the advance cleansing (highways, parks, car parks, the provision of litterbins, removal of flytips and litter education).

Adoption of highways; and

To deal with discretionary matters relating to land drainage.

Approval of the siting of telephone kiosks, post boxes, cables, mains and other apparatus in, under and over the highway.

#### **Environmental Health**

To exercise environmental health powers (other than those licensing powers dealt with by the Licensing Committee) exercised by the Council in relation to the following issues:-

- public conveniences;
- refuse, salvage, waste collection/disposal, recycling and waste minimisation:
- cemeteries, burial grounds and crematoria;
- environmental health issues in relation to the control of markets:
- Sunday trading;

UTo develop the policy framework in relation to the environmental health functions to be discharged by the Council (including those Tissues identified under the Licensing Committee) and to make recommendations to the Council where such policies affect the overall policy framework of the Council.

caravans and caravan sites:

food safety and hygiene matters;

- infectious diseases:
- pest control; and
  - control of dogs.

### **Other Matters**

sewers and drains.

To carry out all statutory and discretionary functions relating to To deal with all matters relating to the administration and enforcement of the Council's byelaws relating to the functions of the portfolio.

To deal with issues relating to the letting and monitoring of contracts To develop and monitor initiatives for landscaping and Christmas relating to the functions in the portfolio.

decorations for shopping areas, etc.

## **WORK PROGRAMME - ON-GOING ITEMS**

DATE RAISED (LAST UPDATED)	ISSUE AND DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC	PROCESS AND TIMETABLE	CURRENT POSITION	CONTACT (SERVICE MANAGER)
29.5.01 (7.12.14) Page 37	Parking Management  To review the objectives of the Parking Management section, monitor their achievement and make recommendations.  In particular the Panel will be scrutinising:  Blue Badge Parking and Over 65's parking  CCTV parking  Parking issues e.g. verge parking  The Panel was involved with developing and updating the Parking Policy and Parking Management Strategy.	The Panel receives an annual report from the Parking Service on arising issues such as dealing with persistent offenders, blue badge misuse, signage, abandoned vehicles, verge parking, parking strategy, Member ward liaison, parking standards for new developments, parking enforcement and additional parking capacity.  The Panel was involved in introducing parking charging for some blue badge holders to reduce misuse of parking bays and ensure there were enough spaces available for disabled drivers. Following a six-month pilot, it was recommended that the scheme continued but allowed for those receiving Attendance Allowance to also receive free parking and for the signage to be improved.	A Systems Thinking review of the Parking Service was undertaken in 2013 and the Panel received the outcome of this in February 2014. The Review focused on a number of key 're-design' areas.  The Panel reviewed the feedback from the trial blue badge scheme at the meeting in July 2014 and agreed to recommend to Cabinet that all blue badge holders using Council car parks should be charged but that double time should be applied to the purchased ticket.	Peter Amies, Head of Community Tel. (01252) 398750 Email. peter.amies@rushmoor.gov.uk

DATE RAISED (LAST UPDATED)	ISSUE AND DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC	PROCESS AND TIMETABLE	CURRENT POSITION	CONTACT (SERVICE MANAGER)
28.06.05 (7.12.14)	Farnborough Town Centre  To receive updates on the Farnborough Town Centre Development.	The Panel receives regular updates on the redevelopment of Farnborough Town Centre.  A Farnborough Town Centre Task and Finish Group was set up to focus on the development and marketing of the town centre.  Members of the Group are: Crs. Les Taylor, Liz Corps, Mark Staplehurst, John Marsh and Barbara Hurst.	The Panel received a progress update on the Farnborough Town Centre development at the meeting in November 2014.  A further update is scheduled for April, 2016.	Andrew Lloyd, Chief Executive Tel: (01252) 398397 andrew.lloyd@rushmoor.gov.uk
(7.12.14)	Aldershot Town Centre To receive updates on the Aldershot Town Centre Development.	The Panel receives regular updates on the redevelopment of Aldershot Town Centre.  An Aldershot Town Centre Task and Finish Group was set up to focus on the development and marketing of the town centre.  Members of the Group are: Crs. Sophia Choudhary, P.I.C. Crerar, Sue Dibble, Jennifer Evans, Alex Crawford, B.A. Thomas and D.W. Welch.	An update was received on the Aldershot Town Centre in November, 2015. The Panel reviewed the Town Centre Prospectus SPD and recommended a number of amendments for consideration by Cabinet.  A further update is scheduled for April, 2016.	Andrew Lloyd, Chief Executive Tel: (01252) 398397 andrew.lloyd@rushmoor.gov.uk

DATE RAISED (LAST UPDATED)	ISSUE AND DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC	PROCESS AND TIMETABLE	CURRENT POSITION	CONTACT (SERVICE MANAGER)
10.11.15 O	Markets  To review the progress with the Aldershot and Farnborough markets/car boot sales.	In January, 2015 Cabinet had agreed to bring the operation of the markets and car boot sales 'inhouse'.  The Farnborough Tuesday market had opened in March, 2015 followed by the Sunday market in May, 2015.  The Aldershot Saturday market had opened in June, 2015.	The Panel received an update on the progress with the markets in November, 2015.	Peter Amies, Head of Community Tel. (01252) 398750 Email. peter.amies@rushmoor.gov.uk
Page 39	Recycling, waste collection and environmental crime and grime  To review the progress of recycling, monitor implementation, performance and make recommendations on future developments.	The Panel received an Environmental Enforcement update in November, 2014 and reviewed the Council's Environmental Improvement Strategy in June, 2015.	The Panel appointed a Task and Finish Group to look at improving the Borough's recycling rate at its meeting on 9th June, 2015. The Group would look at learning and best practice from authorities had implemented alternate weekly collections, behavioural change initiatives and the option of collecting a wider range of materials.	Peter Amies, Head of Community Tel. (01252) 398750 Email. peter.amies@rushmoor.gov.uk

DATE RAISED (LAST UPDATED)	ISSUE AND DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC	PROCESS AND TIMETABLE	CURRENT POSITION	CONTACT (SERVICE MANAGER)
			On 9th June, Cr. Choudhary updated the Panel on the reasons behind the change in hours at household waste recycling centres. Cr. Choudhary would give a further update on the outcomes of the review of the changes at a future meeting.	
<b>P</b> 35.5.11 <b>26</b> 5.5.10.13)	SANGS (Suitable Alternative Natural Green Space) and Community Infrastructure Levy	The Panel received an introduction to SANGS and was advised that Planning Services was currently attempting to find a SANGS in the Aldershot area.  The Panel received an introductory presentation in June 2012 on the community infrastructure levy (CIL) and how it was being used to support developments in Rushmoor. The Panel received an update presentation in February 2013.	No further updates are scheduled.	Keith Holland, Head of Planning Tel. (01252) 398790 Email: keith.holland@rushmoor.gov.uk

DATE RAISED (LAST UPDATED)	ISSUE AND DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC	PROCESS AND TIMETABLE	CURRENT POSITION	CONTACT (SERVICE MANAGER)
19.2.13 (21.2.13)	Hampshire Highways - Panel Monitoring	The Panel would be monitoring the Council's highways improvement in the future.  The Panel carried out their first monitoring activity in October 2013 and, in liaison with the County Councillors, agreed for six of the ten schemes in the Rushmoor Programme to be completed in 2014/15.	The Panel considered the schemes to be included in the 2015/16 Rushmoor Programme at the September 2014 meeting.	Peter Amies, Head of Community Tel. (01252) 398750 Email. peter.amies@rushmoor.gov.uk
Pa ©8.11.14 © 4.1	Aldershot Crematorium and Cemeteries	The Panel received a presentation in November, 2014 on the work of the Bereavement Service and received details about a new scheme to recycle metal parts.	The Panel to receive an update on how the scheme was working in due course.	Peter Amies, Head of Community Tel. (01252) 398750 Email. peter.amies@rushmoor.gov.uk
29.5.12 (21.2.14)	Outside bodies contribution	In 2012/13, the Panel had reviewed the work of some outside bodies, whose work benefited and maintained the countryside.	A further update was made to the Panel in April 2014.	Peter Amies, Head of Community Tel. (01252) 398750 Email. peter.amies@rushmoor.gov.uk

DATE RAISED (LAST UPDATED)	ISSUE AND DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC	PROCESS AND TIMETABLE	CURRENT POSITION	CONTACT (SERVICE MANAGER)
20.1.15	Overnight Toilets in Aldershot Town Centre	Following a proposal by Cr. Jeremy Preece, and consideration of the various options, the Panel recommended that a scheme for additional toilet provision in Aldershot Town Centre be evaluated prior to consideration by Cabinet.	If installed, the Panel would re-evaluate its use at a future meeting.	Peter Amies, Head of Community Tel. (01252) 398750 Email. peter.amies@rushmoor.gov.uk

Chairman – Cr. David Clifford

Lead Officer – Ian Harrison, Corporate Director, Tel. (01252) 398400, Email. ian.harrison@rushmoor.gov.uk

Last Updated: 24th March, 2016

# ENVIRONMENT POLICY AND REVIEW PANEL WORK FLOW – 2014/15/16

18th November 2014	<ul> <li>Rushmoor Cycle Forum – report on issues with cycling in the Borough</li> <li>Aldershot Crematorium and Cemeteries</li> <li>Environmental Enforcement/Street Cleansing</li> </ul>	
20th January 2015	<ul> <li>Planning – Systems Thinking Review</li> <li>Public Conveniences – Aldershot Town Centre</li> <li>Pubs and Clubs – Late Opening Levy</li> <li>Rushmoor Pedestrian Forum</li> </ul>	
24th March 2015	Transport – Infrastructure, future plans and current issues	
9th June 2015	<ul> <li>Review of the Environmental Improvement Strategy</li> <li>Appointments to Groups</li> <li>Draft Rushmoor Local Plan</li> </ul>	
8th September 2015	<ul> <li>Recycling – Improving Performance (Appointment to Working Group)</li> <li>Litter – town centres</li> <li>Public Conveniences (cost review)</li> <li>Update on Household Waste Recycling Centre Opening Hours from Cr. Charles Choudhary</li> </ul>	
10th November 2015	<ul><li>Markets</li><li>Aldershot Regeneration</li></ul>	
26th January 2016	Conservation – Involvement of Community Groups	
5th April 2016	<ul> <li>Update on the outcomes of the review on the changes in opening hours at Household Waste Recycling Centres</li> <li>Reports back from Aldershot and Farnborough Town Centre Task and Finish Groups</li> </ul>	
Items for Future Meetings	<ul> <li>Parking (revenue and how the income is spent)</li> <li>Report back from Recycling Task and Finish Group</li> <li>Review of the effectiveness of the Good Homes Charter</li> </ul>	

