

Evidence, Engagement and Consultation Summary

Ref no. P6 Closure of Fryers Road and Merchants Way Household Waste Recycling Centres for 1 day (7 to 6) - saving on contract spend

Description of proposal

Title used for consultation: Closure of Household Waste Recycling Centres (tips) 1 day a week (7 to 6 days)

There are two Household Waste Recycling Centres (tips):

Fryers Road, Bloxwich
Merchants Way, Aldridge

Both tips currently open 7 days a week, 9am - 4pm, with later opening 10am - 5pm one day a week (Merchants Way on Tuesdays and Fryers Road on Thursdays).

If approved, this proposal would see both tips close one day a week (on different days). Opening hours would be retained.

Estimated Net Saving / new income

£150,000

Summary of evidence, engagement, and consultation

8 responses on this proposal were made via the online survey, 28% of all responses received.

Overall, 63% (5 people) did not support this proposal, 0 people supported it but with concerns / amendments. 3 people fully supported the proposal.

Comments against this proposal refer to concerns about increased incidents of fly tipping;

"Fly tipping is really bad at the moment and it is taxpayers that end up paying so closing the tip one day a week is not helpful for anyone."

"...you closing it to 6 days a week when fly tipping all over Walsall is high and has been high for years is not good enough."

One person referred to the need for tips to be accessible every day of the week;

"I work full time I need the centres to be open 7 days a week."

3 people supported the proposal, and two comments were made;

"It's a big saving and residents will have to adjust to it. Close on the days that are least busy. Hopefully won't impact on incidents of fly tipping. The new tip should be open 7 days a week."

One Aldridge resident was happy that closure would reduce traffic volumes in the local area.

"Less traffic by us as live near the Aldridge one."

Alternative suggestions included;

"Invest in recycling centre in Palfrey."

"You could try to generate more money by selling things that are good but are just not wanted by opening a shop."

Overall opinion from engagement and consultation

Overall opinion on this proposal is against.

Justifiable action from the evidence, engagement and consultation suggested in the Equality Impact Assessment

A - No major change required.

Mitigating actions required, if proposal approved

NA

People potentially negatively affected if proposal approved

Proposal may affect older people or those with disabilities if they have to travel further to access a HWRC on the day they chose to visit, and they find travelling difficult. Alternatively, they may choose to wait until the site nearest to their home is open. Once at the HWRC staff are available to assist customers unloading their vehicles if required.

Response from Walsall Council on Proposal Ref P6

Following consideration of consultation feedback and equality impact assessment, Cabinet intend to implement this proposal.