

SECTION 3: Recycling Plans

In order to meet the statutory recycling and composting targets the Leicestershire authorities are planning to expand existing collection schemes and introduce new collections where possible. The focus is on the kerbside collection of dry recyclables and green waste combined with optimising the use of bring sites to ensure access to recycling and composting services for all residents.

The Recycling Plans of the collection authorities are summarised in this Section and full copies provided in Appendix C.

1. Blaby District Council

Blaby District Council provides a fortnightly collection of mixed dry recyclables (paper, cans and plastic bottles) to 60% of households. The remaining 40% of households receive a paper and card collection. Both collections are fortnightly on the same day as the refuse and since 2002 householders have been provided with two 140 litre wheeled bins, one for refuse and one for recycling. The Council intend to broaden the range of materials collected as capacity at the Whetstone MRF develops.

A fortnightly kerbside collection of green waste is also offered to 1,600 households which from 2004/05 will be extended to cover the whole district. A charge will be made for the green waste collection, based on 240 litre wheeled bins. The number of bring sites will be increased, from the current provision of 30 across the whole district, in particular focusing on increased provision of banks for glass and textiles.

2. Charnwood Borough Council

Charnwood Borough Council currently provides the majority of households with a mixed dry recyclables collection on a fortnightly basis. Materials are placed in a separate green bag and collected on the same day as the normal refuse collection and taken to the Whetstone MRF for sorting. A review of the existing process is underway, in partnership with the Council's refuse collection contractor, with the aim of producing a significant step change in the present level of recycling performance. One element of this review will be to consider the introduction of additional materials, such as cardboard, in the co-mingled collection in conjunction with refurbishment at the MRF.

Bring site provision will be reviewed on an ongoing basis and the number of sites increased where possible. A collection of garden waste is provided for a third of households, collection is on request from pre-paid collection bags. This scheme will be extended to the whole of the Borough during 2003.

3. Harborough District Council

A fortnightly kerbside collection for glass, paper and cans is currently provided to residents in Harborough. Materials are placed in a box and separated at the kerbside into a multi-compartment vehicle. The council plans to extend this collection scheme to additional households and increase the collection frequency to weekly for the dry recyclables. This will be supplemented by an alternate weekly (wheeled bin) collection for refuse and green waste (one week residual waste and the other week green waste).

The new schemes will be introduced in four phases, the first phase completed in June 2003 and the final phase by June 2004. Recyclables are taken to Northamptonshire for sorting and it is the intention for this to continue.

4. Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council

Hinckley and Bosworth Council provides residents with a combination of kerbside collection and bring sites. A paper collection is provided to approximately 75% of households and a seasonal green waste collection is offered to 25% of households on a fortnightly collection basis. Both of these collection schemes will be expanded to cover the majority of suitable households by 2005/06. In addition a kerbside collection of dry recyclables will be introduced on a trial basis in Autumn 2002 and extended to further households in 2003.

Bring sites will be reviewed on an ongoing basis and sites increased where appropriate.

5. Melton Borough Council

Both green garden waste and mixed dry recyclables are collected from the kerbside by Melton Borough Council. Both services are offered to all households, the biodegradable waste collected on a fortnightly basis and the mixed recyclables on a weekly basis. Bring sites are also provided on the basis of 1 per 270 households.

Melton Council is considering a number of different options including increasing the green waste collection from fortnightly to weekly and an alternate weekly collection of refuse and green waste combined with a weekly mixed dry recyclables collection. Materials will either be sorted at the kerbside or collected co-mingled and taken to a MRF sorting. One of these options will form part of the new waste management contract which begins in April 2003.

6. North West Leicestershire District Council

North West Leicestershire Council provide a kerbside paper collection to 60% of households and a wheeled bin collection for mixed recyclables to 8% of households. Both collections are carried out on a monthly basis.

In 2003/4 a kerbside collection of green waste will be introduced on alternate weeks with the domestic collection. Running parallel with this will be a fortnightly dry recyclable kerbside collection, separating paper from the plastics and cans. This will be phased in order to achieve the targets. It is planned to introduce the scheme to 10,000 properties in April 2003 with a further 10,000 in October 2003 to achieve the 2003/4 targets. A further 10,000 will be brought on line in October 2004 with the remaining 7,000 properties introduced to the scheme in April 2005.

A further 10 bring sites will be introduced during 2003/4.

7. Oadby & Wigston Borough Council

The majority of households in Oadby & Wigston are offered a collection of mixed dry recyclables (paper, cans, plastic) and a green waste collection. Dry recyclables are collected fortnightly and a request service using pre-paid plastic sacks is operated for garden waste.

Future plans include increasing the number of bring sites and the type and coverage of collection systems offered. Bring sites will focus on increasing the coverage of bottle banks up to at least 50 in a combination of permanent sites and travelling kerbside banks with the objective of all residents being within a 5 minutes walk of a bottle bank in 2003/4.

In terms of kerbside collections, the intention is to increase the collection frequency from fortnightly to weekly for dry recyclables and introduce the collection of cardboard. Residents will use green bags for cardboard, collected by adding a trailer to the collection vehicles. The green waste collection scheme will become a free collection scheme extended to all households, collected fortnightly from March to November and on demand in the intervening months.

A plastic sack refuse collection service is provided, by 2003/04 the intention is to limit the number of bags collected per household (maximum of two) with an option to purchase additional bags. By 2004/05 the option to purchase additional bags will be removed.

