

Have your say on proposed changes to Recycling and Household Waste Sites



Tell us how this might affect you

Online: www.leicestershire.gov.uk/haveyoursay/wastesitechanges

For general enquiries or comments about this consultation
phone **0116 305 0001** or email Waste.Projects@leics.gov.uk

Public consultation: Submit your views by **23 September 2019**

Why change?

Leicestershire County Council continues to face financial challenges. The council has increasing demand for services and a growing population – this means we are going to have to find more savings in the future, despite having made £200m worth of savings since 2010.

We're currently consulting on our future plans and priorities across the council – you can tell us your views at www.leicestershire.gov.uk/priorities.

Our current budget (announced back in February) included savings of £260,000 from Recycling and Household Waste Sites (RHWS). A significant amount of this saving is intended to come from the proposals outlined in this document.

We would like you to have your say on these proposals.

Our proposal for recycling and household waste sites

What is the current service?

The county council has a statutory duty* to provide places at which persons resident in its area may deposit their household waste free of charge.

We provide 14 recycling and household waste sites across the county (see map). All of these sites are operated by the council except Whetstone, which is operated by SUEZ Recycling and Recovery UK Ltd. This contract is due to end in September 2020 at which time the council will bring operation of the site in-house.

In 2015 we consulted on ways to make savings at the recycling and household waste sites. Following the 2015 consultation, all the recycling and household waste sites moved to five days per week opening from April 2016 and the council introduced charges for certain types of non-household waste such as concrete, bricks, rubble, window glass, slabs and plasterboard in May 2016.

Recycling and household waste sites



* under Section 51 of the Environmental Protection Act (EPA) 1990.

The current opening times for all sites are as follows:

- 9am – 7pm, five days a week from April to September (Saturday to Wednesday or Thursday to Monday dependent on site);
- 9am – 4pm, five days a week from October to March
- All sites are closed on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day.

Permits are needed for certain vehicles and some types of waste (e.g. paint and asbestos) deposited at the sites by residents, charities and parish councils. This aims to control the volume of waste deposited, the types of waste delivered and prevent unauthorised access by traders. You can find out more about waste permits on our website.

The sites accept a wide range of household and non-household waste types. Charges are made for some types of non-household waste such as concrete, bricks, rubble, window glass, slabs and plasterboard. The current charge is £3.00 per tub/item which has remained the same since 2016.

We looked at a number of ideas as to how the savings could be achieved. These included:

- Reduce opening hours/days across all sites
- Reduce services available at sites – this could include expansion of the current permit scheme and/or reduction in the range of materials accepted
- Introduce an alternative service model – where site opening hours / days and service offer may vary by site
- Extend the charging scheme – this could include increasing existing charges or extending charges to cover a wider range of materials.

The council did not want to close any of the sites, due to the significant impact this could have on site users in terms of time and cost in travelling to another site.

Proposals were measured against the following criteria:

- Impact on users, including how many people were likely to be affected
- How practically an option could be implemented
- How much the changes would affect staff that worked on the sites
- That any new timetable/rota was easy to understand
- Amount of savings that could be achieved.

Our proposals

Following the analysis of the above options, the proposal being put forward that offers the best balance between how much money can be saved against the impact on our customers is:

Reduce the daily RHWS opening hours to 9am – 5pm in the summer (April to September), whilst leaving winter hours the same. We estimated that this proposal would save the council £134,000 by the end of 2020/21.

We're encouraging you to have your say on this proposal in our survey.

Further details on the proposal

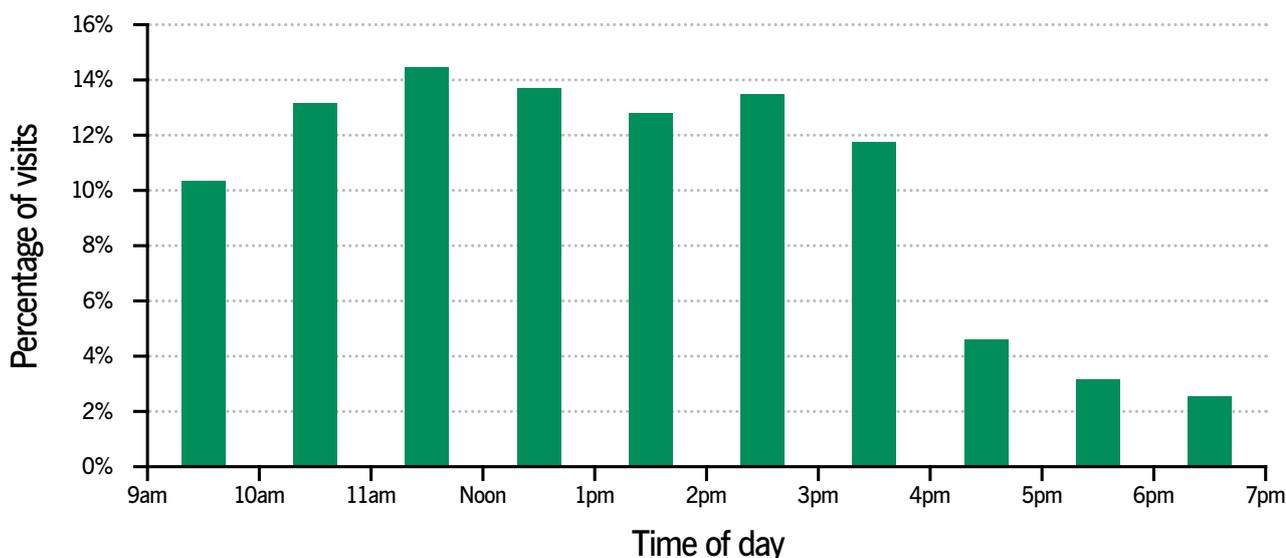
Reduce the daily RHWS opening hours to 9am – 5pm in the summer (April to September), whilst leaving winter hours the same.

The proposed reduction of two hours a day during the summer months from April 2020 could realise a saving of £134,000 each year across the existing thirteen sites. Further savings could potentially be made at the Whetstone site.

The proposals would require changes to staff working patterns, because of the reduction in hours. Initial indications suggest that this could be managed without the need for job losses.

Based on current information this proposal represents the most manageable and appropriate balance of savings against the impact on customers, staff, and service deliverability. We measure the number of visitors to our sites each hour and this information shows that the proposed changes to summer hours would only affect around 6% of visits. This is because visits to all sites drop off significantly after 5pm and so the sites are generally at their quietest between 5pm and 7pm.

Visits to Leicestershire Recycling and Household Waste Sites (1.57 million visits 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019)



Ongoing improvements at recycling and household waste sites

An additional £2,000 will be saved from:

- Expanding the existing permit scheme to include commercial-style fridges / freezers and ammonia fridges.
- Setting up a chargeable service for non-household wastes that are currently not accepted at the RHWS e.g. car tyres and hazardous wood such as railway sleepers.

We currently accept various items for reuse (e.g. we don't send them to landfill or recycling) and as part of this project, we're looking at ways to increase the number of items that can be reused, by making sure the sites are set up with better facilities for example.

Have your say

We want to know what you think of these proposals, and if/how you would be affected by the changes in opening hours at our sites.

The consultation begins on 1 July 2019 and will end at midnight on 23 September 2019.

How the consultation will work

To submit your views please fill out the consultation survey, available online at **www.leicestershire.gov.uk/haveyoursay/wastesitechanges**

Paper copies of the survey are available on request by calling **0116 305 0001**.

If you are able to, please complete this survey online as it will save money.

What happens next?

When the consultation closes, we will analyse the feedback and use this to draw up a final proposal which is intended to be discussed by the council's Cabinet on 22 November 2019.

You can view the latest information in a number of ways:

- Visit us online **www.leicestershire.gov.uk/haveyoursay/wastesitechanges**
Our web pages will be kept up-to-date with the latest information and developments. You'll also be able to access the survey here.
- Send an email to **Waste.Projects@leics.gov.uk**
- Follow us on Twitter (**[@leicscountyhall](https://twitter.com/leicscountyhall)**) for general updates from the council, including developments on the budget.
- Alternatively, you can telephone **0116 305 0001** to ask for information in printed or alternative formats.

Find out more about reducing waste

You can find out more about reducing, reusing and recycling your waste at www.lesswaste.org.uk

ਜੇ ਆਪ ਆ ਮਾਭਿਤੀ ਆਪਨੀ ਆਖਾਮਾਂ ਸਮਝਾਵਾਮਾਂ ਥੋੜੀ ਮਦਦ
ਓਝਨਾਂ ਭੀ ਤੋ 0116 305 0001 ਨੰਬਰ ਪਰ ਫ਼ੋਨ ਕਰਨੋ ਅਨੇ
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ਜੇਕਰ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਸ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਨੂੰ ਸਮਝਣ ਵਿਚ ਕੁਝ ਮਦਦ ਚਾਹੀਦੀ
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এই তথ্য নিজের ভাষায় বুঝার জন্য আপনার যদি কোন
সাহায্যের প্রয়োজন হয়, তবে 0116 305 0001 এই নম্বরে
ফোন করলে আমরা উপযুক্ত ব্যক্তির ব্যবস্থা করবো।

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات سمجھنے میں کچھ مدد درکار ہے تو براہ مہربانی اس نمبر پر کال کریں
0116 305 0001 اور ہم آپ کی مدد کے لئے کسی کا انتظام کر دیں گے۔

假如閣下需要幫助，用你的語言去明白這些資訊，
請致電 0116 305 0001，我們會安排有關人員為你
提供幫助。

Jeżeli potrzebujesz pomocy w zrozumieniu tej informacji
w Twoim języku, zadzwoń pod numer 0116 305 0001,
a my Ci dopomożemy.