

Warwickshire Waste Partnership

19 March 2025

Waste Partners Report UPDATE

Recommendation(s)

1. The Waste Partnership is asked to acknowledge the updates on the various waste activities taking place in each area since the last partnership meeting in December 2024.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This report provides an update on the various waste activities taking place in each authority area.

2.0 North Warwickshire Borough Council

- 2.1 Like other councils in Warwickshire, NWBC have recently received a letter from DEFRA setting out their revised capital contribution towards food waste collections from 2026.
- 2.2 At the beginning of March 2025, NWBC received another letter from DEFRA setting out the transitional resource grant, to support the delivery of weekly food waste collections. This will help NWBC to plan the resources required for communications and the implementation of the new food waste services.
- 2.3 Due to the recent mild weather, the grass cutting season has begun and all our equipment has been deployed to make an early start. This has also been reflected in the garden waste service with customers staring to us their bins.
- 2.4 NWBC have recently taken delivery of a Dennis narrow body RCV, this is a step away from the standard body RCV. The narrow body makes it easier to manoeuvre the vehicle around parked cars and tight streets.

3.0 Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council

- 3.1 Verbal update to be provided at the meeting.

4.0 Rugby Borough Council

- 4.1 Transport Manager is in place and Operations Manager has been recruited, to start on 1st April. First phase of restructure now completed and next phase of service restructure to start in April 2025.

- 4.2 RBC continues to have high levels of absence within the service, including agency support. Council have agreed additional pool staff from April 2025 to support service requirements.
- 4.3 Project Board in place for phase 2 of depot reconfiguration, initial designs under review.
- 4.4 WEEE and battery collection due to start in March 2025.
- 4.5 Fly-tipping is an increasing problem within the borough, particularly large rubbish drops. Meeting scheduled with Environmental Health team to discuss targeted campaign in problem areas.

5.0 Warwick District Council

- 5.1 New 'fly tipping costs us all' livery added to all street cleansing caged vehicles.
- 5.2 Solar mats being added to 20 of our 26t RCV's on the Warwick contract over the next month. The mats will be installed and maintained by a company called Trailar. The mats will help reduce fuel emissions as well as reduce costs by extending component life and providing data for proactive maintenance.
- 5.3 Working with a local charity called Action 21 who sell/repair small WEEE. We have arranged with Biffa that the charity can gain access to our WEEE that Biffa collect at the kerbside.
- 5.4 WDC are currently preparing a waste education strategy which will include a resident survey. More information to be provided at the next partnership meeting.

6.0 Stratford-on-Avon District Council

- 6.1 In February, there were 12 missed collections per 100,000 across Stratford-on-Avon District and Warwick District.
- 6.2 In 2024/25, 48,230 garden waste subscription permits were sold in Stratford-on-Avon District compared to 47,896 in 2023/24, an overall increase of 0.7%.
- 6.2 Coffee pod collections, in partnership with Podback Ltd, will end on 20th November 2025, as the company's strategic focus has shifted from kerbside schemes to HWRCs and UK supermarkets.
- 6.4 SDC is currently advertising for a Waste and Recycling Sustainability Officer to raise public awareness of waste minimisation, encourage behaviour change to increase reuse and recycling, including working with social and private housing providers, and implement measures to reduce the contamination of recyclable materials.

7.0 Warwickshire County Council

7.1 Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs)

- a) Burton Farm recycling centre has a temporary closure due to essential repairs to the mains water supply that affects the only access route. The closure began on Monday 10 Mar and is expected to last up to 2 weeks. There are also works planned at Cherry Orchard recycling centre over the next month to replace the office building. This may lead to one or two one-day closures. The 'live' booking system assists with the closures, reduces queueing and helps to manage visits over the busy periods of fine weather and around holidays such as Easter.
- b) A change to legislation means that there are new limits on the quantity of DIY-derived rubble, soil or plasterboard that can be brought to a recycling centre per 4 week rolling cycle. There is a limit of 6 x 25kg bags (or one piece of plasterboard) no more than 4 times per 4 weeks. We have analysed the data after 1 year and have not seen this result in a big increase of this material.
- c) The Age UK Coventry & Warwickshire Reuse shops continue to have success with footfall, donations and sales. We have awarded the concession contract for the running of the reuse shops for the next 5 years to Age UK Coventry and Warwickshire.
- d) Food waste transfer continues at Princes Drive and Burton Farm prior to transfer to the Severn Trent Green Power anaerobic digestion facility. SDC and NWBC have arranged a visit to the anaerobic digestion site in Coleshill.
- e) Warwickshire County Council are currently able to accept upholstered seating at all the recycling centres except Shipston, Stockton and Wellesbourne. We have published prices for trade waste upholstered seating and updated our general trade waste prices from 1 April 2025.

7.2 Communication activities update:

- a) Slim Your Bin has recruited 1,456 'bin dieters' onto its 4-week training programme. On a monthly basis 534 households are engaging with the platform, reporting their recycling and committing to reduce food waste. 44 people have reported their recycling actions for 120 weeks in a row. Currently WDC has the most slimmers, but there is still time for other districts and boroughs to gain points and be in with a chance of donating £650 to the charity of their choice.
- b) In the autumn term 2024, 38 school visits were made and that equated to over 10,500 primary school children and their families receiving information on reducing waste, composting or recycling. In spring term 2025, 25 schools have been visited so far, engaging with around 4,600 pupils and their families. There are still spaces for assemblies for the rest of the academic year.
- c) In 2024/25 so far, we have held 16 [home composting events](#) with 192 householders in attendance. We have spoken at 16 community events so far

this year and have [more booked for the spring and summer](#). We have already engaged with 980 adults about reducing waste and recycling more this financial year. 2,600 people have viewed our online home composting workshop.

- d) Thanks to residents' good work recycling their textiles, we are pleased to announce the target has been reached to sponsor another Guide Dog Puppy. As an incentive to encourage residents to recycle their textiles, 10% of the income generated at the eight recycling centres is donated to this very worthwhile cause which transforms the lives of blind and partially sighted people.
- e) Our Warwickshire Recycles has 8100 subscribers and since the past meeting the following issues have been published:

Edition	Topic	Open rate	Click Rate	Through
November	Recycle Week	25.9%	3.8%	
December	Christmas waste	23.8%	3.3%	
December	Food waste	24.2%	3.8%	

- f) All waste reduction behaviour change activity is promoted with regular posts on our social media accounts. We have 1004 followers on Twitter (@WarksRecycles) and 2853 Facebook followers (Warwickshire Recycles). We also have Instagram and Threads accounts. Articles about reducing food waste, Valentines Day, reuse, repair cafes, spring cleaning, disposing of batteries, refill, WEEE recycling, Slim Your Bin were shared widely.

7.3 Procurement and Contracts update:

- a) A dynamic purchasing system for waste materials has been put in place, this will be mainly for lower tonnage or niche materials.
- b) The team have begun planning the next round of procurements.

8.0 Financial Implications

8.1 None.

9.0 Next steps

9.1 Updates on progress to be provided at the June 2025 meeting.

Background papers

None.

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The report was circulated to the following members prior to publication:

Local Member(s):

Other members: