

West Dunbartonshire Council

Housing, Environmental and Economic Development

Recycling Pilot Scheme Briefing Note

The purpose of this pilot scheme is to evaluate the impact of increasing the collection frequency of dry recyclate from four weekly to two weekly to 12,000 premises throughout West Dunbartonshire.

The aim is to work towards achieving the Scottish Government revised targets for waste recycling announced in January this year which raises the recycling target to 40% by 2010, 50% by 2013 and 60% by 2020. Currently West Dunbartonshire is recycling 34% of waste arisings.

The impact of the pilot will be measured in terms of increased percentage of waste recycled in the pilot area and also the effect it has on reducing the amount of residual waste collected weekly.

The pilot scheme will operate for 6 months from August 2008 to January 2009. It will be delivered to 12,000 households across the authority representing 27% of all housing within West Dunbartonshire.

It will be continuously monitored and the outcome will be determine future years' budget considerations.

There will be an implementation plan drafted to ensure members and householders are made fully aware of changes to collection frequencies in their areas. Publicity material and press announcements will ensure everyone involved is fully conversant with the new scheme.

The cost of this enhancement is £65,000 and the benefits derived could save the council a substantial amount (up to £300k this year) in reducing any penalties associated with future targets set in terms of the Landfill Allowance Scheme Regulations.

This pilot scheme is in addition to the actions already delivered by this Council to improve waste management practices and increase our recycling rate.

The actions previously delivered are:

- A four weekly kerbside collection service for dry recyclate and green waste to 30,000 homes.
- Upgraded and rebranded two existing civic amenity/skip sites to Household Waste Recycling Centres and built a new Household Waste Recycling Centre in Clydebank

- Increased the provision of local recycling points for glass, textiles, books and dry recyclate from ten to forty one.
- Developed partnership arrangements with Home from Home to redistribute and reuse unwanted furniture.
- Introduce doorstep collection system for dry recyclate at tenemental/high rise housing at 12,000 households in March 2007.
- Developed a comprehensive promotional campaign to make residents aware of reduce, reuse and recycling techniques including domestic home composters for residents, a Real Nappy scheme and the award winning 'Binman' DVD and linked educational programme which has been rolled out to all schools in West Dunbartonshire.
- Improved the standard of service delivery overall, offered a wheeled bin refuse collection system to replace the existing plastic sack refuse collection system to over 90% of the households in New Bonhill.

RMD/ag
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