

Mr Nigel Tabberno (722932)

Matter C (Waste) (TP13 and TP14)

In order to support the City's policies on waste, enhanced provision of Household Recycling Facilities is required.

After the 2013 season, the City Council ceased free roadside collection of garden waste from domestic properties, and introduced a paid-for service involving provision of a 'wheelie' bin. Many residents resent paying for a service that they have become used to receiving without charge, so have not subscribed to it, and there is a lot of reluctance to accommodate and handle the large bin.

Resulting from this:

- a lot of bagged garden waste has been dumped in neighbourhoods around the City;
- some garden waste that would previously have been recycled now goes through the normal refuse system;
- existing Household Recycling Facilities have been unable to cope with the additional demand caused by people delivering garden waste to them. This has led to congestion (and extra carbon emissions of course) at the centres themselves, and on surrounding roads;
- the Household Recycling Centres have had to provide more skips for garden waste, at the expense of other materials such as plastics.

In order to improve recycling rates in line with the policies, the Council needs to:

- provide more facilities, to make it easier to reach one and reduce queuing;
- expand the range of materials that can be recycled; the range of plastics accepted is very limited, for example;
- arrange the layout of new facilities so that staff can be more pro-active in assisting residents and ensure proper segregation of materials;
- expand the range of materials that can be collected in smaller recycling sites, such as those at supermarkets;
- ensure the full range of skips is always available at Recycling Centres, so that residents are not asked to put items they have segregated into the general waste.

New neighbourhoods are promoted on their environmental credentials, so it would be absurd to force their residents to go by car, to join queues elsewhere, in order to participate in recycling.