

Regeneration, Culture and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee

BRIEFING NOTE – No.5 /17

Date: 30 January 2017

Briefing paper to: All Members of the Regeneration, Culture and Environment
Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Purpose: To advise Members of the Regeneration, Culture and Environment O&S Committee of the latest position in the provision of recycling in flats.

Background

There are around 20,000 flats in Medway. At the former RCC O&S, 28 Jan 2016, it was requested that officers provide an update on recycling provisions in flats. As a result, officers initiated a project to review and maximise all such provisions

Implementation

Start date	Task	Action
Up to June 2016	Stocktake of current recycling provisions and new schemes rolled out	Objective: to ensure every flat has access to recycling Medway and Veolia jointly surveyed over 400 locations to record which bins (size and quantity) were in each location and which ones needed new provisions.
June 2016	Monitor and improve upon performance of flats' recycling schemes	Assessment of current recycling levels in flats before delivering targeted leaflet campaign to every household served by bulk recycling bins.
July 2016	Measure success of campaign	All destinations visited one week after leaflet delivery. Visual increase of recycling in 45% of locations. Overall increase in recycling of 3 tonnes for week, which equates to £8k savings if sustained over year

October 2016	Assess whether behaviour change & increase in recycling has been sustained	Follow up visits to all properties. Sustained visual increase of recycling compared to pre-campaign assessment within 45% of locations. Over 4 tonnes overall increase in recycling for week, equating to £12k savings if sustained over year.
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Summary and update

Before the 2016 audit, only those flats with a bulk recycling bin had access to the weekly recycling service.

Further binstore assessments highlighted a number of flats where bulk bins were not a suitable option. Veolia agreed for these properties to be added to the kerbside collection service through the provision of clear sacks.

Due to the vast number of remaining flats that were possibly unsuitable for bulk recycling Waste Services has extended the delivery of clear sacks to all flats not covered by the bulk collection service.

Only flats where bulk facilities have been removed due to misuse will have a temporary suspension of the service whilst facilities are reassessed.

Phase	Timescale	Number of Properties with Recycling Access		
		Bulk Recycling Bins	Kerbside Clear Sacks	No Service
Post audit	Before 2016	6384		14071
Completed assessment and delivered	Jan 16 - Dec 16	547	1096	498
Completed assessment awaiting delivery	Jan 17 - Mar 17	240		
Introduction of new kerbside facilities	Jan 17 onwards		11690	
Ongoing reintroduction of bulk facilities following previous removal due to contamination	Apr 17 onwards	498		
Grand Total after completion		7669	12786	0

Lead officer:

Sarah Valdus (Head of Waste)

Tel. No: 01634 331597 Email: sarah.valdus@medway.gov.uk