

Household Waste Recycling Centres Consultation

7 March – 4 April 2011

Introduction

Increasingly, we are all getting used to sorting out our rubbish before we dispose of it to maximise the amount that can be reused or recycled. District councils are responsible for your kerbside collection and residents have made great progress in recycling household waste through the expansion of these services, which includes the recent introduction of food waste collection, wheeled bin and box schemes for a range of items.

We, the County Council, are responsible for the provision of Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) and there are currently eight centres across Oxfordshire located at: Alkerton, Ardley, Dean Pit, Dix Pit, Redbridge, Stanford in the Vale, Drayton and Oakley Wood. A number of these HWRCs are however coming to the end of their natural life and are scheduled to close in the next 3 years due to their planning permission expiring.

Over recent years, with the greater range of waste now being collected at the kerbside the need for people to visit one of our HWRCs has reduced noticeably. In addition, we have expanded the types of things that can be recycled or composted at the HWRCs and our aim is to build on this success by updating our strategy for providing Household Waste Recycling Centres in the future.

All this provides an opportunity for the Council to take stock and reconsider how local services can be delivered better and more cost effectively now and in the future. The proposals presented in this consultation document set out how we plan to make changes to our HWRCs

Proposals

Oxfordshire County Council is proposing a new approach to the provision of Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) services in Oxfordshire.

The aims of the new approach are to:

- Provide facilities that are well located for main centres of population
- Provide facilities that complement/support the expanded kerbside collection services provided by the district council
- Provide facilities that are fit for purpose and cost effective
- Prevent non-separated waste going to Landfill.
- Provide reuse facilities at all sites for bulky waste
- Minimise fly-tipping

We propose to

1. Reduce the current network of eight HWRCs to six, maintaining at least one facility to support each district council area in Oxfordshire.
2. Open a new HWRC at Kidlington to accept both commercial and household waste, as well as having a dedicated reuse shop where people can donate or purchase goods of reasonable quality.
3. Refurbish/Modernise the Redbridge HWRC to operate as a commercial waste facility during the week and be open at the weekends and bank holidays to householders.

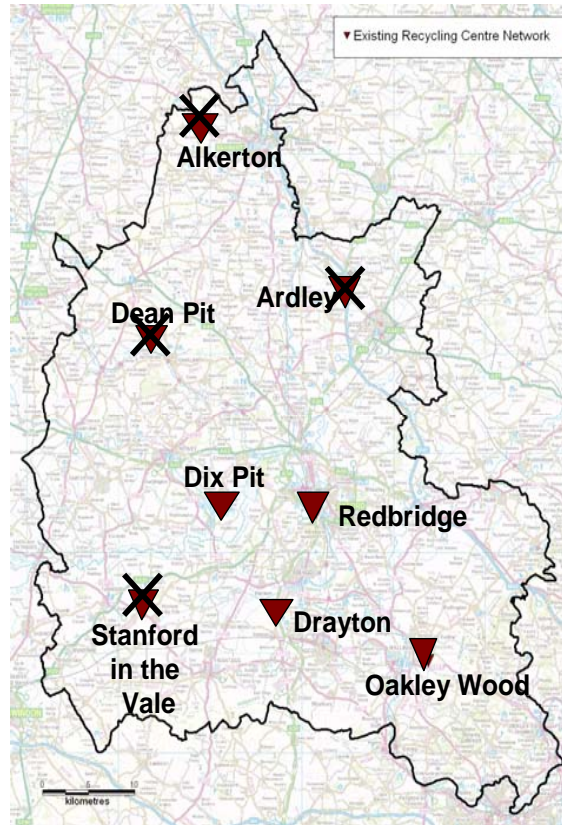
4. Introduce security in the short-term at all HWRCs (existing and closed) to control fly-tipping to support the changes and prevent illegal dumping at former sites.
5. Provide a modern facility at a new Banbury site yet to be located.

Detail of Proposals

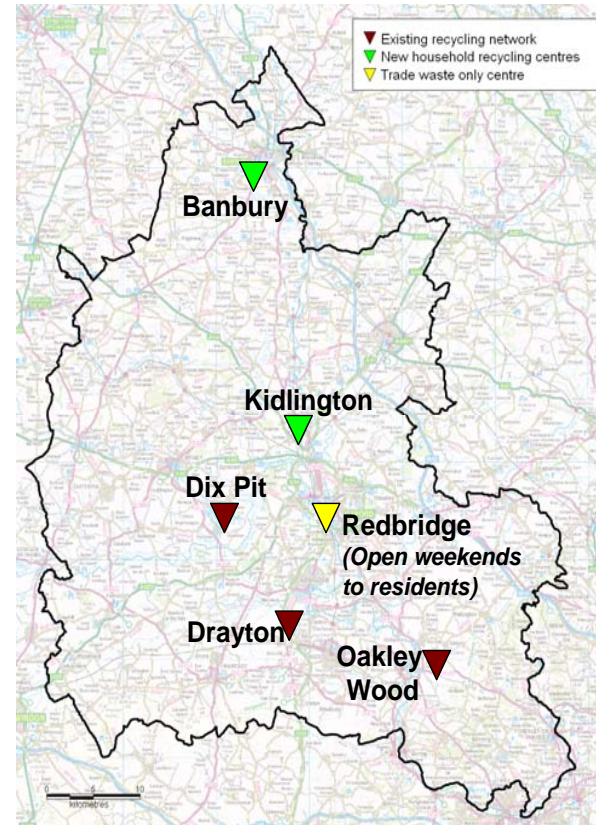
Our proposal for a network of six HWRCs is based on providing modern facilities located near to the centres of population that are consistent with district council collection systems and planning policies for the long term. The proposed network of HWRCs will all have re-use facilities and expanded recycling containers. They would also accept non-recyclable waste, although visitors will be expected to pre-sort waste before using the landfill skips.

Oxfordshire County Council has already committed to investing in a new 'state of the art' HWRC facility at Kidlington. This site is included in our network of six HWRCs.

Existing



Proposed



X Site is proposed to close

As part of our proposals, the council has identified that in the short-term there is an urgent need for investment in the Redbridge HWRC in Oxfordshire. We propose to use money from the private sector to fund the refurbishment of Redbridge based on the premise that it

would primarily be re-opening as a facility for dealing with commercial waste apart from at weekends and on bank holidays. Without private investment the site will have to be closed permanently. However, if these proposals are agreed, the council would seek funding and close the site for at least six months to enable refurbishment.

Timeline for changes

The timing for implementation of the proposed plans is linked to planning permission expiry dates over a 3-year period. A timeline for the proposed changes is show below. This is not fixed, and is dependant on the County Council Cabinet making a decision on the overall proposal.

2011

- Dean Pit closing – September 2011

2012

- Kidlington Provisional Opening – April 2012
- Redbridge closure for refurbishment – 1 month after Kidlington Opens

2013

- Redbridge opening (weekends only) – January/February 2013
- Ardley closing – September 2013

2014

- Banbury opening – November 2014
- Alkerton closing – December 2014
- Stanford in the Vale closing – December 2014

Have your say

We are asking for your thoughts and views on this proposed new approach. The outcomes of this consultation will be used to inform decision-making by Oxfordshire County Council's Cabinet on 19 April and will also feed into the wider review of the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Oxfordshire that is happening later in the year.

Please take part in this consultation by returning your comments by **4 April 2011**.

You can take part by:

1) Completing the online questionnaire. Go to www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/waste and follow the link to the survey

2) Send your comments in writing to waste.management@oxfordshire.gov.uk or in writing to:

HWRC Consultation

Waste Management Group

Oxfordshire County Council

FREEPOST

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Queries

If you have any queries about the Household Waste Recycling Centre Proposal that will help you to take part in this consultation, please contact us:

By email: waste.management@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Or telephone: 08450 504550