

NZ says 'Yes' to recycling!

The findings of a survey of residents in the New Zealand area of Mackworth ward, Derby regarding their attitudes to recycling and council proposals to change the refuse collection service for their area.

Conducted in May/June 2013 by volunteers on behalf of Derby Climate Coalition.

Summary

Derby Climate Coalition surveyed 1000 households in an inner-city area of Derby on their attitudes to recycling after the city council proposed removing their kerbside collection service. The majority of residents are strongly supportive of recycling and wish to continue to have this service provided. Problems do arise due to the nature of these terraced properties, and recommendations are made as to how these may be resolved so that bins are not routinely left on the street.

1. Introduction

Since around 2003-4 Derby City Council has provided a kerbside recycling service for the vast majority of households. Those that have not been included have mainly been people living in flats or apartments. For most of this time, households have been provided with:

- a blue bin for mixed recyclables,
- a brown bin for compostable kitchen and garden waste and cardboard,
- a blue plastic bag for paper, and
- · a black bin for residual waste.

Since the end of 2011, Derby City Council had been unable to include cardboard in the compostable waste due to changes in composting standards. Instead larger orange plastic bags were provided for cardboard. These were generally disliked by householders.

The 2013-4 budget included reducing the number of brown bin collections per year and to charge for this service. A report covering this was included on the agendas for the Neighbourhoods Overview and Scrutiny Board on the 30th April¹. Within this report, and in Appendix 2² to the report, was another proposal. This was to stop providing a kerbside recycling service to large parts of the inner city.

Members of the Derby Climate Coalition were particularly concerned about this new proposal as there appeared to have been no consideration of the impact this change might have on climate gas emissions. Before the Scrutiny meeting they delivered 800 flyers to affected parts of Abbey and Mackworth wards telling residents about the possible loss of their kerbside recycling service (see Appendix 1).

At the meeting there was quite a lot of discussion about both the proposal to charge for brown bins and the idea of returning to just black bins for some areas. The latter was generally welcomed by some members though others expressed concerns about the impact this would have on residents ability to recycle. It was requested that, if confirmed, areas without a kerbside recycling service should again be provided with recycling 'bring' sites.

On the 15th May 2013 Derby City Council's Cabinet received a very similar report³ on changes to refuse collection, together with a similar appendix 2⁴. At this meeting the Cabinet

¹ Derby City Council Neighbourhood Overview and Scrutiny Board, 30 April 2013 Item 09 - Changes to refuse collection services

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² Derby City Council Neighbourhood Overview and Scrutiny Board, 30 April 2013 Item 09 - Appendix 2

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³ Derby City Council Cabinet, 15 May 2013 Item 08 - Changes to the Refuse Collection Service https://cmis.derby.gov.uk/CMIS5/Document.ashx?czJKcaeAi5tUFL1DTL2UE4zNRBcoShgo=x5oTy4F8gVsWI17Q%2bp MDRwy%2bsh9%2bVZGwTxA4TNd4lpjwHt6cXnqdIA%3d%3d&rUzwRPf%2bZ3zd4E7Ikn8Lyw%3d%3d=pwRE6AGJ FLDNlh225F5QMaQWCtPHwdhUfCZ%2fLUQzgA2uL5jNRG4jdQ%3d%3d&mCTIbCubSFfXsDGW9IXnlg%3d%3d=hFflUdN3100%3d&kCx1AnS9%2fpWZQ40DXFvdEw%3d%3d=hFflUdN3100%3d&uJovDxwdjMPoYv%2bAJvYtyA%3d%3d=ctNJFf55vVA%3d&FgPlIEJYlotS%2bYGoBi5olA%3d%3d=NHdURQburHA%3d&d9Qjj0ag1Pd993jsyOJqFvmy

member for Neighbourhoods said that Neighbourhood Boards would be consulted on the proposal, but strongly implied that the Cabinet would make the final decision.

The following day, the Director of Neighbourhoods attended the Derby Climate Coalition's Steering Group meeting. He provided helpful additional context for the proposals and answered many questions put to him by the group. However, many of the steering group members remained unhappy about the proposal because of the impact on both climate change and the loss of kerbside recycling to the local community, although we recognised that there were issues in some areas. A move to a simpler system, as was being introduced across the rest of the city, seemed to be a sensible step for these areas too.

The proposal to remove kerbside recycling had not been highlighted as part of budget consultation, nor was it included in the Forward Plan⁵ although the decision on the collection of garden waste was. It was also not included in the subsequent two Forward Plans despite the proposal affecting more than two wards.

Derby Climate Coalition (along with other groups and individuals) had already been concerned about the impact of the proposal to discontinue the collection of garden waste.

The Coalition was even more concerned about the proposal to remove the kerbside recycling service. The reasons were two-fold; because it would have a negative impact on climate emissions and because of the message that no longer providing a near universal recycling service would give to the public. After the meeting the Coalition wrote and asked for an estimate of the impact that removing kerbside recycling would have upon greenhouse gas emissions. At the time of writing has yet to receive a reply.

Meanwhile the majority of the city was due to lose the blue and orange plastic bags from the start of June, as paper and cardboard is being included with dry recyclables in larger blue bins. The last of these new bins were being delivered in other parts of the city at this time. It was not initially apparent that this area was not being included in this change.

2. Survey

Following the Steering Group meeting, the Coalition produced a survey to find out information from households about their recycling habits, facilities and attitudes. With the support of contacts from the local community (some identified as a result of the original flyer) the Coalition began surveying the 1000 affected households in the New Zealand area of Mackworth ward.

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⁴Derby City Council Cabinet, 15 May 2013 Item 08 - Appendix 2 https://cmis.derby.gov.uk/CMIS5/Document.ashx?czJKcaeAi5tUFL1DTL2UE4zNRBcoShgo=DLs9lnKlkzSBYT1MQn9C Si8uxr7xmY8g6PIl2SRM88HbpxZg3c6PVg%3d%3d&rUzwRPf%2bZ3zd4E7Ikn8Lyw%3d%3d=pwRE6AGJFLDNlh225 F5QMaQWCtPHwdhUfCZ%2fLUQzgA2uL5jNRG4jdQ%3d%3d&mCTlbCubSFfXsDGW9IXnlg%3d%3d=hFflUdN3100 %3d&kCx1AnS9%2fpWZQ40DXFvdEw%3d%3d=hFflUdN3100%3d&uJovDxwdjMPoYv%2bAJvYtyA%3d%3d=ctNJFf55vVA%3d&FgPIIEJYlotS%2bYGoBi5olA%3d%3d=NHdURQburHA%3d&d9Qjj0ag1Pd993jsyOJqFvmyB7X0CSQK=ctNJFf55vVA%3d&WGewmoAfeNR9xqBux0r1Q8Za60lavYmz=ctNJFf55vVA%3d&WGewmoAfeNQ16B2MHuCpMR KZMwaG1PaO=ctNJFf55vVA%3d

⁵ Derby City Council Forward Plan, published 16 April 2013 http://cmis.derby.gov.uk/CMIS5/Document.ashx?czJKcaeAi5tUFL1DTL2UE4zNRBcoShgo=cpiJeioS3OTJ8Aj7GdM6Tc UAfQCg1qxhK39LvgkXx0qwHJt%2f%2f6psDw%3d%3d&rUzwRPf%2bZ3zd4E7Ikn8Lyw%3d%3d=pwRE6AGJFLDNl h225F5QMaQWCtPHwdhUfCZ%2fLUQzgA2uL5jNRG4jdQ%3d%3d&mCTIbCubSFfXsDGW9IXnlg%3d%3d=hFflUdN 3100%3d&kCx1AnS9%2fpWZQ40DXFvdEw%3d%3d=hFflUdN3100%3d&uJovDxwdjMPoYv%2bAJvYtyA%3d%3d=c tNJFf55vVA%3d&FgPIIEJYlotS%2bYGoBi5olA%3d%3d=NHdURQburHA%3d&d9Qjj0ag1Pd993jsyOJqFvmyB7X0CS QK=ctNJFf55vVA%3d&WGewmoAfeNR9xqBux0r1Q8Za60lavYmz=ctNJFf55vVA%3d&WGewmoAfeNQ16B2MHuCp MRKZMwaG1PaO=ctNJFf55vVA%3d

It became apparent that the next Neighbourhood Forum would be able to have recycling on its agenda on the 3rd June. This did not provide time to complete the surveys, so an interim Feedback leaflet was produced to publicise the Forum meeting. See appendix 2.

The meeting was well attended, with two or three times the usual number of people. Various questions were asked about the recycling proposals. There was both concern about the proposed removal of the kerbside recycling service and the numbers of bins being left routinely on the streets. It was implied that the final recommendation from the Board to Cabinet would be made by Board members living in the affected area.

A few days after the meeting a simple 'yes / no' survey was distributed by the Neighbourhood Board to affected properties. This gave a slightly different list of streets to those proposed by the Cabinet.

Surveys continued to be delivered and collected across the area over the following couple of weeks. Some were returned to a local contact address, or by post, though most were collected back from households. By mid-June over 270 surveys had been received back, a return rate of over 25%.

After the survey was completed, towards the end of June, the streets were inspected for bins which had been tagged as contaminated. A total of 54 bins were identified as either tagged or clearly incorrectly filled (for example plastic bags showing from brown bins).

2.1 Survey Mechanics

The survey team called on all the houses in the area indicated in the Cabinet report. If the door was answered, the resident was briefly introduced to the survey and this was left with them to be filled in. In most instances, the surveyor offered to collect the completed survey back later that afternoon/evening. Nearly everyone was willing to do this, with over four out of five surveys issued in this way being returned.

If there was no answer, a survey was posted through the letterbox, with instructions to return the form to a local address or by post. A small number of surveys were returned like this.

Of about 1000 surveys issued, 276 were returned.

Around three quarters of people who answered the door to a surveyor returned their surveys. This compared to less than 10% of those houses from which there had been no answer. The results of this survey are therefore likely to be substantially more representative of the whole community than a smaller survey requiring a higher level of engagement.

2.2 Survey Results

Note that not every response included answers to all questions. If there were large number of non-responders this is noted.

2.2.1 Tenure and length of Occupation

39% of the replies came from home owners and 61% from tenants. One in five tenants have lived in their home for more than 10 years, compared with nearly four out of five owners. Overall about 40% of residents have lived in their home for over 10 years.

A third of tenants had lived in their home for under one year, and just a handful of owner occupiers, totalled around one in five overall.

2.2.2 Storage Facilities

The majority of homes in the area share a passageway through the terrace, or sometimes round the side of the property, to a rear garden or yard. In some cases there is also a right of access through a neighbour's back yard to reach a resident's own property. These arrangements are quite variable, and in some instances a single access passageway

appears to have been incorporated into living accommodation. In a few homes the passageway provides access to a back door in the kitchen, and bins need to be moved through this and out the other side to reach the yard. A few properties have no access through at all, or doors are blocked or the passageway is too narrow for standard black bins.

Overall about one in 10 properties say they have nowhere to store their bins off the street. People in rented properties were significantly more likely to be in this situation (one in seven) than home owners (one in 18).

2.2.3 Waste Arisings

Most people have space in all their bins each fortnight – and some people volunteered that they didn't put their bins out unless they were fairly full. Other households, however, had difficulty fitting all their waste into the bins provided. From (mostly) verbal comments, many of this second group were students, but it also included families.

2.2.4 Attitudes to Recycling and Climate Change

In this section people were asked to rank their opinions between five levels. Here the top two rankings and bottom two are being taken together.

Nearly everyone considered that they recycled a lot, with only about one in 20 admitting to recycling only very little or nothing.

People felt very strongly that it was a responsibility of the council to make it easy for people to recycle. However nearly one in five people said they found it hard to know what goes in each bin.

Nearly three out of four people felt that everyone should be recycling even if there was space in their black bin for all their waste, and even more – over four in five – think that in the future we should be recycling more and more.

Half the people don't know whether the council and government are doing enough about climate change but four out of five of the remaining responders say they are not doing enough.

2.2.5 Reaction to Council Proposals

Knowing these views, it is therefore not surprising that two out of three people did not want the council to stop providing kerbside recycling, with a further one in 10 not providing an opinion.

When asked about the Council's proposal to exclude residents in this area from the opportunity to pay for a brown bin collection, a little over half said their neighbours should have the choice to pay – though a number added that they should not have to pay. Of the remainder, two in five had no opinion.

2.2.6 Other Comments

Over half of respondents provided extra comments too. Some of the most frequent were:

- people should be fined for leaving bins out,
- orange bags were a bad idea,
- the brown bins shouldn't be charged for,
- the council should provide more information to educate people better, and
- landlords have responsibilities too.

3 Conclusions

The majority of people in this area have a real commitment to recycling, which is very encouraging. They expect leadership to be shown on this – and on climate change – by the council, and the majority consider the proposal to remove a kerbside recycling

collection, and not to offer a paid-for brown bin garden waste collection, to be large steps backwards.

Some households do have real problems in managing the multiple wheeled bins collection service provided by the council at present. However for most of these households problems will still exist with only black bins, because their properties are not suited to this type of service. A change to black bins would therefore only reduce, not remove, bins on the street.

Respondents identified a significant number of letting agencies with properties in the area, and also some corporate landlords. It should be possible to work with these to ensure that facilities are available in each property for tenants to manage their refuse properly. This may mean small practical changes, like providing keys for locked doors or smaller wheeled bins, or it may require a change to a different collection system.

Lack of information on recycling is also a problem – and the recent changes, proposed changes and differences between this particular area and most of the city make it more difficult. Households in this area have not formally been given the option of putting all recyclables in the blue bin (although small), which would simplify the system. It would reduce the use of orange bags, which are seen as a source of litter on the streets.

While there is considerable churn in the population living in this area, there is also a large settled population. This needs to be considered as an asset and empowered to support the more mobile population. In many instances simply the timely provision of advice to new residents may improve recycling and bin management. Ensuring that information is readily available locally would help in this.

4 Recommendations

The surveys and conversations in this area identify two over-riding concerns; first a desire to continue to be able to recycle, and secondly (and this was felt very strongly by a small minority) that there should be no bins left around on the streets.

Removing the recycling service alone will not solve the second concern, and therefore the two points should be considered separately. We therefore recommend that:

- This area should be provided with the same blue and black bin service as the rest of the city. If implementation of this needs to be delayed due to sourcing larger blue bins, residents should be informed that they can use their blue bins for all dry recyclables as soon as possible, and provided with stickers for their bins.
- Residents should be provided with clear information about waste management arrangements – including collection days – at least once a year.
- 3. Close to the time the new information is provided, contaminated bins should be emptied. This will give these households the chance to make a fresh start.
- 4. Residents in this area should be offered the opportunity to pay for a brown bin collection, in the same way as residents in the majority of the city, when this service is launched next year.

- 5. Residents should be invited to discuss their particular refuse management challenges with the council to seek solutions that work for them, the council and the community. This is likely to include removing of surplus bins (some houses have more than three), to change the size of bins or to provide different bins that can be transported through the house more easily.
- 6. Landlords / letting agencies should be contacted and provided with appropriate information on waste management to give to new tenants. If there are problems with off street bin storage, these should be resolved.
- 7. **Engage with the local community association** to help them be a local resource for information and education on recycling and waste management for residents in the area.
- 8. Once these seven actions have been taken, the council should consider firmer enforcement action to keep streets clear of bins.

5 Thanks

Derby Climate Coalition records its thanks to:

- the volunteers who have helped with the survey and its analysis,
- all the residents in the area who have completed surveys and shared their ideas and concerns,
- council staff who have answered questions about the process and proposals, and
- councillors who included this item on the agenda for the Neighbourhood Forum and listened to local concerns.

Co-ordinator and author on behalf of Derby Climate Coalition:

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Bye-bye bin?

The Council wants to take away your and your neighbours' recycling bins.

You'd then have to put all your waste in your black bin. This would be collected weekly.

This change is only being considered for inner city areas. People living in leafy suburbs will still get a recycling service.

The council isn't planning any recycling 'bring' sites so any recycling you want to do will have to be taken to Raynesway.

The council say they hope this will reduce litter and dumping on the streets.

If you object to people on your street being treated like this:

- 1. Tell your councillors. Details overleaf.
- Go to the meeting tonight (Tuesday 30th April at 6pm, Council House) where it will be discussed. Bring a poster if you like. Meet at 5:30 outside.
- Get in touch to help stop this happening.

Phone: 721291 Email: derbyrecycling@live.co.uk
Derby Climate Coalition, c/o 634 Nottingham Road, Derby, DE21 65X
Website: www.derbyclimate.org.uk

The Council is planning to scrap recycling on vour street.

Background information here - see over first.

IISTORY

Ten years ago the council started kerbside collections of recycling. At present about half the waste from households is recycled. This saves lots of energy, is good for the environment and helps reduce climate change and weird weather.

The rest goes to a landfill - a giant tip - for which the council has to bay more than £80 per tonne to use.

The council has already decided to start charging for brown bins. So only people who pay £40 a year will have these next year.

The council has also decided to give everyone larger blue bins so that from June this year all paper and card will go into these as well as bottles, cans and drinks cartons.

Current Plan

Before either of these changes have happened, the council now want to stop all recycling in nearly 140 inner city streets. The report is going to the council tonight for backbench councillors to comment on. It will then go for a decision to the council's 'Cabinet', probably in June.

The main Council report is available at www.tinyurl.com/DerbyRefuse And the report about scrapping recycling is at www.tinyurl.com/DerbyNoRecycling

Fell your councillors what you think:

Abbey Ward: Asaf Afzal: æsaf afzal@derby.gov.uk 07812.30143
Ajit Atwall: ajit.atwall@derby.gov.uk 07973.41178
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Lisa Higginbottom: lisa.higginbottom@derby.gov.uk 297564
John Whitby: john.whitby@derby.gov.uk 551432

Door to door survey on recycling 2013



All the stuff we have takes energy to make, and it takes energy to get rid of it. The more times stuff is reused or recycled, the better it is for the future of our world as it reduces greenhouse gases.

Derby City Council is planning to return many inner-city streets to just black bin (landfill waste) collections as recycling in these areas is seen by some people as causing problems.

The Derby Climate Coalition wants the Council to rethink this change, as it sends the wrong signal to people in Derby about the importance of recycling.
To help us change the council's mind, please could you tell us: 1. How long you've lived here? under 3 months 3-6 months 6-12 months 1-2 years 2-3 years 3-5 years 5-10 years over 10 years
2. Do you rent the property? Yes / No If yes, please add any letting agent's details as we'd like to work with letting agencies:
 3. Do you have anywhere off-street to store your wheelie bins? Yes / No 3A. If yes, please tick all the points which apply: I have a shared access to the back garden/yard I have space off-pavement at the front It is difficult to get the bin(s) round the back so I usually leave it/them on the street I have to take the bin(s) through the house 4. How much waste do you produce? Please tick all the points which apply: There is usually space in all my bins
 ☐ My black bin is usually full each fortnight ☐ My blue recycling bin is usually full each fortnight ☐ My brown bin for kitchen and garden waste is usually full each fortnight. Tear off the bottom section for more information about recycling in Derby, and contacts for your councillors. Now please turn over to complete the survey.
Background: Derby Climate Coalition website: www.derbyclimate.org.u Derby City Council is planning several changes to waste

- From June instead of using orange and blue bags for cardboard and paper, both these can go into the blue bins with the cans, bottles and drinks cartons. In most of the city people are getting larger blue bins, but not here. If needed still use the plastic bags.
- In **November**, the council will stop collecting brown bins, and kitchen waste will need to go in the black bin.
- From April 2014 brown bins will again be collected, but only from people who are paying £40 per year. This service will not be available for people in areas with weekly black bin collections (see below).

For just some areas of the city centre, the council plans to stop providing a kerbside recycling service in November. This is mostly terraced housing in the inner-city. Instead black bins will be collected each week.

This is being done in areas where the council says people are not managing their waste well and there are lots of complaints. This includes where there are lots of students, or other people in short terms lets, where lots of bins are left on streets and there is a problem of dumping. Recycling 'bring' sites will be provided instead.

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To join our campaign: phone: 721291 or email: derbyrecycling@live.co.uk



Feedback

on Recycling Survey in Stanley Street area of Mackworth ward.

www.derbyclimate.org.uk

derbyrecycling@live.co.uk



Thank you!

Volunteers have given about a quarter of the households in this part of New Zealand a survey about recycling. Nearly 100 have been returned so far. Many thanks to everyone who has replied.

According to the surveys:

- Nearly everyone has somewhere to store their bins off the street
- Nearly half have lived here for more than 10 years, and most of the rest have lived here for over a year.
- Generally people think that the council should make it easy to recycle and we should recycle more and more in the future.

Many thanks for all the extra comments people made.

- Most importantly, people want to keep a kerbside recycling service.
- However, many people don't like bins left on the streets. When left on the street bins are more likely to have wrong things added to them. A frequent suggestion is that firmer action should be taken against people leaving bins on the streets.
- The orange bags are very unpopular, and litter from these is seen as part of the problem. See over for bad new on these.

If you could help with surveys across the rest of the area, please get in touch and if you still have a survey waiting to come back, do deliver it to 20 Handford Street. Thank you.

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Please attend your local

Neighbourhood Forum

Recycling changes are to be discussed

Time: 6:30 Monday 3rd June

Place: Lonny Wilsoncroft Community Centre, Stepping Lane

All welcome

Neighbourhood Forums are open public meetings for all local residents, community organisations and businesses, chaired by a local ward councillor.

See over for an update on recycling for your street...

Thank you to our advertisers for helping to fund this leaflet

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at 5 Uttoxeter Old Road

COME IN AND GRAB A
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Donate, don't dump.

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Waste collections on your street...

The Council is not (yet) providing households in this area with new larger blue recycling bins. This is because they might only be used for a few months as the council wants this area. to have just black bin waste collections from November.

Until then, people in this area will be able to use their existing blue bin for all the dry recyclables - bottles, cans, drinks cartons, yogurt pots, etc. - plus paper and cardboard.

If your blue bin will not be large enough for all this waste, then you will have to go on using the blue and orange bags.

The waste from blue bags, blue bins and orange bags will all be collected by the same refuse truck and will go for sorting in the same way as waste from other parts of the city which have been given large blue bins.

If this makes you feel as though you are a second class citizen, you are not the only one!

Locally there are

Full bin?

 Action for Children (Surrey Street) They take clothes, household items and bric-a-brac - anything that other people may want to buy.

Charity shops can be a way to give

good things that you no longer want a

chance to be used by someone else.

Nearly New Zealand (Campion St)

Empty bin?

You don't have to put your bin out everv week.

If you rarely fill it you could:

- Offer space to a neighbour who produces more waste (some people do this already)
- Only put your bin out when you know it won't last another two weeks.

Brown Bins



By law, councils have to provide a service to collect household waste, but can charge to collect garden waste.

The council has therefore decided to charge for brown bins. This will start next year.

Bins will only be collected from April to November and people will have to pay £40 per year (that's for 16 collections).

People living in areas with only black bins will not be allowed to even pay for a brown bin.

It is much better for garden waste and kitchen waste to be composted than sent to landfill. In landfill it can turn into methane which is a powerful climate changing gas. If you would like advice about how to compost at home, please get in touch. Email derbyrecycling@live.co.uk or phone 721291.

The future...

Derby Climate Coalition is concerned that making it harder for people to recycle does not encourage recycling and is a step backwards.

Kerbside recycling works in other terraced areas of Derby, like parts of Darley ward or even nearby in Manchester Street and Peel Street. and there is no reason why it shouldn't work here too.

Fighting climate change is not just about recycling more. Homes can be made more fuel efficient and renewable energy can help cut fuel bills. How you travel matters too.

If you are concerned about these wider issues and not just recycling. please also get in touch.

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NZ says 'Yes' to recycling!

The findings of a survey of residents in the New Zealand area of Mackworth ward, Derby regarding their attitudes to recycling and council proposals to change the refuse collection service for their area.

Conducted in May/June 2013 by volunteers on behalf of Derby Climate Coalition.

Summary

Derby Climate Coalition surveyed 1000 households in an inner-city area of Derby on their attitudes to recycling after the city council proposed removing their kerbside collection service. The majority of residents are strongly supportive of recycling and wish to continue to have this service provided. Problems do arise due to the nature of these terraced properties, and recommendations are made as to how these may be resolved so that bins are not routinely left on the street.

1. Introduction

Since around 2003-4 Derby City Council has provided a kerbside recycling service for the vast majority of households. Those that have not been included have mainly been people living in flats or apartments. For most of this time, households have been provided with:

- a blue bin for mixed recyclables,
- a brown bin for compostable kitchen and garden waste and cardboard,
- a blue plastic bag for paper, and
- · a black bin for residual waste.

Since the end of 2011, Derby City Council had been unable to include cardboard in the compostable waste due to changes in composting standards. Instead larger orange plastic bags were provided for cardboard. These were generally disliked by householders.

The 2013-4 budget included reducing the number of brown bin collections per year and to charge for this service. A report covering this was included on the agendas for the Neighbourhoods Overview and Scrutiny Board on the 30th April¹. Within this report, and in Appendix 2² to the report, was another proposal. This was to stop providing a kerbside recycling service to large parts of the inner city.

Members of the Derby Climate Coalition were particularly concerned about this new proposal as there appeared to have been no consideration of the impact this change might have on climate gas emissions. Before the Scrutiny meeting they delivered 800 flyers to affected parts of Abbey and Mackworth wards telling residents about the possible loss of their kerbside recycling service (see Appendix 1).

At the meeting there was quite a lot of discussion about both the proposal to charge for brown bins and the idea of returning to just black bins for some areas. The latter was generally welcomed by some members though others expressed concerns about the impact this would have on residents ability to recycle. It was requested that, if confirmed, areas without a kerbside recycling service should again be provided with recycling 'bring' sites.

On the 15th May 2013 Derby City Council's Cabinet received a very similar report³ on changes to refuse collection, together with a similar appendix 2⁴. At this meeting the Cabinet

¹ Derby City Council Neighbourhood Overview and Scrutiny Board, 30 April 2013 Item 09 - Changes to refuse collection services

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² Derby City Council Neighbourhood Overview and Scrutiny Board, 30 April 2013 Item 09 - Appendix 2

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³ Derby City Council Cabinet, 15 May 2013 Item 08 - Changes to the Refuse Collection Service https://cmis.derby.gov.uk/CMIS5/Document.ashx?czJKcaeAi5tUFL1DTL2UE4zNRBcoShgo=x5oTy4F8gVsWI17Q%2bp MDRwy%2bsh9%2bVZGwTxA4TNd4lpjwHt6cXnqdIA%3d%3d&rUzwRPf%2bZ3zd4E7Ikn8Lyw%3d%3d=pwRE6AGJ FLDNlh225F5QMaQWCtPHwdhUfCZ%2fLUQzgA2uL5jNRG4jdQ%3d%3d&mCTIbCubSFfXsDGW9IXnlg%3d%3d=hFflUdN3100%3d&kCx1AnS9%2fpWZQ40DXFvdEw%3d%3d=hFflUdN3100%3d&uJovDxwdjMPoYv%2bAJvYtyA%3d%3d=ctNJFf55vVA%3d&FgPlIEJYlotS%2bYGoBi5olA%3d%3d=NHdURQburHA%3d&d9Qjj0ag1Pd993jsyOJqFvmy

member for Neighbourhoods said that Neighbourhood Boards would be consulted on the proposal, but strongly implied that the Cabinet would make the final decision.

The following day, the Director of Neighbourhoods attended the Derby Climate Coalition's Steering Group meeting. He provided helpful additional context for the proposals and answered many questions put to him by the group. However, many of the steering group members remained unhappy about the proposal because of the impact on both climate change and the loss of kerbside recycling to the local community, although we recognised that there were issues in some areas. A move to a simpler system, as was being introduced across the rest of the city, seemed to be a sensible step for these areas too.

The proposal to remove kerbside recycling had not been highlighted as part of budget consultation, nor was it included in the Forward Plan⁵ although the decision on the collection of garden waste was. It was also not included in the subsequent two Forward Plans despite the proposal affecting more than two wards.

Derby Climate Coalition (along with other groups and individuals) had already been concerned about the impact of the proposal to discontinue the collection of garden waste.

The Coalition was even more concerned about the proposal to remove the kerbside recycling service. The reasons were two-fold; because it would have a negative impact on climate emissions and because of the message that no longer providing a near universal recycling service would give to the public. After the meeting the Coalition wrote and asked for an estimate of the impact that removing kerbside recycling would have upon greenhouse gas emissions. At the time of writing has yet to receive a reply.

Meanwhile the majority of the city was due to lose the blue and orange plastic bags from the start of June, as paper and cardboard is being included with dry recyclables in larger blue bins. The last of these new bins were being delivered in other parts of the city at this time. It was not initially apparent that this area was not being included in this change.

2. Survey

Following the Steering Group meeting, the Coalition produced a survey to find out information from households about their recycling habits, facilities and attitudes. With the support of contacts from the local community (some identified as a result of the original flyer) the Coalition began surveying the 1000 affected households in the New Zealand area of Mackworth ward.

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⁴Derby City Council Cabinet, 15 May 2013 Item 08 - Appendix 2 https://cmis.derby.gov.uk/CMIS5/Document.ashx?czJKcaeAi5tUFL1DTL2UE4zNRBcoShgo=DLs9lnKlkzSBYT1MQn9C Si8uxr7xmY8g6PIl2SRM88HbpxZg3c6PVg%3d%3d&rUzwRPf%2bZ3zd4E7Ikn8Lyw%3d%3d=pwRE6AGJFLDNlh225 F5QMaQWCtPHwdhUfCZ%2fLUQzgA2uL5jNRG4jdQ%3d%3d&mCTlbCubSFfXsDGW9IXnlg%3d%3d=hFflUdN3100 %3d&kCx1AnS9%2fpWZQ40DXFvdEw%3d%3d=hFflUdN3100%3d&uJovDxwdjMPoYv%2bAJvYtyA%3d%3d=ctNJFf55vVA%3d&FgPIIEJYlotS%2bYGoBi5olA%3d%3d=NHdURQburHA%3d&d9Qjj0ag1Pd993jsyOJqFvmyB7X0CSQK=ctNJFf55vVA%3d&WGewmoAfeNR9xqBux0r1Q8Za60lavYmz=ctNJFf55vVA%3d&WGewmoAfeNQ16B2MHuCpMR KZMwaG1PaO=ctNJFf55vVA%3d

⁵ Derby City Council Forward Plan, published 16 April 2013 http://cmis.derby.gov.uk/CMIS5/Document.ashx?czJKcaeAi5tUFL1DTL2UE4zNRBcoShgo=cpiJeioS3OTJ8Aj7GdM6Tc UAfQCg1qxhK39LvgkXx0qwHJt%2f%2f6psDw%3d%3d&rUzwRPf%2bZ3zd4E7Ikn8Lyw%3d%3d=pwRE6AGJFLDNl h225F5QMaQWCtPHwdhUfCZ%2fLUQzgA2uL5jNRG4jdQ%3d%3d&mCTIbCubSFfXsDGW9IXnlg%3d%3d=hFflUdN 3100%3d&kCx1AnS9%2fpWZQ40DXFvdEw%3d%3d=hFflUdN3100%3d&uJovDxwdjMPoYv%2bAJvYtyA%3d%3d=c tNJFf55vVA%3d&FgPIIEJYlotS%2bYGoBi5olA%3d%3d=NHdURQburHA%3d&d9Qjj0ag1Pd993jsyOJqFvmyB7X0CS QK=ctNJFf55vVA%3d&WGewmoAfeNR9xqBux0r1Q8Za60lavYmz=ctNJFf55vVA%3d&WGewmoAfeNQ16B2MHuCp MRKZMwaG1PaO=ctNJFf55vVA%3d

It became apparent that the next Neighbourhood Forum would be able to have recycling on its agenda on the 3rd June. This did not provide time to complete the surveys, so an interim Feedback leaflet was produced to publicise the Forum meeting. See appendix 2.

The meeting was well attended, with two or three times the usual number of people. Various questions were asked about the recycling proposals. There was both concern about the proposed removal of the kerbside recycling service and the numbers of bins being left routinely on the streets. It was implied that the final recommendation from the Board to Cabinet would be made by Board members living in the affected area.

A few days after the meeting a simple 'yes / no' survey was distributed by the Neighbourhood Board to affected properties. This gave a slightly different list of streets to those proposed by the Cabinet.

Surveys continued to be delivered and collected across the area over the following couple of weeks. Some were returned to a local contact address, or by post, though most were collected back from households. By mid-June over 270 surveys had been received back, a return rate of over 25%.

After the survey was completed, towards the end of June, the streets were inspected for bins which had been tagged as contaminated. A total of 54 bins were identified as either tagged or clearly incorrectly filled (for example plastic bags showing from brown bins).

2.1 Survey Mechanics

The survey team called on all the houses in the area indicated in the Cabinet report. If the door was answered, the resident was briefly introduced to the survey and this was left with them to be filled in. In most instances, the surveyor offered to collect the completed survey back later that afternoon/evening. Nearly everyone was willing to do this, with over four out of five surveys issued in this way being returned.

If there was no answer, a survey was posted through the letterbox, with instructions to return the form to a local address or by post. A small number of surveys were returned like this.

Of about 1000 surveys issued, 276 were returned.

Around three quarters of people who answered the door to a surveyor returned their surveys. This compared to less than 10% of those houses from which there had been no answer. The results of this survey are therefore likely to be substantially more representative of the whole community than a smaller survey requiring a higher level of engagement.

2.2 Survey Results

Note that not every response included answers to all questions. If there were large number of non-responders this is noted.

2.2.1 Tenure and length of Occupation

39% of the replies came from home owners and 61% from tenants. One in five tenants have lived in their home for more than 10 years, compared with nearly four out of five owners. Overall about 40% of residents have lived in their home for over 10 years.

A third of tenants had lived in their home for under one year, and just a handful of owner occupiers, totalled around one in five overall.

2.2.2 Storage Facilities

The majority of homes in the area share a passageway through the terrace, or sometimes round the side of the property, to a rear garden or yard. In some cases there is also a right of access through a neighbour's back yard to reach a resident's own property. These arrangements are quite variable, and in some instances a single access passageway

appears to have been incorporated into living accommodation. In a few homes the passageway provides access to a back door in the kitchen, and bins need to be moved through this and out the other side to reach the yard. A few properties have no access through at all, or doors are blocked or the passageway is too narrow for standard black bins.

Overall about one in 10 properties say they have nowhere to store their bins off the street. People in rented properties were significantly more likely to be in this situation (one in seven) than home owners (one in 18).

2.2.3 Waste Arisings

Most people have space in all their bins each fortnight – and some people volunteered that they didn't put their bins out unless they were fairly full. Other households, however, had difficulty fitting all their waste into the bins provided. From (mostly) verbal comments, many of this second group were students, but it also included families.

2.2.4 Attitudes to Recycling and Climate Change

In this section people were asked to rank their opinions between five levels. Here the top two rankings and bottom two are being taken together.

Nearly everyone considered that they recycled a lot, with only about one in 20 admitting to recycling only very little or nothing.

People felt very strongly that it was a responsibility of the council to make it easy for people to recycle. However nearly one in five people said they found it hard to know what goes in each bin.

Nearly three out of four people felt that everyone should be recycling even if there was space in their black bin for all their waste, and even more – over four in five – think that in the future we should be recycling more and more.

Half the people don't know whether the council and government are doing enough about climate change but four out of five of the remaining responders say they are not doing enough.

2.2.5 Reaction to Council Proposals

Knowing these views, it is therefore not surprising that two out of three people did not want the council to stop providing kerbside recycling, with a further one in 10 not providing an opinion.

When asked about the Council's proposal to exclude residents in this area from the opportunity to pay for a brown bin collection, a little over half said their neighbours should have the choice to pay – though a number added that they should not have to pay. Of the remainder, two in five had no opinion.

2.2.6 Other Comments

Over half of respondents provided extra comments too. Some of the most frequent were:

- people should be fined for leaving bins out,
- orange bags were a bad idea,
- the brown bins shouldn't be charged for,
- the council should provide more information to educate people better, and
- landlords have responsibilities too.

3 Conclusions

The majority of people in this area have a real commitment to recycling, which is very encouraging. They expect leadership to be shown on this – and on climate change – by the council, and the majority consider the proposal to remove a kerbside recycling

collection, and not to offer a paid-for brown bin garden waste collection, to be large steps backwards.

Some households do have real problems in managing the multiple wheeled bins collection service provided by the council at present. However for most of these households problems will still exist with only black bins, because their properties are not suited to this type of service. A change to black bins would therefore only reduce, not remove, bins on the street.

Respondents identified a significant number of letting agencies with properties in the area, and also some corporate landlords. It should be possible to work with these to ensure that facilities are available in each property for tenants to manage their refuse properly. This may mean small practical changes, like providing keys for locked doors or smaller wheeled bins, or it may require a change to a different collection system.

Lack of information on recycling is also a problem – and the recent changes, proposed changes and differences between this particular area and most of the city make it more difficult. Households in this area have not formally been given the option of putting all recyclables in the blue bin (although small), which would simplify the system. It would reduce the use of orange bags, which are seen as a source of litter on the streets.

While there is considerable churn in the population living in this area, there is also a large settled population. This needs to be considered as an asset and empowered to support the more mobile population. In many instances simply the timely provision of advice to new residents may improve recycling and bin management. Ensuring that information is readily available locally would help in this.

4 Recommendations

The surveys and conversations in this area identify two over-riding concerns; first a desire to continue to be able to recycle, and secondly (and this was felt very strongly by a small minority) that there should be no bins left around on the streets.

Removing the recycling service alone will not solve the second concern, and therefore the two points should be considered separately. We therefore recommend that:

- This area should be provided with the same blue and black bin service as the rest of the city. If implementation of this needs to be delayed due to sourcing larger blue bins, residents should be informed that they can use their blue bins for all dry recyclables as soon as possible, and provided with stickers for their bins.
- Residents should be provided with clear information about waste management arrangements – including collection days – at least once a year.
- 3. Close to the time the new information is provided, contaminated bins should be emptied. This will give these households the chance to make a fresh start.
- 4. Residents in this area should be offered the opportunity to pay for a brown bin collection, in the same way as residents in the majority of the city, when this service is launched next year.

- 5. Residents should be invited to discuss their particular refuse management challenges with the council to seek solutions that work for them, the council and the community. This is likely to include removing of surplus bins (some houses have more than three), to change the size of bins or to provide different bins that can be transported through the house more easily.
- 6. Landlords / letting agencies should be contacted and provided with appropriate information on waste management to give to new tenants. If there are problems with off street bin storage, these should be resolved.
- 7. **Engage with the local community association** to help them be a local resource for information and education on recycling and waste management for residents in the area.
- 8. Once these seven actions have been taken, the council should consider firmer enforcement action to keep streets clear of bins.

5 Thanks

Derby Climate Coalition records its thanks to:

- the volunteers who have helped with the survey and its analysis,
- all the residents in the area who have completed surveys and shared their ideas and concerns,
- council staff who have answered questions about the process and proposals, and
- councillors who included this item on the agenda for the Neighbourhood Forum and listened to local concerns.

Co-ordinator and author on behalf of Derby Climate Coalition:

Lucy Care
01332 721291
lucy@lucycare.net



Bye-bye bin?

The Council wants to take away your and your neighbours' recycling bins.

You'd then have to put all your waste in your black bin. This would be collected weekly.

This change is only being considered for inner city areas. People living in leafy suburbs will still get a recycling service.

The council isn't planning any recycling 'bring' sites so any recycling you want to do will have to be taken to Raynesway.

The council say they hope this will reduce litter and dumping on the streets.

If you object to people on your street being treated like this:

- 1. Tell your councillors. Details overleaf.
- Go to the meeting tonight (Tuesday 30th April at 6pm, Council House) where it will be discussed. Bring a poster if you like. Meet at 5:30 outside.
- Get in touch to help stop this happening.

Phone: 721291 Email: derbyrecycling@live.co.uk
Derby Climate Coalition, c/o 634 Nottingham Road, Derby, DE21 65X
Website: www.derbyclimate.org.uk

The Council is planning to scrap recycling on vour street.

Background information here - see over first.

IISTORY

Ten years ago the council started kerbside collections of recycling. At present about half the waste from households is recycled. This saves lots of energy, is good for the environment and helps reduce climate change and weird weather.

The rest goes to a landfill - a giant tip - for which the council has to bay more than £80 per tonne to use.

The council has already decided to start charging for brown bins. So only people who pay £40 a year will have these next year.

The council has also decided to give everyone larger blue bins so that from June this year all paper and card will go into these as well as bottles, cans and drinks cartons.

Current Plan

Before either of these changes have happened, the council now want to stop all recycling in nearly 140 inner city streets. The report is going to the council tonight for backbench councillors to comment on. It will then go for a decision to the council's 'Cabinet', probably in June.

The main Council report is available at www.tinyurl.com/DerbyRefuse And the report about scrapping recycling is at www.tinyurl.com/DerbyNoRecycling

Fell your councillors what you think:

Abbey Ward: Asaf Afzal: æsaf afzal@derby.gov.uk 07812.30143
Ajit Atwall: ajit.atwall@derby.gov.uk 07973.41178
Sarah Russell: sarah.nussell@derby.gov.uk 07812.30144
Mackworth Ward: Paul pegg: paul.pegg@derby.gov.uk 07961.19972
Lisa Higginbottom: lisa.higginbottom@derby.gov.uk 297564
John Whitby: john.whitby@derby.gov.uk 551432

Door to door survey on recycling 2013



All the stuff we have takes energy to make, and it takes energy to get rid of it. The more times stuff is reused or recycled, the better it is for the future of our world as it reduces greenhouse gases.

Derby City Council is planning to return many inner-city streets to just black bin (landfill waste) collections as recycling in these areas is seen by some people as causing problems.

The Derby Climate Coalition wants the Council to rethink this change, as it sends the wrong signal to people in Derby about the importance of recycling.
To help us change the council's mind, please could you tell us: 1. How long you've lived here? under 3 months 3-6 months 6-12 months 1-2 years 2-3 years 3-5 years 5-10 years over 10 years
2. Do you rent the property? Yes / No If yes, please add any letting agent's details as we'd like to work with letting agencies:
 3. Do you have anywhere off-street to store your wheelie bins? Yes / No 3A. If yes, please tick all the points which apply: I have a shared access to the back garden/yard I have space off-pavement at the front It is difficult to get the bin(s) round the back so I usually leave it/them on the street I have to take the bin(s) through the house 4. How much waste do you produce? Please tick all the points which apply: There is usually space in all my bins
 ☐ My black bin is usually full each fortnight ☐ My blue recycling bin is usually full each fortnight ☐ My brown bin for kitchen and garden waste is usually full each fortnight. Tear off the bottom section for more information about recycling in Derby, and contacts for your councillors. Now please turn over to complete the survey.
Background: Derby Climate Coalition website: www.derbyclimate.org.u Derby City Council is planning several changes to waste

- From June instead of using orange and blue bags for cardboard and paper, both these can go into the blue bins with the cans, bottles and drinks cartons. In most of the city people are getting larger blue bins, but not here. If needed still use the plastic bags.
- In **November**, the council will stop collecting brown bins, and kitchen waste will need to go in the black bin.
- From April 2014 brown bins will again be collected, but only from people who are paying £40 per year. This service will not be available for people in areas with weekly black bin collections (see below).

For just some areas of the city centre, the council plans to stop providing a kerbside recycling service in November. This is mostly terraced housing in the inner-city. Instead black bins will be collected each week.

This is being done in areas where the council says people are not managing their waste well and there are lots of complaints. This includes where there are lots of students, or other people in short terms lets, where lots of bins are left on streets and there is a problem of dumping. Recycling 'bring' sites will be provided instead.

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To join our campaign: phone: 721291 or email: derbyrecycling@live.co.uk



Feedback

on Recycling Survey in Stanley Street area of Mackworth ward.

www.derbyclimate.org.uk

derbyrecycling@live.co.uk



Thank you!

Volunteers have given about a quarter of the households in this part of New Zealand a survey about recycling. Nearly 100 have been returned so far. Many thanks to everyone who has replied.

According to the surveys:

- Nearly everyone has somewhere to store their bins off the street
- Nearly half have lived here for more than 10 years, and most of the rest have lived here for over a year.
- Generally people think that the council should make it easy to recycle and we should recycle more and more in the future.

Many thanks for all the extra comments people made.

- Most importantly, people want to keep a kerbside recycling service.
- However, many people don't like bins left on the streets. When left on the street bins are more likely to have wrong things added to them. A frequent suggestion is that firmer action should be taken against people leaving bins on the streets.
- The orange bags are very unpopular, and litter from these is seen as part of the problem. See over for bad new on these.

If you could help with surveys across the rest of the area, please get in touch and if you still have a survey waiting to come back, do deliver it to 20 Handford Street. Thank you.

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Please attend your local

Neighbourhood Forum

Recycling changes are to be discussed

Time: 6:30 Monday 3rd June

Place: Lonny Wilsoncroft Community Centre, Stepping Lane

All welcome

Neighbourhood Forums are open public meetings for all local residents, community organisations and businesses, chaired by a local ward councillor.

See over for an update on recycling for your street...

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Also, New Zealand Chari-Tea Shop
at 5 Uttoxeter Old Road

COME IN AND GRAB A
BARGAIN!

Donate, don't dump.

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Waste collections on your street...

The Council is not (yet) providing households in this area with new larger blue recycling bins. This is because they might only be used for a few months as the council wants this area to have just black bin waste collections from November.

Until then, people in this area will be able to use their existing blue bin for all the dry recyclables - bottles, cans, drinks cartons, yogurt pots, etc. - plus paper and cardboard.

If your blue bin will not be large enough for all this waste, then you will have to go on using the blue and orange bags.

The waste from blue bags, blue bins and orange bags will all be collected by the same refuse truck and will go for sorting in the same way as waste from other parts of the city which <u>have</u> been given large blue bins.

If this makes you feel as though you are a second class citizen, you are not the only one!

Full bin?

Charity shops can be a way to give good things that you no longer want a chance to be used by someone else. Locally there are

- Nearly New Zealand (Campion St)
- Action for Children (Surrey Street)
 They take clothes, household items and
 bric-a-brac anything that other people
 may want to buy.

Empty bin?

You don't have to put your bin out every week.

If you rarely fill it you could:

- Offer space to a neighbour who produces more waste (some people do this already)
- Only put your bin out when you know it won't last another two weeks.

Brown Bins



By law, councils have to provide a service to collect household waste, but can charge to collect garden waste.

The council has therefore decided to charge for brown bins. This will start next year.

Bins will only be collected from April to November and people will have to pay £40 per year (that's for 16 collections).

People living in areas with only black bins will not be allowed to even pay for a brown bin.

It is much better for garden waste and kitchen waste to be composted than sent to landfill. In landfill it can turn into methane which is a powerful climate changing gas. If you would like advice about how to compost at home, please get in touch. **Email derbyrecycling@live.co.uk or phone 721291**.

The future...

Derby Climate Coalition is concerned that making it harder for people to recycle does not encourage recycling and is a step backwards.

Kerbside recycling works in other terraced areas of Derby, like parts of Darley ward or even nearby in Manchester Street and Peel Street, and there is no reason why it shouldn't work here too.

Fighting climate change is not just about recycling more. Homes can be made more fuel efficient and renewable energy can help cut fuel bills. How you travel matters too.

If you are concerned about these wider issues and not just recycling, please also get in touch.

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