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Cabinet Member with responsibility for Waste Services  
Herefordshire Council

5<sup>th</sup> May 2017

Dear Sir/Madam

**British Heart Foundation in Herefordshire**

In response to your proposed change of policy on charity tip permits I will set out the British Heart Foundation's position. I apologise that this was not submitted during the consultation period, I was only made aware of the process this week.

As you may know British Heart Foundation (BHF) stores in your area receive large quantities of household donations and sell the vast majority to raise vital funds for the charity. This enables us to provide defibrillators, CPR training kits and other resources to schools and community groups across Herefordshire, as well as supporting lifesaving research. Our work is only possible thanks to fundraising and donations. We receive no statutory funding.

We also provide a range of affordable, quality goods for local residents, creating jobs and volunteering opportunities, and through our four shops in Herefordshire preventing an estimated 390 tonnes of household waste per annum being disposed of. We work with the council in two key areas – collecting re-useable items from the household recycling centre and supplying residents in need with furniture on a formal referral basis, thereby helping the council deliver on its priorities:

- Enable residents to live safe, healthy and independent lives
- Keep children and young people safe and give them a great start in life
- Support the growth of our economy
- Secure better services, quality of life and value for money

We do our best not to pick up broken or unsaleable items and we have commercial arrangements for our own store waste and recycle what we can. The only materials that we need to dispose of in significant volume are household furniture and electrical items which have been found to be damaged, unsafe or of too poor quality to re-use. This is only a fraction of the total tonnage of household waste we are preventing, much of which would otherwise go to landfill or even incur an additional cost to the local authority through fly tipping.

We have a high demand for our goods and are keen to work with the council to continue diverting items from the municipal waste stream and increase the volume we re-use. The introduction of disposal charges for the residual fraction would reduce our capacity to do this. We would have to re-consider our acceptance criteria to minimise the risk of disposal charges, both direct donations and collections from the household recycling centre, thereby losing income for the charity at the same time as increasing the council's collection and disposal costs.

While the proposed restriction of 12 tip loads per year is proportionate to smaller charity shops selling mainly clothing, including our own, it could limit the good work of our Furniture and Electrical store in Hereford. We would ask that you consider a higher limit reflecting the nature and quantity of goods handled by this store.

Yours Sincerely

David Roman  
Waste and Recycling Manager  
British Heart Foundation Retail Division

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