

Record of officer decision

Decision title:	Re-Opening of Bromyard, Kington & Ledbury Household Recycling Centres
Date of decision:	1 July 2020
Decision maker:	Director for Economy & Place
Authority for delegated decision:	Chief Executive Scheme of Delegation – Updated 2 June 2020 Director economy and place SA48 Environment and waste
Ward:	Bromyard Bringsty, Bromyard West, Kington, Ledbury North, Ledbury South, Ledbury West and surrounding wards
Consultation:	Cabinet Member - Commissioning, Procurement and Assets, Cabinet Member for Finance & Corporate Services, Solicitor to the Council, Chief Finance & s.151 Officer, Assistant Director for Regulatory Environment and Waste and the Head of Environment, Climate Emergency & Waste.
Decision made:	<p>To reopen the Bromyard, Kington and Ledbury Household Recycling Centres with a booking system, from week commencing Monday 6th July 2020 (subject to all requirements being in place) with normal opening hours. This follows the reopening of Hereford and Leominster on Sat 9 May and the Ross on 8 June.</p> <p>Further information on Herefordshire’s Household Recycling Centres is available at https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/directory/13/household_waste_and_recycling_centres</p>
Reasons for decision:	<p>The decision has been taken to reopen the Bromyard, Kington and Ledbury Household Recycling Centres, while still continuing to protect the public from the threat of Covid-19.</p> <p>The reopening of these Household Recycling Centres will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ease the pressure on the council’s household waste collection service, providing an additional location for residents to dispose of their household waste; • Provide full coverage for residents across the county; • Require additional resource to be allocated to our contractor to appoint additional staff required to open these recycling centres; • Better fulfill the council’s statutory obligation to provide places for residents to disposal of their household waste; • This will complement existing additional resource at our three main facilities to protect staff and the public from the threat of Covid-19; • Permit social distancing and improved hygiene control measures to be implemented at all sites; • Encourage only the deposit of essential and unavoidable household waste; • Ensure services and councils resources are not overstretched. • Require a booking system to prevent queuing traffic and limit numbers of people on site to conform to social distancing requirements.

<p>Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following the successful re-opening and introduction of a booking system at the Ross on Wye recycling centre is it proposed to introduce this system to support the re-opening of the Bromyard, Kington and Ledbury site. • The booking system will limit access to each recycling centre to control the number of people on site at any time and limit the spread of Covid-19, protecting both staff and the public; • The booking system will also help to mitigate traffic congestion which will be unacceptable to surrounding businesses and residential premises as well as the highway authorities; • A booking system will reduce the need for additional staff on the gate controlling access and staff managing traffic, to help reduce costs. • Encouraging residents to visit a Household Recycling Centre presents a greater opportunity for transmission of Covid 19. • Both Staff and Public will be at increased risk of contracting Covid 19 than if the recycling centre remained closed; • Residents vulnerable to Covid 19 may be encouraged to make non-essential journeys to this Household Recycling Centre to dispose of waste, which could be argued to be avoidable; • Additional costs of £175k to be shared with our partners Worcestershire County Council are anticipated to allow our contractors to employ at least 9 additional members of staff to manage the facility and implement required social distancing requirements; • Herefordshire Council's share of this cost is expected to be circa £40k, which will be met by the waste management team's revenue budget.
<p>Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:</p>	<p>Not opening these Recycling Centres has been considered. This was not recommended as it is likely to result in additional pressure on the council's waste collection service.</p>
<p>Details of any declarations of interest made:</p>	<p>None</p>

Signed

Name: Richard Ball, Director for Economy & Place

Date: 1 July 2020