



REPORT TO:	ENVIRONMENT AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE
DATE:	21 JUNE 2022
SUBJECT:	BOSTON HOUSEHOLD WASTE RECYCLING CENTRE
PURPOSE:	TO UPDATE THE COMMITTEE ON ACTIONS TAKEN IN REGARD TO THE HOUSEHOLD WASTE RECYCLING CENTRE
KEY DECISION:	N/A
PORTFOLIO HOLDER:	COUNCILLR DEBORAH EVANS, PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
REPORT AUTHOR:	VICTORIA BURGESS, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR - NEIGHBOURHOODS
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	ALL
EXEMPT REPORT?	NO

SUMMARY

This report provides information on the matters raised to the Council about the Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) and the actions being taken by the operator, Lincolnshire County Council, to improve the site.

RECOMMENDATIONS

To note the report.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

To update the Environment and Performance Committee on the actions taken by Lincolnshire County Council in response to the concerns raised.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

N/A

1. BACKGROUND

1.1 In response to concerns that have been raised by members of the public to councillors and officers regarding the HWRC provided and managed by Lincolnshire County Council, over the last 12 months, the Portfolio Holder for Environmental Services has organised two meetings to enable councillors to raise their concerns about the site with the Executive Member for Waste and Trading Standards at Lincolnshire County Council. This report presents actions being taken by the County Council to improve access to the site.

2. REPORT

2.1 Since the HWRC opened after its closure during the lockdown, the borough council has received complaints regarding the management of the site. These concerns include:

- Restrictions on materials able to be deposited at the site for residents. Materials most often prevented from being disposed of are mattresses, hardcore, wood and garden waste.
- Restrictions on materials able to be deposited at the site for council staff, the outcome being that fly-tips and bulky collections of these materials have to cease until the disposal route can reopen.
- Restrictions on the types of materials and quantity of materials accepted at the site, e.g. tyres and hardcore.
- Restrictions on the type of vehicle used by residents when visiting the HWRC to dispose of waste.
- Lack of communication with the borough council when materials cannot be accepted.
- Opening days and times for the site.
- Potential to lead to fly-tipping if residents are turned away.

2.2 Boston Councillors met with Lincolnshire County Council's Executive Member for Waste and Trading Standards on 8 October 2021, and 27 January 2022 to discuss their concerns and identify areas for improvement.

2.3 The County Council is putting in mitigation measures to resolve these concerns and have provided a response which is attached at Appendix A.

3. CONCLUSION

3.1 This report presents the complaints received by the Council in respect of the operation of the HWRC, and provides a response from the operator, Lincolnshire County Council, to address concerns and improve the site.

EXPECTED BENEFITS TO THE PARTNERSHIP

None

IMPLICATIONS

SOUTH AND EAST LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCILS PARTNERSHIP

None

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

This report relates to the Council's corporate priority of environmental awareness and accountability.

STAFFING

None

CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

None

DATA PROTECTION

None

FINANCIAL

None

RISK MANAGEMENT

There are two reputational risks to the council as set out in the 'reputation' section below.

STAKEHOLDER / CONSULTATION / TIMESCALES

No consultation undertaken.

REPUTATION

There are two reputational risks to the council. One arising from the inability to clear flytips and collect certain bulky items that residents have paid for due to a lack of disposal route. This could also impact on performance measures. The second from the misapprehension of residents that the Borough Council is responsible for the management of the site.

CONTRACTS

None

CRIME AND DISORDER

Collecting and disposing of fly-tipped waste improves the appearance of the borough and reduces the potential for anti-social behaviour.

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY/ HUMAN RIGHTS/ SAFEGUARDING

None

HEALTH AND WELL BEING

Reducing the amount of fly-tipped waste improves the appearance of the borough and improves the appearance of hot spot areas, contributing to the wellbeing of residents in areas of the Borough.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

None

LINKS TO 12 MISSIONS IN THE LEVELLING UP WHITE PAPER

MISSIONS	
This paper contributes to the follow Missions outlined in the Government's Levelling Up White paper.	
Pride in Place	By 2030, pride in place, such as people's satisfaction with their town centre and engagement in local culture and community, will have risen in every area of the UK, with the gap between the top performing and other areas closing.

ACRONYMS

LCC – Lincolnshire County Council

HWRC – Household Waste Recycling Centre

APPENDICES

Appendix A – Statement regarding Boston HWRC from Lincolnshire County Council.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers as defined in Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the production of this report.

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF THIS REPORT

A report on this item has not been previously considered by a Council body.

REPORT APPROVAL

Report author:	Victoria Burgess
Signed off by:	John Leach
Approved for publication:	Councillor Deborah Evans