

Impact Assessment completed by:		Responsible officer:	
Name/Job Title(s) Chris Chandler Senior Waste Management Officer (Operations)		Name/Job Title Wendy Barratt County Waste Manager	
Date of sign off:	08/05/15		

1. Background

1.1 Title:

Provision of a new Recycling Centre for Ivybridge and surrounding areas

1.2 Description:

Devon County Council (DCC) currently provides a Recycling Centre at Ivybridge for use by local residents to dispose of/recycle mainly bulky household and garden waste (i.e household waste that is not normally collected as part of the local refuse/recycling collection services).

DCC has a legal obligation to provide Recycling Centre facilities for Household Waste.

The existing Ivybridge Recycling Centre is very small and is inadequate to serve the local growing population. Given the size of the existing site, significant queues can develop on the public highway and the site is congested which impacts on site safety. The small scale of the site also significantly limits its recycling performance, resulting in lower recycling yields than would be expected and hence higher ratios of waste for disposal. In 2014/15 the Ivybridge site recycled 72% compared to the average rate of 81%. The existing site can not be expanded and so a replacement facility is therefore required. In addition, many of waste containers at the existing site are accessed via steps which is far from ideal in terms of accessibility.

The provision of a new facility formed part of the 'Strategy for Recycling Centre (Civic Amenity Site) Facilities in Devon' ECC/11/38/HQ which was approved by Cabinet on 9 March 2011.

1.3 Service users:

All Devon residents in the Ivybridge and surrounding areas

1.4 Describe any reasons for change and intended aims and benefits:

A new Recycling Centre is proposed to provide local residents with a more accessible, more efficient, easier to use, safer facility which will maximise recycling and will reduce the amount of waste going for disposal.

1.5 Overlap with other policies, services etc:

None known.

1.6 The following stakeholders have been involved in this assessment:

The provision of a new, improved facility is supported by the local community with positive responses received from 87% of the respondents following public consultation (as part of the planning permission application process) in July 2014.

1.7 The following research or guidance has been referred to, or advice sought, in order to inform the assessment:

Environmental Protection Act 1990
Health & Safety Executive (HSE) Guidance “ Operating Civic Amenity Sites Safely”
National Assessment of Civic Amenity Sites “Maximising Recycling Rates at Civic Amenity Sites” (Future West/Network Recycling)

1.8 Options Appraisal

Option	Pros	Cons	Cost/Achievability
Do nothing	Service unchanged	Improvements to the safety, accessibility and usability of the service not realised	Achievable
Implement the proposal (as described above)	Service, safety and accessibility improved	None.	Achievable

Recommended/preferred option(s):

Implement the proposal

2. Analysis

2.1 Social impacts

Giving Due Regard to Equality and Human Rights

The local authority must consider how people will be affected by the service, policy or practice. In so doing we must give due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation
- Advance equality of opportunity and
- Foster good relations.

We must take into account the protected characteristics of age, disability, gender, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, marriage and civil partnership, sexual orientation, race, and religion and belief (where relevant).

This means considering how people with different needs get the different services they require and are not disadvantaged, and facilities are available to them on an equal basis in order to meet their needs; advancing equality of opportunity by recognising the disadvantages to which protected groups are subject and considering how they can be overcome.

We also need to ensure that human rights are protected. In particular, that people have:

- A reasonable level of choice in where and how they live their life and interact with others (this is an aspect of the human right to 'private and family life').
- An appropriate level of care which results in dignity and respect (the protection to a private and family life, protection from torture and the freedom of thought, belief and religion within the Human Rights Act and elimination of discrimination and the promotion of good relations under the Equality Act 2010).
- A right to life (ensuring that nothing we do results in unlawful or unnecessary/unavoidable death).

The Equality Act 2010 and other relevant legislation does not prevent the Council from taking difficult decisions which result in service reductions or closures for example, it does however require the Council to ensure that such decisions are:

- Informed and properly considered with a rigorous, conscious approach and open mind, taking due regard of the effects on the protected characteristics and the general duty to eliminate discrimination, advance equality and foster good relations.
- Proportionate (negative impacts are proportionate to the aims of the policy decision)
- Fair
- Necessary
- Reasonable, and
- Those affected have been adequately consulted.

	In what way is this characteristic relevant, or not relevant, to the service, policy or practice?
Age:	For Health and Safety reasons, children are not permitted out of vehicles on the site.
Disability:	Reasonable assistance is offered by site staff to all users where requested
Gender/Sex (men and women):	Reasonable assistance is offered by site staff to all users where requested
Marriage and civil partnership:	Not Relevant
Pregnancy and maternity:	Reasonable assistance is offered by site staff to all users where requested
Race/ethnicity:	Not Relevant
Religion/belief:	Not Relevant
Sexual orientation:	Not Relevant
Trans-gender/gender identity:	Not Relevant
Other (e.g. socio-economic, general health and wellbeing, human rights, safeguarding):	Reasonable assistance is offered by site staff to all users where requested
Overall degree of relevance to equality:	Low – proposals apply to all residents who utilise the service.
Geographic areas affected:	Ivybridge and surrounding areas

2.1.1 Positive impacts:

A new Recycling Centre is proposed to provide local residents with a more accessible, more efficient, easier to use, safer facility which will maximise recycling and will reduce the amount of waste going for disposal.

2.1.2 Negative impacts and mitigations or justification:

None

2.3.4 Neutral impacts:

N/A

2.2 Economic impacts

	In what way is this factor relevant, or not relevant, to the service, policy or practice?
Impact on knowledge and skills:	Not Relevant
Impact on employment levels:	Not Relevant.
Impact on local business:	Not Relevant

2.2.1 Positive impacts:

The proposal helps towards reducing the disposal of waste and boosting recycling levels

2.2.2 Negative impacts and mitigations or justification:

None

2.3 Environmental impacts

2.3.1 The policy or practice does not require the identification of environmental impacts using this Impact Assessment process because it is subject to (please select and proceed to Section 2.3, otherwise complete table below):

	Devon County Council's Environmental Review Process for permitted development highway schemes.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Planning Permission under the Town and Country Planning Act (1990).
	Strategic Environmental Assessment under European Directive 2001/42/EC "on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment".

	In what way is this factor relevant, or not relevant, to the service, policy or practice?
Reduce waste, and send less waste to landfill:	
Conserve and enhance biodiversity (the variety of living	

species):	
Safeguard the distinctive characteristics, features and special qualities of Devon's landscape:	
Conserve and enhance the quality and character of our built environment and public spaces:	
Conserve and enhance Devon's cultural and historic heritage:	
Minimise greenhouse gas emissions:	
Minimise pollution (including air, land, water, light and noise):	
Contribute to reducing water consumption:	
Ensure resilience to the future effects of climate change (warmer, wetter winters; drier, hotter summers; more intense storms; and rising sea level):	
Other (please state below):	

2.3.2 Positive impacts:

The proposal helps towards reducing the disposal of waste and boosting recycling levels

2.3.3 Negative impacts and mitigations or justification:

None

2.4 Combined Impacts

2.4.1 Linkages or conflicts between social, environmental and economic impacts:

The new facility will be of benefit to the local area/population

2.4.2 'Social Value' of planned commissioned/procured services:

Not Relevant

2.4.3 Potential impacts on partner agencies:

Not Relevant

3. Actions and risk management

3.1 Actions:

No discrimination as the facility is available for use by all Local Devon Residents.

3.2 How will you monitor the actual impacts of recommendations/decisions (consider what service user monitoring and consultation is necessary)?:

The new site will monitored to ensure it can be used by all members of the local community.
Complaints will be investigated and improvements made where appropriate

3.3 Risk assessment

Inherent risk (mark an X in one box).

The risk **without** mitigating actions in place/prior to any changes.

Severity	Catastrophic	5					
	Major	4					
	Moderate	3			x		
	Minor	2					
	Negligible	1					
			1	2	3	4	5
			Rare	Unlikely	Possible	Likely	Almost certain

Likelihood (in a 5 year timeframe)

Current risk (mark an **X** in one box).

The risk **with** mitigating actions/changes in place.

Severity	Catastrophic	5					
	Major	4					
	Moderate	3					
	Minor	2	X				
	Negligible	1					
			1	2	3	4	5
			Rare	Unlikely	Possible	Likely	Almost certain

Likelihood (in a 5 year timeframe)