



**To:**  
**All members of the**  
**Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

*Please reply to:*  
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Supplementary Agenda

**Extraordinary Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Monday, 31 July 2017**

Dear Councillor

I enclose the following item which was marked 'to follow' on the agenda for the Extraordinary Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting to be held on Monday, 31 July 2017:

**3. Changes to Surrey County Council's Community Recycling Centres 3 - 6**

To consider the changes proposed by Surrey County Council at Community Recycling Centres and their wider implications for the Borough.

Yours sincerely

Gillian Hobbs  
Principal Committee Manager

To the members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillors:

C.A. Davis (Chairman)	K. Flurry	D. Patel
S.C. Mooney (Vice-Chairman)	A.E. Friday	D. Saliagopoulos
R.O. Barratt	A.L. Griffiths	J.R. Sexton
S. Capes	N. Islam	R.A. Smith-Ainsley
T.J.M. Evans	J.G. Kavanagh	B.B. Spoor

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## Extraordinary Overview and Scrutiny Committee 31 July 2017

### Changes proposed by Surrey County Council at recycling centres and their wider implications for the borough

1. In 2015 Surrey County Council (SCC) announced that due to increased demand for essential services, coupled with reduced Government funding they needed to reduce their spend in other areas. One of the areas highlighted for reduced spending was waste. Between July and September 2015, SCC carried out a consultation exercise, feedback from the consultation in order of preference listed:-
  1. **Reduced opening hours**
  2. **Closure of the least busy Community Recycling Centres (CRCs) on the least busy days**
  3. **Charges introduced for non-household waste**
  4. **Closure of CRCs**
2. The County Council is required to provide a place for residents in its area to deposit their household waste free of charge. However there are some types of waste that are not classified as household waste and the county can choose not to accept this material, to put limits on the amount they accept and/or charge to accept it.
3. SCC Cabinet agreed to implement the first 3 changes but not to close any CRCs. Changes to opening hours and days were introduced on 1 April 2016 and the introduction of charges was implemented from 1st September 2016.
4. The type of waste now charged for includes, tyres, construction and DIY waste, bricks, rubble, bathroom fittings. The charges range from £4 per bag to £50 for a car load. Whilst introducing a charge SCC also introduced a free daily allowance per household of 1 bag per day as long as the waste was taken to the CRC in car and not a van. Charlton Lane was one of the sites that was affected by these changes and charges as it is the busiest site in Surrey and is listed as a CRC that can take chargeable waste.

Statistics taken from waste data flow show that between:-

- **April 2015 & March 2016 we collected 439 fly tips, 542 tonnes**
  - **April 2016 & March 2017 we collected 772 fly tips, 497 tonnes**
  - **September 2016 & May 2017 (part year - 9 months) we collected 688 fly tips, 405 tonnes**
5. Whilst the tonnages have remained fairly stable, the increase in the number of fly tipping incidents has nearly doubled, these figures are representative of the fact that we are dealing with the larger and more prolific fly tippers as individuals, thereby preventing the higher tonnage fly tipping. The individual incidents which

have increased are representative of the fact that we are now seeing a lot of smaller fly tips and items such as toilet pans etc. that would be a chargeable item at the CRC post September 2016 and/or the type of small fly tips that would (pre April 2016) have been taken to the CRCs in small vans or trailers containing domestic chargeable waste.

6. Continued cuts to funding, rising costs and increasing demand for key services means that there is a need for Surrey County Council to find additional savings.
7. One of those services is waste, which includes running the County's 15 community recycling centres where 113,000 tonnes of waste and recycling are taken every year by Surrey residents.
8. Despite the savings already made at CRCs, Surrey County Council still need to make further savings.
9. To help achieve these savings a new consultation exercise has been published which closes on 7 August 2017 and asks residents to list in order of priority the following proposed changes:-
  - Stopping the free daily allowance of non-household waste
  - Closing for two weekdays
  - Ensuring CRCs are only used by Surrey residents
  - Closure of some CRCs
  - Stopping vans, trailers or pick-ups from using smaller sites
  - No change to services
10. The views submitted in the public consultation will be taken into account when the final plans are agreed by SCC in autumn 2017.
11. It would be reasonable to conclude that with the increase we have seen in Spelthorne since the changes and charges at the CRCs were introduced in September 2016, there will be a further increase should SCC take the decision to remove the free daily allowance and/or reduce the opening hours/days at Charlton Lane.

**Q** 'Can you confirm that fly-tipping is on the increase and can we conclude that it will get a lot worse under SCC proposals'.

**A** I can confirm that between **September 2015 and May 2016** we dealt with **304 fly tips**.

Changes were introduced in April 2016 and charges were introduced in September 2016. From **September 2016 until May 2017** we dealt with **688 fly tips**, an increase of **384** fly tipping incidents. Based on this increase in numbers and the potential changes it would be fair to accept that additional restrictions and charges would create a further increase in fly tipping incidents reported and subsequently cleared. Tonnages have remained fairly stable

over the last couple of years despite the hike in recorded incidents, this can be related to the increase in much smaller fly tips of a bag or an item quite possible as a direct result of resident's fear of being charged should they take it to their local civic amenity site.

SCC have put the proposals out for consultation and we would urge residents to respond.

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