

COMMENTS FROM PARISH COUNCILS

COMMENTS	PARISH COUNCIL
<p>This Council considers Option D is the preferred option using heavy-duty sacks for garden waste.</p> <p>The remaining service as per the present scheme.</p> <p>There are sufficient Glass and cardboard recycling and the main problem is to educate the public to use the facilities provided. Responsible residents already achieve reasonable rates of recycling. It is an education and advertising strategy that is required to achieve the targets.</p> <p>It is important to set a realistic target, not set too high a figure.</p> <p>Long term the County Council materials recycling facility needs to be upgraded to accept more materials for recycling. This will increase the amount of recycled waste.</p> <p>We are totally opposed to Wheelie bins. The present service using sacks which householders put out near the boundary of their properties is the best service the Borough Council provides. We do not understand why an option to keep the status quo was not an option being considered.</p> <p>Wheelie bins will only provide another target for vandalism and lead to untidy streets in the Borough. Terraced Houses do not have the facility to keep them off the street and elderly residents have problems moving them. We consider Wheelie bins are a health hazard in hot weather.</p> <p>Looking at the published targets of other Leicestershire councils the two with the highest results and targets both use sacks as Charnwood do at present. These two councils are looking to increase frequency of collections, not reduce them. We also note that the New Forest are achieving over 24% using sacks with weekly collections and are setting a 40% target for 2006. If they can achieve this why not Charnwood.</p>	Rothley Parish Council
<p>The consensus of Rearsby Parish Council is that the preferred option is Option D (heavy-duty sack, not wheeled bin) plus one or two elements of Option A, ie a box for glass and/or a cardboard sack. This should push your target up to the required amount.</p> <p>In view of the character of Rearsby, where there are many terraced cottages with small gardens and long, narrow spaces from back to front of properties, wheeled bins are an inflexible option. The heaviness of these bins also has to be considered especially with regard to our older people, and a tendency, where they have been introduced, to leave them at the front of houses, which would spoil the visual appearance of our village.</p> <p>We have a Village Design Statement which states (guideline 11):</p> <p><i>Developers, landowners and builders should note the importance of space in our village, and not make changes which affect the spatial characteristics of Rearsby adversely. This includes the restricted spaces appropriate to the terraced cottage environment on Brook Street, Church Lane and Melton Road, and the open green spaces around the brook. They should note that the nature of these spaces includes the spaces between buildings and the spaces provided by roads and footpaths.</i></p> <p>In principle, the above statement also applies to policy developers such as yourselves. One size shouldn't fit all.</p> <p>The parish council was unhappy with the shortness of the consultation period – three</p>	Rearsby Parish Council

COMMENTS	PARISH COUNCIL
<p>weeks is not a lot of time to think about the options or get feedback from parishioners. We feel that a decision may already have been made and that this consultation may be something of a cosmetic exercise.</p>	
<p>Parish Councilors attended the public meetings at Mountsorrel and Southfields and the six options were discussed at Woodhouse Parish Council's December meeting. The parish council is supportive of recycling in principle and welcomes the intention to enhance refuse collection services by collecting items such as garden waste and cardboard. Textile collections should be added to this – currently they do not take place in all parts of the parish.</p> <p>The requirement for Charnwood Borough Council to meet a recycling target of 36% is also recognised. If this is to be achieved, the recycling system must be acceptable to householders. It must also be sensitive to individuals with special needs.</p> <p>The parish council considers that Option F is the best option. It exceeds the recycling target and is more likely to be acceptable to the public as it does not require as radical a change in behaviour as Options C and E. The retention of a weekly collection for residual waste and the continued use of black bags are advantages in this respect. There is a risk that a fortnightly collection of residual waste will lead to dirtier, smellier streets. Street cleanliness is already an issue of major concern as highlighted at the public meetings attended by Woodhouse parish councillors.</p> <p>Option F is supported because it limits the use of wheelie bins to garden waste. Wheelie bins are impractical for a significant minority, such as those living in hilly areas, such as the Birdhill Estate, Woodhouse Eaves, the elderly and other vulnerable groups. It must be a priority for Charnwood Borough Council that the needs of individuals are recognized and the service is "customer focused". Reassurances given in the consultation document and in the public meetings will need to be acted upon. Although Option F appears one of the more expensive options, until a detailed assessment has been made of households that have special circumstances, accurate comparisons cannot be made.</p> <p>It is of concern that wheelie bins will block pavements and be detrimental to the appearance of our towns and villages. This will be an issue where there is no off-road parking, such as parts of Main Street, Woodhouse Eaves and in many areas of Loughborough.</p> <p>Option F includes kerb side sorting of recyclables and there is concern that this may lead to increase debris on the streets. Robust performance monitoring of refuse collection contractors will be needed.</p> <p>The parish council regards the timescale for consultation as inadequate and believes that there is little appreciation by the community of the changes proposed. To our knowledge, the open meetings have been attended by very few members of the public. As an example, the Anstey meeting was held before many villagers received notification in the Charnwood News that the meeting was taking place. For a change of this nature, all parish councils should have been given ample opportunity to canvas views, but this has not been possible. Woodhouse Parish Council is fortunate that its monthly meeting has fallen within the consultation period, but for other areas of the borough this is not the case. We hope that Charnwood Borough Council will bear this in mind and decide to adopt the option that will meet targets and is most likely to be acceptable to the public.</p>	<p>Woodhouse Parish Council</p>

COMMENTS	PARISH COUNCIL
<p>Without being able to evaluate the various schemes put forward in detail, the key to any increase in the recycling rate must be provision of additional categories for household collection over and above those presently acceptable in green sacks. This would include such things as cardboard, envelopes etc., as well as garden waste.</p>	<p>Chair Burton on the Wolds Parish Council</p>
<p>A majority of goods, especially food appears to have a lot of excess packaging, therefore, if this were reduced then the disposal of waste would be too. There was a lot of support for the recycling of glass from home.</p>	<p>Shepsh d Town Council</p>
<p>It is essential to re-educated residents regarding the impact on the environment if recycling is not improved.</p> <p>Kerbside collection is only feasible if residents are fit and able to remove waste to kerbside. Kerbside sorting is seen as a health hazard and could cause traffic hold-ups and reduce access to emergency response teams.</p> <p>Wheelie bins are cumbersome and how many houses have room for two wheelie bins – certainly not the new two and three storey houses at present being built in the borough. Who would clean the wheelie bins? Many pensioners would have difficulty moving them at all, let alone cleaning them.</p> <p>Against fortnightly collection of household waste. In a summer like the one in 2003 this would cause a health hazard. Whatever the solution, waste must be removed as quickly as possible to discourage the infestation of rodents and pests.</p> <p>Waste tips must be available and have the facilities to take additional material if we are to encourage residents to recycle.</p> <p>Heavy fines should be levied on fly-tippers – consideration should be given to setting up a ‘whistle-blowing’ hot line. As with Health & Safety Prosecutions, name and shaming of the fly-tippers will discourage people from dumping their waste and encourage disposing of it in the most appropriate way.</p> <p>In Appendix E of your consultation document it states that Canberra is currently recycling 66% of all household and commercial waste. Perhaps Charnwood could enquire how it is managed – this may provide the best of all options.</p> <p>Charnwood’s garden waste collection for composting is a joke. I am told by the garden centre who sell the brown bags that I am the only person in this village who has bought any in the last 12 months. Residents never know when they will be collected. I have found out that they collect on Mondays in this area – but who knows that? It has never been advertised as far as we can find out. Also, when I rang to have five bags collected it took nearly two weeks and by that time I had filled the second lot of five bags, making a total of ten left outside – but guess what – they only took five bags and left the other five. I couldn’t believe it – what organisation or is it dis-organisation. I had to make another phone call to get the remaining five bags collected. Hope the new recycling system, whichever is chosen, can do better.</p>	<p>Cossington Parish Council</p>
<p>The Parish Council cannot add anything to the comments from our Chairman previously sent. The document you have produced is very comprehensive and thus extremely complex. It depends on many external factors, not least the ability of the County Council to handle increased and additional waste materials. It is in our view best left to those who have the time and expertise to evaluate it thoroughly. That, we believe, is your Council.</p>	<p>Burton on the Wolds Parish Council</p>
<p>The Council wished to convey their view that the deadline of 8 December did not afford them adequate time to produce a considered response.</p>	<p>Syston Town Council</p>

COMMENTS	PARISH COUNCIL
<p>The Council are grateful for consultation meetings that you recently arranged. This Council has serious concerns over the introduction of wheeled bins. A lot of properties in the village are on the main road, the A6006 - which is a busy road with a lot of heavy traffic, and with very little pavement space; the wheeled bins would be left on the side throughout the day, or possibly longer in some cases, and would cause traffic and pedestrian problems, quite apart from the unsightly nature of them. The Council are aware that some people may have difficulties in lifting boxes to a collection point in the front of the property when they are full of recyclable materials, such as papers, as the boxes would be heavy, and this may cause even less recycling than is currently undertaken; albeit in a few cases. On that basis, it does not seem that boxes would solve the problem either.</p> <p>Facilities at the Loughborough site could be improved. There is still no special section there for garden or cardboard waste. People often want to get rid of large amounts of garden waste as it is generated, and may not have the storage facilities to wait until the collection is due, if this was to be arranged on a fortnightly basis.</p> <p>The Council thinks that greater benefits can be achieved by education and awareness, so that less waste is generated in the first instance; plus an increase in recycling collections rather than just once per fortnight.</p> <p>Another alternative would be to have an edge of village site for rural communities, such as those at some of the supermarkets, where people can put a greater variety of waste for recycling, into special sections. This would alleviate the need for so much hand sorting, and also reduce the petrol pollution and costs.</p> <p>However, if the only schemes that you are proposing are the ones in the consultation paper, then it seems that none of the schemes are totally appropriate or cost effective. Option E which is cheapest and increases both recycling rates, would result in lorries being in the streets for a longer period while sorting, and would almost inevitably lead to more litter on the streets.</p> <p>The best option to increase the composting rate with the least impact on the public is Option D. If this had the addition of a sack for cardboard and/or a box for jars etc, the recycling performance would also increase, albeit at a high cost. This is the preferred option of this Council if it is necessary to adopt any one of the proposed schemes.</p>	<p>Wymeswold Parish Council</p>
<p>It is essential to re-educate residents regarding the impact on the environment if recycling is not improved.</p> <p>Kerbside collection is only feasible if residents are fit and able to remove waste to kerbside. Kerbside sorting is seen as a health hazard and could cause traffic hold-ups and reduce access to emergency response teams.</p> <p>Wheelie bins are cumbersome and how many houses have room for two wheelie bins – certainly not the new two and three storey houses at present being built in the borough. Who would clean the wheelie bins? Many pensioners would have difficulty moving them at all, let alone cleaning them.</p> <p>Against fortnightly collection of household waste. In a summer like the one in 2003 this would cause a health hazard. Whatever the solution, waste must be removed as quickly as possible to discourage the infestation of rodents and pests.</p> <p>Waste tips must be available and have the facilities to take additional material if we are to encourage residents to recycle.</p> <p>Heavy fines should be levied on fly-tippers – consideration should be given to setting up a 'whistle-blowing' hot line. As with Health & Safety Prosecutions, name and shaming of the fly-tippers will discourage people from dumping their waste and encourage disposing of it in the most appropriate way.</p> <p>In Appendix E of your consultation document it states that Canberra is currently recycling 66% of all household and commercial waste. Perhaps Charnwood could enquire how it is managed – this may provide the best of all options.</p> <p>Charnwood's garden waste collection for composting is a joke. I am told by the garden centre who sell the brown bags that I am the only person in this village who</p>	<p>Cossington Parish Council</p>

COMMENTS	PARISH COUNCIL
<p>has bought any in the last 12 months. Residents never know when they will be collected. I have found out that they collect on Mondays in this area – but who knows that? It has never been advertised as far as we can find out. Also, when I rang to have five bags collected it took nearly two weeks and by that time I had filled the second lot of five bags, making a total of ten left outside – but guess what – they only took five bags and left the other five. I couldn't believe it – what organisation or is it dis-organisation. I had to make another phone call to get the remaining five bags collected. Hope the new recycling system, whichever is chosen, can do better.</p>	