

Recycle More timetable

Summary

- **Papers published for the Somerset Waste Board meeting on 31 July include a proposed timetable for the introduction of Recycle More.**
- **The new service will allow people to recycle much more from their kerbside, with environmental benefits and savings for all partners.**
- **IF RECOMMENDATIONS ARE APPROVED, it will be introduced in MENDIP ONLY at the end of October 2020.**
- **Other district areas would follow in four phases over 18 months, with Mendip the only area being rolled-out this year. South Somerset would see the service at end of June/early July 2021, with Sedgemoor and Somerset West & Taunton following in the final two phases.**
- **Attached is a Bite-sized Briefing Pack about Recycle More.**
- **Depending on the outcome of the Board meeting, further detail and updates will be provided to Councillors from county and district councils, as well as other stakeholders in the following weeks.**

Background

After successful trials in 2014, Somerset Waste Board approved plans to introduce a new Recycle More service in Somerset. At the beginning of April, 2020, Suez replaced Kier as SWP's waste and recycling collection contractor with a commitment to bringing in the new service.

As existing services return to 'normal' following COVID-19, on 31 July the Board will consider a proposed Recycle More roll-out timetable which would start with Mendip in October this year. For full details you can read the Board papers here <http://democracy.somerset.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=196&MId=961&Ver=4>

Key features of Recycle More:

- Expanded weekly kerbside recycling, notably adding plastic pots, tubs and trays.
- All households to receive a new recycling container – a 'bright blue bag'.
- Three weekly rubbish collections - as more recycling means more space in bins.
- New collection days for many households.

Please note: The new service will be introduced area by area so SWP's five depots can be upgraded to handle thousands of tonnes of extra recycling. This means Recycle More will not reach some parts of the county for some time and until it arrives it is important that people continue to recycle as they do now.

More information about Recycle More can be found in the Bite-sized Briefing Pack attached.

If recommendations are approved, in the coming weeks and months SWP will communicate and engage widely to raise awareness of the changes, encourage people to prepare and provide support where needed.

All affected households will be written to twice before the service is introduced. Guidance and support will be available for anyone with questions or concerns through SWP's online presence, Customer Service teams and Waste Management Officers. Members will receive regular updates and are encouraged to help SWP raise awareness of Recycle More when it starts in your constituency.

Recycle More is expected to boost recycling across the county – saving materials, energy and cutting every family's carbon footprint. As well as environmental benefits, Recycle More is due to cost around £2m less per year once in place across the county, meaning savings for all SWP partners.

For information about Recycle More visit www.somersetwaste.gov.uk/recycle-more (this will be updated in the coming weeks), follow @somersetwaste on social media and sign up to our e-newsletter from www.somersetwaste.gov.uk

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