

Technical Appendix 7: Waste Management



1.0 Service Overview

- 1.1 Under the Environmental Protection Act 1990, the county council is required to perform the statutory functions of the Waste Disposal Authority (WDA) for Hertfordshire. The WDA is also required to provide facilities in its area where residents may deposit their own household waste free of charge. In Hertfordshire, these facilities are known as recycling centres.
- 1.2 As WDA, the county council is responsible for the disposal of Local Authority Collected Waste (LACW) arising in the county. LACW consists of household waste and commercial waste collected by the ten Borough and District Councils in their role as the Waste Collection Authorities (WCA's) for Hertfordshire and waste collected at the county's Recycling Centres (RC).
- 1.3 As housing growth continues within Hertfordshire, the amount of LACW and waste generated from RCs will also increase and in order to support the county council's disposal function, strategically placed waste transfer stations (WTS) are required to increase capacity and allow for the proximate bulking and segregation of waste.
- 1.4 This increased capacity will also enable the efficient processing, recycling or treatment of waste and to meet the Government's Resources and Waste Strategy (RWS), which increases the need to segregate different waste types so that material resources can be reserved, waste is minimised and the country can move towards a circular economy.
- 1.5 Waterdale Waste Transfer Station, a facility owned by the county council, currently handles the majority of Hertfordshire's residual waste, however there is insufficient spare capacity to cope with demand and work is being forward funded to increase capacity at this WTS. Additional WTSs are planned to more sustainably support the north and east of the county and will ensure that there is not more than 20 minutes' drive time from the county's main population centres to the nearest WTS.
- 1.6 The county council currently manages a network of 16 RCs. At these locations residents can deposit a number of waste items and materials including those not collected at the kerbside by District and Borough Councils in their role as the WCA. The waste types accepted include residual waste, bulky waste, green garden waste and a wide range of recyclable materials. RCs also fulfil the statutory function as Designated Collection Facilities as part of a Producer Responsibility Scheme.
- 1.7 The level of service provision at each RC differs as some sites have been constructed in recent years and other, more historic centres, are barely adequate in terms of suitability. An increase in population within Hertfordshire as a result of new residential development will require increased investment in the recycling centre network.
- 1.8 Several RCs within the network are identified as unsuitable and are in need of expansion or relocation. Developer contributions will be sought in line with the county council's most up to date [Local Authority Collected Waste Spatial Strategy - Recycling Centre Annex \(updated in 2022\)](#) which lists the suitability of existing centres and their infrastructure requirements.

2.0 Assessing need and calculating contributions

- 2.1 Any additional users resulting from new development will increase the pressure on facilities within the county, thereby limiting service provision. Not all RCs are close to, at or over capacity so calculations will be considered based on the most up to date evidence available from the Waste Disposal Authority.
- 2.2 The impact of additional dwellings on waste management infrastructure will vary depending on the size of the development and its location. Should an existing centre be identified as having insufficient capacity to accommodate increased usage due to additional dwellings, financial contributions will be identified towards increasing the capacity of the local service provision. This may be achieved through improvements to existing facilities or the acquisition and development of a new facility.
- 2.3 Planning obligations towards waste infrastructure are assessed using the Hertfordshire County Council Demographic Model which forecasts the number of people likely to emerge from different types, sizes and tenures of dwellings. Further details are available alongside this Guide.
- 2.4 Planning obligations towards waste infrastructure will be sought from older people's housing and supported housing for people with disabilities, calculated at an average occupancy rate of 1 person per bedroom for dwellings and 1 person per bed for care homes. Please see the Adult Care Services Technical Appendix for more information.
- 2.5 As costs vary from location to location, the county council will determine each application on a case-by-case basis. Example methodologies for both a recycling centre and a waste transfer station are shown below.
- 2.6 The contribution sought will be tailored to the specific recycling centre catchment area within which the development falls. Projected costs are to be shared equally across households. The following example is provided to explain how a S106 obligation for a recycling centre might reasonably be calculated:
- Cost of project, eg. to re-provide a recycling centre (based on BCIS Q1 2024 prices) = £6,688,654
 - Number of residents currently within the catchment area = 68,227
 - Projected future number of dwellings within the catchment area = 6,980
 - Projected additional number of residents within the catchment area, calculated by multiplying the projected dwellings by the ONS average household size of 2.4 = 16,752
 - Total projected number of residents within the catchment area = 84,979 (68,227 + 16,752)
 - Cost per person to re-provide the recycling centre = £78.71 (£6,688,654/84,979)
- 2.7 The contribution sought for a waste transfer station is calculated in a similar way, with the project costs shared equally across households, however costs are shared across a larger catchment area as waste generated from several Hertfordshire districts will be processed at either of the three closest transfer stations. The following example is provided to explain how a S106 obligation for a waste transfer station might reasonably be calculated:

- Cost of project, eg. to provide a new transfer station (based on BCIS Q12024) = £24,920,000
- Number of residents currently within the catchment area = 222,891
- Projected future number of dwellings within the catchment area = 23,598
- Projected additional number of residents within the catchment area, calculated by multiplying the projected dwellings by the ONS average household size of 2.4 = 56,635
- Total projected number of residents within the catchment area = 279,526 (222,891 + 56,635)
- Cost per person to re-provide the waste transfer station = £89.15 (£24,920,000/279,526)

2.8 As the cost per project will rely on individual catchment areas, no single multiplier is appropriate across Hertfordshire. Costs will be provided on a case-by-case basis and will depend on need. Costs will be indexed to Q12024.

2.9 In circumstances where it can be evidenced that the cost to expand or redevelop a site is in excess of S106 funds to be achieved through the application of these charges, such as might be the case for sites located on brownfield sites, on constrained sites, or sites with planning limitations e.g. located on a flood plain, then a proportionate bespoke cost of providing the new site or expanding the existing site and/or purchasing additional land to do so may be sought from the developer.

2.10 Where there is no scope to reconfigure the existing operations to improve performance and land is currently unavailable to extend the facility, a new facility may be proposed.

2.11 A contributions calculator has been developed and is published alongside this Guide on the council's website. This will help give certainty about potential funding requirements to be secured by S106 agreement. This calculator is merely an indication of contributions and engagement with the county council is advised as early as possible for officers to be able to confirm which services it will seek a contribution towards based on up-to-date knowledge of service capacity and planned projects in the relevant location.