Somerset Waste Partnership
Monthly Briefing for Members, Partners and Staff
March 2015

Funding for Improvements to Food Waste Collection

An SWP application for funding from WRAP for an extension to a project testing improvements to food waste collections was successful.

The most effective elements from earlier trials will now be tested on a larger scale, covering the whole of Sedgemoor, Taunton Deane and the Chard/Ilminster area of South Somerset. Leaflets and a free supply of caddy liners will be delivered to about 115,000 households and a 'no food waste please' sticker will be attached to refuse bins.

Previous trials showed the sticker helped to trigger significantly more food waste recycling. Delivering free liners on their own had no apparent effect, the greatest effect came from the combination of free liners and bin stickers.

The latest trial will be closely monitored and a report produced for Somerset Waste Board in June. Findings will be used both locally and nationally. If the business case justifies it, the initiative will be rolled out to all remaining households across the county.

Easter bank holiday revised collections

Kerbside recycling and refuse collections that would usually occur on Good Friday 3 April will take place on Saturday 4 April. All collections in the week commencing Easter Monday 6 April will be one day later; with Friday's collections moving on to Saturday 11 April.

Newspaper adverts reminding residents of the Easter changes (along with the May and August bank holidays) will be placed and revised collections will be promoted on Facebook and Twitter and on the SWP website. Posters will be distributed to parish clerks, local libraries and council information points.

Commercial waste at Recycling Centres

In January, as planned, six more of our recycling centres starting accepting trade waste on a commercial basis. This means Bridgwater, Chard, Frome, Highbridge, Minehead, Street, Taunton, Wellington, Williton, and Yeovil can now accept suitable commercial waste and car parts. After a quiet start, use is now picking up and is expected to increase further over the coming months as awareness grows. Advice for local businesses is available on the SWP website.

Trigger tops and plastic bottle caps trial

The trial to recycle trigger tops and flip top lids from spray and squeezy bottles at Somerset recycling centres or at selected Tesco outlets has closed. The trial of these difficult-to-recycle items ran in partnership with the brand Febreze and retailer Tesco ended on 27 February and the results are being analysed.

Latest media releases

Media releases from SWP in the last month included:

- [Keen gardeners offered double bargain](#)

- [Helping gardeners stay green and grow more](#)

- [Help gardeners with 'compost champions' training](#)

Somerset Waste Board

SWP is the executive arm of SWB, which consists of two members nominated by each of the six partner councils in Somerset, one of which must be the portfolio holder for waste and/or the environment.

The Chair and Vice-Chair are elected at the AGM from the Board's membership.

The next Board meeting will be held on Friday 20 March.

For full information on SWP, SWB and all our services visit: www.somersetwaste.gov.uk.

The current SWB membership is:

- **Mendip District Council** – Councillors Nigel Woollcombe-Adams (Vice Chair), Terry Napper

- **Sedgemoor District Council** - Councillors John Swayne, Richard Burden

- **Somerset County Council** - Councillors Derek Yeomans (Chair), David Hall

- **South Somerset District Council** - Councillors Jo Roundell Greene, Henry Hobhouse

- **Taunton Deane Borough Council** - Councillors James Hunt, Steve Ross

- **West Somerset Council** - Councillors Anthony Trollope-Bellew, Martin Dewdney

Agenda, papers and reports for SWB meetings are available [online](#).

Information on SWP services

The main source of advice and information on SWP services is www.somersetwaste.gov.uk. Customer service helplines for all partner authorities can assist with service enquiries. We publish a monthly e-zine (sign-up on our website) and post on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).