

Residents' & Environmental Services Policy Overview Committee - Major Review 2016/17 - Disposal of Charity Waste at New Years Green Lane Civic Amenity Site.

Contact Officers: Khalid Ahmed
Telephone: 01895 250833

REASON FOR ITEM

The Committee will hear from witnesses in relation to the major review on the Disposal of Charity Waste at New Years Green Lane Civic Amenity Site.

OPTIONS OPEN TO THE COMMITTEE

The Committee is asked to consider the evidence given by the witnesses, together with the information provided on what other local authorities do in relation to disposing of charity waste.

INFORMATION

1. At the last meeting of the Committee, Members were provided with the scoping report for the review (**Appendix 1**) and were provided with details on the background to the reasons for the review.
2. For this meeting invitations have been sent to a number of national and local charities, which included Age UK Hillingdon, Groundwork, Michael Sobell Hospice Organisation and British Heart Foundation.
3. The British Heart Foundation's Waste & Recycling Manager reported that the organisation had merchants that collected unsaleable items primarily for re-use as follows:
 - Textiles sorted and exported, with a proportion recycled for wipers, felt, flocking etc in the UK
 - Bric-a-brac again sorted and exported, recycling of glass, ceramics, plastics, metal
 - Books sold online, recycling at a UK paper mill
4. In addition cardboard was regularly recycled. There was a fraction which the organisation could not re-use or recycle, which included plastic bags that the donations come in, but these were disposed of, along with the shop's own waste through a commercial collection service. The only items which the organisation had difficulty with were unsaleable furniture and electrical goods.
5. The British Heart Foundation did not have any stores within Borough so selling these items was not an issue for the Borough. However, elsewhere they will always seek to

return these to the municipal waste stream via household waste recycling centres or to transfer station.

Witnesses

6. **Peter Okali, Chief Executive Officer of Age UK Hillingdon** has said he will attend the meeting to help the Committee with their review.
7. In addition, **Alan Whiting**, from **the London Borough of Harrow**, will attend the meeting to provide information of what Harrow do, and information is being sort for the London Borough of Ealing on their policy and operating practise in relation to Charity Waste.