**Briefing note September 2014**

**Haslemere dustcart discontinuation proposal**

**Background**

Surrey County Council provides two refuse collection vehicles at Weyhill car park, Haslemere on Saturday mornings for residents to dispose of their waste. The reasons for this service are historical, arising from when Community Recycling Centre (CRC) provision in the Waverley area was considered to be unsuitable. A service of this kind is not provided anywhere else in Surrey.

**Reasons for discontinuation**

Financial

SCC has a continuing commitment to reduce the cost of waste management in Surrey. The discontinuation of the Haslemere dustcart service is projected make the following savings.

* The service costs about £30,000 a year to operate.
* In addition to this, there are existing disposal costs for the waste collected by the dustcart totalling approximately £57,000 per year. Whilst not all of this could be saved, based on composition analysis, it is estimated that 78% of the waste could be recycled which could save up to £30,000 on existing disposal costs.

Reduced need for service

The amount of waste brought to the dustcart has dropped by 42% over the last 4 years (comparing Qtr1 2010 with Qtr1 2014). This can be attributed to improvements in local waste and recycling services which include:

* Waverley Borough Council’s introduction of a new kerbside dry recycling scheme and food waste collections in 2012.
* A comprehensive bring site network, including banks in the Weyhill car park for

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| * Cans and aerosols
* Cardboard
* Cartons
* Small WEEE
* Foil
 | * Paper
* Plastic bottles
* Shoes
* Textiles
 |

* Improved CRCs at Witley, Farnham and Cranleigh which consistently score highly in terms of customer satisfaction. The Surrey CRC network is the highest rated service in terms of customer satisfaction according to the Surrey Residents Survey, scoring 83% in Qtr4 13/14.
* Haslemere is located in the south western corner of Surrey and very close to the border of Hampshire and West Sussex. It would be reasonable to assume that a percentage of the waste collected by the dustcart service originates outside of Surrey.

Recycling performance

SCC, as part of the Surrey Waste Partnership has a commitment to improve the recycling performance of the County.

* Since 2008 Waverly BC’s recycling rate has increased from 40% to 45%
* Over the same period CRC recycling rates have increased from 40% to 65%
* Analysis of the materials disposed of in the dustcart suggests that 78% of the waste collected in the dustcart, and currently disposed of as residual waste, could be recycled, either at the kerbside or a local CRC, thus improving local recycling rates even further.

**Engagement with key stakeholders**

SCC is keen to work with key stakeholders at the County, Borough and Town councils to ensure that the closure of the Haslemere dustcart causes as little disruption as possible. We will seek advice on how best to communicate with residents and develop an appropriate communications plan to ensure that residents are aware of the changes and the alternative options for disposal of their waste.