

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

**Charging for non-household waste at
Household Waste Recycling Centres**

August 2018



Initial EqIA screening conducted for charging for non-household waste at the Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs)

Characteristic	Could this policy, procedure, project or service affect this group differently from others in Kent? YES/NO	Could this policy, procedure, project or service promote equal opportunities for this group? YES/NO	Assessment of potential impact		Provide details: a) Is internal action required? If yes, why? b) Is further assessment required? If yes, why? c) Explain how good practice can promote equal opportunities
			HIGH/MEDIUM/LOW/ NONE/UNKNOWN	Negative	
Age	Yes	No	Low	Low	<p>Non-household waste charges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where legislation permits, introduce charges for the disposal on non-household waste items; Soil rubble and hardcore and Plasterboard. Maintain charges for tyre disposal as under the current policy. <p>Details of Impact: Introducing material charges and limits has the potential to lessen vehicle movements on site, improving manoeuvrability, access to containers and easing congestion on site.</p> <p>Introducing charges will mean consideration will be made to payment mechanisms employed on site to ensure these are accessible for everyone.</p>

This EqIA considers the impact of charging residents for non-household waste disposal at the HWRCs.

Beneficiaries:

- Kent Householders as users of the Household Waste Recycling Centres and Kent taxpayers through the services provided by KCC Waste Management being accessible, fit for purpose and providing value for money.

Information and data

Kent Profile

The initial screening has recognised that there may be a low negative impact on Age, Disability and Race characteristics through the implementation of the proposed policy change.

With a resident population of around 1.6 million, Kent has the largest population of all of the English counties.

Kent's population grew by 10.9% between 2006 and 2016 and is forecast to increase by more than 20% between 2016 and 2036.

Age

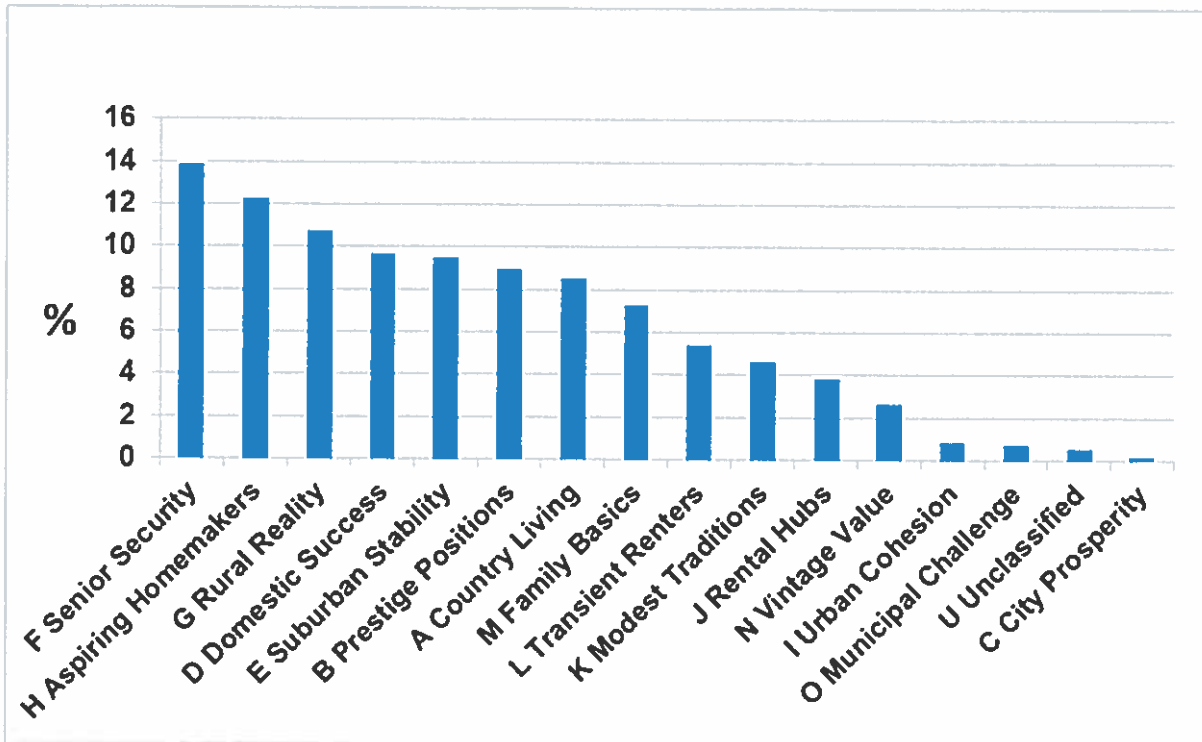
Kent has an aging population. Forecasts show that the number of 65+ year olds is forecast to increase by 57.5% between 2016 and 2036, yet the proportion of population aged under 65 is only forecast to increase by 13.5%.

Disability

81.6% of Kent residents describe their health as being very good or good and 17.6% of Kent's population have an illness or condition which limits their day to day activities in some way. The number of Kent residents who are claiming disability benefits is 122,230 (8.0%). This is higher than the South East region (6.6%) but slightly lower than the national figure (8.2%).

Race

The largest ethnic group in Kent is White. 93.7% of all residents are of white ethnic origin, and 6.6% are of Black Minority Ethnic (BME) origin. The largest single BME group in Kent is Indian representing 1.2% of the total population



The Graph that the most common customer group using the HWRC are Group F- Senior Security (14%).



Key Features

- Elderly singles and couples
- Homeowners
- Comfortable homes
- Additional pensions above state
- Don't like new Technology
- Low mileage Drivers



Communication preferences



Telephone



Post

The table below compares the profile of customers using the HWRCs with the overall profile for Kent. This enables the HWRC customer profile to be compared relatively with the rest of Kent. An index score of 100 suggests that the profile of HWRC customers is around average when compared with the profile of households in the whole of Kent. An index of more than 100 suggests that the group is over-represented amongst the customer population whilst an index of below 100 suggests that the group is under-represented.

Prior to taking the recommendations out to public consultation, they have been shared with a number of key stakeholders in order to gain their views and feedback. These include;

- Internal consultation with Waste Management officers, and the waste strategy steering group.
- Through meetings with the district and borough councils, in collaboration with the Kent Resource Partnership (KRP).
- Through the Informal Members Group, prior to recommendations being made to the Cabinet Member and subsequently the Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee.
- Meetings with the HWRC providers to share findings.

In addition to public engagement for Kent residents, information will be circulated through our key stakeholders and partners, the district and borough councils, parish councils and our contractors. It will also be circulated through appropriate equality and diversity groups.

Other key consultees include; HWRC Providers, internal KCC Groups and service teams as appropriate, local business (regarding trade waste), parish councils, neighbouring local Authorities (including Medway), other WDAs, Environment Agency, and WRAP.

The consultation will need to be specifically accessible for disabled, age and race characteristics who may not have the opportunity to engage and respond through traditional methods.

Potential Impact

Adverse Impact:

Currently three of the Protected Characteristics may be potentially negatively impacted by a number of the recommendations proposed;

- 1) Age
- 2) Disability
- 3) Race

The screening table (pages 4-26) details these impacts and the internal actions and activities that will be undertaken in these instances, however it is recognised that

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Option 1 – Screening Sufficient - YES

Option 2 – Internal Action Required – NO (*subsequent EQIAs to be undertaken prior to any implementation*)

Option 3 – Full Impact Assessment - NO

Only go to full impact assessment if an adverse impact has been identified that will need to undertake further analysis, consultation and action

Sign Off

I have noted the content of the equality impact assessment and agree the actions to mitigate the adverse impact(s) that have been identified.

Senior Officer

Signed:



Name: David Beaver

Job Title:

Head of Waste Management

Date:

8th August 2018.

Director

Signed:

Job Title:



Director of Highways,
Transportation and
Waste

Name: Simon Jones

Date:

08 August 2018