

Recycling Centre Service in Devon

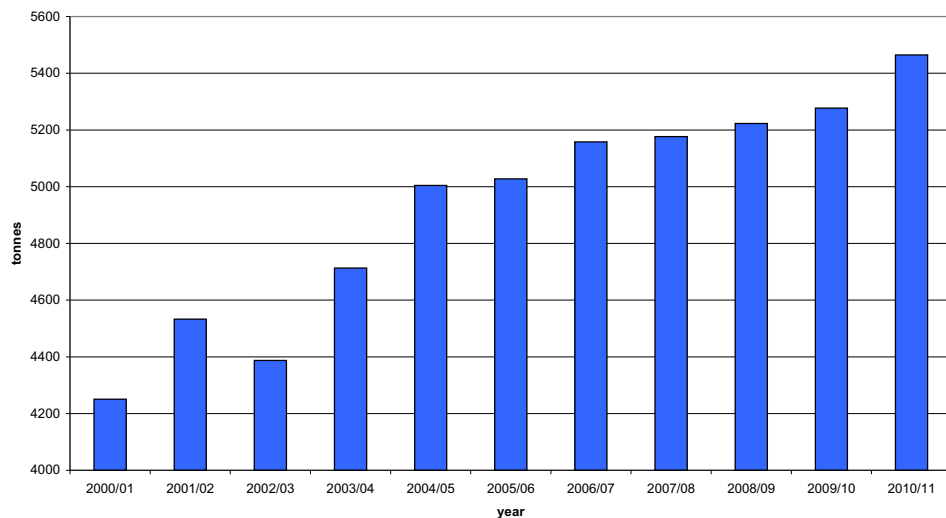
- The County Council currently provides 19 permanent Recycling Centres throughout Devon for local residents to deposit their bulky household and garden waste.
- In 2010/11, these sites handled 119,000 tonnes of waste, of which 74% was recycled.
- It is estimated that householders made over 2.3 million visits to these sites in 10/11.
- The main sites are open 362 days per year, excluding Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day.
- The main Recycling Centres provide facilities for householders to recycle garden waste, wood, metal, electrical goods, cardboard, paper, plastic bottles and plastic packaging, glass bottles, cans, textiles, engine oil, cooking oil; tyres, car batteries, fridges, TVs, fluorescent tubes, soil/rubble and plasterboard. Most sites also have 're-sale' areas where reusable goods can be sold.
- Facilities are also available at some main sites for the safe disposal of small amounts of bonded asbestos and hazardous household chemicals.
- All sites are run by contractors. The contracts are target based and operate on a bonus/penalty system to encourage maximum recycling. All sites are regularly inspected by dedicated County Council officers to ensure contract compliance and acceptable service provision.

The Existing Sidmouth (Woods Farm) Recycling Centre

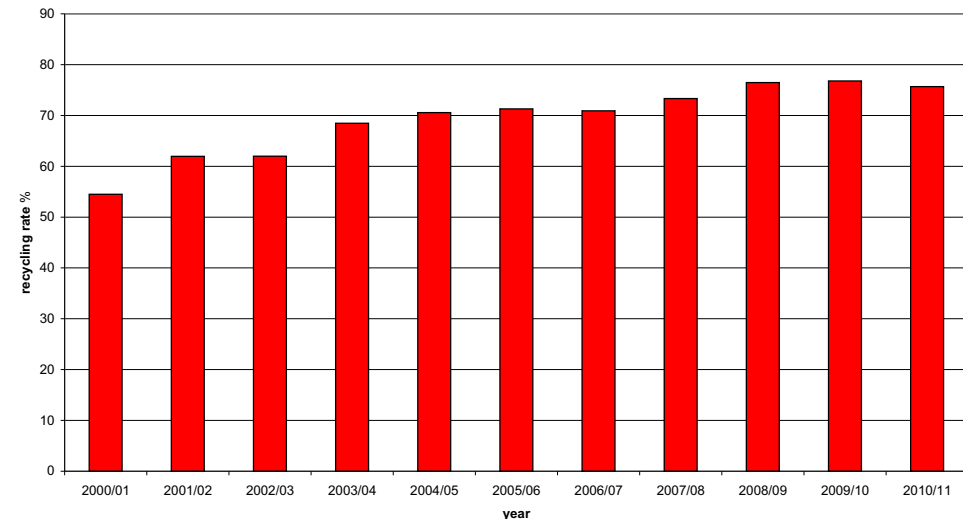
- Handled 5464 tonnes of waste in 2010/11
- Recycled 76% of waste delivered to the site (2010/11)
- Handled 970 fridges/freezers (2010/11)
- Handled 3667 Televisions/computer monitors (2010/11)



Woods Farm Recycling Centre annual throughput 2000 - 2011



Woods Farm Recycling Centre annual recycling rate 2000 - 11



Proposed Sidmouth Recycling Centre

A New Recycling Centre for Sidmouth and surrounding areas

Why do we need one?

- The existing site at Woods Farm is too small, gets very congested and is inadequate for modern demands. Queuing traffic sometimes stretches back to the Ottery St Mary/Sidmouth Road.
- The existing site has only ever achieved 'temporary' planning permission status. The existing planning permission expires on 31st December 2012 and is unlikely to be renewed.
- A new, state-of-the-art, permanent Recycling Centre is required. A new, larger facility will give local residents a superior service with minimal queuing/congestion and make it far easier and convenient to recycle.

A New Recycling Centre for Sidmouth and surrounding areas



Choice of New Site

- The search for a sustainable alternative site was carried out over a number of years.
- The search focused on a site close to Sidmouth, as it is the largest town in the area. In order to comply with the 'Proximity Principle', it is appropriate to locate facilities nearest to the largest population centres.
- Three locations around the Sidmouth area were identified as potential sites for a new Recycling Centre Facility. A public consultation held in 2010 asked local residents which site would be the most suitable location for the new facility.
- 529 responses were received:
 - 84.5% were in favour of the Bowd Site (the Application Site)
 - 11.5% were in favour of a site at Corehill Lane (opposite Waitrose)
 - 4.0% were in favour of a site at Two Bridges Road, Sidford (adjacent to the Sewage Works)
- Given this clear public support, a planning application for the Bowd site has now been prepared.

Proposed Sidmouth Recycling Centre

New Recycling Centre Design

A modern, split level design will be used at the new site with the public loading waste from a higher area directly into containers placed at a lower level. The site will be serviced from the lower non-public area.

The advantages of such a design are :-

- Separation of the public from HGV/plant movements so it is much safer.
- There is minimal site 'down time' since public areas can remain open during lorry movements/loading operations.
- Since waste goes directly into containers, the appearance of the site is improved.
- Waste is separated directly into different containers by the public, without the need for climbing steps.
- There is plenty of space for the public to manoeuvre and park their vehicles safely.
- The site will also have a sales area and building where reusable goods can be purchased.

Environmental Measures

Screening and Landscaping

- 2144 trees planted and a swathe of new screening woodland created; 5 trees removed
- 200 metres of traditional Devon earth hedgebank (Wade Bank) provided, planted with native hedge species
- Creation of a winding, sunken lane with sandstone banks to replicate a key local landscape characteristic
- Natural topography of the site used to screen the facility from surrounding areas
- Areas of grass and wildflowers to create further habitat
- Site building clad in timber to be in keeping with local agricultural barns
- Wetland area created to deal with site surface water drainage and create wildlife habitat
- Dark green and brown colours used in site fencing, roofing materials and recycling containers to minimise visual impact

Green Measures

- Roof water recycled for flushing site toilets
- Solar panel to provide hot water
- Small biomass/wood boiler to provide heating and hot water for the site offices.

Timescales

- **Autumn 2010** **Public Exhibition / Consultation of Options. Preferred site chosen**
- **Winter/Spring 2010-11** **DCC approval to proceed with selected site**
- **Spring/Winter 2011** **Preparation of Planning Application and Environmental Impact Assessment**
- **Winter 2011** **Public Exhibition prior to submission of Planning Application**
- **Winter/Spring 2011-12** **Detailed design**
- **Spring 2012** **Planning Application determined**
- **Spring 2012** **Works commence on new site**
- **Spring 2013** **New site opens to public**

Your Opinion Counts!

We would welcome your opinion. Please fill in the comments form available at the exhibition or alternatively comments should be made in writing and forwarded to:

Letter:

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Topsham Road
Exeter
EX2 4QW

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Fax: 01392 382342 (F.A.O. Mr C Chandler)