



# Equality Impact Assessment

Full assessment form v5 / 2013

[www.portsmouth.gov.uk](http://www.portsmouth.gov.uk)

**Directorate:**

Director of Property

**Function e.g. HR,  
IS, carers:**

Waste Management

**Title of policy, service, function, project or strategy (new or old):**

Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) charging for NON-HOUSEHOLD ITEMS ONLY: soil/ rubble, plasterboard and asbestos and ceramic bathroom items eg WC pan.  
October 2019 - Change in policy for pricing in sales area - minimum value that requires a label to raise from £5 - £10 - no changes to pricing just to what needs to be labelled.  
Price rise for soil/rubble to reflect increasing disposal costs.

**Type of policy, service, function, project or strategy:**

- New / proposed
- Changed
- Existing

**Lead officer**

Colette Hill - Assistant Director for Property & Housing

**People involved with completing the EIA:**

Colette Hill, Gina Perryman, Antony Galea,  
1 November 2019 update - Mark Sage

## Introductory information (Optional)

As a Unitary authority, Portsmouth City Council (PCC) is responsible for both the collection and disposal of household waste. This is a statutory function. Part of the waste disposal infrastructure (which is shared with Hampshire County Council (HCC) and Southampton City Council (SCC)) are the 26 HWRC sites. Charging for non-household items was introduced on 1 October 2016 across all Hampshire, Southampton and Portsmouth HWRC sites.

October 2019 - changes to labelling across all 26 sites. Price increase for soil/rubble to reflect increasing disposal costs. Prices may change for chargeable items to reflect changes to disposal costs.

## Step 1 - Make sure you have clear aims and objectives

### What is the aim of your policy, service, function, project or strategy?

October 2016 -To charge for non-household wastes at HWRC sites. Charging will not apply to household waste (as defined by the controlled waste regulations in the Environmental Protection Act 1990)

October 2019 - To ensure charges are in line with costs associated with non household waste  
To amend the sales labelling policy.

### Who is the policy, service, function, project or strategy going to benefit or have a detrimental effect on and how?

Portsmouth has areas of high deprivation and charging for non-household items could impact on these residents and their abilities to pay for the disposal of such materials. Ahead of this change in 2016, there were concerns that this could lead to an increase in fly tipping. Monitoring of fly tips level of incidents and related disposal tonnage have not shown such an increase.

An increase in charging could impact on households on low incomes.

### What outcomes do you want to achieve?

To implement the changes at the site to ensure that there is no charge for chargeable items made to the council and to make the labelling process more efficient

### What barriers are there to achieving these outcomes?

Potential of increased fly tipping due to charges  
Impact on residents on low incomes

## Step 2 - Collecting your information

**What existing information / data do you have? (Local or national data)** If you don't have any data contact the Equalities and diversity team for some ideas

October 2016 Portsmouth has areas of high deprivation and charges may be prohibitive for some residents which could lead to an increase in illegal disposal of the listed items.

October 2019 - Portsmouth has not experienced an increase in fly tipping of the chargeable items or in fly tipping overall. Prior to the introduction of charges the average tonnes fly tipped per month were 32.4 tonnes; following the introduction of charges this has reduced to 24 tonnes per month, This will continue to be monitored.

There are approximately 400 paying customers per month during the winter period and about 600 paying customers per month during the summer months. Site user surveys tell us that 75% of users are Portsmouth residents.

16% of City's population are not of White British ethnicity. Over the next 20 years, the population is projected to increase to about 238,000 persons (11% increase). The greatest proportionate increase (49%) will be in population 65+ years which will increase from 14 % to comprise 19% of the total population. The proportion of the total population aged 0-19 years will slightly decline from 24.3% to 23.6%. This tells us that waste arisings are likely to rise. along with a corresponding increase in users of the HWRC site.

The labelling change should not make a material difference to the charges of items in the sales area. It will have an operational impact on the staff at the site.

### Using your existing data, what does it tell you?

Data collected since introduction of charging has shown that the number of incidences of fly tipping reported has not increased. Tonnage for collected fly tips has reduced over the same period. (32.4 tonnes per month avg to 24 tonnes per month avg)

A small increase in charges is not likely to lead to an increase in fly tipping although this will need to be monitored.

400-600 users of the site currently pay the charges depending on the time of year and about 75% of them are PCC residents. This change will affect a relatively small number of PCC residents (less than 0.5%) No data is collected at site by the contractor of the site on the characteristics of site users. However, any increase in charges will impact upon those on low incomes. The chargeable items are usually produced as a result of renovation and are likely to be one off rather than an ongoing item that needs to be disposed of.

## Step 3 - Now you need to consult!

**Who have you consulted with?**

**If you haven't consulted yet please list who you are going to consult with**

Oct 2016 - The introduction of charging and other

changes was consulted on in 2015/6 and was a Hampshire wide consultation.  
There were over 11000 responses and over 400 of these by Portsmouth HWRC users.  
Oct 2019 - The increase is to reflect actual management and disposal costs. No further consultation carried out

**Please give examples of how you have or are going to consult with specific groups or communities e.g. meetings, surveys**

The charging for non household items has been in place since 01/10/16 and the impacts have been monitored. This will continue.

## Step 4 - What's the impact?

**Is there an impact on some groups in the community? (think about race, gender, disability, age, transgender, religion or belief, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity and other socially excluded communities or groups)**

**Generic information that covers all equality strands (Optional)**

The charging for non household items affects all residents of Portsmouth if they use the HWRC site rather than make private disposal arrangements. Users that dispose of the chargeable materials are less than 0.5% of Portsmouth residents. The charges are applied across the whole of Hampshire. They will impact on those on low incomes.

This change will impact most on those on low incomes.

There is no local data on incomes related to the protected characteristic groups - I have used national data.

### **Ethnicity or race**

Using Households Below Average Income (HBAI) data, nationally, and based on the ethnic group of the head of the household, the following percentage of individuals in relative low income (60% of median income) after housing costs.

White - 20%

Mixed/multiple ethnic groups - 36%

Asian/Asian British - 36%

Indian - 23%

Pakistani - 46%

Bangladeshi - 50%

Chinese - 33%

Any other Asian background - 38%

Black/African/Caribbean/Black British - 42%

Other ethnic group - 42%

### **Gender including transgender**

At a national level women are slightly more likely to be in low income households than men. The Households Below Average Income (HBAI) does not have any data relating to gender reassignment

## **Age**

The HBAI data shows that 22% of single pensioners, and 13% of pensioner couples are in relative low income

## **Disability**

The HBAI data shows that 25% of single disabled individuals, 28% of disabled children , 31% of disable working age adults and 16% of disabled pensioners are in relative low income (60% of median income)

## **Religion or belief**

The Households Below Average Income (HBAI) does not have any data relating to religion or belief

## **Sexual orientation**

The Households Below Average Income (HBAI) does not have any data relating to sexual orientation

## **Pregnancy and maternity**

The Households Below Average Income (HBAI) does not have any data relating to pregnancy or maternity

**Other socially excluded groups or communities e.g. carers, areas of deprivation, low literacy skills**

Those living in areas of deprivation may be affected by the introduction of charges - it is worth noting that household items remain free to dispose of at the HWRC. eg furniture, bric a brac, green waste, etc.

Soil/rubble, plasterboard, asbestos and ceramic bathroom items are chargeable and these are usually produced as a result of renovation and are not typically disposed of on a regular basis.

## Health Impact

**Have you referred to the Joint Needs Assessment ([www.jsna.portsmouth.gov.uk](http://www.jsna.portsmouth.gov.uk)) to identify any associated health and well-being needs?**

Yes  No

**What are the health impacts, positive and / or negative? For example, is there a positive impact on enabling healthier lifestyles or promoting positive mental health? Could it prevent spread of infection or disease? Will it reduce any inequalities in health and well-being experienced by some localities, groups, ages etc? On the other hand, could it restrict opportunities for health and well-being?**

There are no obvious health impacts. Continuing to charge for asbestos should discourage residents from 'do it yourself' relating to this material as there is still a cost for disposal which may be a health benefit as this material should only be handled with appropriate PPE and under specific conditions to prevent inhalation of the dust.

**Health inequalities are strongly associated with deprivation and income inequalities in the city. Have you referred to Portsmouth's Tackling Poverty Needs Assessment and strategy (available on the JSNA website above), which identifies those groups or geographical areas that are vulnerable to poverty? Does this have a disproportionately negative impact, on any of these groups and if so how? Are there any positive impacts?, if so what are they?**

## Step 5 - What are the differences?

**Are any groups affected in a different way to others as a result of your policy, service, function, project or strategy?**

Those groups in low income households are more likely to be affected as outlined above. At a national level, women are slightly more likely to be in low income households than men, but the risk is higher of pensioners living alone and much higher for disabled working age adults and for every ethnic group other than white or Indian. Couples who are not married or in civil partnerships are more likely to be in low income households.

**Does your policy, service, function, project or strategy either directly or indirectly discriminate?**

Yes  No

**If you are either directly or indirectly discriminating, how are you going to change this or mitigate the negative impact?**

The charges are already in place across Hampshire.

The increase for soil and rubble (from 1 November 2019) will affect any resident carrying out works to their home or garden who needs to dispose of these items. This will usually be a one-off incident rather than a regular requirement to dispose of these types of items.

## Step 6 - Make a recommendation based on steps 2 - 5

**If you are in a position to make a recommendation to change or introduce the policy, service, project or strategy clearly show how it was decided on**

I would recommend that this change is implemented in line with the changes being made at other HWRC sites in Hampshire. However, the impact on fly tipping should continue to be monitored. Additionally, the government has previously suggested that they will produce further guidance regarding charging and this should be considered should it be forthcoming. There has been a financial impact in that charging for these material streams means that the local authority no longer pays for this element of disposal. Fly tipping has not increased, and tonnage for this has reduced over the same period. Changes to charges - 1 November 2019 - continue to monitor fly tipping

**What changes or benefits have been highlighted as a result of your consultation?**

**If you are not in a position to go ahead what actions are you going to take?**

**(Please complete the fields below)**

**Action**

**Timescale**

**Responsible officer**

**How are you going to review the policy, service, project or strategy, how often and who will be responsible?**

Tonnage and fly tipping rates are reviewed each month. The Assistant Director of Property and Housing (Environment) manages this.

## Step 7 - Now just publish your results

**This EIA has been approved by:**

**Contact number:**

**Date:**

Please email a copy of your completed EIA to the Equality and diversity team. We will contact you with any comments or queries about your full EIA.

Telephone: 023 9283 4789

Email: [equalities@portsmouthcc.gov.uk](mailto:equalities@portsmouthcc.gov.uk)