
**BIN COLLECTION,
RECYCLING AND THE
ENVIRONMENT – The options
for Cambridge
Summary Report**



© Anne Campbell MP November 2004

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1 INTRODUCTION

This is a summary version of the report, that has been written as a result of a survey carried out by Anne Campbell MP, called ‘Bin Collection, Recycling and the Environment’. The project came about in summer of 2004, when the City Council announced a flawed consultation with Cambridge residents on the subject of recycling and refuse collection services.

In the introduction to her survey Anne Campbell made it clear that environmental issues are a priority. She said,

‘Rubbish and recycling collections and the state of our streets are things that concern us all. These essential local services are provided by the City Council out of our council tax. At the moment the city council are failing to meet government recycling targets.

The City Council has been planning big changes to your rubbish and recycling collections. It is likely that they will propose to collect your black bin once a fortnight rather than every week. I believe a ‘one size fits all’ approach will not work. Different parts of Cambridge may need different rubbish collection services and I want to ensure that the city council listen to your views before they make their decisions.

When I know what you think I, and my Labour colleagues on the city council, will raise these concerns with the LibDem run city council.

I am also interested to hear your national and international environmental concerns to help my continued work on these key policies. I can assure you that I will pass on your comments to Ministers in Westminster.’

In 1998, the Labour-led Cambridge City Council recycled 14% of domestic rubbish, without huge subsidies from the government.

The government has now adopted national targets to double these figures achieved in 1998, by 2004 (although very recently Cambridge has been allowed to downgrade its target, because it would not be reached), and the government have delivered specific funding to help councils achieve this; Cambridge has received in the region of £700,000 in the last two years. The requirement under the Household Waste Recycling Act 2003, for local authorities to provide a collection of at least two types of recyclable waste from every household by the year 2010, should promote further growth in recycling rates, with the households currently without such services likely to take advantage of the more readily available opportunities for recycling.

The City Council’s current recycling activity and investment is under performing and is inflexible. This is reflected in the findings of this survey, which shows people are unable to maximise their recycling.

The original approach from the Lib Democrat City Council, to deliver the necessary results, seemed to be one of ‘stick’ only, and appeared to allow the option to fine pensioners and households £1000 if they do not separate their rubbish properly. This is within a system where not everyone has access to all the containers – nor reliable collection patterns – and elderly people and people with disabilities find the current containers very difficult to manage.

This unsatisfactory situation was compounded by the announcement over the summer that the refuse collectors can no longer take bins from anywhere other than the pavement – forcing

elderly and disabled people to try and manoeuvre their 50kg bins along narrow alleyways to the road.

The Liberal Democrat City Council plans appear to be predicated on cutting costs, as much as on increasing recycling, by reducing the black bin collection to once a fortnight under the pretext of forcing an increase in recycling.

They said they wished to consult Cambridge residents on recycling options. Unfortunately, in the same way that current recycling opportunities are not maximised and are actually undermined by collection services, the opportunity for local residents to contribute to the consultation was undermined by the survey's design which allowed for consideration of only the predetermined option – a fortnightly black bin collection.

The survey itself cost council taxpayers £20,000 and was a complex three page document/24 question questionnaire (see appendix). It asked many general recycling questions, and only at the end were the key issues revealed.

It was not an objective survey. It decided the answers before asking people's opinions, particularly in its phrasing of the key 'five options' (as there is only one real option/choice offered - all five include replacing weekly with fortnightly waste collections). There was no attempt to identify specific needs in specific areas, reflecting the council's apparent difficulty in providing any sort of flexible tailored service to maximise the opportunities. There was only one tiny comment box in the survey.

Anne Campbell says, *As MP I believed that it was important that you got to express your views. And you have told me that many of you would like to be able to recycle more and throw away less, but that your council tax is not being spent wisely on delivering those opportunities.*

We have the chance to really improve environmental performance in Cambridge – and we can do it because that is what you have said you want – I hope the City can deliver the mechanisms!



2 BACKGROUND

2.1 METHODOLOGY

An objective questionnaire, designed by Anne Campbell MP and Cllr Lewis Herbert, was delivered to city addresses by hand. Not every household in the city received a copy, but deliveries were made across the whole city, within the parliamentary constituency, and it was available on request.

Respondents had to complete the form and make arrangements to return it to Anne's parliamentary office at the House of Commons, either by post or fax. A small minority of respondents chose to respond to the questions by email and their responses were included where it was clearly identified that they were answering the questionnaire and not just feeding back general views on the issue. These general comments were noted however, as were any that were sent to Anne Campbell's office as part of casework on this issue.

All respondents to the survey were acknowledged and where, in many cases, they raised specific issues or casework, these were dealt with on an individual basis. This happened alongside the analysis of questionnaire responses.

2.2 SAMPLE

During the period between October and 30th November 2004 over 650 Cambridge residents from across the city returned the forms.

The survey data, which forms the basis of this report, includes results from 652 questionnaires, which were received before the beginning of November 2004, however in total to date over 670 survey forms have been received to date (mid December 2004).

3 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This survey was conducted between October and November 2004, when 652 local Cambridge residents completed a survey focusing on recycling and waste issues. One objective was to gauge views on bin collection, recycling and environment, as a part of consultation, led by Anne Campbell MP to identify options available to Cambridge City Council to increase recycling levels in the city.

Key results from the survey respondents show that are:

- Over 70% of residents currently want to keep weekly black bin collections
- Over 90% of respondents thought the current performance of black bin/green box and bag/black box collections was good or OK; a high satisfaction level with the existing service provision

Views of other city environmental services contrasted sharply with this:

- Over 80% of respondents thought the local litter bin services were not good
- Nearly 80% of respondents thought that the street cleaning services was not good

This report identified many opportunities for the City Council to increase recycling by responding to the problems identified and the improvements suggested by local residents, who are the ones who will actually have to take action. A separate report is being prepared on street cleaning and litter issues which were a major concern for local people.

As a result of the early analysis of the survey, MP Anne Campbell, in a press statement, called on the city council, in November 2004, to introduce improved plastics collection. This is now planned for introduction in autumn 2005.

In considering the results of this report, it should be remembered that:

- There has not yet been a proposals report or scrutiny on planned future waste/recycling collection options from the City Council other than via two Labour Council motions, a year after the majority group first privately discussed the issue
- No demographically comparable UK authorities to Cambridge are understood to have yet implemented comprehensive changes to waste/recycling collections to those being developed by officers for Cambridge
- Underperformance in current recycling delivery and promotion needs to be addressed ahead of major changes and improvements being implemented
- Dramatic changes and improvement in the current mix of container provision and collection options, and overall promotion, are considered unavoidable if changed arrangements are to succeed in achieving the Council's Government-set recycling targets, continue high quality services and win clear public backing
- 'One size will definitely not fit all' as city wards split roughly into three very different patterns of housing types, a critical factor in any changes:

- Those mainly with homes with gardens, and therefore significant quantities of green waste: Cherry Hinton, Newnham, Queen Edith and Trumpington
- Those with approximately half homes with gardens: Arbury, Coleridge, East and West Chesterton, and Kings Hedges
- Those with a lower percentage of homes with gardens, and therefore significantly less need for separate organics collections: Abbey, Market, Petersfield and Romsey

and that a future mix of weekly/fortnightly waste/recycling/organics provision will be needed in different parts of the city.

As a result of this study, Anne Campbell MP and Labour City Councillors called on the Executive Councillor for Waste, in his planned options report, to accept that a universal fortnightly waste collection is not anticipated to be the best solution in all areas of the city, and to bring forward options, for 2005 to 2007 and beyond that to

- recognise that people in different ward areas and housing types want and need a different mix of collection containers and frequencies:
- extend the scope of the current recycling services to cover the whole city, which would increase recycling
- address the areas of poor performance, where service inefficiencies are undermining the ability of local residents to contribute to recycling, whether as a result of non-existent containers, missed collections or a failure to take on board improvements to the current service
- put forward specific alternate new arrangements for the following housing types:
 - People with small or no gardens and/or outside container storage
 - People in shared housing and university/student accommodation
 - People living in flats/maisonettes or similar shared properties.

4 SUMMARY SURVEY RESULTS

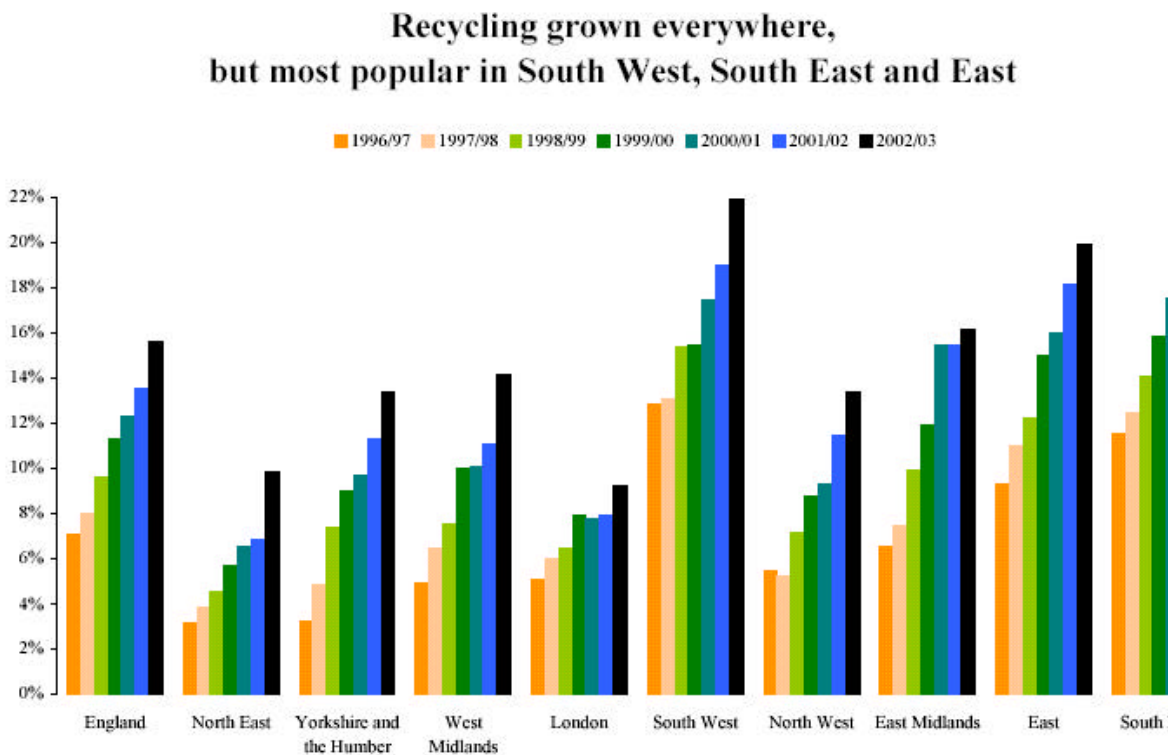
4.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter pulls together the key results from this report and sets them within a wider context.

The chart below shows the pattern of growth in recycling, including significant growth in the eastern region. Cambridge is operating below the regional activity level, despite perceiving itself a green city.

If, as is indicated, the aim of consultation on this issue is to increase recycling, it is suggested that there is latent opportunity already in existence, in that Cambridge is not matching regional performance. There is further encouragement through the enthusiasm and willingness to recycle identified in this survey. The City Council should capitalise on this.

Chart 1 Recycling as a proportion of waste management by region 1996/97-2002/03



Source: Municipal Waste management statistics 2003/03 Defra

However, it seems that there are also obstacles to increasing recycling, which a simple change to a fortnightly collection, against the wishes of council taxpayers, will not overcome. This strategy therefore runs risk of failing and alienating the very population who are required to change their behaviour.

4.2 SATISFACTION LEVELS

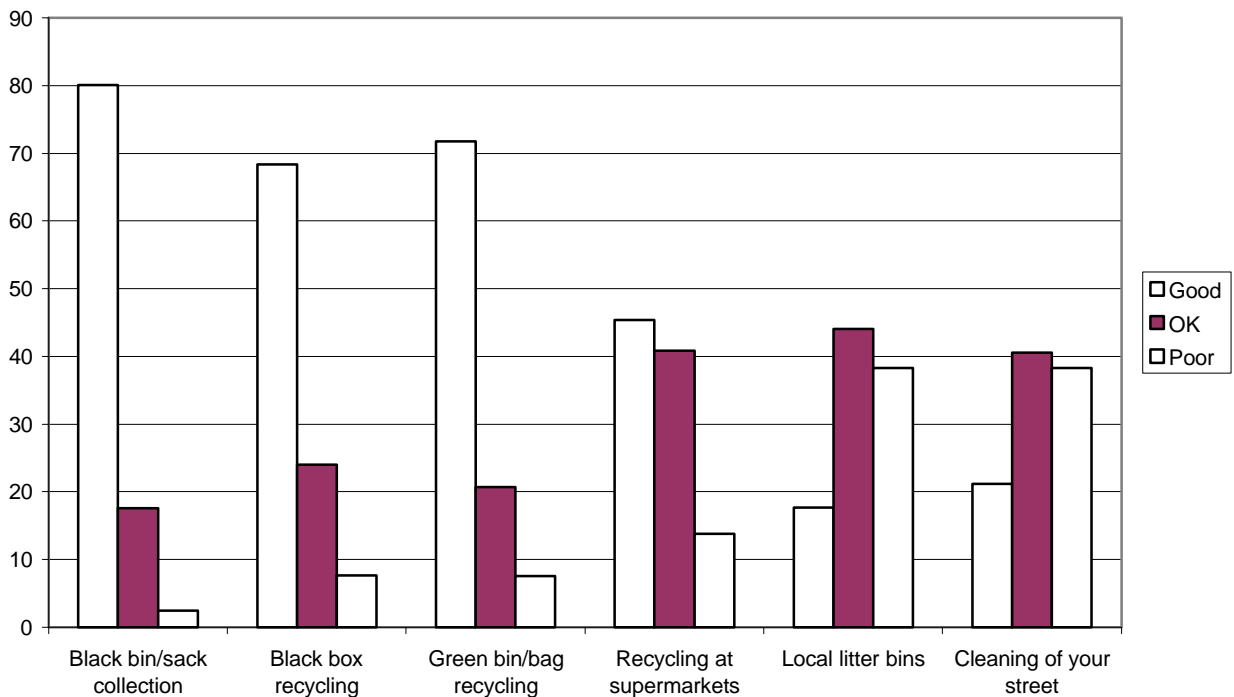
This section looks at the results to the survey questions which measured residents’ perception of the performance of various aspects of the City Council’s refuse collection services and other recycling services. The survey started with some very simple questions about the perception of the performance of the City Council’s refuse collection and environmental services.

Respondents were asked to rate aspects of the service as, ‘good’, ‘OK’ or ‘poor’. The results are shown below.

The chart shows that for black bin collections, for green and black box recycling and for recycling at supermarkets, over 80% of responses indicate a favourable perception of service. However, for the other issues of litter bins and street cleaning the balance is reversed and only around 20% of respondents feel that these services are good.

Chart 2 Summary of satisfaction ratings

% responses - satisfaction with council services



4.3 REFUSE COLLECTION SERVICES

4.3.1 Weekly or fortnightly collections

The research showed council taxpayers in Cambridge overwhelmingly in favour of a weekly black bin collection, but many are also keen to increase their recycling activity, in line with the government targets.

Both the City Council and the Cambridge Evening News purported to examine the issue of frequency of black bin collections. The results from the CEN poll showed that nearly 700 residents took part in a Newspoll on the web and by phone. An overwhelming 84 per cent were

against Cambridge City Council's plan, which would see black and green bins emptied on alternate weeks.

The initial results from the Cambridge City Council poll have been reported. However, since the survey did not ask for opinions of weekly v fortnightly black box collections it is difficult to draw any comparisons. What is clear is that a majority of respondents did not indicate they wanted fortnightly black bin collections.

Respondents in this research were asked whether they wanted weekly or fortnightly black bin collections. The results were very clear. Over three times as many people, who expressed a preference, indicated that they wanted weekly collections not fortnightly ones.

Table 3 Preference for black bin collections

LibDem councillors are considering replacing your weekly black bin collection with fortnightly collections. Do you want weekly or fortnightly collections?	% responses
Weekly	71
Fortnightly	29
TOTAL	100

Base 613 of 652 respondents

4.3.2 Challenges for Cambridge’s waste collection service

This research has shown that there are apparent obstacles to increasing the recycling activity levels that we need to achieve.

There are many problems with current waste collection services; all aspects – black bins, green bins/sacks and black boxes - offer opportunities for improvements.

Simply changing a weekly black bin collection to a fortnightly one will not address any of these issues, some of which are fundamental:

- Communication – there appear to be mixed and confusing messages about waste collections and recycling – and also a lack of general communication
- Unsuitability of a one size fits all approach in Cambridge – which has resulted in large gaps in service provision (eg for flats), or exclusion from services for the elderly and disabled who cannot manhandle heavy bins and boxes
- breakdown in services (in areas which are difficult to access)
- Shortcomings in the design of the service – poorly designed containers, apparent lack of robustness of containers, lack of capacity etc etc

It seems a great deal more thought ought to go into maximising the co-operation that can be achieved from council tax payers, by getting the current system to work properly before any sensible decisions can be made on changes.

If decisions need to be made on changes to the service, then the Council needs to work with local residents to identify what forms of recycling would maximise their chances of hitting the targets and to identify how that will work practically.

However, it appears that local residents are keen to be involved and have many positive suggestions for improvements.

Residents were asked whether tailored services were required to maximise recycling. Respondents highlighted a range of issues, which affected some parts of the city, and which cause problems if a one size fits all solution is adopted.

The table gives some indication of the range of responses that were give, collected into groups.

Table 4 Major Reasons why different services required –(grouped responses) %

	% response
Geography/Access eg narrow alleyways, no rear access, no front garden	51
Flats	38
Container size/provision	10
Size of property	18
Area with lots of HMOs/Students/ Take Aways/retail	18

Base: 59 responses

Respondents were also asked to suggest improvements to the frequency of collection services. There were many positive suggestions, and the identification of some problems, from the 254 respondents who offered responses to this question.

The table below shows the incidence of the more frequently mentioned issues in response to the question about frequency of collections:

Table 5 Incidence of more frequently cited suggestions to improve collection frequency

Can you suggest improvements to the frequency of bin collections?	% responses
If have fortnightly collection, will bin men collect extra bags	31
OK at present/keep weekly/don't change	22
Put black bin out only when full	22
Synchronise domestic and commercial collections in our area	13
More collections in summer and Christmas	9
Weekly black box	7
Weekly green bin collection	7

Base 254 responses

4.4 RECYCLING ACTIVITY

A key message that has come out of this work is that Cambridge residents are keen to increase their recycling activity, but at present there are significant perceived barriers to this. These range from:

- Lack of provision eg in flats or in areas where green bins/black boxes have not been distributed
- Poor communication about how the current system works – ie when and what can be recycled
- Limited range of options for recycling

To maximise participation the system needs to be accessible, understandable and easy to use. This is patently not the case at present, where

- Some households cannot access kerbside recycling services
- Insufficient or inappropriate containers leads to disengagement with the recycling process
- Capacity for green waste is insufficient during the growing season for suburban gardens
- There are still discussions about whether cardboard (and is that corrugated board or printed folding cartonboard?) can be put in green bins

The list could go as many examples have been cited in this research. There is huge potential, but services need to be designed to tap into this and not disengage the population. The table below shows the incidence of the more frequently mentioned issues in response to the question about containers:

Table 6 Incidence of more frequently cited suggestions to improve collection containers

Can you suggest improvements to your collection containers?	% responses
Different size containers for each product	22
Larger bins	12
Collect plastics	11
Give us green bin/black box	10
Black box needs lid	10
Bigger black boxes	8
Sometimes get left brown bag sometimes not	7
Replace when split	5
(Better colour coded) compartments for different things	5

Base: 329 responses

The results highlight some fundamental issues relating to current performance, with availability of containers and collection issues particularly noted.

4.5 THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

Whereas there are expressions of general satisfaction with the current performance on waste collection services, the same cannot be said of the services, which protect and enhance the local environment.

Chart 2 showed the level of dissatisfaction with litterbins and street cleaning services. Themes that were reiterated through out the report as street cleaning was identified as major local issue.

Respondents were asked to identified key local issues on which action needs to be taken.

Table 7 Identification of key local environmental issues (from prompted shortlist)

What local environmental issues do you think need action?	% responses
Street/footpath cleaning	37
Congestion/traffic	36
Graffiti	21
Road verges	16
Lighting	11
Local green spaces	9
Planting	9

Base 574 responses

The results indicate that street and footpath cleaning and congestion/traffic issues are the most important. Earlier in the survey respondents had already flagged up that they were not satisfied with performance on street cleaning.

Respondents were encouraged to add their own issues and again there were many suggestions. The most frequently cited individual issues, as raised by respondents, are identified in the table below.

Table 8 Incidence of more frequently cited suggestions for local issues needing action (grouped) %

	% responses
Recycling	12
Streets/roads	11
Litter etc	9
Plants	5
Parking/vehicles	5
Anti social behaviour	4
Cycling	3

Public transport	2
------------------	---

Base: 574 responses

4.6 NATIONAL PRIORITIES

Respondents highlighted a wide range of topics, which they believed should be national environmental priorities. Some had very local aspects, others related to national policy, whilst some took global issues as their priorities.

Broadly the main priorities covered:

- Transport
- Pollution
- Packaging/plastics
- Energy
- Waste

Table 9 Incidence of more frequently cited suggestions for national priorities (grouped)

What do you think the government’s number one environmental priority should be?	% responses
Transport	33
Pollution	26
Packaging/plastics	16
Energy	14
Waste	11
Recycling	9
Antisocial behaviour	6
Street environment	4

Base: 457 responses

4.7 COMMUNICATION

It is clear from the report that whatever strategy is adopted a great deal more thought and effort needs to go into a communications strategy, which will work over the long term.


There must also be the opportunity for two-way communication, so that when local residents identify problems they can get something done about it.



5 APPENDIX 1 – QUESTIONNAIRES

5.1 ANNE CAMPBELL'S QUESTIONNAIRE

Anne Campbell MP listens to *your* views



Please complete and return this form to be entered into a prize draw to win a food can crusher making recycling even easier.

Please rate the following in terms of overall service.

Black bin/sack collection	Good/OK/Poor
Black box recycling	Good/OK/Poor
Green bin/bag recycling	Good/OK/Poor
Recycling at supermarkets	Good/OK/Poor
Local Litter Bins	Good/OK/Poor
Cleaning of <i>your</i> street	Good/OK/Poor

LibDem councillors are considering reducing your weekly black bin collection to a fortnightly collection. Do you want weekly or fortnightly black bin collections?

Weekly / Fortnightly

What local environmental issues do you think need action?
eg. Street cleaning / lighting, graffiti, road verges, local green spaces, planting, traffic etc.

Does your street need different bin collections from the rest of the city?

No / Yes (because)

Can you suggest improvements to your collection containers?

Can you suggest improvements to the frequency of bin collections?

Which political party do you most closely identify with?
Labour / Tory / LibDem

Do you vote in elections?
Always / Sometimes / Never

What do you think the government's number one environmental priority should be?

Post completed forms to: **Anne Campbell MP,**
House of Commons, London, SW1 0AA.
Or email: campbella@parliament.uk

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: (01223) _____ Email: _____

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5.2 CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL QUESTIONNAIRE

THERE'S NO GETTING AWAY FROM IT... WE'VE GOT TO RECYCLE MORE OF OUR RUBBISH



CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL



HAVE YOUR SAY ABOUT RECYCLING AND REFUSE COLLECTION SERVICES

Last year, with your help, we recycled just under 24% of the rubbish collected from homes in the City. But we still need to put less waste in our Black Bins and recycle more of our rubbish - most of us need to recycle much more. The government has said that next year we must recycle 36% and there will be higher targets after that. However it is clear that we won't meet our 2005/06 target with the services as they stand.

WE HAVE TO CHANGE....
 This leaflet contains a questionnaire. It lists different options which will enable us to meet our recycling target. These options involve changes to frequency of some collections and other measures to promote recycling.

WHY?
 Recycling our rubbish means that precious resources are saved and energy consumption is reduced. We know from our research that you think recycling is very important.

Burying our rubbish in a hole in the ground damages the environment and so the government is imposing strict controls to limit the amount of rubbish the City Council sends to a landfill site. The cost of landfill is rising every year in an effort to encourage more sustainable methods of disposal. Last year, landfilling waste from Cambridge residents cost Council Tax payers £1.07million. In 2005/06 this will rise to £1.22million unless we all recycle more.

If we don't meet the government's target the City Council runs the risk of big fines which will impact on our ability to provide other important services. And Council Tax may have to go up significantly.

We have to change - there are tough decisions to make and we want to consult you on the options available to us.

Later in the questionnaire we want to ask your opinion about the options we are considering, but first we want to know what you recycle now.

RECYCLING RATE



Year	Recycling Rate (%)
2003/04	24
2005/06 Target	36

COST OF LANDFILLING



Year	Cost of Landfilling (£m)
2003	1.07
2004	1.15
2005/06	1.22

SECTION 1 – WHAT YOU RECYCLE NOW

1. Please tick which materials you recycle in your black box

- Paper, magazines and junk mail
- Glass bottles and jars
- Cans and tins
- Aerosols
- Foil
- I don't have a black box
- I have a black box but don't use it

2. When you put out your black box for paper, glass and cans is it-

- Overflowing
- Full
- Half full

3. Do you home compost in your garden? Yes No

4. Please tick which materials you recycle in your green bin/brown sack

- Garden waste (eg grass cuttings, hedge clippings, weeds, dead flowers)
- Kitchen waste (eg veg & fruit peelings, meat & bones, tea bags, coffee grounds, stale bread)
- Cardboard
- Yellow pages
- I don't have a green bin/brown sack
- I don't use green bin/brown sack

5. What materials do you take to recycling centres?

- Paper
- Glass
- Cans
- Plastics
- Textiles
- Books
- I don't use recycling centres

6. Do you put your black rubbish bin out every week? Yes No

What are the 3 main items in your rubbish (black bin or plastic sack)?

1	
2	
3	

7. How full is your black refuse bin when you put it out?

- Full
- Half full
- Quarter full

8. Looking at your black bin for refuse and the lists of recyclable material in Question 1 and 4, how much that is in your black bin could be recycled?

- Three quarters
- Half
- Quarter or less

9. Do you ever have excess rubbish (apart from bulky items) that won't fit in your bin?

- Yes No

10. Which of these would you find useful (and therefore use)

- More recycling centres
- Plastics recycling at kerbside
- More plastics recycling at recycling centres
- Textile recycling at kerbside
- More textile recycling at recycling centres
- Battery recycling at kerbside
- Battery recycling at recycling centres
- Other

11. If you are a parent of young children or are planning a family in the future, would you be interested in-

- Better provision for disposable nappies
- Incentives to encourage the use of real nappies

12. What things prevent you from recycling more with the services that exist already

- Not enough time
- Not enough space to store 2 weeks worth of black box recycling material
- Too complicated
- Not enough information
- Not sure when to put the box or bin out
- Lack of interest in recycling
- Other

ABOUT YOU AND YOUR HOUSEHOLD

13. Do you live in a-

- House (single family)
- House (multiple occupancy eg bedsit)
- Block of flats with recycling facilities
- Block of flats without recycling facilities
- Property with storage space off the street for bins and boxes
- Property where you have to carry bins and boxes through the property to get to the street

14. Do you have a disability?

- Yes No

15. How many people live in your house? (please put the number in the box below)

16. Please describe your ethnic origin

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> WHITE | <input type="checkbox"/> MIXED |
| <input type="checkbox"/> British | <input type="checkbox"/> White and Asian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Irish | <input type="checkbox"/> White and Black African |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> White and Black Caribbean |

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ASIAN | <input type="checkbox"/> BLACK |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bangladeshi | <input type="checkbox"/> Black - African |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Indian | <input type="checkbox"/> Black - Caribbean |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pakistani | |

- Chinese
- Any other ethnic group

17. Age

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under 25 | <input type="checkbox"/> 35-44 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 25-34 | <input type="checkbox"/> 55-64 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 45-54 | <input type="checkbox"/> 75+ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 65-74 | |

18. Gender

- Male Female

19. Postcode

SECTION 2 – WHICH OPTIONS YOU PREFER

At present most people in the city have a:-

- Black Box for recycling paper glass & cans which is emptied every other week
- Green Bin or Brown Sack for recycling their garden waste and certain kitchen waste which is emptied every other week
- Black Bin for rubbish which is emptied every week

There are exceptions to this. For example, where people live in flats or in houses with no space to store a wheelie bin we already provide alternative arrangements. The Council will look at these issues when any changes are made.

As we have explained on the front of this leaflet, we cannot keep things as they are. We have to change to meet the government's recycling target and minimise the environmental impact of tipping rubbish in landfill sites.

Studies have shown that we cannot achieve the government's recycling target if we retain weekly Black Bin collections. Evidence from councils which have moved to Black Bin collections every other week shows that this encourages people to recycle much more of their refuse. For example, South Cambridgeshire District Council increased its recycling rate to over 50% in April and May this year.

We have also looked at the possibility of weekly Green Bin collections but this will greatly increase costs for Council Tax payers in the City and it is unlikely to increase our recycling rate enough to justify the extra cost.

The following options will encourage people to recycle more of their rubbish and enable us to meet our recycling target within existing budgets or at an acceptable extra cost. We would like to know what you think of each option before councillors decide how to proceed.

Please rate each option on a scale of 1-5 where 1 is a good idea and 5 is not a good idea.

OPTION 1

We would reach our recycling target and save some money which could be used for other environmental projects.

- Black Bin collections every other week
- Green Bin recycling collections every other week
- Black Box recycling collections every other week

How do you rate this option? (please tick one box only)

GOOD IDEA - NO OPINION - NOT A GOOD IDEA
1 2 3 4 5

OPTION 2

It is likely that we would exceed our recycling target. This option would cost more than option 1 but could still be met from the existing budget.

- Black Bin collections every other week
- Green Bin recycling collections every other week
- Black Box recycling collections every week

How do you rate this option? (please tick one box only)

GOOD IDEA - NO OPINION - NOT A GOOD IDEA
1 2 3 4 5

OPTION 3

In addition to either option 1 or 2 above, we could put more resources into enforcement, such as fining people who don't recycle enough of their rubbish. This could boost the recycling rate further but it would cost extra money. Do you think it is a good idea for the Council to take enforcement action against people who don't recycle enough of their rubbish? (please tick one box only)

GOOD IDEA - NO OPINION - NOT A GOOD IDEA
1 2 3 4 5

OPTION 4

In addition to either option 1 or 2, we could make extra provision for certain materials that it is difficult to recycle, such as nappies. This could boost the recycling rate further but it would cost extra money. Do you think it is a good idea for the Council to make extra provision for certain materials that are difficult to recycle? (please tick one box only)

GOOD IDEA - NO OPINION - NOT A GOOD IDEA
1 2 3 4 5

OPTION 5

In addition to either option 1 or 2, we could make extra provision for certain houses or flats where it is difficult for people to store recycling bins and boxes. This could also boost the recycling rate further but it would cost extra money. Do you think it is a good idea for the Council to make extra provision for certain houses and flats where it is difficult for people to store recycling bins and boxes? (please tick one box only)

GOOD IDEA - NO OPINION - NOT A GOOD IDEA
1 2 3 4 5



IF YOU HAVE ANY FURTHER COMMENTS PLEASE TELL US

Please moisten grommed edges and fold together then return your form FREEPOST so that it reaches us by Friday 15th October 2004. For entry into the free prize draw to win £100 or one of 10 Home Composters, please enter your name and address below.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Your name and address will only be used for the purpose of the competition. We will not pass on any information about you to any third party. Printed on Evolution art paper which contains 75% recycled content and is NAPM certified. For General Enquiries Telephone 01223 457885

