

## **Litter Strategy – Summary of position and commitment (WRAPs brief)**

- HWRCs – Government’s view is clear: DIY waste is classed as household waste if it results from work a householder would normally carry out. A number of LAs have introduced additional charges for the deposit of waste which they categorise as ‘waste other than household waste’.
- However, as Government made clear following the consultation on preventing ‘backdoor’ charging at HWRCs, this can inconvenience residents and make disposing of their waste more difficult. There is also a risk these charges can be counterproductive and simply transfer costs to dealing with additional fly-tipping and littering. It is therefore important that, where charges are proposed, they are proportionate and transparent and are made in consultation with local residents so that local services meet local needs.
- Through WRAP, we have provided guidance to local authorities on how they can resolve practical issues associated with adapting HWRCs and ensure that charging is fair, easy to understand and transparent to business and local householders.
- We will work with WRAP and local authorities to:
  - Explore further ways of managing these services to facilitate access by small business;
  - Review current guidance to ensure this reflects changes in the law and to make clear what can and cannot be charged for at HWRCs (including in respect of DIY waste); and
  - Explore ways of managing HWRC services to facilitate access for local householders (and their waste other than household waste) and for small businesses at proportionate costs.

## **WRAP Discussions and proposed action**

- Following the litter strategy publication, WRAP decided to take this issue forward through consultation with the National Association of Waste Disposal Officers (NAWDO) and by carrying out a consultation/questionnaire of Waste Disposal Authorities (WDAs).
- WRAP attended an initial stakeholder meeting with representatives from local authorities in England through NAWDO to gain an understanding of the current situation in respect of charging, their issues and concerns and to understand what they would like to see in any updated guidance.
- Following this meeting, WRAP would look to gather information from authorities on the current practice and arrangements they have in place for charging at HWRCs, or whether they had considered charging in the past or put them on hold for any reason. WRAP would also look to gather information on the types of waste that authorities applied charging to.
- WRAP took this forward through a survey and questionnaire.