

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No.

meeting date: 30th May 2023
title: Persistent Organic Pollutants
submitted by: Mark Beveridge Head of Culture and Leisure
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1 PURPOSE

1.1 To provide Committee with an update for the collection and disposal of a new waste stream known as Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPS).

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities

- Community Objectives - To help make people's lives healthier and safer.
- Corporate Priorities - To sustain a strong, prosperous and clean Ribble Valley.
- Other Considerations – Reduction in land contamination and prevention of poisonous chemicals entering the 'food chain'.

2 BACKGROUND

Persistent Organic Pollutants (POP) are poisonous chemicals that are principally found in soft furnishings, originally identified in 2007 and banned from that date onwards. From the 1st of January 2023 The Environment Agency introduced a new directive that all POP waste should be collected separately and disposed of by incineration to prevent land contamination and the possibility of the chemicals breaking down and entering the food chain.

POP chemicals can be found in sofas, sofa beds, armchairs, kitchen and dining room chairs, Stools, office chairs, futons, bean bags and cushions. They can also be found in waste electrical and electronic equipment such as printed circuit boards, cabling, plastic cases and display screens.

POPS waste can not be mixed with any other waste stream.

It has been agreed with Lancashire Renewables that they will provide a 'roll-on/roll-off 40 cubic yard skip stored in the recycling unit at Salthill for the purposes of transferring POPS waste only to an incinerator.

3 ISSUES

This will affect how the Council collects 'bulky waste'. It is likely that the authority will have to purchase a new vehicle suitable for collecting this type of waste. This can be funded from an existing budget of £46,000 in the 2023-2024 capital programme, namely the replacement of the Iveco Tipper (PO60 AYK).

The layout and operation of the recycling unit at Salthill will be changed to accommodate Lancashire Renewables waste skip.

It is proposed that the general public and businesses will be able to find disposal details for POPS waste on the Council's web site and through the Council's Contact Centre.

4 CONCLUSION

Ribble Valley Borough Council and Lancashire Renewables will introduce the POPS waste stream collection as soon as is practicable to comply with the Environment Agency directive.

5 RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE

5.1 Note the contents of the report.

Winston Robinson
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