

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL
REPORT TO COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

INFORMATION

meeting date: TUESDAY, 9 MARCH 2021
title: UPDATE ON RECYCLING
submitted by: JOHN HEAP – DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
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1 PURPOSE

1.1 To provide Members with an update on recycling rates.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Community Objectives – To sustain a strong and prosperous Ribble Valley.
- Corporate Priorities – To protect and enhance the existing environmental quality of our area.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 The disposal authority Lancashire County Council produce quarterly recycling & residual collection rates on a rolling 24-month period.

3 ISSUES

3.1 Figures recently published in January by LCC have shown excellent results for Ribble Valley recyclers. Two-year analysis has shown that Ribble Valley has a 32% improvement performance for collection of green waste, the highest in Lancashire.

3.2 Our co-mingled collections also topped the table for the most improved performance, collection improving by 43%.

3.3 Ribble Valley had the least increase in residual waste going to landfill with only a 4% increase, excellent considering the number of households staying and working from home during the lockdown periods this year.

3.4 Our residents also seem to understand the messages we give on social media, labels, leaflets and in the media regarding which items go in which bins. The waste sent to the recycling facility is audited for levels of contamination, figures have shown that we have also improved in this area, from levels of 10% contamination reducing to 3% over the last 2 years.

3.5 Since October 2019 when LCC launched the 'pots tubs & trays' campaign, greater emphasis has been placed on the type of waste we collect and recycle, Ribble Valley has improved on the target materials collected to 82%.

4 RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications:

- Resources –none.

- Technical, Environmental and Legal – The update on the increased recycling and the associated reduction of waste going to landfill can only be considered as positive.
- Political – This will be welcomed by the public who genuinely want to recycle more and send less to landfill.
- Reputation – This rise in the rate of recycling and the reduction of landfill rates can only be good for the authority.

5 **CONCLUSION**

5.1 Note the increases in recycling and reduction of landfill elements of the report.

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REF: AH/COMMUNITY 090321