



Wiltshire Municipal Waste Contract

Annual Service Review 2015/2016



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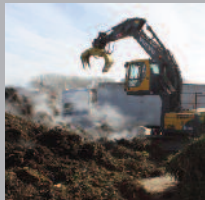
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Hills Group



The Hills Group Limited

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Cover: A Hills employee helps a member of the public recycle her books.

Executive summary

2015/16 was the 20th year of the Wiltshire Municipal Waste Contract, and in many ways, one of the most challenging. The total municipal waste arising was down to 246,186 tonnes (from 257,469 tonnes in 2014/15) of which 109,949 tonnes (inclusive of wood) were diverted from landfill via recycling and reuse initiatives. A further 102,726 tonnes were treated through the Northacre Resource Recovery Centre (NRRC) and the Lakeside Energy from Waste plant.

The reduced tonnage compared to 2014/15 was attributable to reductions in both garden waste (following the implementation of the chargeable garden waste scheme in July 2015) and Household Recycling Centre opening hours.

The decision to close all the Household Recycling Centres two days per week, to achieve necessary budget savings for the council, has also reduced landfill diversion. This has been the most challenging part of the operations in the last year. The sites are considerably busier on their opening days than previously, with longer queues and waiting times focused in the summer months, but our team have coped well with the pressure.

We have rolled out the benefits of the Repair Academy to additional sites to increase diversion rates and improve services to site users.

We are delighted to be able to continue providing services to Wiltshire Council and the residents of the county for another year under the contract extension and look forward to providing services under the new contracts due to commence in August 2017.

Mike Webster
Group director – Waste Solutions

Introduction

This is the fourteenth annual service review produced by Hills Waste Solutions (Hills). It reviews the waste management and recycling service provided by the company to Wiltshire Council under the Wiltshire Municipal Waste Contract and highlights particular challenges and successes during the year.

Diversion rate

The total municipal waste arising for the contract year April 2015 to March 2016 was 246,186 tonnes. Of this, 99,792 tonnes were diverted from landfill through reuse and recycling, resulting in a diversion rate of 40.53% for 2015/16. This figure has decreased by 3.71% from the 44.24% reported in 2014/15, this can be attributed in part to the large decrease in green waste and sweeper waste tonnage.

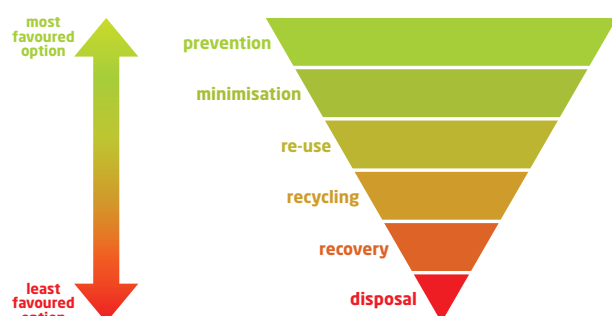
In addition to the 99,792 tonnes mentioned above, a further 112,894 tonnes were diverted from landfill and used for energy recovery. This includes 10,168 tonnes of wood processed for biofuel and two separate contracts which supplied black bag household waste to the NRRC and the Lakeside EfW facility. This combined tonnage increases the waste diverted from landfill in 2015/16 to 212,686 tonnes (86.37%), an increase of 0.25% compared to 2014/15.

The total amount of municipal waste collected for 2015/16 has decreased by 11,283 tonnes (-4.4%) compared to 2014/15. This includes a decrease of 8,226 tonnes in garden waste collected.

A breakdown of statistical data can be found on page 4-6.

Landfill diversion

Waste has been diverted from landfill in 2015/16 by applying the principles of the waste hierarchy shown below and utilising a number of different methods and technologies.



- 5,172 tonnes of suitable waste material has been diverted for reuse through a number of private, public and third sector organisations, a decrease of 340 tonnes compared with 2014/15. This was mainly due to a decrease in rubble tonnages and a decrease in book recycling, however the amount of furniture processed through the Repair Academy increased.
- 94,620 tonnes of waste material diverted through recycling and composting, a decrease of 13,761 tonnes compared with 2014/15.
- 112,894 tonnes of waste material has been diverted for energy recovery via wood recycling, the NRRC and Lakeside EfW facility. An increase of 5,060 tonnes compared with 2014/15.
- 33,500 tonnes sent to landfill. A decrease of 2,242 tonnes compared to 2014/15.

Analysis of recyclate

A total of 99,792 tonnes of material for reuse or recycling was collected and processed in 2015/16. This represents a decrease of 12.4% when compared with 2014/15.

An increase in tonnage was noted in the following areas:

- Cardboard (+5.7%)
- Plastic bottles (+7.18%)
- Scrap metal (+5.62%)

To compare, the biggest reductions in tonnage have also been noted, such as:

- Garden waste (-17.29%)
- Street sweepings (-38.5%)
- Paper (-5%)

Household Recycling Centres (HRCs)

The 11 HRCs received a total of 67,971 tonnes of material in 2015/16, of which 39,675 tonnes were reused, recycled or recovered. This represents an average diversion rate of 58.37%, and a 2.1% increase compared to 2014/15.

The amount of furniture collected through the HRCs has increased by 22.56% compared to 2014/15. This has increased for the second year in a row, and can be linked to the opening of the Repair Academy in April 2014, which provides another outlet for the reuse of these items.

A decrease in the amount of electrical items being recycled has been noted in 2015/16. The biggest decrease was seen in TV/PC monitors with a drop of 30.88% compared to 2014/15. The disposal of lighter flat screen TVs compared to older, heavier CRT screens may account for some of this decrease.

Mini Recycling Sites

The tonnage collected at the Mini Recycling Sites in Wiltshire continues to decline, which reflects the reduced use of these facilities. In 2015/16 a total of 1,271 tonnes was collected from these facilities, a decrease of 26.53% when compared to 2014/15.

The number of bring sites managed by Hills under the contract reduced from 14 to nine in 2015/16. This was due to Sainsbury's supermarket taking over the management of the five sites located on its property.

Kerbside collections

A total of 68,531 tonnes of material was collected through the kerbside service, a decrease of 7,077 tonnes compared to the 75,608 tonnes collected in 2014/15.

A breakdown shows that the black box kerbside scheme collected 24,728 tonnes of glass, paper, cans and textiles; the plastic bottle and cardboard (blue lid) service collected 14,203 tonnes, and 29,600 tonnes of garden waste was collected at the kerbside. Both the black box scheme and blue lid bin service have shown small increases in tonnage collected, however green waste collected from the kerbside has reduced by 8,172 tonnes (-21.64%) compared to 2014/15.

There has been a decrease in the number of requests received for additional boxes from an average of 1,147 per month in 2014/15 to 1,000 per month in 2015/16. These were delivered within two weeks from point of order in line with the target specified within the Service Level Agreement.

Performance data

Numbers that add up to a quality service and overall performance for the year (to 31 March 2016)

2015/16 Non-landfill achievements

| Recycling initiative | North tonnes | East tonnes | South tonnes | West tonnes | Wiltshire tonnes |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|------------------|
| Bring sites scheme | 520 | 153 | 353 | 246 | |
| Kerbside mixed plastic/card | 4,225 | 2,476 | 3,726 | 3,776 | |
| Multi-material kerbside | 6,681 | 4,913 | 6,841 | 6,293 | |
| Kerbside garden waste | 7,235 | 6,654 | 7,306 | 8,406 | |
| Kerbside other | 109 | 106 | 35 | 96 | |
| Street sweepings | 1,988 | 1,010 | 1,048 | 14 | |
| Everleigh HRC* | - | 1,320 | - | - | |
| Devizes HRC* | - | 2,939 | - | - | |
| Marlborough HRC* | - | 2,153 | - | - | |
| Stanton HRC* | 4,082 | - | - | - | |
| Purton HRC* | 3,304 | - | - | - | |
| Honeyball HRC* | 2,616 | - | - | - | |
| Melksham HRC* | - | - | - | 3,624 | |
| Warminster HRC* | - | - | - | 4,716 | |
| Trowbridge HRC* | - | - | - | 4,598 | |
| Salisbury HRC* | - | - | 6,425 | - | |
| Amesbury HRC* | - | - | 3,898 | - | |
| Green & wood waste rejects | | | | | -135 |
| Gully sweepings to landfill | | | | | 0 |
| Porte Marsh/MRF rejects | | | | | -3,799 |
| Non-landfilled achieved | | | | | 109,949 |

*Figures for HRCs include wood sent to EfW.

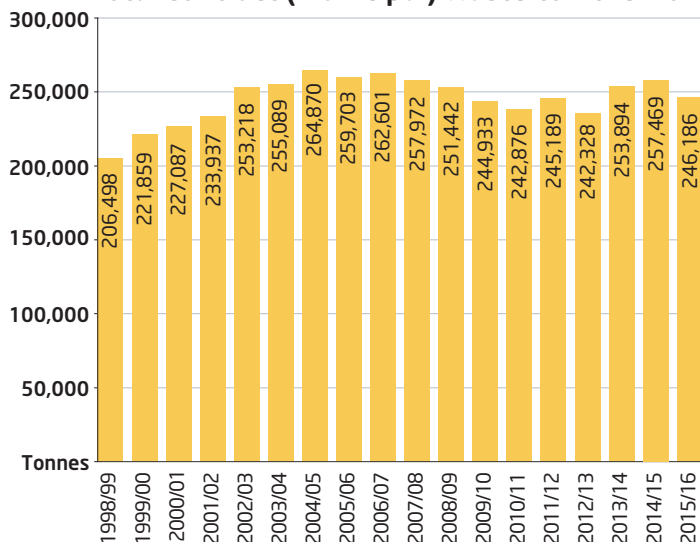
2015/16 Non-landfill by material

| | Wiltshire tonnes | Year 14/15 | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|----------------|-----------|
| Books | 65 | 95 | Reuse |
| Bicycles | 3 | 3 | |
| Rubble ¹ | 2,803 | 3,091 | |
| Soil ¹ | 1,149 | 1,150 | |
| CDs and DVDs | 9 | 7 | |
| Spectacles | 0.16 | - | |
| Textiles | 942 | 972 | Recycling |
| Furniture | 152 | 124 | |
| Gas bottles | 49 | 66 | |
| Paper | 12,268 | 12,922 | |
| Cardboard | 13,261 | 12,546 | |
| Glass | 12,798 | 12,923 | |
| Cans | 2,350 | 2,277 | |
| Plastic bottles | 3,135 | 2,925 | |
| Tetra Pak | 29 | 36 | |
| Rigid plastics | 1,357 | 1,213 | |
| Scrap metals | 3,748 | 3,549 | Recovery |
| Garden waste | 39,336 | 47,562 | |
| Plasterboard | 1,044 | 993 | |
| Street sweeping | 4,060 | 6,601 | |
| Car batteries | 160 | 153 | |
| Domestic batteries | 25 | 24 | |
| Printer cartridges | 1 | 1 | |
| Cooking oil | 9 | 10 | |
| Oil | 58 | 73 | |
| Tyres | 189 | 210 | |
| WEEE (A) - Large household appliances | 1,117 | 1,359 | Landfill |
| WEEE (B) - Fridges/freezers | 760 | 761 | |
| WEEE (C) - TVs/PC monitors | 697 | 1,009 | |
| WEEE (D) - Gas discharge lamps | 6 | 6 | |
| WEEE (E) - Small domestic appliances | 1,906 | 2,224 | |
| Paints and chemicals | 139 | 58 | |
| Timber | 5 | 22 | |
| Chipboard/MDF | 10,250 | 10,488 | |
| Clinical waste | - | - | |
| Green waste rejects | -47 | -52 | |
| Wood waste rejects | -87 | - | |
| Street sweepings to landfill | - | -207 | |
| Residual tonnage ex Porte Marsh MRF | -3,579 | -3,265 | |
| Residual tonnage ex MRF | -220 | -273 | |
| SubTotal | 109,949 | 121,656 | |

¹Soil and rubble figures for reuse only, a further 14,084 tonnes of rubble and soils used as cover in landfill.

Note: Municipal waste includes all household waste, commercial waste collected as part of the household round, rubble, soil, and waste arising from parks and highways.

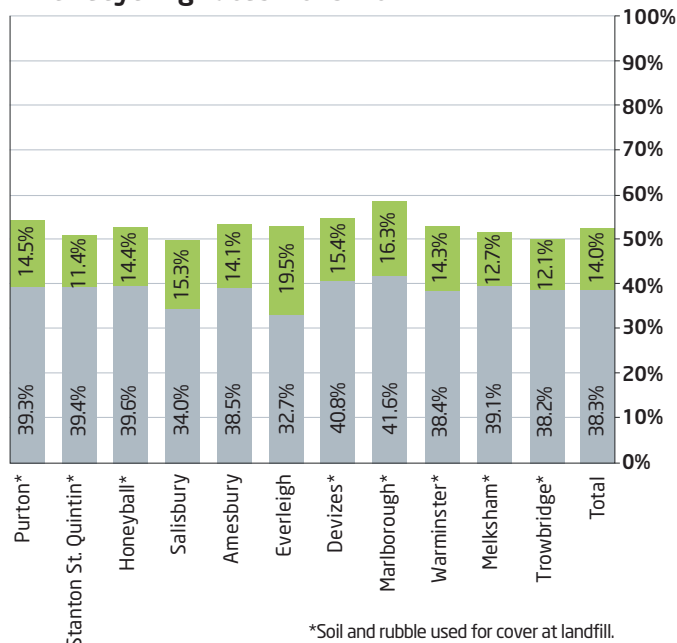
Total contract (municipal) waste to 2015/16



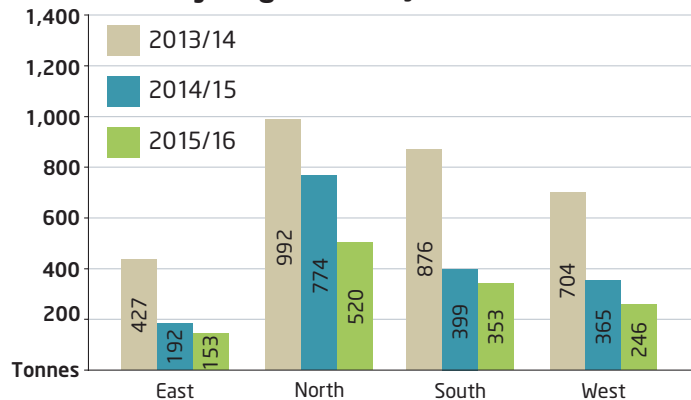
% Composted (contract)

% Diversion (contract)

HRC recycling rates 2015/16

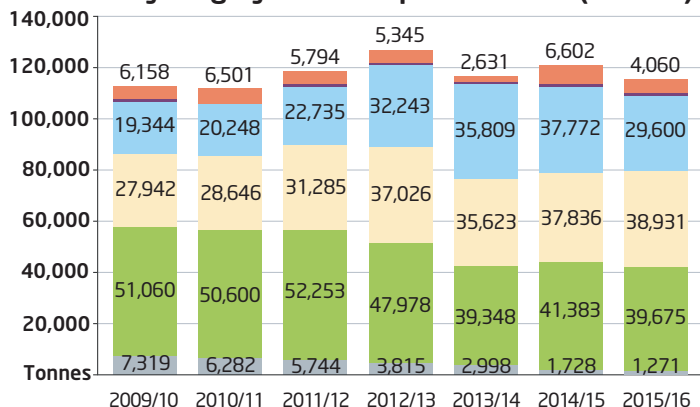


Mini recycling sites - recycled tonnes 2013 to 2016

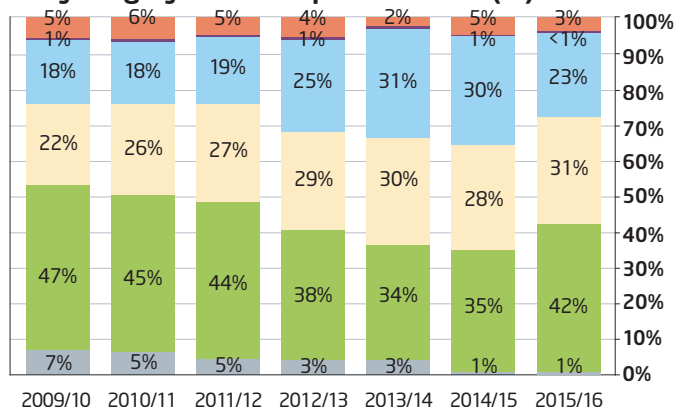


- Street sweepings
- Bulky collections
- Kerbside-garden
- Kerbside-dry
- Household recycling centres
- Mini recycling sites

Recycling by service up to 2015/16 (tonnes)

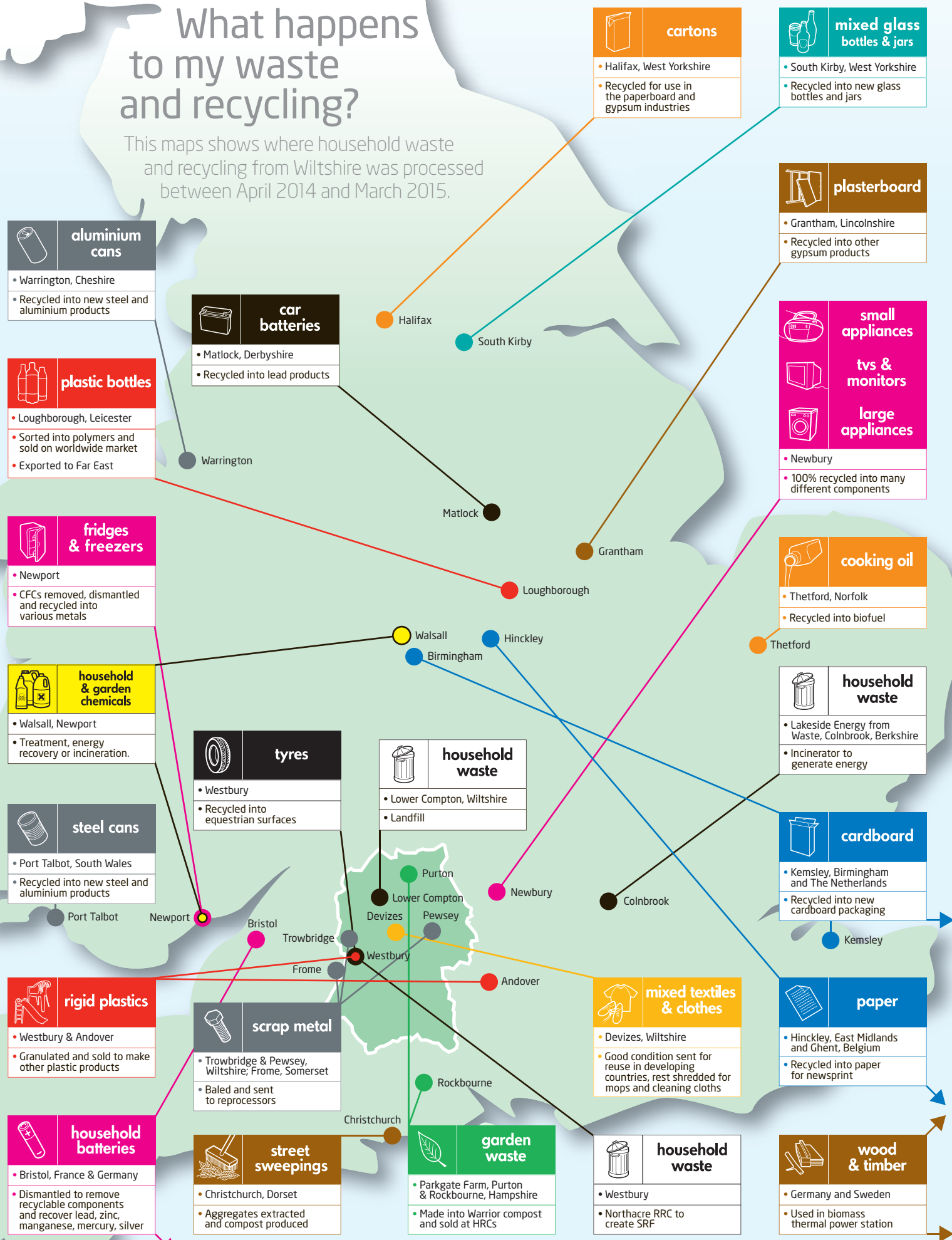


Recycling by service up to 2015/16 (%)



What happens to my waste and recycling?

This map shows where household waste and recycling from Wiltshire was processed between April 2014 and March 2015.



Performance overview

Developments in 2015/16

Repair Academy

The Repair Academy is a social enterprise venture, created in partnership between Hills Waste Solutions and Wiltshire Council, Wiltshire Wildlife Trust, Community First, KFR, Waste Not Want Not, Wiltshire College and Swindon College. It was officially opened in Calne by Wiltshire Council leader Baroness Jane Scott OBE in April 2014.

The Repair Academy aims to:

- Create social, economic and environmental value by transforming unwanted household products into desirable goods
- Support people in need by helping them gain skills for employment and life
- Change public opinion to make used and repaired items more attractive
- Foster an attitude of reuse and repair of materials.

In June 2015 the Repair Academy took on the full management of white goods from partners KFR and has now expanded the collection of white goods to nine HRCs. In addition to white goods, the Repair Academy also collects bric-a-brac from four HRCs, and furniture from three sites. These collections will be expanded to cover all HRCs by 01 August 2017.



In 2015/16 over 35 tonnes of white goods, bric-a-brac and furniture were diverted from recycling or landfill for reuse through the Repair Academy.

The Repair Academy provides valuable training and work experience, and created a range of volunteering opportunities. To date, the Repair Academy has had over 100 students through its door, and has managed to support 20% through to further education or employment. All students will have gained soft skills whilst based at the Repair Academy helping towards their future development. 2015/16 saw the completion of the first apprenticeship, with the recruitment of the apprentice to a full-time position at the Repair Academy.

Northacre Resource Recovery Centre (NRRC)

The NRRC entered the third year of a separate 25-year contract with Wiltshire Council. A total of 59,289 tonnes of municipal solid waste was treated at the facility in 2015/16 and produced:

- 26,539 tonnes of Solid Recovered Fuel (SRF), which was sent to EfW plants in Germany
- 18,707 tonnes of bio-stabilised material which was landfilled during this period
- 669 tonnes of recyclable metals were removed from the waste and sent for recovery

Moisture loss through the bio-oxidation process accounted for approximately 22.8% of the weight loss through the treatment process.

A separate environmental report for the NRRC is produced annually.



Amesbury Recyclables Management Facility (RMF)

The Amesbury RMF handled 47,684 tonnes of waste material in 2015/16. The facility operates as a hub for household waste and recyclables, which are either bulked up and transferred to a separate Hills facility for sorting, or sent direct to the reprocessor.

Improvements have been made to the facility in 2015/16 with the installation and commissioning of an activated carbon filter to reduce odour emissions. This system complements the existing misting and ventilation systems on site. In 2015/16 only one odour complaint was received about the facility.

Porte Marsh RMF

The Porte Marsh facility received and processed 14,203 tonnes of kerbside collected plastic bottles and cardboard in 2015/16. This is an increase of 937 tonnes, or 7% on the tonnage received in 2014/15.

The material from kerbside collections is processed into two grades of cardboard and a mixed grade of plastic bottles. Plastic bottles are recycled in Loughborough and the cardboard grades are recycled at mills in Birmingham and the Netherlands. Suitable reject waste material from Porte Marsh RMF is diverted to recovery through the Lakeside EfW or NRRC facilities to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill.

In order to remain compliant with the new Materials Recycling Facility Code of Practice, regular inspections of both incoming and outgoing materials are undertaken to ensure they meet agreed specifications. In 2015/16, of the 470 sample inspections undertaken, 116 were of incoming materials and 354 of outgoing materials. All materials were compliant with the specifications.



Performance overview (continued)

Composting

A total of 39,336 tonnes of garden waste were collected across the county in 2015/16, of this material 29,600 tonnes were collected via the kerbside collections, and the remaining 9,736 tonnes collected through the county's 11 HRC sites.

The tonnage of garden waste collected in 2015/16 has dropped considerably when compared to the 47,562 collected in 2014/15. This may in part be linked to a particularly dry summer in 2015, in addition to the implementation of a chargeable garden waste kerbside collection service. Some garden waste may also have been diverted to home composting. However, despite the reduction in HRC hours from July 2015 there has been a small increase in the tonnage of garden waste accepted through these sites.

The majority of garden waste was composted through Hills' Parkgate Farm facility. The remaining tonnage from selected local kerbside and HRC collections was processed in the south of the county, at Newbourne Farm.

All compost is certified to the BSI PAS100 (2011) standard and the Compost Quality protocol, these are accredited by the Association for Organics Recycling and the Soil Association.

Small volumes of compost continue to be sold direct to the public, with local farmers continuing to be the main consumer of this product.

Lower Compton

The Lower Compton site comprises of a Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) and waste transfer station, industrial and commercial recycling and transfer facilities including woodchipping, garden waste composting, HRC and a non-hazardous landfill. The site is identified as a strategic waste management site in the Wiltshire and Swindon Waste Site Allocations Local Plan adopted in February 2013.

The MRF and waste transfer facilities ensure that both recyclable and non-recyclable household waste is bulked and transported to either reprocessors or treatment facilities.

In 2014 Hills submitted a planning application to Wiltshire Council to seek permission to extend and improve the Lower Compton MRF, providing an enclosed waste transfer station and retaining the screening bund. This application was recommended for approval by Wiltshire Council's planning officer; however it did not secure planning permission when considered at the June 2015 strategic planning committee meeting. An appeal has been lodged with the Planning Inspectorate regarding this decision, and this will be considered at a hearing in September 2016.

Kerbside black box recycling

Hills continues to work closely with Wiltshire Council to harmonise the collection services across the county.

Communication avenues have improved with the use of Whitespace PowerSuite and Wiltshire Council customer services regarding more real time reporting.

Although the vehicle replacement programme has been put on hold both Hills and Wiltshire Council continue to work together to maintain the front line fleet.

Training within the kerbside department has been proactive and Driver Certificate of Professional Competence (DCPC) has been completed ahead of schedule, for year two of five.

Household Recycling Centres (HRCs)

The 11 HRCs collected 67,971 tonnes of material in 2015/16 which accounts for 27.6% of Wiltshire's total municipal tonnage. Of this material, the HRCs managed to divert 39,675 tonnes (56.7%) through recycling or reuse.

Revised opening hours for the HRCs were implemented on 13 July 2015. Following discussions with Wiltshire Council regarding reducing the costs of the service to enable the council to meet budgetary requirements.

The changes involved:

- Reducing opening hours from 9am to 4pm in the winter and 9am to 5pm in the summer to 10am to 4pm all year.
- Closing each site for two days per week.

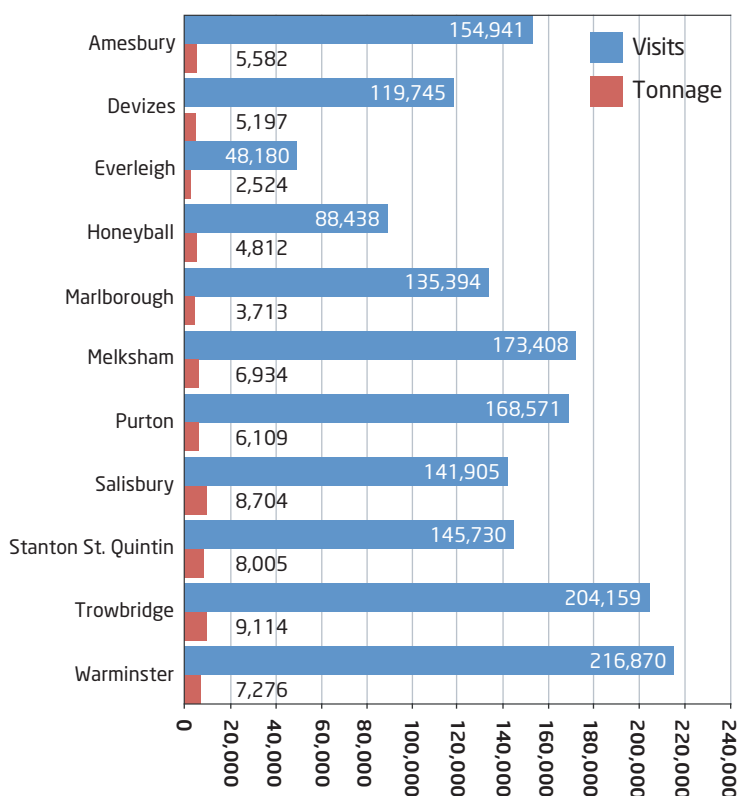


All HRC sites are open on Saturday, Sunday and Monday, which are the days when usage is at its highest, along with two additional days each week. These additional days are on the same days each week for individual sites but vary from site to site, in order to ensure that residents have access to at least one household recycling centre within their area (north, south, east or west Wiltshire) seven days a week.

The car count data shows that 1,597,641 visits were made to the 11 HRCs in 2015/16, this is a reduction of approximately 11% when compared with 2014/15. However due to the reduction in hours at the HRCs, the visits to sites have been compressed into shorter hours. As a result, since July 2015 the average hourly visits to each HRC have increased by approximately 17%.

The following graph shows the tonnage received for each HRC site in 2015/16 compared with the total visitor numbers for the site.

HRC visits Vs tonnes collected 2015/16



Lakeside Energy from Waste (EfW)

2015/16 was the seventh year of contract to supply 50,000 tonnes per year of household waste to the Lakeside EfW plant. This annual contract tonnage target was met in 2015/16. The waste collected by the north, south and east hubs was transferred to the Lakeside EfW plant through both the Lower Compton and Amesbury waste transfer stations.

The three articulated lorries utilised to transport waste material from the waste transfer stations to the Lakeside EfW were replaced in 2015. The new vehicles comply with the latest Euro 6 emissions standards, are coupled to higher capacity trailers which reduces the number of loads required to transfer waste under this contract each year. The vehicles are also fitted with the latest cycle safe systems, safety cameras and collision avoidance systems.

Legal compliance

Hills' management systems are designed to ensure operations are legally compliant with environmental permits. Hills continues to maintain good working relations with the Environment Agency (EA), which regulates the company's sites. The EA undertook nine inspections of Hills' HRCs and MRFs in 2015/16.

No prosecutions, fines or notices were served against Hills.

Regular liaison meetings are held with EA officers to discuss issues that may arise to reduce the risk of escalation into serious problems. The EA checks compliance with permit conditions and issues reports with Compliance Classification Scheme (CCS) points if a problem is identified: the higher the score, the more serious the problem. Hills has set internal management targets to measure performance and the results for 2015/16 show:

| Annual target | Performance | Achieved |
|---|-------------|----------|
| Achieve 0 CCS points for recycling division. | 0 | Yes |
| Achieve 0 CCS points per inspection for recycling division. | 0 | Yes |

The investment and actions taken in 2013/14 to improve odour management at Amesbury RMF continue to bear fruit with zero CCS points received and only one complaint.

Some contract waste, such as residual household waste, garden waste and woodchip, is managed at other Hills sites, which received the following EA scores:

| Site | Score |
|---------------------------------------|-------|
| Lower Compton Waste Recovery Facility | 0 |
| Lower Compton landfill | 12.5 |
| Parkgate Farm compost | 0 |
| Parkgate Farm hazardous landfill | 0 |
| Parkgate Farm non-hazardous landfill | 8.1 |
| Total | 20.6 |

Hills take environmental compliance seriously and operates an Environmental Management System certified to ISO 14001, which ensures that if any operation receives a score, the cause is investigated, and remediation and control measures put in place to prevent recurrence. Hills seeks to prevent issues occurring in the first place by assessing the environmental risk of operations and deploying engineering and procedural controls. Actions have been taken at Porte Marsh RMF and the Lower Compton site to reduce the risk of fire and its consequences.

Complaints

A complaints management system operates to ensure that complaints are properly investigated, with appropriate action taken and feedback given to the complainant. Hills' performance in 2014/15 against internally set management targets is as follows:

13 complaints and 14 compliments from around 5.46 million kerbside collections.

17 complaints and 38 compliments from 1,597,341 visitors to HRCs.

Performance overview (continued)

Audits

Internal audits: A risk based audit programme ensures that Hills' processes meet minimum management system requirements and reduce the risk of incidents.

| | Number of processes audited | Major non-conformance | Minor non-conformance | Opportunity for improvement |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Environment [†] and Quality | 24 | 0 | 12 | 119 |
| Health and Safety | 15 | 3 | 53 | 74 |

[†] Environment and Quality audits are combined in one visit.

Reprocessor audits: Hills carried out duty of care audits to ensure that others who manage waste on our behalf conform to legal requirements. These audits are reviewed and updated on an annual basis with a total of 23 audits carried out during the year.

External audits: SGS, an independent body, was appointed to carry out external surveillance audits every six months to ensure that Hills' management systems continue to meet the ISO 14001, ISO 9001 and the BS OHSAS 18001 standards. Hills is proud to maintain certification to these standards across its facilities.

Move to Improve

Employees are encouraged to put forward suggestions on how the business could improve in the areas of efficiency, health and safety, and quality. In 2015/16 employees put forward 70 ideas.

Good Driving Charter and How's My Driving? Scheme

Hills is a member of the 'How's My Driving?' scheme and all Hills' drivers sign up to a 'Good Driving Charter'. The 'How's My Driving?' scheme provides a visible commitment to responsible driving and supports Hills' other methods of recording community satisfaction with the transport fleet. There were 112 Hills vehicles registered in the scheme and 20 reports were received. Of these, 17 were justified and upheld complaints.

Hills' transport fleet travelled 3,491,080 kilometres, with the kerbside collection vehicles accounting for 796,609 kilometres.

Health and safety

Statistics published by the Health & Safety Executive last year showed that waste and recycling continues to be amongst the most dangerous industries in the UK. Despite this Hills continued to improve on performance and achieved a 20% reduction in the number of 'RIDDOR reportable' accidents and a 17% reduction in the number of accidents which resulted in a loss in working hours. Hills also successfully maintained its externally assessed BS OHSAS 18001 Health & Safety Management Systems certification and had no enforcement activity raised against it by the Health & Safety Executive. This was achieved through a number of initiatives, including:

Near miss reporting

The near miss reporting system continues to capture information and enable action to prevent accidents from occurring. The level of near misses reported has been maintained at the same level as last year, with 752 reported in 2015/16.

Culture

The information from the first health and safety survey undertaken in 2014/15 was reviewed, and changes have been implemented in response to the main issue raised from staff who wanted more feedback on health and safety matters, this has been achieved through:

- Creation of a six-monthly health and safety magazine which is circulated to update all staff on safety campaigns, accident statistics and also includes advice on safety matters.



- Regular @Hills newsletter circulated via email and through company noticeboards features health and safety updates, including near miss and accident figures.

A second health and safety cultural survey was undertaken in March 2016, the results of this will be analysed to measure the effectiveness of the action taken to address these issues.

National award

Hills won the Delivering Health & Safety Best Practice Award at the Chartered Institute of Wastes Management '2015 Sustainability and Resource Awards'. The award was given in recognition of Hills' 'Year of Health and Safety' initiative which was launched with the intention of improving the health and safety culture of all employees within the company.



Although the process of cultural change can take years, Hills has already reported a number of positive and encouraging improvements. This overriding initiative will therefore continue and has been re-branded 'Safer For All' to reflect Hills' goal and to remove the time-bound nature of the previous name.

Campaigns

Hills and Devizes Textiles continue to donate £25 for every tonne of textiles collected through the HRCs, mini bring sites and the kerbside collection service to the Wiltshire Air Ambulance. A total of 942 tonnes of textiles was collected in 2015/16, resulting in a donation of £23,550.

The international Compost Awareness Week fell on 4–10 May 2015. To mark this week Hills offered bags of Warrior Compost free of charge to schools at each of the HRCs. In total 100 bags of compost were collected by 18 schools.

Community spirit

Partnerships

Hills continues to work in partnership with a number of local charitable organisations whose work supports the principle of the waste hierarchy and reduces waste to landfill, examples include:

- **Jole Rider Bikes4Africa** – bicycles collected at HRCs are repaired by volunteers or as part of training scheme through local prisons. The bikes are then shipped to The Gambia for schools to issue to pupils to enable them to travel to and from school.
- **Tools for Self-Reliance** – reusable hand tools are collected from the HRCs and transported by Hills to a repair and refurbishment centre in Southampton. The tools are then offered to artisans in rural African communities to enable them to earn a living and become self-reliant.

Charity / Group collections

There are four charitable groups in the west hub which are eligible to receive payments at £10 per tonne for paper and textiles collected in 2015/16. The payments to these organisations were as follows:

- **British Heart Foundation – £305.86**
- **SCOPE – £165.55**
- **Southwick and North Bradley Scouts – £700.04**
- **Save the Children – £412.56**

Supporting local communities

Long-running partnerships with Community First, Wiltshire Wildlife Trust and the Cotswold Water Park Trust have allowed Hills to maximise money available through the Landfill Communities Fund and to ensure communities neighbouring our operations benefit from the funding.

As landfill tonnages continue to decrease as a result of the Government's bid to reduce waste to landfill, it has had a direct impact on the amount of funding available through this scheme.

In 2014/15, 32 projects across Wiltshire benefitted from more than £680,000 of grants made available through the Landfill Communities Fund.

- £379,142 was granted to community and environment projects, such as creating natural habitat areas for wildlife
- £95,746 was given to enhance sports facilities and offer more opportunities for communities to enjoy physical exercise
- £80,300 was granted to refurbishing and renovating village halls and community spaces
- £25,000 was given for play area projects, to encourage children to spend more time outdoors
- £15,000 was given towards arts and heritage projects for their educational and cultural benefits

In addition, Hills continues to give around £10,000-£11,000 a year in direct funding to local charitable organisations.



A £4,000 grant was given to buy modernised equipment for a kids' play area in Wilcot.



A £10,000 donation was made to Jones's Mill, a Wiltshire Wildlife Trust project to help to protect and improve diverse habitats.



A £5,000 Landfill Communities Fund grant gave Chippenham Cricket Club new practice nets.



The Corsham Brunel Shed refurbishment project received a £4,000 grant to create a craft workshop for the community.



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