



Agenda Item 11

Deposit Return System Update

Falkirk Council

Title: Deposit Return System Update
Meeting: Executive
Date: 17 October 2023
Submitted By: Director of Place Services

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update following the Scottish Government announcement dated 7 June 2023, delaying the introduction of the Deposit Return System (DRS) to at least October 2025. The announcement also details that glass would not be a feature of the forthcoming UK DRS scheme.
- 1.2 This report details the Council's plan to mitigate the impacts of the ongoing delay to DRS introduction, the impacts for current kerbside collection services and details the service proposal to retain a kerbside glass collection service.
- 1.3 This report directly links to the revised Procurement Strategy post 1 October 2024, for kerbside collections of Glass, Food and Absorbent Hygiene Products (AHP).
- 1.4 This report is linked to the 2022-27 Council Plan's strategic priority of supporting a thriving economy and green transition in maintaining and enhancing current resident recycling behaviours. It will also contribute to the strategic enabler of financial sustainability through contract progression and the delivery of resultant service efficiencies.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The Executive Committee is asked to:
 - (1) Agree to further extend the current kerbside black box collection contract from 31 March 2024 to 30 September 2024. This decision provides potential contractors with a suitable period to prepare bids for the revised kerbside glass, food, and Absorbent Hygiene Product (AHP) service; and
 - (2) Note that as per the Executive decision on 9 May 2023, the Council will review and enhance recycling point provision, to maximise resident glass and textile recycling opportunities; and
 - (3) Agree that the revised Procurement Strategy for Glass, Food and Absorbent Hygiene Products (AHP) collections will commence from 1 October 2024.

3. Impact on Climate Change Targets

- 3.1 The overall approach, once fully implemented in October 2024 will make a positive contribution due to the continuation of glass recycling at the kerbside, there will be a reduction of resident journeys to recycle glass as well as providing a reduction in vehicle emissions, resulting from technological advancements.
- 3.2 Increased recycling reduces harmful emissions which contribute to the climate emergency by reducing the volume of materials being sent to landfill or energy recovery.
- 3.3 Upon receipt of tenders and award of contract, Council will be able to better determine what the reduced carbon emission levels associated with future collections will be, in comparison to existing levels.

4. Background

- 4.1 Towards the end of 2017, the then First Minister formally announced that Scotland would introduce a DRS for glass bottles, clear plastic (PET) drinks bottles and aluminium drinks cans. As was originally reported to the Executive on 6 December 2022, the national DRS for Scotland was scheduled to commence on 16 August 2023. The launch date was subsequently revised to 1 March 2024.
- 4.2 On 7 June 2023, the Minister for Green Skills, Circular Economy and Biodiversity announced that the DRS was to be delayed until October 2025 at the earliest. The delay followed the UK Government's decision to exclude glass bottles from the accepted target materials, and did not provide the required exemptions to the Internal Market Act to enable the scheme as was proposed to proceed.
- 4.3 The UK Government in making this decision indicated that this would align any future Scottish scheme to those schemes proposed for England and Northern Ireland. Wales, whilst intending to include glass bottles in their scheme, has not progressed to submitting a request for Internal Market Act exemption at the time of this report.
- 4.4 The Council has consistently revised and aligned its proposed kerbside collections to both support and meet the published launch dates of the proposed Scottish DRS. This process culminated with the decision to remove the black box collection service and enhance the local recycling point provision at the 9 May 2023 Executive meeting. There was agreement from members at this meeting that should there be a significant change in the scope of DRS ahead of the cessation of the black box service (scheduled for 31 March 2024) a further report would be provided to Executive. This report addresses that request.

5. Considerations

- 5.1 The current black box collection service is scheduled to terminate on 31 March 2024.
- 5.2 Executive members will recall that on 9 May 2023, an option was presented to retender for a full kerbside collection service to include the black box alongside food waste and AHP. This option was not recommended to progress then due to the contract length required for contractors to procure vehicles to deliver Council requirements. Additionally, it was recognised that resident behaviours would change, and disposal of glass bottles would be largely met through DRS and not via the Council collection services.
- 5.3 The recommended option, accepted by the Executive was for the black box to cease with effect from 1 April 2024. This recommendation allowed for the Council to assess the impacts of DRS (post the intended August 2023 launch) and provided for enhanced local recycling point provision. This proposal was agreed with a request for the enhanced local recycling point provision to factor in a period of public consultation.
- 5.4 Due to the ongoing uncertainties surrounding a national DRS launch date, and with no known infrastructure at present regarding the required Regulations and Scheme Administration for a UK DRS scheme, it is now recommended that the Council retains a black box collection service for glass only, and it is therefore no longer proposed to carry out a wide public consultation exercise on recycling point provision.
- 5.5 Legal and procurement colleagues have been consulted and have advised that due to the continued uncertainty surrounding the DRS launch date and DRS scope, the Council can exercise grounds to issue a further extension to 30 September 2024 to the current contract arrangements.
- 5.6 The incumbent supplier has indicated that such an extension would be accepted, with the current terms and conditions of the contract applying.
- 5.7 To enable adequate time and provision for bidders to compile a response to the to-be-issued Council tender, it is proposed that the Council further extend its current black box (glass, textiles and small WEEE), food waste and AHP kerbside collection service contract until 30 September 2024.
- 5.8 For 1 October 2024 onwards, the Council propose to issue a contract for 7 years with the option for up to a further 3 years extension. The contract provides for a weekly collection of food waste, a fortnightly collection of a black box (glass only) and, a fortnightly collection of AHP. The Council will continue to provide service users with AHP bags.

- 5.9 In considering the best value to Council, officers established that the most efficient and cost-effective service delivery option, medium – long-term service provision was to continue to secure 3rd party provision for service delivery.
- 5.10 The new contract will contain a provision for the Council to modify contract delivery should market or legislative changes require an amendment to be progressed through the contract term. Should there be any resultant proposed change to service provision, this would be subject to future Executive consideration.
- 5.11 Due to the low volume and quality of presented textiles and the low volume of small WEEE collected at the kerbside, these materials would in future be collected via the network of local recycling points (textiles) or via the HWRCs for WEEE. Additionally, textiles are often collected via charity doorstep collections, and there is a growing interest in textile reuse through social media platforms. A list of current local recycling point provision is appended as Appendix 1: Recycling Point Provision – September 2023.
- 5.12 It is also anticipated that removing textiles and small WEEE from kerbside collections will reduce costs to the Council resulting from new contract requirements. Efficiencies are expected from route capacity efficiencies and resulting vehicle requirements.
- 5.13 The Council will retain and improve its current network of local Recycling Points across the authority and Household Waste Recycling Centres. Where opportunity for additional recycling points is identified, or where as a result of persistent misuse of contamination the removal of a recycling point is being considered, local ward members will be consulted.

6. Consultation

- 6.1 Due to the change in DRS implementation and scope, the public consultation on the review of recycling points has not been progressed to date as it is no longer a recommendation to remove the provision of kerbside glass collections. A consultation will however be carried out for areas in the areas identified within Appendix 1 of the report that currently do not have recycling point provision. This consultation will be facilitated shortly following approval of this report.

7. Implications

Financial

- 7.1 On 9 May 2023 officers advised that a key impact to Council on the introduction of DRS would be the significant loss of revenue achieved from the diversion of in-scope DRS material.
- 7.2 Whilst the delay to DRS will maintain revenue generation to the Council through the continued sale of captured recyclate sale, there will be additional costs incurred in contract delivery, as the glass kerbside collection service is maintained. Falkirk council currently spends £1.6M per annum for the whole

contract (Food, AHP, Glass, WEEE & Textiles). The cost of the new contract will be subject to an open tender exercise.

Resources

- 7.3 There is no impact on resources. Current and future collection infrastructure is provided via a third-party contractor. Zero Waste Scotland retains responsibility for the promotion of DRS and will assist local government in its implementation in due course.

Legal

- 7.4 The proposed further extension to the contract will be progressed in conjunction with procurement and legal colleagues. The awarding of the new kerbside collection service will fully comply with procurement and legal regulations.

Risk

- 7.5 The proposal to further extend the black box collection service mitigates the risk associated with the cessation of the service on 31 March 2024.
- 7.6 There would be considerable scope for confusion and anger from residents following the removal of the black box provision in April 2024, without the DRS being operational to capture glass drinks containers.
- 7.7 Potential significant impacts on removing the black box with glass now excluded from DRS may result in increased littering of glass with resultant associated dangers, and the change of current positive recycling behaviours glass being disposed to the general waste bin.
- 7.8 The cost of future glass, food and AHP collections may be considerably higher than current costs, putting pressure on Council finances. To mitigate against this, Council will seek to maximise competition through putting the contract out to tender, providing sufficient time for interested parties to submit competitive bids and order the appropriate collection vehicles.
- 7.9 Prior to and during the implementation of DRS (which will exclude glass bottles), the Council will work closely with Zero Waste Scotland to ensure that all communications continue to be clear and relevant to the local area and are reflective of the Falkirk kerbside service, in order to minimise any resident confusion.

Equalities

- 7.10 An EPIA screening identified a full EPIA was required to be undertaken on the recommendations contained in this report.
- 7.11 This EPIA highlighted that whilst textiles and WEEE would no longer be provided from the kerbside from 1 October 2024, this may impact residents with mobility issues. To mitigate this the Council's comprehensive network of

local recycling points, have textile recycling provision in place and regular doorstep collections of textiles are also offered by charitable organisations. HWRC's accept both textiles and WEEE.

- 7.12 Should individual residents with protected characteristics have issues that are not addressed by these mitigations or others, then officers commit to working with them to find solutions.

8. Conclusions

- 8.1 The presented uncertainties surrounding the DRS and DRS scope post the 9 May 2023 Executive has required a re-evaluation of available options for Council.
- 8.2 For the reasons detailed within the report, Best Value will be achieved through retaining a black box collection service for glass only alongside the food and AHP service previously approved. This proposal helps safeguard the Council's recycling performance and provides accessible glass recycling to all householders across the authority.
- 8.3 Invoking a further short-term extension to the existing contract provides a continuation of the service to our householders whilst allowing potential providers the timescales necessary to submit competitive bids.

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Director of Place Services

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Date: 04 October 2023

Appendices:

Appendix 1: Recycling Point Provision – August 2023
Appendix 2 – Equality & Poverty Impact Assessment

List of Background Papers:

None

Site	Address	Town	Post Code
Bar 189	Main Street	Airth	FK2 8JJ
Opposite Pub Car park	Main Street	Avonbridge	FK1 2NE
Carron Road junction	Dauids Loan	Bainsford	FK2 7NS
Next to Monument	Dawson Park	Bainsford	FK2 7PP
Abbotsford House	David's loan	Bainsford	FK2 7YZ
CAR PARK THE CARRON CENTRE	RONADES ROAD	Bainsford	FK2 7TA
Castle Crescent	Bankside Industrial Estate	Bainsford	FK2 7XR
Bankier Sport Centre	Bankier Road	Banknock	FK4 1TF
Bo'ness Recreation Centre	Gauze Road	Bo'ness	EH51 9QB
Garage Site	Drum Road	Bo'ness	EH51 9QU
Tesco Car Park	Dock Street	Bo'ness	EH51 9NG
Brightons Community Centre	Main Street	Brightons	FK2 0JT
Community Centre Car Park	Main Street	California	FK1 2BW
Car Park	Union Road	Camelon	FK1 4PP
Camelon Labour Club	Nailer Road	Camelon	FK1 4DA
Recycling Point	Mariner Street	Camelon	FK1 4LF
Teresa Snack Van	Canal Road	Falkirk	FK2 7GT
Car Park, Davies' Row	Duke Street	Denny	FK6 6DD
Car Park - The Songbird	Stirling Street	Dunipace	FK6 6JR
Breton Court/Corentin Court	Finistere Avenue	Falkirk	FK1 1UA
Bus Stop	Alexander Avenue	Falkirk	FK2 9DZ
MAXWELL TOWER	SEATON PLACE	Falkirk	FK1 1TF
Car Park	Greenbank Court	Falkirk	FK1 5DS
Morrisons	Brockville park	Falkirk	FK1 5BU
Tesco	GRAHAM'S ROAD	Falkirk	FK1 1LW
MAXWELL TOWER	SEATON PLACE	Falkirk	FK1 1TP
Falkirk Royal Hospital	next to Estates Office	Falkirk	FK1 5QE
Falkirk Town Hall - Function Suite	West Bridge Street	Falkirk	FK1 5RS
Car park	Kemper Avenue	Falkirk	FK1 1YX
Falkirk Town Hall (Function Suite)	WEST BRIDGE STREET	Falkirk	FK1 5RS
Opposite Car Wash at The Falkirk Stadium	Stadium Way	Falkirk	FK2 9EE
Car Park	Garrison Place	Falkirk	FK1 1AA

Falkirk Royal Infirmary	Maggiemoor Loan	Falkirk	FK1 5HR
Car Park	HIGH STATION ROAD	Falkirk	FK1 5QX
Bus Stop	Windsor Road	Falkirk	FK1 5HD
Car Park Williamson St Car Park	St Crispin's Place	Falkirk	FK1 1PR
Asda Superstore	Bo'ness Road	Grangemouth	FK3 8TY
BUS STOP	CENTRAL AVENUE	Grangemouth	FK3 8SD
BIN STORES AT 1 TO 179 KINGSEAT AVENUE ODD NOS	KINGSEAT AVENUE	Grangemouth	FK3 0AA
BOWHOUSE COMMUNITY CENTRE	BOWHOUSE ROAD	Grangemouth	FK3 0EU
BOWHOUSE HOTEL	BOWHOUSE ROAD	Grangemouth	FK3 0HD
CAR PARK	MOY COURT	Grangemouth	FK3 0HD
ABBOTS ROAD Car park	ABBOTS ROAD	Grangemouth	FK3 8JE
Estates Management	EARLS ROAD	Grangemouth	FK3 8UU
GRANGEMOUTH SPORTS STADIUM	KERSIEBANK AVENUE	Grangemouth	FK3 0EE
NEXT TO AVONGRANGE HOTEL	KERSIEBANK AVENUE	Grangemouth	FK3 0EN
RAILWAY STAFF ASSOCIATION FOR SCOTLAND	BARRIE PLACE	Grangemouth	FK3 0EN
ABBOTSINCH Industrial Estate	ABBOTSINCH ROAD	Grangemouth	FK3 9UX
Bus Stop	Glenburn Road	Hallglen	FK1 2QU
Shop	Culvain Place	Hallglen	FK1 2QH
Shopping Precinct car park	Islands Crescent	Hallglen	FK1 2RB
Scotrail Car park	MUIRHALL ROAD	Larbert	FK5 4AP
LOCH VIEW	STIRLING ROAD	Larbert	FK5 4AE
North Broomage Social Club	Graham Avenue	Larbert	FK5 4PF
CAR PARK	Mary Street	Laurieston	FK2 9PR
Car park	Main Street	Maddiston	FK2 0LU
POLMONT SPORTS CENTRE	SALMON INN ROAD	Polmont	FK2 0XF
BUS STOP	Gilston Crescent	Polmont	FK2 0PQ
GRANGEMOUTH GOLF CLUB	POLMONTHILL	Polmont	FK2 0YA
GREENPARKCENTRE	GREENPARK DRIVE	Polmont	FK2 0PZ
QUOIT BAR	MAIN STREET	Redding	FK2 9YD
REDDING AND WEST QUARTER UNITY CLUB	REDDING ROAD	Redding	FK2 9TX
TESCO STORES	REDDING ROAD	Redding	FK2 9RA
Bus Stop	MAIN STREET	Shieldhill	FK1 2TD

BOTHKENNAR COMMUNITY HALL	NEWTON AVENUE	Skinflats	FK2 8NW
SLAMANNAN COMMUNITY CENTRE	Station Road	Slammanan	FK1 3EZ
PLAYING FIELD CAR PARK	MAIN STREET	Standburn	FK1 2HS
ASDA Superstore	KING STREET	Stenhousemuir	FK5 3BF
Greenbank Place	Cumbræ Drive	Tamfourhill	FK1 4AQ
THE PHOENIX CLUB	MANUEL TERRACE	Whitecross	EH49 6JG

Subject to suitable locations being identified to enable local ward member consultation, potential new recycling point locations being currently considered include:

- Bonnybridge
- Dennyloanhead/Head of Muir
- Lionthorn
- Hags

Equality & Poverty Impact Assessment 00598 (Version 1)

SECTION ONE: ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

Service & Division:	Place Services Environment & Operations	Lead Officer Name:	barry neill
		Team:	Waste Services
		Tel:	07483961186
		Email:	barry.neill@falkirk.gov.uk
Proposal:	Review of black box collections for glass only.	Reference No:	

What is the Proposal?	Budget & Other Financial Decision	Policy (New or Change)	HR Policy & Practice	Change to Service Delivery / Service Design
	No	No	No	Yes
Who does the Proposal affect?	Service Users	Members of the Public	Employees	Job Applicants
	No	Yes	No	No
Other, please specify:	N/a			

Identify the main aims and projected outcome of this proposal (please add date of each update):

21/09/2023	The Scottish Government announced the delay of DRS Scheme until October 2025 at the earliest with glass being permanently removed from the scheme. By maintaining the black box kerbside collection service for glass only, residents are provided with a continuity of recycling service/opportunity for domestic glass. The new proposition will see the removal of small WEEE & textiles from the black box container. These materials can be recycled through our network of bring-sites and recycling centres.

SECTION TWO: FINANCIAL INFORMATION

For budget changes ONLY please include information below:			Benchmark, e.g. Scottish Average
Current spend on this service (£'0000s)	Total:	N/A	
Reduction to this service budget (£'0000s)	Per Annum:	N/A	
Increase to this service budget (£'000s)	Per Annum:	N/A	
If this is a change to a charge or concession please complete.	Current Annual Income Total:	N/A	
	Expected Annual Income Total:	N/A	
If this is a budget decision, when will the saving be achieved?	Start Date:		
	End Date (if any):		

SECTION THREE: EVIDENCE	Please include any evidence or relevant information that has influenced the decisions contained in this EPIA. (This could include demographic profiles; audits; research; health needs assessments; national guidance or legislative requirements and how this relates to the protected characteristic groups.)
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A - Quantitative Evidence	This is evidence which is numerical and should include the number people who use the service and the number of people from the protected characteristic groups who might be affected by changes to the service.
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Falkirk Council currently, through a third-party provider, offer a black box collection service to 75,300 households across the authority. Under the current arrangement, the black box is for the collection of glass, textiles and WEEE.

B - Qualitative Evidence	This is data which describes the effect or impact of a change on a group of people, e.g. some information provided as part of performance reporting.
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Social - case studies; personal / group feedback / other

The amended proposal is to remove textiles and small WEEE from the kerbside black box collection service. Opportunities for recycling will be maintained - for textiles all local recycling points have textile banks in place, with the two HWRC's at Kinneil and Roughmote accepting both textiles and WEEE onsite. Additionally non-Council textile bag collections are widely offered by charities via doorstep collection, or donation through charitable retail outlets provision with social media also providing an increased and popular opportunity option for reuse.

Through the Council contract for WEEE, opportunities for raising awareness, increased donation of materials suitable for reuse, and redistribution to local households (focusing on those households in greatest need) are also being investigated.

Best Judgement:

Has best judgement been used in place of data/research/evidence?	Yes
Who provided the best judgement and what was this based on?	Waste Manager
What gaps in data / information were identified?	We do not have detailed demographic data for all households in the Falkirk area.
Is further research necessary?	No
If NO, please state why.	No further research is necessary as this proposed change in service reflects the delay to national policy, with the Council-operated local recycling point network and HWRC facilities, supplemented by 3rd party opportunity to maintain and provide an alternative recycling provision to kerbside collection.

SECTION FOUR: ENGAGEMENT**Engagement with individuals or organisations affected by the policy or proposal must take place**

Has the proposal / policy / project been subject to engagement or consultation with service users taking into account their protected characteristics and socio-economic status?	No	
If YES, please state who was engagement with.		
If NO engagement has been conducted, please state why.	The Council provide alternative options to recycle textiles and small WEEE.	
How was the engagement carried out?		What were the results from the engagement? Please list...
Focus Group	No	
Survey	No	
Display / Exhibitions	No	
User Panels	No	
Public Event	No	
Other: please specify		
Has the proposal / policy/ project been reviewed / changed as a result of the engagement?	No	
Have the results of the engagement been fed back to the consultees?	No	
Is further engagement recommended?	No	

SECTION FIVE: ASSESSING THE IMPACT

Equality Protected Characteristics: What will the impact of implementing this proposal be on people who share characteristics protected by the Equality Act 2010 or are likely to be affected by the proposal / policy / project? This section allows you to consider other impacts, e.g. poverty, health inequalities, community justice, carers etc.

Protected Characteristic	Neutral Impact	Positive Impact	Negative Impact	Please provide evidence of the impact on this protected characteristic.
Age			✓	The black box service for textiles and small WEEE will no longer be provided from the kerbside. This will impact all groups equally.
Disability			✓	The black box service for textiles and small WEEE will no longer be provided from the kerbside. This will impact all groups equally however, there may be more challenges for this group recycling materials that will no longer be collected at the kerbside.
Sex			✓	The black box service for textiles and small WEEE will no longer be provided from the kerbside. This will impact all groups equally.
Ethnicity			✓	The black box service for textiles and small WEEE will no longer be provided from the kerbside. This will impact all groups equally.
Religion / Belief / non-Belief			✓	The black box service for textiles and small WEEE will no longer be provided from the kerbside. This will impact all groups equally.
Sexual Orientation			✓	The black box service for textiles and small WEEE will no longer be provided from the kerbside. This will impact all groups equally.
Transgender			✓	The black box service for textiles and small WEEE will no longer be provided from the kerbside. This will impact all groups equally.
Pregnancy / Maternity			✓	The black box service for textiles and small WEEE will no longer be provided from the kerbside. This will impact all groups equally.
Marriage / Civil Partnership			✓	The black box service for textiles and small WEEE will no longer be provided from the kerbside. This will impact all groups equally.
Poverty			✓	The black box service for textiles and small WEEE will no longer be provided from the kerbside. This will impact all groups equally.
Care Experienced			✓	The black box service for textiles and small WEEE will no longer be provided from the kerbside. This will impact all groups equally.
Other, health, community justice, carers etc.			✓	The black box service for textiles and small WEEE will no longer be provided from the kerbside. This will impact all groups equally.

Public Sector Equality Duty: Scottish Public Authorities must have 'due regard' to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance quality of opportunity and foster good relations. Scottish specific duties include:

	Evidence of Due Regard
Eliminate Unlawful Discrimination (harassment, victimisation and other prohibited conduct):	N/A
Advance Equality of Opportunity:	Mitigations are being put in place to assist those who may be impacted more than some other groups.
Foster Good Relations (promoting understanding and reducing prejudice):	N/A

SECTION SIX: PARTNERS / OTHER STAKEHOLDERS

Which sectors are likely to have an interest in or be affected by the proposal / policy / project?		Describe the interest / affect.
Business	No	
Councils	No	
Education Sector	No	
Fire	No	
NHS	No	
Integration Joint Board	No	
Police	No	
Third Sector	No	
Other(s): please list and describe the nature of the relationship / impact.	n/a	

SECTION SEVEN: ACTION PLANNING

Mitigating Actions: If you have identified impacts on protected characteristic groups in Section 5 please summarise these in the table below detailing the actions you are taking to mitigate or support this impact. If you are not taking any action to support or mitigate the impact you should complete the No Mitigating Actions section below instead.

Identified Impact	To Who	Action(s)	Lead Officer	Evaluation and Review Date	Strategic Reference to Corporate Plan / Service Plan / Quality Outcomes
Removal of textile & small weee Kerbside Service	Disability characteristic	<p>Textile and WEEE collection will no longer be provided from the kerbside. This may adversely affect individuals that are unable or may struggle to recycle their WEEE and textiles via alternative means due to a disability.</p> <p>Should individual residents with protected characteristics have issues that are not addressed by these mitigations then officers would commit to working with them to find sustainable solutions.</p>	Barry Neill	21/09/2023	Council Plan Priority - Supporting a thriving economy and green transition.
Removal of textile & small weee Kerbside Service	Disability characteristic	The service will undertake to review and increase website information to maximize information surrounding reuse and recycling opportunities for textiles and small WEEE and will seek to enhance local reuse opportunities via donation and redistribution (via both and 3rd sector opportunity) to support local residents in greatest need.	Barry Neill	21/09/2023	Council Plan Priority - Supporting a thriving economy and green transition.

Identified Impact	To Who	Action(s)	Lead Officer	Evaluation and Review Date	Strategic Reference to Corporate Plan / Service Plan / Quality Outcomes

No Mitigating Actions

Please explain why you do not need to take any action to mitigate or support the impact of your proposals.

Are actions being reported to Members?	Yes
If yes when and how ?	October Executive 2023

SECTION EIGHT: ASSESSMENT OUTCOME

Only one of following statements best matches your assessment of this proposal / policy / project. Please select one and provide your reasons.

No major change required	No	
The proposal has to be adjusted to reduce impact on protected characteristic groups	No	
Continue with the proposal but it is not possible to remove all the risk to protected characteristic groups	Yes	Textiles and small WEEE collections will no longer be provided from the kerbside. This may adversely affect individuals that are unable or who may struggle to recycle their WEEE and textiles via alternative means, or who have limited opportunity to utilize social media or websites to maximize recycling / reuse opportunities. Falkirk Council has an existing comprehensive network of local Recycling Points, with the Council's Waste Service committed to improving and enhancing this provision across the authority area. Should individual residents with protected characteristics have issues that are not addressed by the identified mitigations then officers would commit to working with them to find sustainable solutions.
Stop the proposal as it is potentially in breach of equality legislation	No	

SECTION NINE: LEAD OFFICER SIGN OFF

Lead Officer:

Signature:		Date:	21/09/2023
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SECTION TEN: EPIA TASK GROUP ONLY

OVERALL ASSESSMENT OF EPIA: Has the EPIA demonstrated the use of data, appropriate engagement, identified mitigating actions as well as ownership and appropriate review of actions to confidently demonstrate compliance with the general and public sector equality duties?		Yes
ASSESSMENT FINDINGS If YES, use this box to highlight evidence in support of the assessment of the EPIA If NO, use this box to highlight actions needed to improve the EPIA	It has been evidenced that the proposed change in service reflects the national policy direction. Whilst specific demographic data has not been relied upon, the services being withdrawn are universally delivered across the area to all households. Best judgement of professional officers has been used to anticipate potential negative impacts.	
Where adverse impact on diverse communities has been identified and it is intended to continue with the proposal / policy / project, has justification for continuing <u>without making changes been made</u> ?	Yes	If YES, please describe: Appropriate mitigations have been identified to support residents who may be disproportionately affected by the change.

LEVEL OF IMPACT: The EPIA Task Group has agreed the following level of impact on the protected characteristic groups highlighted within the EPIA		
LEVEL		COMMENTS
HIGH	Yes / No	
MEDIUM	Yes	Medium impact. Appropriate mitigations have been identified however it is not possible to remove all risk.
LOW	Yes / No	

SECTION ELEVEN: CHIEF OFFICER SIGN OFF

Director / Head of Service:			
Signature:		Date:	22/09/2023