

Appendix E – Public consultation results summary

Public consultation – overall findings

Extensive public consultation was undertaken for 12 weeks in Spring 2022.

The results of the survey were analysed and the key conclusions were:

- The proposed vision and strategy resonate with residents
- The understanding of the relationship between waste and climate change is limited.
- Residents are enthusiastic about greater engagement in reducing waste and increasing recycling and recognise they have a key role to play (community initiatives and collective action).
- Communications and engagement activities need to be developed bearing in mind learning from behavioural science, and addressing the environmental, personal and social factors that can affect behaviour.

The key themes, issues, and considerations are:

- Tackling fly tipping - an area of concern for residents.
- Putting pressure on producers – residents would like to see producers take more responsibility and use recyclable packaging for their goods.
- Increased access to sustainable activities – recognition of these to be accessible and affordable for all, especially waste prevention and reuse.
- Engagement and encouragement – respondents like to be kept informed and suggested potential for incentives for rewarding positive behaviours.
- Educating residents - suggested that efforts need to be made to encourage understanding the issue of waste and its relationship to climate change.
- Concerns with food waste collections - respondents were generally positive on the introduction of food waste collections (65% saw no barriers to using a food waste collection) but there were concerns raised of how it works in practice e.g. smells and hygiene.
- Expanding kerbside recycling - to reduce the amount of residual waste, respondents were keen for the introduction of a wider variety of materials collected at the kerbside.
- Accessibility of garden waste collections – residents were generally satisfied with the service but a reoccurring theme was accessibility to this service and charging.
- Restricted residual waste collection and household size – residents from larger households raised concerns on restricted residual waste. Overall the option of a fortnightly collection with a smaller size bin was more favourable (39%) than a three weekly collection with a current size bin (16%).
- Improving Household Waste and Recycling Sites (HWRCs) - levels of satisfaction with HWRCs were high although some respondents did raise concerns regarding short opening hours, too few HWRC sites and inaccessibility