

Council Motion: Increasing our recycling offer to residents

Proposer: Cllr Andy Briggs

Seconder: Cllr Imogen Payter

Introduction:

As a Council we want to help support our residents increase the amount they can recycle.

Currently there are no realistic ways for residents to recycle pots, tubs and trays, so called "hard recycling". This is because the facilities provided by Hampshire County Council which handles all of the Borough's recycling cannot process such polymers. However, we want residents to aspire to recycle more types of plastics.

Other Councils have introduced plastic recycling banks, directly for hard plastics that cannot be collected in the kerbside collection.

Meanwhile, five million disposable vapes are thrown away each week and research shows that 700 fires in bin lorries and recycling centres nationally were caused by batteries that had been dumped into general waste. The proper recycling of disposable vapes could be used to power batteries and have been proven to be successfully made into power banks in Ukraine.

There are currently 14 drop-off points for vapes in the Borough, mostly in Co-Op and Tesco stores.

We are asking the Cabinet to investigate ways of improving the recycling offer provided for our residents.

Therefore, we are requesting Council asks Cabinet to:

1. Consider a policy of installing plastic recycling banks in the Borough.
2. Work with Hampshire County Council to deliver a solution for kerbside hard plastics.
3. Investigate the feasibility of setting up collection boxes for used single-use vapes in controlled Council locations and encourage more shops in the Borough to install vape disposal points.
4. Ask Hampshire County Council and the Vape industry to explore innovative recycling methods for single-use and illicit vapes, such as donating to Ukraine.