

Call-in Request - 27 June 2013

We, the under-signed, hereby request that the Scrutiny Committee review the decision made on 20 June 2013 by the Cabinet member for commercial services, Cllr Reg Waite, that the Council should remove its co-mingled recycling containers, as we believe the decision did not fully follow these key principles:

(a) proportionality – i.e. the action must be proportionate to the desired outcome

(b) due consultation and the taking of professional advice from officers

(c) clarity of aims and desired outcomes

(d) an explanation of the options that were considered before a decision was taken, and the reasons for that decision

(e) the social, economic and environmental well-being of the community .

We note that there is evidence that the some of the sites are being misused, but are concerned that:

a) the same "solution" of removal is being applied to all sites regardless of the level of contamination being found

b) the decision actually ignores the fact that the majority of respondents opposed the removal of the sites

c) the presumed cost savings do not justify the degree of inconvenience that will be experienced by Vale residents

d) no alternative methods of operating the sites were considered - for example pro-active monitoring, enforcement or education of public

e) many residents are not aware that they can put out "extra" recycling next to their green bins - consequently we suspect that many current users of the "bring sites" will either put surplus recycling in their landfall waste bins, or may resort to fly-tipping.

Cllr Richard Webber, Cllr Tony de Vere, Cllr Julie Mayhew-Archer, Cllr Debby Hallett and Cllr Jim Halliday