

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMUNITY SAFETY & WASTE MANAGEMENT CABINET PANEL MONDAY, 10 FEBRUARY 2020 AT 10.00AM



WASTE MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE REPORT

Report of the Director of Environment & Infrastructure

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Executive Member: Terry Hone, Community Safety & Waste Management

1. Purpose of report

1.1 To present Members of the Cabinet Panel with the latest published position for waste management performance.

2. Summary

2.1 Under Section 30(2)(a) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990, the Council is required to perform the statutory function of the Waste Disposal Authority for Hertfordshire.

2.2 Each year Defra release the Local Authority Collected Waste Statistics, compiled from the data entered by local authorities onto the national database 'WasteDataFlow' in England each quarter. The official figures for 2018/19 were released by Defra in late November 2019.

2.3 This report looks at information published in this Defra dataset and provides some benchmarking against other authorities in the region. The report also provides the latest available information on Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) performance.

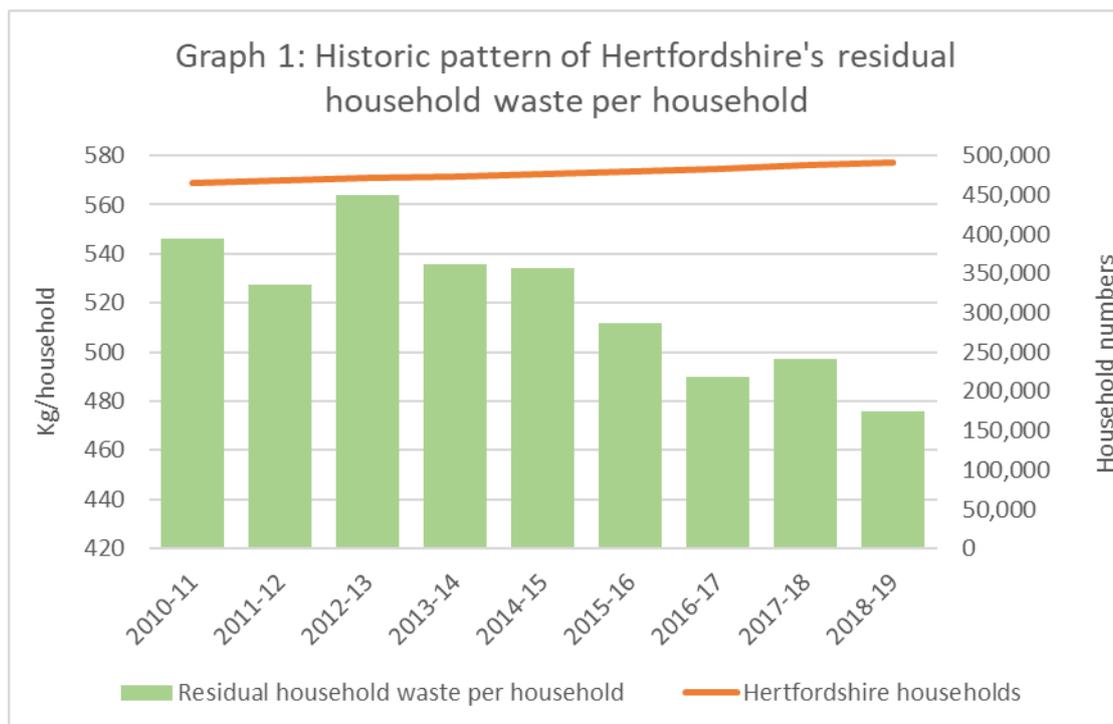
3. Recommendation

3.1 That the Cabinet Panel note the waste performance indicators.

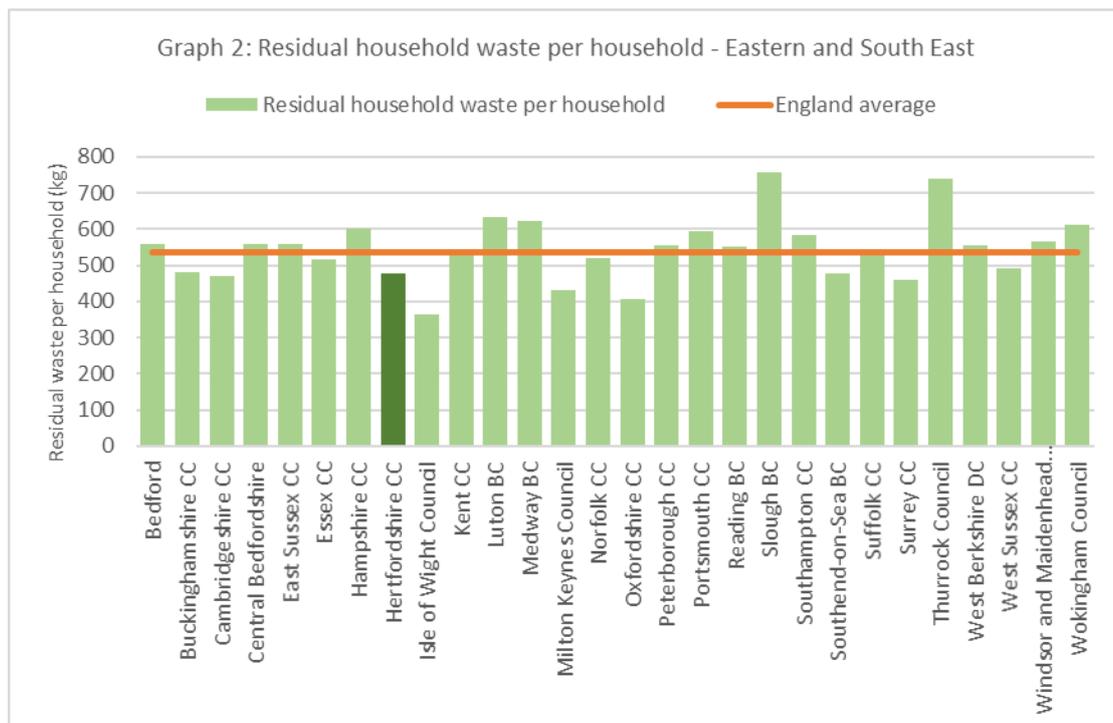
4. Waste Disposal Authority performance

4.1 Hertfordshire has seen a decline in household residual waste per household from 497kg per household in 2017/18 to 476kg per household in 2018/19.

4.2 It is possible that the reduction in residual waste is a result of the increase in the amount of material recycled and composted, but also an increased awareness of the impacts of waste on our Environment in general.

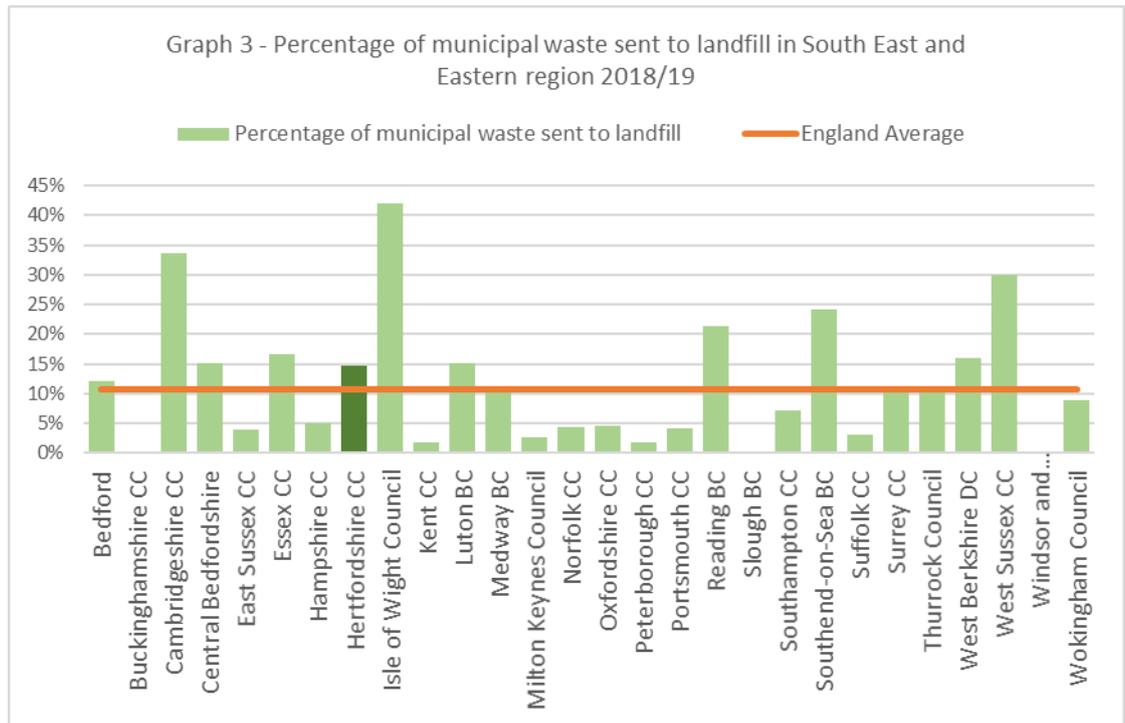


4.3 The average for England is 537kg, graph 2 highlights how Hertfordshire performed last year compared to other authorities in the Eastern and South Eastern region.

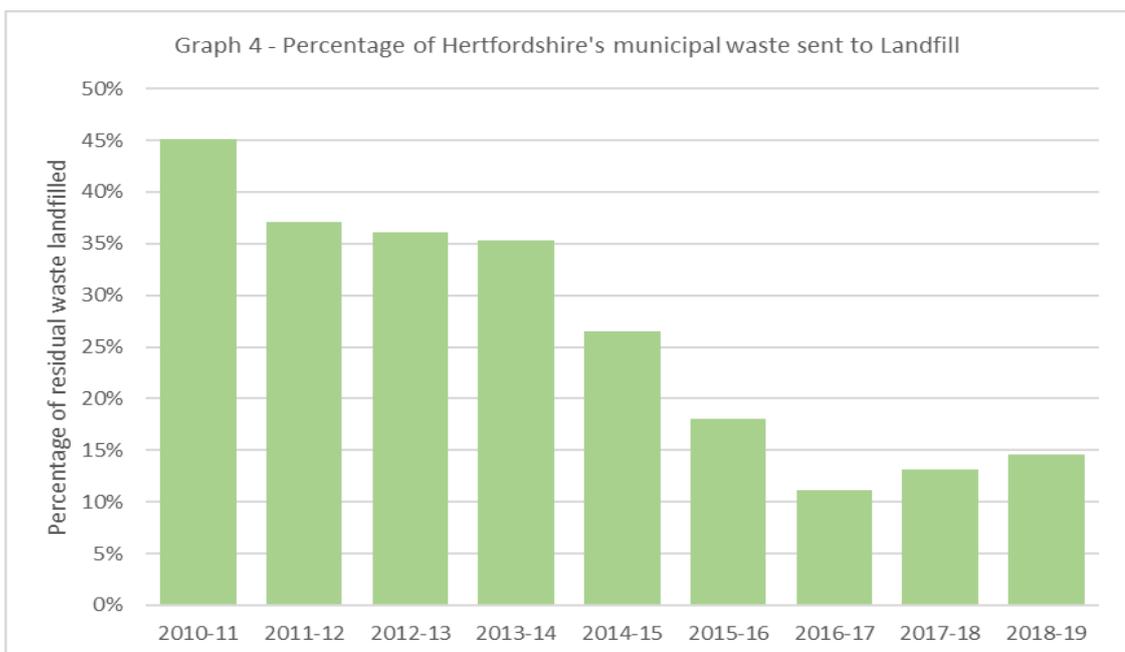


4.4 The dataset release by Defra includes data on the percentage of municipal waste (all waste managed) sent to landfill. The average for England is 10.8%, Hertfordshire sends a higher volume than the England average to landfill at 14.6%.

4.5 Graph 3 shows the differences in authorities in the South East and Eastern regions, authorities that have their own residual waste treatment facilities have a far lower percentage of municipal waste being sent to landfill.



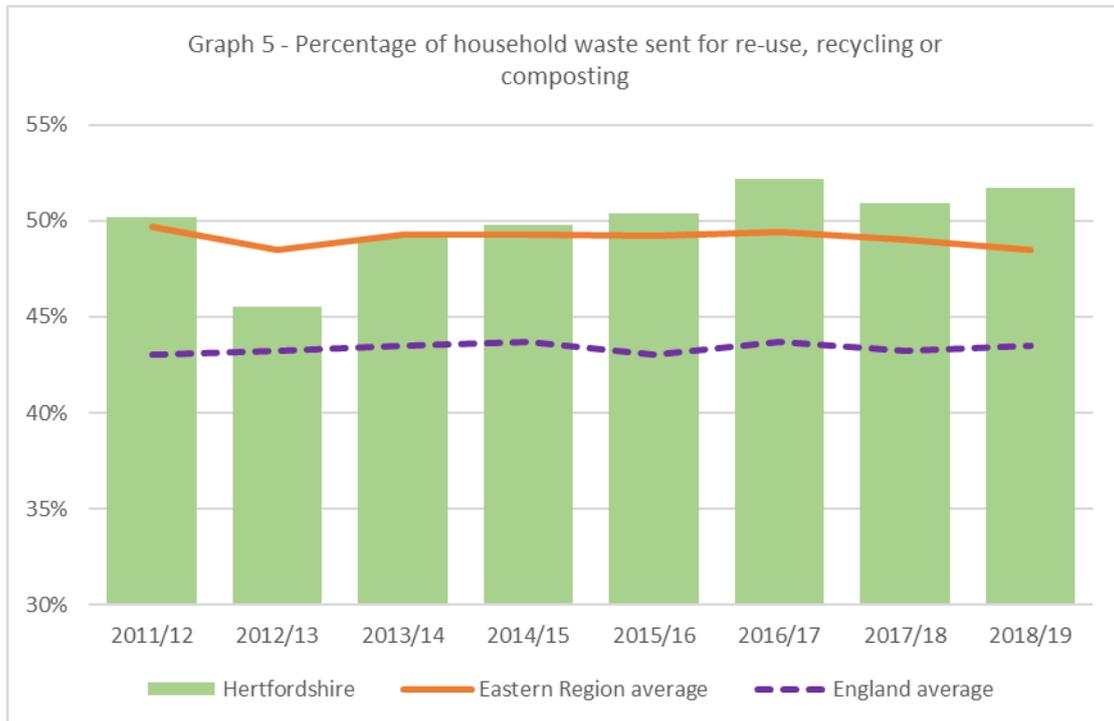
4.6 Within Hertfordshire despite a decrease in the volume of residual waste produced there has been an increase in the percentage of municipal residual waste being sent to landfill for the second year in a row, from 13.1% in 2017/18 to 14.6% in 2018/19.



4.7 Hertfordshire has a number of different residual waste disposal contracts in place for the use of a combination of different energy recovery facilities and landfill sites. In times of unavailability or 'down-time' at the energy recovery

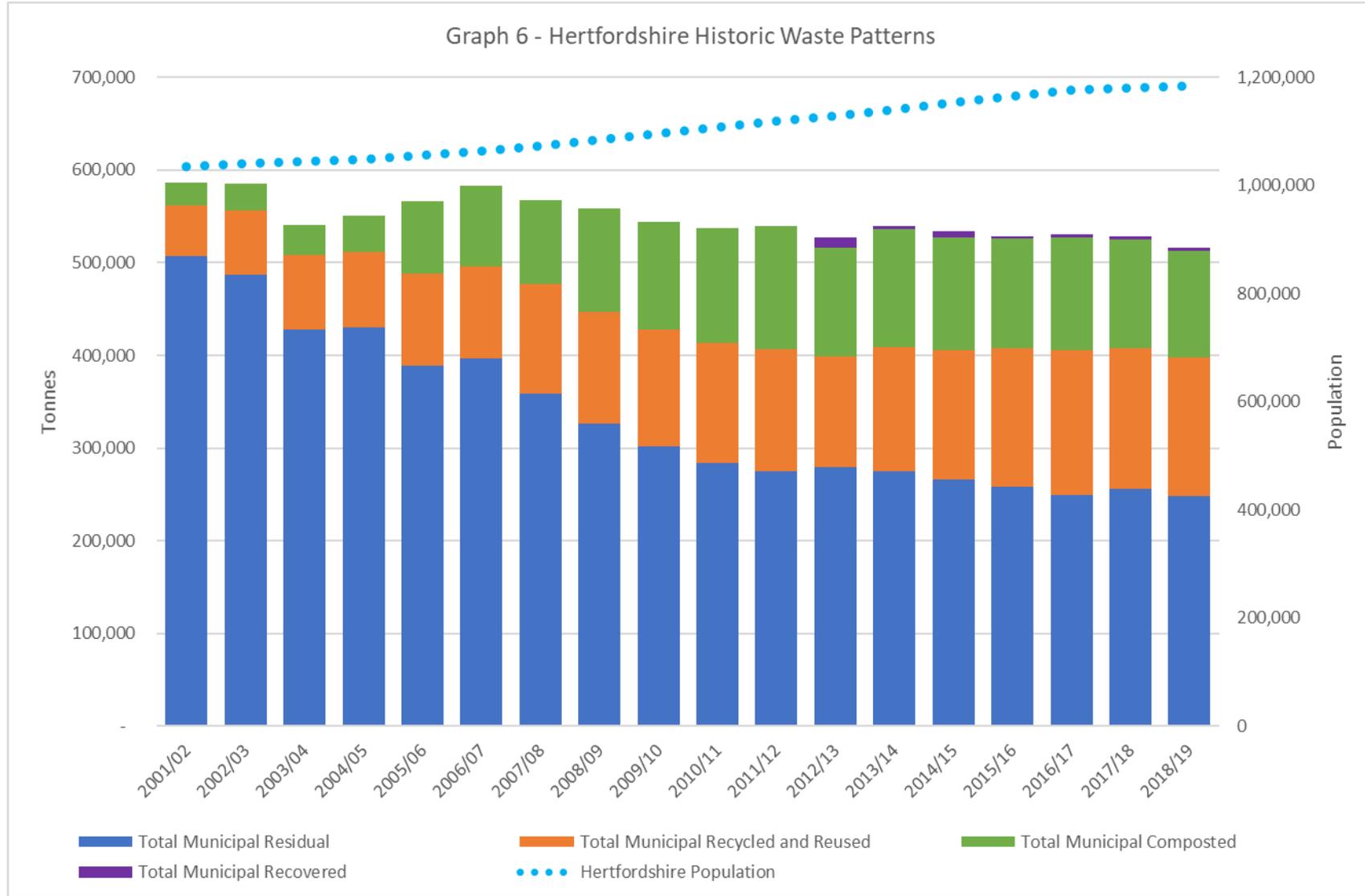
facilities waste needs to be directed to alternative disposal sites, often landfill sites.

- 4.8 The official published rate for the percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting for Hertfordshire is 51.7% for 2018/19. This is an increase from 50.9% in 2017/18.
- 4.9 The Eastern region average is 48.5%, average for England is 43.5%. The Eastern region as a whole saw a decline in the reuse, recycling and composting rate from 49% to 48.5%.
- 4.10 Eight out of ten Waste Collection Authorities (WCAs) in Hertfordshire recorded an increase in their overall recycling rate.
- 4.11 The performance rate remains above the target of 50%, it is likely that the Resources and Waste Strategy will adopt new targets to increase the level of recycling, composting and re-use set at 65% of municipal waste. Hertfordshire County Council's current recycling rate for municipal waste is 50.7%.



- 4.12 The increase in population growth is compared to the amount of waste produced in graph 6. This graph is updated annually and highlights how, historically, the level of total waste, has not increased in line with an increase in population.
- 4.13 2018/19 saw a decrease in the total volume of waste produced from the previous year, a decrease of 2.3% despite an increase in population. Residual waste volumes saw the largest decrease with a drop of 3.2%.

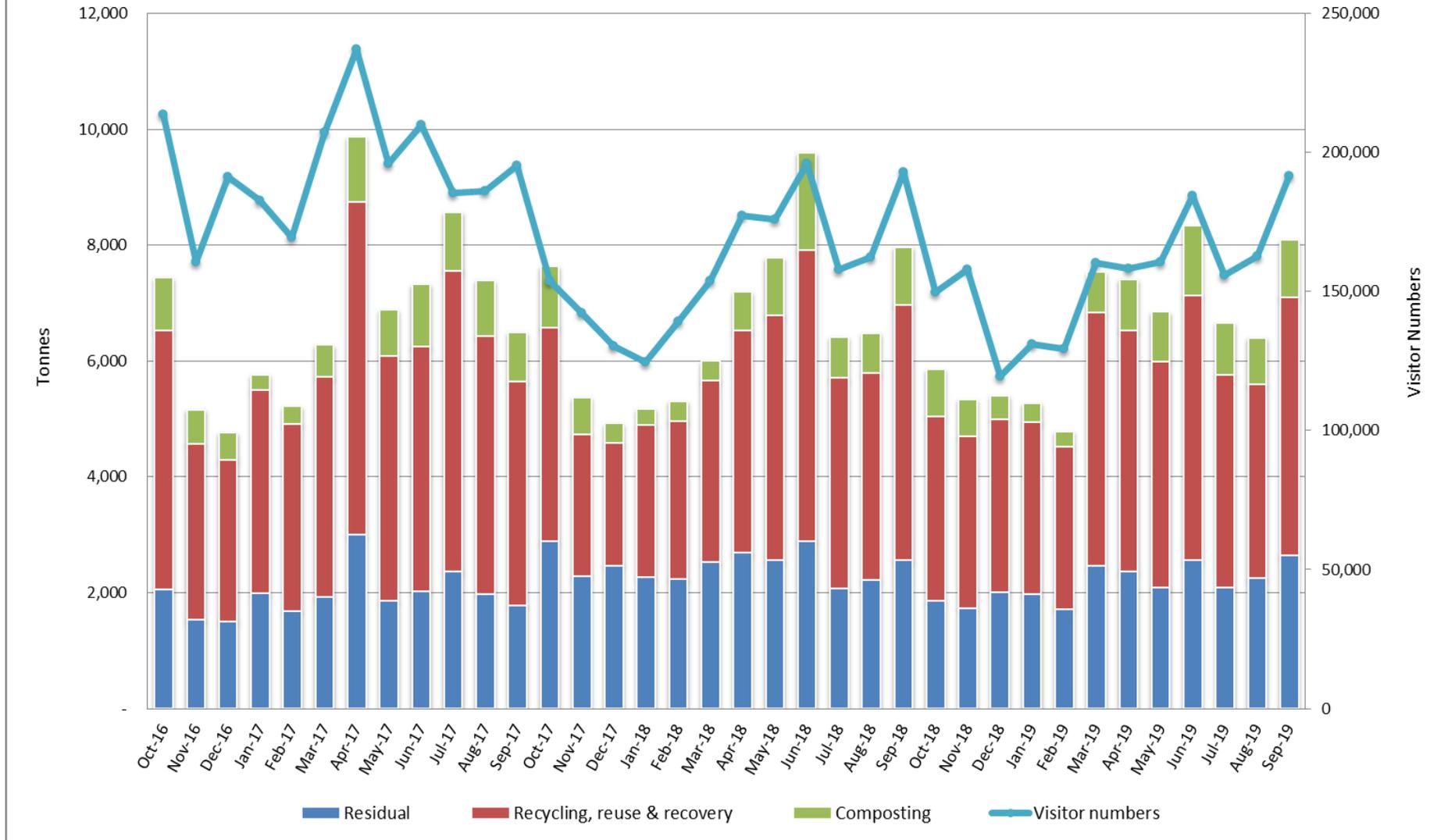
Graph 6 - Hertfordshire Historic Waste Patterns



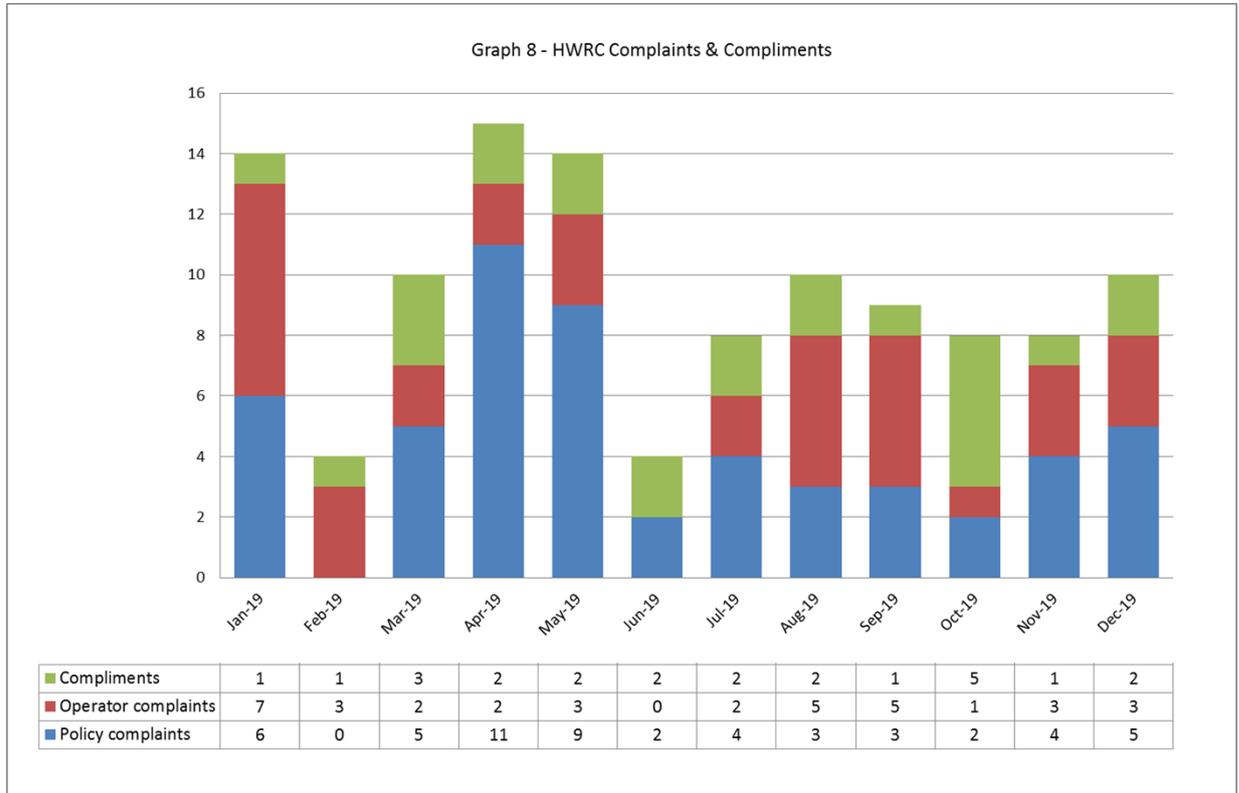
5. Hertfordshire Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) Service indicators

- 5.1 Graph 7 highlights the monthly visitor numbers to all HWRCs compared to the type of waste deposited on site. This highlights that in general terms, tonnages increase/decrease in line with visitor numbers, peak periods for both visitor numbers and tonnage continue to be spring and summer each year which corresponds to the bank holidays, spring cleaning and the peak growing season.
- 5.2 In terms of kg per person, residual waste at the HWRCs is relatively constant throughout the year at approximately 14 kg per visit. Composting varies between 3.5 kg per visit during the winter months and 5.5 kg per visit during the spring/early summer in line with the growing season.

Graph 7 - HWRC Visitor and Tonnage Patterns



5.3 The number of complaints and compliments received are shown in graph 8 below. The complaints shown are the number of complaints recorded which require a formal response by the contractor or council. Complaints are broken down between policy complaints (e.g. opening hours or the van permit policy) and operational complaints (e.g. staff attitude), although in practice a number of operational complaints often stem from initial issues with policy.



Sep 19: Most complaints related to staff attitude. Compliment received for helpful staff at Letchworth HWRC.

Oct 19: Most complaints related to the construction & demolition policy. Compliments received for helpful staff at Hoddesdon and Hemel Hempstead HWRCs

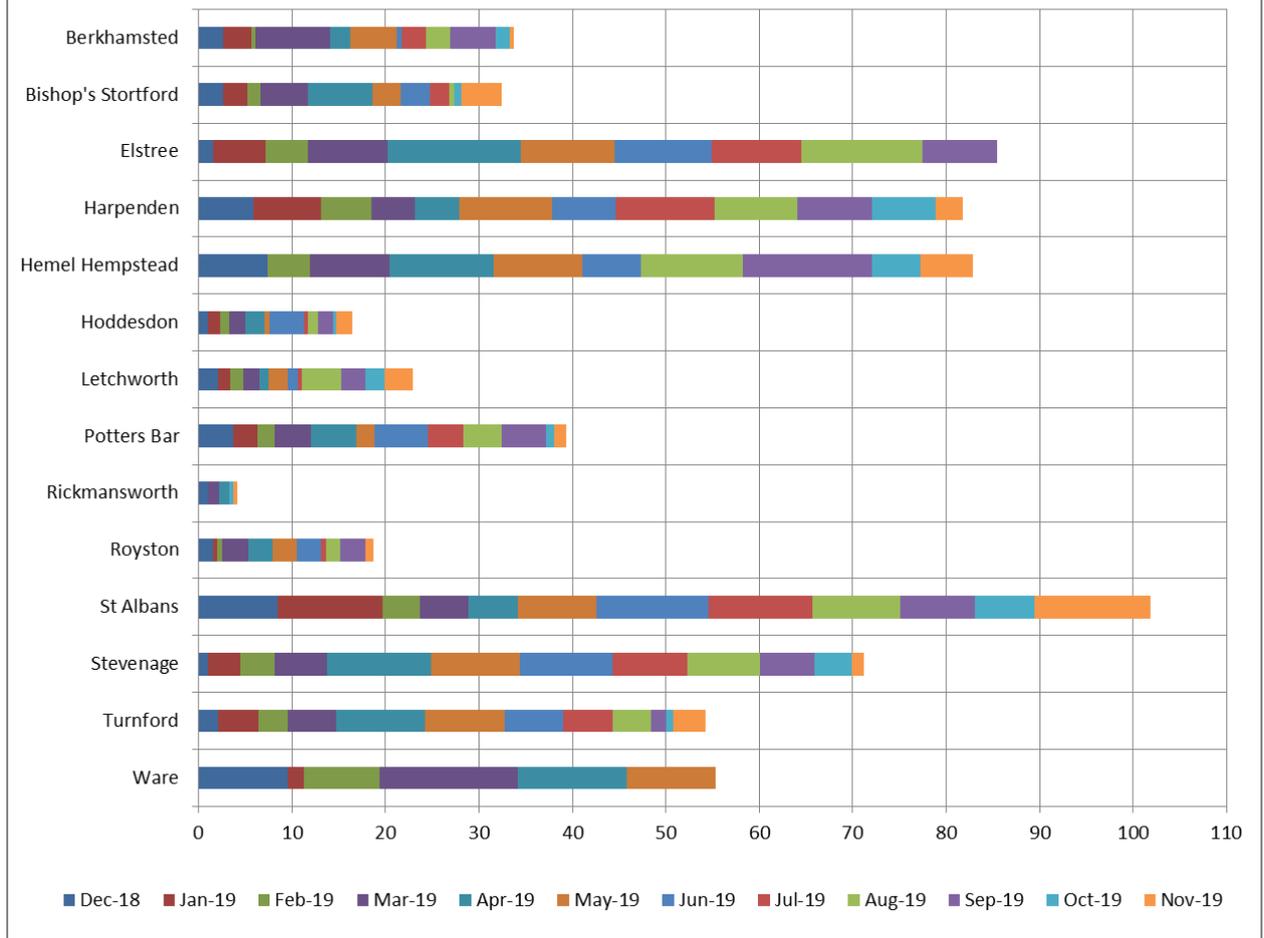
Nov 19: Most complaints related to staff attitude. Compliment received for helpful staff at Stevenage HWRC.

Dec 19: Most complaints related to the construction & demolition policy. Compliments received for helpful staff at Waterdale and Turnford HWRCs

5.4 The number of unscheduled closures at the Household Waste Recycling Centres highlights where HWRCs have closed temporarily during opening hours for servicing indicating where usage exceeds capacity. Data is captured through the ANPR camera system.

5.5 The graph below shows the number of hours lost per month through unscheduled closures for those HWRCs where ANPR is installed.

Graph 9 - HWRCs Unscheduled Closures: No. of hours lost per month



5.6 The sites at Elstree, Harpenden and St Albans are required to be serviced during the day due to planning conditions and subsequently need to be closed more frequently.

5.7 It should be noted that the Ware HWRC closed in May 2019, the new super site at Ware has been designed to allow servicing of both the upper and lower areas to take place during opening hours without disruption to the site. Where possible this design will be replicated for any other new sites.

5.8 Hemel Hempstead is a particularly busy and constrained site and so experiences a high number of closures.

6. Hertfordshire Waste Partnership (HWP) Indicators

6.1 The waste management unit collates and validates the data that is used to provide information to the HWP. Figure 1 shows an overview of performance broken down into individual Waste Collection Authorities and the HWRCs (Hertfordshire County Council).

Figure 1 Overview of performance broken down into individual WCAs and Herts CC (HWRCs)

Broxbourne			
	2017/18	2018/19	Change
Dry Recycling & Reuse	7,762	7,545	-217
Composting	7,640	7,240	-400
Residual waste	21,495	20,591	-894
Totals	36,897	35,376	-1,511
Overall Recycling Rate	41.8%	41.8%	0.04%

Dacorum			
	2017/18	2018/19	Change
Dry Recycling & Reuse	13,664	13,763	99
Composting	15,417	14,706	-711
Residual waste	26,270	26,010	-260
Totals	55,351	54,479	-872
Overall Recycling Rate	52.5%	52.3%	-0.3%

East Herts			
	2017/18	2018/19	Change
Dry Recycling & Reuse	12,178	12,904	726
Composting	14,852	14,160	-692
Residual waste	28,278	27,704	-574
Totals	55,308	54,768	-540
Overall Recycling Rate	48.9%	49.4%	0.5%

Hertsmere			
	2017/18	2018/19	Change
Dry Recycling & Reuse	7,746	7,700	-46
Composting	9,100	8,876	-224
Residual waste	21,792	20,858	-934
Totals	38,638	37,434	-1,204
Overall Recycling Rate	43.6%	44.3%	0.7%

North Herts			
	2017/18	2018/19	Change
Dry Recycling & Reuse	12,442	11,992	-450
Composting	16,044	14,266	-1,778
Residual waste	21,038	19,984	-1,054
Totals	49,524	46,241	-3,283
Overall Recycling Rate	57.5%	56.8%	-0.7%

St Albans			
	2017/18	2018/19	Change
Dry Recycling & Reuse	13,587	14,116	529
Composting	17,219	17,366	147
Residual waste	21,038	19,232	-1,806
Totals	51,844	50,714	-1,130
Overall Recycling Rate	59.4%	62.1%	2.7%

Stevenage			
	2017/18	2018/19	Change
Dry Recycling & Reuse	5,926	6,054	128
Composting	6,122	6,286	164
Residual waste	19,405	18,531	-874
Totals	31,453	30,871	-582
Overall Recycling Rate	38.3%	40.0%	1.7%

Three Rivers			
	2017/18	2018/19	Change
Dry Recycling & Reuse	10,446	9,865	-581
Composting	10,578	10,619	41
Residual waste	12,648	12,046	-602
Totals	33,672	32,530	-1,142
Overall Recycling Rate	62.4%	63.0%	0.5%

Watford			
	2017/18	2018/19	Change
Dry Recycling & Reuse	8,122	7,981	-141
Composting	6,469	6,475	6
Residual waste	18,319	17,578	-741
Totals	32,910	32,035	-875
Overall Recycling Rate	44.3%	45.1%	0.8%

Welwyn Hatfield			
	2017/18	2018/19	Change
Dry Recycling & Reuse	9,189	9,296	107
Composting	7,184	8,214	1,030
Residual waste	21,332	21,037	-295
Totals	37,705	38,547	842
Overall Recycling Rate	43.4%	45.4%	2.0%

Hertfordshire County Council			
	2017/18	2018/19	Change
Dry Recycling & Reuse	31,475	32,361	886
Composting	8,098	8,021	-77
Residual waste	30,672	29,839	-833
Totals	70,245	70,221	-24
Overall Recycling Rate	56.3%	57.5%	1.2%

7. Legal implications

7.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

8. Financial implications

8.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

9. Equalities implications

9.1 When considering proposals placed before Members it is important that they are fully aware of and have themselves rigorously considered the equalities implications of the decision that they are taking.

9.2 Rigorous consideration will ensure that proper appreciation of any potential impact of that decision on the County Council's statutory obligations under the Public Sector Equality Duty. As a minimum this requires decision makers to read and carefully consider the content of any Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) produced by officers.

9.3 The Equality Act 2010 requires the Council when exercising its functions to have due regard to the need to (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited under the Act; (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it and (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it. The protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010 are age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion and belief, sex and sexual orientation.

9.4 No EqIA was undertaken in relation to this report.