Date: 12 November 2026

Time: 18:00 – 19:00

Location: online Teams meeting

Attendees

Heidi Field (Huntingdonshire District Council)
Auriane Cirasuolo (Huntingdonshire District Council)
Oana Hughineata (Huntingdonshire District Council)
Karen Valderrama Guerra (Huntingdonshire District Council)
Harriet Robinson (Huntingdonshire District Council)
Cllr Nathan Hunt
Cllr Alex Bulat
Cllr Ann Blackwell
Cllr Debbie Mickelburgh
Richard F.
Mary G.
Chris J.
Sharon
Liz L.
Caroline P.
Nicola H.
Janice F.
Pete T.
Penny C.

Apologies

Cllr Stephen Ferguson
Rebecca M.
Jan

1. **Welcome and Introduction**

The meeting opened with a welcome and introduction from the Waste Minimisation Team.

2. **Waste trends and general updates**

The Waste Minimisation Team provided an update on current waste trends and performance. Key points included:

- In October, we collected approximately 27.5kg of non-recyclable waste from each household, which is 6kg less than last year.
- Total recycling (blue bin, garden waste, and food waste) reached over 5,000 tonnes in October, representing a 54.49% rate.

The team noted a positive correlation between increased food waste collection and reduced residual waste in grey bins.

3. Garden Waste

The team discussed garden waste as a non-statutory service and its subscription model.

- Garden waste reported 51,432 total subscriptions in the year to date, noting an annual increase.
- The Early Bird Discount is ending this year and renewals for 27/28 will now be at £57.50, with additional bins costing £30.
- Residents may share a single subscription across multiple properties if all bins are presented at the primary paying address, up to a maximum of four bins.
- 83% of councils charge for garden subscriptions; HDC is among the less expensive councils, ranking 135th out of 250 councils.

4. Current initiatives and projects

The team discussed various non-statutory initiatives:

- Textile banks managed via ASTCO, which is part of Textiles 2030, a sustainable UK textiles action plan.
- Partnered with Cambridge Fire and Rescue Services to mitigate fire risks from lithium-ion batteries.
- For waste prevention, offers include discounts on reusable nappies (10–25%, found at **huntingdonshire.gov.uk/realnappies**) and Moon Cup products (£5 including delivery, found at **https://wearemooncup.com/pages/recap**).

The team also highlighted ongoing communication projects:

- New collection guides and stickers have been designed and ordered.
- New grey domestic bins will feature “no food waste” embossed on the lid.

- Followers on social media have increased to 6000 people, the equivalent of 1 in 13 households. A single post about pumpkin disposal reached almost 13,000 people.
- Targeted communications using letters and bin hangers have been sent to residents.

HDC's Christmas campaign is beginning:

- Bin hangers are being distributed, featuring the adjusted schedule.
- Recycle your real Christmas tree with East Anglia's Children's Hospices here: just-helping.org.uk/register-tree

5. Q&A and open discussion

There was discussion about facilitating site visits to waste transfer stations, a request for the implementing of blister pack recycling banks and supporting projects involving water butt distribution.

Poll to suggest future meeting topics: forms.cloud.microsoft/e/peRGgzNJsV

6. Upcoming events

REPAIR CAFÉS

Coneygear Repair Café, Huntingdon – Friday 13 November, 1:00pm – 4:00pm

Cambridge Room Repair Café – Saturday 21 November, 9:00am – 12:00pm

REMO Repair Café, March – Saturday 21 November, 12:00pm – 3:00pm

Littleport Repair Café + xmas market – Saturday 28 November, 2:00pm – 5:00pm

Cambridge Room Repair Café – Saturday 5 December, 9:00am – 12:00pm

How to Run a Repair Café, online – Wednesday 27 January, 7:30pm – 9:00pm

+ and more at https://cambridgecarbonfootprint.org/repair-cafes/

OTHER EVENTS

Christmas waste campaign – running through December

December Eco Café, St Ives – Saturday 12 December, 10:00am – 12:00pm

Parish Forum – Thursday 26 November

Climate Conversation – Wednesday 10 February 2027

Contact: wasteminimisation@huntingdonshire.gov.uk