

Report on	Coalisland Recycling Centre – Waste Compactors
Date of Meeting	10 th March 2020
Reporting Officer	Mark McAdoo, Head of Environmental Services
Contact Officer	Mark McAdoo, Head of Environmental Services

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update members on recent operational changes at Coalisland Recycling Centre.
2.0	Background
2.1	At the previous Environment Committee meeting on 11 th February it was requested that a report be brought back to Committee on recent changes to the operation of waste compactors at Coalisland Recycling Centre following queries from members.
2.2	Coalisland Recycling Centre accepts approximately 2,000 tonnes of waste per year however it has the lowest recycling/segregation rate of all the eleven Recycling Centres in Mid Ulster (with a rate of only 43.2% compared to an average of 68.4%).
2.3	The site normally operates with one employee from Tuesday to Friday however an extra site attendant is on duty on Saturdays and Mondays when the site is busier.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Following a recent review of the safety procedures and systems relating to the operation of the static waste compactors at the site the lower doors of the four compactors have been secured closed for safety reasons as outlined below.
3.2	When in the open position, sensors on the doors were continuously being damaged whilst materials were being loaded into the compactors. These sensors are fitted to ensure the compactor does not operate whilst the door is in the open position and is an essential safety feature. <u>There was also a risk of injury if someone were to trip/fall into the compactor whilst the lower door was open which had to be addressed.</u>
3.3	The bottom compactor doors at other sites i.e. in Drumcoo and Fivemiletown either have solid panels or are locked so what has been implemented here is consistent.

3.4	However following consultation with site staff the padlocks on the compactor doors at Coalisland have been replaced with welded bolts so as to deflect criticism being directed towards the attendants i.e. from the impression they can open the doors.
3.5	The site has two bin lifts fitted for emptying black and blue bins into the respective compactors and site users are directed to these, assisted by site staff for items which cannot easily be deposited into the compactor over the lower doors. There are also spare bins on-site which site staff can use when assisting members of the public.
3.6	Furthermore in order to assist householders to deposit their garden waste into the compactors a quantity of garden waste sacks (200 No.) has been made available on site for distribution free of charge (this is being communicated by attached flyer)
3.7	Site staff will continue to advise householders with larger loads of garden waste that this material can be deposited more quickly at Drumcoo Recycling Centre in Dungannon if they find it difficult to deposit it into the compactors in Coalisland.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: None
	Human: None
	Risk Management: The action taken has addressed a significant health and safety risk on the site.
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: None
	Rural Needs Implications: None
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members are asked to note the contents of this report
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Photograph of waste compactor/doors
6.2	Flyer for garden waste sacks