

Report on	Changes to scheme for the collection and processing of WEEE
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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 changes to the scheme for the collection and processing of Waste Electronic and Electrical Equipment (WEEE) from Designated Collection Facilities (DCF).
2.0	Background
2.1	The WEEE Regulations (2006) places the responsibility for the disposal of WEEE on the manufacturers or distributors of such equipment. It requires that those companies establish an infrastructure for collecting WEEE, in such a way that private households should have the possibility of returning WEEE at no cost (either in store or by an alternative method).
2.2	The WEEE Directive saw the formation of National Producer Compliance Schemes (PCS) into which manufacturers and distributors paid an annual fee for the collection and recycling of WEEE from Designated Collection Facilities (DCF). It was determined that Local Authority household waste recycling centers would be used to establish a DCF network.
2.3	Last year 1219 tonnes of WEEE was collected via the Mid Ulster Recycling Centres /DCF which equates to 8.71 kg per head of population (above the Northern Ireland average).
3.0	Main Report
3.1	European Recycling Platform (ERP) UK Ltd has been the producer compliance scheme for all of Northern Ireland's Local Authorities since the Regulations came into force on 2 nd January 2007, under a succession of contracts. During this time, they have successfully collected and processed large domestic appliances (LDA), small domestic appliances (SDA), TVs and monitors (CRT), fridges and freezers (cold), fluorescent tubes (lamps) and batteries from all of our Recycling Centres free of charge (as per attached list)
3.2	However, there is currently an imbalance between the WEEE streams ERP UK's PCS membership is obligated for, and the volume of WEEE that ERP is collecting from the Council DCFs (Recycling Centres). The Display/CRT (TVs and monitors) stream being collected by ERP UK from Council DCFs is surplus to the obligations of its PCS membership. ERP UK is thus incurring the collection and processing costs for this stream despite not requiring this tonnage to meet the PCS membership obligations. The Council, however, requires all streams of WEEE be collected and processed from its DCFs regardless of whether ERP UK's PCS has demand for these streams or not.

3.3	A meeting was held with ERP representatives on 15 th December and it has affirmed that it remains committed to working with Mid Ulster District Council to collect <u>all</u> WEEE streams from Council's DCFs. However, in order to continue to do so in 2018, ERP requires flexibility to share the cost of collection of volumes of CRT they do not need with other PCSs directly. ERP UK proposes to do this through a government approved system known as the PBS (PCS Balancing System). The PBS was developed by PCSs with input from Defra and the Environmental Agencies and has now been operating successfully for over 15 months. Around 30 Local Authorities have had their WEEE collections managed through this approach which typically applies to only some streams.
3.4	Thus a written request has been made to ERP to place CRT volumes currently collected from Council DCFs into the PBS for the 2018 compliance year (from 1 January 2018). ERP will continue to collect the LDA, SDA, cold, lamps and batteries directly so these streams will not need to be placed in the PBS. There will be no operational changes to collections from Council's DCFs and therefore there will be no alteration to the service provided to residents using the WEEE recycling facilities at Council recycling centres.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial & Human Resources Implications Financial: WEEE is collected and processed (recycled) through the ERP PCS at no cost to Council. Human: None
4.2	Equality and Good Relations Implications N/A
4.3	Risk Management Implications Should the Council not commit to the PCS Balancing Scheme it would potentially have to contract with another PCS/contractor and incur a cost for the collection and processing of the Display/CRT WEEE (which could be very expensive as it contains hazardous waste).
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members are asked to note the changes to the scheme for the collection and processing of householder WEEE as outlined in this report.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Briefing Note of the Producer Compliance Scheme (PCS) Balancing Scheme
6.2	MUDC Display (CRT) WEEE stream information