

Using behavioural insights to reduce waste in Havering

A pilot to minimise residual waste

10 September 2019

OUR APPROACH



SCOPING STUDY: KEY FINDINGS



- LB Havering currently pays £130 per tonne to dispose of waste regardless of whether it is refuse or recycling.
- The aim of the project is to reduce total waste collected from households in high waste producing areas.



SCOPING STUDY

- What element of kerbside waste arisings to address?
- What section of the population to target?
- What intervention options?



KERBSIDE WASTE ARISINGS AND COSTS

- £73....the average annual disposal/treatment cost per household, of which, £17.50 comprises avoidable food waste.
- Other potential savings:
 - Diligent home composting £8 per per household/year
 - Disposable nappies £2.50 per household/year
 - Plastic film almost £3 per household/year
 - Textiles £1.40 per household/year



A PILOT TO MINIMISE RESIDUAL WASTE

THE CURRENT PICTURE IN HAVERING



Source: Yellow Advertiser



RESIDENT-LED WASTE MINIMISATION PILOT

Restrict the number of refuse bags that can be presented on collection day (two bags allowed for refuse, unlimited bags for recycling)

- Engage households in lead-up to and throughout intervention
- Nudge households through the provision of enough bags for the duration of the intervention (13 weeks = 26 bags)
- **Provide feedback** to households that present more than two bags on collection day.



TARGET ROUNDS

Ward name and collection round	Intervention version	No. of h'holds
Round A: L1 Heaton (Tues)	Restricted waste + basic comms	1,287
Round B: L10 Harold Wood (Tues)	Control for Round A	1,050
Round C: L2 Rainham & Wennington (Fri)	Restricted waste + basic comms + additional engagement	1,274
Round D: L13 Mawneys (Mon)	Control for Round C	1,381



CO-DESIGNED BY RESIDENTS









CO-DESIGN WORKSHOPS

- 16 residents (eight per intervention target round)
- Recruited to represent high waste households and demographic profile of Havering
- £125 cash incentive



CO-DESIGN WORKSHOPS

- Workshop 1: understanding the issues, priming participants deliberative approach.
- Diary task: Reflecting on sources of waste, key decision moments, opportunities and advice for others.
- Workshop 2: co-designing communications and engagement approaches.



PILOT DELIVERY

- Phase 1 (July to Sept): Workshops and diary task with local residents
- Phase Two (Sept to Oct): Design of communications and engagement approaches to be used in the intervention pilot
- Phase 3 (Nov, Dec and Jan): Intervention two bags trial



MONITORING & EVALUATION

Monitoring to include:

- waste tonnages (Serco)
- count of bags presented by each household (Serco)
- doorstep perceptions surveys during last month of intervention: 50 per target area – 100 in total (Keep Britain Tidy)
- group interviews with key LB Havering/Serco operative staff (Keep Britain Tidy)



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RESULTS TO DATE

PARTICIPANT PROFILE

- Mix of household sizes and composition, though almost half live with children U18
- All high waste households one household 10-12 bags per week
- Amount of waste generated in relation to household size was mixed – e.g. couple who generate four general waste bags p/w
- Mostly living in semi-detached and detached housing
- Majority own their home
- Mix of Mosaic profiles



KEY INSIGHTS FROM WORKSHOP 1

- Food waste and food packaging seen as the major contributors.
- Perceived lack of choice or options at purchase point.
- Key barriers to waste minimisation include:
 - Convenience
 - Higher cost of packaging-free options
 - Lack of knowledge around waste prevention techniques
 - Lack of storage for bulk-buying
 - Awareness of what can be recycled in the orange sacks
 - Limitations around what can be recycled in orange sacks.



KEY INSIGHTS FROM WORKSHOP 1

- Majority felt that it was important to reduce waste.
- Shock at amount of money spent on managing waste.
- Generally a positive response to the two bag trial most felt it was a good idea.
- Concern around what this would mean for larger households – felt this would be a key sticking point for other residents.



KEY INSIGHTS FROM WORKSHOP 2

- Diary challenge
- Further feedback on the two bag trial
- Intervention ideas and tips for other residents
- Communications ideas:
 - Communicating about the trial
 - Providing feedback to households
 - Christmas





- Phase Two (Sept to Oct): Design of communications and engagement approaches to be used in the intervention pilot.
- Phase 3 (Nov, Dec and Jan): Intervention two bag trial.



QUESTIONS?



