



Essex Recycling Partnership Monitoring Report



Essex Recycling Partnership

Quarter 3 – 2015-16

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Essex Recycling Partnership- Q3 2015/16 report

Summary

This report outlines the progress made by the Essex Recycling Partnership to achieve the project objectives and commitments made within the project bid submitted to the Department for Communities and Local Government in November 2014.

Contained herein is an evaluation of the outputs delivered following the third quarter of the scheme's implementation between October and December 2015. This report seeks to provide a comparative analysis of District-level performance, evaluating the data reported by the partnership against performance commitments made within the bid.

Quarter three has seen the official rollout of the scheme for the Partnership, so we are looking to see if there are any initial improvements in the targeted areas now more residents have the opportunity to recycle using the new systems. Feedback provided by partners presents us with an opportunity to identify any issues early in the scheme and put in place mitigations to solve them as early as possible.

Background to the scheme

In March 2015 a partnership of four Essex District Council's secured £896,468 of funding from the Department for Communities & Local Government (DCLG) to develop and implement "Recycling Reward Schemes" in Braintree District Council, Epping Forest District Council, Harlow District Council and Tendring District Council. These councils are working together as part of the coordinated scheme which will reward residents for reducing and recycling their waste.

The outcome for this partnership is to maximise participation, increase capture rates of recycled materials and enhance customer satisfaction. Over the lifetime of the project the scheme will be delivered to 114,500 properties and 97 schools through targeted education initiatives and an incentivised rewards scheme resulting in:

- 97 schools adopting weekly food recycling.
- 11,000 properties in flat blocks receiving a new recycling service.
- Total projected financial benefits of £396,757 over the course of the scheme.
- A projected total reduction in landfill waste of 9154 tonnes.

The four Districts' activities vary due to the different levels of service provided in each locale at the start of the scheme. However, all share the same aim of increasing and improving the volume and quality of recyclate collected in each district to remove total waste tonnage sent to landfill. At the start of the scheme Braintree District Council and Epping Forest District Council did not provide recycling schemes to flats, so the starting project in these authorities was to focus on providing the capital infrastructure required for commencement of a collection scheme in these localities.

In Tendring the authority already ran a recycling service for flats. The focus of their project is to replace the existing waste receptacles in flats with lockable units to reduce contamination of recycled materials. The authority also began to work with Braintree District Council to introduce a food waste service for schools and have received the capital infrastructure to support this.

Harlow Council already ran a successful recycling scheme in both schools and flats; the project in their area focuses on increasing community engagement and understanding of recycling. They will provide five highly visible Greenredeem kiosks in central locations within the district, to facilitate this educational activity and to reward residents for recycling on-the-go.

Quarter Objectives and Progress

The key focus of the third quarter of 2015/16 (October-December) for the four districts was;

- To begin initial roll-out of the scheme
- End of Phase two evaluation – create a lessons learnt report ready for the rollout of phase three in January 2016

Six key objectives were set to be met in quarter three (Q3) by the partnership and these were:

Objective	District
Roll-out of the Greenredeem kiosks	HDC
Roll-out of the scheme to the prioritised first 60 flat sites (20 per month)	BDC/EFDC/TDC
Roll-out of the scheme to the prioritised first 12 school sites	BDC/TDC
Carry out first Recycling Roadshows	BDC
Carry out a house-to-house awareness raising campaign with residents	BDC
End of phase evaluation - build lessons learned report for next phase roll-out	BDC/EFDC/HDC/TDC

Partner Specific Study:

Below is a breakdown of activities undertaken by Partners against the objectives set for Q3.

Braintree District Council

Braintree District Council (BDC) had five objectives in Q3; of these they addressed and achieved all five to varying degrees. Braintree has begun the rollout of the scheme to the prioritised flatted developments, however have not reached the 60 sites as outlined in their Q3 objectives. They have however achieved rollout to 28 of their prioritised sites which can still be viewed as substantial progress made. This rollout included delivery of the new recycling receptacles, explanatory leaflets and re-usable bags to residents.

Braintree has exceeded their objectives with the schools element of their scheme. Q3 required that the scheme be rolled out to the first 12 of their prioritised sites yet Braintree managed 20 in this period. This is a great accomplishment and when considering that Braintree had already rolled out the scheme to two schools as early as Q2, one can anticipate that the impact of these changes will be realised earlier than expected.

One objective that Braintree has deviated from in Q3 is their intention to carry out recycling roadshows to raise awareness of the scheme. Upon careful consideration it

was deemed that house-to-house canvassing would be more effective for their target areas and better help communicate the message to residents.

Braintree have also begun evaluating their progress through Q3, compiling lessons learnt and creating a detailed roll-out plan ready for the start of the next phase in January 2016.

Epping Forest District Council

The significant local issues experienced by Epping Forest District Council (EFDC) since Q1, and that continued into Q2 have alleviated slightly, although are still affecting data reporting. For Q3, Epping Forest had two objectives. Of these two, they have gone some way to achieve them, but due to the mitigating circumstances of the previous two quarters, additional tasks have been undertaken to try to get them back on schedule.

Of the planned 60 flat blocks targeted for this quarter, Epping Forest have managed the roll out of 25 food and garden waste containers to multi-occupancy properties, and four flatted developments now have recycling receptacles. Though considerably less than anticipated at this stage, Epping Forest have been working to more realistic goals set by the project team, having planned the rollout of 10 food and garden waste containers and placement of recycling receptacle to 6 flatted developments.

Additional objectives were also set by Epping Forest. They had planned the following;

- the printing of promotional posters and leaflets;
- to receive the reusable bags required for the scheme;
- the appointment of additional Waste Awareness Officers.

Upon the completion of Q3, the reusable bags are on order; the promotional materials are ready for distribution; and Epping Forest have job descriptions prepared, ready to be advertised. The lack of staff had been an initial concern and a key factor in slow delivery of the scheme; so this is a largely positive step.

Epping Forest is yet to compile their data for a lessons learnt report for this phase, though lessons learnt will be shared in the Q3 partnership meeting and subsequent reports drawn up.

Harlow District Council

Harlow's main objective for Q3 was to begin the rollout of their Greenredeem Kiosks. As previously reported, Harlow has been, and still is experiencing issues securing sites for the kiosks and delivering their part of the scheme.

There has however been some progress made in this quarter. The first site for a kiosk has been secured and this kiosk will be installed in the week commencing 15th February 2016 at Passmores Academy. Although at this stage no other sites have

been identified, Harlow are looking to undertake promotional work in other schools once this kiosk is operational in the hope that more schools may adopt the scheme.

In the instance that Harlow should not be able to secure further sites, they are already working on alternative plans to allow them to contribute to the partnership and deliver an equally beneficial scheme in Harlow.

Tendring District Council

Tendring District Council (TDC) was tasked with meeting three objectives.

As outlined in the Q2 report, Braintree had been at a more advanced stage than both Tendring and Epping Forest with regards to the procurement of recycling receptacles, and as such Tendring were forced to delay their tender process until this quarter. Upon the completion of Q3, Tendring have reported the delivery of specialised wheeled bins for flats with the desired apertures for paper and plastic. Due to the slight delay to this part of the scheme, understandably Tendring are below the rollout to 60 sites.

An area where Tendring have been particularly successful is the procurement and delivery of 65,000 caddy liners and associated promotional and educational leaflets. Tendring have produced a YouTube video detailing the new food waste scheme, educating the audience as how to use the new caddies and caddy liners.¹

Tendring have also experienced continued success with the food waste scheme at schools. Having rolled out to five schools ahead of schedule in Q2, they have rolled out the scheme to an additional 10 schools in Q3. They have therefore exceeded their original targets and it is hoped that this will continue through the scheme.

One area that was not addressed in their Q3 reporting was the gathering of lessons learnt for an end of phase evaluation, though the Q3 Partnership meeting will provide a useful forum for partners to share their experience from this quarter.

¹ Tendring District Council promotional video detailing caddy and caddy liner use
<http://www.tendringdc.gov.uk/rubbish-and-recycling/food-waste-caddy-liners-refuse-sacks-2016>

Performance Analysis

To monitor and evaluate whether the scheme has been a success in Q3 of 15/16, some key parameters have to be analysed, these are:

- Total households benefitting from the scheme
- Total Number of flats taking part in the scheme
- Total Number of Schools taking part in the scheme
- Total Number of Households with weekly residual waste collection
- Total households receiving a weekly food / organic waste collection
- Total Recyclate Collected in the District (t)
- District-Wide Recycling rate (%)
- Total Food Waste Collected (t)
- Total Dry Recyclate Collected (t)
- Total value of recyclate collected in District (£/t) (Dry only)
- Total contamination rate across district (t)
- Total tonnage of residual waste collected in the district.

Measuring these parameters helps to show whether the districts as a partnership are performing correctly and meeting their targets. The data can also show us whether each District is individually achieving their designated goals for each quarter.

Collated District figure analysis 2014/15 with trends

Year	14/15				15/16			
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Total recyclate collected in the District (t)	23995	23438	20066	18230	24532	22681	20301	18243
Recycling rate across District (%)	48.53	48.05	45.03	43.58	48.98	47.37	45.31	43.57
Total food waste collected (t)	7766	7256	5840	4765	7970	7009	5857	4785
Total dry waste collected (t)	11395	11751	11485	12064	11413	11594	11731	12014
Total contamination across district (t)	293	375	556	434	324	397	452	460
Total contamination across district (%)	2.5	2.4	3.7	2.9	2.5	2.8	3.1	3.0
Total residual waste to landfill/incineration (t)	23445	23637	23578	23516	23521	23567	23545	23532

Using the 14/15 data between Q1 and Q4 an estimate for Q2 in 15/16 has been forecasted. The results predict a decrease in this quarter in areas such as recyclate collection, food waste collection and recycling rate. Those that have showed an increase relate to the contamination rate which of course opposes the Partnership's aims set out in the bid and justifies the necessity of the scheme.

Comparison of 2014/15 & 2015/16 data

It is important to note that the data collection for this quarter has been affected significantly by the localised issues faced by partners since the implementation of the scheme.

The challenges faced by the change to the four day collection week experienced by Epping Forest have begun to subside, and efforts are being made to get back on course with their objectives in the scheme. Epping Forest has now been able to provide data for analysis, though it must be stressed that much of this data is close approximations, owing largely to the absence of staff in many of the reporting areas to deliver the information accurately. This will however help provide a clearer picture of the Partnership's performance to date.

As with the previous quarter, analysis has been completed on a partner-by-partner basis in addition to a partnership analysis in order to highlight how individual partners are performing and which part of the Recycling Rewards Scheme are performing well.

Although the accuracy of data is somewhat of a concern at this stage, partners have begun to rectify this in Q3 and are confident that they are in a position to deliver the information with more accuracy as they begin to overcome the challenges faced earlier in the scheme.

Partnership analysis:

	Q3 2014/15 actual	Q3 2015/16 actual	change from previous year	%Change
total number of households in the district	222488	223232	744	0.33
total households benefitting from the scheme	0	5465	N/A	N/A
*total number of flats in the district	N/A	21780	N/A	N/A
total number of flat blocks taking receiving a dry recycle collection	730	838	108	14.79
total number of flats taking part in the scheme	N/A	5465	N/A	N/A
total number of schools receiving a food waste collection	118	157	39	33.05
total number of households with weekly residual waste collection	84099	84416	317	0.38
total households receiving a weekly food/organic waste collection	207349	207136	-213	-0.10
Total Tonnage of residual waste collected in district (t)	23730	23298.33	-431.67	-1.82
total recycle collected in the district (t)	20159	20202.33	43.33	0.21
district-wide recycling rate (%)	46.75	45.50	-1.25	-2.67
total food waste collected (t)	5856.38	5734	-122.38	-2.09
total dry recycle collected (t)	11524.15	11360	-164.15	-1.42
total value of recycle collected in district (£/t) (Dry only)	699400.66	689438.4	-9962.26	-1.42
total contamination rate across district (t)	632.33	750.22	117.89	18.64
total number of rejected dry recycle bins (flats)	25	28	3	12
total number of rejected food waste bins (flats)	0	0	0	0

A Partnership analysis clearly shows that the impact of the scheme has yet to translate to positive trends in the data. This is however, expected at this stage of the scheme, as not all of the targeted demographics have been engaged.

It is noted that the figures have remained fairly consistent with the figures reported this time last year. The areas in which the scheme is targeting, such as, an increased dry recycle collection and a reduction of contaminated waste, are the most important areas to consider, and whilst the dry recycle collection has remained consistent with last year, the amount of contaminated waste collected has increased by 18.64%, with Braintree's reported increased largely contributing to this (see below).

What is clear though is that the information in this table is a fair reflection of the issues partners have faced since the commencement of the scheme. In this

instance, a truer reflection of the schemes early outputs can better be seen by looking at the Partner's individual performances below:

Braintree District Council

	Q3 2014/15 actual	Q3 2015/16 actual	Change from previous year	% Change
Total number of households in the District	62449	63124	675	1.08
Total Households benefitting from the scheme	N/A	4936	N/A	N/A
*Total Number of flats in the district	6194	6918	724	11.69
*Total Number of flats benefitting from the scheme	0	4936	N/A	N/A
Total Number of flat blocks receiving a food waste collection	0	0	0	N/A
Total Number of flat blocks receiving a dry recyclate collection	19	74	55	289.47
Total Number of schools receiving a food waste collection	0	24	N/A	N/A
Total Number of schools receiving a dry recyclate collection	53	53	0	0.00
Total Number of Households with weekly residual waste collection	6592	6918	326	4.95
Total households receiving a weekly food / organic waste collection	56681	56681	0	0.00
Total tonnage of residual waste collected in the district (t)	6585	6571	-14	-0.21
Total Recyclate Collected in the District (t)	6983	7197	214	3.06
Total Recycling rate in the District (%)	51.5	52.3	0.8	1.55
Total Food Waste Collected (t)	1106	1132	26	2.35
Total dry Recyclate Collected (t)	3378	3332	-46	-1.36
Total recyclate contamination rate across district (%)	1.9	2.9	1	52.63
Total contamination rate of recyclate across District (t)	131.6	211.5	79.9	60.71
Total Number of rejected dry recyclate bins (flats)	N/A	0	N/A	N/A
Total Number of rejected Food Waste bins (flats)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total Number of reject dry recyclate bins (schools)	N/A	0	N/A	N/A
Total Number of rejected Food Waste bins (schools)	N/A	0	N/A	N/A
Number of recycling receptacles procured & rolled out	N/A	44	44	N/A

* Both data collection criterias added for Q3 15/16 and thus data not available for Q2 15/16

As hoped the number of schools receiving a food waste collection has increased again in this quarter. This is largely due to Braintree exceeding expectations in regards to their delivery of the food waste scheme to schools.

Total tonnages for residual waste, recyclate collected, food waste collected and Braintree's recycling rate have remained fairly consistent with this time last year also. One can infer that the impact of the scheme has yet to be felt which is reasonable due to the infancy of the schemes rollout to the initial targeted flats and schools. Additionally, as Braintree did not meet its target of 60 flattened blocks for phase one, the scheme has yet to reach a wide enough audience to affect any notable change.

The figure of most note is the significantly increased contamination rate and tonnages reported in this quarter when compared to Q3 14/15. Braintree has reported a 60% increase from last year to 211.5t. At this stage it is hard to determine whether this is a one-off, as one would need to view this with the addition of next quarter's figures to see if a negative trend is developing.

Epping Forest District Council

	Q3 2014/15 actual	Q3 2015/16 actual	Change from previous year	% Change
Total number of households in the District	55226	55226	0	0
Total Households benefitting from the scheme	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
*Total number of flats in the district	N/A	8515	N/A	N/A
*Total number of flat benefitting from the scheme	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total Number of flat blocks receiving a food waste collection	99	119	20	20.20
Total Number of flat blocks receiving a dry recycle collection	419	423	4	0.95
Total Number of Households with weekly residual waste collection	1043	1015	-28	-2.68
Total households receiving a weekly food / organic waste collection	49205	49325	120	0.24
Total tonnage of residual waste collected in the district (t)	5418	5418	0	N/A
Total Recyclate Collected in the District (t)	7180	7180	0	N/A
Total Recycling rate in the District (%)	57	57	0	N/A
Total Food Waste Collected (t)	3474	3474	0	N/A
Total Dry Recyclate Collected (t)	3706	3706	0	N/A
Total recyclate contamination rate across district (%)	3.89	3.89	0	N/A
Total Number of reject dry recyclate bins (flats)	N/A	N/A	0	N/A
Total Number of rejected Food Waste bins (flats)	N/A	N/A	0	N/A
Number of recycling receptacles procured & rolled out	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

* Both data collection criterias added for Q3 15/16 and thus data not available for Q2 15/16

Waste collection reporting issues have again plagued Epping Forest in this quarter. Most of the tonnage figures reported are predictions based on information reported in Q3 14/15, and as such must be viewed within this context.

What we can see however, is that Epping Forest have made progress with rolling the scheme out to 20 flatted developments, which is an encouraging response to a difficult start to the scheme for them.

The second and third sections of the above table contain the same data as last year to provide a close approximation of their performance in this quarter. Epping Forest do not currently have officers in place to report much of this information, but it is hoped that upon their appointment to post, Epping Forest's reporting of contamination and delivery of this aspect of the scheme will have a marked effect on the recycling and residual waste collected in the district.

Harlow District Council

	Q3 2014/15 actual	Q3 2015/16 actual	Change from previous year	% Change
Total number of households in the District	36463	36532	69	0.19
Total households benefitting from the scheme	N/A	0	N/A	N/A
Total Number of Households with weekly residual waste collection	8114	8133	69	0.85
Total households receiving a weekly food / organic waste collection	36463	36130	-333	-0.91
Total tonnage of residual waste collected in the district (t)	3274	3318	44	1.34
Total Recyclate Collected in the District (t)	2875	2867	-8	-0.28
Total Recycling rate in the District (%)	44.67	46.01	1.34	N/A
Total Food Waste Collected (t)	791	773	-18	-2.28
Total Dry Recyclate Collected (t)	2032	2031	-1	-0.05
Total Contamination rate across District (t)	97	97	0	N/A
Total recyclate contamination rate across district (%)	5	5%	0	N/A
Number of recycling receptacles procured & rolled out	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of green redeem kiosks in operation	N/A	0	0	0
Total number of quarterly users	N/A	0	0	0
Total Tonnage connected	N/A	0	0	0

Harlow's figures are largely negligible again for this quarter. The percentage changes (both positive and negative) are minor and have not been influenced by the scheme as the first Greenredeem kiosk will not be rolled out until February 2016. It is however worth noting the 1.34% increase in the recycling rate in the district and one would hope to see this trend continue, aided by the education and incentives provided by the kiosks.

Tendring District Council

	Q3 2014/15 actual	Q3 2015/16 actual	Change from previous year	% Change
Total number of households in the District	68,350	68,350	0	0
Total Households benefitting from the scheme	0	529	0	0
*Total number of flats in the district	N/A	6347	0	0
*Total number of flats benefitting from the scheme	N/A	529	N/A	N/A
Total Number of flat blocks receiving a food waste collection	0	0	0	0
Total Number of flat blocks receiving a dry recyclate collection	292	341	49	16.78
Total Number of schools receiving a food waste collection	0	15	15	1500.00
Total Number of schools receiving a dry recyclate collection	65	65	0	0
Total Number of Households with weekly residual waste collection	68,350	68,350	0	0
Total households receiving a weekly food / organic waste collection	65,000	65,000	0	0
Total tonnage of residual waste collected in the district (t)	8453	7991.33	-461.67	-5.46
Total Recyclate Collected in the District (t)	3121	2958.83	-162.24	-5.20
Total Recycling rate in the District (%)	26.97	27.02	0.05	0.19
Total Food Waste Collected (t)	485.38	355.48	-129.90	-26.76
Total dry Recyclate Collected (t)	2408.15	2290.79	-117.36	-4.87
Total recyclate contamination rate across district (%)	3.85	5.22	1.37	35.71
Total contamination rate of recyclate across District (t)	116.53	154.52	38.00	32.61
Total Number of rejected dry recyclate bins (flats)	25	28	3	12.00
Total Number of rejected Food Waste bins (flats)	0	0	0	0
Total Number of reject dry recyclate bins (schools)	0	0	0	0
Total Number of rejected Food Waste bins (schools)	0	0	0	0
Number of recycling receptacles procured & rolled out	0	120	120	12000

* Both data collection criterias added for Q3 and thus data not available for Q2 15/16

Since Q3 2014/15, Tendring now have 49 flat blocks, totalling 529 flats participating in the scheme. These flats now receive a dry recyclate collection.

Significantly, 15 schools have now enrolled in the scheme and a total of 120 recycling receptacles have been procured and rolled out to flatted developments.

However contamination has increased by 38t. It is hoped that his trend will be curbed once the new lockable receptacles are more widely used in all identified flatted developments.

Comparison of Q2 15/16 and Q3 15/16 data

As Partners are making different contributions to the rewards scheme, comment can be made against their individual performances.

Braintree District Council

	Q2 2015/16 actual	Q3 2015/16 actual	Change from previous quarter	% Change
Total number of households in the District	62449	63124	675	1.08
Total Households benefitting from the scheme	6592	4936	-1656	-25.12
*Total Number of flats in the district	N/A	6918	N/A	N/A
*Total Number of flats benefitting from the scheme	N/A	4936	N/A	N/A
Total Number of flat blocks receiving a food waste collection	0	0	0	0
Total Number of flat blocks receiving a dry recyclate collection	45	74	29	64.44
Total Number of schools receiving a food waste collection	2	24	22	1100
Total Number of schools receiving a dry recyclate collection	53	53	0	0
Total Number of Households with weekly residual waste collection	6592	6918	326	4.95
Total households receiving a weekly food / organic waste collection	56681	56681	0	0
Total tonnage of residual waste collected in the district (t)*	6660	6571	-89	-1.34
Total Recyclate Collected in the District (t)	7765	7197	-568	-7.31
Total Recycling rate in the District (%)	53.8%	52.3	-1.5	N/A
Total Food Waste Collected (t)	1069	1132	63	5.89
Total dry Recyclate Collected (t)	3416	3332	-84	-2.46
Total recyclate contamination rate across district (%)	1.60%	2.9	1.3	N/A
Total contamination rate of recyclate across District (t)	125	211.5	86.5	69.2
Total Number of rejected dry recyclate bins (flats)	11	0	0	0
Total Number of rejected Food Waste bins (flats)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total Number of reject dry recyclate bins (schools)	N/A	0	0	0
Total Number of rejected Food Waste bins (schools)	0	0	0	0
Number of recycling receptacles procured & rolled out	2	44	42	2100

* Both data collection criterias added for Q3 and thus data not available for Q2 15/16

Two marked increases delivered by Braintree in this quarter is the addition of 29 flat blocks receiving a dry recyclate collection and 22 more schools adopting the food waste scheme.

Despite these increases, the total recyclate collected in the district during Q3 has dropped by 7.31%. Whilst not the affect the scheme is looking to achieve, one must note that the impact of these increases is unlikely to be felt until future quarters once residents and schools have fully adopted the new practices.

The most concerning statistic in the continued increase in contaminated waste by 86.5t since last quarter, and this is a trend that the scheme is designed to reverse. Again, once residents fully engage with the recycling scheme, and more flatted developments receive their recycling bins, we will then be able to begin to assess the impact of the scheme.

One statistic that requires explanation is the perceived drop in households benefitting from the scheme from 6592 to 4936.

The initial figure of 6592 reported was the number of flats being targeted for the scheme, and since then the total number of flats in the district increased to 6918. Upon the results of surveys conducted by Braintree, it was concluded that 4936 flats will have the capacity to house these new recycling bins, and the rollout to these began as of phase two.

This leaves 1982 flats that will stay on the current recycling system as they are unsuitable sites to receive bulk recycling bins. Braintree plan to target the remaining flats with a canvassing campaign to encourage them to use their current recycling systems, and thus contribute to the positive impacts Braintree hope to achieve.

Epping Forest District Council

	Q2 2015/16 actual	Q3 2015/16 actual	Change from previous year	% Change
Total number of households in the District	55111	55226	0	0
Total Households benefitting from the scheme	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
*Total number of flats in the district	N/A	8515	N/A	N/A
*Total number of flat benefitting from the scheme	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total Number of flat blocks receiving a food waste collection	94	119	20	21.28
Total Number of flat blocks receiving a dry recyclate collection	476	423	-53	-11.13
Total Number of Households with weekly residual waste collection	740	1015	275	37.16
Total households receiving a weekly food / organic waste collection	49212	49325	113	0.23
Total tonnage of residual waste collected in the district (t)	N/A	5418	0	N/A
Total Recyclate Collected in the District (t)	8121	7180	0	N/A
Total Recycling rate in the District (%)	59	57	0	N/A
Total Food Waste Collected (t)	4582	3474	0	N/A
Total Dry Recyclate Collected (t)	3539	3706	0	N/A
Total recyclate contamination rate across district (%)	2.65	3.89	0	N/A
Total Number of reject dry recyclate bins (flats)	N/A	N/A	0	N/A
Total Number of rejected Food Waste bins (flats)	N/A	N/A	0	N/A
Number of recycling receptacles procured & rolled out	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

* Both data collection criterias added for Q3 and thus data not available for Q2 15/16

The impact of Epping Forests change to a four day collection is still being experienced in this quarter. Although Epping have been able to provide more data for analysis than in Q2, much of it is a rough approximations based on the Q3 14/15 period. The difficulties in this portion of the reporting are a direct result of a shortage of staff to promote and deliver the awareness of waste contamination.

It is also important to note that as Epping have begun to overcome the many issues from previous quarters, they are now in a position to report more accurate data. The number of houses receiving a weekly residual waste collection is now recorded correctly as 1015, which gives us an accurate platform to continue reporting from.

Harlow District Council

	Q2 2015/16 actual	Q3 2015/16 actual	Change from previous Quarter	% Change
Total number of households in the District	36485	36532	47	0.13
Total households benefitting from the scheme	0	0	0	N/A
Total Number of Households with weekly residual waste collection	8135	8133	-2	-0.02
Total households receiving a weekly food / organic waste collection	36016	36130	114	0.32
Total tonnage of residual waste collected in the district (t)	3412	3318	-94	N/A
Total Recyclate Collected in the District (t)	3013	2867	-146	-4.85
Total Recycling rate in the District (%)	46.01	46.01	0	N/A
Total Food Waste Collected (t)	765	773	8	1.05
Total Dry Recyclate Collected (t)	2152	2031	-121	-5.62
Total Contamination rate across District (t)	102	97	-5	-4.90
Total recyclate contamination rate across district (%)	5	5%	0	N/A
Number of recycling receptacles procured & rolled out	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of green redeem kiosks in operation	0	0	N/A	N/A
Total number of quarterly users	0	0	N/A	N/A
Total Tonnage connected	0	0	N/A	N/A

Harlow's Q3 performance is comparable to their performance in Q2. Conclusions are largely negligible, owing largely to the delay in the rollout of the Greenredeem Kiosks. Whatever slight changes experienced in the data since the previous quarter has not been influenced by the scheme as yet. What we can see however, is that without the scheme, Harlow's actuals in the last two quarters remain fairly consistent. A true assessment of the scheme can be undertaken pending the placement of the first Greenredeem kiosk at Passmores Academy in February 2016, with the hope that this will encourage more schools to allow the placement of further kiosks in the future.

Tendring District Council

	Q2 2015/16 actual	Q3 2015/16 actual	Change from previous quarter	% Change
Total number of households in the District	68350	68350	0	0
Total Households benefitting from the scheme	0	529	0	0
*Total number of flats in the district	N/A	6347	N/A	N/A
*Total number of flats benefitting from the scheme	N/A	529	N/A	N/A
Total Number of flat blocks receiving a food waste collection	0	0	0	0
Total Number of flat blocks receiving a dry recycle collection	307	341	34	11.07
Total Number of schools receiving a food waste collection	5	15	10	200.00
Total Number of schools receiving a dry recycle collection	65	65	0	0
Total Number of Households with weekly residual waste collection	68350	68350	0	0
Total households receiving a weekly food / organic waste collection	65000	65000	0	0
Total tonnage of residual waste collected in the district (t)	8462	7991	-471	-5.56
Total Recyclate Collected in the District (t)	3311	2959	-352	10.63
Total Recycling rate in the District (%)	28.12	27	-1	3.57
Total Food Waste Collected (t)	463	355	-108	23.33
Total dry Recyclate Collected (t)	2427	2291	-136	5.60
Total recyclate contamination rate across district (%)	1	5	4	400.00
Total contamination rate of recyclate across District (t)	33	155	121	366.67
Total Number of rejected dry recyclate bins (flats)	17	28	11	64.71
Total Number of rejected Food Waste bins (flats)	0	0	0	0
Total Number of reject dry recyclate bins (schools)	0	0	0	0
Total Number of rejected Food Waste bins (schools)	0	0	0	0
Number of recycling receptacles procured & rolled out	30	120	90	300.00

The most positive improvement in this quarter of the scheme is the procurement and rollout of 90 recycling additional receptacles to flatted developments. Tendring have also experienced further successes with 10 additional schools now receiving a food waste collection, surpassing their phase one target of 12 schools by the end of December 2015.

There has however been another increase in rejected bins from flats, though at this stage of the scheme, this is of little significance. One would hope that once residents have adopted the schemes new practises, this, along with other waste contamination will begin to drop.

15/16 trend data vs. 15/16 actual data

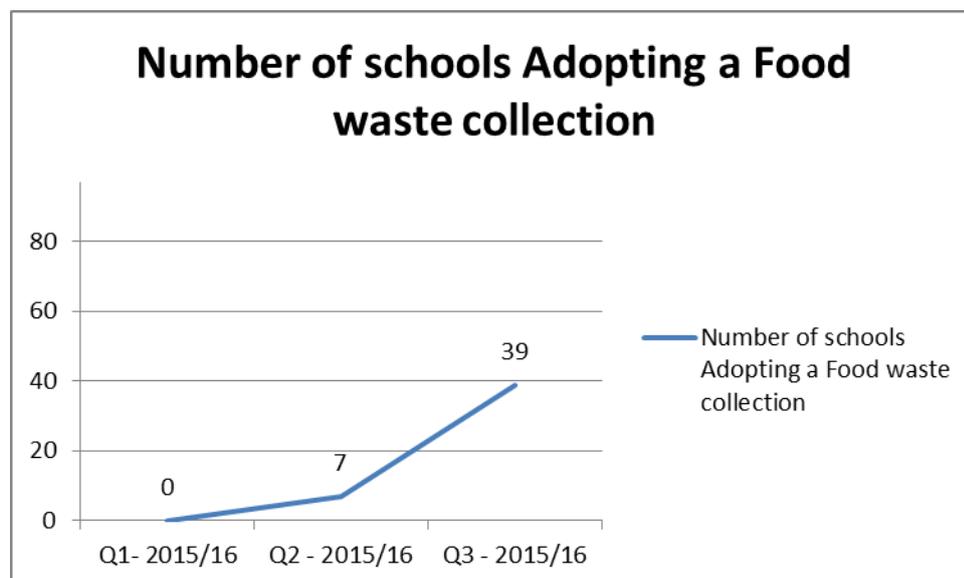
	15/16 Trend Data	15/16 Actual	% Change
Total recyclate collected in the District (t)	20301	20202	-0.49
Recycling rate across district (%)	45.31	45.50	N/A
Total food waste collected (t)	5857	5734	-2.10
Total dry recyclate collected (t)	11731	11360	-3.16

The partnership has performed almost as anticipated. As the scheme is further rolled out we would hope that future actuals begin to positively exceed (in line with the goals of the bid) the trend data.

Progress towards meeting our key commitments

From the data provided by partners we are able to make the following conclusions on the progress being made to meeting the key commitments as set out in the Recycling Rewards Scheme Bid.

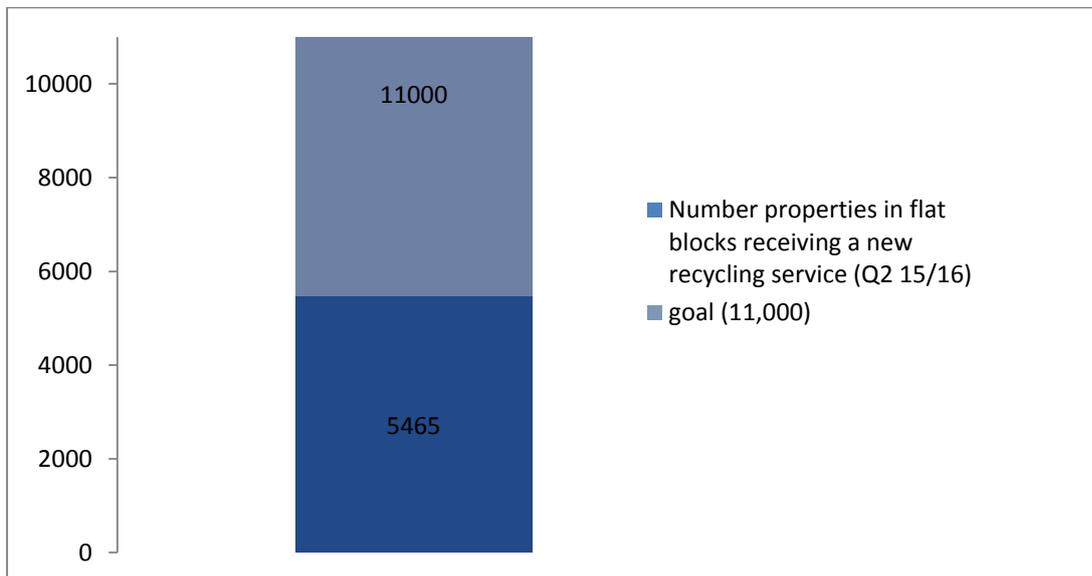
97 schools adopting weekly food recycling



Upon completion of Q3, both Braintree and Tendring have reported further success with this aspect of the scheme. Braintree now has a total of 24 schools participating in the food waste scheme and Tendring have a total of 15 schools taking part.

Each partner has exceeded their initial goal of rolling out the scheme to 12 schools each by the conclusion of Q3 and the partnership are already at 40% of their goal at this early stage of the scheme which is very encouraging.

11,000 properties in flat blocks receiving a new recycling service-



The number of properties in flat blocks currently involved in the scheme had previously been recorded erroneously as 8,202, which had created a false impression of the schemes success to date. An amended, more accurate figure of 5465 has been calculated upon the conclusion on Q3.

Though the figure is less than previously reported, Braintree have reported that the additional 1982 flats that are unsuitable for the new recycling receptacles will be targeted with additional canvassing encouraging them to use the current recycling systems available to them with the hope

Total financial benefits of £396,757 over the course of the scheme-

The financial benefits have yet to be seen, though this is expected. Despite setbacks for Epping Forest and Harlow, Braintree and Tendring are delivering against their milestones and it is hoped that once the scheme is fully implemented the financial benefits of increased recyclate will increase exponentially.

In this quarter the Partnership have collected 164 tonnes less of dry recyclate compare to the same quarter in the previous year. This therefore has generated £9,962.26 (based on recycling credit rate of £60.69 per tonne) less income for the Partnership as it did in the year before.

A total reduction in landfill waste of 9154 tonnes-

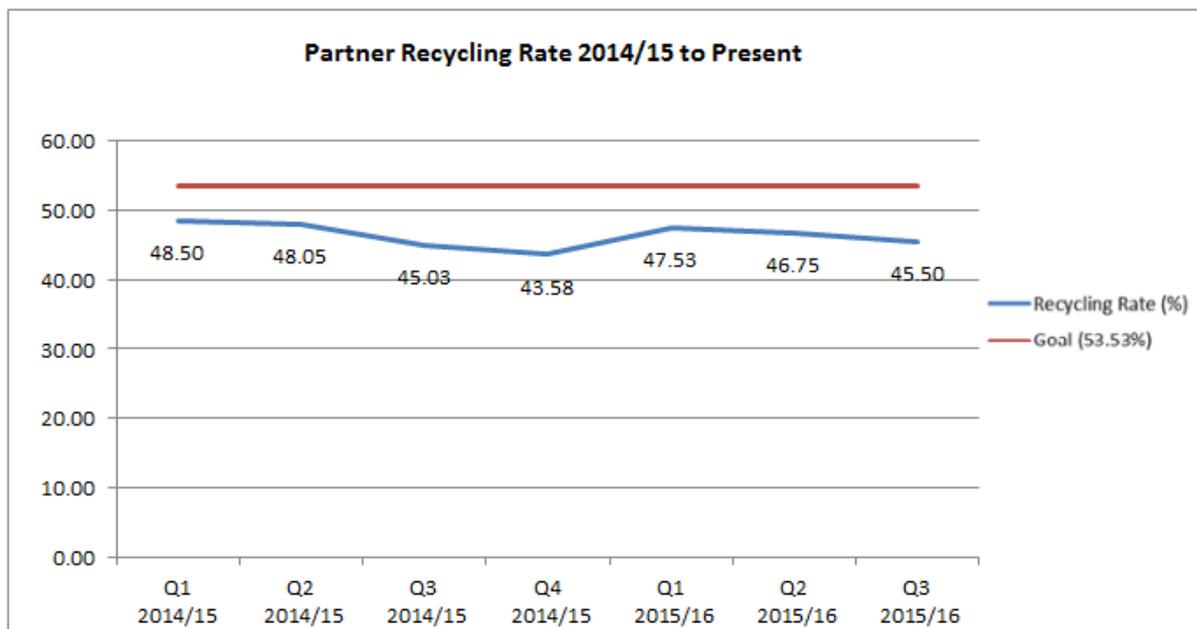
The amount of waste sent to landfills will reduce once more recycle is collected. Between Q3 14/15 and Q3 15/16 the percentage change in recycle collected revealed a very minor increase of 43 tonnes.

It is anticipated that once more robust methods of collecting recycling from flats, schools and private dwellings are introduced then the total tonnage diverted from landfill will increase significantly.

It is also difficult to comment on the residual waste collected by the Partnership in this quarter as Epping Forest have only been able to provide a rough approximation based on last years corresponding figures. However, data from the three other Partners did show a slight increase.

An increase in recycling rate by 5%

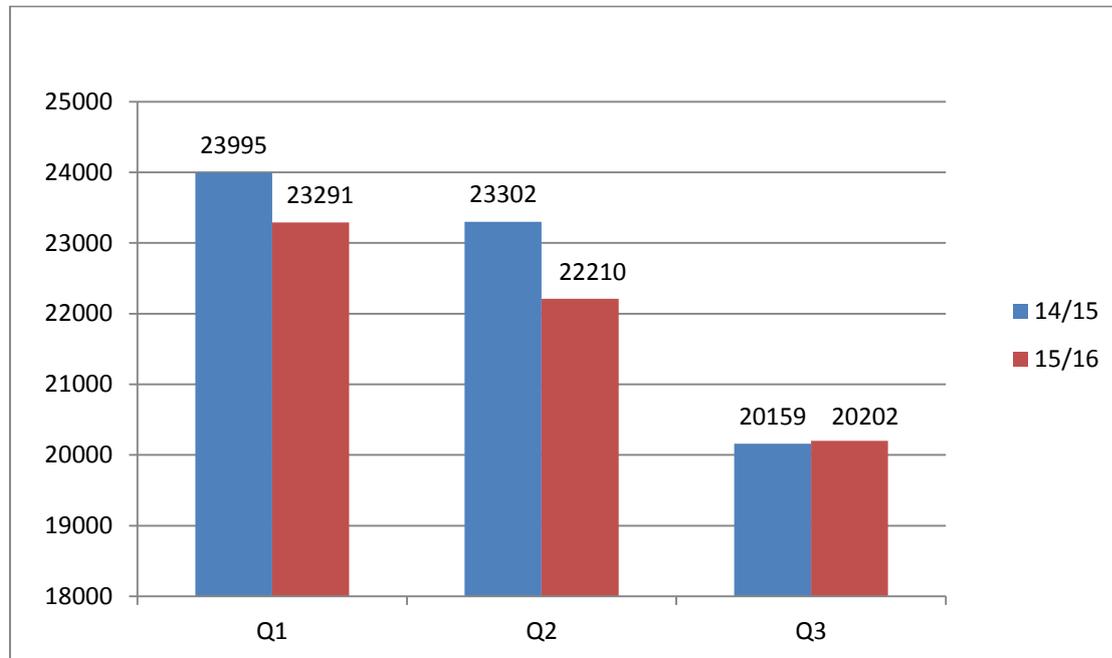
One of the core outcomes of the project is to increase the rates of recycling in flats and schools by up to 5%. Based on the Q1 figure for 14/15 the goal target would be a Partner recycling rate of 53.53%. Below are the recycling rates for the Partnership since Q1 14/15:



Meeting the Objectives set out in the Bid

The “**outputs and benefits**” section of the original bid document outlined three future positive impacts that would come from implementing this scheme. The three key data points to analyse within this document against real data are:

Change in volume of recyclate collected:



- Total recyclate collected between Q3 14/15 and Q3 15/16 increased slightly by 43 tonnes. To date the net recyclate collection for the partnership since the beginning of the scheme is -1753t.

Predictions made in the bid expected total recyclate tonnage to increase by 5059 tonnes over the course of 15/16 so there is some turnaround required in Q4 for the Partnership to meet this target.

Total households benefitting from the scheme:

- The total households benefitting from the scheme in Q1 15/16 is 5465, which is some way off of the predicted 114,398 number of households benefitting from the scheme in 15/16 as set out by the bid. Again, the mitigating circumstances here are that the scheme has only just entered into its implementation phase so it is perhaps too unrealistic to expect the figure to be much higher.

Contamination rate across the district:

- The contamination rate predicted for the 15/16 annum was 642t, which is a quarterly figure of approximately 161 tonnes of contaminated recyclate.

Q1 15/16 presented a figure of 247 tonnes of contaminated recyclate; Q2 presented a figure of 260 tonnes; Q3 has delivered a figure of 750 tonnes. Upon the conclusion of Q3 15/16 then, the total contaminated recyclate recorded by the partnership has far exceeded the prediction set out in the Bid.

One must also consider that Epping Forest have had difficulties recording their contamination since the beginning of the scheme so this figure must be viewed in this context. Regardless though, it is clear that the partnership will not meet this target this year. Some confidence can be drawn however if the partnership are able to curb this trend and begin to record improvements by the end of 15/16.

National Comparison

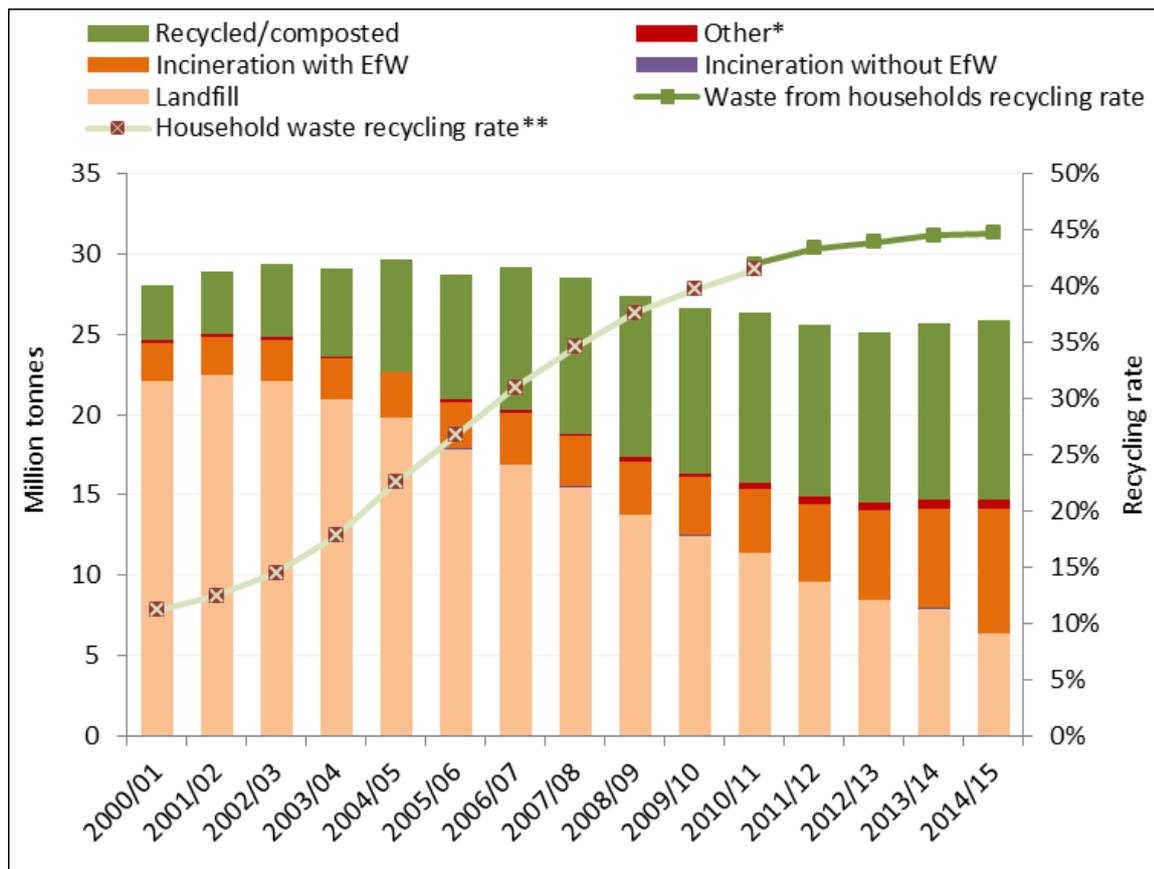
In order to begin to judge any successes of this scheme to date, a national comparison can be drawn using similar data sets. One such aim of the scheme is to increase participation in recycling activity across the Partnership, and reduce residual waste.

Since the completion of the previous quarterly report, the Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) published on 15 December 2015 an updated report detailing local authorities waste management performance for 2014-15.²

Referencing the WRAP tool, all partners traditionally perform well in terms of recycling rates in their districts. Epping Forest and Harlow are amongst the top 25% nationally, Braintree in the top 50%, though Tendring is in the bottom 50%. A consequence of this is that the Partnership perform well against the national average of 44.7% from 2014/15³

² DEFRA, *Statistics on Waste managed by local authorities in England 2014/15* https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/481771/Stats_Notice_Nov_2015.pdf

³ Based on data entered by local authorities onto WasteDataFlow for each quarterly return to March 2014.



The above graph from this DEFRA report reveals the national recycling tonnages and rates of waste collected by local authorities. What we can see is that the partnership’s recycling rate of 45.50% very slightly exceeds the national average. The important trends to highlight are the national reduction of residual waste to landfill and an increased amount of recycled or composted waste since 2000/01. All partners over time have followed this trend, however since the start of the scheme, and as a result of the reported localised issues, the partnership has been reporting lower amount of recyclate and increased amounts of residual waste. We can begin to infer the schemes success once the partnership data starts to more consistently meet this trend and ideally exceed these percentage increases.

Lessons Learnt

As part of phase two, partners were required to submit information about the lessons they have learnt so far during the early stages of the scheme. Below each partner has provided feedback:

Braintree

- Braintree has learnt from their procurement experience to set realistic and sufficient timing for procurement of bins and their associated liners. This is especially important when working with other authorities. Additionally, keeping

clear and ongoing communications open with the company supplying the bins was found to be important as far as progress updates and delivery timetables were concerned. It allowed them to take stock of what had been delivered and what was still outstanding and plan their rollout activities accordingly.

- Ensure good communication with front line staff for the delivery of bins and door stepping. It is particularly important that the logistics of this was correct to allow staff to inform residents of the arrival dates for their bins.
- Networking with enthusiastic headmasters of Primary schools was a particularly useful method of increasing participation in the scheme. Those with an existing passion for recycling were asked to trial the scheme and provide their feedback, which was used to encourage other schools to join the scheme.
- Environmental/seasonal factors were also an issue. It was found that canvassing during the Autumn/Winter time meant that residents were less inclined to have long conversations with staff at their doors due to the cold and wet weather conditions. It has been decided that canvassing activity would likely be more successful during the spring and summer for the opposite reasons.
- Canvassing between trading hours is essential to allow access to the sites. Visits outside these hours would often mean having to re-visit the sites due to their inability to gain access to the site.

Epping Forest

- Recruitment of dedicated staff for the scheme was a lengthy process which has impacted on their ability to run their scheme efficiently. The current officers within the council available to run the scheme would often be engaged in their business as usual tasks which meant having to balance busy workloads.
- The procurement procedure within the Council is restrictive in regards to how much is spent and to whom. This will be taken into account for future procurement activity.
- Once the design process had been agreed, the lead time for delivery of the reusable bags has been 14 weeks. The bags play an important role in their scheme and are a key factor in the early delays in their schemes rollout.
- It has been difficult to produce data for the scheme due to the recent change of the waste and recycling contractor. This has been the main issue for Epping Forest during the early parts of the scheme. The issues that arose from this were difficult to predict, and Epping were often only in a position to respond reactively to problems as they presented themselves.

- Not enough pre-planning had been undertaken whilst the bid was under consideration. Once the funding had been awarded, not all the foundations were in place to begin the scheme in earnest. An element of pre-planning would have likely highlighted the issues they have experienced early on and allowed Epping to add mitigations to reduce the impact of them.

Harlow

- Harlow has experienced various challenges finding locations willing to host a Greenredeem kiosk. They had initially anticipated they would be more popular than they have proven to be. Subsequently, not being able to find hosts has caused delay to their project timescales.
- The installation of the kiosk at Passmores Academy was problematic. The host reported lack of communication from Greenredeem as well as issues with the kiosk itself not functioning correctly upon arrival. However, since the last visit by a technician, the kiosk appears to be working well and is well used by the students.
- Following the installation at Passmores, Harlow had hoped that the success of this kiosk would generate more interest from others to host the kiosks. This however is still proving difficult and other avenues of promotion will need to be sought.

Tendring District Council

- Tendring also reported that the procurement process for their flat bulk bins took longer than they had initially anticipated. This was partially due to the bespoke nature of the bins which they chose to use, and partially due to weather conditions that delayed the delivery of the bins.
- Installation of recycling bins into the flats was also found to be very labour intensive due to the “behind the scenes” tasks associated with this process. Canvassing residents in order to raise awareness of the new bins was very time consuming and time was also spent having to resolve issues arising from contamination or missed collection due to the flats being newly added to the recycling rounds.
- Every school is different in their lunch time arrangements and how they deal with food waste which means that each school has to be dealt with individually from “plate to lorry”. A ‘one approach fits all’ solution is therefore not suitable with schools, and this has resulted in greater officer time required to set up the food waste collections from schools.

Summary

What is clear in the feedback from partners is that there were many hidden tasks associated with implementing the scheme that could not be accounted for in the initial planning. Though experienced with procurement already, the timescales for procurement set within this scheme were perhaps too optimistic. These delays in procurement would inevitably have an impact on the schemes rollout.

The reality too of promoting the scheme through front line officer activity was fraught with unexpected and time consuming tasks. Poor weather conditions, limited access to sites and lack of dedicated staff all contributed to additional officer hours spent in this area.

The difficulties Harlow have faced with securing additional sites for their Green Redeem kiosks seem indicative of an additional need to convince their stakeholders of the potential benefits of the scheme. It is hoped attitudes can be changed once the benefits of their first kiosk can be seen. The success of the scheme in general for partners too will likely depend on how well the scheme can change attitudes and behaviours towards recycling. The incentives offered by the 'rewards' element of the scheme will hopefully facilitate this.

Issues Log

Q3 was the first quarter in which the partnership adopted the amended data collection timelines. This was largely successful as most partners had data readily available to provide. Delays this time were a result of staffing capacity and as such the partnership is happy that the new timelines for reporting data are appropriate.

Epping Forest and Harlow have only been able to provide close approximations and predictions for parts of their reporting in this quarter so the conclusions drawn must be viewed within the context of slight scrutiny.

Moving into phase three, and the continued rollout of the scheme, it is important that the data provided is accurate and absolute. Any inaccuracies will compromise our ability to make an accurate analysis of the schemes initial performance against the final predictions made in the bid. It is important that any early successes or failures are highlighted in order for mitigations to be in place to curb any issues as early into the scheme as possible.