



Subject:	Temporary Closure of Park Road and Palmerston Road recycling centres for repair works
Date:	4 th February 2025
Reporting Officer:	Stephen Leonard, Director of Resources, Fleet and OSS
Contact Officer:	John McConnell – City Services Manager Resources & Fleet

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to inform members of the phased, temporary closure of the Household Waste Recycling Centres at Park Road (Ormeau) and Palmerston Road Alexandra Park. This is required in order to carry out essential repairs to the service bays to maintain health & safety on site and long-term service continuity.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	Members are asked to note the contents of the report and the alternative arrangements that will be available to residents during temporary closure of the affected sites.

3.0	Main report
3.1	<p>Members will be aware that a series of repair works have taken place at the Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) over the years in order to maintain the integrity of the surface of the service bays. The most recent works involved the installation of steel plates in the concrete floor of the bay at Alexandra HWRC which was carried out in October 2024.</p>
3.2	<p>The HWRCs at Park Road and Palmerston Road remain outstanding and there is a window of opportunity to complete these essential works during February & March 2025.</p>
3.3	<p>The works are required in order to address concrete degradation within the service bay containing the compactors and skips. This presents increasing safety concerns for both staff and service contractors when using equipment within the service bay. In the longer term the repair works will ensure service continuity, as failure to address the issue would lead to further degradation and the cessation of operations resulting in site closure.</p>
3.4	<p>It is therefore essential that these repairs are completed as urgently as possible and unfortunately it is not possible to complete any work whilst continuing to provide a service from the site. Accordingly, the sites will have to be completely closed during the repair period.</p>
3.5	<p>The temporary closures will be phased so that residents will have alternative facilities available to deposit their waste. The temporary closure to Park Road (Ormeau) HWRC will be from 16 February to 9 March inclusive and for Palmerston it will be 9th March to 31 March inclusive. These timescales may be affected by weather conditions but the reopening dates will be kept under constant review and any changes (weather and works dependent) will be communicated via the Council's social media platforms.</p>
3.6	<p>It is proposed that the attached letters (Appendix 1) will be issued to all elected members to advise of the temporary closures and the Marketing and Communication Team will publicise the closure to residents through the usual media channels. Signage will also be placed at the entrance to each site.</p>
3.7	<p>Due to the timescales involved and licencing requirements associated with waste facilities, it will not be possible to provide any 'popup' alternative sites and accordingly residents will be signposted to the other facilities across the city during this period.</p>
	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p>
3.8	<p>The associated repairs costs will be met from within existing budgets.</p>
	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p>
3.9	<p>There are no equality, good relations or rural needs assessments associated with this report.</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	<p>Appendices 1 and 2 – Draft letters for Members notifying of temporary closure of Park Road and Palmerston HWRC</p>
5.0	Abbreviations
	<p>HWRC – Household Waste Recycling Centre</p>