



Mr Jon Short  
Effingham Parish Council  
The Parish Room  
3 Home Barn Court  
The Street  
Effingham  
Surrey  
KT24 5LG

08 August 2017

Dear Mr Short

**RE: Surrey's Community Recycling Centres – Public Consultation**

Thank you for your letter on the proposed changes to Surrey's Community Recycling Centres (CRCs).

The comments that you have submitted on behalf of Effingham Parish Council will be included as consultation feedback, which will be used to inform the final recommendations that are put forward to the County Council for agreement in the autumn of 2017. We'll give advance notice to residents and stakeholders if there are any changes as a result of decisions made by the Council.

The County Council has had to regrettably put forward these proposals to change the CRC service out of necessity due to the financial challenges being faced. Continued cuts to funding, rising costs and increasing demand for key services means that the need to find savings has reached unprecedented levels. This year alone we need to make savings of more than £100m – that's about 10% of our overall budget. We are confident that these proposals will create efficiencies, as they take into account current patterns of use, and will enable us to get more out of our bigger, better equipped centres. These proposals will also help the council save up to £2million a year, whilst still maintaining a comprehensive service, which we know is highly valued by our residents.

The four CRCs that we have identified for potential closure deal collectively with less than 10% of the waste that is brought to our fifteen CRCs across Surrey. In recent years the number of visits to our CRCs has reduced, and we expect this will continue to fall as a result of the proposed changes, and we therefore don't expect a significant increase in queuing at our remaining sites. We are confident that the remaining CRCs will be able to comfortably cope with any additional demand should any CRCs close.



Regarding the comment on fly-tipping, Surrey County Council (SCC) has a vested interest to ensure fly-tipping does not increase as it has to pay the disposal costs of any fly-tipped material collected by district and borough councils. The council wants to avoid the illegal dumping of waste, and recognises the environmental and social harm caused by fly-tipping. In the past year since changes have been made at the CRCs including the introduction of the charging waste scheme for some types of non-household waste, the amount of fly-tipped waste taken to Surrey's waste transfer stations by district & borough councils has gone down by more than 1,000 tonnes.

Whilst this is positive news, the council recognise there is more to do on this subject. Separately, SCC, has been working with the local authorities within the Surrey Waste Partnership, together with other agencies such as Surrey Police, and have developed a strategy to address the issue of fly-tipping across the county. The strategy focuses on coordinating and enhancing the prevention, investigation and enforcement activities of these partner organisations, and making use of recently strengthened powers available to local authorities in an effort to reduce fly-tipping in Surrey, and increase the chances of bringing those responsible to justice.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike Goodman', written over a horizontal line.

**Mike Goodman**  
**Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport**