**Waste Transfer Station**

**Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

Doncaster Council has built a Waste Transfer Station on Sandall Stones Road at Kirk Sandall. Below are answers to some questions we think you may have.

**Why is a Waste Transfer Station needed?**

From 2015, household waste collected in Doncaster is taken to a facility in Rotherham, where it is processed into Solid Recovered Fuel to be used at Ferrybridge power station.

Under the previous arrangement, the waste collected had to be transported to Rotherham in the same Refuse Collection Vehicles (RCV’s) used to make the collection from your home. This meant RCVs and their crews would spend a significant part of each day travelling to and from Rotherham to deliver the waste. To make up for this lost time each day the Council would have to pay for extra collection vehicles and crews.

To address the issue the waste collected is now delivered to the Waste Transfer Station where the waste collected by several RCVs is bulked together, transferred into an articulated lorry and transported to Rotherham treatment facility. This frees up RCVs and their crews to collect waste. Using the waste transfer station to bulk up waste ensures a more efficient service, environment and long term financial savings.

As with the household waste described above, a similar issue existed with recycling collected from your blue bin, green box and the garden waste in your green bin. These materials can also be delivered to the waste transfer station and bulked up before being taken for processing. This releases recycling and green waste collection vehicles and crews to continue with their rounds maximising efficiency.

**What is a Waste Transfer Station?**

The Waste Transfer Station is located centrally within the borough and is the location from where our collection contractor operates. The waste and recycling once collected by RCV is deposited into a purpose built industrial building, here it is bulked up, transferred into an articulated lorry and transported to the appropriate facility for processing.

The site also accommodates office staff and vehicle parking for Doncaster’s waste and recycling fleet.

**Why Kirk Sandall for the site?**The waste transfer station must be located close to the centre of the Borough, minimising the distance for collection vehicles to travel to deposit the waste and recycling collected, maximising the efficiency of the operation.

A number of sites around the centre of the borough were considered. Issues, such as size of the site, its availability for development and planning considerations such as the need to be located within an industrial area and good access to the highway network were deliberated. The search indicated that the site at Sandall Stones Road at Kirk Sandall would be the most appropriate for the facility.

**Where exactly is the Waste Transfer Station?**The site is located in the Sandall Stones Road Industrial Estate area, off Sandall Stones Road, Kirk Sandall.

 **How big is the site?** The Waste Transfer Station site is approximately 7.1 acres / 2.9 hectares. On site there is a large industrial building. Inside this building is where the waste is transferred from the collection vehicles to articulated lorries. The building is approximately 90 meters long by 42 meters wide.

The site also has a small office building for on-site staff.

**Who is going to run the site?**

The Council’s collection contractor is responsible for operating the facility, currently SUEZ (UK) Ltd.

**Will the site affect my health?**No. The Waste Transfer Station is permitted by the Environment Agency (the permit must be in place before any waste can be deposited). The design and operating regime of the facility is scrutinised by the Environment Agency before the Environmental Permit was issued to the operator. The facility will be monitored continuously by the Council, the operator and the Environment Agency throughout its life.

**What is an Environmental Permit?**
An Environmental Permit is a document issued by a regulating body, setting conditions, which the operator of a facility must follow to ensure prevention of harm to the environment or human health.

 **Will it smell?**The household waste brought to the waste transfer station will only remain on site for a very short time, usually less than 24 hours before it will be transferred to an articulated lorry and transported to Rotherham. To reduce the potential for smells affecting the local area, the waste collected will only be transferred between the collection vehicle and articulated lorry inside a purpose built industrial building.

Within the building, an odour neutralisation system may be in operation and only used in the area where the waste is stored.

The site will operate to standards set by the Environment Agency and will be monitored by the Agency.

 **Will there be increased traffic?**The waste transfer station operates on the days when waste and recycling is collected in Doncaster. The majority of vehicle movements will be Tuesday to Friday, there are much fewer vehicle movements on a Monday and over weekends.

The majority of vehicles leaving the site will turn right onto Doncaster Road, heading towards Doncaster. At Clay Lane Roundabout, the traffic will disperse in all directions as vehicles head out to complete the daily collection rounds.

Between Tuesday and Friday, the majority of waste and recycling vehicles will leave site between 7am and 7.30am, before the morning rush hour. Vehicles will return to site to off load waste and recycling collected in a steady stream through the day, with an increase in the numbers returning around the early afternoon period. The waste and recycling fleet largely return to site between 3.30pm and 5pm after their final collection but it could be as late as 7pm. The waste brought in the collection vehicle is sent to Rotherham by articulated lorry, with the lorries returning before 8pm.

**Will it be noisy?**

Generally the Waste Transfer Station is not a noisy operation except for the tipping of glass and popping of plastic bottles, which will be in short bursts during the day.

The activities of the Waste Transfer Station are inside a purpose built industrial building and positioned away from local housing. The design of the building includes features to reduce noise.

In addition to this there is planting around the perimeter of the site to deflect noise.

**Will vehicles in the car park be noisy when warming up in a morning?**

Inevitably, there will be some noise from these vehicles. The site operator does stagger leaving times, reducing the number of vehicles running at any one time. In addition to this there will be planting around the perimeter of the site to deflect noise

**Could it create a vermin problem?**

The waste brought to site will only remain on site for a very short period of time, usually less than 24 hours. The majority of waste collected that day is removed by the end of the day.

Operating the facility in this way reduces the opportunity for vermin problems to develop. The operator also has measures in place, eliminating pests before they become a problem.

**How will the presence of flies be minimised?**
Operations at the Waste Transfer Station take place within a purpose built industrial building, fitted with doors that are closed during non-peak times to minimise the opportunity for flies. Waste is removed from site as soon as possible once received.

Pesticides suitable for fly control are used as required in the area where the waste is contained between the months April and October. Good housekeeping is maintained reducing the opportunity for flies to breed on site and all cleaning activities are recorded in line with site operating procedures. The operator also implements a programme of fly monitoring to ensure they are adequately controlled.

**What time will the waste transfer station operate?**

The hours of operation is 6am to 8pm every day.

The waste and recycling vehicles leave site between 7am and 7:30am, returning to the site mid-morning and later in day between 3:30 and 5pm. The articulated vehicles will run throughout the course of the day between 6am and 8pm.

 **Where is the vehicle access?**The vehicle access to the waste transfer station is located on Sandall Stones Road, Kirk Sandall.

 **Will the site affect my house price?**

A study reviewing the impact of similar facilities on house prices over a 10 Year period has concluded that there is no substantive evidence of adverse effects on local residential markets.

 **What is the overall plan for waste in the borough? How does this link up with recycling?**

The Council is committed to reducing the amount of waste produced, increasing reuse and recycling, in line with the waste hierarchy.



As shown in the waste hierarchy, disposal is the last resort and because of this from 2015 household waste collected in Doncaster is taken to a purpose built facility in Rotherham, where the majority is processed into a solid recovered fuel for use at Ferrybridge Power Station.

**Where can I find out more?**

[**www.doncaster.gov.uk/wts**](http://www.doncaster.gov.uk/wts)

[**www.bdronline.co.uk**](http://www.bdronline.co.uk)