

Changes to HWRC'S and vehicle restrictions

The following communication has been sent to Nigel Brinn, Head of Highways, Transport & Recycling at Powys CC nigel.brinn@powys.gov.uk

At a recent meeting of Manafon Community Council the subject of the changes to the access to the 2 local HWRC's was discussed in some detail as a result of a number of complaints from local residents.

Whilst residents and the Council fully support the need for cost savings to be made and that it is an obvious step to restrict commercial vehicles and associated waste into what is clearly a household waste facility and for that reason understand that some change is inevitable however, a number of points within those changes we believe need to be addressed by some further evaluation of the needs of the public.

Complaints had been in respect of the type of vehicles that would be refused entry, given it is an agricultural community and many residents have only vehicles that were designated as restricted in the news release as ***"Pickup trucks / double cab vehicles with open or a metal back"***, many residents have **Land Rovers that do not have rear seats and windows** by virtue of their age, some have twin-axle trailers as they are utilised for multiple functions being agricultural. It appears from the news release that even if they had legitimate household waste they would not be permitted entry.

Manafon Council had serious reservations as to the impact this new regime would have on increasing fly-tipping, not only is that a concern of the environment but also for landowners who are deemed responsible for fly-tipping on their land. Yet again there is clear evidence of fly-tipping on the river side opposite the Trem Hirnant development, mainly garden waste but can have implications for the river and has been reported to Powys Council and the NRW in the past.

Further to this I have had personal experience recently of the difficulties in the HWRC's, when I visited Welshpool recently there was a queue of vehicles waiting to enter and even to leave the depot some possibly caused by vehicle checks but one would assume that would be ongoing given the restrictions being imposed. What was very clear was that the sheer volume of vehicles entering, inside and leaving the site could be problematical and raise some health and safety issues; there was no evidence of any real marshalling of vehicles. At Newtown it was a similar experience and that is made more poignant by the fact that Newtown is already immensely restricted by virtue of its' size.

Manafon Community Council would very much like to hear from you in respect of the above in order that we can hopefully assure our residents that their needs are being taken into account and some considered changes will be implemented in due course.

Kind Regards

Lorraine Stanton

Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer Manafon Community Council

Tel no: 01686 651112

Email: clerk@manafoncommunitycouncil.co.uk

Website: www.manafoncommunitycouncil.co.uk