

News release from Scottish Borders Council: Thursday 21 May 2020

Public asked to play their part as recycling centres to reopen

Community recycling centres across the Scottish Borders will reopen on Monday 1 June, with a number of temporary restrictions in place.

All seven recycling centres were closed by Scottish Borders Council (SBC) on 23 March in line with government 'Stay at Home' guidance to help combat the spread of Coronavirus.

The Scottish Government have now relaxed some restrictions, and have allowed recycling centres across Scotland to be reopened from 1 June.

With demand expected to be extremely high, the temporary restrictions have been put in place to ensure the safety of customers and staff and allow access for as many people as possible.

Residents are asked to play their part and follow the guidance, and only use the recycling centres if essential to help the facilities cope with demand.

The temporary restrictions will be reviewed and adjusted over time, with any changes communicated in advance.

Residents are strongly encouraged to visit SBC's website, which will include live queuing times and full details of temporary restrictions at www.scotborders.gov.uk/recyclingcentres

The temporary restrictions are:

- An odd and even vehicle number plate system will be in place, which means you can only visit on certain days. Full details are available at www.scotborders.gov.uk/recyclingcentres
- Recycling centres will be open seven days a week, between 9am to 2pm
- Only cars and small vans weighing up to two tonnes accepted, such as car-derived vans and small panel vans. No large vans, trailers or horse boxes will be accepted
- Only garden waste and waste that residents normally put in their general waste bin will be accepted
- Maximum of five bin bags per trip and only one visit allowed per day
- If possible, one person per vehicle should travel to the site and only one should leave the vehicle to offload waste
- No assistance can be provided by site staff to offload materials due to social distancing guidance

Further guidance on usage of the recycling centres has also been provided:

- Lengthy queues are expected
- New traffic management systems will be in place and queue lengths will be restricted
- Site users must continue to follow the government's two metre social distancing guidance when visiting our recycling centres
- Waste should be presented in easily managed amounts that can be deposited quickly on arrival at site
- Recycling Centres may need to temporarily close at short notice in order for skips to be emptied

- Failure to comply with the temporary restrictions and social distancing guidance will unfortunately mean we will have to close the recycling centres again.