

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

**County Council
18th October 2018**

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Phyl Davies, Portfolio Holder for Highways, Recycling and Assets

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Sue McNicholas

It has been brought to our attention in Ystradgynlais that Bring Sites in other areas are still in use. We were told that in order for our Recycling site to remain open we had to agree to close our sites.

We don't want other sites to close but we want to be treated equally. Can the Portfolio Holder tell us what the position actually is?

Response

Community Recycling (Bring) Sites were originally introduced many years ago to give residents somewhere to take their recyclable material. This was before the introduction of the kerbside recycling scheme which has provided a much more convenient option for most residents. All of these bring sites have been under review as they have essentially been simply duplicating a service that is now provided in a different way. The number of sites has been reduced from over 80 to less than 40 with the remaining sites now being considered so that the Council can provide the most cost effective convenient service to residents whilst maximising the amount of material collected for recycling.

The reason that the sites have been removed in Ystradgynlais is because there is now a conveniently located Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) in the area which will take all of the material previously collected at the bring sites along with many other waste streams for recycling. Maintaining the HWRC at Lower Cwmtwrch was not dependant on the removal of the bring sites, but it is essential that we maximise our limited resources to continue to provide these services.

All of the bring sites in Powys are considered individually, taking into account factors such as proximity to HWRCs, level of flytipping and contamination, as well as where the materials are now collected at the kerbside. The sites in Ystradgynlais were unfortunately prone to contamination which did result in much of this material being landfilled rather than recycled. Along with the close proximity of the HWRC, this is why these facilities were removed. In Welshpool, where there was a problem with flytipping at the bring site, residents are similarly required to use their HWRC for materials that cannot be recycled at the kerbside.