

# Somerset Waste Partnership Briefing for Members, Partners and Staff September 2020



## Creating energy from your rubbish

Somerset's move away from landfill has been completed with construction of the £317m Viridor Resource Recovery Centre (RRC) at Avonmouth (above). It turns all kerbside rubbish and 60% of non-recyclable materials from Somerset's recycling sites into electricity.

The RRC consists of the £252m Avonmouth Energy Recovery Facility, plus a £65m plastics reprocessing plant, which is currently under construction.

Efficient, safe and regulated by the Environment Agency, with emissions closely monitored to meet strict standards, the RRC will produce up to 282 gigawatt hours of electricity a year, enough to power 77,000 homes.

## Mendip gets ready for Recycle More

The first Recycle More leaflets (see image) are arriving at Mendip homes, detailing the new service that starts in the district soon, taking more kerbside recycling weekly, including plastic pots, tubs and trays, with a new "Bright Blue

Bag" recycling container. Much more recycling means far less rubbish, which will be collected every three weeks.

Recycle More is being introduced across Somerset in four phases over 18 months: Mendip end of October 2020; South Somerset late June/early July 2021; Sedgemoor and Somerset West & Taunton by February/March 2022. A phased roll-out allows Somerset's five depots to be upgraded to handle the thousands of tonnes of extra recycling.



**Full Recycle More details and dates:**  
[somersetwaste.gov.uk/recycle-more](https://somersetwaste.gov.uk/recycle-more).

## Wearable clothes only kerbside

Kerbside collections have resumed for only clothes and shoes good enough to be worn again. No textiles, such as bedding, curtains etc, will be taken.

Poorer items could have home uses – such as cleaning rags – or be put in the rubbish to generate electricity. The changes reflect the decline of the global second-hand market caused by COVID-19 and disposable fashion.

## Winter starts at recycling sites

Somerset recycling sites go to winter timetables from Thursday 1 October: weekday opening hours 9am-5pm and weekends remaining 9am to 4pm.

For more information on each recycling site, including opening schedules, details of charged materials, and van and trailer permits, click on recycling centres at [somersetwaste.gov.uk](http://somersetwaste.gov.uk).

## Check us out in Your Somerset



Our four-page supplement in the Your Somerset newspaper is being delivered now to every home, with latest news and a cut-out-and-keep service guide. You can also read it free online: [somerstnewsroom.com/2020/09/14/your-somerset-autumn-2020-out-now/](http://somerstnewsroom.com/2020/09/14/your-somerset-autumn-2020-out-now/)

## Be in charge with your My Account

Thousands have signed up at [somersetwaste.gov.uk](http://somersetwaste.gov.uk) for their free online My Account to take control of their waste services. With your My Account, you can report missed collections after 6pm on the due day, check dates, order free recycling boxes and food waste bins, arrange paid-for bulky waste collections, buy garden waste sacks and request garden sack collections, submit reports, and more.

No emails, no calls, no fuss. **Sign up now: [www.somersetwaste.gov.uk](http://www.somersetwaste.gov.uk).**

## Don't miss bargain compost bin offer

Somerset Waste Partnership's offer with [getcomposting.com](http://getcomposting.com) of 1,000 home compost bins for as little as £10 is still available - but do not leave it too long.

The two sizes are 220-litre for £10 and 330L for £12.50. Save even more with the buy-one-get-one-half-price deal for two of the same size. Delivery is £9.99 per order; why not order two and share delivery with a neighbour or friend? **Buy your bins at [getcomposting.com](http://getcomposting.com); for details visit: [somersetwaste.gov.uk/home-composting](http://somersetwaste.gov.uk/home-composting)**

**Next time:** How to waste less and save food at Halloween and bonfire night.

## Somerset Waste Board

SWP's governing body has two members from each of five partner councils: **Mendip** Cllrs Tom Ronan, Matthew Martin; **Sedgemoor** Cllrs Janet Keen, Andrew Gilling; **Somerset County** Cllrs David Hall, Clare Paul (Vice Chair); **Somerset West and Taunton** Cllrs Sarah Wakefield, David Mansell; **South Somerset** Cllrs Sarah Dyke (Chair), Tim Kerley. SWB agendas: [somersetwaste.gov.uk/somerset-waste-board](http://somersetwaste.gov.uk/somerset-waste-board)

## Information on SWP services

Visit [somersetwaste.gov.uk](http://somersetwaste.gov.uk) for advice and to sign up for our e-newsletter. Follow @Somersetwaste on Facebook and Twitter. All partner customer services can assist with enquiries.