Collection and disposal of fridges and freezers

NFDC has received advice from Hampshire County Council to say that there is a national backlog of fridges and freezers for recycling that is going to have an impact on the services available to our residents.

The HWRCs (tips) are full to capacity for fridges and freezers as is County's additional storage. They will not be accepting any more fridges or freezers at any of the sites.

They are also near to capacity at the disposal points used by NFDC teams when collecting fridges and freezers as part of the bulky waste service or from fly-tips. As NFDC already has 58 fridges and freezers booked for collection over the next four weeks, NFDC has decided to suspend the collection of fridges and freezers as part of the bulky waste service going forward. NFDC will do its utmost to collect those that have already been booked. This affects fridges and freezers only; other furniture and washing machines etc. will still be collected as part of the service. Residents wishing to dispose of fridges and freezers will be directed to charities if it is still in good working order or retailer take back schemes if it needs to be recycled.

This situation will not affect NFDC's response to clearing fridges and freezers that have been fly-tipped. These will be collected as normal and NFDC is looking at storage options for when the disposal points are no longer able to take them. NFDC will be monitoring the number of fridges and freezers that are fly-tipped.

Customer services are aware and a message is being recorded to advise residents of the changes to the bulky waste service. NFDC has shared HCC's <u>press</u> release on social media and will shortly be posting info about the bulky waste collections.

A web page has been set up with the friendly URL www.newforest.gov.uk/fridges. The information is very basic at the moment but will be added to as NFDC knows more. Residents will be directed to this page through social media, customer services and the homepage.

NFDC will keep asking for clarification from HCC about these disposal issues and will keep us up to date.

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