

Recycling and rubbish update

Survey results & options for the LTP

Council Briefing
29 January 2020

Survey objectives & context

Objectives

- collect data on households' current practice for recycling, rubbish and green waste
- test assumptions made as part of the review (business case)
- to test the review's recommended options with residents

Context

- open between 18 December 2019 and 22 January 2020
- survey first opportunity to provide feedback; further engagement work planned in the lead-up to the formal LTP consultation over the next two months
- formal consultation on the LTP amendment in April will ask residents about their preferred option

Survey response

- Survey was available online and hard copy
- Over 4,600 responses, 99% online
- 3747 (81%) from Lower Hutt
- Captured a good mixture of household types, tenure, size, and age typical of Lower Hutt



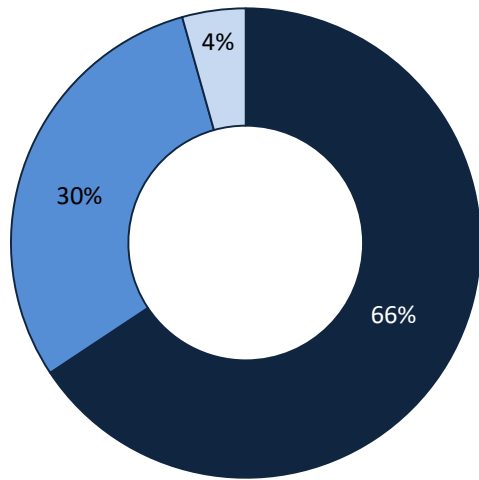
Type of Residence		Household Tenure		Household Size		Age			
Standalone house/ townhouse	94%	Own	81%	1 or 2	39%	Under 18	0%	45-54	22%
Multi-unit block	5%	Rent	17%	3 or 3	47%	18-24	3%	55-64	13%
Apartment building	1%	Other	2%	5+	15%	25-34	23%	65-74	8%
Other	0%					35-44	29%	75+	2%

Recycling: Current practice & preference

- 88% of residents use kerbside recycling
- 34% use recycling stations
- 6% do not use either of these services
- Feedback to review's recommended change to two-stream recycling model was via free-text form
- Less than 2% were explicitly against or negative in regard to the recommended changes
- Various suggestions for improvements – clips to hold lids down, weights to prevent bins from tipping, better information on what is recyclable, food waste collection

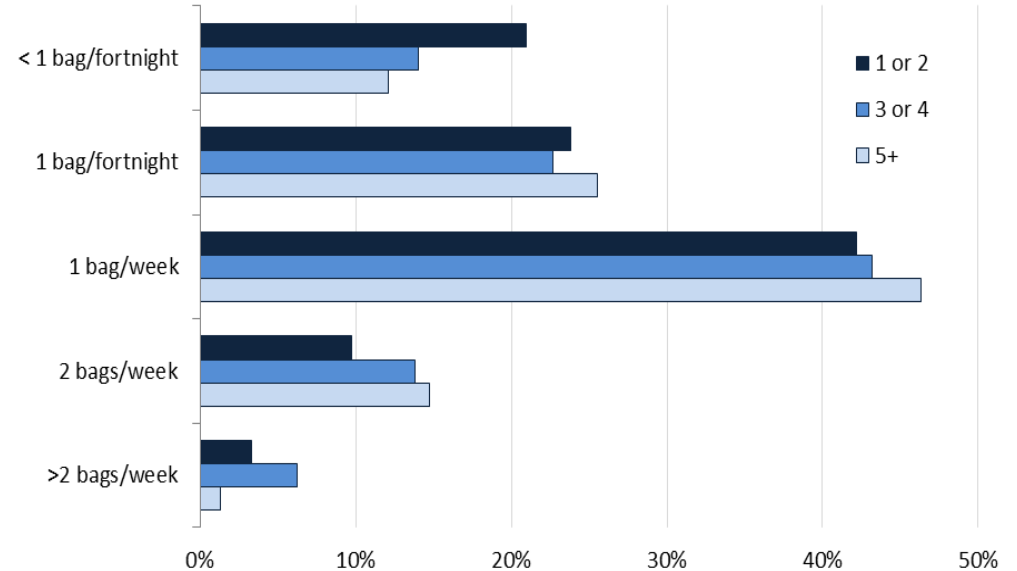
Rubbish: Current practice (bags)

Type of rubbish collection used by Lower Hutt households



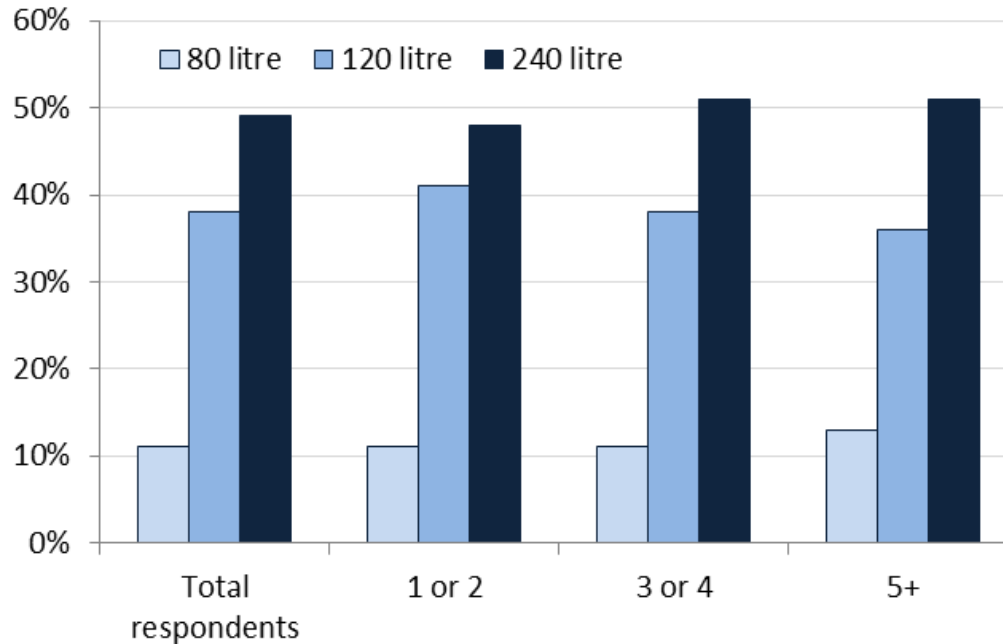
- A private rubbish wheelie-bin service
- The Council's rubbish bag service
- Other

Bag usage by household size (of those that use bags)



Rubbish: Current practice (bins)

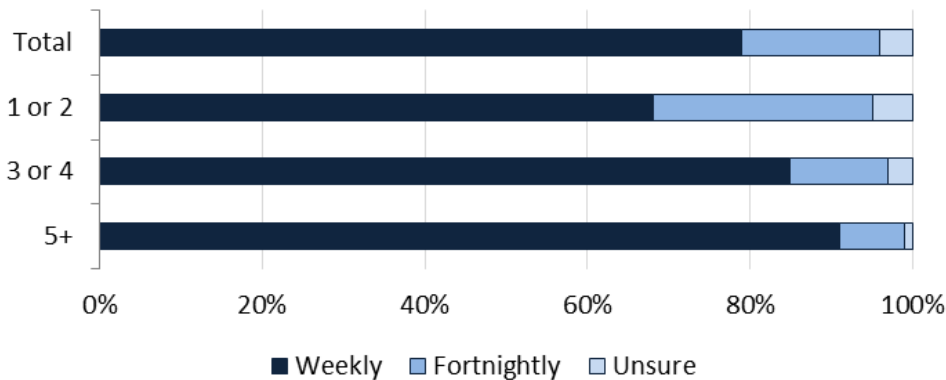
Bin size by household size
(of those that use bins)



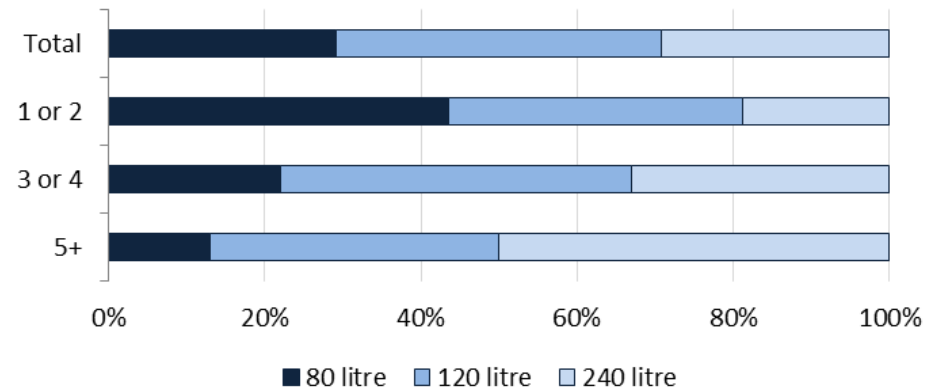
Rubbish: Preferences

- Feedback to review's recommended change to rates-funded bin was via free-text form
- Less than 2% were explicitly against or negative in regard to the recommended changes
- Strong support for weekly collection, slightly less so for smaller households
- Smaller households tend to want smaller bins

Preference of collection frequency by household size



Preference of bin size for weekly collection, by household size



Green waste: Current practice & preference

- 17% of respondents use private green waste service
- 54% of respondents are interested green waste opt-in; for an additional 30% it could be of interest
- 51% would prefer four-weekly collection, with 29% preferring fortnightly

Rationale for LTP consultation options

- Aim: offer maximum choice to rate-payers, while minimising complexity and eliminating those options that are not considered to be viable in the future
- Providing 'option packages' is common practice in community consultation
- All options include the change to a 240 -litre wheelie bin for mixed recycling, and a 45-litre crate for glass ("two-stream recycling"), and has green waste as an opt-in option

Proposed consultation options

Option 1: Wheelie bin and crate for recycling, and rates-funded rubbish bin, weekly, funded through a targeted rate

Option 2: Wheelie bin and crate for recycling, and rates-funded rubbish bin, fortnightly, funded through a targeted rate

Option 3: Wheelie bin and crate for recycling, and Council no longer offering a rubbish service, rubbish collection provided by private sector only

Option 4: Wheelie bin and crate for recycling, and Pay-As-You-Throw rubbish bin, but households only pay for rubbish when they use the service (ie, when the bin is collected and emptied)



+ optional green waste



Why no status quo option for recycling?

- Continuing collection of recycling with crates will prolong our significant litter issues – due to the inherent design of the crates solution
- The existing crates do not have sufficient capacity for recyclables at the kerbside
- Continuing with the collection of recycling with crates only is likely to be more costly than moving to bins
 - \$82 per property/yr for the crate service model
 - \$69 per property/yr for the two-stream service model
- Survey results indicate a preference for the change to the two-stream recycling approach.

Why no status quo option for rubbish?

- Would prolong the current health and safety concerns (due to the inherent design of the rubbish bag collection model)
- The pay-as-you-throw bin option is a feasible alternative to the rubbish bag collection model
- BUT: whether or not the service could be delivered via automatic identification technology such as bar codes would still be subject to information received via the procurement process.

Next steps

**Initial promotion
of potential
change
(Dec-Jan 2020)**

**Education and
information;
pre-
consultation
engagement
(mid-Feb to
mid-March)**

**More detail on
each of the four
options

Digital
engagement
platform
*haveyoursay.hutt
city.govt.nz***

**Formal LTP
consultation
(6 April – 3
May)**

Thank you