Environment Committee 13th September 2018 Appendix M – Options for recycling food waste in the home

The council has reviewed the range of available alternative options for managing food waste including good practice among other local authorities. The practicable options for Barnet residents that want to recycle and reduce household food waste post cessation of the food waste collection service are set out below:

Home Composting

The Council has promoted home composting options for a number of year for all household types both prior to the implementation of and alongside the food waste collection service. The council will increase its promotion of home composting options following the cessation of the separate food collection service, including through its website and via social media.

The Council works with <u>getcomposting.com</u> to make home composting units, wormeries and bokashi bins available to residents at significantly reduced rates. Residents are able to order a range of products as well as access a library of useful information to support and embed home composting efforts.

Composting Bins:

These are suitable for households with outside space to compost both food and garden waste into a nutrient rich food for gardens and greenspaces. There are a range of options accessible to all budgets.



Wormeries:

Wormeries are sealed bins which house a colony of tiger worms that naturally convert your food waste into concentrated liquid plant food and rich organic compost. They are ideal for flats or properties with small or no gardens, and are suitable for indoors or outside use. T



Bokashi Bins:

Bokashi bins are suitable for all property types, including flats without any outdoor space, allowing food and organics to be composted in a sealed container.

Bokashi is a dry mixture of bran and molasses infused with beneficial micro-organisms that suppress pathogens and stop your waste from putrefying or emitting foul odours.



Community Composting

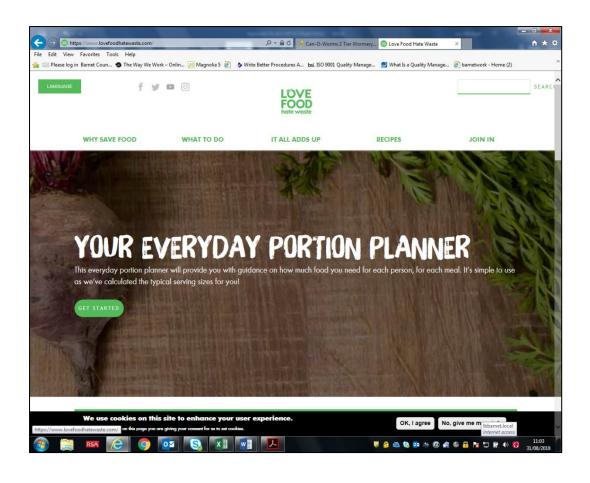
Community composting options and the approaches taken by other London Boroughs have been investigated. This could be a viable option for specific organisations or groups as opposed to an option that would be widely accessible to large numbers of households.

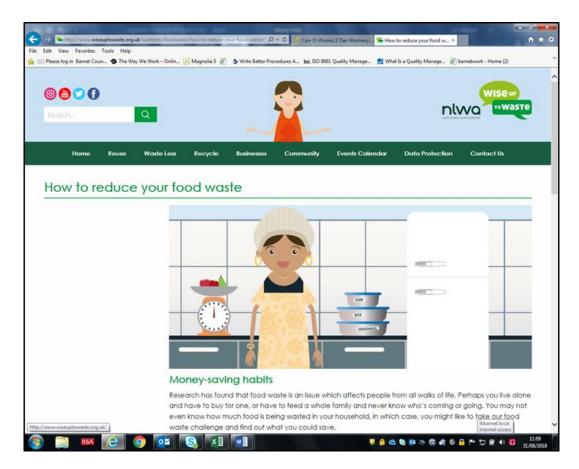
Information will be provided on community composting on request to schools and community groups and support in terms of advice and signposting will be provided to help establish these.

Food Waste Reduction and Waste Prevention

Barnet Council, in line with the waste hierarchy, supports the prevention of waste arising and has delivered both borough specific initiatives, regional initiatives with fellow North London Waste Authority (NLWA) boroughs and supported national Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP) led campaigns aimed at reducing waste. This work will continue, specifically targeted at reducing food waste.

Barnet Council is a partner in the NLWA 'Wise up to Waste' www.wiseuptowaste.org.uk initiative which actively promotes simple and effective ways of reducing food waste and saving money through practical 'waste less food, save more money' advice targeted at North London residents. The Council also promotes the national WRAP led campaigns 'Love Food Hate Waste' www.lovefoodhatewaste.com. This campaign is recognised within the waste sector as having been successful in bringing food waste into mainstream focus, creating a trend of households reducing their food waste for both financial and environmental benefits. Images of the campaigning websites are shown below.





Barnet Council's website is undergoing a refresh. The new website will go live in November 2018. Webpages will be reordered with waste prevention, food waste reduction and home composting information prioritised. Once live the new website and relevant weblinks will be publicised widely to residents.

In addition, we will utilise multiple social media platforms to promote alternatives to separate food waste collection and reduction in food waste.