

ITEM No ...4.....

REPORT TO: NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES COMMITTEE – 13 JUNE 2022

REPORT ON: COFFEE POD RECYCLING

REPORT BY: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

REPORT NO: 132-2022

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report provides an update on the operation of coffee pod recycling systems and recycling opportunities available to residents within Dundee.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that the committee notes the content of this report.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 Following a request at the Neighbourhood Services Committee on 21st of February 2022, it was agreed that a report would be brought back to committee to outline the Council's position in relation to the recycling of coffee pods.

4.2 Manufacturers of pod and capsule dispensed drinks systems have made the strategic decision to act ahead of forthcoming producer packaging regulations (EPR (Extended Producer Responsibility)), likely to be introduced post 2023, that will require manufacturers to put in place further measures to recover the packaging materials they place on the market. This has led to the creation of an organisation called Podback which is a not-for-profit membership company established to maximise the recovery and recycling of used pods and capsules manufactured and placed on the UK market by its membership.

4.3 Podback appointed consultants Eunomia Research and Consulting Ltd, have engaged in initial discussions with local authorities across the UK around opportunities to become part of the Podback network. There are several options around the level and nature of involvement with the system and support available to promote the system to householders. The set up and operation of the system is incumbent on the manufacturers and is being led by the industry.

4.4 Following the initial launch of the system in Spring 2021, the drop off at a Collect+ collection point opportunity is now available throughout Dundee. Householders with Nespresso, Tassimo and Nestle Dolce Gusto pods can now participate through the scheme by registering on the Podback website, where they can obtain free bags and details of the collection points nearest to their home address. This is operated through an interactive section of the Podback.org web site where users can enter their pod type and postcode to receive details on their nearest collection point.

4.5 The emphasis is on Podback appointed consultants to progress engagement. An approach was made to the Council in late 2021. Through this dialogue the waste management service has registered an interest in becoming part of the network. This would initially be through the promotion of the Podback.org resources and utilisation of key strategic drop off points operated through the Collect+ stores network (Appendix 1).

- 4.6 There is currently no statutory obligation for local authorities to offer this service to householders. An initial analysis suggests that kerbside collection services would present additional vehicle and staffing costs, this in turn would create additional budgetary pressures, where an existing take back system, which is the responsibility of the manufacturers, already exists. The best practical environmental option for the Council is the development of several drop off points at Household Waste Recycling Centres, in conjunction with the Podback system as it becomes more established. To date there are a limited number of local authorities operating a kerbside collection service. Seven local authorities in England, with none in Scotland so far.

5.0 NEXT STEPS

- 5.1 The Council is to establish a closer working relationship with the Podback system operator to promote the collection system and the Collect+ network of drop off points to householders and this would be highlighted in the Council's A-Z recycling guide and promoted through the Council's web site.
- 5.2 Consideration will be given to introducing drop off points at both household waste recycling centres as the scheme becomes more established in the Dundee area

6.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 This report has been subject to an assessment of any impacts on Equality and Diversity, Fairness and Poverty, Environment and Corporate Risk. There are no major issues.

7.0 CONSULTATIONS

- 7.1 The Council Leadership Team have been consulted in the preparation of this report and agree with its contents.

Elaine Zwirlein
Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services

Tony Boyle
Head of Environment

9 May 2022

Appendix 1. Collect + Network of drop off points, Dundee Area

Collect+ Shops Offering Podback Drop Off*

Shop Name	Address	Postcode
McColls	6 High Street	DD1 1LS
New Food & Wine plus	94-96 Nethergate	DD1 4EL
Spar - CJ Lang	306 Perth Road	DD2 1AU
City Booze	160 City Road	DD2 2LD
Dryburgh Newsagents	24 Dryburgh Street	DD2 2SU
Lochee New Plus	150 High Street	DD2 3BZ
McColls	597 Charleston Drive	DD2 4AE
Haldane Stores	7-11 Haldane Avenue	DD3 0JL
Spar - CJ Lang	303-305 Hilltown	DD3 7AQ
Glens Convenience Store	262-264 Clepington Road	DD3 8DY
Spar - CJ Lang	83 MacAlpine Road	DD3 8RE
Best One	159 Pitkerro Road	DD4 8DH
Spar - CJ Lang	76-80 Ballindean Road	DD4 8NU
Graham Street News	14 Graham Street	DD4 9AH
Countdown Family Stores	93-95 Fintry Drive	DD4 9JB
Broughty Ferry News	258-260 King Street	DD5 2BA
MS News	12 Campfield Square	DD5 2PU

* Source – www.collectplus.co.uk

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