

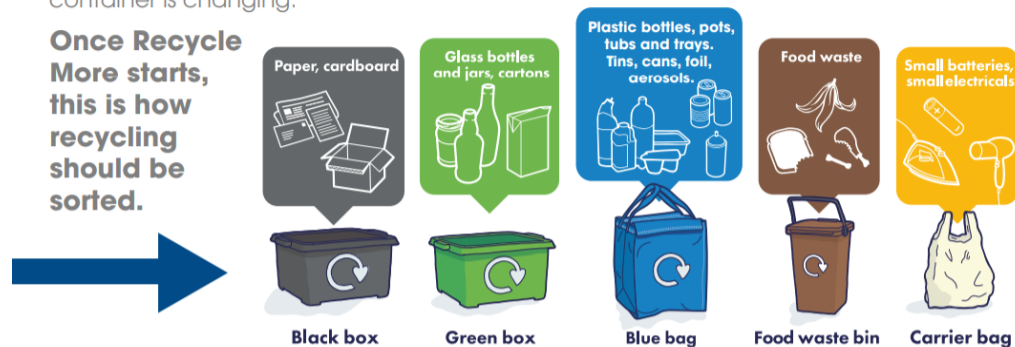
District Council News

- **Recycle More is currently rolling out across South Somerset.** Every house should have received a leaflet explaining the changes to collection days. Plenty of questions have come my way regarding changes to collection days. I'm pleased to say that most questions can be answered on Somerset Waste Partnerships website, which now includes the new collection day timetable:

<https://www.somersetwaste.gov.uk/>

What will go where?

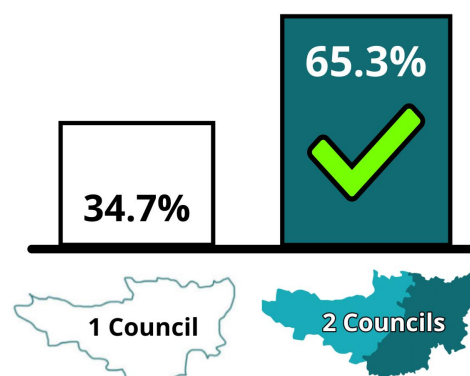
With new items collected in the **Bright Blue Bag**, what goes into which recycling container is changing.



- **Chronic Heavy/Light Goods Vehicle Driver Shortages** have affected waste collections over the last month or so. This has been widely reported in the press, with industry leaders claiming the shortage now stands at 100,000+ drivers and is also threatening empty shelves in supermarkets this summer. This is linked to many factors, including (1) covid reducing the UK's capacity to conduct HGV driving tests, (2) drivers leaving the sector due to changes to the way drivers are taxed, and (3) large numbers of the EU workforce leaving the UK. This last point is particularly pertinent, because in normal times the shortage would be mitigated by EU drivers. However, that is not possible due to the government's new points-based immigration policy. **The good news is that Recycle More will alleviate these pressures, as Somerset Waste Partnership will need 10 less drivers** to service Somerset's waste management needs.

- **Unitary update** - As reported last month, the public poll closed on Fri 4th June and the results are as follows: 111,000 voters took part, with 65% voting for the 2 Council option. At point of writing, we are still waiting for the Secretary of State for Local Government, Robert Jenrick MP, to decide which plan (1 Council or 2 Councils) gets the green light. After that, his decision will be debated in Parliament and ratified in the autumn.

The results are in...



Coronavirus response

- *There is still one Somerset-wide contact number for covid enquiries: 0300 790 6275*
- Support can also be found here: <https://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Planning

- **Approved 29/6** 21/01309/FUL (Chestnut House, Underhayes; the erection of an outbuilding for Hairdresser Salon & occasional sleeping accommodation)
- **Awaiting decision** 21/01281/HOU (Field House, Broad Lane; the demolition of single garage and erection of a double garage with home office room above; erection 1 bedroom granny annexe; relocation of LPG tank; alterations to driveway; new rear garden room extension)
- **Awaiting decision** 21/01329/HOU (441 Weston St; insertion of stone mullion windows, erection of front entrance porch, erection of 2 storey rear extension and replacement dormer window)
- **New:** 21/01178/HOU (to change all wooden windows, soffits and fascias to UPVC)

Casework relevant to East Chinnock

- Nothing on my desk at present

Upcoming Events

- Area West - Weds 21st July
- Next Full Council - Thurs 8th July at 6.30pm, Westlands Entertainment Venue

Email: oliver.patrick@southsomerset.gov.uk

☎ 07969 269416

