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What financial benefit has been identified from the implementation of a deposit return scheme and how much is this worth to the council?

What efficiencies in waste collection services have been identified as a result of the introduction of a deposit return scheme and how much are these worth to the council?

How many FTE equivalent posts in waste management does the council anticipate to increase or decrease as a result of the introduction of a deposit return scheme

We do not hold current data. The implementation has been delayed twice and is not now expected until mid-2023. Our cost base has and will continue to change over the period since the plan was announced until its introduction, and this will impact significantly on any savings made. The assumptions made (that the scheme will divert 90% of the containers covered) were based on the experience overseas, in some cases in countries who did not offer such comprehensive kerbside recycling services as we do prior to the introduction of the deposit system.

The containers covered by the scheme only form a percentage of the household waste stream and it remains to be seen whether diverting these will reduce the volume of waste collected to the extent that collection services can be reconfigured (e.g. by changing collection frequency), and how this balances off against any loss of income from recycled materials.

We also believe that any savings associated with Cleansing Services will be marginal. The main cost is in staff and vehicles and those will continue to be required to collect all the other litter.