Calne Town Council

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Sarah Gibson MP
Member of Parliament for Chippenham
and
Brian Mathew MP
Member of Parliament for Melksham
and Devizes

BY EMAIL

14 October 2026

Dear Sarah and Brian

Future of Lower Compton Household Recycling Centre and Proposed Booking System

I am writing on behalf of Calne Town Council following the consideration of a report regarding the future of the Lower Compton Household Recycling Centre and the proposed introduction of a booking system.

Members noted assurances that the Lower Compton Household Recycling Centre will remain open until a replacement facility has been constructed. However, councillors remain concerned about the long-term provision of a conveniently located Household Recycling Centre serving Calne and the surrounding communities.

Following discussion, Calne Town Council resolved to oppose the introduction of a booking system at the Lower Compton site. Members recognised that some Household Recycling Centres may experience severe congestion and queuing on surrounding roads, and that booking systems may provide a solution in those circumstances. However, no such issue currently exists at Lower Compton.

The Town Council's view is that introducing a booking system where there is no demonstrated need creates an unnecessary barrier for residents wishing to recycle responsibly. Furthermore, Members noted that the forthcoming move to three-weekly household waste collections may increase demand on Household Recycling Centres. Ensuring residents retain easy access to recycling facilities will therefore become even more important.

The Council also resolved to lobby Wiltshire Council and Wiltshire's Members of Parliament to ensure that Calne retains access to a Household Recycling Centre for future generations. Residents of Calne and the surrounding villages should not face significantly longer journeys or reduced access to recycling facilities as a consequence of future changes to waste infrastructure.

In addition, Members deferred consideration of the proposed replacement site near Royal Wootton Bassett pending the availability of further information. Councillors felt that additional

detail is required before an informed view can be reached on the suitability of the proposed location and its impact on residents who currently rely on Lower Compton.

We would therefore be grateful for your support in:

- Opposing the introduction of a booking system at Lower Compton unless a clear operational need can be demonstrated.
- Championing the retention of accessible Household Recycling Centre provision for Calne and the surrounding area.
- Seeking assurances from Wiltshire Council that local residents will continue to have reasonable and convenient access to recycling facilities in the future.

We would welcome the opportunity to discuss these concerns further and would appreciate any support you can provide on behalf of local residents.

Yours sincerely



Sally Thurston - MA BA(Hons) FSLCC

Director of Council Services

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