

# WASTE HEROES



**Adam Thompson**  
**Health and Safety Advisor**



**BARNSELY**  
Metropolitan Borough Council  
Judge us by our actions

# BACKGROUND & CONTEXT

**Metropolitan  
Borough –  
population  
246,000**

**Blend of  
urban & rural  
settlements**

**Traditional  
mining town  
with a strong  
sense of  
community**

**113,000  
households**

**Collect  
approx. 1500  
bins per day  
per crew**

**8.12 million  
bin lifts per  
year – collect  
99.93% right  
first time**

**Constant  
drive for  
continuous  
improvement**

# PRIOR TO COVID – STARTING AT A GOOD PLACE



Safer@Work project and the health and safety culture at Business Unit 6 – Place



Development of risk assessments as “living documents” and engagement with crews – type of risk assessments



All employees receive specific ( hoist training) and general (IOSH) training



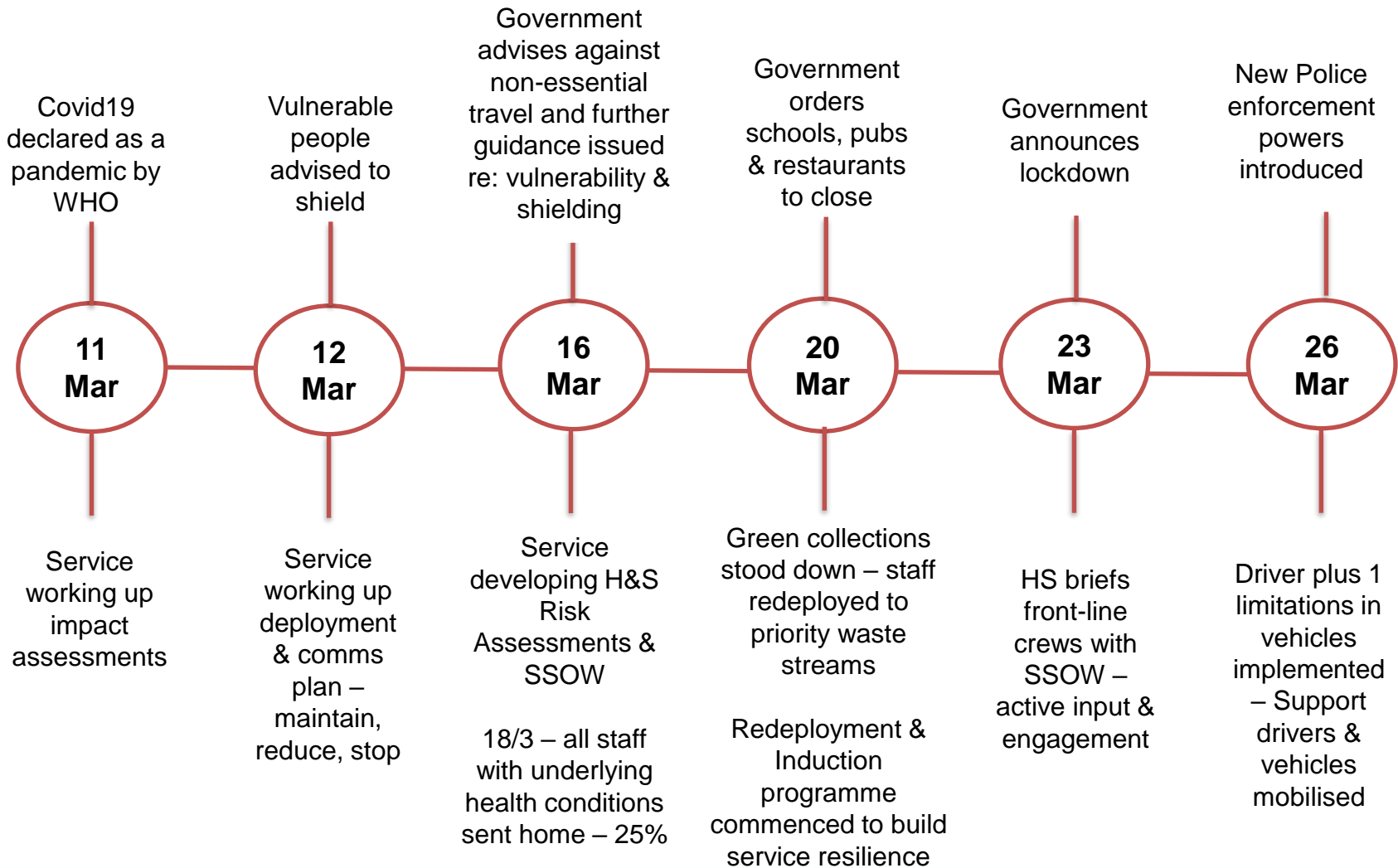
Proactive measures – Benchmarking audit of the service (P Knowles) , gap analysis (Face fit testing)



Working with other Las , “Kill the heroes” meetings



# KEY PRE-LOCKDOWN TIMELINE



# EARLY CHALLENGES – the need to be agile

- PPE – “lies , damned lies and masks”
- 9 months stock gone in two weeks
- Issued 540000 items of PPE in first 94 days , 100000 masks
- FFP1 ,2 , 3, K95 , N95 , IIR – pick a price and double it
- Gloves
  
- Risk assessments and SSoW – updating risk assessments to meet changing Government , PHE , WISH , HSE guidance – keeping up to date from home and communicating to managers at depot.
  
- Trust IT and TEAMS
  
- “COSHH assessments – cleaning of cabs – bleach solutions and PX Lepto
- Hand sanitisers – smells nice but does it work
- Using SYPOL – continued support throughout COVID
- Safety data sheets @



# KEY AREAS NEEDING RISK ASSESSMENTS

- Bringing a driver plus one back into work – secondments , agency staff
- Changes to the lay out of the site
- Staggered early morning briefings in socially distanced seating in the canteen
- Collection of keys
- “Covid cabin kit”
- Driver plus one risk assessment – the Perspex perspective
- Cleaning – 72 hour isolation versus deep clean
- Additional vehicles and additional crews
- Laundering of workwear
- Disposal of gloves and wipes
- OHU assessments and RAG rating @



# IMPROVEMENTS MADE AND FUTURE PROOFING

- Moving back to 3 in a cab
- The need and problems trying to keep a static work bubble
- PPE management
- Fake news - hand sanitiser
- Taking the time to continue to be pro-active – personal and group advances made by using the networking and shared knowledge of APSE, North West IOSH group, WISH group , Peritus Health , Behaviour Change
- Use the capacity to extend your own knowledge – NCRQ , IOSH behavioural science course
- HS focus groups set up and two held already
- Accidents – reporting and near miss apps
- Continue with the Comms
- Continue with safer@work
- Limitations with TEAMS – work life balance
- Second wave ? – Barnsley for second lockdown ?
- “Chewing Gum Nudge Project” @



# COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGNS

## Keeping waste moving

We're working hard to keep all bin collections going, but COVID-19 is causing a disruption to services.

While we will do our best to collect all bins, we have ranked them in the following order of priority:



recycle for Barnsley

## Street cleansing

Our street cleansing functions continue to be prioritised despite the challenges of COVID-19. We're still:

- Emptying street bins
- looking after our town centres and principal towns
- tackling fly-tipping.



EVERYBODY  
THINK!

#KeepingBarnsleyMoving

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## How you can help

### HELP US TO WORK SAFELY

#coronavirus

#### Changing the way we work

We are working hard to continue bin collections. Please help us to help you and wash your hands before and after handling your bin. Let's work together to help keep your family and our refuse workers safe.



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If someone in your household is showing signs of COVID-19, please make sure to double-bag your personal waste, such as used tissues and disposable cleaning cloths. You can put these in disposable rubbish bags and then into another bag, tied securely and kept separate from other waste.

Put this waste aside for at least 72 hours before it's put in your external household waste bin.

recycle for Barnsley



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THINK!



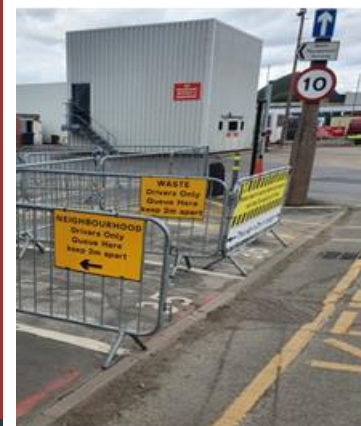
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# HEALTH & SAFETY



- Risk Assessments
- Safe Systems of Work
- Staff Briefings
- Signs & Safety Barriers
- H&S Champions
- Deployment Boxes
- Training Audit
- Induction programme
- Training Tracker
- Driver plus 1 in vehicles
- Screens in Crew Cabs
- OHU Assessments



# CUSTOMER FEEDBACK

## Well done! 😊

Good morning, I must congratulate the bin men who have just emptied our bins. They observed the regulations regarding social distancing and seemed to be in good spirits. I opened our bedroom window to applaud them, but they couldn't hear me. If you are able, please pass on our thanks!

We have made a big poster so next time your crews are in Bolton ask them to stop and take a picture please, would be lovely to see a bin man stood next to it having his picture taken.

Good to see collection back on track, grey bin having been emptied this morning. Well done that department.

I forgot to put my bin out last night. I was woken by the sound of the lorry coming down the street. I ran out and dragged my bin out. The lorry had passed my house. One of the bin men kindly took it down the street to the lorry for me. I would like for him to know how grateful I am for this.

Fantastic service from our bin men once again. Collections are like nothing is happening in the world, on date and time. Thanks guys, you really are appreciated at this awful time.

Thank you for emptying our bin today much appreciated in the present climate, I do feel so grateful and wanted to say. The times we are experiencing are hard for everyone. Thank you so much for making it a bit easier by emptying the main bin.



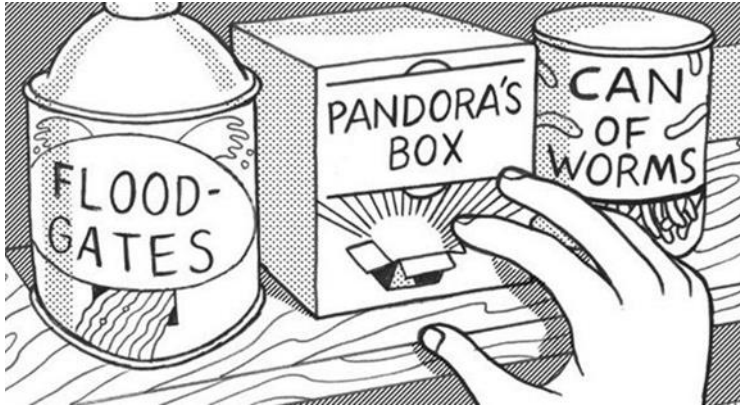
## Well done! 😊

My 2-year-old has an obsession with bin lorries. I just want to say thank you to the bin men who are always friendly and wave, say hello and make his day. If you could pass this on, I know it's nothing, but to him it makes his day, especially at times like this. The guys today asked him how his day has been and were just generally really kind (from a distance of course 😊).

Just wanted to say a BIG thank you to Barnsley Council recycling for coming back this morning to see my 2 kids for them to give them their Jaffa cakes. They loved it and thanks for taking the time out of your busy day to make their day. They had a distanced chat and were mesmerised by the bin lorry. My little boy dropped them at the end of the drive for them to pick up as we stood back, hope you enjoy them with a well-earned cuppa!!! - 😊 feeling happy.



# Continuing to be a waste hero



**WASTE COLLECTORS**

**TOP TRUMPS**

ORIGINATED COLLECT WINS!: 1348      UNSUNG HERO: 9

GADGETS & GIZMOS: 2      STREET STYLE: 10

**TOP TRUMPS FILE:**

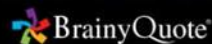
Waste collectors are responsible for keeping our streets clean by organising and managing waste disposal, collection and recycling facilities. In 1297 England passed a law making it illegal to leave rubbish outside one's home. In 1348 "rakers" (street sweepers) became common in London, but this came at an unfortunate time. The Black Death swept Europe, meaning rakers manned the front line in the war against disease, both combatting it, and falling victim to it. In terms of facing a pandemic, refuse workers can rightly joke, "we've bin here before!"





**Far and away the best prize that  
life has to offer is the chance to  
work hard at work worth doing.**

Theodore Roosevelt



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