

Survey Results - Week Commencing 20th July 2020

- * *Results are based on a sample of Local Authorities (LAs) taken in the W/C 20th July 2020. The sample size varies each survey and these results should be taken as a general indication of levels and trends.*
- * *Responses represent best reasonable estimates at the date and time the survey is completed, and for some Local Authorities (LAs), may be reported with a week's lag.*
- * *Although this document is not in itself an official statistics release, it and the indicators within it, have undergone a proportionate level of quality assurance.*
- * *Percentages throughout this document may not sum to totals due to rounding*

Collection Services



*Axis dates given as 'week commencing...'

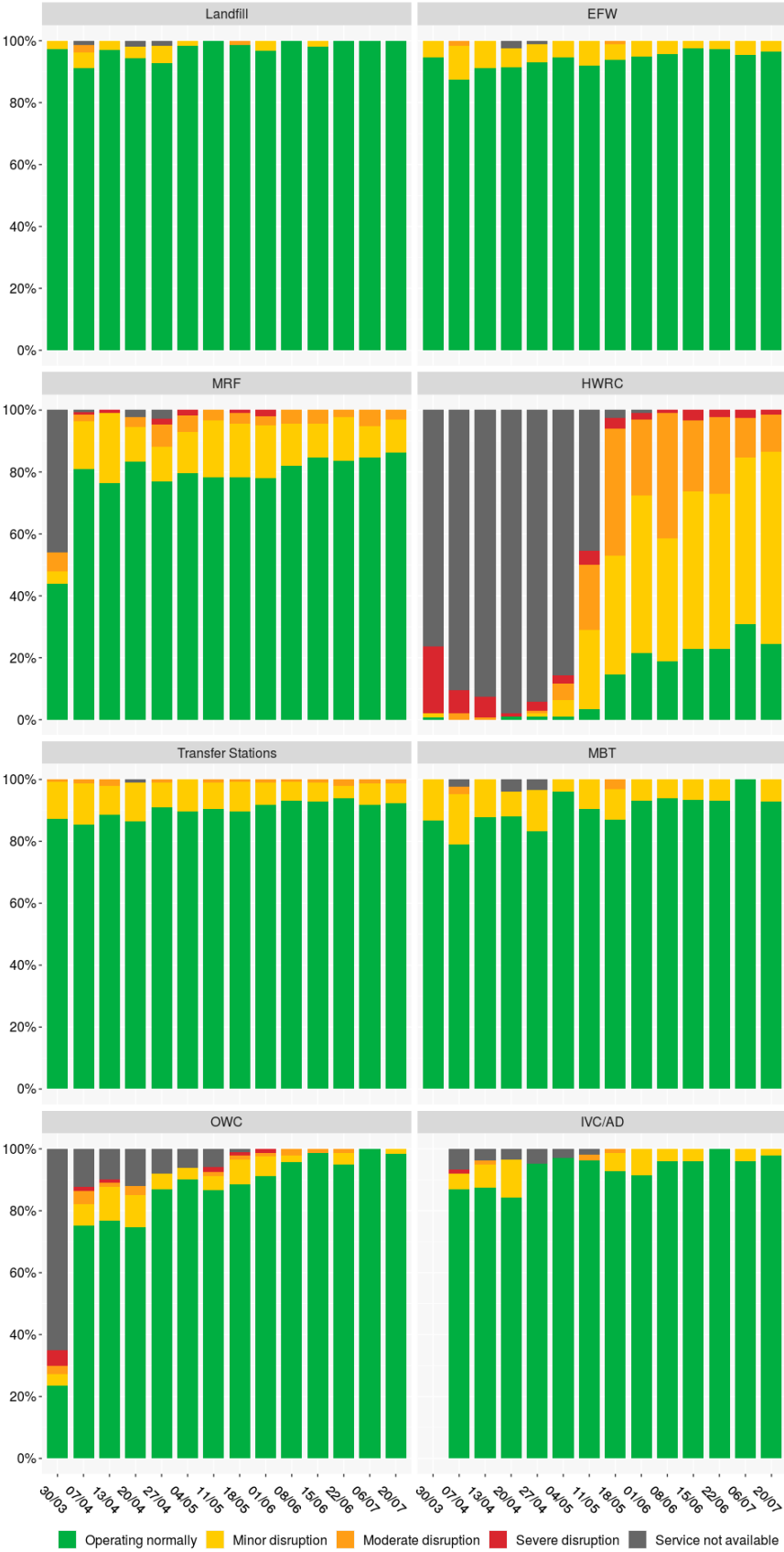
- **Residual waste:** A relatively constant picture since reporting began, the vast majority (**92%**) of Waste Collection Authorities/Unitary Authorities (WCAs/UAs) responding to our survey in the W/C 20th July 2020 who provide residual waste collections, report these to be operating as normal.
- **Recycling:** Four in five (**82%**) recycling collections provided are reported in the W/C 20th July by responding authorities to be operating as normal. This percentage is reported to have increased over the last six weeks. Minor disruption is reported by **15%** of responding authorities, while **3%** report moderate levels of disruption. Levels of disruption to recycling collection services have been consistently greater than for residual collection services.
- **Food waste:** Three in four (**77%**) authorities responding to our survey in the W/C 20th July and who provide food waste collections, report these to be operating as normal. Just **1%** of responding authorities report their food collection services to be currently unavailable, down from 7% in the W/C 30th March. A sustained proportion (**18%**) continue to report minor disruption however.
- **Garden waste:** **90%** of garden waste collection services are reported to be operating as normal in the W/C 20th July, the highest percentage reported since our survey began in late March. Of the remainder, a similar share of authorities report either minor or moderate levels of disruption to services in place. No authorities report their garden waste collection services to be unavailable in the W/C 20th July, compared to a third when reporting began in the W/C 30th March.
- **Commercial waste:** Though in relation to the W/C 6th July, the percentage of authorities reporting moderate or severe disruption to commercial waste collections (due to internal impacts rather than impacts due to reduced demand) has fallen substantially, a quarter (**27%**) of responding authorities still report disruption to commercial waste collection services in the W/C 20th July, albeit minor disruption. The remainder, **73%**, report commercial waste collections are operating as normal.
- **Clinical waste:** Consistently reported to be the least disrupted collection service, almost all (**99%**) clinical waste collections (generally ran in four-fifths of authorities represented in this survey) are reported to be operating as normal in the W/C 20th July. **1%** of responding LAs report this service to be unavailable.
- **Bulky collections:** No authorities reported bulky collection services they provide to be unavailable in the W/C 20th July, compared to two-thirds of responding authorities in the W/C 30th March. Roughly four in five authorities (**79%**) report that bulky waste collections are operating as normal in the W/C 20th July, with the majority of the remainder reporting minor levels of disruption.
- **Bring banks:** Down in relation to the last survey a fortnight ago, about two-thirds (**67%**) of responding authorities report bring banks services they provide to be operating as normal in the W/C 20th July. This figure has not increased significantly since a step-improvement in the W/C 4th May. In the W/C 20th July, **22%** of authorities report bring

bank services to be experiencing minor disruption, while **2%** report the service is unavailable.

- **Street sweepings:** The vast majority (**90%**) of responding authorities in the W/C 20th July report street-sweeping and litter collection services are operating as normal, the highest percentage since reporting began in later March. **8%** report their street sweeping services to be experiencing minor disruption, while none report this service is unavailable.
- The vast majority (**92%**) of **fly-tipping clearance** collections are reported to be operating as normal in the W/C 20th July. **8%** are reported to be in operation, but with minor disruption.

	Operating normally	Minor disruption	Moderate disruption	Severe disruption	Service not available
Residual	92%	6%	3%	0%	0%
Recycling	82%	15%	3%	0%	0%
Food	77%	18%	4%	0%	1%
Garden	90%	1%	5%	1%	0%
Clinical	99%	0%	0%	0%	1%
Commercial	73%	27%	0%	0%	0%
Bulky	79%	17%	4%	0%	0%
Bring Banks	67%	22%	8%	1%	2%
Fly-Tip Clearance	92%	8%	0%	0%	0%
Street Sweeping	90%	8%	1%	1%	0%

Disposal Services



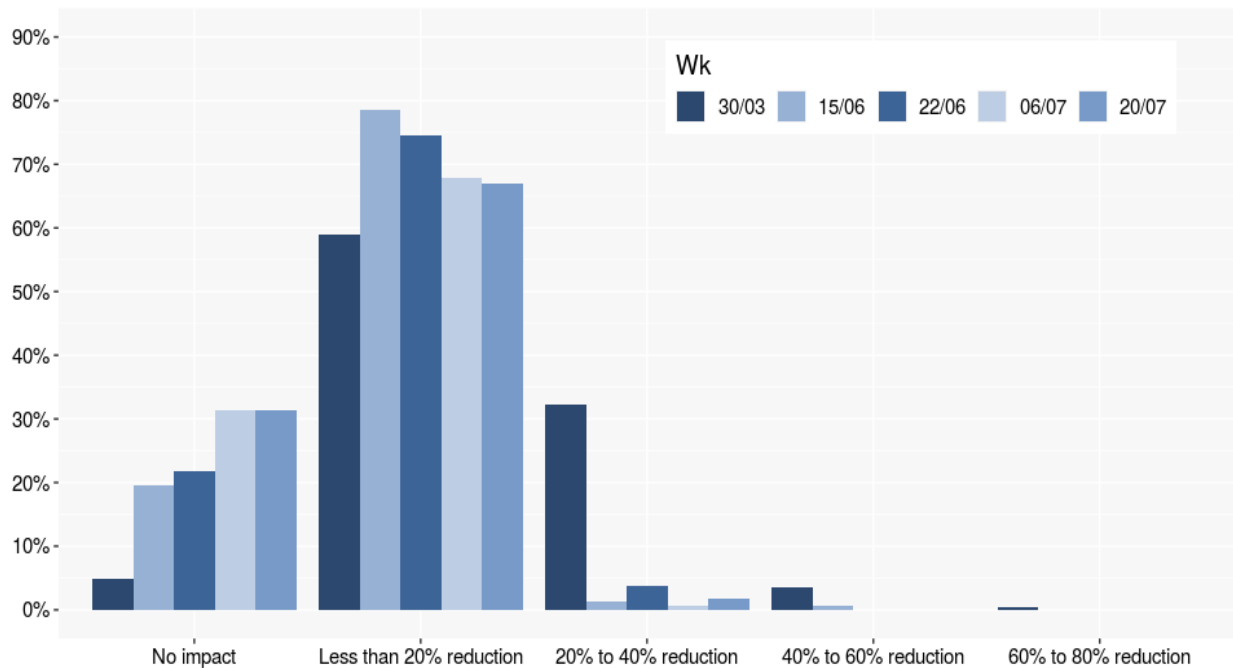
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- All **landfilling** and nearly all **Energy from Waste (EfW)** disposal services (**96%**) utilised by authorities responding to our survey in the W/C 20th July, are reported to be operating as normal. There has been a relatively consistent picture across both waste treatment methods since the W/C 30th March, though EfW has consistently been reported to have a slightly greater level of disruption across the period for reporting.
- **Material Recycling Facilities (MRFs)**: **86%** of responding authorities reported MRF services they utilise to be operating as normal in the W/C 20th July. This figure has improved incrementally across the last 6 weeks. **11%** report minor disruption to current operations.
- **Transfer stations**: As in previous weeks, most (**92%**) transfer station services are reported to be continuing to operate without any disruption by authorities responding to our survey in the W/C 20th July.
- **Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs)**: In the W/C 20th July, no authority reported their HWRCs services to be unavailable, compared to more than three in four authorities when reporting began in the W/C 30th March. Nevertheless, **62%** of responding authorities reported HWRCs they run to be experiencing minor disruption in the W/C 20th July and just a quarter (**24%**) report them to be operating as normal. The situation has not changed substantially since the start of June.
- **Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT)**: MBT services are reported to be operating as normal by the vast majority (**93%**) of the relatively small proportion of responding authorities where this is a disposal service (a fifth) in the W/C 20th July. The remainder of authorities where this is usually a provided service report experiencing minor disruption.
- **Open Windrow Composting (OWC)**: OWC services are reported to be operating as normal by almost all (**98%**) responding authorities in the W/C 20th July. No authority has reported this service to be unavailable within our survey for over two months.
- Nearly all (**98%**) **In-Vessel Composting (IVC)** and **Anaerobic Digestion (AD)** services are reported to be in normal operations by LAs responding to our survey in the W/C 20th July.

	Operating normally	Minor disruption	Moderate disruption	Severe disruption	Service not available
Landfill	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%
EFW	96%	4%	0%	0%	0%
MRF	86%	11%	3%	0%	0%

HWRC	24%	62%	12%	1%	0%
Transfer Stations	92%	6%	1%	0%	0%
MBT	93%	7%	0%	0%	0%
OWC	98%	2%	0%	0%	0%
IVC/AD	98%	2%	0%	0%	0%

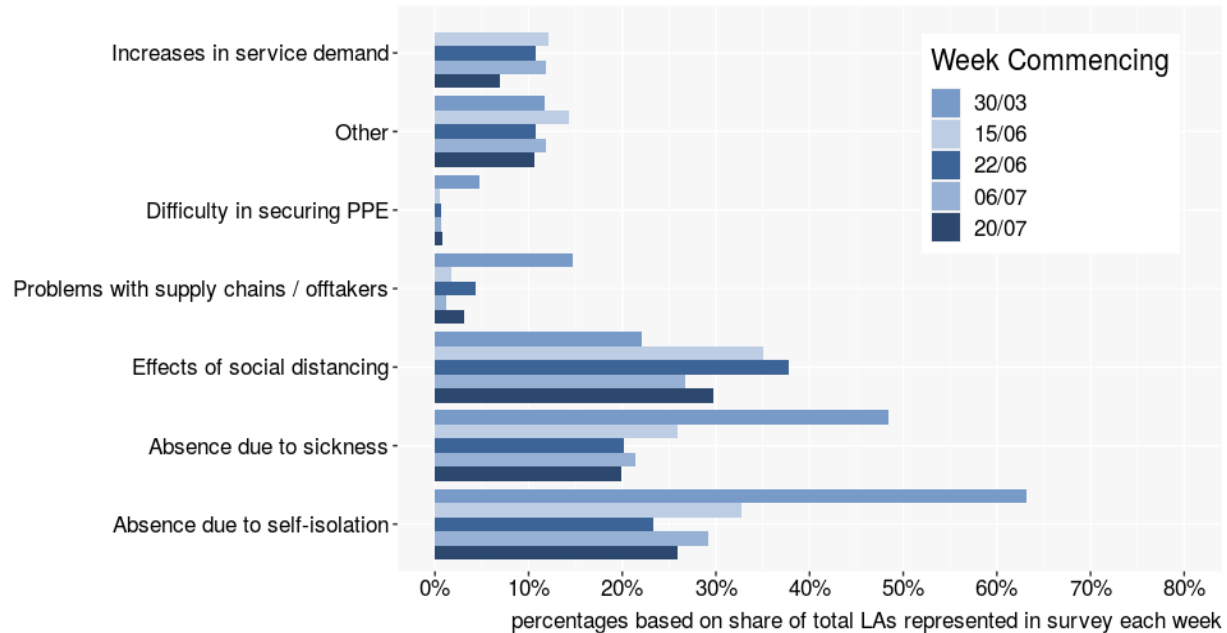
Staff Absence Levels



- In the W/C 20th July 2020, **31%** of responding authorities reported experiencing 'no impact' on operational staffing levels. This figure has increased fairly consistently as the percentage of authorities reporting any other category of impact has fallen.
- **67%** of authorities reported a 'less than 20% reduction' in staffing levels in the W/C 20th July, while just **2%** reported a '20-40% reduction' on staffing levels (down from a third of authorities in the W/C 30th March).
- Instances of the worst levels of disruption i.e. a greater than 40% reduction, have not been reported in a significant number for the last two months.

Reasons for Service Changes

Collection



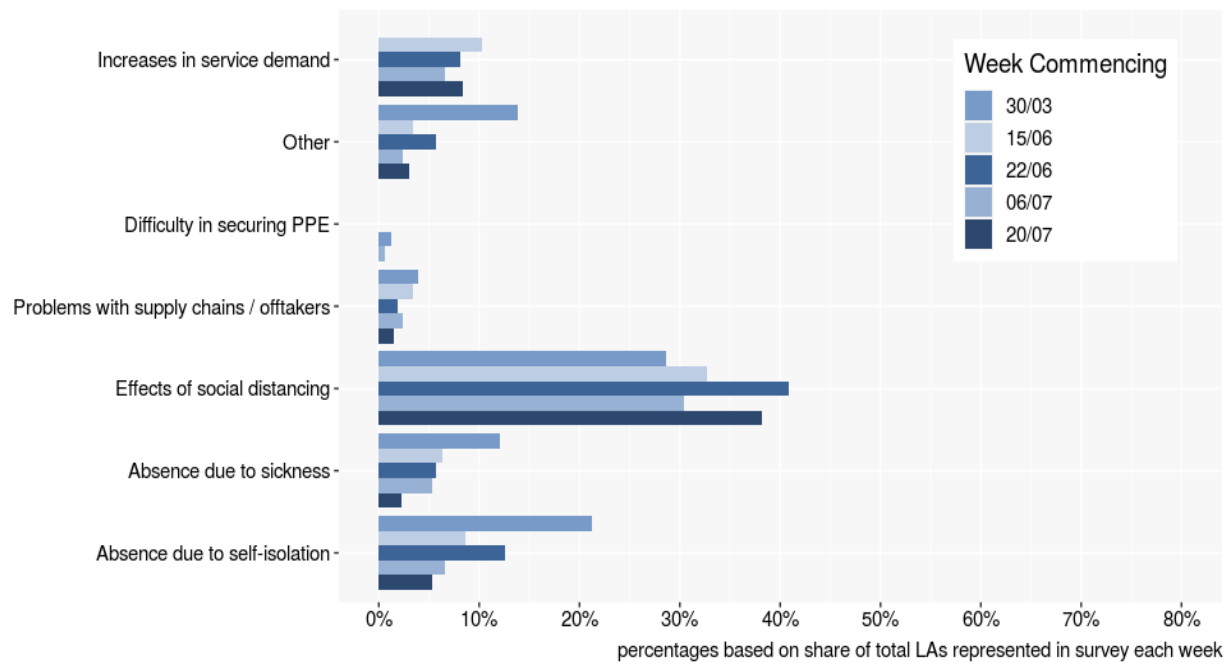
Percentages may sum to greater than 100%, as responding LAs can state more than one reason

- In the W/C 20th July, the greatest reported cause for disruption to collection services by responding authorities where disruption is arising, was the **effects of social distancing**. This was identified by **30%** of responding authorities providing waste collection services. A key issues associated with social distancing and collection services related to reduced staff numbers in the cabs of collection vehicles.
- **Staff absence due to self-isolation** was reported as the second greatest cause of disruption to collection services in the W/C 20th July, identified by **26%** of responding authorities.
- **Absence due to sickness** is reported to be a cause for disruption to collection services by **20%** of LAs, the lowest percentage since reporting began and less than half the equivalent figure for the W/C 30th March.
- **7%** of authorities responding to our survey in the W/C 20th July continue to highlight **major increases in demand for services** as a cause for disruption to collection services. Increases in demand for bring banks services, and particularly for glass, have been highlighted.
- **Problems with offtakers** were identified by **3%** of responding authorities as a cause for disruption. For those experiencing problems with offtakers and who made further comment, the material stream reported to be impacted was comingled materials (cans/plastic/fibre/glass) and plastics. The main reason reported for supply chain disruption was limitations on volumes of waste being accepted, with authorities reporting

being unable to place 'under 15% of materials.' The collection activities reported to most impacted by onwards supply chain issues are bring banks, and particularly those collecting textiles.

- **'Other reasons'** for disruption were highlighted by **11%** of responding authorities and included issues with the supply of new and replacement bins impacting garden collection services, local lockdowns affecting street sweeping services and higher levels of recycling contamination than typical.

Disposal



Percentages may sum to greater than 100%, as responding LAs can state more than one reason

- As with collection services, the **effects of social distancing** are the greatest reported cause of disruption to disposal services among responding authorities, reported by **38%** in the W/C 20th July.
 - A key area in which these impacts are being experienced is for HWRCs. Booking systems are reported to have been used to manage demand for HWRCs, along with limiting certain vehicle types, even/odd vehicle registrations being permitted to use the site on alternate days, limiting certain materials and extending opening hours. Total tonnages from HWRCs are reported to be lower than usual by a large number of responding authorities, due to measures taken to implement social distancing at HWRCs.
- **Major increases in service demand** was the next highest reported causes for disruption to disposal services, reported by **8%** of responding authorities in the W/C 20th July.
- **Staff absence due to self-isolation** was reported by **5%** of responding authorities as a cause for disruption to disposal services they provide.
- **Staff absences due to sickness** was highlighted by **2%** of responding authorities in the W/C 20th July as a cause for disruption to disposal services, the lowest percentage since reporting began and less than a fifth of the level reported in the W/C 30th March,

- **Problems with supply chains/offtakers** were highlighted by **2%** of responding authorities to our survey in the W/C 20th July. For those experiencing supply chain problems at the disposal stage, the waste stream reported to be impacted was co-mingled materials (cans/plastics/fibre and glass). The sole reason reported for this issue was limitations on volumes of waste being accepted, with authorities reporting being unable to place 'under 15% of materials' as a result.

Changes in Waste Arisings (Excluding withdrawn services)

	+100% increase	50-100% increase	20-50% increase	0-20% increase	No impact	0-20% decrease	20-50% decrease	50-100% decrease
Residual	1%	2%	14%	60%	21%	1%	1%	0%
Recycling	1%	3%	36%	47%	13%	0%	1%	0%
Food	0%	0%	11%	60%	28%	0%	0%	1%
Garden	1%	2%	22%	41%	28%	3%	2%	0%
Clinical	0%	1%	0%	3%	95%	0%	1%	0%
Commercial Waste	0%	0%	1%	0%	26%	32%	39%	1%
Bulky	0%	2%	10%	19%	48%	19%	1%	0%
Bring Banks	1%	4%	5%	45%	36%	1%	3%	5%
Fly-Tip Clearance	0%	8%	20%	26%	37%	6%	1%	1%
Street Sweepings/ Litter	0%	0%	5%	20%	59%	10%	5%	1%
HWRCs	0%	0%	1%	32%	16%	24%	22%	5%

- **Residual:** About four in five (**77%**) authorities represented in our survey in the W/C 20th July, report higher than usual residual waste tonnages, with this figure having fallen incrementally since early May. The percentage of authorities reporting residual tonnages to be 'about the same' is the highest since reporting for this survey began.
- **Recycling:** A large majority (**86%**) of authorities responding to our survey in the W/C 20th July, reported recycling waste tonnages to be greater than usual, a similar figure to previous weeks. **47%** of authorities reported increases in tonnages to be in the region of '0-20% greater than normal', while **36%** reported increases to be in the region of '20-50% greater than usual'.
- **28%** of authorities reported **food** and **garden waste** tonnages to be 'about the same' as typical in the W/C 20th July, an increase on previous weeks. Greater than usual levels of food waste tonnages were reported by **71%** of responding authorities, while the equivalent figure was **66%** for garden waste collections.
- **About half (48%)** of authorities in the W/C 20th July reported **bulky waste** collected tonnages to be 'about the same', while **31%** report greater than typical bulky waste collection tonnages.

- **The vast majority (95%)** of authorities report collected **clinical waste** arisings to be at a similar level to usual. This percentage is similar to levels reported in previous weeks.
- About half of authorities in the W/C 20th July (**55%**) reported greater than typical levels of collected waste from **bring banks**, though a growing percentage report waste arisings to be about the same from these sites (**45%** in this latest survey).
- **Fly-tip clearance:** About half of responding authorities (**55%**) in the W/C 20th July, report greater than usual tonnages of collected fly-tipped waste, a similar figure to in previous weeks. The largest category selected by responding authorities for fly-tip clearance in the W/C 20th July was 'about the same' (**37%**).
- **Commercial:** **73%** of responding authorities highlighted a lesser-than-usual level of collected commercial waste tonnages in the W/C 20th July. A higher percentage of authorities (**26%**) report tonnages of commercial waste to be 'about the same as usual' than in previous weeks.
- **Street sweepings/Litter:** Almost three in five responding authorities in the W/C 20th July (**59%**) report no impact on street sweeping/litter tonnages. Of those remaining, a larger percentage (**25%**) reported higher than usual levels of street sweeping/litter tonnages than report lesser than usual tonnages (**16%**).
- **HWRCs:** Just **16%** of responding authorities report collected tonnages at HWRCs to be about the same as typical. Around half of authorities (**51%**) reported less than typical tonnages from HWRCs, while **33%** reported a greater than typical level (mostly a '0-20% increase').