

Kirklees Council

Depot location review



THE CHALLENGE

Kirklees Council operated services from 57 different depots and bases, which varied considerably in size, age and state of repair, in the quality of their facilities, and in the number of workers that used them.

ORH was commissioned to carry out a review to determine depot configurations that would minimise vehicle travel times while rationalising the system to reduce running and improvement costs and, where appropriate, release land for sale.

ORH'S APPROACH

Data were collected from the client on the existing depots, bases and job locations for seven key council services: winter road gritting; domestic refuse collection; highways maintenance; street cleaning; parks, open spaces and verge care, and tree care; cemeteries and crematoria maintenance; building maintenance and small-scale building works.

ORH set up a travel-time model for the area, which enabled analysis of the coverage profile of depot-based services. For example, it showed that 64% of households were currently within 20 minutes of their closest domestic refuse depot.

ORH's optimisation software was then used to identify the optimal depot locations for each service. For some functions, such as highways maintenance and winter road gritting, results were combined to find the best locations for dual or multipurpose depots.

RESULTS

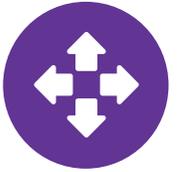
The modelling identified the best location for a new depot in the northern part of Kirklees, which would provide a hub for most of the seven key depot-based functions and allow closures elsewhere. ORH concluded that once the new depot was operational, savings of up to 30% could be achieved over time with minimal extra travel times. For four services, including refuse collection, operational response was predicted to improve with the new configuration. The model also identified several adjustments to depot operations that could be made independently of the new facility coming on stream.



KEY BENEFITS

- ORH's road network data and modelling enabled the evaluation of a large number of options within a very short time
- Modelling demonstrated the potential to rationalise the depot configuration with little or no detriment to journey times and distances for Kirklees vehicles and staff
- Transparent, evidence-based methodology allowed council officers to have confidence in developing a strategy which could be put before Members
- ORH's independent approach highlighted potential solutions which had not previously been considered by the council

Once the new depot was operational, savings of up to 30% could be achieved over time.



Optimising Locations – Public Sector Facilities
Kirklees Council
 Depot location review



www.orhltd.com
 t.+44 (0)118 959 6623