



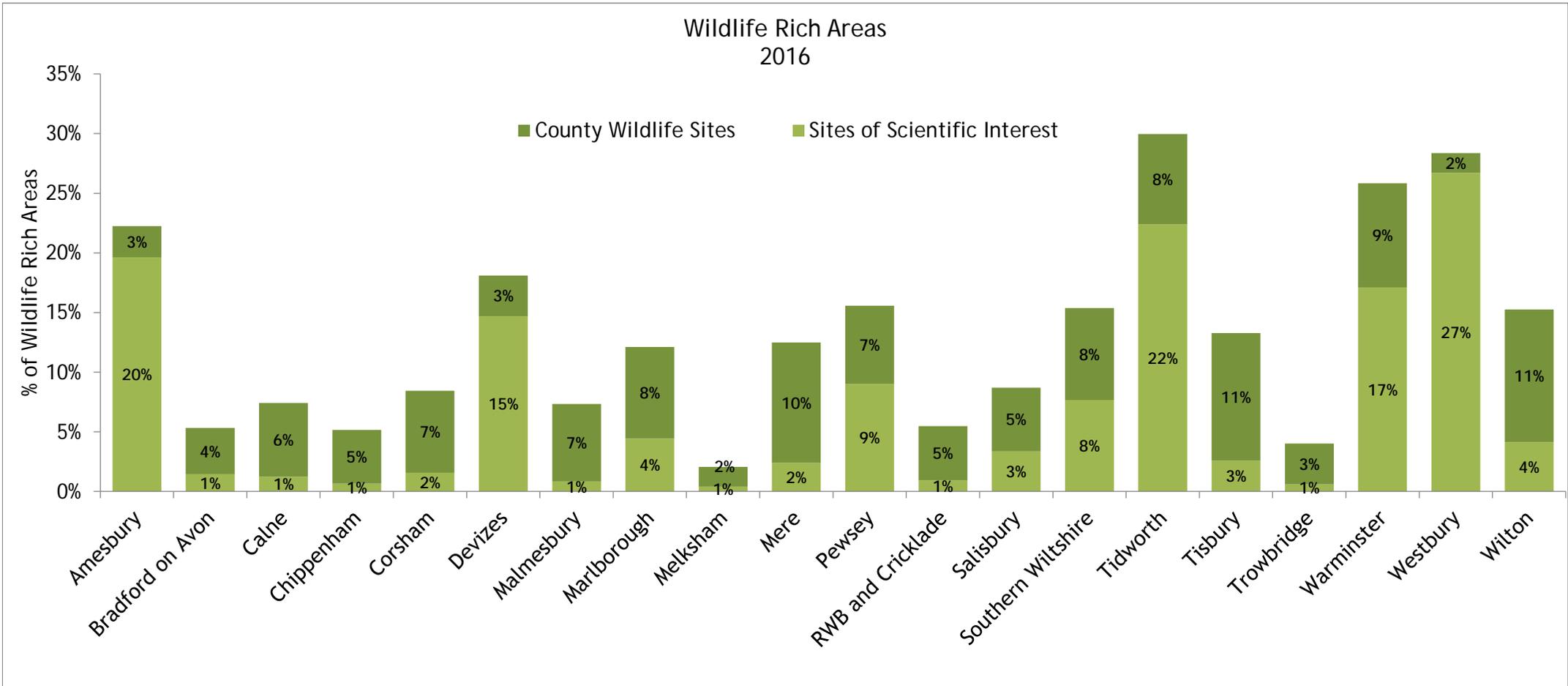
## Environment: Data

Our natural environment makes Wiltshire an attractive place in which to live, work, visit and invest. It enhances our quality of life, improves physical and mental health, and underpins our economy. Our natural environment includes wildlife and countryside but also provides us all with basic services such as clean air, food, water, climate and soils. The State of the Environment report for Wiltshire and Swindon 2013 provides detailed evidence on these issues and the drivers of change that affect them, including population growth, development and climate change. This report and more information about the environment can be found on the Wiltshire Intelligence Network.

The following report provides comparative analysis of a range of key indicators relating to the environment in Wiltshire and is intended as a resource to assist with the identification of local priorities at Community Area level. For each indicator, data for the most recent single year or aggregated time period is shown by Community Area and is compared against the overall Wiltshire benchmark. Where possible, Wiltshire level trend data has also been included and is shown against comparative regional and/or national benchmarks (where this information is available), in order to provide strategic context. It should be noted that as data has been drawn from multiple sources, comparator time periods may vary. The specific time periods used are detailed in the chart titles for each indicator and relevant data sources are contained in the commentary boxes accompanying each chart.

# Wildlife Rich Areas

Two important land designations exist, Sites of Scientific interest (SSIs) and County Wildlife sites. SSSIs are designated at a national level and protected by law. County Wildlife Sites are given special consideration through the planning system, agri-environment schemes and the goodwill of landowners. Wiltshire has 168 SSIs and 1,560 County wildlife sites in total covering 15% of the Wiltshire Local Authority area.



The Community Areas of Tidworth, Westbury, Warminster and Amesbury have over 20% of their area classified as rich in wildlife. The Community Areas of Melksham and Trowbridge Community Area have less than 5% of their areas classified as wildlife rich.

Source: Wiltshire Council 2016

# Country Park Volunteers and Area Quality Management Areas

## Country Park Volunteer Teams

Wiltshire Council organises a number of country park volunteer teams.

The table on the right describes where and how many volunteer teams exists.

The Wiltshire Council team organising the groups report that the Trowbridge group need more members and that Westbury and Devizes each need an additional group.

Source: Wiltshire Council 2016

Country Park Volunteer Teams	
Bradford on Avon	2
Chippenham	1
Corsham	1
Devizes	1
Salisbury	3
Southern Wiltshire	1
Trowbridge	3
Westbury	1

## Air Quality Management Areas

Local Authorities have to designate an air quality management area (AQMA) where air quality is not meeting prescribed standards.

Air quality in Wiltshire is predominantly good with the majority of the county having clean unpolluted air. There are however a small number of locations where the combination of traffic, road layout and geography has resulted in higher than prescribed levels of nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) and fine particulates (PM<sub>10</sub>) that require them to be designated Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA). The table to the right names the Community Areas with an AQMA.

Source: Wiltshire Council 2016

AQMA
Bradford on Avon
Calne
Devizes
Marlborough
Salisbury
Westbury

# Flood Risk and River Quality

In general, Wiltshire's rivers are at risk from a number of factors, including pollution, over-abstraction for water supply, non-native invasive species, modification and damage to river banks, and climate change. The Environment Agency is coordinating action to bring all rivers into 'good' ecological status, an indication of overall river health. Flood risk in Wiltshire is shown in the map below. Flood Zone 3 is the area that has a 1 per cent (1 in 100) or greater chance of flooding from rivers each year, if there were no flood defences. Flood Zone 2 shows the additional extent of an extreme flood from rivers, with up to a 0.1 per cent (1 in 1000) chance of occurring each year.

Wiltshire has a number of rivers that run through it which could potentially be the source of flooding. All flooding can cause disruption but not all Community Areas would be effected to the same degree. For example, the flood area in Mere is particularly small compared to other Community Areas whilst those in Salisbury, Melksham, Malmesbury and the North of Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade are very large and could cause considerable disruption.

To monitor the overall status of rivers and streams the Environment Agency has set up a number of monitoring sites across Wiltshire to record the ecological status and the chemical status of the river/stream to create an overall rating. The rating system scores a river as having a good, moderate, poor or bad status. Most of the rivers in Wiltshire have a moderate or good rating, however, there are some areas with a poor or even a bad overall status.

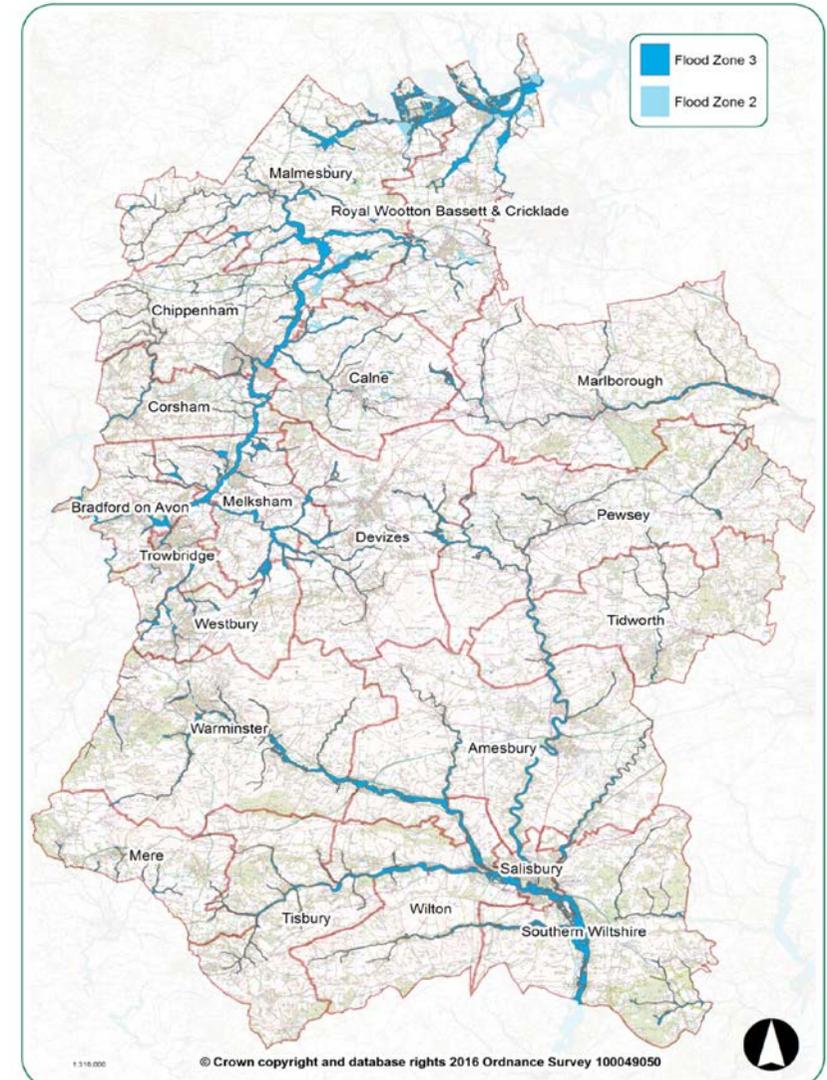
2 monitoring points in Mere, one on the River Loden one on the River Stour (Headwaters) were recorded as having a bad status in 2015.

Devizes Community Area has 3 monitoring points that were recorded in 2015 as having poor status. These were Worton Stream - source to Semington Brook, Summerham Brook and Bulkington Drove, source to Semington Brook.

Four Community Areas had 2 monitoring points with a poor status. Melksham (Clackers Brook-source to River Avon and Summerham Brook), Pewsey (Bourne and Deane Water), Tisbury (Nadder [Headwaters] and Nadder Tributary [Swallowcliffe]) and Trowbridge (Paxcroft Brook-source to unnamed tributary and an unnamed tributary source to Biss Brook) all had 2 monitoring points that were recorded in 2015 as having a poor status.

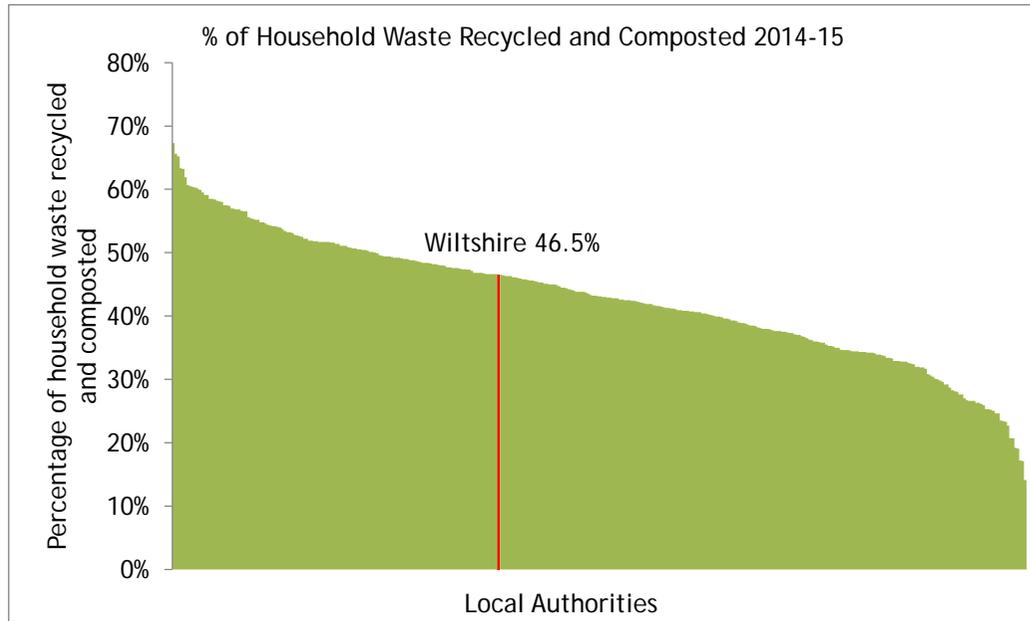
Five Community Areas had 1 monitoring point with a poor status. Corsham (Doncombe Brook- source to By Brook), Malmesbury (Cerney Wick Brook, source to Thames), Mere (Shreen Water, including Ashfield Water), Tidworth (Bourne) and Warminster (Wylve [Headwaters]) all had a monitoring point that was recorded in 2015 as having a poor status.

Flood Risk Map 2016



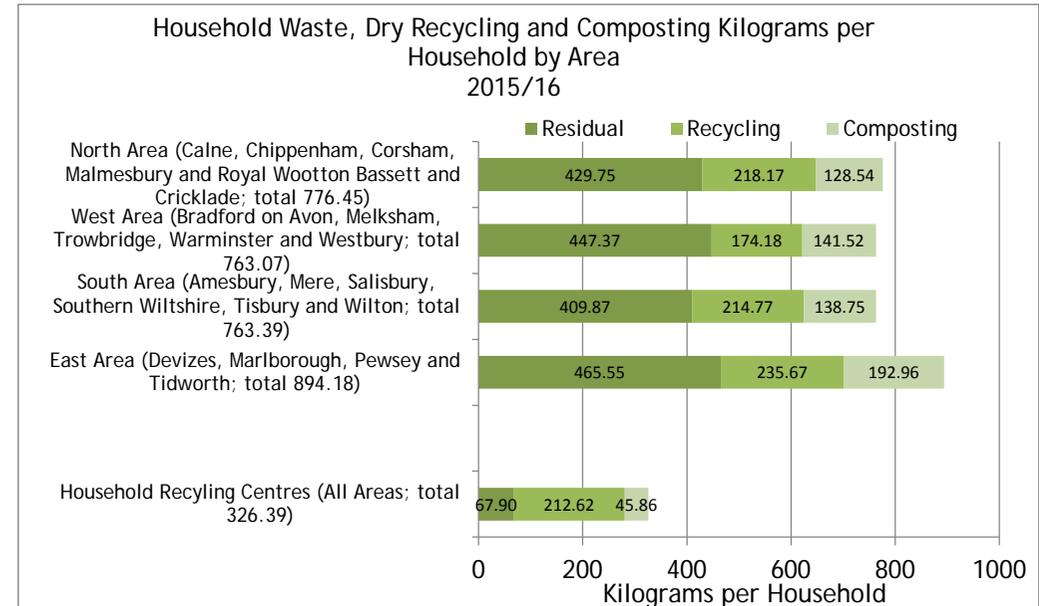
# Waste and Recycling

The reduction of waste production by households and industry is important for the protection of the environment. This can be achieved by producing less waste and recycling more items.



All Local Authorities are required to provide frequent waste management data to enable the UK to meet legislative reporting targets. Under the Waste Framework Directive (2008/98/EC) the UK has to meet a target to recycle 50% of household waste by 2020. The figure above shows the total household recycling and composting percentage for English Local Authorities from April 2014 to March 2015. Wiltshire performs well against other areas recycling or composting 46.5% of its municipal waste.

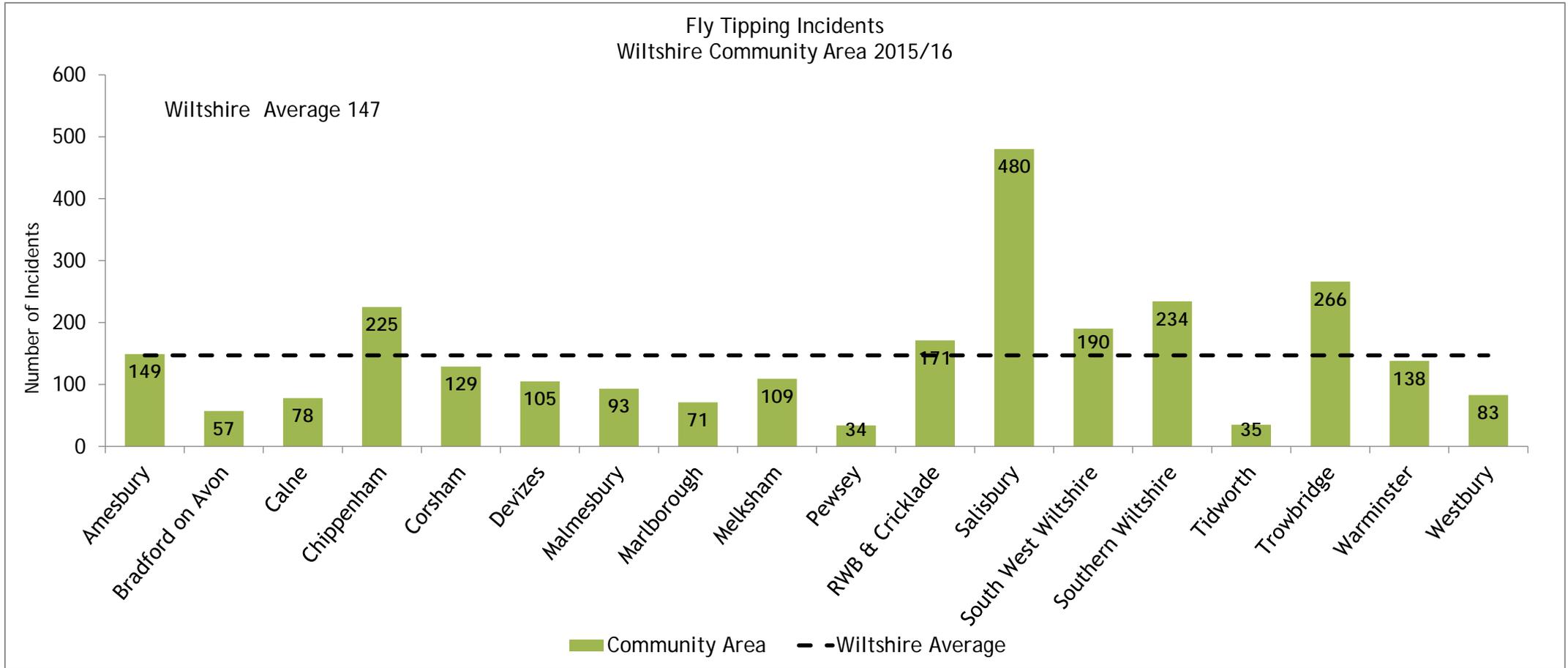
Source: Local Authority League Tables 2014 -15 [www.letsrecycle.com](http://www.letsrecycle.com)



Due to the use of efficient daily collection routes which often serve properties across different community areas, it is not currently possible to show the amount of household waste collected at the kerbside at an Area Board level. The East Area (Devizes, Marlborough, Pewsey, Tidworth) had a higher amount of residual (non-recycled) waste per household than the other areas. However, the West Area (Bradford on Avon, Melksham, Trowbridge, Warminster and Westbury) has a higher percentage of residual waste (58.6%) than the other areas, and it should be noted that households in the West were historically provided with larger 240 litre bins for residual waste, many of which remain in use. The highest rate of recycling (28.1%) was achieved in the North, and the highest rate of composting (21.6%) was achieved in the east. Of total household waste arisings per area, the highest level of combined recycling and composting (47.8%) was achieved in the East.

Source: Wiltshire Council 2015/16

# Fly Tipping



Salisbury, Southern Wiltshire and Trowbridge Community Areas had more incidences of fly tipping than the Wiltshire average. Tidworth, Pewsey and Bradford on Avon Community Areas had a much lower incidence of fly tipping than the Wiltshire average.

Source: Wiltshire Council 2015/16