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The Editor  
Suffolk Free Press

22<sup>nd</sup> September 2003

Dear Sir

Mrs CM Oben is spot on (SFP 18<sup>th</sup> September). Babergh's TwinBin Scheme is designed to both make recycling easier and to make us all think a little bit more before putting waste into the black/green bins that could go into the new blue recycling bins – or even be composted.

This link between recycling and waste minimisation is crucial and it is one which Phil Minett in his opinion column seems to have overlooked. Here are the key facts:

- Babergh's households produce 30% more waste than the national average
- The TwinBin Scheme encourages residents to reduce the amount of this waste that ends up in their black/green bin
- 60% of all domestic waste can be recycled
- Recycling rates amongst TwinBin households have doubled to about 30% compared to Pink Bag households

The TwinBin Scheme, therefore, addresses both the issue of reducing the amount of rubbish that is put out for collection AND maximising the levels of that rubbish that can be recycled.

By contrast, a weekly collection of residual waste could:

- lead to more rubbish going into the few remaining landfill sites
- cost an average Babergh household an extra £14 per year

The TwinBin Scheme has been successfully implemented in dozens of councils – many more than the few who have opted for a different system. Indeed, there are many East Anglian councils who have led the way, including South Norfolk and Breckland District Councils in Norfolk.

Surely, it is wrong to imply that Babergh residents are not up to the job of recycling and reducing their waste, unlike their near neighbours? Indeed, our evidence suggests that the vast majority of TwinBin Scheme residents are willing to give it a go and will judge it over the longer-term.

Yours faithfully

Sue Carpendale  
Chairman, Strategy Committee