

# Review of the HWRC Access Policy & Van Permit System

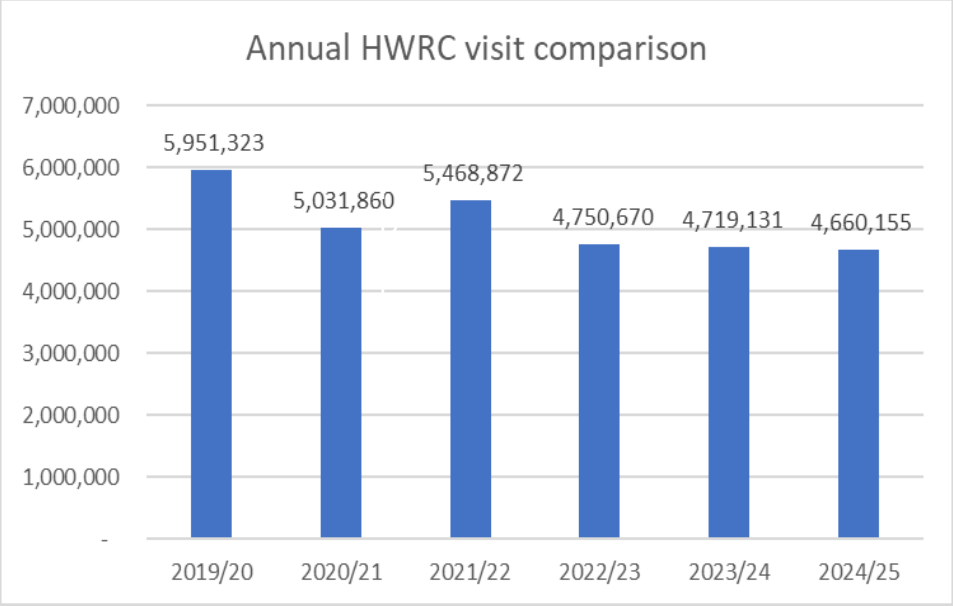
12<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Paul Morgan – Head of Commercial Services

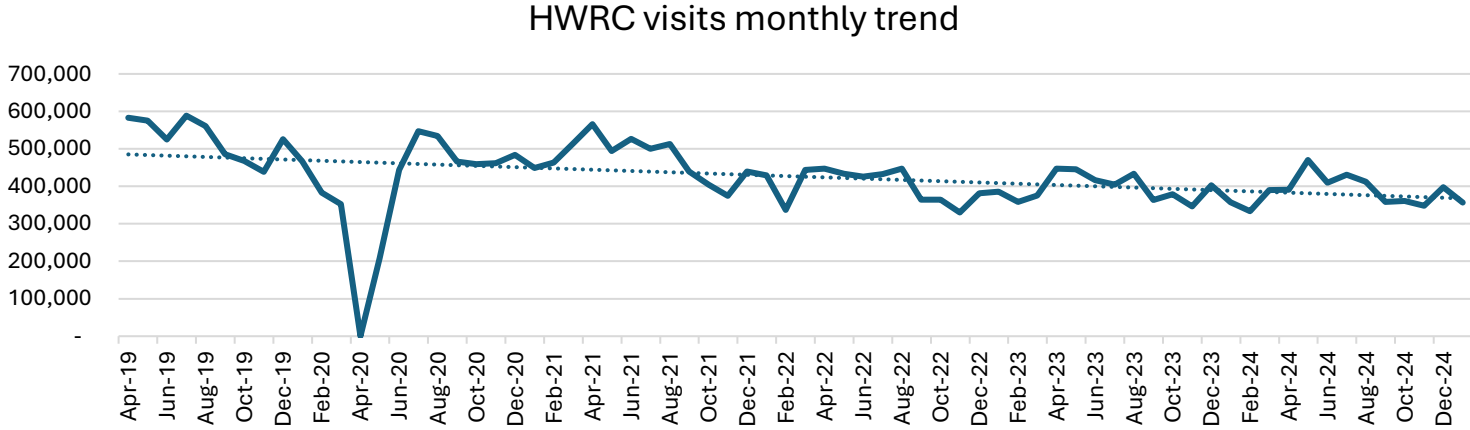
# Current HWRC Access Policy

- Original Access Policy introduced in 2019 to address a number of problems at HWRCs – later reviewed and amended
- In summary the Policy is:
  - A car <5.3 metres in length can visit any of the 20 HWRCs 52 per annum;
  - All cars, campervans, minibuses >5.3 metres in length can only use one of ten designated HWRCs;
  - A van that is up to 5.3 metres in length you can visit any of the 20 HWRCs 18 per annum;
  - All vans >5.3 metres in length are excluded from the HWRC network; and
  - All vehicles with a maximum authorised mass exceeding 3.5 tonnes are excluded from all sites.
- Autumn/winter - a permit scheme for qualifying vans, pick-up type vehicles and double axle trailers was introduced
- Pick ups can only use one of ten designated HWRCs (including those under 5.3 metres)

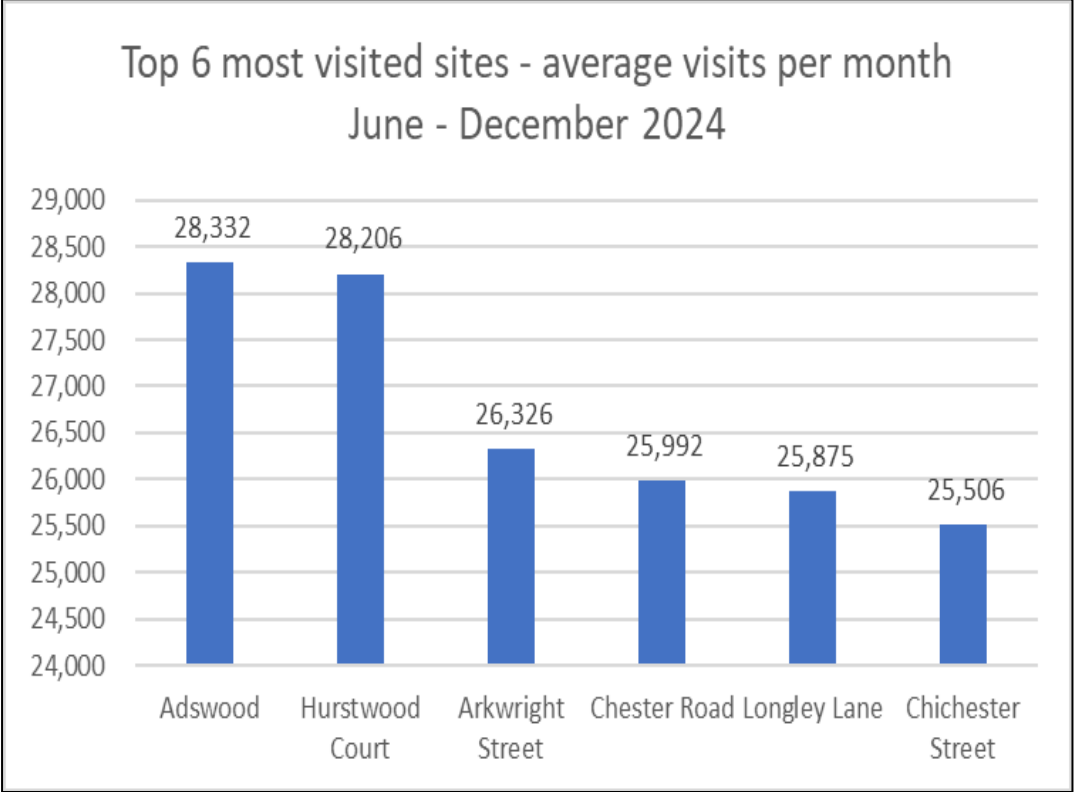
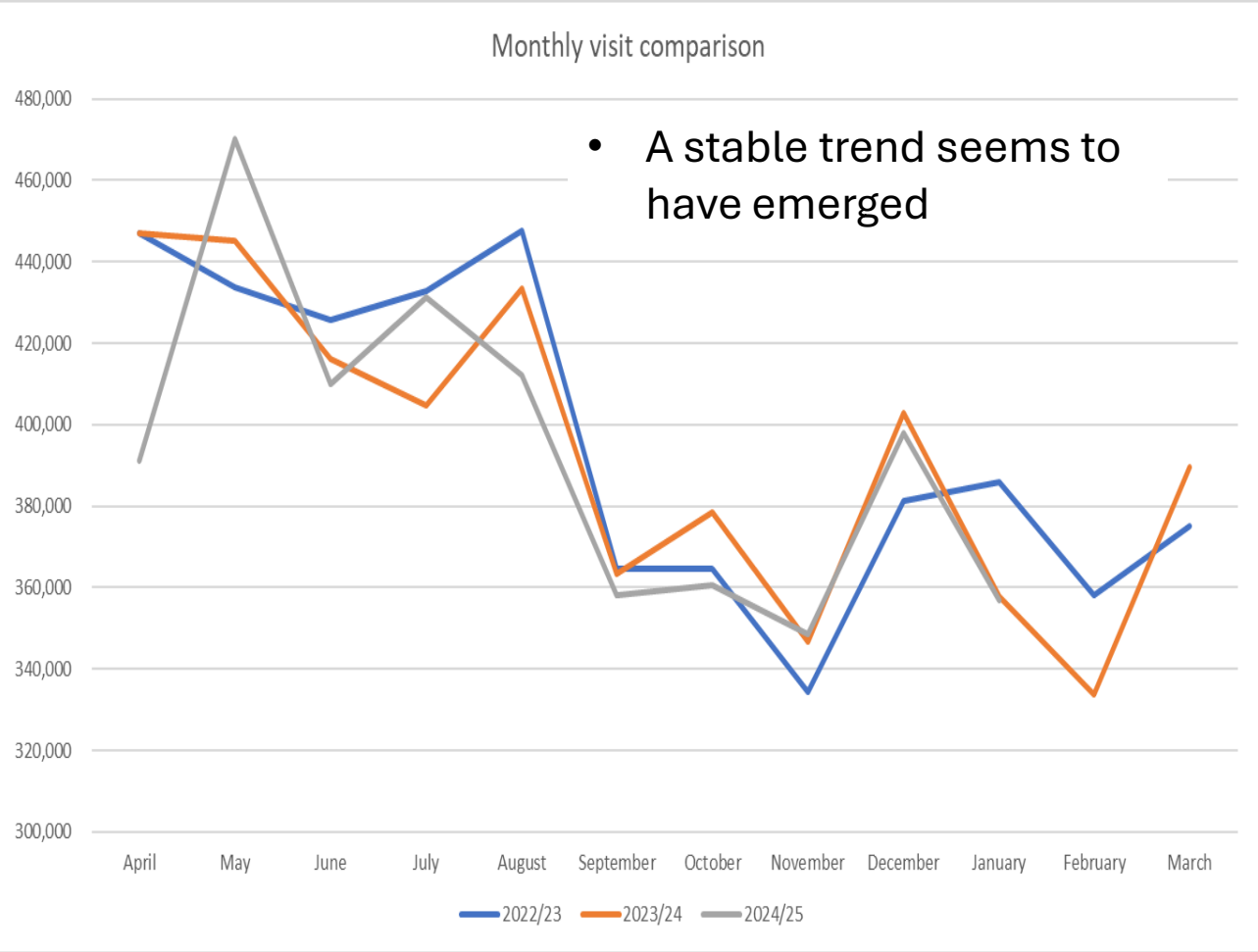
# HWRC visitor numbers



- Updated with January's data
- c1.3m drop in visits over last six years – 22% reduction



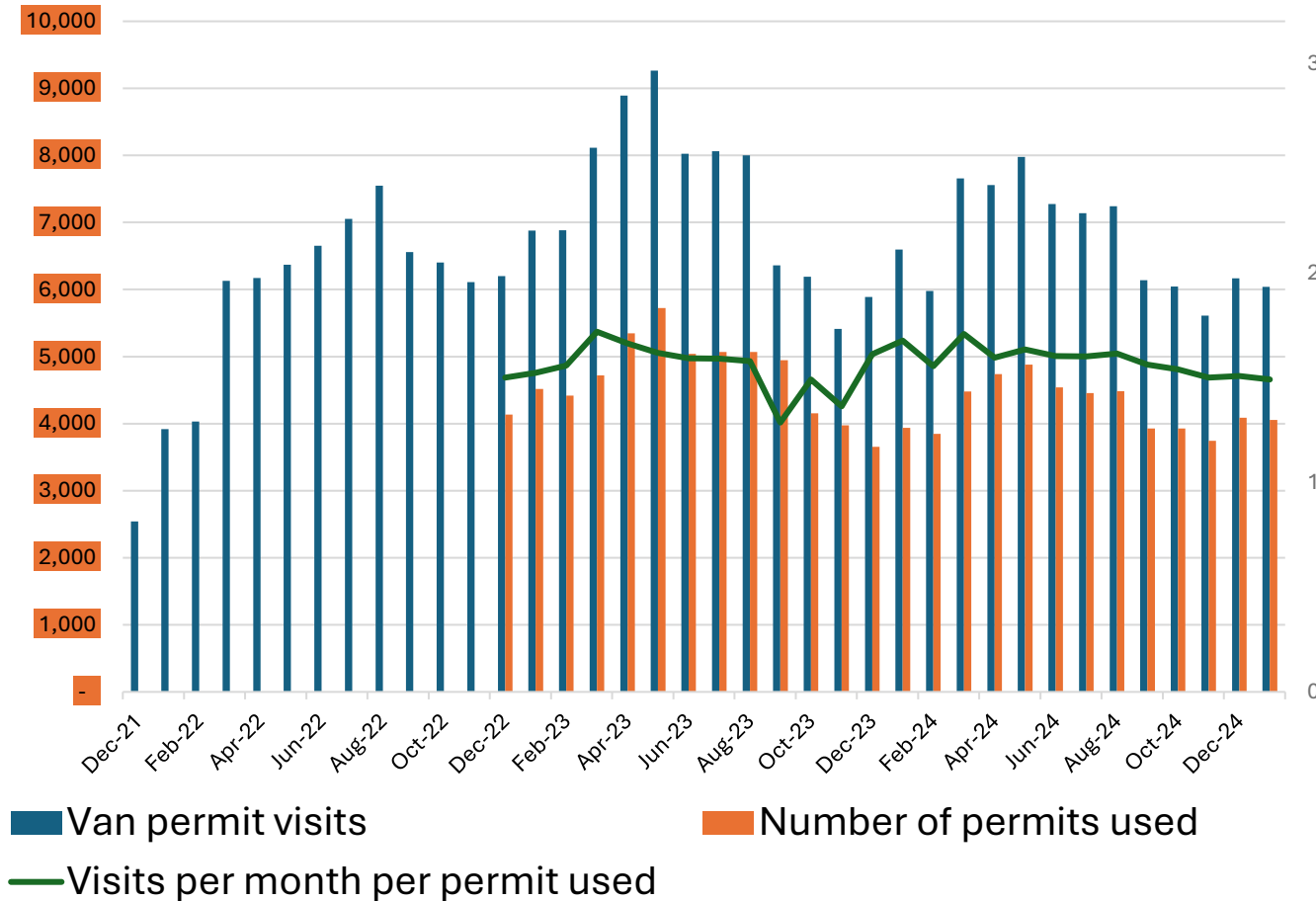
# HWRC visitor numbers - Monthly



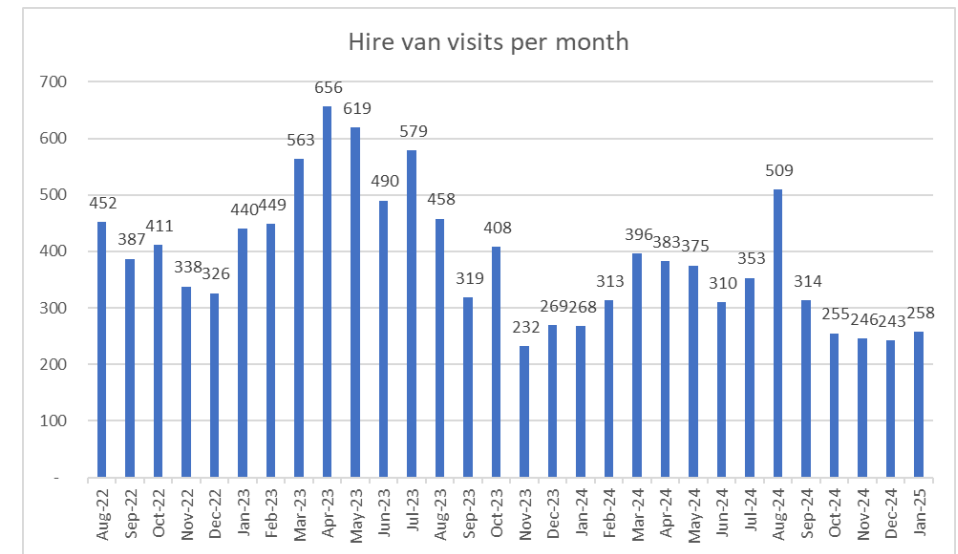
## HWRC visitor numbers - cars

- The HWRCs have an automated number plate recognition system
- 4,632,787 visits made by 1,032,801 individual registrations recorded
- Each registration visits on average 4.5 times per year
- 1,431 cars exceeded 52 annual visits - top five being 271, 232, 220, 205, 193 visits annually
- 0.14% of car users that visit more often than once a week (>52 visits annually) - a lot have genuine reasons

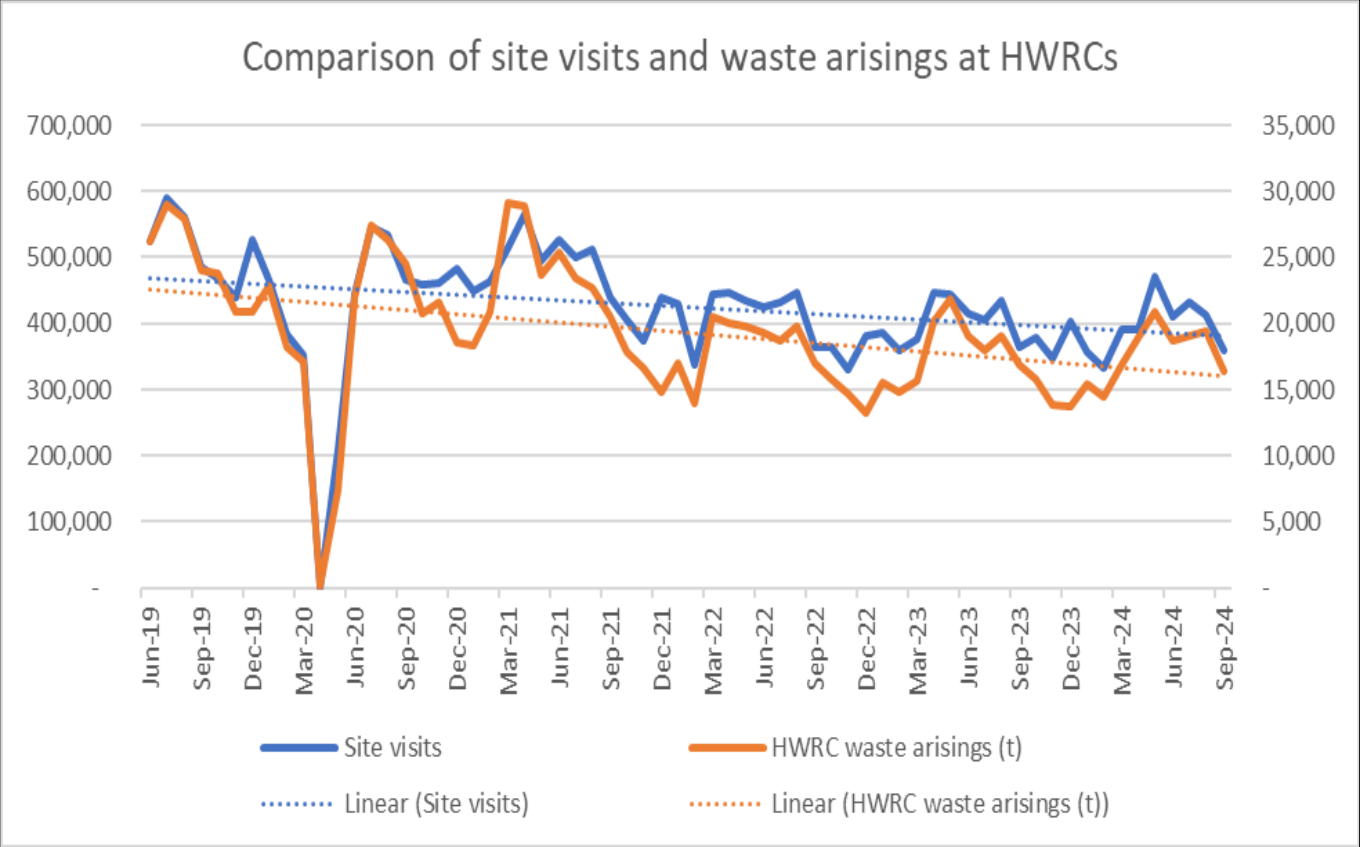
# HWRC visitor numbers - vans



- Van permit holders visit HWRCs around 1.5 times each month – using the 18 visit allocation
- Difficult to understand why a householder who owns a van needs to visit more often than a householder who owns a car – the only difference is the vehicle type

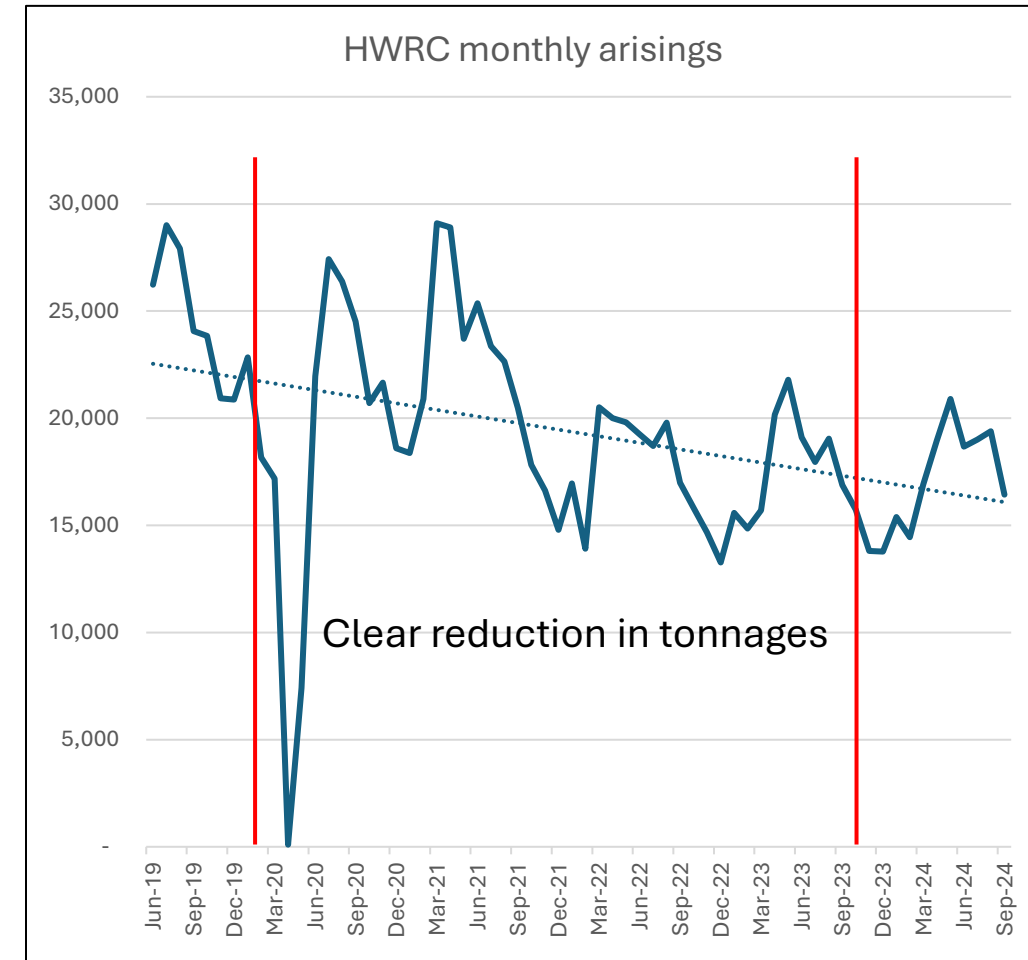
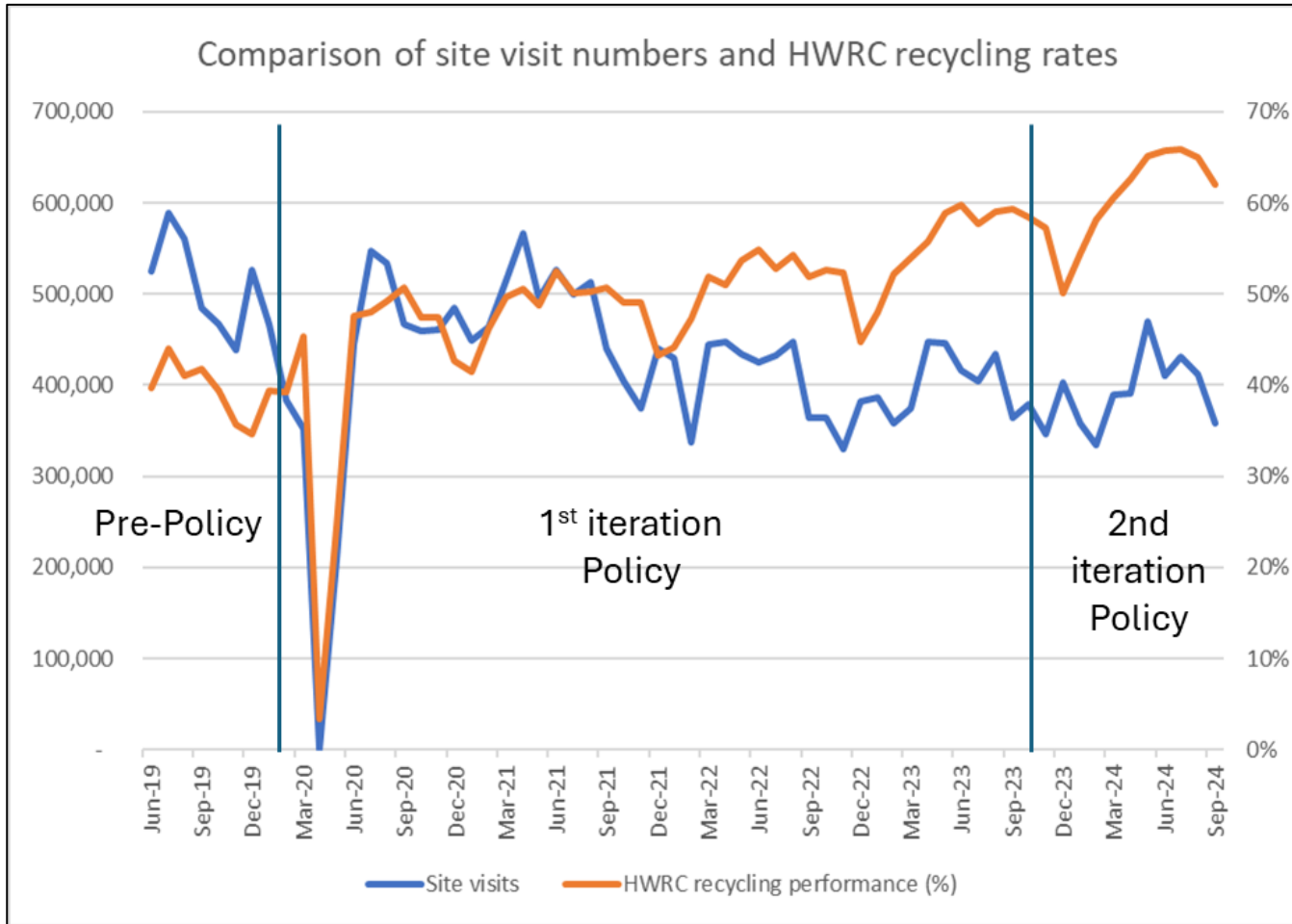


# HWRC tonnages – visits v waste arisings



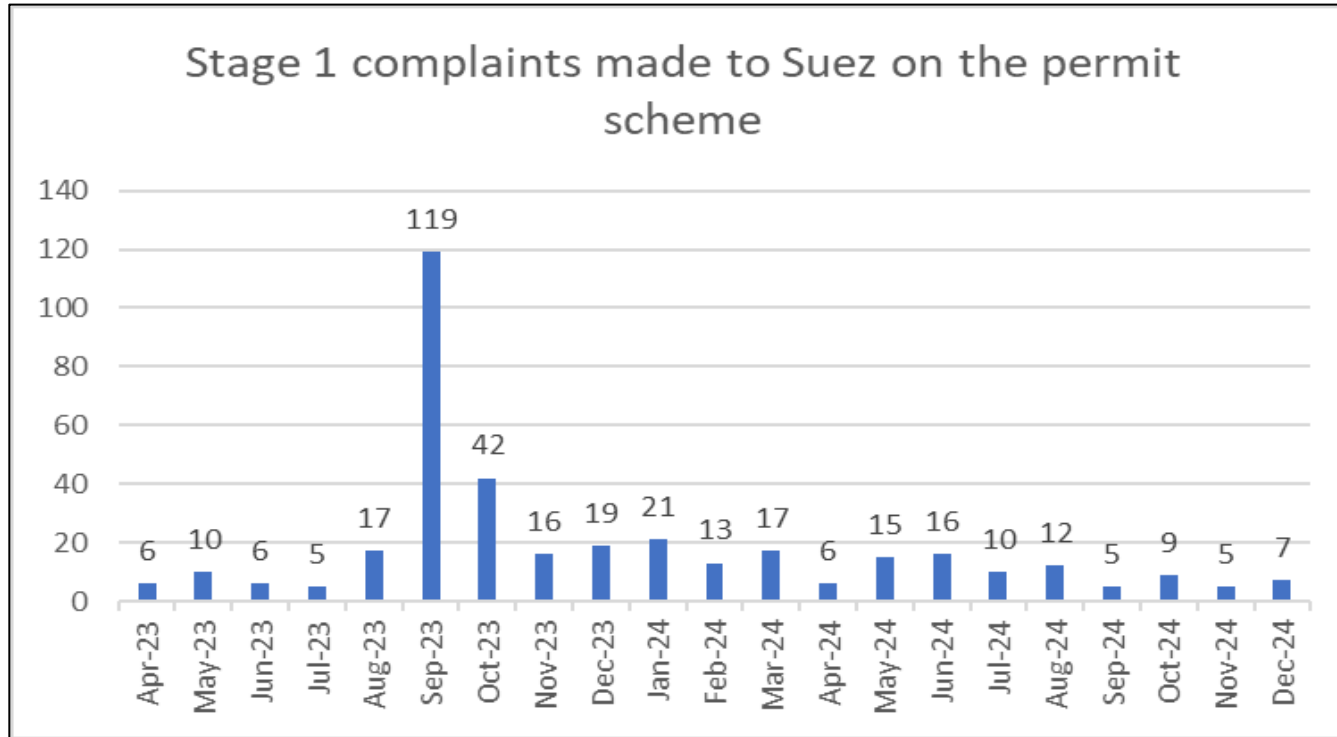
- Tonnages at HWRCs track visits
- Average is around 45kg per visit

# HWRC tonnages – visits v recycling rates





# Complaints



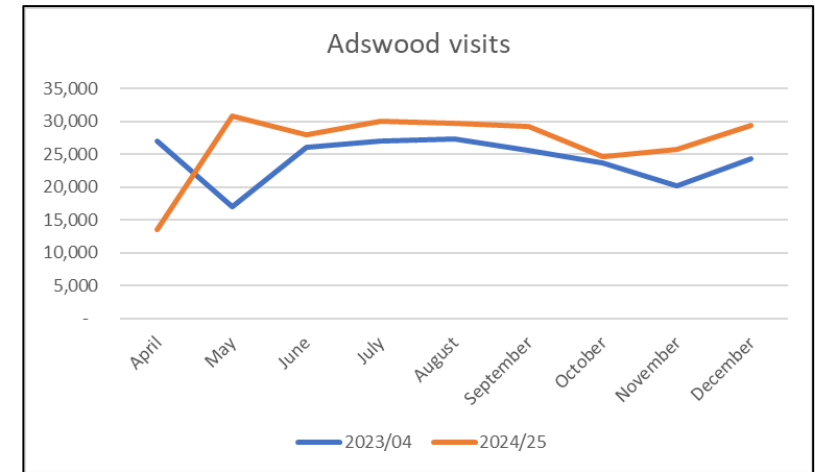
- Subjects varied
  - Introduction of the permit scheme
  - Exclusion of vehicles >5.3m
  - Procedure for hire vans
  - Re-direction of pick-up to the ten designated sites
- Numbers now back to pre-permit scheme levels

# Should the Policy and Permit Scheme be amended?

- One request to consider amending Policy to allow home fabricated trailers entry
  - Permit Scheme Ts and Cs give Suez the power to refuse entry to “home made” trailers
  - One complaint regarding a home-made trailer that may well have exceeded standards
  - We’re not in a position to check such claims
- Nothing has arisen through complaints or comments that suggest any revisions of the Policy and Scheme are required

# Cross-border Usage of GM HWRCs

- Cheshire East Council closed three of its seven HWRCs in August 2024
- Two of these sites could be considered to be in the catchment of Longley Lane, Rosehill, Adswood and Bredbury HWRCs
- Increased visitor checks as a precaution
- Many visitors identified as being from Cheshire East – some thought they were entitled to use GM sites (e.g. if from nearby Disley) as the sites the closest
- Increased visitor numbers at Adswood (Cheadle Hulme) - +4k visits/m
- Continue to monitor and refuse entry
- Reports that Warrington BC is to close an HWRC – may impact Woodhouse Lane



# Conclusions and recommendations

- The Access Policy and Permit continue to address the issues highlighted and could be considered a success
- Do not consider a need change car or van visit allocations
- Based on the analysis of complaints and outcomes, no changes to Access Policy or the Van Permit Scheme and its terms and conditions are recommended.