

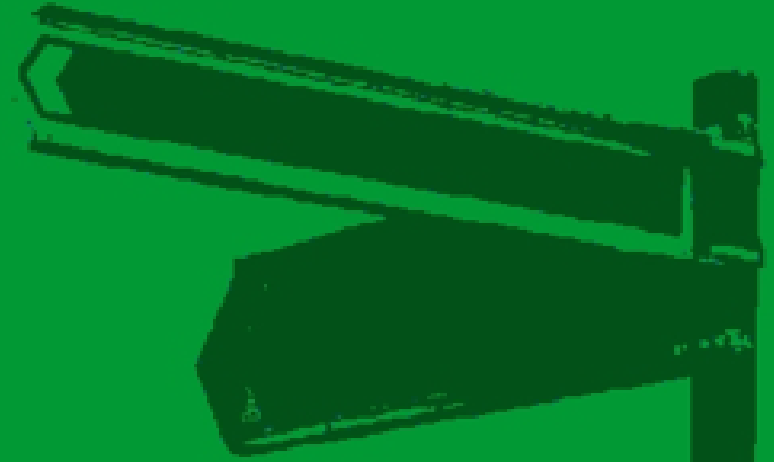
Environment & Climate Change Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Resources and Waste Strategy

3rd September 2021

**Ann Carruthers,
Director of Environment & Transport**

Waste Management Overview



Section 1: Policy and Strategy

UK Policy

- Our Waste, Our Resources: A Strategy for England (2018)
- A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment (2018)

New Legislation

- Environment Bill sets out government's agenda for environmental reform and governance post-Brexit
- The Bill is currently progressing through Parliament – expected to become law in Autumn 2021

Leicestershire Policy

- Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy Update (2011) – currently being reviewed

- ❑ Management of municipal waste in Leicestershire is undertaken by Leicestershire County Council (the Waste Disposal Authority) and the 7 districts (Waste Collection Authorities)
- ❑ Leicestershire Waste Partnership (LWP) – LCC and the 7 districts
- ❑ Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy 2011-2020 (LMWMS) sets out how LWP intend to manage municipal waste in Leicestershire
- ❑ Review of LMWMS currently underway – complete Spring 2022

Section 2:

Local Authority Waste Services

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- ❑ As Waste Collection Authorities (WCA's), the districts provide kerbside collections of residual waste and recycling
- ❑ The WCAs deliver the waste they've collected where directed by the Waste Disposal Authority (WDA)
- ❑ 6 of the 7 District Councils provide commingled dry recycling collections, North West Leicestershire District Council provide a kerbside sorted collection service
- ❑ 6 of the 7 District Councils provide chargeable green waste collection services, North West Leicestershire District Council provide a free service

- ❑ We provide recycling, composting, treatment and disposal outlets for waste collected across the County
- ❑ There are a variety of contracts in place for managing this waste ranging from values of over £6 million a year to less than £25,000
- ❑ Around 60% of our residual (black bin) waste is disposed of or treated at facilities outside of the County area
- ❑ Landfilling waste costs £109-£145 per tonne
- ❑ The budget for disposing, treating and recycling our waste is approximately £25 million each year
- ❑ This cost increases as more waste is generated and prices and landfill tax continue to rise

- ❑ We operate 14 Recycling Household Waste Sites (RHWS) for residents to use
- ❑ The RHWS receive over 50,000 tonnes of household waste each year and more than 1.5 million customer visits (although this was lower in 2020 due to COVID restrictions)
- ❑ We also operate 2 Waste Transfer Stations (WTS) and contract with two more. Another WTS at Bardon is currently under construction
- ❑ The WTS typically handle 80,000 tonnes of waste each year, most of it delivered in Refuse Collection Vehicles by the WCAs. This waste is then bulked up in articulated lorries and sent to treatment or landfill
- ❑ Our Whetstone WTS also offers a trade waste service, for small traders to deliver to which has a turnover of greater than £0.8 million each year

Whetstone Waste Transfer Station



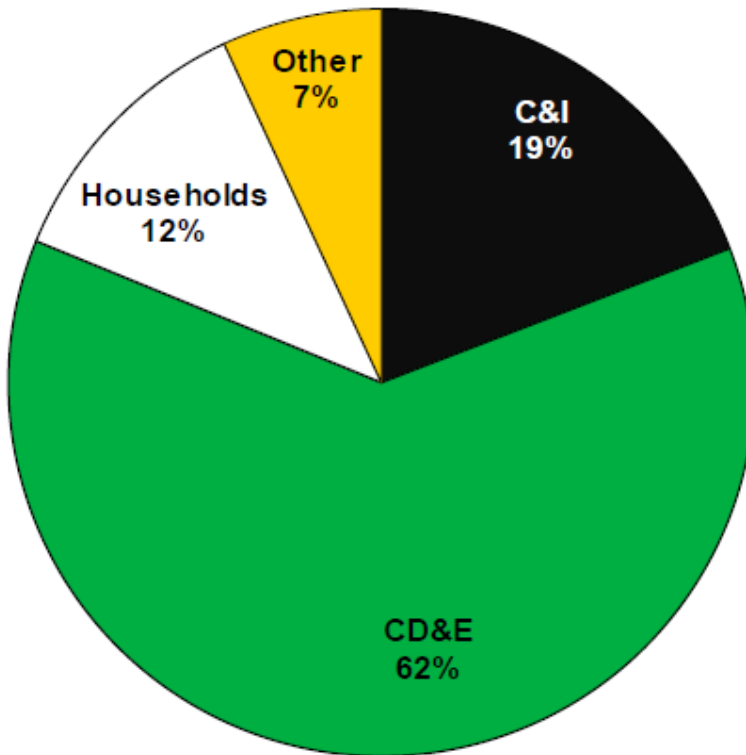


Section 3: Waste Facts and Figures

Local authority collected waste consists of all ‘waste from households’, street sweepings, municipal parks and gardens waste, beach cleansing waste, and waste resulting from the clearance of fly-tipped materials plus some commercial and/or industrial waste

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The chart below shows the different sources of waste in the UK in 2018.
Total UK waste 222.2 million tonnes.



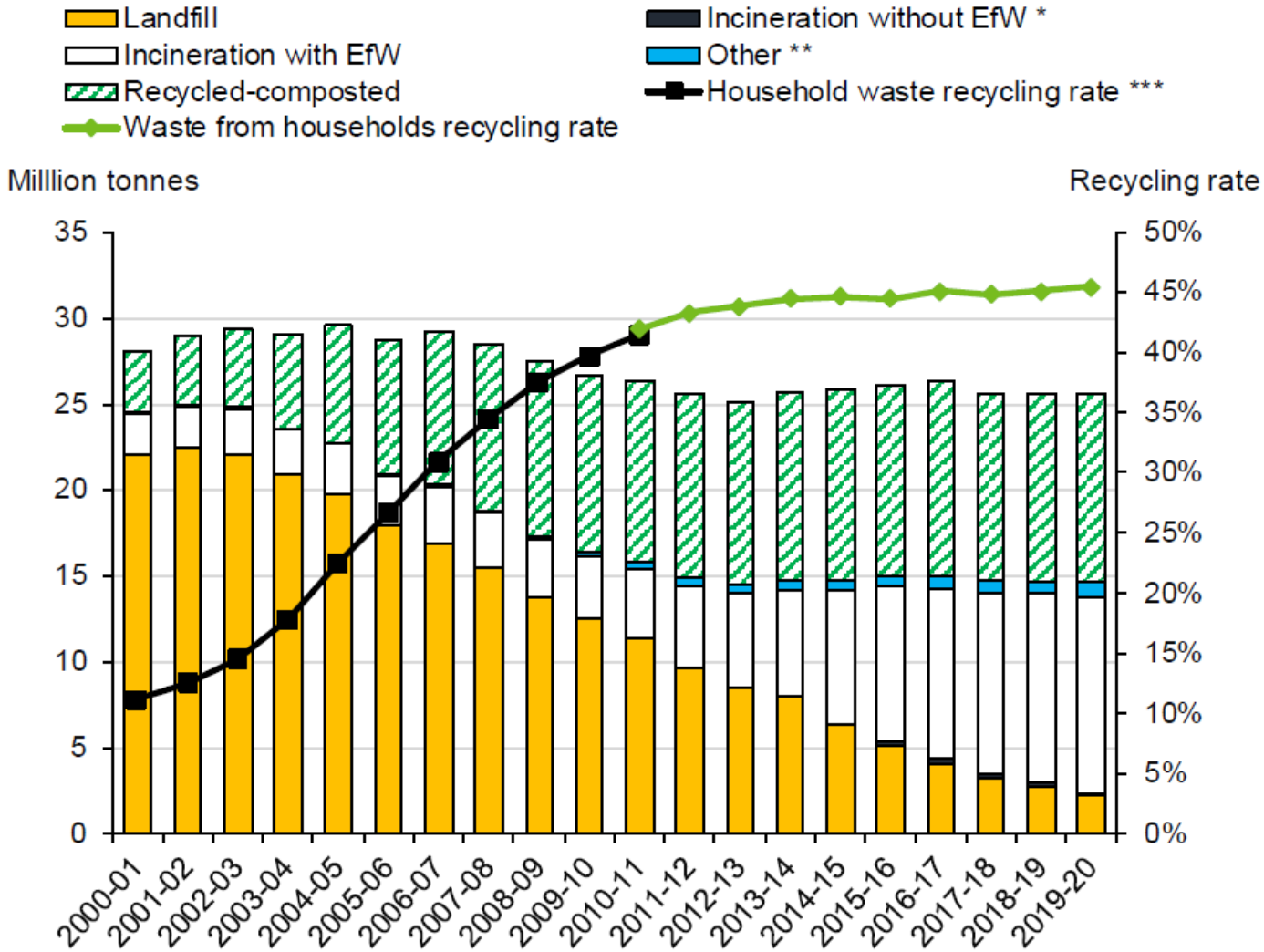
C&I – commercial and industrial (42.6 million tonnes)

CD&E – construction, demolition and excavation inc. dredging (137.8 million tonnes)

Households – 26.4 million tonnes

Other – waste from mining, agriculture, forestry and fishing (15.4 million tonnes)

Management of Local Authority Collected Waste in England



Notes:

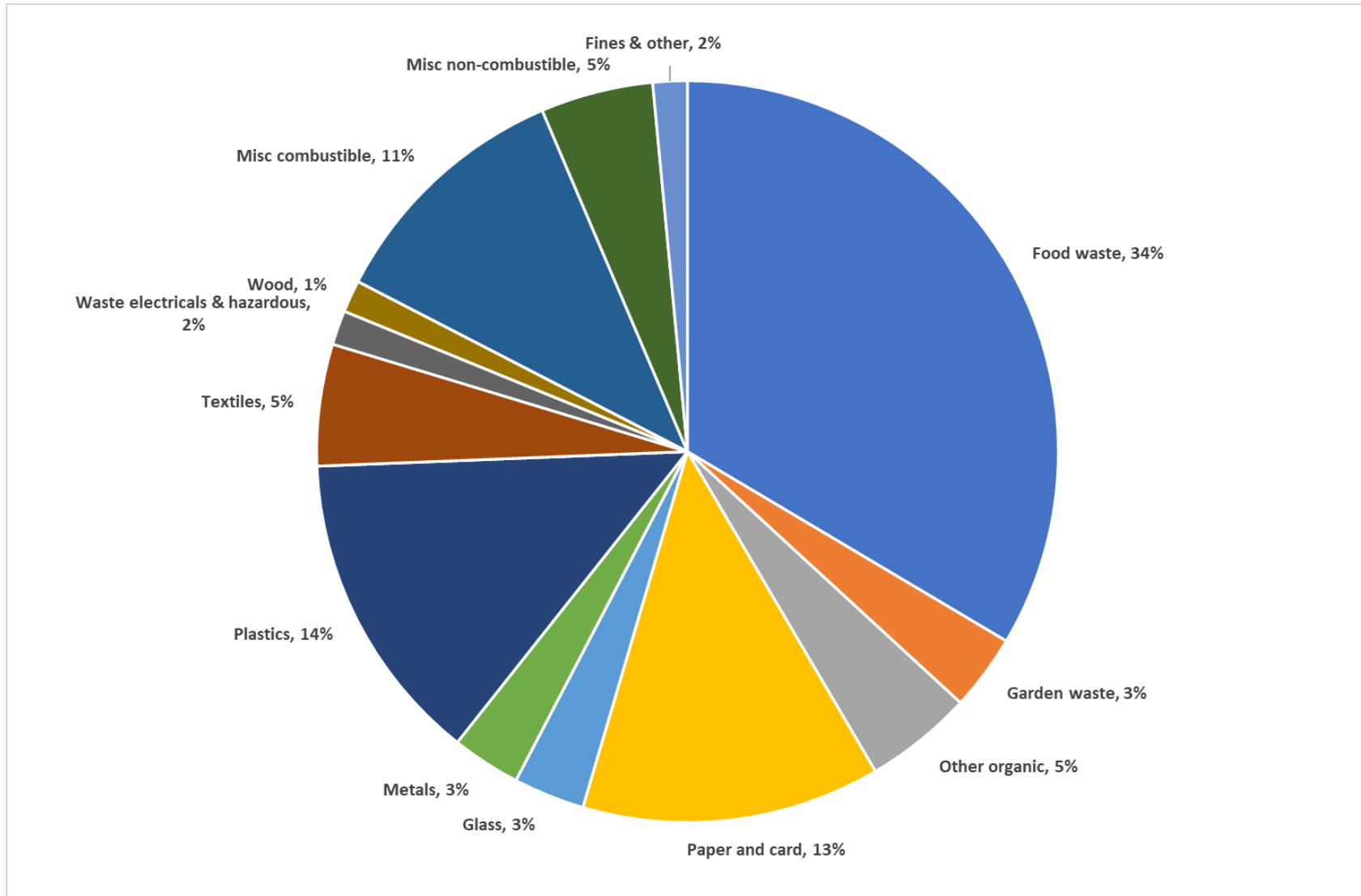
*Incineration with energy recovery/without energy recovery includes incineration bottom ash (IBA) and metals from IBA. This is consistent with existing definition for household waste recycling so is not impacted by the change in 'waste from households' recycling definition.

** Other includes waste treated/disposed of through other unspecified methods as well as process and moisture loss.

***The Household waste recycling rate is based on a broader measure of waste and is not directly comparable to the 'waste from households' recycling rate.

IBA metals are included within the 'waste from households' recycling rate shown on this chart from April 2015/16 onwards but is not included in household waste recycling.

Residual waste (black bin) composition UK



From WRAP Household Waste Composition 2017

Performance Indicator	Result
Total household waste (2020/21)	309,313 tonnes
Total household waste per household (2020/21)	1,020 kg
Total residual waste per household (2020/21)	578 kg
Total household waste sent for recycling, reuse and composting per household (2020/21)	442 kg
Percentage household waste sent for recycling, reuse and composting (2020/21)	43.3%

Section 4: Waste Initiatives

- Home composting
- Love Food Hate Waste
- Recycling & contamination
- Clothing, tools and furniture reuse
- Education
- Real nappies
- Seasonal campaigns
- Events, roadshows & volunteers
- Shire Environment Grants
- Work with Leicestershire Adult Learning Service to subsidise classes for Leicestershire residents

Recycling and contamination campaigns

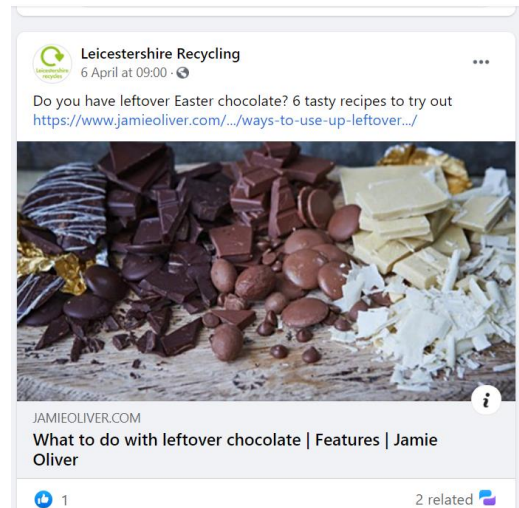
Keep Britain Tidy nappy campaign – social media and RHWS adshells following research on public behaviours.



Easter

Festivals and observances

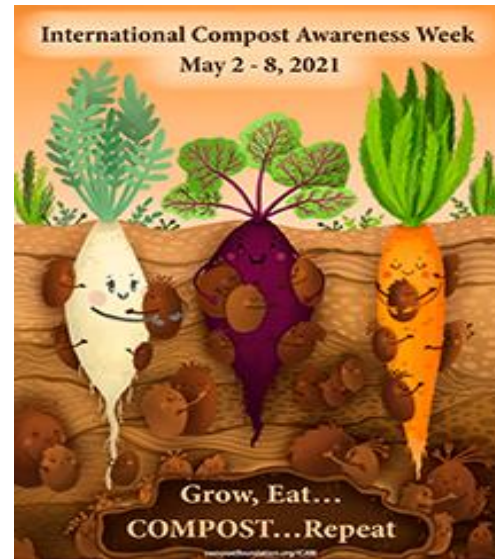
Ongoing series of seasonal campaigns aiming to engage new audiences via social media and Lesswaste website.



Home Composting

Compost Awareness Week 2nd – 8th May

An annual event to promote all aspects of composting; this year focusing on the cycle of growing, eating, composting and growing again.



Food Waste Action Week

A high-profile national campaign highlighting the links between food waste and climate change, including social media messaging, videos by volunteers and a series of online cookery classes.

LCC was a strategic partner for the campaign.



Environment Matters newsletter

New quarterly newsletter for residents to replace the Composting Chronicle, covering a wider range of waste and environmental topics.



WELCOME...

to the first edition of Environment Matters, Leicestershire County Council's newsletter which brings you the latest in all things environment focussed. Today, we're taking a look at parish biodiversity initiatives, we have an update on our waste site opening days and times as well as the latest on the county's street lighting project.

DON'T LET YOUR RECYCLING GO TO WASTE

We all know that recycling is a good for the environment, but what happens if something is placed in your kerbside recycling bin that shouldn't be there?



TAKE CHARGE

BRIGHT FUTURE FOR STREET LIGHTING PROJECT

Leicestershire County Council achieved a further 17% reduction in emissions from street lighting during 2019-20 meaning emissions from street lighting have reduced by 73% since 2016-17.



New virtual workshops developed to encourage greater take-up of waste applications. After the first workshop the number of applications more than doubled.

Shire Environment Grant scheme

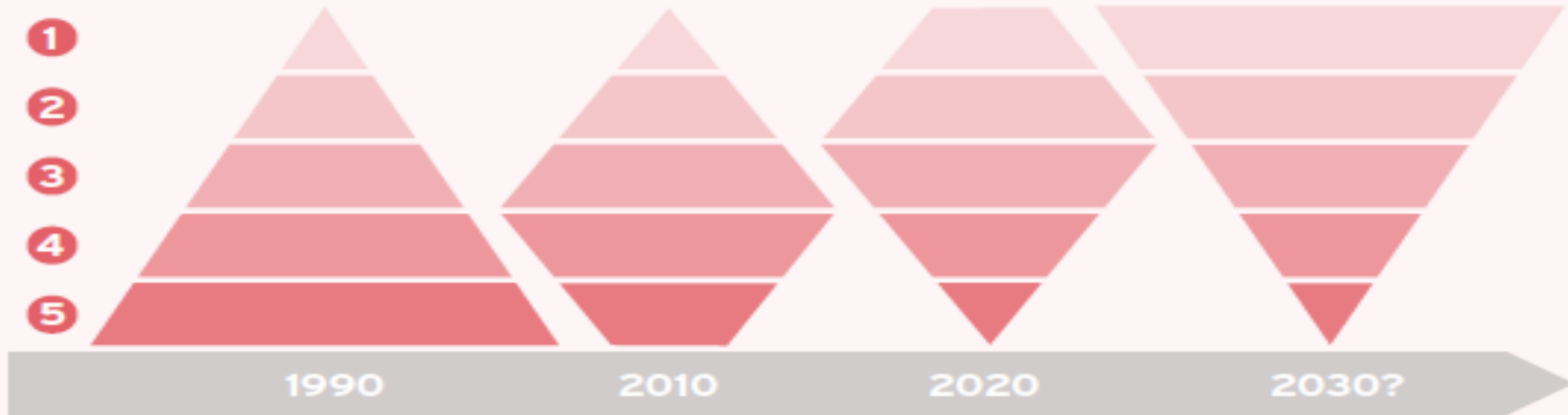
OUR WASTE, OUR RESOURCES: A STRATEGY FOR ENGLAND



- ❑ The Resources and Waste Strategy is guided by two overarching objectives:
 - To maximise the value of resource use
 - To minimise waste and its impact on the environment

- ❑ Strategy will contribute to five strategic ambitions:
 - To work towards all plastic packaging placed on the market being recyclable, reusable or compostable by 2025
 - To work towards eliminating food waste to landfill by 2030
 - To eliminate avoidable plastic waste over the lifetime of the 25 Year Environment Plan
 - To double resource productivity by 2050
 - To eliminate avoidable waste of all kinds by 2050

Evolution of Waste Management Practices: In the past, most waste was dealt with by disposal, but over time that will shift increasingly to recycling, reuse and ultimately prevention.



1 Prevention

Using less material in design and manufacture. Keeping products for longer; reuse. Using less hazardous materials.

2 Preparing for reuse

Checking, cleaning, repairing, refurbishing, whole items or spare parts.

3 Recycling

Turning waste into a new substance or product. Includes composting if it meets quality protocols.

4 Other recovery

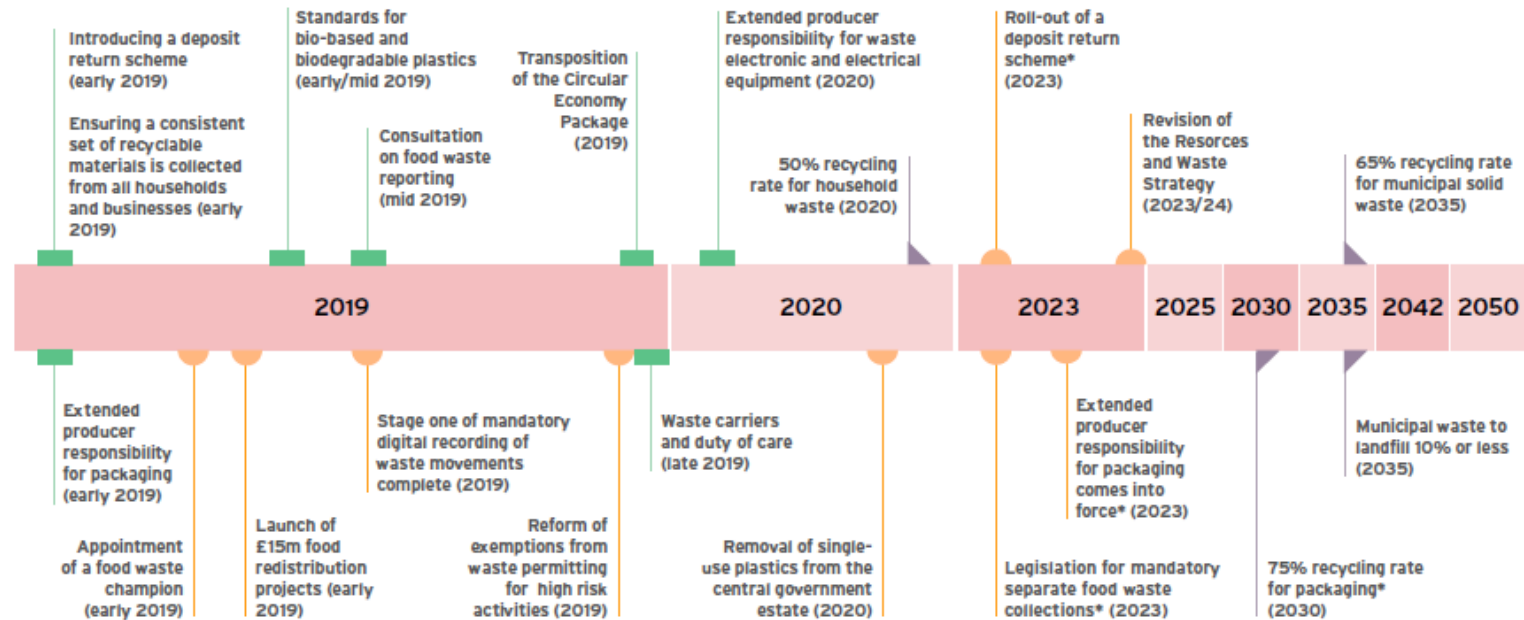
Includes anaerobic digestion, incineration with energy recovery, gasification and pyrolysis which produce energy (fuels, heat and power) and materials from waste; some backfilling.

5 Disposal

Landfill and incineration without energy recovery.

KEY MILESTONES

- Double resource productivity by 2050
- Eliminate avoidable waste of all kinds by 2050
- Eliminate avoidable plastic waste over the lifetime of the 25 Year Environment Plan
- Work towards eliminating food waste to landfill by 2030
- Work towards all plastic packaging placed on the market being recyclable, reusable or compostable by 2025



STRATEGIC AMBITIONS ▲

CONSULTATIONS ■

TARGETS ▼

KEY MILESTONES ●

*subject to consultation

- ❑ Following on from the DEFRA Resources and Waste Strategy and the initial first round consultations released in May 2019, three secondary consultations have been published focusing on the main policy areas which are:
 - Deposit Return Schemes (DRS) (England, Wales & NI) – closed 4 June 2021
 - Reforming the UK packaging responsibility system/Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) (UK) – closed 4 June 2021
 - Consistency in household and business recycling collections (England) – closed 4 July 2021

Extended Producer Responsibility

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- ❑ In 2019 Government set out the case for significant reforms to the packaging responsibility system. It included making producers pay the full net cost of managing packaging once it becomes waste, setting more ambitious targets for producers and introducing clear and consistent labelling for recyclability
- ❑ Powers are being taken through the Environment Bill 2020 to enable the introduction of the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for packaging
- ❑ Government have indicated that changes to the system will be operational by 2023 with a phased approach
- ❑ Proposes minimum recycling targets for six packaging materials (paper, glass, aluminium, steel, plastic and wood) and to introduce targets to increase the use of refillable/reusable packaging
- ❑ Payments to LAs should be based on both the tonnages and quality of packaging waste collected and recycled
- ❑ New registration and reporting requirements for reprocessors and exporters of packaging waste
- ❑ Possible ban on the export of plastic waste to countries that are not members of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) in England, Wales and Northern Ireland 29

- ❑ Set to be launched in late 2024, the primary objectives are to increase recycling rates, increase the quality of recycling and reduce littering
- ❑ Not a reward scheme. Consumers would return drinks containers to designated points and redeem the deposit paid upfront upon purchase of the container
- ❑ 2 proposed DRS models:
 - ‘All-in’ – Upper size limit of 3L of drinks containers in-scope,
 - ‘On-the-go’ – Drinks containers in scope restricted to less than 750ml in size, which are likely to be consumed outside of the home
- ❑ Based on material rather than product (including PET bottles, steel and aluminium cans and glass bottles) including the cap where applicable
- ❑ Propose exclusion of HDPE, beverage cartons, disposable cups, sachets and pouches
- ❑ Government has assumed a 20p deposit and 85% return rate (by 3rd year)

- ❑ Return Points – sets out retailer options proposing all retailers who sell in scope containers will be obligated to host a return point. Also, option for exploring alternative methods of return. Hosts of return points will be paid a handling fee. Also, an option for voluntary return points (such as RHWS).
- ❑ Labelling – mandatory labelling to be legislated so all in scope containers are quickly identifiable. Also minimises risk of fraud, ensuring once they are scanned they lose their deposit and cannot be returned again. Technology options are currently being trialled.
- ❑ Local Authorities – In scope containers will still end up in local authority waste streams. Three options proposed:
 - Option 1 – do nothing – allow local authorities to redeem deposit
 - Option 2 – Deposit Management Organisation (DMO) makes payment to LAs via EPR Scheme
 - Option 3 – hybrid option – DMO pays deposit on returned containers as in Option 1 and any additional material is covered by funding formula as in Option 2
- ❑ Compliance Monitoring – consider environmental regulators are best placed to be scheme regulators and will consider role for local authorities/traded services to regulate consumer facing obligations that are placed on retailers.

Consistency in Household and Business Recycling in England

- ❑ Government ambition is to:
 - Improve the quantity and quality of municipal waste recycled in England
 - Increase recycling rates and ensuring less waste goes to landfill
 - Encourage LAs to improve how they recycle and businesses to invest in recycling
 - Create consistency in what can be collected for recycling reducing confusion
- ❑ Government recognises that these new duties will impose additional costs on LAs and will ensure that the costs are covered in line with Government guidance on new burdens
- ❑ Propose LAs in England should be required to collect a core set of materials at kerbside from houses and flats by the end of 2023/24 (except plastic film which is 2026/27)
- ❑ Collection containers and bins determined at the local level. Government are not proceeding with standardised bin colours
- ❑ Recyclable waste can be collected together only if is not technically or economically practicable or if no significant environmental benefit of collecting separately
- ❑ By 2023 LAs to provide all properties and flats with access to at least a weekly separate food collection including provision of containers and liners
- ❑ Propose that all LAs have to arrange for the collection of garden waste in the 2023/24 financial year. Free garden waste is presented as the preferred option

- ❑ Government want to increase the recycling of packaging, food and other recyclable materials beyond the household sector – to ensure consistency between home, school and work
- ❑ Propose businesses, public organisations (e.g., schools, universities, hospitals and Government buildings) and other organisations (including charities and not-for-profit organisations) producing household like waste should arrange for this waste to be collected as recycling
- ❑ Propose the dry recyclable waste streams should include the same materials as those in the equivalent waste stream from households, in the financial year 2023/24
- ❑ The Environment Bill requires food waste to be collected from all non household municipal premises that produce food waste. Must be collected separately from the dry waste streams as well as residual waste
- ❑ Propose measures to reduce the cost of recycling and waste management for small and micro firms including exemptions
- ❑ Considering local franchising of waste services, including joint collection of household and non household municipal waste and more waste drop off sites including Recycling and Household Waste Sites

- ❑ LCC submitted responses to all consultations
- ❑ LCC broadly supportive of overall aims and objectives. Some areas require further consideration such as understanding the relationship between collection and disposal authorities, esp. in regards to managing recycling contracts and ensuring payments capture all packaging materials in the residual waste stream
- ❑ Composition of household waste streams likely to change as a result of the reforms
- ❑ Ensured there was consistency between all responses to the 3 consultations
- ❑ Will continue to monitor the Governments response to the submitted consultations and will continue to engage as appropriate
- ❑ There will be financial implications when the changes are implemented but there needs to be further details provided before these can be fully understood
- ❑ The Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy which is currently under review will take account of the proposed changes and remain flexible enough to react to any significant changes resulting from that new policies through reviews of the Strategy

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