

WASTE POLICY UPDATE 15.05.18

POLICY DEVELOPMENT	IMPLICATIONS
LIVERPOOL CITY REGION (LCR)	
<p>LCR Visitor Economy Strategy The Strategy aims to support the growth of the visitor economy and its contribution to the City Region's overall economic development. Objectives include an overall increase in visitors and visitors spend. Link to LCR Combined Authority meeting papers (see 20.04.18 meeting)</p> <p>Other LCR strategic documents can be found at Link to LCRCA documents & strategies</p>	<p>Risk of increased waste arisings including litter.</p>
<p>Other LCR activity</p> <p>The International Business Festival 2018 returns to Liverpool between 12 – 28th June. Link to IBF 2018</p> <p>The LCR Combined Authority last met on 20.04.18 and the next meeting follows on 25.05.18. Link to LCR Combined Authority meeting papers</p> <p>The LEP Board last met on 22.03.18 and the next meeting follows on 24.05.18. Link to LEP Board meeting papers</p>	<p>Opportunity to attract inward investment and promote innovation in resource use.</p>
NATIONAL	
<p>Single Use Plastics / Packaging Developments:</p> <p>Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for Packaging On 15.05.18 Michael Gove MP (DEFRA) confirmed that models for an EPR scheme are in development. The final scheme would be consulted on and may see more funds from Producers for LA recycling services and publicity in return for more uniform recycling collections nationally.</p> <p>UK Plastics Pact Launched by WRAP on 26.04.18 to promote collaboration across the plastics sector. By 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliminate problematic or unnecessary plastic packaging 	<p>National policy change on packaging waste and single use plastics likely from late 2018 onwards.</p> <p>More business responsibility for financing and managing household waste.</p> <p>Government aiming to show</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure 100% of plastic packaging is recyclable • 70% of plastic packaging effectively recycled or composted • 30% average recycled content across all plastic packaging. <p>Link to UK Plastics Pact</p> <p>Ocean Plastic initiatives On 26.04.18 the UK committed £250 million support to the Global Environment Facility (GEF) initiative for a further 4 years. On 16.04.18 action on ocean plastic was announced at the Commonwealth Clean Oceans Alliance (CCOA). Both initiatives will tackle marine plastic waste. Link to GOV.UK press release on GEF Link to GOV.UK press release on CCOA</p> <p>From previous updates:</p> <p>March 2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call for evidence on tackling single use plastics through the tax system • Government response on Environmental Audit Committee report on plastic bottles • National Audit Office announce review of packaging recycling obligations. <p>February 2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WRAP outline proposals to improve plastics recycling and packaging • Government response to Environmental Audit Committee report on disposable coffee cups. <p>Autumn 2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call for Evidence on voluntary and economic benefits to reduce littering of drinks containers and promote recycling. 	<p>global leadership through tackling the plastic problem.</p>
<p>Separate Collection of Recyclables Duty The Environment Agency is contacting WCAs with low recycling rates to check on their compliance with the separate collection duty in the Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2012.</p>	<p>WCAs to maintain up to date TEEP assessments.</p>
<p>Household Waste Bin / Littering Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) On 23.04.18 DEFRA issued Guidance on when LAs can issue FPNs on householders not complying with waste collection requirements. Action should be linked to causing a nuisance or a negative effect on local amenities. From 01.04.18 the maximum littering FPN rose to £150. Link to Bins Guidance Link to FPNs Guidance</p>	<p>Opportunity to align LCR enforcement approach.</p>

<p>Landfill Tax Increase / Powers to Tackle Illegal Waste From 01.04.18 landfill tax rose to £88.95 per tonne and to £2.80 per tonne for inert material. The tax has been extended to disposals at unauthorised sites in England. On 29.03.18 the Environment Agency gained powers allowing them to lock the gates of illegal sites and force operators to clear all wastes at a problem site.</p>	<p>Landfill tax increase continues. Further measures to tackle waste crime.</p>
<p>Future Government Announcements</p> <p>HWRC Charging Review revised guidance delayed from end 2017 to after the May 2018 elections.</p> <p>Resources and Waste Strategy to focus on resource efficiency and productivity. Consultation workshops to be announced with the Strategy expected later in 2018.</p> <p>Clean Air Strategy expected Summer 2018.</p> <p>Draft Environmental Principles & Governance after EU Exit Bill expected Autumn 2018. The legislation may also be used to implement a future Deposit Return Scheme.</p> <p>Waste Management Plan for England is due for review in 2019 under EU law. A decision on whether to proceed with a review will follow when Brexit transition arrangements are confirmed.</p>	<p>Clarification of HWRC charging policy delayed.</p> <p>Opportunities to develop UK circular economy and resources strategy post Brexit.</p>
<p>Other National Activity</p> <p>LARAC ‘Future of LA Waste Funding’ report Published on 11.04.18 recommendations include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consideration of direct charging for household waste collection • Deposit Return Scheme for ‘recycling on the go’ only and targeting items not widely collected at kerbside • major Producer Responsibility reform to support costs of household waste and promote design for recyclability. <p>Link to report webpage</p> <p>WRAP ‘Smart Growth’ report Presents the economic case for moving towards the circular economy in the UK. Link to report webpage</p>	<p>National debate on future of waste funding and role of business.</p>

<p>Reuse Network The national Furniture Reuse Network has re-branded as the Reuse Network to support the growth of reuse activity. https://reuse-network.org.uk/</p> <p>Clean Air Day 21.06.18 Opportunity to promote sustainable resource use. Events expected across the LCR. Link to Clean Air Day 2018</p> <p>European Union (Withdrawal) Bill The Bill is continuing its progress through Parliament and is now being examined by the House of Lords. Discussion continues on 16.05.18. Link to European Union (Withdrawal) Bill</p>	
EU & INTERNATIONAL	
<p>Brexit Negotiations On 22.03.18 agreement was reached on a transition period following Brexit in March 2019. The period would require the UK to continue to implement new EU legislation, but without a formal role in shaping it, and end on 31.12.20. Key upcoming dates include the next European Council Summit on 28.06.18 and finalising the Withdrawal Agreement by 19.10.18.</p>	<p>UK waste policy in line with EU until at least 2020.</p>
<p>EU Circular Economy Package The legislative revisions of the Package were approved by the European Parliament on 18.04.18 and are expected to receive final approval by Member States in June 2018. Reuse and recycling targets are likely to be based on a municipal waste definition (households and businesses) Link to EU Circular Economy Package</p>	<p>Stepped 5 yearly increases in reuse and recycling targets from 55% in 2025 to 65% by 2035.</p> <p>The DEFRA Resources and Waste Strategy is expected to reflect key aspects of the Package.</p>
<p>Further Chinese Waste Import Restrictions China will ban imports of a further 32 types of solid waste by the end of 2019, mainly from industrial sources. The UK Government and WRAP are continuing to monitor the situation and impact on UK exporters and recycling markets.</p>	<p>Market values of some recyclables reduced.</p> <p>Encourages reduced recycling contamination and increased UK reprocessing capacity.</p> <p>LAs to liaise with Environment</p>

	Agency if any concerns.
Other EU & International activity LCR Brussels Office The Brussels Office is funded by the LCR Combined Authority and all Districts and MRWA have access to its services. See the link for more information. Link to LCR Brussels Office homepage	

CONSULTATION RESPONSES UPDATE 15.05.18

CONSULTATION	DATES	RESPONSE	SUMMARY AND IMPLICATIONS
FUTURE CONSULTATIONS			
Environmental Principles Policy Statement	Late 2018	To confirm	Consultation expected following publication of the Draft Environmental Principles and Governance Bill in Autumn 2018.
Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) for Drinks Containers	Late 2018	To confirm	Consultation expected on proposals for establishing a DRS in England for used glass, plastic and metal drinks containers.
Single Use Plastics Bans	Late 2018	To confirm	Consultation expected on proposals for banning some single use plastics, e.g. plastic straws, stirrers and cotton buds.
Extended Producer Responsibility Scheme	To confirm	To confirm	Consultation expected on proposals for an Extended Producer Responsibility Scheme drawing in more funds for LA recycling services.
CURRENT CONSULTATIONS			
Environmental Principles & Governance after EU Exit (DEFRA) Link to consultation	Start 10.02.18 End 02.08.18	To review	The consultation will support development of an Environmental Principles and Governance Bill expected in autumn 2018. The Bill will establish an independent and statutory body to hold government to account for environmental outcomes following Brexit.

Call for Evidence on Tackling the Plastic Problem - Using the tax system or charges to address single-use plastic waste (HMT) Link to consultation	Start 13.03.18 End 18.05.18	MHWP	The call for evidence explores how changes to the tax system or charges could be used to reduce the amount of single-use plastics we waste by reducing unnecessary production, increasing reuse, and improving recycling.
RESPONSES MADE IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS			
Consultation on WEEE Compliance Fee Methodology 2017 (DEFRA) Link to consultation	Submitted 30.11.17	MRWA	The response encouraged a compliance fee to be set at a level which incentivises Producer Compliance Schemes to clear WEEE from sites rather than achieving compliance by paying the fee alone. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DEFRA have set a fee in line with the MRWA response.
Call for Evidence on Voluntary and Economic Benefits to Reduce Littering of Drinks Containers and Promote Recycling (DEFRA) Link to consultation	Submitted 20.11.17	MRWA	The response encouraged setting up of pilot projects to gather evidence on the impacts of incentives on existing LA recycling services and costs, prior to any decision on implementing a national scheme. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In February 2018 the Voluntary and Economic Incentives Working Group Report recommended further work and consultation before a DRS is introduced. On 28.03.18 DEFRA announced a consultation will follow in late 2018 on proposals for a national DRS.

MHWP consultation responses can be found at the partnership website [here](#).

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