

RESOURCES & WASTE POLICY UPDATE 24.07.19

POLICY DEVELOPMENT	IMPLICATIONS
LIVERPOOL CITY REGION (LCR)	
<p>Climate Change Emergency The LCR Combined Authority (LCRCA) will develop a Climate Action Plan by December 2019 following its declaration of a Climate Change Emergency on 24.05.19. A report to the LCRCA 28.06.19 meeting identified the need for a stronger LCR circular economy to reduce emissions through more circular resource use. Link to 28.06.19 LCRCA press release Link to report (item 20) Link to 28.05.19 LCRCA press release</p>	<p>Circular economy role in tackling climate change emergency.</p>
<p>LCR Local Industrial Strategy The LCRCA have produced a Position Statement updating on development of the Strategy with a final version expected in early 2020. The Strategy will act as a framework for allocating future LCR resources. Clean growth is one of 4 emerging priorities and can potentially link to materials resource efficiency and circular economy activities, although this link is not specified in the Position paper. Link to report (item 6)</p> <p>Greater Manchester Local Industrial Strategy The Strategy, published on 13.06.19, identifies clean growth as a priority and achieving a carbon neutral city region by 2038. Material resource efficiency is an action area including “citizen orientated Circular Economy and Sharing Economy initiatives”. Link to Strategy</p>	<p>Circular economy role in delivering Local Industrial Strategies.</p>
<p>European Regional Development Funds (ERDF) On 28.06.19 calls worth £28 million for the low carbon economy, SME support and research / innovation involving the LCR were announced, including potential support for resource efficiency activities. Outline applications by 30.09.19 and successful projects would run from 2020 – 2023. Link to funding calls</p>	<p>Support for low carbon projects.</p>
<p>LCR CA and LEP meetings The LCR Combined Authority last met on 28.06.19 and the next meeting follows on 26.07.19. Link to LCR Combined Authority meeting papers</p>	

The LEP Board last met on 18.07.19 and the next meeting follows on 19.09.19.

[Link to LEP Board meeting papers](#)

NATIONAL

Resources and Waste Strategy (RAWS) Update:

Government Response to RAWS Consultations:

Published ahead of schedule on 23.07.19 in advance of the new Prime Minister announcement.

1) Recycling Consistency – Measures DEFRA will take forward for implementation **from 2023** include

- **mandatory separate food waste collection**
- recycling consistency core set of glass containers, paper / card, plastic bottles, **plastic pots, tubs and trays**, steel / aluminium tins and cans
- guidance on separate collection of recycling (recognising separate collection is not always necessary)
- guidance on minimum service standards
- non-binding performance indicator trials with local government
- requirement on **businesses to recycle their waste**
- further consideration required on other proposals and **2nd consultation early 2020**.

2) Packaging Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) - Measures DEFRA will take forward for implementation **from 2023** include

- introduction of **EPR for packaging based on full net cost recovery** from Producers
- mandatory labelling of packaging as 'recyclable' or 'not recyclable'
- **further consideration of Governance Models 1 (competitive compliance scheme) and 2 (single scheme administrator)** alongside alternatives and hybrid approaches suggested by responses
- further consideration required on other proposals and **2nd consultation early 2020**.

3) Introducing a Deposit Return Scheme (DRS)

- DEFRA are minded to introduce a **DRS for drinks containers In England (and Wales) from 2023** pending further evidence and analysis.
- Details of a preferred scheme are expected in a **2nd consultation in early 2020**.

4) Plastic Packaging Tax

- Next steps will be set out at **Budget 2019**
- Further consultation to follow on detail of the tax design and draft legislation (2020)

Detailed proposals expected early 2020.

Mandatory separate food waste collection from 2023.

Plastic pots, tubs and trays recycling from 2023.

Transfer of packaging waste management costs from LAs to businesses from 2023.

Business waste recycling requirements from 2023.

Deposit return scheme for drinks containers from 2023.

Plastic packaging tax on businesses from 2022.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of the tax by 2022. <p>RAWS Implications for LAs Inquiry On 17.07.19 the Parliamentary Housing, Communities and Local Government Committee published interim findings from its inquiry, including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • support for local decision making. Government should not “dictate from the centre” • opposition to mandatory weekly food waste, free garden waste, fortnightly residual • support for EPR and full funding for LAs to implement new requirements, including contract re-negotiations • keep incineration tax under review, but not introduce in the short term • review / consult on alternatives to the 2-tier authority approach in the next year. <p>Link to interim findings letter pdf 4 pages</p>	
<p>Environment Bill update Publication of the majority of the Bill has been delayed until Autumn 2019. On 23.07.19 DEFRA published an Environment Bill Summer Policy Statement. Waste and resource measures are likely to include new powers to set resource-efficiency standards for products encouraging design for durability, repair and recycling, alongside measures to implement the RAWS consultation proposals (see above).</p> <p>Link to Draft Environment Bill & updates Link to Parliamentary inquiry</p>	<p>Legislation to implement Resources & Waste Strategy.</p> <p>Increase resource efficiency of products.</p> <p>Stronger circular economy.</p>
<p>National Waste Prevention Programme WRAP are reviewing the 2013 Programme and a consultation is expected in the Autumn with a new Programme expected in Spring 2020. The Programme will deliver on RAWS commitments including addressing barriers to reuse at HWRCs and enhancing the community sector role in reuse. WRAP have recently issued best practice guidance for HWRC design and operation.</p> <p>Link to WRAP HWRC Guide Link to WRAP C&I Waste at HWRCs Guide</p>	<p>Increased role for reuse at HWRCs.</p> <p>LA partnerships with community sector to increase reuse.</p>
<p>Net Zero Carbon Emissions by 2050 Target Following the Committee on Climate Change ‘Net Zero’ report published on 02.05.19, Parliament adopted legislation on 26.06.19 to amend the Climate Change Act 2008 and replace the 2050 target of 80% emission reduction with a new 100% emissions reduction target (from 1990 levels) by 2050.</p> <p>Link to legislation Link to press release Link to Committee on Climate Change 'Net Zero' report</p> <p>Committee on Climate Change - 2019 Progress Report on Reducing UK Emissions</p>	<p>Accelerate action on reducing carbon emissions and demand for carbon-intensive products.</p>

<p>On 10.07.19 the Committee published its annual progress report. Despite adoption of the ‘net zero’ target, the report was critical of Government progress in delivering actual emissions reductions. The report proposes Government priorities for the next year should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industry – resource efficiency plans to help reduce demand for carbon-intensive products • Waste – commitment to ban landfill of bio-degradable waste by 2025. <p>Link to 2019 progress report</p>	
<p>Brexit Update:</p> <p>New Prime Minister Following Theresa May’s resignation speech on 24.05.19, Boris Johnson became Conservative Party leader on 23.07.19 and Prime Minister (PM) the following day. The current deadline for UK exit from the EU is 31.10.19 and the new PM has committed to delivering Brexit, with or without a deal, by this date.</p> <p>‘No Deal’ Guidance Government guidance on preparing for the possibility of a ‘no deal’ Brexit. Link to ‘No Deal’ Brexit Guidance papers Link to Guidance on Local Government Brexit Preparedness</p>	<p>Continued uncertainty on the future UK – EU relationship.</p> <p>No deal Brexit possible.</p> <p>Closer UK – EU waste and resources policy alignment with a Brexit deal. Potential increased divergence with a no deal Brexit.</p>
<p>WRAP Resource Action Fund Further calls announced from the Fund include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • plastic packaging / textiles recycling infrastructure projects worth £200k to £1 million (Stage 1 applications close 02.08.19) and • infrastructure grants (£25k - £170k) to increase recycling capacity of non-household municipal waste (Stage 1 applications close 04.09.19). <p>More funding calls will follow. Link to Resource Action Fund</p>	<p>Funding for plastics, textiles and business waste recycling infrastructure.</p>
<p>Other National Activity</p> <p>Labour Party ‘Democratising Local Public Services’ Report The 20.07.19 report proposes a Local Public Services Bill if Labour win the next General Election. This would introduce a presumption in favour of insourcing for future public services, including waste. Link to report (pdf 56 pages)</p> <p>National Food Strategy On 27.06.19 Government announced an Independent Review of national food strategy. A call for evidence is expected this summer leading to a new Strategy during winter 2020 / 21.</p>	<p>Labour proposals to insource LA waste services.</p> <p>Initiatives to reduce food and plastic waste.</p>

[Link to review](#)

Food Waste ‘Step up to the Plate’ Pledge

Over 100 major UK food sector organisations have pledged to halve food waste by 2030 in line with UN Sustainable Development Goal 12.3 on reducing food waste.

[Link to press release](#)

2019 Survey on Attitudes to Food Waste and Packaging

The INCPEN / WRAP study, published 16.07.19, suggests public support for a national recycling standard.

[Link to survey](#)

Eliminating Single Use Plastics

The UK Plastics Pact is working to eliminate disposable plastic cutlery, plates and bowls, polystyrene and PVC packaging and oxo-degradable plastics by the end of 2020.

[Link to Eliminating Problem Plastics](#)

RECOUP Household Plastics Collection Survey 2018

Survey findings have identified issues with securing reliable markets for some plastic packaging, including plastic pots, tubs and trays.

[Link to survey](#)

Plastic Packaging Polymer Guidance

WRAP have published industry guidance on best practice polymers for plastic packaging recyclability.

[Link to guidance \(pdf 14 pages\)](#)

Zero Waste Scotland – Cost of Packaging report

The report estimates that the average household spends a hidden cost of £250 per year on single use grocery packaging equivalent to 7% of the average annual grocery bill.

[Link to report \(pdf 6 pages\)](#)

Parliamentary Environmental Audit Committee ‘Toxic Chemicals in Everyday Life’ report

The 16.07.19 report calls for the introduction of EPR schemes, e.g. furniture and plastic packaging, as part of measures to phase out the use of chemicals harmful to the environment.

[Link to report](#)

Parliamentary Environmental Audit Committee ‘Electronic Waste and the Circular Economy’ Inquiry

<p>The inquiry, launched on 27.07.19, is considering UK actions to tackle the "tsunami of e-waste". Evidence submissions close 16.08.19. Link to Inquiry</p> <p>Green Finance Strategy Government strategy published 02.07.19 to develop the role of finance in delivering UK climate / environmental objectives. Pulls together a wide range of initiatives, case studies and ongoing activity. Link to Strategy</p> <p>UK Global Resource Initiative Taskforce The initiative, announced on 18.07.19, aims to establish the UK as a leader on supply chain sustainability and accelerate action to address climate change and resource depletion. Link to press release Link to ToR</p> <p>UK Voluntary National Review of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Published on 26.06.19, the review updates on UK progress in meeting the UN goals including SDG 12 on responsible consumption and production. Link to report</p> <p>Green GB & NI Week 4 – 8 Nov 2019 A week of activities to promote action on clean growth and climate change as part of Government's Year of Green Action. Link to campaign</p>	
EU & INTERNATIONAL	
<p>EU Single Use Plastics Directive The Directive was published in June 2019 and introduces further measures to reduce single use plastic waste including bans (2021) on polystyrene food / drink packaging and disposable plastic cutlery and plates. Measures will also increase the recycled content of plastic bottles and encourage reduction of tobacco filter, wet wipes and sanitary product plastic wastes. Link to Directive</p>	<p>Reduces single use plastic waste.</p> <p>Application in UK will depend on Brexit arrangements.</p>
<p>EU Urban Innovative Actions – 5th Call The 5th call for proposals is expected to open in September 2019 and will include a circular economy focus. UK organisations may be able to apply depending on the Brexit situation at the time. Link to 5th call proposals</p>	<p>Funding for circular economy projects.</p>

<p>International Waste Export Restrictions The Environment Agency and WRAP continue to monitor the UK export situation.</p>	<p>LAs to raise any operational concerns with EA ASAP.</p>
<p>Other EU & International activity</p> <p>LCR Brussels Office The Brussels Office is part of the LCR Combined Authority and advises stakeholders on EU policy and funding issues and opportunities. All Districts and MRWA have access to its support services.</p>	

CONSULTATION RESPONSES UPDATE 24.07.19

CONSULTATION	DATES	RESPONSE	SUMMARY AND IMPLICATIONS
FUTURE CONSULTATIONS			
National Food Strategy	Summer 2019	To confirm	Call for Evidence expected as part of an Independent Review leading to a National Food Strategy by winter 2020 / 21.
EU Circular Economy Package (CEP) Transposition	2019	To confirm	Consultation expected on transposition of revised EU Waste Directives from the CEP into UK law pending Brexit arrangements.
Environmental Principles Policy Statement	2019	To confirm	Consultation expected on the Statement which will be implemented through the Environment Bill.
National Waste Prevention Programme	Oct 2019	To confirm	Consultation expected on a new programme following review of the 2013 programme. The new programme is expected in Feb / March 2020 and is likely to encourage more reuse at HWRCs and more support for community sector organisations preventing waste.
Recycling Consistency / Minimum Service Standards Guidance (possibly separate consultations)	Early 2020	To confirm	To follow the 2019 recycling consistency consultation and consider proposals in more detail, including statutory guidance and minimum service standards for waste collection.
Packaging Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)	Early 2020	To confirm	To follow the 2019 packaging EPR consultation and consider the preferred approach in more detail.

Deposit Return Scheme (DRS)	Early 2020	To confirm	To follow the 2019 DRS consultation and consider the preferred approach in more detail.
Plastic Packaging Tax	Early 2020	To confirm	To follow the 2019 tax consultation and consider the preferred approach in more detail.
HWRC Service Standardisation / National Consistency	2020	To confirm	Possible consultation to be confirmed. May cover opening hours, accepted wastes, restrictions, charging.
Review of WEEE System	2020	To confirm	To improve the current system in line with EPR principles and improve cost recovery by Producers.
New EPR Materials	By 2022 / 2025	To confirm	Consultations expected on introducing new EPR schemes. 2 materials consulted on by 2022, 5 by 2025. May include textiles, furniture, mattresses, carpets, car tyres, commercial fishing gear.
Other consultations expected in 2019 flowing from the Resources and Waste Strategy 2018 include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandatory food waste reporting / food waste prevention targets for businesses • Waste Duty of Care and permitting improvements, plus mandatory digital recording of waste movements. 			
CURRENT CONSULTATIONS			
Call for Evidence on Standards for Biodegradable, Compostable and Bio-Based Plastics (BEIS / DEFRA) Link to consultation	Opened 22.07.19 Closes 14.10.19	To review	Call for evidence on the sustainability of these plastics, the potential role of standards to improve their use and their impact on waste collection and treatment systems.
RESPONSES MADE IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS			
Consultation on Consistency in Household and Business Recycling Collections in England (DEFRA) Link to consultation	Submitted 13.05.19	Merseyside & Halton Waste Partnership (MHWP)	The response called for local flexibility in the list of materials to be collected for recycling to reflect materials with sustainable markets. MHWP would like to work with Government to understand the true costs and benefits of introducing food waste collections locally and also maintain the ability to charge for garden waste collections if Councils wish. MHWP does not support the requirement for residual waste collections at least every 2 weeks and called for any new collection or

			<p>recycling requirements expected from 2023 to be fully funded by Government.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government Response 23.07.19. Further consultation expected early 2020. Link to Government Response
<p>Consultation on Reforming the UK Packaging Producer Responsibility System (DEFRA) Link to consultation</p>	Submitted 13.05.19	MHWP	<p>The response supported EPR measures for packaging from 2023, including full net cost recovery by producers of costs incurred by LAs in the management of packaging waste. The new packaging system should be overseen by a single, publically accountable body.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government Response 23.07.19. Further consultation expected early 2020. Link to Government Response
<p>Consultation on Introducing a Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (DEFRA) Link to consultation</p>	Submitted 13.05.19	MHWP	<p>The response recognised the benefits of an ‘all in’ DRS in diverting material to recycling, but that there were concerns on the impact of loss of materials from kerbside collections. Any DRS introduced from 2023 should follow reform of the packaging producer responsibility system and ensure LAs are not financially disadvantaged.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government Response 23.07.19. Further consultation expected early 2020. Link to Government Response
<p>Plastic Packaging Tax (HM Treasury) Link to consultation</p>	Submitted 12.05.19	MHWP	<p>The response supported proposals to introduce a tax on plastic packaging with less than 30% recycled plastic content by 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government Response 23.07.19. Further consultation expected by 2020. Link to Government Response
<p>Consultation on Proposal to Extend the Single Use Plastic Bag Charge to all Retailers and Increase Minimum Charge to 10p (DEFRA) Link to consultation</p>	Submitted 30.01.19	MHWP	<p>The response supported extension of the charge and an increase to 10p from January 2020. Potential increased use of alternatives, e.g. paper bags, should be monitored. Income from the 10p charge should be invested in initiatives to reduce bag consumption at source.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awaiting Government Response.
<p>Consultation on Proposals to Ban the Distribution / Sale of Plastic Straws, Plastic-Stemmed Cotton Buds and Plastic Drink Stirrers in England (DEFRA) Link to consultation</p>	Submitted 03.12.18	MHWP	<p>The response supported introduction of a comprehensive ban at the earliest practical date. The ban can signal Government’s intention to tackle single use plastic and set a direction of travel towards delivering more efficient use of resources through the circular economy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government have announced bans on these materials from April 2020.

Consultation on WEEE Compliance Fee Methodology 2018 (DEFRA) Link to consultation	Submitted 16.11.18	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"> Government have approved a compliance fee approach for 2018 which supports site clearance.
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MHWP consultation responses can be found at the partnership website [here](#).

TARGETS TRACKER

Year	Action	Requirement
2020	50% of waste from households prepared for re-use or recycled	EU Waste Framework Directive 2008 / The Waste (England & Wales) Regulations 2011 / Joint Recycling & Waste Management Strategy (JRWMS) for Merseyside 2011 - 2041: EU – Statutory National - Statutory Merseyside – JRWMS non-statutory target (pooled target for MRWA & 5 Merseyside Districts) Individual LAs – No target
2020	Reduce the amount of local authority collected municipal waste (LACMW) landfilled to 10%	JRWMS: Merseyside – JRWMS non-statutory target
2025	55% of municipal waste reused or recycled	Revised EU Waste Framework Directive 2018: EU – Statutory National – adoption to be confirmed
2025	20% reduction in UK food and drink waste and carbon emissions compared with 2015	Courtauld Commitment: National – Non-statutory
2025	All plastic packaging placed on the market being recyclable, reusable or compostable	Our Waste, Our Resources: A Strategy for England 2018: National – Non-statutory
2025	70% of all plastics packaging waste effectively	UK Plastics Pact 2018:

	recycled or composted	National – Non-statutory
2030	Eliminate landfilling of food waste	Clean Growth Strategy 2017: National – Non-statutory
2030	Reduce the amount of LACMW landfilled to 2%	JRWMS: Merseyside – JRWMS non-statutory target
2030	Reduce total waste arisings from households by 8% based on 2011 levels	JRWMS: Merseyside – JRWMS non-statutory pooled target
2030	60% of municipal waste reused or recycled	Revised EU Waste Framework Directive 2018: EU – Statutory National – adoption to be confirmed
2035	65% of municipal waste reused or recycled	Revised EU Waste Framework Directive 2018: EU – Statutory National – adoption to be confirmed
2035	Landfill of municipal waste limited to 10%	Revised EU Waste Framework Directive 2018: EU – Statutory National – adoption to be confirmed
2040	Zero carbon Liverpool City Region	LCR Metro Mayor LCR – Non-statutory
2042	Eliminate avoidable plastic waste	25 Year Environment Plan 2018: National – Non-statutory
2050	Zero avoidable waste and a doubling of resource productivity	Clean Growth Strategy 2017: National – Non-statutory
2050	Reduce carbon emissions by 100% of 1990 levels	Climate Change Act 2008 (amended 2019): National - Statutory

Glynn Stevenson - Waste Strategy Policy Officer, MRWA
0151 255 2526 glynn.stevenson@merseysidewda.gov.uk