

RESOURCES & WASTE POLICY UPDATE



MERSEYDIDE RECYCLING & WASTE AUTHORITY

MERSEYDIDE... A PLACE
WHERE NOTHING IS WASTED

OCTOBER 2021

Policy Updates:

POLICY DEVELOPMENT	IMPLICATIONS
LIVERPOOL CITY REGION (LCR)	
Freeport LCR successfully bid for Freeport status earlier in 2021 with proposals which included the development of net zero carbon industrial hubs based on circular economy and zero waste principles. On 24.09.21 the LCR Combined Authority approved submission on an Outline Business Case to Government. It is hoped to develop a Full Business Case by the end of 2021 and implement Freeport actions from 2022.	Opportunity to develop circular economy hubs in LCR.
Climate Action Plan The LCR Year 1 Climate Action Plan (CAP) includes actions across 9 themes including waste and resources. The Plan runs until 31.03.22 and will be followed by a more detailed CAP currently under development. Link to Year 1 Plan 2021-22 pdf 46 pages	Sustainable use of material resources is key to delivering net zero carbon.
NATIONAL	
Environment Bill The Bill introduces new laws to implement the national Resources and Waste Strategy (RAWS) and is expected to complete its passage through Parliament and come into law around November	Current timescales for implementing consistent recycling may be difficult to deliver.

<p>2021, but further delay is possible. The focus will then be on detailed regulations to implement specific measures which are expected by late 2022 alongside waste collection statutory guidance. Link to Environment Bill</p>	
<p>Waste Prevention Programme consultation DEFRA consulted on a new Waste Prevention Programme for England between March and June 2021 with a final version expected this Autumn. The Programme will set out waste prevention and reuse initiatives across a wide range of materials and aim to improve local reuse and repair services and facilities, including at HWRCs and through circular economy hubs. Link to consultation</p>	<p>HWRC reuse best practice to follow.</p>
<p>Packaging Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) consultation Between March and June 2021 DEFRA consulted on proposals to introduce packaging EPR with final proposals expected by the winter. The proposals will incentivise producers to design easy to reuse / recycle packaging and invest in recycling infrastructure by making them liable for the costs of managing packaging waste. Phased implementation of packaging EPR is scheduled from 2023. Link to consultation</p>	<p>Shift of packaging waste management costs from LAs to producers.</p> <p>Final proposals and implementation timescales to follow.</p>
<p>Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) for Drinks Containers consultation DEFRA consulted on proposals to implement a DRS from March to June 2021 with final proposals expected by the winter. The DRS aims to reduce littering and incentivise increased recycling of drinks containers by placing a deposit value on these items. The scheme is not expected to become operational until late 2024 at the earliest. Link to consultation</p>	<p>Risk of unintended consequences if DRS introduced at same time as consistent recycling and packaging EPR.</p> <p>Final proposals and implementation timescales to follow.</p>
<p>Consistent Recycling consultation DEFRA consulted on consistent recycling proposals between May and June 2021 with final proposals expected by the winter. Consistent recycling measures include an expanded national core set of materials to be included in recycling collections phased in from 2023 and funded via</p>	<p>Current timescales for implementing consistent recycling may be difficult to deliver.</p>

<p>EPR and Government New Burdens funding. Core materials include food waste and most packaging waste. Link to consultation</p>	<p>Concern on the level of funding support available to LAs.</p> <p>Final proposals and implementation timescales to follow.</p>
<p>Single Use Plastic Bans DEFRA are to consult during the Autumn on banning or restricting further single use plastic items including plates, cutlery, and polystyrene cups. The proposals would bring England closer in line with measures set out in the EU Single Use Plastics Directive. Link to GOV.UK press release</p>	<p>Opportunity to promote waste prevention and reuse behaviours.</p>
<p>WEEE Local Projects Fund Applications to the £500,000 funding pot closed on 8th October. The fund supports WEEE collection, repair, reuse, recycling, engagement and communications activities. Projects must be delivered and completed by the end of 2022. Collaboration between organisations is encouraged and applications require support of the waste disposal authority. A fast-track process is available for smaller projects. Link to fund details.</p>	<p>Support for WEEE reuse, repair, recycling projects.</p>
<p>Climate and Net Zero Carbon reports In the run up to COP 26 in November there is increased UK focus on climate issues and recent announcements include:</p> <p>Net Zero Strategy – published 19.10.21, the strategy sets out how the UK will deliver on its commitment to reach net zero emissions by 2050. £295 million funding was announced to support LAs prepare for household separate food waste collections from 2025. Link to Net Zero Strategy</p> <p>UK Hydrogen Strategy - published 17.08.21, the strategy aims for 5GW low carbon hydrogen production capacity by 2030 Link to UK Hydrogen Strategy</p>	<p>Funding for food waste collections from 2025.</p>

<p>Transport Decarbonisation Plan - published 14.07.21, the plan aims to end the sale of new petrol / diesel cars and vans by 2030, remove all diesel-only freight trains by 2040 and consult on a non-zero Heavy Goods Vehicle (HGV) phase out Link to Transport Decarbonisation Plan</p> <p>Climate Change Committee 2021 Progress Report – published 24.06.21, the report assessed the UK’s progress on tackling climate change and concluded that Government has been too slow in following up climate pledges with delivery Link to CCC 2021 progress report</p>	
<p>Covid Waste Services Guidance Guidance on managing HWRCs during the pandemic was withdrawn 23.07.21, whilst Guidance on prioritising waste collections was reissued on 23.07.21 to cover all scenarios where waste service resources may be reduced. Link to DEFRA Guidance Link to WISH Guidance (scroll to 'INFO 13')</p>	<p>Maintain Covid risk assessments.</p> <p>Follow the guidance if waste services require prioritisation e.g. through fuel or driver shortages.</p>
<p>INTERNATIONAL</p>	
<p>UN COP 26 Climate Change Summit COP 26 is hosted by the UK in Glasgow from 1 – 12 November 2021 and aims to reach global agreement on accelerated action to tackle climate change. National and regional preparations are gearing up towards the summit. Link to Climate COP 26</p>	<p>Pressure on UK to demonstrate global climate action leadership</p>
<p>IPCC 6th Assessment Report The latest Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report from August 2021 updates on the physical science basis of climate change. The report reiterated the need for urgent action to reduce carbon emissions including a strong, rapid and sustained reduction in methane emissions to limit future climate change. Further reports on climate change mitigation are expected in March 2022. Link to latest reporting</p>	<p>Urgent action required to reduce carbon emissions including methane.</p>

UN COP15 Biodiversity Summit

The Covid delayed Summit is hosted by China and split into two halves with a virtual session from 11-15 October 2021 followed by a face to face meeting from 25 April to 8 May 2022. The Summit aims to agree a post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework to conserve natural capital and reduce pollution including eliminating 'discharge of plastic waste'.

[Link to Biodiversity COP 15](#)

Biodiversity at risk from climate change and unsustainable consumption of materials resources.

Targets Tracker:

Year	Target	Source
2025	55% reuse and recycling of LCR waste	LCR Year One Climate Action Plan EU target for municipal waste (not adopted in England)
2025	20% reduction in UK food and drink waste and carbon emissions compared with 2015	UK Courtauld Commitment 2025
2025	All plastic packaging placed on the market being recyclable, reusable or compostable	Our Waste, Our Resources: A Strategy for England 2018 (DEFRA)
2025	70% of all plastics packaging waste effectively recycled or composted	UK Plastics Pact 2018
2030	50% reduction in food waste in the UK compared with 2007 (UN SDG 12.3)	UK Courtauld Commitment 2030

	50% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions associated with food and drink consumed in the UK compared with 2015 50% of fresh food sourced from areas with sustainable water management	
2030	Eliminate landfilling of food waste	UK Clean Growth Strategy 2017 (BEIS)
2030	Reduce the amount of local authority collected municipal waste landfilled to 2%	Resources Merseyside 2011 - 2041
2030	Reduce total waste arisings from households by 8% based on 2011 levels	Resources Merseyside 2011 -2041
2030	60% of municipal waste reused or recycled	EU target (not adopted in England)
2035	Reduce carbon emissions by 78% of 1990 levels	UK Climate Change Act (amended)
2035	65% of municipal waste reused or recycled	EU target adopted in English law
2035	Landfill of municipal waste limited to 10%	EU target adopted in English law
2040	Net zero carbon Liverpool City Region	LCR Metro Mayor
2042	Eliminate avoidable plastic waste	England 25 Year Environment Plan 2018 (DEFRA)

2050	Zero avoidable waste and a doubling of resource productivity	UK Clean Growth Strategy 2017 (BEIS)
2050	Reduce carbon emissions by 100% of 1990 levels	UK Climate Change Act 2008 (amended)

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