

Waste Management Strategy 2021–2031

Creating a greener and cleaner future for Lewisham



Contents

Foreword.....	3
Executive Summary.....	4
Why do we need a waste strategy	5
Consultation with Lewisham service users	6
The challenges we face	10
What has been achieved	13
Ambition and 6 priorities	15
Priority 1	16
Priority 2.....	19
Priority 3.....	22
Priority 4.....	25
Priority 5.....	28
Priority 6.....	31
Delivering our priorities	33
Glossary	35
Project Planner	37

Foreword



We want to create a cleaner, greener and healthier borough that everyone can be proud of. Our new Waste Management Strategy, which is aligned with our Climate Emergency Action Plan, will help us all to reduce waste, improve air quality and make this Future Lewisham a reality.

The Waste Management Strategy 2021–2031 supports Future Lewisham, our COVID–19 recovery plan, which sets out four themes at the heart of our response to the impact of the pandemic.

- A greener future
- A healthy and well future
- An economically sound future
- A future we all have a part in

We are passionate about creating a cleaner, greener, more environmentally sustainable borough and making Lewisham a place where everyone is proud to live, work and study in, and visit.

We're also committed to taking action against waste crime, which has a significant impact on our local communities. We have set up a dedicated Enviro-Crime Team, who engage with residents to ensure that they know how to responsibly and safely dispose of unwanted items, and enforce against the small minority of people who are committing anti-social behaviour,

such as fly-tipping, littering and vandalism. We'll be providing residents with information and updates on the work undertaken by the enforcement team.

We want to ensure that residents, businesses, visitors, housing providers and Council services can work together to follow the Waste Hierarchy, which gives top priority to preventing waste and encourages reducing and reusing resources. This will support our ambition of moving towards a more circular economy – which keeps resources in use for longer.

Moving towards a circular economy would have huge benefits on our environment, communities and the local economy. Circular economies use less energy, water and resources; produce less pollution and greenhouse gases; and save tax payers' money which can be put back into other local services. Our local businesses and communities will also benefit from a shift towards the circular economy, as more locally-sourced goods and materials will be exchanged within communities.

Thank you to everyone who has shared their views and ideas and supported this strategy. Your input will help shape our approach to responsible waste management in the years to come.

Cllr Patrick Codd
Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport

Executive summary

Our borough will continue to grow and flourish at pace, along with the impact on our local environment. That's why we must take action now to change how we manage waste and move towards a more circular economy, which keeps resources in use for longer. This Waste Strategy will support us to do this.

Lewisham Council's Waste Management Strategy 2021–2031 is the Council's strategic approach to managing waste in Lewisham until the end of 2031.

We asked residents, businesses, and other stakeholders what they thought about our intentions for managing waste and improving the local environment. We shared our views on what we thought was needed, which received great feedback. We also found that, despite there being many challenges to overcome, there is a commitment to working with the Council to make Lewisham a place where people are proud to live in, work in, study in and visit.

The six priorities below guide our strategy and provide a framework for our services in the future.

Priority 1: Leading the way forward

We want the Council and its partners to be ambitious and to show leadership and innovation in the way waste is managed; and ultimately reduced.

Priority 2: Shaping services to follow the Waste Hierarchy

We want the Council and its partners to adapt their services to consumers' needs and to follow the 'Waste Hierarchy', which ranks waste management options according to what is best for the environment

Priority 3: Working together for an improved local environment

We want the Council to collaborate with residents and stakeholders to achieve the best results together – helping to boost Civic Pride and manage waste responsibly.

Priority 4: Using waste as a resource following the Circular Economy Principles

We want the Council and its partners to manage our waste as a material resource that can be reused and repurposed to enhance our sustainability and the circular economy.

Priority 5: Reducing carbon emissions, decreasing energy waste and improving air quality

We want the Council and its partners to reduce carbon emissions coming from waste and contribute to local air quality improvement.

Priority 6: Adding social value

We want the Council and its partners to contribute economic, social, and environmental benefits to the local community by supporting local supply chains, employment and social cohesion.

The Council is committed to increasing the participation of everyone who uses our services, so that service changes are designed around the needs of Lewisham's residents, businesses and visitors.

Through this strategy, we aim to support everyone in the borough to play their part in reducing the impact of waste and improving the local environment. However, the Council is still suffering from the effects of austerity and the pandemic, and so we need everyone to do their bit to help us create a greener, cleaner and healthier Lewisham.

Our Waste Strategy takes a progressive, long term and incremental approach over the next decade with periodic reviews to enable us to consider what might need to change.

Service changes and the setting of waste reduction and recycling targets outlined in this strategy will take place in a series of phases beginning in early 2022.

Why is a Waste Management Strategy needed?

Lewisham is a dynamic and vibrant place to live, work and learn in – with diverse and creative communities, award-winning services and ambitious economic growth and regeneration plans for the future, which will create opportunities for residents and businesses. However, economic growth is also linked to an increase in the consumption of resources, which must be managed in a sustainable and cost-effective way that benefits everyone.

The amount of waste produced and disposed of continues to rise, not just in Lewisham but across the world. This collective consumption of resources leads to poor air quality and environmental damage – that's why we must all act now to turn the tide on waste pollution and create a greener Lewisham.

Since our previous Waste Strategy was published, the way in which waste is dealt with has changed dramatically. It has gone from a problem to be managed to a valuable source of materials that can be harnessed and re-used again before final disposal. We also need to think about ways of reducing the amount of waste that is generated, so there is less waste to deal with in the first place. This will support our **Climate Emergency Action Plan** and may help save the Council money in the long-run, which can be put back into local services.

Poor waste management often results in what is known as enviro-crime. This includes littering, fly tipping, graffiti, flyposting, contaminated recycling and dog fouling. Enviro-crime has a significant impact on residents, businesses, the environment and our local economy – and we are committed to tackling it.

We have established a dedicated enforcement team that is tackling local enviro-crime by enforcing the rules and issuing fines, or fixed penalty notices (FPN's), for a range of offences. If FPN's are not accepted or paid, we will endeavour to take offenders to court and ask that the strongest penalties are given if offenders are found guilty.

These enforcement activities will be supported by the Cleaner Lewisham campaign, which aims to raise awareness of how to dispose of waste responsibly, where to report fly-tipping and other enviro-crimes, and make residents and businesses aware of action that will be taken against them if they don't follow the rules. As part of this work, we've developed a Cleaner Lewisham app to make it easier for street-based problems to be reported and dealt with.

Timely reports and data will be shared on the Council's website so that local people can see the positive effect of action being taken to crack down on enviro-crime across the borough.



Consultation with Lewisham Council service users

We will work hard to help people minimise the waste they produce and encourage them to recycle more, reduce contamination, and take pride in their local environment. We will encourage everyone to take part in this effort so that future generations benefit from the actions that we take together – now!

In order to make these improvements, we need to involve as many people as possible. This includes residents, businesses, registered social landlords, housing providers, partners and other stakeholders. Through this engagement, we can work together to develop and adapt services to meet the needs of our customers, in the face of shrinking Council resources.

Over the past 10 years, we have reduced the amount of waste produced and increased the amount that has been recycled, but there is still more to be done and this is reflected in the actions we have set ourselves.

We need to be more innovative than ever, and invest in new ways of managing waste which may increase the cost of services at the same time that the public sector is under pressure to improve efficiency and reduce expenditure. However, whilst we'll do everything that we can to reduce, reuse and recycle waste, we'll need your help too. Together, we can create a cleaner and greener Lewisham.

Our Draft Waste Management Strategy, 'A 10-year plan for Lewisham 2021–2031', went through a wide-ranging public consultation from July to October 2021, to seek the views of as many people as possible, including residents, businesses, partners, and other stakeholders. The consultation included an online survey and online and in-person focus groups, which were promoted through Council channels. We received comments from more than 1,700 respondents and the overall response was positive and supportive, and we now have a clearer idea of what people who use our services want.

Some of the key results from our consultation are highlighted below.

We asked what the Council could do to help people produce less waste and to recycle more.

Respondents agreed with the target of recycling and composting 45% or more from households and made many suggestions that will be considered in shaping service delivery to help us achieve this target.

Respondents felt that reducing the size of the general waste bins, or no longer collecting waste left at the side of the bin, would not help to increase recycling or composting. There was no support for making waste

collections every three weeks instead of fortnightly.

There was a good response to the question about recycling and composting, and 82% of respondents would like the Council to run more promotional campaigns for schools and households to promote waste reduction.

Respondents were keen to see the Council collect a wider range of materials for recycling, preferably from the kerbside bins, with more guidance on what can and cannot be recycled and encouragement to think about alternative solutions to simply putting everything in the waste bin.

What the Council intends to do

The Council will review the methodology and strategy used for promoting waste reduction to ensure engagement, education and encouragement with those who use Council services is appropriate. We will develop a policy for the collection of waste and recycling from individual properties and flats that will provide education and encouragement to help reduce waste and boost recycling. The policy will also highlight the potential for warnings and fines for those who continue to put rubbish into recycling bins. We will explore affordable options to collect other recyclable items such as textiles and small electrical

Consultation with Lewisham Council service users (continued)

items. We will also review how we can improve the distribution of relevant information and guidance on responsible waste management to residents and businesses.

We asked about food waste collections from flats

A separate food waste collection to all properties is required in the Mayor of London's Waste Strategy, which Lewisham has signed up to. This policy is seen as an important method to reduce waste and increase recycling.

Nearly 20% of respondents who don't currently have a food waste recycling service said they would use a one if it was provided. There were a lot of general suggestions from respondents about recycling from flats, including the number of bins required, lack of storage space, frequency of collections and information on what can and cannot be recycled.

Providing a food waste service to blocks of flats and to those who live in flats above shops is challenging, with issues around a lack of internal/external storage space, bins stored in the open air and accessible to unauthorised usage/dumping, and contamination to overcome.

What the Council intends to do

The Council will benchmark with other boroughs and collaborate with our housing provision partners to identify opportunities to create cost effective solutions to food waste recycling. We will carry out a feasibility study to determine the most practicable approach for expanding the food waste service to blocks of flats and flats above shops. We will review our service for street-based properties to better understand any challenges that could prevent residents and businesses from recycling food waste, and explore potential solutions.

We asked how the Council can help people to share, repair and reuse more

A large proportion of respondents felt that providing re-use points at recycling centres for electrical items and furniture would be the most effective way of supporting people to reuse items that would otherwise be thrown away. Increasing the re-use of furniture and larger items collected by the Council was also felt to be important, along with working with charities to encourage and collect re-useable items from residents rather than throwing them away.

Promoting websites where people can exchange items that they no longer need and promotional campaigns in schools were also felt to be important factors in promoting reuse and responsible waste management.

What the Council intends to do

The Council already operates a comprehensive chargeable collection service, but little that is collected is reused. However, it is generally deconstructed or reprocessed as part of the disposal route.

The Council has one reuse and recycling centre, which serves the whole borough. It is not easy to get to without access to a vehicle to transport items for disposal at the centre. There is currently no space to store or promote items for re-use at the centre. Electrical items could not be distributed without undergoing testing to ensure they meet electrical equipment safety standards (PAT testing).

To help address these barriers, we will carry out a search of potentially available Council-owned land/properties to see if there is anywhere suitable to set up another reuse and recycling site. There is currently no budget for this work but if anywhere suitable is found a feasibility study will be undertaken.

We will look for funding opportunities and partners who can work collaboratively and innovatively with the Council to offer collection and reuse/recycling opportunities to residents.

We will promote alternative collection options on our website and look for opportunities to work with local

Consultation with Lewisham Council service users (continued)

community groups, schools and other educational establishments to promote reuse and swap/exchange programmes for quality reusable goods.

We plan to explore other initiatives and work closely with local community groups and charities to enable residents to donate and access reusable items.

We asked if the Council should take robust enforcement action to tackle litter and fly tipping

Nearly 75% (1,217) of respondents agreed that the Council should take robust action against the minority of people who litter or fly-tip in our borough.

This action would include issuing a fixed penalty notice, primarily for offences under the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

We also asked if the Council should issue fines to people who continued to put rubbish in their recycling bin, despite being offered education and encouragement not to do so. The majority of respondents agreed that it was important for the Council to issue fines for this.

What the Council intends to do

The Council has launched an environmental enforcement team to tackle anti-social behaviour



relating to the environment, such as littering, graffiti and fly-tipping. The team are currently tackling known fly-tipping hotspots and using deployable CCTV to gather intelligence and evidence, particularly regarding vehicles that are used to fly-tip. The Council will invest in additional mobile CCTV equipment to target more known hotspots, which tend to change as enforcement action is taken against offenders.

The Council's enforcement policy is based around the four E's. Engagement, Education, Encouragement and Enforcement.

We will publicise the work of the environmental enforcement team on our website, social media pages and other Council-owned communications channels.

We will prosecute those found guilty of organised fly-tipping and seek the maximum penalty upon conviction.

Consultation with Lewisham Council service users (continued)

We plan to work more closely with the local Safer Neighbourhood Teams and other agencies to tackle organised fly-tipping.

The Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) for fly-tipping is currently £400, which Lewisham reduced to £250 for prompt payment. We will consider removing the discounts for all environmental offences, as this reduction doesn't reflect the environmental damage or costs associated with the removal/cleaning costs of the original offences.

Fly tipping can lead to a criminal conviction if found guilty of the offence, as outlined in Section 33 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

Non-payment of the fixed penalty notice would lead to an escalation process and prosecution for the original offence.

We asked business owners how we could improve our recycling service

The number of responses we received to this question from businesses was very low. Those that answered expressed that the existing waste and recycling service could be improved in terms of cost and reliability.

We asked business owners if they would be interested in using a food waste collection service

265 respondents expressed an interest in using a food waste collection service provided by the Council.

What the Council intends to do

The Council has commercial waste contracts with around one fifth of the businesses operating in Lewisham. We will promote the range of commercial waste services to non-customers, and reach out to our current business customers to promote the dry recycling collection service.

We will explore the feasibility of offering a chargeable, cost effective and reliable food waste collection service to businesses.

We are committed to working with our communities and partners to ensure that our services are shaped by as many residents, businesses and stakeholders as possible. This collaborative approach will help make sure that any changes to our services are fit for purpose and designed around the needs of people who live and work in Lewisham.

The waste management challenges we face

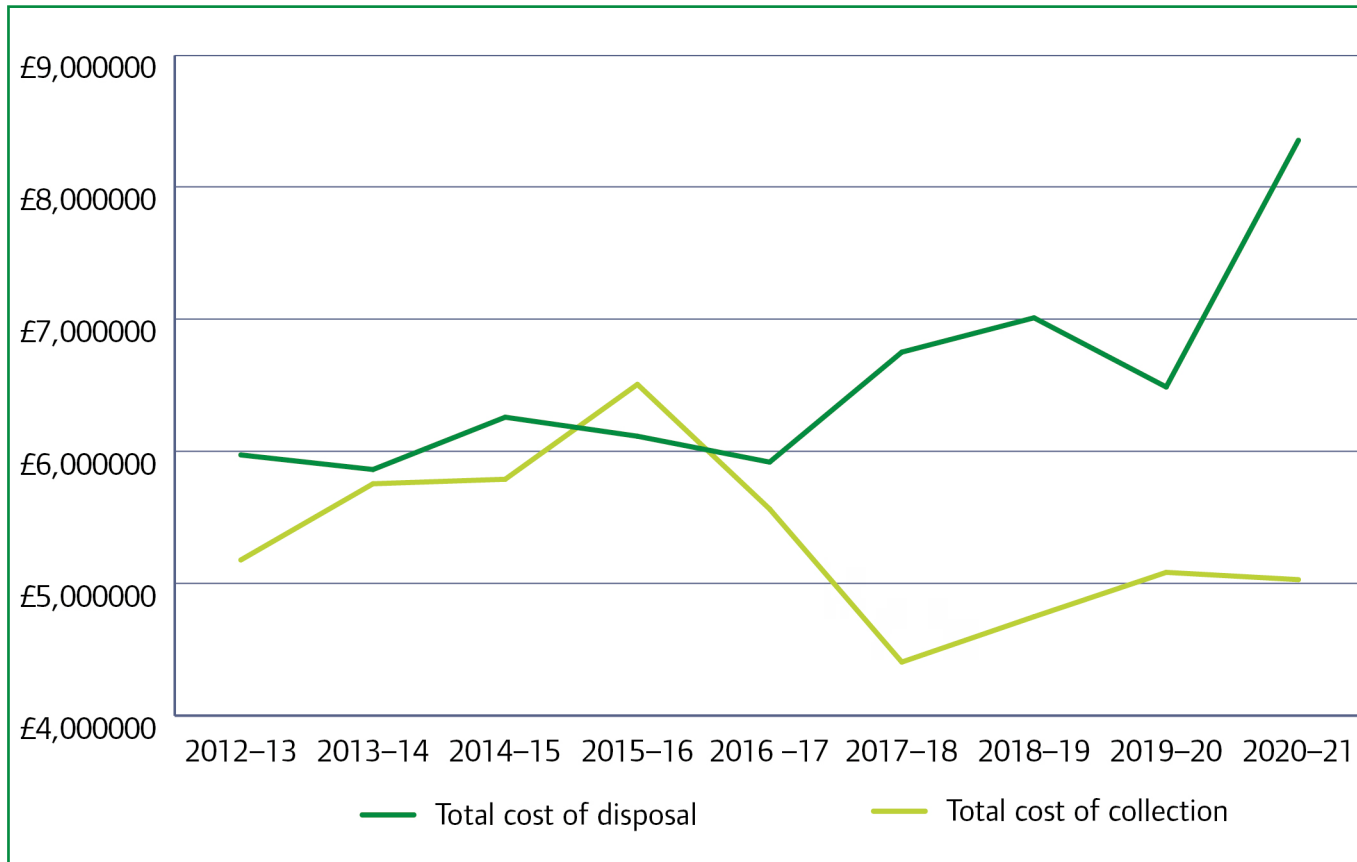
Lewisham Council faces a number of challenges in providing sustainable waste management in the borough:

- Pressure from central government to meet increasing waste targets without additional financial support to do so.
- Increasing costs of the collection and disposal of waste and recycling, which are often dictated by external operations, such as the cost of transporting waste and holding and sorting waste in transfer sites.
- A reduced capacity to dispose of waste in London due to the lack of available space in the capital, including lack of gardens and private green spaces.
- Engaging with as many people as possible in our diverse borough, including seldom-heard groups and new residents and businesses.
- Having limited influence over how companies package their materials.
- High levels of contamination in dry recycling that's been collected, which has resulted in a reduction in recycling tonnages as contaminated recycling becomes rubbish.
- The increasing amount of fly-tipping and illegal waste left for collection.
- The location and suitability of street litter bins.

Lewisham Council produced a Recycling and Reduction Plan 2019–2022 in accordance with the Mayor of London's waste strategy, which you can view here:

data.london.gov.uk/dataset/Lewisham-reduction-and-recycling-plan

Annual cost of waste and recycling collection and disposal



Contract with contractor was cost neutral for disposal.
 Contract/contractor changed in 2017 with increased disposal costs.

Cost of contaminated recycling

Earlier this year, Lewisham Council commissioned a survey and participation monitoring to assess the participation rate of the dry recycling, food waste and garden waste collection and evaluate the amount of specific materials collected in the kerbside bins that could potentially be collected separately for recycling at the kerbside.

The survey finished in May 2021. It identified that in total 57.7% of residual waste collected could have been recycled alternatively at the kerbside, with food being the main material in the residual bin. Over the survey period, 74% of households presented their mixed recycling bin for collection. 27.7% of recycling waste collected from all properties was classed as contaminated.

Contaminated household recycling 2020-2021

Period	Total tonnage to material recycling facility	% of contaminated waste	Contaminated tonnage	Cost per tonne for contaminated recycling	Cost for contamination	Gate fee per tonne of household recycling material
Jul–Sept 20	4453.56	17.66%	786.50	£22.96	£18,058.01	£115.02
Oct–Dec 20	4600.26	20.74%	954.09	£31.04	£29,615.08	£115.02
Jan–Mar 21	4514.42	31.04%	1401.28	£40.35	£56,541.49	£115.02
Apr–June 21	4472.08	31.04%	1388.13	£40.35	£56,011.19	£115.02
Jul–Sept 21	4116.46	31.04%	1277.75	£40.35	£51,557.18	£117.90
Total	22156.78	5807.75		£211,782.94		

Overall contamination rate	26.21%
Annualised cost of contamination	£211,782.00

What has already been achieved?

The table shows the amount of waste produced, collected and disposed of by Lewisham Council over the past 10 years. Whilst the results are impressive, more needs to be done to reduce the amount of waste created – this can be achieved by working together to deliver on the Waste Management Strategy.

Lewisham Council – local authority collected waste from households 2010 to 2020

Year	Residual household waste per household (kg/ household)	Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting	Percentage of municipal waste sent to landfill	Collected household waste per person (kg)
2010–11	762.0	18%	10%	419.6
2011–12	768.0	17%	9%	410.1
2012–13	734.7	20%	9%	396.5
2013–14	725.3	18%	8%	377.0
2014–15	732.4	17%	0%	373.5
2015–16	698.4	18%	1%	349.2
2016–17	668.3	18%	1%	333.6
2017–18	616.3	22%	0%	328.7
2018–19	546.2	28%	0%	317.5
2019–20	557.3	27%	0%	319.9
Averages	681.0	20%	4%	363.0
Percent change since 2010–11	-27%	9%	-10%	-24%

In 2019 Lewisham unveiled a £1.4 million ‘recycling and reduction’ plan as part of efforts to meet the London Mayor’s recycling targets:

- 45% household waste reduction by 2025
- 50% commercial and household waste (CWHW) reduction by 2025
- 65% CWHW reduction by 2030

Speaking at the Council’s Mayor and Cabinet meeting on 11 December 2019, the then – Executive Director for Housing, Regeneration and the Public Realm, Kevin Sheehan, said:

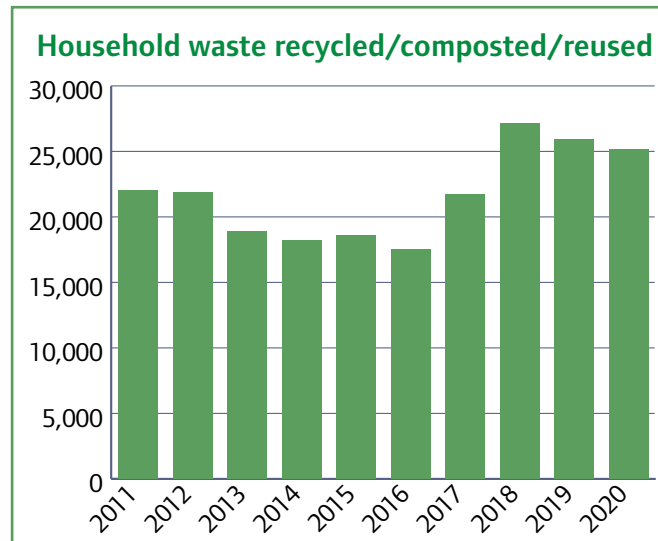
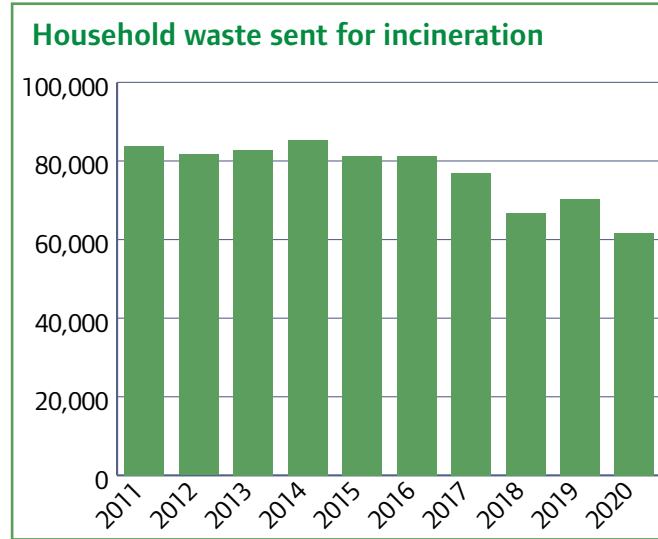
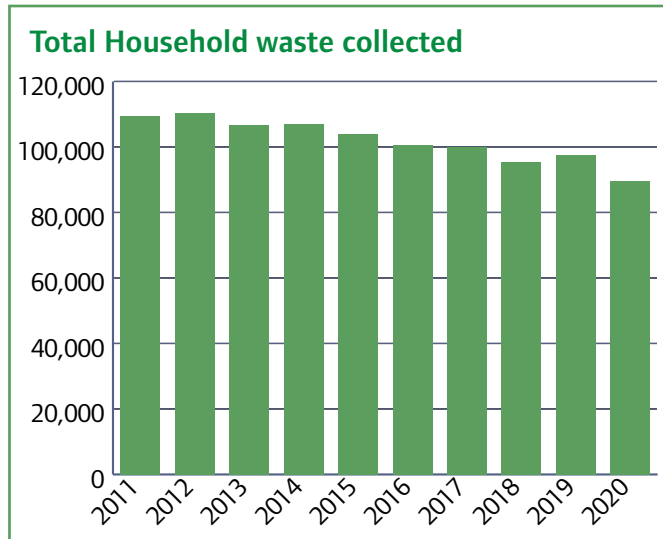
“It is generally accepted that recycling is more difficult for residents in flats; there is a high proportion of flats in the borough. Further, it is expected that development within the borough over the coming years will include a large number of flats.

“Those factors mean that achieving recycling levels comparable with outer London boroughs, which tend to have a lower proportion of flats, will be challenging”.

View the DEFRA local authority collected waste annual results tables via the following link.

www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/env18-local-authority-collected-waste-annual-results-tables

What has already been achieved? (continued)



The South East London Combined Heat and Power plant (SELCHP) – an energy recovery facility – was built through a partnership between the public and private sectors. Energy is produced from black bin rubbish and non-recyclable waste. It reduces the borough’s reliance on fossil fuels and is able to produce electricity to power local homes. After incineration, leftover metals are extracted and sent to be recycled while the incinerator bottom ash is used as a secondary aggregate in both road construction and the building industry. Lewisham Council is currently working with Veolia, who own and operate SELCHP, to look into whether a heat network can be created that will power thousands of local homes.

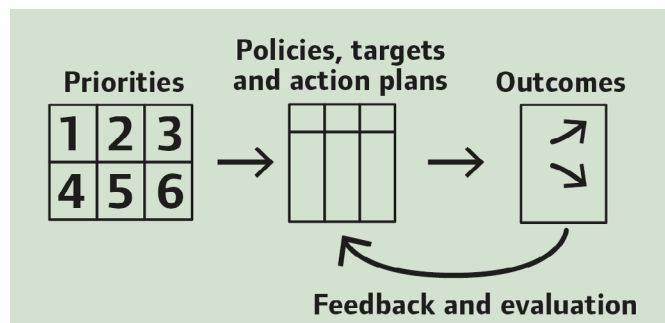
Improvements in the amount of household waste being recycled has led to a positive reduction in the amount of household waste sent to SELCHP. For example, 82% of household waste was incinerated in 2017 compared to 69% in 2019. The amount of household waste sent to landfill dropped from 0.7% in 2017 to 0.1% in 2019.

View DEFRA local authority collected waste annual results tables via the following link. Data from this source has been reformatted for inclusion into this report: www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/env18-local-authority-collected-waste-annual-results-tables

Ambition and six priorities

When ambition and priorities are shared, it is easier to make waste management in Lewisham a collective success. The Council will seek out and work with all partners in Lewisham to limit waste to a minimum, show innovation and leadership, and move towards a circular economy – which keeps resources in use for longer. This approach will benefit the environment, local businesses and communities.

Building on the current situation, evidence-based studies, consultation findings and best practice, we have defined six priorities for the Council’s approach to waste management. These priorities will help inform our policies, targets, action plans and how we monitor our progress. We will regularly monitor the outcomes of our work along with feedback from people who use our services, and make any necessary changes – this approach is outlined in the diagram below:



Priority 1. Leading the way forward

We want the Council and partners to be ambitious, show leadership and to innovate in the way waste is managed in Council facilities and estates and in developments to come.

Priority 2. Shaping services to follow the Waste Hierarchy

We want the Council and partners to adapt their services to consumers’ needs following the ‘Waste Hierarchy’.

Priority 3. Working together for an improved local environment

We want the Council to collaborate with residents and stakeholders to achieve the best results together.

Priority 4. Using waste as a resource following the Circular Economy Principles

We want the Council and partners to manage our waste as a material resource to enhance our sustainability and the circular economy.

Priority 5. Reducing carbon emissions, decreasing energy waste and improving air quality

We want the Council and partners to reduce net carbon emissions coming from waste and contribute to local air quality improvement.

Priority 6. Adding social value

We want the Council and partners to contribute economic, social, and environmental benefits to the local community by supporting local supply chains, employment and social cohesion.

Priority 1. Leading the way forward

We want the Council and our partners to be ambitious, show leadership and to innovate in the way waste is managed in Council work places, schools, community facilities, estates and Council-owned public spaces and developments yet to come.

Objectives

1. Reduce the consumption of resources

Identify and develop proposals that will reduce the consumption of resources and help to deliver the Council's ambition to be carbon neutral by 2030.

2. Leading by example

Demonstrate leadership to influence others through using circular economy principles in the way we manage our own waste in the schools, community facilities, estates and public spaces the Council owns.

3. Exploring innovative solutions

Invest in new ways of managing waste to improve efficiency and reduce expenditure in the longer run.

4. Setting ambitious targets and collecting data

Follow targets set in the new London plan and collect data to measure progress.

- Municipal waste (household and business) recycling target of 50% by 2025 and 65% by 2030
- 50% reduction in food waste and associated packaging waste/person by 2030

- Zero biodegradable or recyclable waste to landfill by 2026
- Construction and demolition – 95% reuse/recycling/recovery by 2030
- Excavation – 95% beneficial use by 2030
- 100% of the borough's municipal waste should be managed within London by 2026
- Fuel-free waste service vehicles by 2030 and zero emission fleet by 2050.

5. Using policies to assist site managers and developers with their projects

Enforce Local Plan policies to help site managers to update their waste management facilities to align with the circular economy objectives, and developers to design projects that aim to be net zero-waste, that manage as much waste as possible on site, and that include adequate, flexible, and easily accessible storage space and collection systems that support recycling and re-use.

What we intend to do:

- Lead by example by moving towards a circular economy approach to waste management in our work places, schools, community facilities, estates and Council-owned public spaces.
- Council buildings will be required to develop responsible waste management action plans that are regularly monitored and updated where necessary, as part of our safe return to the office after the pandemic.
- Establish a team of Green Champions, including Council staff and community volunteers, who will become waste and recycling ambassadors – supporting the aim of delivering an overall reduction in our waste and recovering more waste for reuse and recycling.
- Follow targets set in the new London Environment Strategy (LES) and monitor our contribution towards the target.
 - ◆ Lewisham household recycling target of 35% by 2022 and 45% by 2025

Priority 1. continued

- ◆ Household and business recycling target of 50% by 2025 and 65% by 2030
 - ◆ 50% reduction in food waste and associated packaging waste by 2030
 - ◆ Zero biodegradable or recyclable waste sent to landfill by 2026
 - ◆ 95% of construction and demolition waste being reused, recycled or recovered by 2030
 - ◆ 100% of the borough's municipal waste should be managed within London by 2026
- Reviewing the Council's waste service fleet to ensure it always meets the highest standards of emissions and working towards a zero-emission fleet by 2030.
 - Continue to improve the Cleaner Lewisham app to deliver intelligence-led and data-driven waste services – using technology and innovation to improve efficiency, target hotspots and tackle problem areas.
- Enforce against the minority of people who engage in anti-social behaviour, including irresponsible waste management, to the detriment of local people and neighbourhoods.
 - Develop and promote sensible waste management policies that will enable and encourage responsible waste management.
 - Build and strengthen partnerships with local Housing Associations, private landlords, the voluntary and community sector and businesses, to ensure that waste is dealt with in a sustainable manner.
 - Work with our residents and community groups to lobby central government for the resources that we will need to fulfil the ambitious targets we have set ourselves and to deliver projects locally which will help support national environmental targets.
- Measurement of successful outcomes:**
- Achievement of London Environment Strategy targets.
 - Residents recycling more of the materials that are currently sent for disposal.
 - Action plans developed to monitor and reduce waste within Council's buildings.
 - Creation of Green Champions initiative, to support staff, community volunteers and others to become ambassadors for responsible waste management.
 - Achievement of green fleet credentials by 2030.
 - The development and implementation of waste management policies.
 - The number of enforcement actions taken for waste-related offences.

Priority 1. continued

What we have already done:

- The Council stopped ordering plastic cups; front staff have been supplied with reusable water bottles.
- The Council secured an award at the 'Awards for Excellence in Recycling and Waste Management' for 'The Best Local Authority Recycling Initiative 2019' for our work in cutting contamination on an estate in Brockley.
- Officers are working with Lewisham Homes to identify further estates where the award-winning pilot can be extended.
- Waste collection services collect data in all wards to measure issues and progress by location and type of tenure and premise. This is done through the new Cleaner Lewisham app, which uses artificial intelligence and is connected to waste collection rounds.
- Section 11 and Section 12 in the new Lewisham Local Plan, which are currently subject to consultation, set circular economy-based requirements for new waste management facilities and new development proposals.
- Worked with schools to raise awareness of the importance of recycling, waste reduction and the reduction of single-use plastic.



Priority 2. Shaping services to follow the Waste Hierarchy

We want the Council and its partners to adapt their services to consumer needs following the waste hierarchy – remembering that waste avoidance and re-use are at the top of the waste hierarchy.

Objectives:

1. Helping to avoid/reduce waste

Help to prevent waste of resources such as food leftovers or excessive packaging and support sharing economy facilities to help people borrow or hire instead of buying.

2. Encouraging the local repairing and reusing of resources

Promote repairing, purchasing, donating and exchanging used items such as bikes, furniture, computers or clothes within the borough.

3. Ensuring that recycling and composting is easy

Provide user-friendly services to ensure that recyclable material is actually recycled/composted.

4. Incineration/recovery

Ensure residual waste treatment maximises the value recovered from waste (resources and energy)

5. Minimising disposal

Continue to effectively manage our waste to avoid disposal by landfill.

What we intend to do:

We will continue to seek and apply for funding to support new initiatives and innovation.

We want to encourage responsible waste management by encouraging the reuse of resources, maximising the amount of recycling for collection and reducing the amount of waste overall. In order to do this, we will review our weekly waste collection service from households and consider options for restricting the amount of residual waste left by the bins each week from individual households.

We will also develop, implement and promote a responsible waste management policy that helps reduce the cost of managing waste and explains why reducing, reusing and recycling resources is so important in the fight against climate change. This policy will also set out what actions can be taken to tackle the irresponsible management of waste, such as the continued contamination of recyclable material after education and encouragement has been provided.

The Council offers a commercial waste service to businesses, but we need to improve and promote opportunities for increased commercial recycling and the reduction of illegal dumping. We will promote the dry recycling collection service and look into the feasibility of offering a food waste collection service. This service would have to be based on how much demand there is for it, and customers would need to pay for its services to help us recover the costs of running it. However, with over 3,000 food waste businesses in Lewisham, it would provide an opportunity to considerably reduce food waste.

We collect waste and recycling from flats above shops (FLASH) at the same time we collect commercial waste, as co-collection is the best logistical option. However, there is an issue with waste and recycling being left by litter bins and street furniture at inappropriate times, with the opportunity for unregulated business waste being passed off and collected as residential waste from FLASH. We will review the opportunities for attaching signage to street furniture that advertises the correct collection/

Priority 2. continued

disposal method for FLASH and businesses, and the penalties for breaching the requirements.

We will also review the way that information is given to people living in FLASH and how this information can be provided more regularly, as there is often a high turnover of short lettings in these types of properties. Working with managing agents, landlords and home owners may be the way forward, but this may be resource intensive and is unfunded at present.

We have a large proportion of residents who live on estates or blocks of flats. Residents in flats have their residual waste and dry recycling collected from shared wheeled containers. Access to the residual waste containers is direct or through chute systems. Recycling containers are located, where possible, in storage areas along with the residual waste containers. However, in many older blocks of flats, recycling was not considered in the design of the block. There often isn't enough space in the existing storage areas for recycling containers too, or there are waste chute systems/rooms. As a result, recycling containers are often located outside the storage rooms or in a convenient location for residents elsewhere on the estate.

Having waste and recycling containers in the same location can lead to contamination, even though the bins are clearly marked. Putting a sack of rubbish into

a recycling bin contaminates the recyclable material and it can then only be dealt with as rubbish. This reduces the amount of recycling collected, impacts on service delivery and increases the cost of collection and disposal.

Working with landlords and partners who manage private and social housing estates/blocks, we will improve waste management by:

- Providing support, guidance and encouragement to residents on their roles and responsibilities and the importance of responsible waste management.
- Considering who is responsible for dealing with communal contaminated containers.
- Notifying partners of sites where contamination and/or fly-tipping is a cause for concern and work together to find solutions.
- Developing a waste management policy that will help to reduce contamination and over production, and the knock-on effect that this has on service delivery. This may lead to enforcement action/recovery of costs from landlords /home owners.
- The food waste service is under review and will be expanded to estates and blocks of flats where it is cost effective and practical to do so.

Measurement of successful outcomes:

- Number of businesses visited and the amount that have signed-up for our commercial recycling service
- Feasibility review of commercial food waste service
- Implementation of commercial food waste service
- Reduction of contaminated recycling achieved through education and enforcement
- Implementation of waste management policy
- Implementation of signage and key messaging for those living in flats above shops
- Number of estates/blocks receiving food waste collection service

Priority 2. continued

What we have already done:

- 12 water fountains have been provided in parks and public spaces to reduce plastic waste.
- 18 textile banks are available across the borough for people to recycle clothes, shoes and fabric materials.
- Providing a Cycle Loan Scheme where people can borrow a quality bike for £10 per month instead of buying one.
- Introducing a weekly food waste collection service in 2017, where food waste is picked up at the same time as weekly recycling bin collections. General waste is collected fortnightly to encourage people to sort waste more effectively, including on red routes. We're also monitoring missed collections.
- Increased collection of food and dry recycling materials, such as glass, cans, paper, cardboard, plastic bottles and mixed plastics.
- Supplying compost bins for £10 to encourage residents to compost garden waste rather than throwing it away. Fortnightly garden waste collections are also available for a £80 yearly subscription.
- Providing a chargeable commercial waste and recycling service for local businesses, as an alternative to private waste carriers.
- Providing a chargeable clinical waste collection service for organisations and businesses, such as care homes, nurseries and schools.
- Collecting unwanted mattresses for free, and providing a free Christmas tree collection service with 12 seasonal collection points located across the borough.
- Providing a borough-wide Reuse and Recycling Centre on Landmann Way in New Cross. The centre is a co-mingle site, which means that all recyclables are placed in one container and will be separated off-site. You must book a slot at the centre before attending.
- On the same site in New Cross, the South East London Combined Heat and Power plant (SELCHP) – an energy recovery facility – was built through a partnership between the public and private sectors. Energy is produced from black bin rubbish and non-recyclable waste. It reduces the borough's reliance on fossil fuels and is able to produce electricity to power local homes. After incineration, leftover metals are extracted and sent to be recycled while the incinerator bottom ash is used as a secondary aggregate in both road construction and the building industry. Lewisham Council is currently working with Veolia, who own and operate SELCHP, to look into whether a heat network can be created that will power thousands of local homes.
- Improvements in the amount of household waste being recycled has led to a positive reduction in the amount of household waste sent to SELCHP. For example, 82% of household waste was incinerated in 2017 compared to 69% in 2019. The amount of household waste sent to landfill dropped from 0.7% in 2017 to 0.1% in 2019.

Priority 3. Working together for an improved local environment

We want the Council and partners to collaborate with residents and stakeholders to achieve the best results together.

We want all people living in, working in, learning in and visiting Lewisham to take pride in their local environment.

Driving the necessary improvements to achieve this can't be done by the Council alone. For everyone to do their part, we need to work together to ensure that residents and businesses have access to appropriate services and that everyone knows and understands how to manage their waste in the most appropriate and environmentally sustainable way.

Objectives:

1. Create a waste management policy

Develop, implement and publicise our waste management policy, to help people take responsibility for the waste they produce.

2. Encourage people to change their behaviour

Educating and encouraging people to do the right thing with their waste and taking action against inappropriate and environmentally-harmful behaviour, such as recurring contaminated recycling.

3. Create a cleaner Lewisham

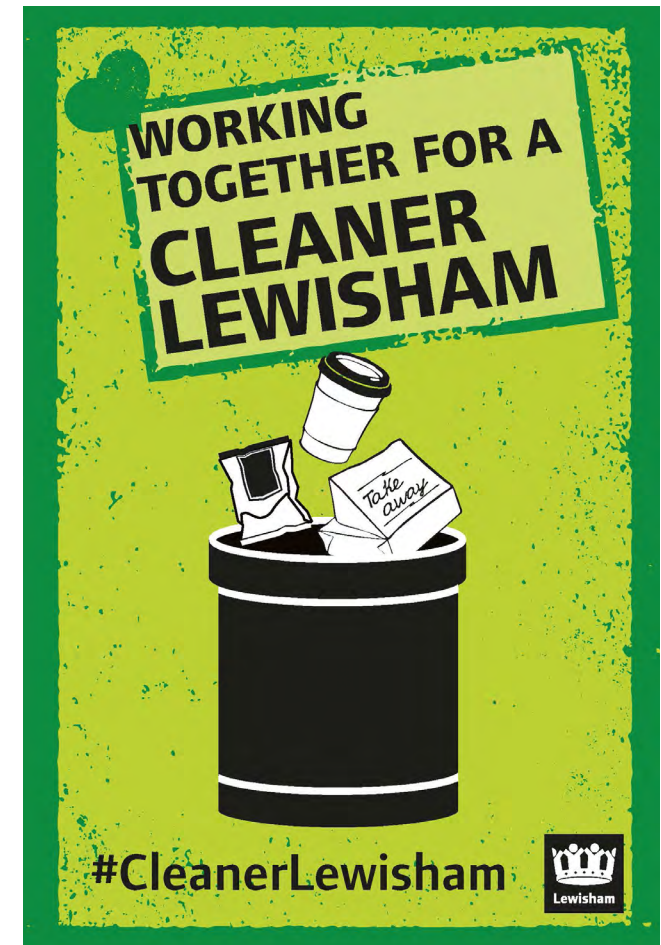
Ensuring waste management activities contribute towards maintaining a clean and safe environment.

4. Tackling waste crime

Taking a zero-tolerance approach to littering, fly-tipping and other forms of enviro-crime.

What we intend to do:

- Encourage people to manage waste responsibly by using a combination of work to improve, enhance and adapt our services; education; partnership work; and enforcement, where appropriate.
- Increase residents' understanding and awareness of the local environment, what their roles and responsibilities are, how they can manage their waste responsibly, and how they can support the Council in achieving the aims of the Waste Strategy.
- Enforce against people who deliberately fail to sort, store and present their waste correctly for collection.



Priority 3. continued

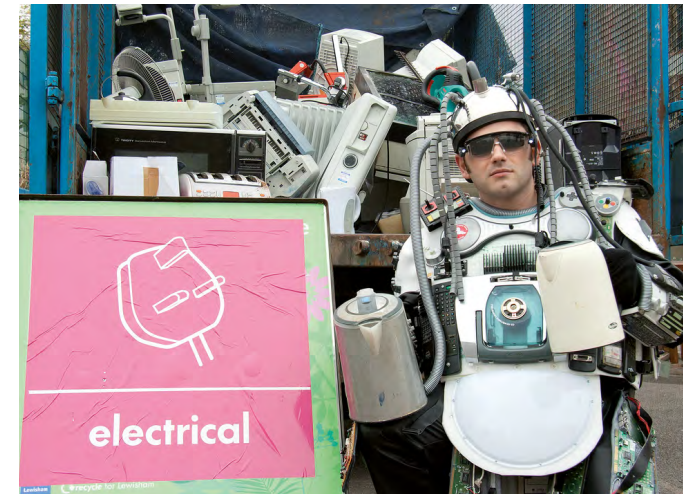
- Improve the presentation of waste on collection days by creating new service standards that prevent littering and require bins to be put back as soon as possible after collection has taken place.
 - Provide engagement, education and encouragement before taking proportionate enforcement action against those responsible for continued contamination of recycling containers, untidy front gardens and poorly managed bin areas.
 - Provide advice and encouragement to businesses, including fast food outlets, on their roles and responsibilities around responsible waste management and legislation.
 - Work with local community groups and relevant organisations to discuss, develop and implement projects that will help improve responsible waste management and the quality of our environment.
 - Improve how we use information and technology by using the Cleaner Lewisham app to identify problems, target hotspot areas and improve our customer service and feedback.
 - Develop performance indicators to help us monitor the quality of the local environment and carry out regular audits to assess how clean our streets and public spaces are.
 - The Council's Waste Team will work with colleagues in the Events and Parks' teams to make sure that events have recycling bins. These events will include the London Marathon, Blackheath Festival and People's Day.
- Measurement of successful outcomes:**
- Reduction in contaminated recycling – reported annually
 - Reduction of residual waste and Increased recycling – reported annually
 - Number of fast food outlets signed up to Cleaner Lewisham Charter
 - Number of community groups contacted/involved and number of projects implemented
 - Creation of revised service standards
 - Baseline of local environmental quality and improved performance over time



Priority 3. continued

What we have already done:

- Launching an award-winning educational project on recycling in an estate in Brockley, in partnership with the housing association and residents.
- Launching a waste reduction project on Douglas Way Market, which led to a 50% reduction in residual waste and increased recycling.
- Visiting schools to educate young people on the importance of recycling and the benefits of creating School Eco-Groups.
- Carrying out a 'Barriers to Waste' consultation in 2019 to help identify the challenges to recycling, which received over 5,500 responses – with 75% of respondents happy with the services that we provide.
- Supporting national campaigns such as 'Love Your Clothes' and 'Love Food, Hate Waste'.
- In 2020, the Council ran a free programme of workshops that was available to all primary schools in the borough. Workshops included interactive learning and fun games centred on plastic pollution and the 'Three R's': Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.
- The Council's website includes a range of information on how to: donate clothes, furniture and other household items; reduce junk mail and plastic waste; use the Reuse and Recycling Centre in New Cross; and dispose of WEEE (Waste Electrical Electronic Equipment) such as light bulbs, batteries, printer cartridges and phones. Our website also provides information for schools, colleges and universities on how to recycle old electrical and IT equipment, and lets businesses know how they should responsibly dispose of their waste.
- Giving Fixed Penalty Notices to people who are not following the rules.
- Launching a public consultation as part of the development of this Waste Strategy, which sought the views of residents, businesses, organisations and more.



Priority 4. Using waste as a resource following the Circular Economy principles

We want the Council and partners to manage waste as a material resource that can be reused and repurposed to enhance our sustainability and the circular economy.

Objectives

1. Encouraging construction and design that's based on reusing and recycling resources

Help designers, builders, businesses and organisations to rethink their services and products in a way that they use recycled/renewed/reused resources, and their products are also recyclable/renewable/reusable. Support them in adapting their buildings to reduce water, heat and energy waste.

2. Helping to reduce reliance on single-use items

Seek incentives to help businesses and organisations to avoid using single use items.

3. Supporting the development of a local sharing economy

Provide or support services and platforms to help the local community and businesses to share, exchange, repair products locally.

4. Extending producers' responsibility

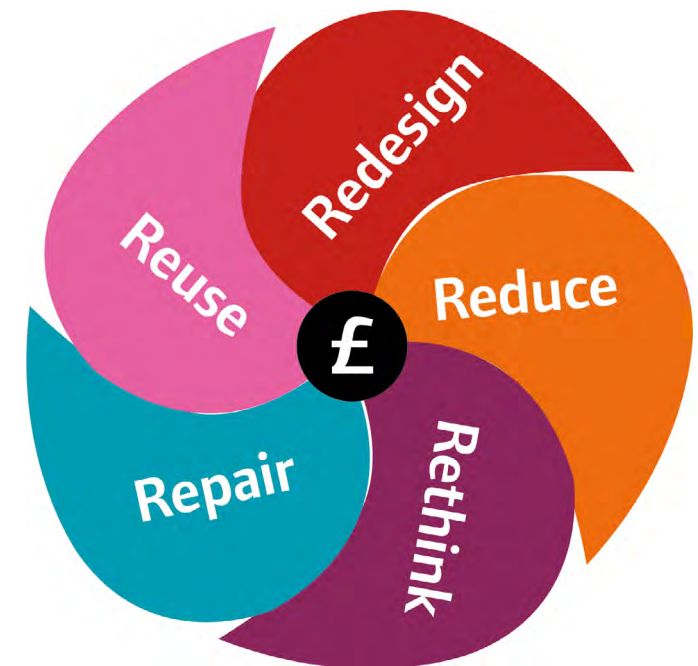
Encourage producers to extend product life and improve recycling.

What we intend to do:

The Council already operates a comprehensive collection service, but the opportunity to select quality items for re-use isn't taken advantage of, with items being taken to the waste transfer station and broken into parts that can be recycled or reprocessed, rather than the item being sent for re-use.

One of the biggest barriers to collecting re-usable furniture is the lack of affordable and available storage space and an experienced partner/s that can manage the number of items collected. We will research and measure our success against others to learn from them and then consider whether this type of re-use scheme is possible, and report our findings and proposals to Lewisham's **Sustainable Development Select committee**, who look into environmental issues in the borough.

We have applied for funding from the Valpak – DTS Fund Ph5 Project, which aims to support local authorities to separately collect waste from electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE), to help us set up a doorstep recycling pilot. This pilot would enable us to collect a



wider range of recyclable items including small WEEE and batteries. If funding is approved and the scheme is successful, we will look to expand it to collect other items, including textiles and coffee pods. This will help to improve the recycling rate and will provide a convenient

Priority 4. continued

method for residents to dispose of items that might otherwise have been put into the rubbish bin.

We will promote our Waste Strategy and policies that support its objectives through communication, campaigning and collaboration with partners, suppliers and developers to ensure that resources are used more efficiently and kept in use for longer to minimise waste and reduce environmental impact.

We will continue to lobby central government on the need to enhance measures to reduce waste from packaging and will support residents in their role as consumers to try and influence retailers to use more environmentally-sustainable packaging. This will help to guide Lewisham's transition to a more circular economy by minimising waste, promoting resource efficiency, and minimising the damage caused to our natural environment.

We will continue to support national and regional efforts through increasing the reuse activities, encouraging the use of recycled goods, composting and food waste recovery, and continuing to generate energy from residual waste. We will lobby producers of products to extend product life and improve recycling.

We will support extended producer responsibility and consider the impact and viability in Lewisham of the implementation of deposit return schemes, which would add a small deposit on drinks sold in glass and plastic bottles, which would then be returned once the bottles have been recycled. The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) is currently consulting on the introduction of these schemes in the UK.

We will support any cross-borough project opportunities (e.g. **London Councils, ReLondon**) that link construction companies with small and medium-sized enterprises (SME's) that follow the circular economy model, to reduce waste in the construction industry.

We would like to introduce community composting and will undertake a feasibility study to determine the best approach and suitable locations – including estates, parks and allotments – to ensure the scheme is accessible for residents.

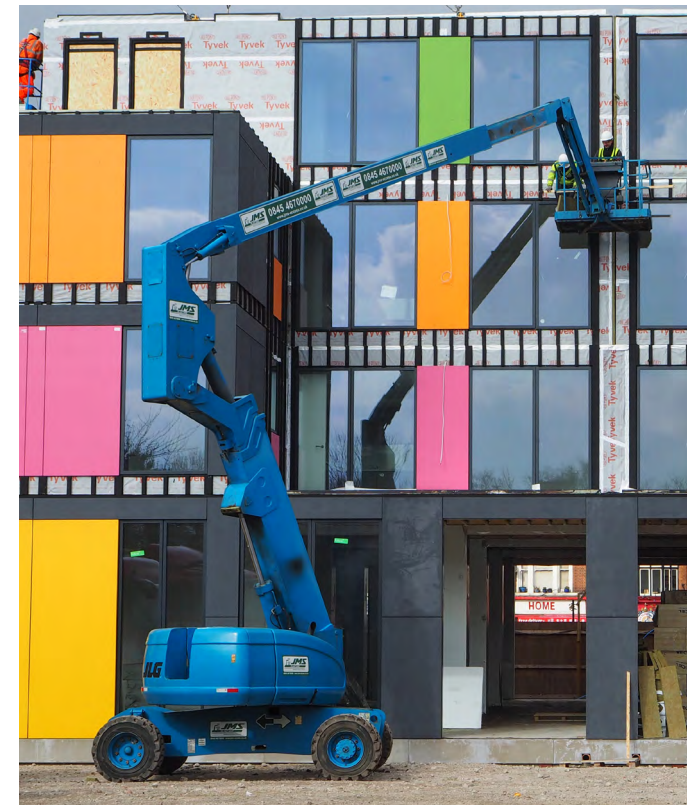
Measurement of successful outcomes:

- Delivery of feasibility study for community composting
- Number of community composting schemes established
- Amount of composting achieved – tonnage diverted from disposal
- Support of deposit return schemes – number of suitable locations within the borough; tonnage diverted from disposal
- Apply for external funding opportunities and deliver expanded doorstep collection service
- Development of re-usable furniture collection service (dependent on funding)

Priority 4. continued

What we have already done:

- The Council encourages sustainable building and retrofitting whenever possible. The new Lewisham Local Plan that was recently subject to consultation reflects this approach through three policies: Section 2 (Sustainable Design), Section 11 (Reducing and managing waste) and Section 12 (Design to support the circular economy).
- Through Lewisham's Community Energy Fund, we supported the Retrofit Action for Tomorrow (RAFT) initiative – an innovative engagement project with St Winifred's School where pupils were introduced to the concepts of sustainable building and retrofitting in the context of their school.
- Lewisham Council commissioned playground designs that followed circular economy principles. For example, recycled materials like go-kart tyres and oak railway sleepers were used to create the Hilly Fields Play Area.
- The New Generation Youth and Community Centre commissioned by the Council has a structure made of recyclable materials such as timber panels.
- The Council supports and promotes the 'London Recycles' campaign via social media. London Recycles provides toolkits and resources to both households and businesses to help them reduce, reuse and recycle waste.
- Improvements to Landmann Way, the current centre for reuse and recycling within the borough, are currently ongoing. These include new containers and new signage. A suitable area is proposed where residents can browse items for reuse, which, if successful, will generate a reduction in the waste to be disposed of.



Priority 5. Reducing carbon emissions, decreasing energy waste and improving air quality

We want the Council and its partners to reduce net carbon emissions coming from waste, and contribute to local improvements to air quality.

In February 2019, Lewisham Council declared a climate emergency, and committed to working towards making the borough carbon neutral by 2030.

We will help improve air quality in Lewisham and London by following the [Lewisham Air Quality Action Plan](#) and reducing net carbon emissions from waste management activities by:

- Improving travel routes to help reduce the amount of time vehicles spend on roads.
- Using cleaner fuel technology.
- Reducing the overall carbon footprint of our waste management activities.

We know that poor air quality has a negative impact on the health and wellbeing of the people in Lewisham, and that by reducing pollution through improved use of technology and smarter waste management, we can help create a cleaner borough.

There is overwhelming scientific agreement that human activity is causing global climate change, predominantly due to the burning of fossil fuels. Carbon dioxide (CO₂) is by far the most common greenhouse gas generated by human activity in terms of the amount released into our atmosphere and the total impact on global warming.

The Mayor of London's vision is for the capital to become a zero-carbon city by 2030 with:

- All new cars and vans (less than 3.5 tonnes) being zero emission-capable from 2025.
- All heavy vehicles (greater than 3.5 tonnes) being fossil fuel-free from 2030.
- Zero emission fleets by 2050.



Priority 5. continued

Objectives

1. Thinking local and reducing movement

Reduce the need for vehicular movement to reduce transport carbon emissions through optimising Council vehicle routes and ensuring municipal waste is managed within the borough and at a minimum within London.

2. Using low emission vehicles

Choose clean fuel technology for the Council's vehicles and reduce and adapt the fleet so all are zero-emission by 2050.

3. Choosing low carbon footprint processes, resources and products

Increase the procurement of resources and products containing recycled/recyclable content.

4. Optimising waste treatment performances

Reduce the level of carbon emissions generated by our waste composting, recycling, treatment and energy recovery methods

5. Optimising building performances

Reduce energy waste and level of carbon emissions generated by building heating/lighting, ensuring that the highest standards of insulation and natural light are incorporated into new buildings and developments.

What we intend to do:

- Support the delivery of Lewisham Council's revised Air Quality Action Plan (currently under review).
- Consider the cleanest and most practical replacement option for our fleet vehicles before they are due for replacement.
- Review how we use technology to improve travel routes and reduce the time that collection vehicles spend in traffic, which will reduce fuel use.
- Seek to ensure that municipal waste is managed within London where possible to reduce the time it takes to transport waste.
- As part of the tendering process for waste contracts, we will take into account how far away waste transfer sites are from our borough, whether fleets meet ULEZ standards and how flexible services are (e.g. working outside 9am–5pm hours when congestion is at its highest).

Measurement of successful outcomes:

- Awarding waste-related contracts that include options that will help reduce emissions, are innovative and support efforts to tackle climate change.
- Monitor waste reduction and increased recycling from Council buildings.
- Monitor fuel usage and mileage of collection vehicles to ensure vehicles are spending less time on the road.
- Achievement of London Mayor's Emission Standards Performance regarding waste management.

Priority 5. continued

What we have done:

- Increased recycling of high carbon material, such as paper and textiles.
- In February 2019, we became one of the first councils to declare a climate emergency. A Climate Emergency Action Plan was approved by Mayor and Cabinet in March 2020, which aims to make the borough carbon neutral by 2030.
- Lewisham Council has also signed up to the UK100 “Net Zero Local Leadership Pledge”, alongside over 40 other councils, to reach net zero emissions before central government.
- In 2017, by linking properties’ Unique Street Reference Numbers (UPRN) to collection routes, Lewisham could ensure pin-point accuracy and efficiency in organising collections.
- The Council has appointed a consultancy to undertake a feasibility study for a heat network which would power buildings in the north of the borough with heat from the SELCHP waste incineration plant. The feasibility study includes a study to determine the most effective travel route between SELCHP and Goldsmith’s College.
- Agreed a new investment strategy for waste collection vehicles in December 2019, resulting in the Council’s fleet being upgraded to comply with the highest low emissions standards.
- Street cleaning and garden maintenance staff walk and use human-powered tools whenever possible.
- The Council successfully bid for £175k funding from the Government’s Low Carbon Skills Fund to assess and develop detailed proposals for zero carbon retrofit work on 10 corporate sites and 5 schools, supported by RAFT (Retrofit Action for Tomorrow) and preventing demolishing/rebuilding.
- In the borough, warm mix asphalts have been introduced on road resurfacing works. Warm mixes are heated up at lower temperatures which reduces carbon emissions by 10–15% and improves the efficiency and effectiveness of planned works.



Priority 6. Adding social value

We want the Council and partners to contribute economic, social, and environmental benefits to the local community by supporting local supply chains, employment and social cohesion.

Objectives

1. Using a holistic approach.

Provide economic, social and environmental benefits to the community through our circular economy and waste management activities.

2. Increasing employment and learning opportunities.

Increase access for local people to gain employment and work experience in the delivery of the Council's waste services.

3. Supporting local businesses and the local supply chain.

Seek to use local products and services and encourage local businesses and organisations to do so as well.

4. Helping local community action.

Support volunteering activities, local schools and organisations that help deliver the objectives of the strategy.

5. Preventing food waste.

Support local food waste businesses and initiatives that aim to reduce food waste.

What we intend to do:

- Continue to deliver and promote responsible waste management through local outreach events and campaigns that support residents to create a cleaner Lewisham by managing their waste responsibly. We will also work closely with partners, residents and the voluntary sector, and deepen the sense of community in our schools, estates and neighbourhoods.
- Develop and deliver a programme for primary and secondary school pupils based on the 3 R's (reduce, reuse and recycle), with the intention of delivering 45 workshops each year. The programme will also teach the pupils about climate change, carbon reduction and promoting pride in our borough.
- Offer temporary placements within the Street Environment Services support team at Wearside Road Depot through the Council's Kickstart initiative, which supports 16–24-year-olds into employment – helping them gain work experience that will prepare them for future job opportunities.
- Incorporate the Council's social value framework into future contract procurement for waste related services. Social Value is the additional economic, social and environmental benefits that can be created when the Council purchases a service from outside the organisation.
- Signpost our contractors to local businesses for goods and services, encourage them to promote apprenticeships, vacancies and opportunities for local employment, and promote networking opportunities for mutual benefit.
- Seek opportunities to engage with and learn from organisations within the borough that have embraced waste reduction.
- Support and promote local and national food waste reduction initiatives and campaigns such as 'Love Food Hate Waste' and promote local sustainable food waste businesses.

Priority 6. continued

Measurement of successful outcomes:

- Development of schools programme – 45 workshops per year
- Number of placements via Lewisham Kickstart programme
- Delivery of 12 waste management-related community events
- Number of food waste reduction campaigns supported/delivered annually

What we have already done:

- Within the Lewisham Cleansing and Waste Services, 40 long-term agency workers were transferred onto permanent contracts.
- In line with the Lewisham Sustainable Procurement Code of Practice, the Council and its contractors must engage with local supply chains wherever possible, seek to employ locally as a first option, provide local work experience opportunities, offer paid apprenticeships or volunteering opportunities, and support and attend local job fairs
- The Council's website promotes local charities helping the most vulnerable such as 'FoodCycle' and 'Refill'. FoodCycle is a charity that aims to reduce hunger and loneliness while combating food waste. Local businesses can sign up to Refill to let people know they can refill their water bottle for free.
- Held local outreach events and activities about minimising waste, which have helped bring communities together and deepened the sense of community in schools, estates and neighbourhoods.
- Committed to the 'Lewisham Business Growth Strategy 2013–2023' which aims to boost Lewisham's contribution to the London economy by helping new and existing business to thrive and grow.



Delivering our priorities

The six key priorities framing the Waste Management Strategy are intended to guide a series of policies and targets to help us achieve better services for residents which will lead to a cleaner and greener Lewisham.

These priorities are set to remain relevant until 2031 and will be reviewed every four years alongside **our Reduction and Recycling plan**.

This will allow any key legislative or policy changes to be incorporated into the strategy if necessary. Policies will be implemented through related action plans, which will help us achieve our waste management outcomes.

Feedback systems for the monitoring, evaluation and review of this strategy will be put in place to make sure the strategy delivers its intended outcomes and remains relevant in the context of funding, new developments, innovations, changing circumstances and equalities considerations.

Monitoring, review, and risk Management

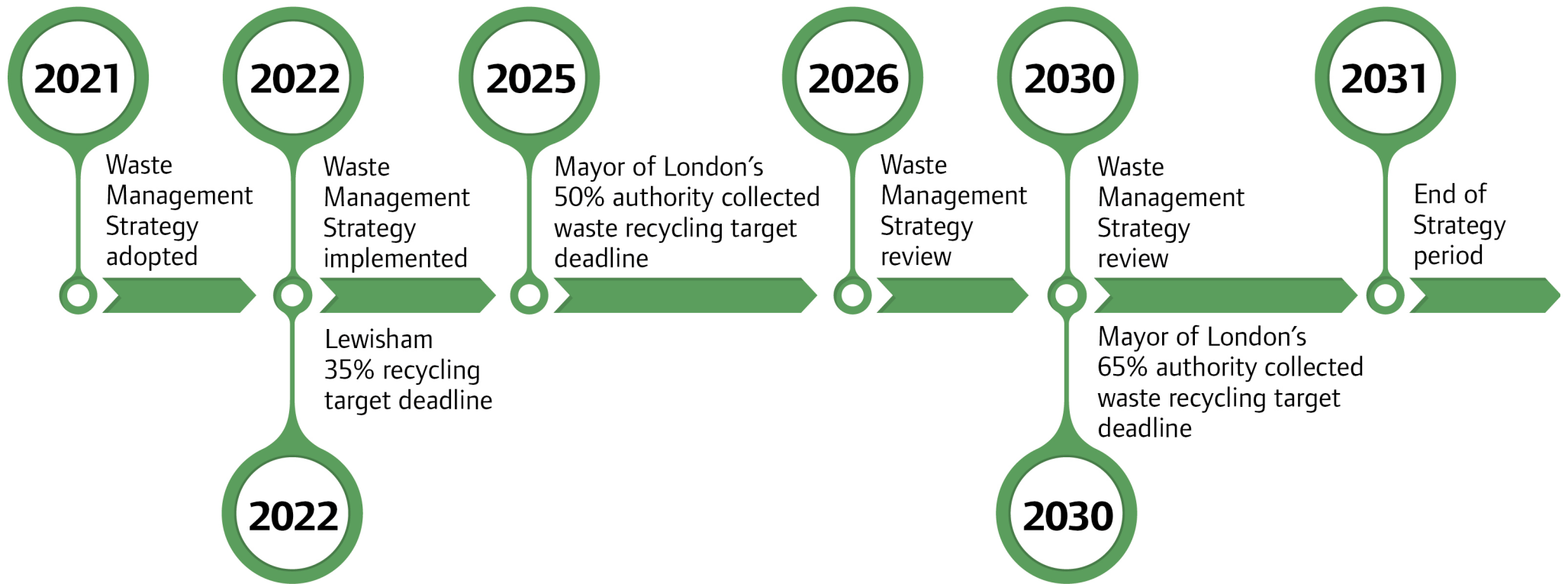
We will periodically review our services with the support of the Sustainable Development Select Committee to help us to identify challenges and opportunities to improve performance – particularly in waste reduction and recycling.

It will be necessary to continuously review, monitor and evaluate the action plans to provide a robust framework to plan, develop and review our performance against targets and set objectives.



Strategy monitoring and review	Monitor	Review
Waste Management Strategy 2021–2031	Annually	Every four years (or as required)
Reduction and Recycling Plan (Mayor of London’s London Environment Strategy)	Bi-annually	Every 3years (prior to submission in year 4)
Operational Action Plan	Bi-annually	Annually

Lewisham Waste Management Strategy Timeline



Glossary

A number of terms have been used in the Waste Management Strategy – these are defined below.

Term	Meaning
Air quality	Air quality refers to the air we breathe. Good air quality is air that is clean, clear, and free from pollutants.
Bulky Waste Service	A collection service that helps residents who are unable to transport bulky items such as furniture, white goods, and mattresses to the reuse and recycling centre.
Circular Economy	An economy where we keep resources in use for as long as possible, extract the maximum value from them while they are in use, then recover and create new products and materials when they are no longer used.
Collection day	The planned day that waste and recycling is collected.
Collection services	A general term to refer to all of the services that we provide to collect waste and recycling.
Collections for flats	We provide communal residual waste and mixed recycling containers for residents living in flats to share.
Collections for houses	We provide waste collections from houses including residual waste, mixed recycling, and food and garden waste, which are collected from the kerbside.
Co-mingled materials	A co-mingled collection scheme is one where more than one type of dry recyclable material is collected and processed at a Materials Recycling Facility.
Commercial waste	Waste arising from premises which are used wholly or mainly for trade, business, sport, recreation or entertainment, excluding industrial waste.
Composting	A biological process in which organic wastes, such as garden and kitchen waste, are converted into a material which can be used to enrich the nutrient content of the soil.
Contamination	Materials that are put into the mixed recycling, food waste or garden waste containers that cannot be processed through that service.
DEFRA	Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Glossary

DRS	Deposit Return Scheme – return of deposit for recycling items included in the scheme.
Emissions performance standard (EPS)	The EPS measures the greenhouse gasses (such as carbon dioxide) that are released from London’s local authority waste management activities. It aims to achieve emissions savings by recovering materials that deliver the greatest carbon dioxide reductions.
Fly-tipping	The unauthorised dumping of waste on a site that does not have a licence to accept waste (e.g. a road or pavement). Fly-tipping is illegal. People caught fly-tipping can be fined or prosecuted.
Household waste	Waste from household collections, street sweeping, bulky waste collections, hazardous and clinical household waste collections, litter collections, separate garden waste collections, waste from recycling centres for household waste and waste collected separately for recycling/ composting schemes.
Landfill	Land where waste is deposited and eventually buried, often as a method of filling in and reclaiming excavated pits.
London Environment Strategy (LES)	Mayor of London’s Waste Management Strategy for London.
Municipal waste	Household waste or business waste that is similar in composition – irrespective of who collects or disposes of it.
Recycling services	The services that we provide to help residents to recycle. This includes mixed recycling service for houses and flats, food and garden waste collections, and public recycling sites.
Residual waste service	Our residual waste service collects waste that is not separated out for recycling or composting, for example black bag waste.
Reuse	Items such as furniture, clothes, kitchen appliances can often be used a number of times, prolonging the life of the product.
Waste hierarchy	Our model and preferred order of priority for managing waste from most to least desirable. For example, waste prevention is most desirable while waste disposal is a last resort.
Waste management	The collection, transportation, disposal or recycling, and monitoring of waste.
WEEE	Waste electrical and electronic equipment

Project planner

	Activity	Target Date/ Timeline
1	Development of Review and Waste Strategy draft including Communication Plan	April 2021
2	Soft Market testing for Food waste disposal completed and evaluated	March 2021
3	Appoint company to carry out composition survey and provide feedback	April 2021
4	Research key aspects on behavioural change	March to April 2021
5	Financial modelling on proposed changes to disposal services	March to June 2021
6	Equalities Impact Assessment drafted	April 2021
7	Draft Waste Strategy presented to, and agreed by, WSOR Board	13 April 2021
8	Agree finalised Communication plan	June 2021
9	Report to Sustainable Development Scrutiny Committee	mid June 2021
10	Report to Mayor and Cabinet on draft Waste Strategy and approval to consult with the public	July 2021
11	Launch Waste Strategy consultations and engage with residents and businesses	July to September 2021
12	Waste Management Policy Development with Members	July to October 2021
13	Participation survey	September 2021
14	Collate feedback from consultation and events	October to November 2021
15	Equality Impact Assessment following consultation	October to November 2021
16	Report back to Mayor and Cabinet with findings from public consultation	December 2021
17	Adoption/Rollout of Waste Strategy and Delivery Plan	January 2022 onwards

