

Climate Emergency and Sustainability Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel

Date: Thursday, 14th November, 2024

Time: 10.00 am

Venue: Council Chamber - Guildhall, Bath

Councillors: Andy Wait, Grant Johnson, Alex Beaumont, Anna Box, Jess David, John Leach, Deborah Collins, Saskia Heijltjes and June Player



Michaela Gay

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NOTES:

1. **Inspection of Papers:** Papers are available for inspection as follows:

Council's website: <https://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/ieDocHome.aspx?bcr=1>

Paper copies are available for inspection at the Guildhall - Bath.

2. **Details of decisions taken at this meeting** can be found in the minutes which will be circulated with the agenda for the next meeting. In the meantime, details can be obtained by contacting as above.

3. **Recording at Meetings:-**

The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 now allows filming and recording by anyone attending a meeting. This is not within the Council's control.

Some of our meetings are webcast. At the start of the meeting, the Chair will confirm if all or part of the meeting is to be filmed. If you would prefer not to be filmed for the webcast, please make yourself known to the camera operators.

To comply with the Data Protection Act 1998, we require the consent of parents or guardians before filming children or young people. For more information, please speak to the camera operator.

The Council will broadcast the images and sound live via the internet www.bathnes.gov.uk/webcast An archived recording of the proceedings will also be available for viewing after the meeting. The Council may also use the images/sound recordings on its social media site or share with other organisations, such as broadcasters.

4. **Public Speaking at Meetings**

The Council has a scheme to encourage the public to make their views known at meetings. They may make a statement relevant to what the meeting has power to do. They may also present a petition or a deputation on behalf of a group.

Advance notice is required not less than two full working days before the meeting. This means that for meetings held on Thursdays notice must be received in Democratic Services by 5.00pm the previous Monday.

Further details of the scheme can be found at:

<https://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/ecCatDisplay.aspx?sch=doc&cat=12942>

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**Climate Emergency and Sustainability Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel -
Thursday, 14th November, 2024**

at 10.00 am in the Council Chamber - Guildhall, Bath

A G E N D A

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
2. EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The Chair will draw attention to the emergency evacuation procedure as set out under Note 6.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS
4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

At this point in the meeting declarations of interest are received from Members in any of the agenda items under consideration at the meeting. Members are asked to indicate:

- (a) The agenda item number in which they have an interest to declare.
- (b) The nature of their interest.
- (c) Whether their interest is **a disclosable pecuniary interest** or **an other interest**,
(as defined in Part 4.4 Appendix B of the Code of Conduct and Rules for Registration of Interests)

Any Member who needs to clarify any matters relating to the declaration of interests is recommended to seek advice from the Council's Monitoring Officer or a member of his staff before the meeting to expedite dealing with the item during the meeting.

5. TO ANNOUNCE ANY URGENT BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIRMAN
6. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC OR COUNCILLORS - TO RECEIVE STATEMENTS, PETITIONS OR QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OF THIS MEETING

At the time of publication no notifications had been received.

7. MINUTES (Pages 7 - 12)
8. CABINET MEMBER UPDATE
9. WASTE UPDATE (Pages 13 - 32)
10. PANEL WORKPLAN (Pages 33 - 34)

The Cabinet Member will update the Panel on any relevant issues. Panel members may ask questions on the update provided.

This report presents the latest workplan for the Panel. Any suggestions for further items or amendments to the current programme will be logged and scheduled in consultation with the Panel's Chair and supporting senior officers.

The Committee Administrator for this meeting is Michaela Gay who can be contacted on 01225 394411.

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BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET

MINUTES OF CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND SUSTAINABILITY POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY PANEL MEETING

Thursday, 12th September, 2024

Present:- **Councillors** Andy Wait, Grant Johnson, Alex Beaumont, Anna Box, Jess David, Deborah Collins, Saskia Heijltjes and Duncan Hounsell (in place of John Leach)

Apologies for absence: Councillors: June Player

87 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

88 EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The Chair drew attention to the emergency evacuation procedure.

89 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

Councillor John Leach gave his apologies and was substituted by Councillor Duncan Hounsell.

Councillor June Player gave her apologies.

90 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Collins informed the Panel that she is a member of Bath and West Community Energy which is mentioned in the item 'Annual Climate and Nature Progress Report'. Following the Monitoring Officer's advice, she will stay for the discussion on the item.

91 TO ANNOUNCE ANY URGENT BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIRMAN

There was none.

92 ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC OR COUNCILLORS - TO RECEIVE STATEMENTS, PETITIONS OR QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OF THIS MEETING

- Councillor Duncan Hounsell made a statement regarding the 'WECA A4 Corridor Project'
- Malcolm Baldwin regarding 'Future Proofing our Tourist Economy Sector'
- Ceris Humphries submitted a statement regarding 'Street Strategy' but could not attend the meeting.

All statements are attached to the minutes of the meeting.

93 MINUTES

The Panel confirmed the minutes of the previous meeting as a true record and they were duly signed by the Chairman.

94 CABINET MEMBER UPDATE

The Chair explained that Councillor Paul Roper (Cabinet Member for Economic and Cultural Sustainable Development) and Councillor Oli Henman (Cabinet Project Lead for Climate Emergency and Sustainable Travel) were at the meeting to present items and could answer any relevant questions when their item is discussed.

95 STREETS STRATEGY

Councillor Paul Roper (Cabinet Member for Economic and Cultural Sustainable Development) introduced the report. He explained that the paper sets out the issues on this policy development item. The Cabinet Member asked for the Panel members views.

Panel members raised the following points and asked the following questions:

Councillor Johnson asked whether 'zoning' (eg Food Quarter) in Bath may impact other areas of the city. He stated that Bath is not easily quartered and asked how this will work. The Cabinet Member explained that this was not just for Bath but other towns. There will be work with the regeneration team, 'zone' is a buzz word.

Councillor Heijltjes stated that the paper is focused on retail and events rather than footways and highways etc. She explained that Bristol and other Council's are developing a 'kerbside strategy' which is a more holistic way to look at our streets and how we use them. The Cabinet Member stated that he would pass this comment on. Councillor Heijltjes explained the 'Lambeth Kerbside Strategy' which sets out how the kerbside should be used for people, not just for car parking. It includes policies like EV (Electric Vehicle) charging provision and green spaces.

Councillor Box stated that she is a rural Councillor and that this strategy is more for the towns. She asked what enforcement there will be (in terms of licenses). The Cabinet Member stated that enforcement does need to be considered, there are currently 3 environmental health enforcement officers. The officer explained that since Covid, enforcement officers have been permissive to help businesses but there must be a line. Councillor Box asked that consideration be give to people with disabilities.

Councillor Collins noted that the paper gave an outline idea of the strategy. She asked that the impact on businesses be considered as there are places in Bath with vibrant mini highstreets and outside tables and chairs add to this. The Cabinet Member stated that he would pass these comments on.

Councillor Johnson agreed that there should not be anything too restrictive to allow for vibrant streets. He asked about strategies for buskers and also how enforcement would work when this is very stretched. The Cabinet Member acknowledged that there is a tension and agreed that enforcement has to be part of this. He acknowledged that enforcement is an issue in rural towns. He explained that Bath (BID) Marshalls can be considered.

Councillor David stated that the desire to introduce more markets is a good idea especially local and neighbourhood markets. She asked about the environmental impact of the strategy eg. The effect of patio heaters. The Cabinet Member explained that the Regeneration Team are looking at the environment of the city in terms of the street scene and looking to improve urban landscapes. The issue is with the funding.

Councillor Wait stated that the strategy is for the whole of BANES. He stated that he would like to see more markets and events for Keynsham High Street and asked that the organisation of this be made as straight forward as possible eg. Road closures. He stated that High Streets are struggling so anything that encourages people to come along is good. He asked how the team will communicate with residents. The Cabinet Member explained that a cultural review is taking place which will include meetings with stakeholders and community groups. We have picked up that people feel it is difficult to arrange community events and we take that on board, but have to comply with rules on Health and Safety etc. The officer added that he working on stakeholder analysis and will talk to residents associations at different stages. He gave an example that he will be in Keynsham next week to talk about air quality.

Councillor Heijltjes stated that there is not a residents association in her ward. She asked that noise be taken into account as many places where events take place are also residential.

Councillor Box asked that Town Councils be included in terms of key stakeholders as they know the area and the issues. The Cabinet Member agreed.

The Chair thanked the Cabinet Member and officer and asked that the strategy be brought back to the Panel when it is in its later stages.

96 ANNUAL CLIMATE AND NATURE PROGRESS REPORT

Councillor Oli Henman (Cabinet Project Lead for Climate Emergency and Sustainable Travel) gave a presentation which covered the following:

- Clear Ambition for Climate and Nature
- First Joint Annual Progress Report
- Where are we now: BANES Council
- Highlights: Climate
- Highlights: Nature
- Highlights: Place-based Green Infrastructure
- Next Steps

Panel members made the following points and asked the following questions:

Councillor Johnson asked about decarbonising Council operations and how much of the electricity decrease was a result of direct changes made by the Council and how much was down to the national picture. The Cabinet Project Lead stated that he understood it was a mixture of both. He stated that he would check this and see if it is possible in the future to separate these statistics.

Councillor Heijltjes asked about timescales and deadlines that were shown in the original action plan. She asked about progress on the Ecological Action Plan and asked about risk assessments in terms of not achieving core priorities. The Cabinet Project Lead explained that the report shows the ambition for 2030. He said that it was a challenging picture and that there had not been the level of investment that was desired. A lot depends on the national picture. He added that the Annex show the original aims and progress.

Councillor Box ask the following questions, the Cabinet Project Lead answers are shown in italics:

- Can public health be shown in terms of air quality. Councillor Box requested a written response regarding how many potential lives have been saved by clean air strategies. She commended the intervention. *The Cabinet Project Lead agreed that this was a good idea and explained that the map on the website shows each air quality monitor. He agreed that this is linked with public health.*
- Suggestion of practical support for farmers and landowners with regard to biodiversity in hedgerows. Maybe a campaign/training. *The Cabinet Project Lead agreed with this approach.*
- The school transport fleet is very old, this could be de carbonised. *The Cabinet Project Lead agreed to take this comment back.*

Councillor David ask the following questions, the Cabinet Project Lead answers are shown in italics:

- It is good to see information on the ecological quality of parks and green spaces, a number of interventions have benefited from funding. The funding needs to be sustained. *The Cabinet Project Lead agreed that community partnerships are a good way to give people ownership. We need to build on those.*
- The Corporate landlord model offers opportunities to improve nature – hopefully this includes parks and green spaces. *This point will be taken back.*
- It is good to see a level of detail regarding rivers and glad to see the issue of sunken boats being gradually addressed. Plea to allow continued funding for this in the budget process. *There are different responsibilities regarding rivers – the process with sunken boats has begun, there are currently 6 sunken boats in Bath.*

Councillor Collins ask the following questions, the Cabinet Project Lead answers are shown in italics:

- Green Open Homes – brilliant initiative.
- Regarding transport, it is an important target to get emissions down. Cycling and walking do not seem to be having a big impact. Is there a communication strategy regarding transport? There is a lot of disinformation. It is useful for Councillors to know what they can do to move the dial. *The Cabinet Project Lead acknowledged that it is a challenging area, a big shift is needed to make changes. 20% of the Council fleet is electric. Part of the picture is the Liveable Neighbourhood plans – this may mean encouraging people not to drive past a school.*

Councillor Hounsell asked about the second phase of 'Solar Together. He explained a blockage in the system regarding getting payment to people for energy sent to the grid. He suggested a guidance leaflet to break down the jargon. The Cabinet Project Lead stated that this could be looked in to.

Councillor Heijltjes stated that transport made up 32% of emissions and the target is a 25% reduction in car journeys. She asked for data to be included and for background information to be included/signposted. She highlighted that only 1 out of the 18 new actions for 2024/25 are for transport while road transport was such a large cause of emissions. She added that there must be safe infrastructure for people to make the change to cycling. The Cabinet Project Lead stated that reducing car use is the core aim which requires a cultural shift. Education and communication are key as is the Liveable Neighbourhood scheme. He stated that there are plans for cycle routes but a lot depends on funding.

Councillor Heijltjes stated that she was keen to see the active travel links reinstated as part of the Somer Valley Links project. Councillor Wait agreed.

Councillor Johnson suggested training to encourage behavioural change for Council fleet drivers regarding reducing fuel use. The Cabinet Project Lead took this idea on board. He explained that in 2017, 40 vehicles were brought back in house which has affected the figures.

Councillor Collins stated that it is important to have good communication around why we are changing infrastructure.

Councillor Heijltjes asked how the reduction in emissions compared with the national picture. The Cabinet Project Lead explained that the statistics are from national sources and the team would check on this.

Councillor Heijltjes asked about the possibility of using electric cargo bikes for some roles such as road inspection teams. The Cabinet Project Lead agreed that this would be a good idea and also explained that E cargo bikes are being used/tested for the general public in his ward as part of the WECA e-bike and e-scooter trials currently.

Councillor Wait stated that in his surgeries there were often complaints about plants growing on pavements etc. – we need to explain that we do not use poison now but heat warming devices. We need to take people with us. The Cabinet Member Lead

agreed and explained that the use of pesticides was stopped in 2021 and manual removal is now used which takes longer.

The Chair thanked the Cabinet Project Lead and the officer.

97 PANEL WORKPLAN

The Panel noted that future workplan and that the November meeting would consider:

Vision Zero Transport
Housing Plan
(possible Waste Recycling provision)

Future items include: Active Travel and Movement Strategy

Panel members suggested future items on: Air pollution and Homelessness Strategy Update

The meeting ended at 11.45 am

Chair(person)

Date Confirmed and Signed

Prepared by Democratic Services

Bath & North East Somerset Council		
MEETING:	Climate Emergency & Sustainability Scrutiny Panel	
MEETING DATE:	14 November 2024	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:
		Not applicable
TITLE:	Waste Services Update	
WARD:	Multiple	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report:		

1 RECOMMENDATION

The Climate Emergency & Sustainability Scrutiny Panel is asked to;

- 1.1 Note the update to the Panel on the Waste Services programme.

2 THE REPORT

2.1 This report provides updates on the:

- (1) Completion of the Pixash construction project and update on current activity
- (2) Update on of a programme of workstreams for the relocation of operational staff which includes a cultural change programme
- (3) Waste strategy update.
- (4) Bath recycling centre relocation project

2.2 Pixash, Keynsham Recycling Hub

- i) Waste Update
 - a. Key milestones were realised in 2024 by relocating all waste and recycling collection services which are now co located at Keynsham Recycling Hub as of Jan 2024. Both Ashmead Rd and Midland Rd are now closed apart from the Bath recycling centre which remains open.
 - b. Refuse and garden waste is now hauled to disposal by artics, taking 4x RORO trucks off the road, and more than halving vehicle movements.
 - c. We are expanding our commercial waste and recycling offering, taking advantage of capacity at the new site. We have brought in some new business processing some recycling from Bristol waste company and garden waste from Glendales. New disposal contracts for waste are currently being procured to enable more commercial waste to be handled.

- d. We have had initial discussions with South Gloucestershire Council about potential to process some of their kerbside plastic and cans recycling material which will be put out to tender ready for commencement late 2025

ii) Fleet

- a. The Midland Rd, Locksbrook and Keynsham workshops are now merged on one site. Public MOTs and repairs are doing well, with capacity to increase further.
- b. The authorised HGV MOT test facility opened in July, (This has got off to a slower start than expected due to problems with availability of DVSA examiners). We are now doing our own internal tacho, HGV MOT and brake testing which offsets circa £50k of costs.
- c. There is now an HGV MOT standard vehicle wash, open to external customers, offsets costs for our own MOTS
- d. Marketing drive to increase fleet business/ awareness of new facility
- e. Winter gritting for Highways is about to commence for first time from the depot this autumn and we are servicing the gritters now at the new depot.

iii) Climate emergency - Fleet transition plan.

- a. There has been ongoing incremental electrification of the fleet, including small panel vans, small pedestrian and mini sweepers, and smaller ancillary vans.
- b. The replacement of the medium sized cleansing cage tipper fleet in 2025 should add to this list. Trials of electric vehicles in Autumn 2024
- c. Once approved, the intention is to electrify some of the large HGV refuse fleet in 2025. Indications are that whole life costs only slightly more expensive than the diesel alternative, in spite of significantly larger up front capital costs. There is also likely to be a higher residual value of end of life trucks in the large 250KWH batteries.

2.2 Relocation of staff and culture change project and other key workstreams

- 1) 200 staff were relocated from the former Midland Road and Ashmead Road depots in January 2024
- 2) There has been ongoing work via the OD programme supported by HR to implement culture change to drive improvements in efficiency, resilience, crew behaviours and customer service.
- 3) Efficiencies have been realised at the new depot by recycling drivers self-tipping their trucks which resulted in the redeployment of 2 posts.
- 4) Collection round efficiencies will be reviewed in 2025 as part of a rebalancing programme due to property growth. Any changes to collection days will be communicated to residents in advance.
- 5) Midland Road public Recycling Centre to stay open, we are planning its operation as a stand-alone facility, Formal break notices will need to be served at leased depots at Ashmead Road and Locksbrook Road, compliance with any lease obligations such as dilapidations and complete vacation with removal of any redundant equipment.

2.3 Waste Strategy

1) Current key workstreams

- a) A City Centre Improvement Programme is in progress with a vision of improving containerisation and storage of waste and recycling by businesses and homes within central Bath. The key objectives being to reduce litter, gull attacks, maximise recycling and ensure compliance with new simpler recycling legislation.

- b) Review of planning guidance with the development team to ensure better consideration is given to recycling and waste storage provision and collection ahead of planned property growth.
- c) Bin store improvement programme with Curo to ensure fit for purpose recycling facilities and appropriate waste containers are in place for residents.
- d) On-going procurement and contract management activity to support service delivery and ensure CSO compliance.

2) Waste reforms

There is a range of upcoming waste legislation changes pending which will impact our services to varying degrees. This includes:

- a) Simpler Recycling Legislation – March 25 – to ensure paper & card, cartons, plastic bottles tubs and trays, metals, glass and food waste recycling collections are consistently collected across the country. This legislation requires all businesses to make arrangements to recycle these core materials by March 2025, and all domestic properties by March 2026. In addition, plastic film recycling is to be introduced by March 2027.
- b) Extended Producer Responsibility – which will see producer and suppliers of waste packaging funding the collection and recycling of its material once discarded. This is due to start in October 2025, with first payments being made in 25/26. At present, local authorities are awaiting the detail behind the mechanism and levels of payments expected.
- c) Digital Waste Tracking – a single mandatory online tracking system being introduced from April 2025 to track movements of waste within the UK.
- d) Deposit Return Scheme – expected in October 2027, this scheme is designed to levy a refundable deposit on packaging at the point of sale to incentivise consumers to bring it back to collection points for recycling.
- e) Emissions Trading Scheme – the inclusion of Energy from Waste (EfW) facilities within this industry cap and trade system from January 2028 which will place a price on carbon emission. This will have a significant financial burden on waste disposal costs.

2.4 Bath Recycling

1. The [planning application 24/03168/REG03](#) was submitted August 2024 for a recycling centre on Locksbrook Rd to replace Midland Rd when this site is redeveloped for market and affordable housing. The statutory consultation period closed on 3 October. There were 168 objections of a very localised nature, 5 supporting and 7 comments.
2. As a result of feedback from statutory consultees and the public a number of improvements have been made to the application:
 - a. The drainage scheme has been altered to run through the middle of the site, the public vehicle entrance has been narrowed and the hardstanding reduced, all to ensure the root protection areas around the mature trees to the north of the site are not impacted
 - b. The double yellow lines have been extended and 'no loading at any time' restrictions added across the full frontage of the site at the request of B&NES Traffic Management Team
 - c. The traffic management arrangements within the site have been improved to reduce reversing and waiting traffic will be queued in a line around the edge of the car park area
 - d. The pedestrian access has been moved to the other side of the public entrance to make it easier to access the bring bank and skips on foot
 - e. An Operational Statement and a Gull Management Plan have been added to the submission
 - f. A Landscape Plan and drawings has been added to clarify the planting schemes and the mitigations for the removal of 2 trees along the river towpath
 - g. The lighting scheme has been altered to reduce vertical lux levels
 - h. A solid balustrade is proposed for the gantry to reduce the risk of noise

3. The revisions require a further 21-day consultation which should close at the end of the month and the application is anticipated to be at Planning Committee on January 15th
4. The Environment Agency permit variation application will be submitted before the end of the year
5. The project also includes full refurbishment of the Locksbrook Rd Transport Depot (former MOT) which will be started before the RC site can be vacated by Cleansing services who are moving to the Transport Depot. The work here will be done in a number of phases ending with the SEND Passenger Transport offices.
6. The PID and Full Business Case should be approved in December, provisional on obtaining planning permission in January
7. Construction is expected to start in late spring with completion by the end of 2025
8. The scheme will be able to deliver an excess of Biodiversity Net Gain and there will also be procurement of Watercourse BNG units from a nearby scheme
9. If possible solar panels will be installed on the welfare unit remaining onsite

Climate Emergency

Keynsham recycling hub has a variety of purpose-built infrastructure and investment in modern baling and sorting equipment for recyclate materials to increase recycling and reuse opportunities for our residents.

i) Climate emergency highlights

- a. 820KWP of solar panels across site building roofs are generating electricity which is used for on-site materials processing as well as supplying the offices and workshops.
- b. We are exploring options for battery storage / exporting surplus, as we currently have some spare generation capacity available in the summer months. It is envisaged that some of this will also be able to be used to supplement the charging of electric vehicles once the HGV fleet is electrified.
- c. The new reuse shop has been running well all year. It has proved very popular and is turning a healthy profit, whilst increasing levels of reuse and reducing materials sent for disposal. There has been partnership working with various local organisations to facilitate its operation.
- d. Rainwater harvesting from site roofs is being used for onsite irrigation of the tree planting and landscape infrastructure.
- e. The Pixash building is heated by air source heat pumps, and the office complex is a far more energy efficient building.

The future replacement of refuse and recycling vehicles to electric powered vehicles is being factored in and infrastructure to future-proof the site has been of key importance. We use specialist route planning software for the refuse, recycling and garden waste rounds to minimise distances travelled, whilst collecting from every household in the district, and to avoid local community impacts wherever possible. The site is on the strategic road network for access to the ring road and motorway for the bulk haulage of waste and recycling to treatment and reprocessing sites in the West of England and across the UK. This will allow us to maximise the highest payload forms of transport, and so reduce carbon emissions for this part of the operation.

Community Engagement:

A visit to Keynsham recycling Hub was organised in September Keynsham Area forum which included various local councillors and interested parties, including some local residents. The visit was well received. There is a parish liaison meeting organised for March 25.

Equality:

As a front-facing service with significant touch points with all residents and households across the district, waste & recycling collections and public reuse and recycling centres have a core focus of equality and accessibility; Equalities Impact Assessments are updated at the time when service changes are planned and implemented. An [EqIA](#) has been published for the proposed Bath RC.

Contact person	Cllr Tim Ball, Cabinet Member for Environment
Background papers	
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	

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**Climate Emergency and
Sustainability PDS Panel
14 November 2024**

**Bath & North East
Somerset Council**

Improving People's Lives

Waste Services

Update Briefing

Waste Services update

• **Keynsham Recycling Hub - Waste and recycling Update**

- Key milestones in Jan 2024 - relocating waste and recycling collection services
- Ashmead Rd and Midland Rd closed apart from the Bath Recycling centre
- Refuse and garden waste now hauled to disposal by artics, taking 4x RORO trucks off the road, and more than halving vehicle movements.
- Expanding commercial waste and recycling offering, as capacity at the new site.
- New business processing Bristol waste recycling & garden waste from Glendales.
- New disposal contracts for waste currently being procured to enable more commercial waste to be handled.
- Some initial discussions with South Gloucestershire Council - potential to process some of their kerbside plastic and cans recycling material which will be put out to tender ready for commencement late 2025

Waste Services update

• Fleet

- Midland Rd, Locksbrook and Keynsham workshops are now merged.
- Public MOTs and repairs are doing well, with capacity to increase further.
- The authorised HGV MOT test facility opened in July, (This has got off to a slower start than expected due to problems with availability of DVSA examiners).
- Now doing our own internal tacho, HGV MOT and brake testing which offsets circa £50k of costs.
- There is now an HGV MOT standard vehicle wash, open to external customers, offsets costs for our own MOTS
- Marketing drive to increase fleet business/ awareness of new facility
- Winter gritting for Highways is about to commence for first time from the depot this autumn and we are servicing the gritters now at the new depot.

Waste Services update

• Fleet transition plan

- Ongoing incremental electrification of the fleet, including small panel vans, small pedestrian and mini sweepers, and smaller ancillary vans.
- The replacement of the medium sized cleansing cage tipper fleet due in 2025
Trials of demo electric vehicles due in Autumn 2024
- Once approved, we intend to electrify some of the large HGV refuse fleet in 2025. Indications are that whole life costs only slightly more expensive than diesel alternative, in spite of significantly larger up front capital costs. Also likely to be higher residual value of end of life trucks from the large 250KWH batteries.

Climate Emergency update

• Climate emergency highlights

- 820KWP of solar panels across site building roofs are generating electricity which is used for on-site materials processing & supplying the offices and workshops.
- Potential for battery storage / exporting surplus, as some spare generation capacity available in the summer months. This will be used to supplement the charging of electric vehicles once the HGV fleet is electrified.
- New reuse shop is very popular & turning a healthy profit, whilst increasing levels of reuse and reducing materials sent for disposal. Partnership working with various local organisations to facilitate its operation.
- Rainwater harvesting from site roofs is being used for onsite irrigation of the tree planting and landscape infrastructure.
- The Pixash building is heated by air source heat pumps, and the office complex is a far more energy efficient building.

Waste Strategy update

• Current key workstreams

- City Centre Improvement Programme to improve containerisation & storage of waste & recycling by businesses and homes within central Bath. Key objectives to reduce litter, gull attacks, maximise recycling & ensure compliance with new simpler recycling legislation.
- Review of planning guidance with the development team to ensure better consideration is given to recycling and waste storage provision and collection ahead of planned property growth.
- Bin store improvement programme with Curo to ensure fit for purpose recycling facilities and appropriate waste containers are in place for residents.
- On-going procurement and contract management activity to support service delivery and ensure CSO compliance.

Waste reforms – legislation changes

- **Waste reforms** - Various upcoming waste legislation changes pending
- **Simpler Recycling** – to ensure paper & card, cartons, plastic bottles tubs and trays, metals, glass and food waste recycling collections are consistently collected across the country. This legislation **requires all businesses to make arrangements to recycle these core materials by March 2025**, and **all domestic properties by March 2026**. In addition, **plastic film recycling is to be introduced by March 2027**.
- **Extended Producer Responsibility** – producer and suppliers of waste packaging will have to fund the collection and recycling of its material once discarded. Due to start October 2025, & first payments being made in 25/26. At present, local authorities are awaiting the detail behind the mechanism and levels of payments expected.

Waste reforms

- **Waste reforms** - Various upcoming waste legislation changes pending
- **Digital Waste Tracking** – a single mandatory online tracking system being introduced from April 2025 to track movements of waste within the UK.
- **Deposit Return Scheme (DRS)**– expected in October 2027, this scheme is designed to levy a refundable deposit on packaging at the point of sale to incentivise consumers to bring it back to collection points for recycling.
- **Emissions Trading Scheme** – the inclusion of Energy from Waste (EfW) facilities within this industry cap and trade system from January 2028 which will place a price on carbon emission. This will have a significant financial burden on waste disposal costs.

Bath Recycling Centre



Bath Recycling Centre



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- Council owned land (Cleansing yard with an existing EA permit & the Old Coal Yard on short term lease)
- Less than a mile from the existing Midland Road recycling centre
- Walking & cycle access from Locksbrook Road and the riverside towpath
- Proximity to Locksbrook Transport Depot where Cleansing Services will be relocated and can continue to use the tipping bays at Bath RC
- In a light industrial area and compliant with planning policy

Bath Recycling Centre

7 skips of the highest tonnages received at Midland Road:

1. Wood
2. Cardboard (including items too large for kerbside)
3. Garden waste
4. Bulky waste (loose, mixed)
5. Residual household (black sacks)
6. Soft furnishings (POPs)
7. Scrap metal and large electrical eg washing machines and other white goods, except fridges, freezers, TVs and computer monitors

Dry recyclables:

1. Paper
2. Glass
3. Cans
4. Plastics (bottles, pots, tubs and trays)

This equates to 79% of the tonnage currently collected & could increase to 86% if rubble & plasterboard levels halve following new DEFRA changes

Bulk Skips	
Bulky waste	1052
Bulky waste soft furnishings e.g sofa (20%). We are now legally required to collect this separately from other Bulky Waste	263
Residual waste (black bags)	1272
Garden waste	1149
Wood	1090
Scrap metal & Large WEEE	468
Cardboard	352
Bring Site	
Cans	3
Food	0
Glass	54
Paper	127
Plastic (Mixed)	59
Textiles & Shoes	101
Tonnage collected	5990
Other Materials Not Collected	
Rubble & Soil	1180
WEEE - SDAs Small electricals	179
Plasterboard / Gypsum	107
WEEE - Fridges & Freezers	51
WEEE - CRTs TVs, Screens	31
Hazardous Waste	13
Batteries (Car)	10
Tyres	10
Oil, Mineral (tonnes)	5
Asbestos	3
Gas bottles	3
WEEE - Fluorescent tubes	1
Oil, Vegetable (tonnes)	1
Tonnage not collected	1595

Bath Recycling Centre Update

24/03168/REG03

Improvements have been made to the scheme following feedback from the public and statutory consultees:

- a. The drainage scheme has been altered to run through the middle of the site, the public entrance has been narrowed and the hardstanding reduced all to ensure the root protection areas around the mature trees to the north of the site are not impacted
- b. The double yellow lines have been extended and 'no loading at any time' restrictions added across the full frontage of the site at the request of B&NES Traffic Management Team
- c. The traffic management arrangements within the site have been improved to reduce reversing and waiting traffic will be queued in a line around the edge of the car park area
- d. The pedestrian access has been moved to the other side of the public entrance to make it easier to access the bring bank and skips on foot
- e. An Operational Statement and a Gull Management Plan has been added to the submission
- f. A Landscape Plan and drawings has been added to clarify the planting schemes and the mitigations for the removal of 2 trees along the river towpath
- g. The lighting scheme has been altered to reduce vertical lux levels
- h. A solid railing will be installed on the top of the gantry to reduce the risk of noise

Bath Recycling Centre – example of a similar construction



Bath Recycling Centre - next steps

Activity	Completed by
Planning Committee decision	15 January 2025
Procurement of construction contractor	February 2025
PID and FBC development and sign offs	January 2025
Cabinet budget approval	February 2025
Transport Depot refurbishment	December 2025
Cleansing Services move to Transport Depot	April 2025
Construction contractor appointed	March 2025
Environment Agency permit variation approved	June 2025
Move recycling centre from MRD to Bath RC	December 2025
MRD housing development commences	January 2026

CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND SUSTAINABILITY

This Forward Plan lists all the items coming to the Panel over the next few months.

Inevitably, some of the published information may change; Government guidance recognises that the plan is a best assessment, at the time of publication, of anticipated decision making. The online Forward Plan is updated regularly and can be seen on the Council's website at:

<http://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/mgPlansHome.aspx?bcr=1>

The Forward Plan demonstrates the Council's commitment to openness and participation in decision making. It assists the Panel in planning their input to policy formulation and development, and in reviewing the work of the Cabinet.

Should you wish to make representations, please contact the report author or, Democratic Services (). A formal agenda will be issued 5 clear working days before the meeting.

Agenda papers can be inspected on the Council's website.

Ref Date	Decision Maker/s	Title	Report Author Contact	Director Lead
14TH NOVEMBER 2024				
14 Nov 2024	Climate Emergency and Sustainability Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel	Waste Update		Executive Director - Sustainable Communities
16TH JANUARY 2025				
Page 34 16 Jan 2025	Climate Emergency and Sustainability Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel	Housing Plan Update	Graham Sabourn Tel: 01225 477949	Director of Sustainable Communities
27TH MARCH 2025				
22ND MAY 2025				
3RD JULY 2025				
25TH SEPTEMBER 2025				
27TH NOVEMBER 2025				
The Forward Plan is administered by DEMOCRATIC SERVICES: Democratic_Services@bathnes.gov.uk				