

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING/ DECISION MAKER:	Cllr Tim Ball, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services	
MEETING/ DECISION DATE:	On or after 16th March 2024	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:
		E 3425
TITLE:	Adoption of Waste Strategy – Towards Zero Waste 2030	
WARD:	All	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report: Appendix 1: Waste Strategy – Towards Zero Waste (for adoption)		

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 The Council's previous Waste Strategy, Towards Zero Waste 2020, was adopted on 14 July 2005 and covered the period up to 2020.
- 1.2 The adoption of the new Waste Strategy – Towards Zero Waste 2030, will build on the work of the previous strategy, focusing on managing our resources to reduce the impacts climate change and outline our key drivers and priorities for the period up to 2030.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet Member is asked to agree that;

- 2.1 The Waste Strategy – Towards Zero Waste (Appendix 1) is adopted.

3 THE REPORT

- 3.1 The previous Waste Strategy covered the period from 2005 to 2020, a new waste strategy is required, reflecting that the UK is striving to achieve higher levels of recycling and a more circular economy and taking into consider new legislation and changing economics.
- 3.2 The adoption of Towards Zero Waste 2030 has been delayed due to the impact of COVID 19, and that in 2019 the Government released three consultation papers that will significantly impact on waste and recycling service provision and

funding, these were; Consistency of Collections, Deposit Return Schemes and Extended Producer Responsibility. To date full details of these changes have not been issued by Government, so there is still uncertainty of how this will impact on Bath & North East Somerset Council. Due to delays on when full details will be issued, taking forward the adoption of the Waste Strategy could not continue to wait.

- 3.3 Since the previous Strategy was produced the Council has announced its Climate Emergency declaration, and Towards Zero Waste - 2030 recognises the escalated priority of the climate and nature emergency.
- 3.4 The focus of Towards Zero Waste 2030 is on working with residents to achieve increased recycling rates, making our neighbourhoods cleaner and delivering objectives to address the climate and nature emergency. The key aims of the strategy are:
 - i. Maintain and improve the service we offer
 - ii. Keep the costs of waste and recycling down
 - iii. Help residents to prevent waste
 - iv. Continue the progress we have made on recycling and increase the proportion that is recycled
 - v. Continue our journey toward zero black bag waste being produced
 - vi. Make appropriate use of new ways of treating the remaining waste to maximise its value and divert from landfill
 - vii. Reduce litter and the costs of litter
- 3.5 The strategy document details the key drivers influencing the Council as well as achievements to date.
- 3.6 Future actions are structured around the waste hierarchy, which informs the thinking about how to prioritise our efforts when tackling waste, alongside activities this there are activities that focus on improving place.
- 3.7 The themes in the future actions section provide the strategic framework up to 2030, these will be taken forward by the development of more detailed annual service plans that reflect local needs and the financial situation at the time.

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1 There is no statutory requirement for the Council to produce a Waste Strategy, but the document considers other statutory requirements including the Waste Hierarchy, Resources and Waste Strategy for England, The Environment Act 2021 and Environmental Protection Act 1990.

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

- 5.1 Towards Zero Waste 2030 documents the themes and priority areas, with the financial impacts of introducing the detailed actions to support the strategy being considered as part of the annual service plan process
- 5.2 The document has a table detailing the small number of commitments that are within the strategy and the financial implications. The majority of these are not known at this stage as they relate to the government waste strategy changes,

which we will be required to implement by law but currently do not have the specific detail. New recycling streams will only be proposed if financially viable.

- 5.3 There may be additional costs to achieving the ambition of 62% recycling by 2025 and 65% by 2030, but this will be influenced by several factors, such as general housing growth and property types, materials captured, existing vehicle capacity, and the impact of proposed legislative changes. Due to the variety of influencing factors, the revenue costs within the strategy document are estimates based on this increase being solely achieved through growth in the kerbside recycling services and the additional vehicle and crew requirements. When funding growth is identified as being required, it will be requested through the relevant budget process.

6 RISK MANAGEMENT

- 6.1 A risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations has been undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision-making risk management guidance.

7 EQUALITIES

- 7.1 An equalities impact review has been completed and no issues have been identified for the adoption of the strategy. Individual impact assessments will be produced, when required, for specific activities that are developed to support the strategy.

8 CLIMATE CHANGE

- 8.1 The strategy identifies areas in which residents and our own services can reduce carbon emissions, in particular highlighting the importance of considering a circular economy and the prevention, reuse, and repair of existing items rather than producing new.
- 8.2 The strategy identifies that we will look to reduce our transport emissions and use alternative fuels vehicles, where viable

9 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 9.1 None

10 CONSULTATION

- 10.1 This report has been cleared by the S151 Officer and Monitoring Officer.
- 10.2 Voicebox 28 contained specific waste & litter questions, the results of which were considered as part of the development of the strategy.
- 10.3 A six-week public consultation took place on-line in Spring 2020 on the Key Emerging Themes in the strategy and feedback has been built into the final version.
- 10.4 A report was taken to the Climate Emergency and Sustainability Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel on the 16th of March 2020 where the Emerging Themes in the document were discussed in detail.

Contact person	Sarah Alder – Head of Strategic Environmental Services Tel: 01225 394204
Background papers	The previous Waste Strategy Review document is available on the Council Website https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/policy-and-documents-library/waste-strategy-2014-2020
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	