

# North Somerset Council

## Report to the Place Policy and Scrutiny Panel

**Date of Meeting: 8 March 2023**

**Subject of Report: Recycling and Waste Strategy Annual Update**

**Town or Parish: All**

**Officer/Member Presenting: Colin Russell**

### Recommendations

To note the progress made in year 1 towards the targets within the recycling and waste strategy 2021-2030 and provide comments on the targets for the next year.

To amend target three of the recycling and waste strategy so that it remains a target with a revised achievable date.

### 1. Summary of Report

1.1 The recycling and waste strategy 2021- 2030 was agreed by Executive in February 2022. This report provides an overview and the key performance indicators of the progress made in the first year towards the eight targets in the strategy. It invites member comments and discussion.

### 2. Policy

2.1 The recycling and waste strategy directly contributes to the Council's ambitions to:

- be a great place for people to live, work and visit,
- have welcoming, safe and clean neighbourhoods
- be a carbon neutral council and area by 2030
- collaborate with partners to deliver the best outcomes of being greener.

### 3. Details

3.1 **Target 1:** A reduction in residual waste (waste that is not recycled or reused) of 15% the level of 2019/20 by 2030.

The table below shows the changes in residual (non-recyclable) waste tonnages from the pre-pandemic baseline figure, rising significantly during lockdown and tonnages beginning to reduce in 2021-22.

Waste Minimisation events in person were stopped during lockdown but resumed last year with six reusable nappy talks in 2022 to promote switching to reusable nappies and wipes to avoid disposables and 13 other events in 2022 promoting waste reduction, recycling and reuse including The North Somerset Show.

Measures of success towards targets	April 2019 – March 2020 baseline year	April 2020 – March 2021	April 2021 – March 2022
<b>Total amount of residual waste</b>	38,695.38 tonnes	39,866.21 tonnes	39,843.16 tonnes
<b>Household residual waste</b>	399.66kg per household	406.83 kg per household	405.83 kg per household

### 3.2 Target 2: A recycling rate of 70% by 2030.

The table below shows progress towards the second target in the recycling and waste strategy has not taken place yet. This is mainly due to the reduction in tonnages of garden waste collected from the introduction of the chargeable garden waste service in April 2021.

Measures of success towards targets	April 2019 – March 2020 baseline year	April 2020 – March 2021	April 2021 – March 2022
<b>Percentage recycling rate</b>	60.6%	60.4%	59.5%
<b>Position in recycling league table of local authorities in England</b>	9th	7th	12 <sup>th</sup> TBC
<b>Tonnage of food waste collected for recycling</b>	6,980.04 tonnes	7,908.44 tonnes	7,411.43 tonnes

**3.3 Target 3:** Divert all non-recyclable, kerbside collected household waste away from landfill by end of 2022. This was not achieved. The table below shows the tonnages sent to landfill. It shows a reduction year on year but not zero. Part of the reason for this is due to the Energy from Waste plant, where this waste is delivered, having planned maintenance shutdowns each year for a period of up to 4 weeks. During this time waste can be diverted to landfill.

**Recommendation:** This target be updated and revised to ‘maximise diversion of all non-recyclable, kerbside collected household waste away from landfill and showing year on year improvements’

Measures of success towards targets	April 2019 – March 2020 baseline year	April 2020 – March 2021	April 2021 – March 2022
<b>Total tonnage of non-recyclable waste sent to Landfill</b>	21,720.25 tonnes	11,714.76 tonnes	11,694.98 tonnes

<b>Kerbside collected household waste sent to Landfill</b>	9,830.77 tonnes	6,436.36 tonnes	6,291.12 tonnes
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**3.4 Target 4:** Review and update recycling facilities at all flat blocks and continue to introduce food waste collections in phases, in line with the Environment Act 2021, by 2023.

We have visited every flat block with the collection crew, updating stickers at bin stores as we go round and making a note of containers. Changes to improve efficiency of collections by swapping lots of smaller bins for bigger bins is taking place. Route optimisation will also take place for 2023.

Food waste recycling has now been introduced to 1,457 flats with an additional 3,810 flats to complete this year.

Phase 1 (trial, 2018)- 175 properties

Phase 2 (further W-s-M roll out, 2022)- 221 properties

Phase 3 (Locking Parklands, 2022)- 183 properties

Phase 4 (Portishead, Feb 2023)- 878 properties

**3.5 Target 5:** Expand the commercial waste service to serve more businesses, schools and events in North Somerset each year.

The table below shows we are achieving this target, with the exception of events, and this was due primarily to the pandemic.

<b>Measures of success towards targets</b>	<b>April 2019 – March 2020 baseline year</b>	<b>April 2020 – March 2021</b>	<b>April 2021 – March 2022</b>
<b>• No. of customers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 44 new customers</li> <li>• 213 total customers at end of year</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 45 new customers</li> <li>• 257 total customers at end of year</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 69 new customers</li> <li>• 302 total customers at end of year</li> </ul>
<b>• No. of commercial food waste collections</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 x 140L new FW collections</li> <li>• 9 total customers at end of year (including 23L caddies)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7 x 140L new FW collections</li> <li>• 13 total customers at end of year (including 23L caddies)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 x 140L new FW collections</li> <li>• 18 total customers at end of year (including 23L caddies)</li> </ul>
<b>• No. of events using the commercial waste service</b>	10	1	3

**3.6 Target 6:** Tackle incidents of litter and fly-tipping in North Somerset through improved reporting, increasing education and enforcement activities.

To make progress with this target the enforcement team set up a contract with a private company to focus on anti-social issues of littering and dog fouling. The initial 12-month contract with Local Authority Support began in May 2021 and has subsequently been extended.

The table below shows the fixed penalty notices that were issued for various littering offences. It demonstrates the step forwards in enforcement activities working towards this target.

Measures of success towards targets	April 2019 – March 2020 baseline year	April 2020 – March 2021	April 2021 – March 2022
PSPO Litter	None	889	1464
PSPO Dog Fouling	None	5	5
Failing to provide a poo bag	None	None	1

In 2021 the enforcement team also began work to tackle business who did not have a commercial waste collection in place. This helps to reduce incidents of commercial waste being deposited in residential bins leading to overflowing bins, and reduces incidents of fly-tipping of commercial waste. In 2021-2022 seven fixed penalty notices for breaches of Duty of Care were issued.

**3.7 Target 7:** Improved appearance of our streets and open spaces

As part of this target, officers have been working to grow our Adopt-a-street volunteer litter picker scheme. The table below shows the growth in the number of volunteers. Volunteers are supported through online training, safety information and are each provided with gloves, litter picker and bags

Measures of success towards targets	April 2019 – March 2020 baseline year	April 2020 – March 2021	April 2021 – March 2022
● No. of new Adopt a Street litter pickers	25	17	118

The pictures below also show before and after work by Glendale tidying up our streets.



**3.8 Target 8:** Progress towards a circular economy where waste is treated as a valuable resource rather than disposed of.

Composting at home for just one year can save greenhouse gases equivalent to all the carbon dioxide your kettle produces annually.

Our focus on this target in the past year has been to promote composting, providing discounted home compost bins and increase home composting education of residents. provides on-going composting support. The table below shows the success of the programme so far.

Measures of success towards targets	April 2019 – March 2020 baseline year	April 2020 – March 2021	April 2021 – March 2022
• No. of compost bins sold	255	3102	1328
• No. of people completing composting education training	N/A Course released in March 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 191 unique users for online course</li> <li>• 154 attendees trained at 4 x online intro to home composting course held in March 2021</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 126 unique users for online course</li> <li>• 100 attendees trained at 1 x online intro to home compost course held on 24.03.22</li> </ul>

The next phase of the composting project was to secure a Master composter programme which began training volunteers in 2022. A total of 20 volunteers have now been trained. With an additional volunteer training date set for March 2023.

#### **4. Consultation**

The recycling and waste strategy went out to public consultation in 2021 was approved by the Executive in February 2022.

Place Scrutiny group and Executive Member for Neighbourhoods and Community Services are kept up to date on projects within the strategy and consulted on if decisions and any changes are required.

#### **5. Financial Implications**

N/A

##### **Costs**

N/A

##### **Funding**

Funding is from existing budgets

#### **6. Legal Powers and Implications**

There is no legal requirement to produce a recycling and waste strategy, but this is considered best practice and is line with the government’s recent legislation including:

- Environment Act 2021
- Our Waste, Our Resources: A Strategy for England (2018)
- 25-Year Environment Plan (2018)

## **7. Climate Change and Environmental Implications**

The recycling and waste strategy, refers to the positive contribution it will make to the Climate Emergency declared by North Somerset Council in 2019.

## **8. Risk Management**

There are no risk management considerations for this draft strategy. Any future changes to services will be subject to further appraisal

## **9. Equality Implications**

A full EIA will be carried out prior to the implementation of any service changes

## **10. Corporate Implications**

N/A

## **11. Options Considered**

N/A

### **Author:**

Colin Russell, Head of Environment and Community Services  
Lizzie Shepherd, Waste Minimisation Team Leader

### **Appendices:**

[Click here to enter Appendices]

### **Background Papers:**

[recycling and waste strategy 2021 - 2030](#)