

Joint Scrutiny Panel of Somerset Waste Board

Wednesday 27 March 2019

2.00 pm Broughton House, Blackbrook
Park Avenue, Taunton



To: The Members of the Joint Scrutiny Panel of Somerset Waste Board

Cllr Aldridge, Cllr P Bradshaw, Cllr N Cottle, Cllr C Goodall, Cllr Gunner, Cllr M Lewis, Cllr L Leyshon, Cllr D Loveridge, Cllr Mansell, Cllr Parbrook, Cllr L Perry and Cllr M Wale

Issued By Julian Gale, Strategic Manager - Governance and Risk - 19 March 2019

For further information about the meeting, please contact Carol James on 01823 356859, cdjames@somerset.gov.uk or or Jamie Jackson on 01823 359040, jajackson@somerset.gov.uk

Guidance about procedures at the meeting follows the printed agenda.

This meeting will be open to the public and press, subject to the passing of any resolution under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972.

This agenda and the attached reports and background papers are available on request prior to the meeting in large print, Braille, audio tape & disc and can be translated into different languages. They can also be accessed via the council's website on www.somerset.gov.uk/agendasandpapers



RNID typetalk

AGENDA

Item Joint Scrutiny Panel of Somerset Waste Board - 2.00 pm Wednesday 27 March 2019

****Public Guidance notes contained in agenda annexe****

1 **Apologies for absence**

2 **Declarations of Interest**

Details of all Members' interests in District, Town and Parish Councils will be displayed in the meeting room. The Statutory Register of Member's Interests can be inspected via the Democratic Services team.

3 **Minutes from the previous meeting held on 13 February 2019 (Pages 7 - 10)**

The Committee is asked to confirm the minutes are accurate.

4 **Public Question Time**

The Chairman will allow members of the public to ask a question or make a statement about any matter on the agenda for this meeting. **These questions may be taken during the meeting, when the relevant agenda item is considered, at the Chairman's discretion.**

5 **Performance Update Q3 2018/19 including Risk and Health & Safety (Pages 11 - 34)**

The Committee is to consider the report.

6 **Recycle More preferred bidder (Pages 35 - 42)**

The Committee is to consider the report.

7 **Finance update 2018/19 (Pages 43 - 46)**

The Committee is to consider the report.

8 **SWP response to national government resources (Pages 47 - 56)**

The Committee is to consider the report.

9 **Exclusion of the Press and Public**

To consider passing a resolution having been duly proposed and seconded under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972 that the press and public be excluded during the remainder of the meeting on the basis that if they were present during the business to be transacted there would be a likelihood of disclosure to them of exempt information of the following description:

- Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

Item Joint Scrutiny Panel of Somerset Waste Board - 2.00 pm Wednesday 27 March 2019

Possible exclusion of the press and public

PLEASE NOTE: Although the main report for this item not confidential, supporting appendices available to Members contain exempt information and are therefore marked confidential – not for publication. At any point if Members wish to discuss information within this appendix then the Committee will be asked to agree the following resolution to exclude the press and public:

Exclusion of the Press and Public

To consider passing a resolution having been duly proposed and seconded under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude the press and public from the meeting, on the basis that if they were present during the business to be transacted there would be a likelihood of disclosure of exempt information, within the meaning of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972:

Reason: Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

10 **Any other urgent items of business**

The Chairman may raise any items of urgent business.

This page is intentionally left blank

Agenda Annexe

Guidance notes for the meeting

1. Inspection of Papers

Any person wishing to inspect Minutes, reports, or the background papers for any item on the Agenda should contact the Committee Administrator for the meeting – Carol James on Tel: (01823) 356859 or Email: CDJames@somerset.gov.uk They can also be accessed via the council's website on www.somerset.gov.uk/agendasandpapers

2. Members' Code of Conduct requirements

When considering the declaration of interests and their actions as a councillor, Members are reminded of the requirements of the Members' Code of Conduct and the underpinning Principles of Public Life: Honesty; Integrity; Selflessness; Objectivity; Accountability; Openness; Leadership. The Code of Conduct can be viewed at: <http://www.somerset.gov.uk/organisation/key-documents/the-councils-constitution/>

3. Minutes of the Meeting

Details of the issues discussed and recommendations made at the meeting will be set out in the Minutes, which the Committee will be asked to approve as a correct record at its next meeting.

4. Public Question Time

If you wish to speak, please tell Carol James the Committee's Administrator - by 12 noon the (working) day before the meeting.

At the Chair's invitation you may ask questions and/or make statements or comments about any matter on the Committee's agenda – providing you have given the required notice. You may also present a petition on any matter within the Committee's remit. The length of public question time will be no more than 30 minutes in total.

A slot for Public Question Time is set aside near the beginning of the meeting, after the minutes of the previous meeting have been signed. However, questions or statements about any matter on the Agenda for this meeting may be taken at the time when each matter is considered.

You must direct your questions and comments through the Chair. You may not take direct part in the debate. The Chair will decide when public participation is to finish.

If there are many people present at the meeting for one particular item, the Chair may adjourn the meeting to allow views to be expressed more freely. If an item on the Agenda is contentious, with a large number of people attending the meeting, a representative should be nominated to present the views of a group.

An issue will not be deferred just because you cannot be present for the meeting. Remember that the amount of time you speak will be restricted, normally to two minutes only.

5. Exclusion of Press & Public

If when considering an item on the Agenda, the Committee may consider it appropriate to pass a resolution under Section 100A (4) Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 that the press and public be excluded from the meeting on the basis that if they were present during the business to be transacted there would be a likelihood of disclosure of exempt information, as defined under the terms of the Act.

6. Committee Rooms & Council Chamber and hearing aid users

To assist hearing aid users the Committee meeting rooms have infra-red audio transmission systems.

7. Recording of meetings

The Council supports the principles of openness and transparency. It allows filming, recording and taking photographs at its meetings that are open to the public - providing this is done in a non-disruptive manner. Members of the public may use Facebook and Twitter or other forms of social media to report on proceedings and a designated area will be provided for anyone wishing to film part or all of the proceedings. No filming or recording may take place when the press and public are excluded for that part of the meeting. As a matter of courtesy to the public, anyone wishing to film or record proceedings is asked to provide reasonable notice to the Committee Administrator so that the relevant Chair can inform those present at the start of the meeting.

We would ask that, as far as possible, members of the public aren't filmed unless they are playing an active role such as speaking within a meeting and there may be occasions when speaking members of the public request not to be filmed.

The Council will be undertaking audio recording of some of its meetings in County Hall as part of its investigation into a business case for the recording and potential webcasting of meetings in the future.

A copy of the Council's Recording of Meetings Protocol should be on display at the meeting for inspection, alternatively contact the Committee Administrator for the meeting in advance.

JOINT SCRUTINY PANEL OF SOMERSET WASTE BOARD

Minutes of a Meeting of the Joint Scrutiny Panel of the Somerset Waste Board held at Broughton House, Blackbrook Park Avenue on Thursday 13 February 2019 at 2.00pm

Present: Cllr Aldridge, Cllr P Bradshaw, Cllr M Lewis, Cllr D Loveridge, Cllr Mansell, Cllr T Munt (Substitute for Cllr Leyshon) and Cllr Parbrook

Other Members Present: None

Apologies for Absence: Cllr L Leyshon and Cllr L Perry

36 Election of Chairman

In the absence of Cllr Lewis, and on the motion of Cllr Aldridge, seconded by Cllr Loveridge, Cllr Parbrook was elected Chairman for the meeting.

(Cllr Parbrook in the Chair)

37 Declarations of Interest - Agenda Item 2

Details of councillors' appointments to local authorities were displayed in the meeting room and therefore there was no need to verbally declare these as personal interests. There were no other declarations of interest. Cllr Loveridge declared a pecuniary interest as a Director of Homes in Sedgemoor.

38 Minutes from the Previous Meeting held on 6 December 2018 - Agenda Item 3

(a) Confirmation

The minutes of the meeting held on 6 December 2018 were accepted as being accurate by the Panel and signed by the Chair.

(b) Matters Arising

Further to Minute 31 (SWP Business Plan 2019 - 24), it was agreed that:

- where collectively supported views are expressed by Panel Members on any matter before the Panel, these should be conveyed to the Somerset Waste Board
- a copy of the paper on the structural review of the Somerset Waste Partnership would be circulated to the Panel.

39 Public Question Time - Agenda Item 4

There were no public questions.

The Panel considered the report of the Manager Director and the Finance Officer, Somerset Waste Partnership on the financial performance of the Somerset Waste Board against its approved annual budget for the first nine

months of the current financial year (2018/19) and how this had impacted on the forward budget for 2019/20.

The Somerset Waste Board, at its meeting on Friday 15 February 2019, would be recommended to approve: adding any remaining vehicle lease budgets to the Recycle More earmarked reserve towards the costs of delivering the project as set out in Paragraph 2.2 of the report; the waste disposal savings set out in Paragraph 3.2 of the report; the final annual budget for 2019/20 totalling £46,243,485 set out in Appendix 1 to the report; and the Managing Director negotiating any final requirements with relevant contractors.

The officers undertook to give a written response to a question about the possible implications for the calculation of the sparsity and other elements of budgetary contributions of the amalgamation of Taunton Deane and West Somerset to form the new Somerset West and Taunton Council. In response to another question, the Managing Director confirmed the basis on which the further savings of £225,000 requested from the Waste Board by the County Council and shown in Paragraph 3.2 of the report had been identified.

41

The Panel considered the report of the Managing Director on progress towards procuring a new collection contract with the aim of delivering significant savings to all partners as well as the environmental benefits of Recycle More, together with a supporting Powerpoint presentation,

The report and presentation - which were due to be considered by the Somerset Waste Board on 15 February 2019 - outlined progress on the dialogue with bidders and the drafting of contractual documents, pointing out that additional work on the works contract element and further dialogue with bidders was needed before final tender documents could be issued. In the circumstances:

- it would no longer be possible to have completed the dialogue process and the evaluation and moderation of bids ahead of the Somerset Waste Board meeting originally planned for 15 March 2019
- it was now proposed to reschedule the Board meeting to 29 March 2019 when it was expected that the Board would be in a position to appoint a preferred bidder, though the public announcement of the successful bidder would be delayed until after the District Council Elections in May 2019
- in the event of further delays or unforeseen circumstances, meaning that the Board would not be in a position to appoint a preferred contractor on 29 March 2019, it was proposed that there should be a fall-back option of updating the Board on the evaluation process and seeking delegated authority for the selection of a preferred bidder, to avoid further unacceptable delay in the procurement process.

The presentation also covered: affordability and the robust financial model for the contract evaluation which considered all elements (capital and revenue, current service, and Recycle More); the full procurement timetable, from the deadline for the submission of tenders to complete roll-out of Recycle More;

and key issues for successful service commencement relating to depots and vehicles.

During discussion, the Managing Director responded to queries and comments from Members on matters including the involvement of the new Somerset West and Taunton Council and its Shadow Authority in the procurement process.

The Board noted the position.

(Cllr Lewis in the Chair)

42 Resources and Waste Strategy Update - Agenda item 6

The Panel considered the report of the Managing Director on the Government's Resources and Waste Strategy which - in line with its 25 Year Environment Plan - sought to preserve resources by minimising waste, promoting resource efficiency and moving towards a circular economy (reuse, remanufacture, repair, recycle), together with a supporting Powerpoint presentation.

The report and presentation - which were due to be considered by the Somerset Waste Board on 15 February 2019 - covered the following key proposals:

- extended producer responsibility, under which producers would pay the full cost of recycling and disposing of their packaging
- reducing reliance on single-use plastics and increasing the carrier bag charge
- deposit return scheme for beverage containers
- separate food waste collections and possibly free garden collections for all
- consistency in recycling and improving quality
- developing reuse
- reviewing charging arrangements at recycling centres
- reviewing recycling credits
- aligning national planning policy with the waste strategy
- moving away from weight-based targets with a change in focus from waste to resources
- focus on waste crime and development of a national fly-tipping toolkit
- potential for a tax on energy from waste if other measures are not successful

and the implications for the Somerset Waste Partnership and its partners, and the next steps.

Overall SWP was well placed to deal with many areas of the Strategy, which was broadly welcomed, as it already offered food waste collections to a majority of households and a high quality kerbside sort recycling collection. The Government had recognised SWP's commitment to quality. However, there were major potential financial and other implications arising from key policies such as extended producer responsibility, the deposit return scheme and the possible introduction of free garden waste collections and revised

charging arrangements at recycling centres. The overall impact for Somerset and the SWP was hard to assess pending further, expected consultations and the finalisation of the Strategy which was unlikely to be introduced until 2023. The SWP would respond to the consultation on the Strategy working with others, and seeking to influence key proposals.

During discussion, the Managing Director responded to queries and comments from Members on matters including: the financial and other impacts of free garden waste collections; the high level of carbon emissions from waste incineration, better recovery/use of the heat generated from energy to waste schemes, and incentives; the manageability of the changes flowing from the Resources and Waste Strategy, taking into account the current waste and recycling collection contract procurement exercise; encouraging the organisers of large public events eg. music festivals to use recyclable food and drink containers and the return by consumers to manufacturers of food packaging eg. crisp packets.

43 Date of Next Meeting

Noted as Wednesday 27 March 2019 (2.00pm).

44 Any Other Urgent Items of Business - Agenda item 9

Joint Panel members commended the hard work undertaken by SWP staff during the recent severe weather.

(The meeting ended at 15.57pm)

CHAIRMAN

Somerset Waste Board meeting
29 March 2019
Report for information

Paper
Item No.

Performance Report Quarter 3 - October 2018 to December 2018

Lead Officer: Mickey Green, Managing Director
Author: John Helps, Performance Monitoring Officer
Contact Details: 01823 625705

Forward Plan Reference:	
Summary:	This report summarises the key performance indicators for the period from October 2018 to December 2018 and compares these to the same period last year where relevant. The report is presented in the new format previously agreed by the Board, which aims to give a more rounded view of performance.
Recommendations:	That the Somerset Waste Board notes the performance results in the Third Quarter Performance Management Report.
Reasons for recommendations:	Report for information only. Whilst this report sets out specific actions being taken to address areas of concern; the business plan sets out how we focus on improving performance.
Links to Priorities and Impact on Annual Business Plan:	Transparency – Publishing Key Performance Indicators
Financial, Legal and HR Implications:	No direct financial, legal or HR implications.
Equalities Implications:	No equalities implications
Risk Assessment:	Areas of poor performance inform our overall risk assessment. A summary of risk is now included within each quarterly performance report, showing our top risks, new risks, changes in risks and mitigating actions. A no deal Brexit risk register has also been developed by SWP and shared with all partners.

1. Background

- 1.1. As part of SWP’s drive for continuous improvement, and as agreed at the September 2018 Board, we have now moved to a new format of performance

report. This ensures that each quarter, Board Members receive an update on progress in delivering the business plan, key risks, health and safety, recycling metrics (including tonnage, percentage and national indicator suite), end use, missed collections, fly-tipping, financial performance (noting that a separate finance report is still provided) and communications/customers. Subject to the views of the board, we will continue to improve how we report performance in the future to the board.

2. Summary

2.1. Key headlines are:

- **Tonnages:** Residual waste is down 3.1% on the previous year, mainly driven by the lower garden waste in the hot, dry summer. Lower levels of garden waste also affected our recycling rate (down 0.6% to 53.1%) and the number of visits to our recycling centres (down 2.5%).
- **Missed collections:** Q3 saw a continued improvement in the level of missed collections after the issues experienced in the Summer. We continue to work closely with Kier on issues of service quality.
- **End use:** SWP continues to see strong demand from UK based reprocessors for the high-quality materials we collect. In Q3 over 94% of all the recycling we collected stayed in the UK. The plastic pots, tubs and trays (and plastic bottle) banks at recycling centres are proving particularly effective – over 50 tonnes was sent to be reprocessed in Kent in this quarter.
- **Business Plan:** All key projects in our Business Plan continue to progress well, with over 100 schools visited, our collection contract procurement on track, as is our move away from landfill.

3. Consultations Undertaken

- 3.1. Consultation on findings in this report have been undertaken with SWP's Senior Management Group (officer representatives from partner authorities) and with SWP's Senior Management Team. SWP (via the Joint Civil Contingencies Unit) is involved in two-way updates about no-deal planning.

4. Implications

4.1. Key implications of the performance data are:

- Continued focus on developing a new CRM system and strengthening governance arrangements with partners around these technology-enabled changes
- Responding to 4 significant national Government consultations, working closely with partners and lobbying where proposals may have a significant detrimental impact on Somerset
- Continuing to progress work to mobilise a new collection contractor and implement Recycle More (especially around planning communications)
- Plan for the closure of the Broadpath Landfill site
- Communicate changes to Recycling Centre opening hours
- Continuously reviewing and updating our 'no deal' Brexit risk register. A

verbal update will be provided at the meeting, as things are likely to have moved on considerably between the point of writing this report and the board meeting.

- Develop new ways of communicating our end use register to the public (particularly for social media) to build further trust in what happens to people's recycling
- Ongoing work required with Kier to manage service quality during the remainder of the contract (to March 2020)
- Continue to closely monitor budgets and spend

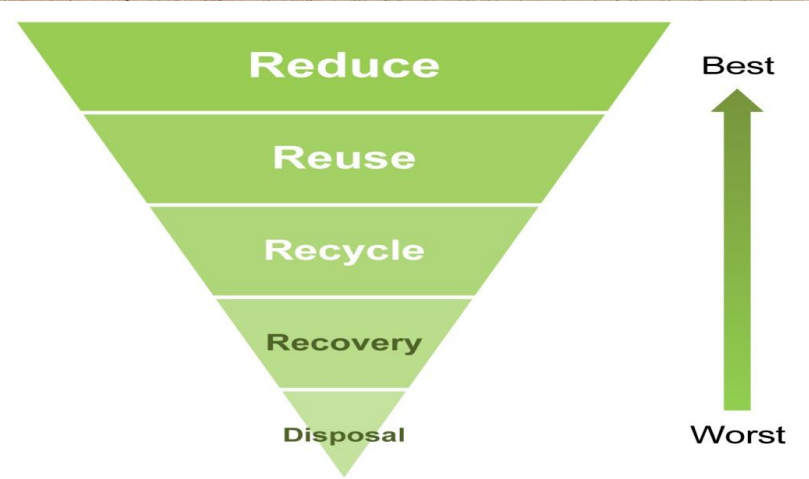
5. Background papers

5.1. Performance Monitoring Report Q3 2018-19 (Appendix 1)

This page is intentionally left blank

Somerset Waste Board Third Quarter 2018-19

PERFORMANCE REPORT



Our Vision

Who we are: Somerset's Local Authorities working together as the Somerset Waste Partnership, ensuring that our household waste is reduced, collected, reused, recycled and effectively treated.

What we do:

- Preserve our environment by making every effort to ensure our household waste is not waste but reused as a valuable resource.
- Deliver excellent customer service and value for money to create a more sustainable Somerset.

What we are aiming to become:

An exemplar for how we manage waste as a resource, work with others and support our residents to manage their household waste and make our service the best it can be.

Our values

- **Insight:** Working with our partners to understand how and why people behave as they do and use this knowledge to shape our service.
- **Collaboration:** Treating everyone we work with as an equal, knowing we have greater success when we work together.
- **Innovation:** Learning from others and constantly looking at new ways of working to give the best service we can.
- **Quality:** Focusing on excellent customer service and making the best use of the waste we collect.

Business Plan

Our Business Plan explains how we will work towards this Vision over the next five years, with a particular focus on current year actions. The Business Plan contains three areas of focus, beneath which sit a range of activities.

Background

Somerset Waste Partnership (SWP) was established in 2007 to manage waste services on behalf of Mendip, Sedgemoor, South Somerset and West Somerset District Councils, Taunton Deane Borough Council and Somerset County Council. This made it the first county-wide waste partnership in the country. SWP has delegated authority to deliver household waste and recycling services throughout Somerset, including management of kerbside collections, recycling sites and disposal sites. These duties are in turn contracted to Kier (collection services) and Viridor Plc (recycling sites, landfill sites and waste disposal). SWP is accountable to the Somerset Waste Board (SWB), which consists of two elected members from each of the partner authorities. For further information please visit www.somersetwaste.gov.uk

Somerset Waste Partnership Business Plan 2018-2023

Building Capability

- Improving Intelligence
 - Review performance data procedures
 - Improve integrity of service data
- Developing systems
 - Develop ICT strategy
 - New Customer Service systems
 - Website Upgrades
 - Develop and launch Mobile App
 - Round management and performance software
- Understanding behaviour
 - Waste Composition Analysis
- Internal Review
 - Review of SWP staffing structures
 - Manage SWP office move
- Developing influence
 - Embed waste requirements in planning guidance to ensure new developments take full account of waste

Action on Waste Prevention, Reuse, Recycling and Recovery

- Implementing future collection arrangements (Recycle More model)
 - Procure provider for collection services from 28 March 2020
 - Explore early introduction of household battery collections and trialling ways to increase capture of small waste electricals
 - Initiate vehicle procurement
- Reducing cost and impact of waste
 - Targeted waste prevention and minimisation activities
 - Pilot SWP Education Service
 - Continue to explore effective media for communicating messages
 - Refresh SWP Waste Prevention Strategy
- Infrastructure
 - Oversee development of Infrastructure required to deliver new residual waste treatment

Maintaining Services and Operational Effectiveness

- Viridor Core Services Contract Review
- Active management of collection service contract
- Review waste services Fees and Charges structures, admin. costs and implications of varying charges
- Recycling Site Maintenance
- Assess impact of changes to legislative framework, including removal of powers to designate Community Recycling Sites and to charge for non-household waste at Recycling Sites
- Plan for Broadpath Landfill Site closure
- Plan for Dimmer transition
- Plan for a potential new Council for Taunton Deane and West Somerset following the Government's announcement that it is 'minded to' approve it

Purpose of the Report

This report reflects the SWP's ongoing progress towards the priorities laid out in the Business Plan.

This report sets out the key activities and measures used to check our performance for the year against the priorities we are working towards. It doesn't cover everything we do, but does set out the aspects of our work that are most relevant to the Somerset Waste Board.

Further information about how the Somerset Waste Partnership monitors and reports on performance can be found on the SWP website

www.somersetwaste.gov.uk

Key to KPI ratings used

This report includes Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), where progress is assessed against targets and project updates.

Performance is shown using Performance Ratings, progress is shown in terms of Direction of Performance (DOP) through the use of arrows.

Performance Rating



Performance is on or exceeding target
Project is on target



Performance is off target but within tolerance
Project requires attention



Performance is off target outside tolerance
Project is off target

Direction of Performance



Performance is improving



























Performance is steady



Performance is declining

Executive Summary - Third Quarter 2018-19 (Submitted to 29th March 2019 Somerset Waste Board)

Measure	Headlines	Performance Rating	Performance Indicator
Business Plan Progress: Building Capability	Our key project is to implement a new customer service system (mobile/online reporting and linking to in-cab technology). Additional work has been scoped and costed to align with new/planned partner authority CRM systems. The SWP staff restructure is largely complete, and we moved offices on 7 December.		
Business Plan Progress: Action on waste prevention, reuse, recycling and recovery	SWP remains on track in the major procurement exercise it is undertaking to secure a new collection contractor, and to transition away from landfill by 2020. The pilot SWP education service has been a success, as has our refreshed social media strategy and focus on plastics.		
Business Plan Progress: Maintaining services and operational effectiveness	The Viridor Core Services contract extension has been agreed. We continue to actively manage the collection contract and performance continues to improve (though there is still further to go). SWP will be responding to Government's 4 major consultations on waste and resources.		
Risks	A 'no deal Brexit' risk register has been developed and shared with partners. Our top 2 other risks are: 1. Inefficiencies due to customer services and partners IT systems not being joined up. 2. Lack of resources and complexity around implementation of new Customer service system.		
Health & Safety	At our recycling centres the ratio of accidents increased slightly to 1.46 per 100,000 visits, up from 1.08 per 100,000 in the previous quarter. There were no serious incidents. 9 accidents to Kier operational staff and 577 near misses reported (both a reduction on Qtrs 1&2).		
Waste Minimisation	The hot dry summer resulted in reductions in garden waste at the kerbside, at recycling centres (and probably contributed to reductions in residual waste). Total household arising for Q1 - Q3 were 756.6kg/hh, around 3.1% down on the previous year.		
All Recycling & Recycling Sites	Our recycling rate (NI192) fell by 0.6% to 53.1% compared to 2017-18, MAINLY driven by a reduction in garden waste of over 3,000 tonnes. Dry recycling fell 195 tonnes, with reductions in paper and cans, but increases in wood, clothes/shoes and glass. Visits to recycling centres fell 2.5% compared to 2017-18.		
End Use of Materials	SWP continues to see strong demand from UK based reprocessors for our high quality materials. In Q3 over half stayed in Somerset and 94.1% stayed in the UK. The plastic pots, tubs and trays (and plastic bottle) banks at recycling centres are popular - with 50 tonnes being sent to Kent for reprocessing in Q3.		
Missed Collections	Q3 saw a continued improvement in the level of missed collections after the issues experienced in the Summer. The number of missed collections in Q3 was 1.014 per 1,000 collections - an improving trend, but below the level for Q1-Q2 of 1.548. We continue to work closely with Kier to address this.		
Fly Tipping	An overall decrease of -324 fly tips, from 3,414 in 2017-18 to 3,090 in 2018-19, which bucks the national trend of rising levels of fly-tips. There is no evidence of any negative impact from any of SWP's actions.		
Financial Performance	At the end of Q3 (December 2018) SWP continue to show a forecast budget underspend for the year. Emerging trends since then suggest that tonnages (in particular green waste) continue the downward trend seen in the first two quarters of 2018-19.		
Customer Interaction & Communications	Almost 200,000 hits on the Somerset Waste Partnership website in Q3, over 4,000 facebook followers, 4,000 readers of our monthly e-zine ('Sorted'), another 10,000 Pledge against Preventable Plastic Cards printed, and over 100 schools visited. Complaints from customers continued to fall over this period.		



Why do we measure and report this?

This part of the 2018-2023 Business Plan set out what we needed to do in order to ensure that SWP is an organisation that is able to work intelligently to improve delivery of the financial, social and environmental benefits of an effective resource management service.

What are the actions in this part of the Business Plan

- 1) **Improving Intelligence**
 - Review performance data procedures & improve integrity of service data.
- 2) **Developing systems**
 - Develop ICT strategy, new Customer Service systems, website upgrades, develop and launch Mobile App, implement round management and performance software.
- 3) **Understanding behaviour:** Waste Composition Analysis.
- 4) **Internal Review:**
 - a) Review of SWP staffing structures.
 - b) Manage SWP office move.
- 5) **Developing influence:** Embed waste requirements in planning guidance to ensure new developments take full account of waste.

What have we achieved so far this year?

- 1) **Improving Intelligence:** A deep dive into missed collections undertaken and follow up work has identified a number of improvements to our data procedures, and given us a much greater understanding of service performance. The scope of internal audit for 2018-19 was refocussed onto issues of data quality and information flows. Initial fieldwork by SWAP has been undertaken, and will be reviewed by SWP and SMG to focus further work.
- 2) **Developing systems:** The implementation of a new customer service system is ongoing. SWP have been working closely with partners to ensure that we are able to offer both Direct Access and system integration (as different partners have different needs) in a way which is legally compliant (reflecting SWP's statutory duties and data controller responsibility) and which aligns with the mobilisation timescale for the new contract. A way forward has been agreed with partners via SMG and the technical details have been scoped. Wisper hosting successfully moved from TDBC to SCC.
- 3) **Understanding behaviour:** Waste Composition and Participation analysis was undertaken for SWP by Resource Futures in late Spring and reported to SWP in Summer 2018.
- 4) **Internal Review:** This aims to ensure that SWP has the capability, skills, capacity and structure appropriate to respond to all our pressures and opportunities. All but one post (the new Strategy, Behaviour Change and Communications Manager) have been filled. Transition to Office 365 and office move successfully completed.
- 5) **Developing influence:** Developer guidance has been shared with all partners, working through SMG. This remains ongoing.

What are we focussing on next?

- 1) **Improving Intelligence:** Ensuring new developments are planned with waste in mind is the top priority area - resource has been allocated within SWP to drive this forward. SWP exploring waste/recycling benchmarking club through Adept.
- 2) **Developing influence:** Ongoing discussions with SCC around SPD, and with SMG to embed the existing developer guidance within local development plans, and to improve the way this is applied.
- 3) **Developing systems:** Technical and legal sign-off to the scope of additional work necessary to ensure SWP system aligns with emerging partner CRM systems.
- 4) **Understanding behaviour:** Review the waste composition and participation analysis to inform and integrate future strategy and plans. A report will be brought to the board summarising the findings.
- 5) **Respond to 4 consultations launched on 18 February 2019:** The changes proposed are significant, and whilst the broad thrust of the proposals are strongly welcomed by SWP, there are significant risks to us in some of the detailed proposals.
- 6) **Internal Review:** Undertake external recruitment to Strategy, Behaviour Change and Communications Manager post. This will be regionally and nationally advertised (as well as within partner authorities) to ensure we can pick from the widest pool of talent. Transition to new structure, identifying opportunities to improve ways of working.

What will success look like by the end of the 2018-19 financial year?

- 1) **Improving Intelligence:** SWAP review identified clear actions to improve key processes. Agreed way forward to improve planning for waste.
- 2) **Developing systems:** A new customer service system is nearing readiness to launch, enabling SWP to focus work with a future collection contractor on aligning with in-cab/new system. Project plan to develop and implement an app is in place.
- 3) **Understanding behaviour:** Analysis of Waste Composition and Participation review undertaken, reported to the board, and embedded in our future plans and strategies.
- 4) **Internal Review:** Revised structure is in place, new office move completed with minimal disruption, safe transition to Office 365 and new cloud based systems enable processes and working practices to be improved. Office move successfully undertaken, supporting more effective ways of working.
- 5) **Developing influence:** All partners have engaged with their planning teams/other relevant stakeholders to ensure they are aware of and effectively use SWP developer guidance; agreed with SCC and partners how best to give our developer guidance teeth and developed a project plan
- 6) **Respond to 4 national consultations:** SWP has a response agreed with partners and is influential on government policy, promoting the many positive aspects of the strategy and addressing the risk areas for Somerset.



Why do we measure and report this?

An important part of the governance of the Somerset Waste Partnership is our annually updated and approved Business Plan, this highlights the major tasks and challenges we face over the coming 5 years and is therefore vital that we keep the Members updated on progress.

What are the main Business Plan items that we are focusing on right now?

What has changed since the last time we reported?

- 1) **Implementing future collection arrangements** (Recycle More model):
 - a) Procure provider for collection services from 28 March 2020.
 - b) Explore early introduction of household battery collections and trialling ways to increase capture of small waste electricals.
 - c) Initiate vehicle procurement.
- 2) **Reducing cost and impact of waste:**
 - a) Targeted waste prevention and minimisation activities.
 - b) Pilot SWP Education Service.
 - c) Continue to explore effective media for communicating messages.
 - d) Refresh SWP Waste Prevention Strategy.
- 3) **Infrastructure:** Oversee development of Infrastructure required to deliver new residual waste treatment.

- 1) **Implementing future collection arrangements** (Recycle More model):
 - a) The procurement process for a new collection contractor is nearing completion, with final tenders being received on 27 February, and confidential SWB decision on preferred bidder on 29 March.
 - b) As set out in the Q1 report it is unlikely that we will be able to introduce the early collection of household batteries or trial ways to increase capture of small WEEE. However, SWP have introduced the recycling of plastic food PTT at all recycling sites.
- 2) **Reducing cost and impact of waste:**
 - a) The SWP Education Service has been successfully piloted - reaching over 100 primary schools across Somerset. Feedback from schools and pupils has been excellent.
 - b) Pledge Against Preventable Plastic continues to be distributed through schools and other partnerships.
 - c) c.1,500 new subscribers to SWPs 'Sorted' e-newsletter through 2 promotions working with libraries (distributing free food waste liners).
 - d) Joint working with a number of Somerset Credit Unions to reduce food waste.
- 3) **Infrastructure:** The development of the infrastructure for residual waste treatment is on track (Avonmouth RRC and the two transfer stations) and SWP will move away from landfill by 2020.

What are we focussing on next?

What will success look like by the end of the 2018-19 financial year?

- 1) **Implementing future collection arrangements** (Recycle More model):
 - a) Evaluation of bids and pdecision making on the preferred bidder for the new collection contract.
 - b) Planning for the post-preferred bidder stage as we rapidly move to contract award and bidder procures a new fleet, and keeping partners closely engaged
- 2) **Reducing cost and impact of waste:**
 - a) Plastic will continue to be a high priority. SWP seeking to conclude advice to communities that want to collect PTT at a central point.
 - b) Developing the specification for the proposed 2 year extension to the Schools Against Waste Programme (so Somerset's primary schools are visited in the first 3 years of this programme), to include working with schools to improve their recycling rate. A temporary extension has been agreed so that we can involve the successful collection contractor in our future approaches with schools.
 - c) The SWP Waste Prevention Strategy will be broadened into a waste minimisation strategy and will be informed by the Central Government resources & waste strategy and the detail available in the consultation.
- 3) **Infrastructure:** Development of transfer stations and Avonmouth Energy from Waste plant is on track. SWP expands trials of EfW/landfill separation at recyclign centres.

- 1) **Implementing future collection arrangements** (Recycle More model):
 - a) A new collection contractor has been procured, and transition planning has commenced ahead of mobilisation in Spring 2020.
 - b) We have clarity on vehicles and can commence work to procurement a new fleet.
- 2) **Reducing cost and impact of waste:**
 - a) Targeted waste prevention and minimisation activities have been successful and managed volume growth, delivering our stretch savings targets.
 - b) A specification for the 2 year contract for the Schools against Waste Programme has been developed (ready to be informed by the new collection contractor) enabling the current success to continue, with a more well developed support to schools to improve their own recycling.
 - c) Our social media strategy continues to be successful (building on the doubling of Facebook followers so far), enabling us to cost-effectively influence more people.
 - d) A project plan for a SWP Waste Minimisation Strategy has been developed and SWP has responded to national consultations, which SWP has been influential in shaping.
- 3) **Infrastructure:** The development of the infrastructure required to move SWP away from landfill by 2020 remains on track.



Why do we measure and report this?

The actions in this element of the 2018-2023 Business Plan ensures the day to day functions of the SWP are delivered effectively and safely, focussing on maintaining the quality of service, predicting risks and preventing issues arising.

What are the main Business Plan items that we are focusing on right now?

- 1) **Viridor Core Services Contract Review.**
- 2) **Active management of Collection Service Contract.**
- 3) **Review waste services Fees and Charges structures, admin. costs and implications of varying charges.**
- 4) **Recycling Site Maintenance.**
- 5) **Assess impact of changes to legislative framework.**
- 6) **Plan for Broadpath Landfill Site.**
- 7) **Dimmer transition.**
- 8) **Plan for a new Council.**

What has changed since the last time we reported?

- 1) **Viridor Core Services Contract Extension:** Since SWB and Viridor/Pennon agreement in November we have been undertaking the necessary legal work to put in place the contract extension.
- 2) **Active management of collection service contract:** Whilst areas of service quality are still not where we want them to be, the upward trajectory has been maintained. Planning for Summer pressures has commenced.
- 3) **Review waste services Fees and Charges:** To be undertaken once we have a new contractor as this will influence fees, charges and processes.
- 4) **Recycling Site Maintenance:** On track, including repair of staff facilities at Dulverton.
- 5) **Assess impact of changes to legislative framework:** SWP MD has liaised closely with central Government to understand and influence the direction of travel on policy. The strategy has been published (with SWP the only LA case study) and consultations recently released.
- 6) **Plan for Broadpath Landfill Site:** Closure is likely to be in April or May, and the operational impact on collections (primarily affecting the Wellington area) is underway.
- 7) **Dimmer transition:** On track.
- 8) **Plan for a new Council** for Taunton Deane and West Somerset: Principles agreed and reflected in draft budget. Partner authorities have agreed the minor revisions necessary to the IAA.

What are we focussing on next?

- 1) **Viridor Core Services Contract Extension:** Signing and sealing of contract extension. Publicity ahead of changed hours from April 2019 (e.g. site specific leaflets).
- 2) **Active management of collection service contract:** Ongoing regular meetings with senior management, ongoing performance deductions where merited, work with Kier to ensure there is a plan through to the end of the contract life.
- 3) **Review waste services Fees and Charges:** Preparing for dialogue with preferred supplier to inform our thinking (esp. on garden waste and bulky waste/reuse), responding to national government consultation.
- 4) **Recycling Site Maintenance:** Remain on track.
- 5) **Assess impact of changes to legislative framework:** Continue to seek opportunities to influence Government, analyse and respond to consultations (working with partners) and seeking opportunities to influence Government.
- 6) **Plan for Broadpath Landfill Site closure:** Review and agree plans being developed by Kier.
- 7) **Dimmer transition:** Ensure on track.
- 8) **Plan for a new Council for Taunton Deane and West Somerset:** Ensure necessary decisions are taken by SWB following partner decisions.

What will success look like by the end of the 2018-19 financial year?

- 1) **Viridor Core Services Contract Review:** Implementation plans are well on track - the public are aware (and supportive) and staff are content.
- 2) **Active management of collection service contract:** Service quality is returning towards the long term acceptable level, and the issues identified with missed collections (e.g. assisted collection, repeat missed) have been resolved.
- 3) **Review waste services Fees and Charges:** Having awarded a contract to a new supplier we are ready to commence work on a review of fees and charges. We will have commenced work on a review of the HWRC permits scheme.
- 4) **Recycling Site Maintenance:** Remain on track.
- 5) **Assess impact of changes to legislative framework:** SWP is influential at the national level.
- 6) **Plan for Broadpath Landfill Site closure & 7) Dimmer transition:** Plans on track and impacts mitigated.
- 7) **Plan for a new Council** for Taunton Deane and West Somerset: Constitutional changes and budgetary changes all approved and we seamlessly transition to working with the new authority.



Why do we measure and report this?

Whilst our full risk register is brought to the Board annually, SWP keeps these risks under constant review. It is important to investigate, highlight and where possible mitigate against known upcoming risks in order to ensure we remain operationally effective in the services we provide, whilst building capability to deal with future challenges.

What are the risks that we should be focusing on right now?

Our 11 'red' risks are:

- 1) Inefficiencies due to customer services and partners IT systems not being joined up.
- 2) Lack of resources and complexity around implementation of new Customer service system.
- 3) Health and Safety of staff and public at kerbside and recycling sites.
- 4) Financial pressures of the partners.
- 5) Ageing fleet of vehicles becoming unreliable.
- 6) Service degradation as the contract comes to an end.
- 7) Driver and loader shortages on kerbside collections.
- 8) Reduction in contractor's management team, or frontline staff.
- 9) Legislation changes requiring separate food and free garden waste collections for all.
- 10) Legislation changes preventing charging for non-household waste at Recycling Centres.
- 11) Legislation changes requiring minimum standards for collection services.

What has changed since the last time we reported?

	Risk No.	Risk Summary	Current Rating (Previous)
New Risks and opportunities:	Op 8	Opportunity to support businesses and consumers to Recycle More as a result of policy change proposed in the Resources and Waste Strategy.	9 (-)
	44	Legislation changes requiring minimum standards for collection services.	16 (-)
Increased Risks and opportunities:	Op 7	Extended Producer responsibility meaning producers pay for recycling/disposal and increased funding for LAs to provide collection services.	16 (12)
Reduced Risks:	14	Uncertainty about Recycle More or other similar procurements taking place at the same time meaning bidders drop out during the procurement process.	2 (4)

SWP have also developed a 'no deal Brexit' risk register, considering workforce, supply chain, data, financial and other risks. Our highest risks relate to the vehicle supply chain (for existing and future fleet), the collection workforce (though less than 5% of workforce are from elsewhere in the EU), and potential impacts on inflation and exchange rates. Whilst much of this is beyond our control, SWP have liaised closely with contractors and potential vehicle suppliers to mitigate risks.

What are we doing to ensure these risks are managed?

- 1-2) Increased SMG oversight, additional SWP resources, including increased ICT and legal support, partner ICT involvement in collection contract procurement process, joint working with partners to identify options on CRM system implementation.
- 3) Regular monitoring, supporting Kier in liaison with police to ensure dangerous driving from the general public is robustly addressed.
- 4) Close liaison between SWP MD and partners to understand impact on SWP. Finance paper sets out how SWP propose to meet SCC savings requirements for 2019-20, without impacting on our ability to deliver the SWB vision.
- 5-8) Regular monitoring through operational meetings and senior manager meetings, penalties for poor performance, working closely with Kier on recruitment and retention, increased direct engagement with front-line staff by SWP, continued secondment of experienced staff to Kier.
- 9-11) Review and respond to Resources and Waste Strategy Consultations. Engage with partners and other LAs nationally.

Op 8) Review and respond to Resources and Waste Strategy Consultations. Consider as part of SWP Strategy review.

What will success look like in terms of managing risks?

Future success would mean an overall reduction in our risk profile, (e.g. fewer 'reds') and success of the mitigation measures we've put in place.

- 1-2) New customer service systems being introduced, adding flexibility and efficiency which will enable integration with next generation IT, including collection service "in-cab" and tracking systems. All this should improve the customer experience. Agreement with District partners on a way to align this with District CRM systems. Capacity and capability to implement. Development work on track.
- 3) The issues inherent with the service are well managed, and Avon & Somerset police take our concerns seriously.
- 4) SWP continues to have the budget available to deliver the Board's vision whilst meeting partners' saving requirements, and this doesn't affect the excellent working arrangements with SWB.
- 5-8) We can see the improvement in Kier's performance and they are on track to deliver their commitment to SWP (in the early termination agreement) that there will be no service degradation ahead of the end of the contract.
- 9-11) A comprehensive response from SWP and LAs nationally helping to shape national policy. Funding from the government to implement any required changes.



Why do we measure and report this?

The Waste Management sector has an injury and fatality rate significantly higher than the all-industry average. Health and Safety management within the scope of the Somerset Waste Partnership has therefore always had a very high profile. A public report on a quarterly basis helps maintain awareness, gives transparency and keeps members up to date on performance.

Viridor - H&S Performance and Initiatives

The Viridor report for H&S this period shows: No accidents notified under the Reporting of Injuries Diseases & Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR) and no Environmental Incidents reported.

Recorded injuries to members of the public was 5, all for cuts (no contributing factor from sites). For comparison, that is half the previous 6 month figure, but as the number of site visits that injuries are measured against reduced over the late autumn/early winter period, the accident frequency has increased to 1.46 accidents per 100,000 site visits. The previously reported figure was 1.08.

Accidents to Viridor employees per 100,000 hours worked is 6.6, identical to the previous 6 month report. Near Miss (NM) reporting dropped to 35 for the 3 months, a reduction of 35%. This NM decrease has been recognised and Viridor refresher training is underway as part of their regular training programme.

Viridor's current H&S initiatives and current focus are: The continued roll out of HomeSafe, aimed at staff getting home injury free: Recycling Site Traffic Management plans and infrastructure (aimed at further reviewing site safety) has begun in partnership with SWP Officers. This will continue into the summer.

Kier ES - H&S Performance and Initiatives

The number of reported accidents to Kier operational staff is down to 9 for Qtr 3 of the 2018-19 period, compared to 33 for the previous 6 month report (Qtrs 1&2).

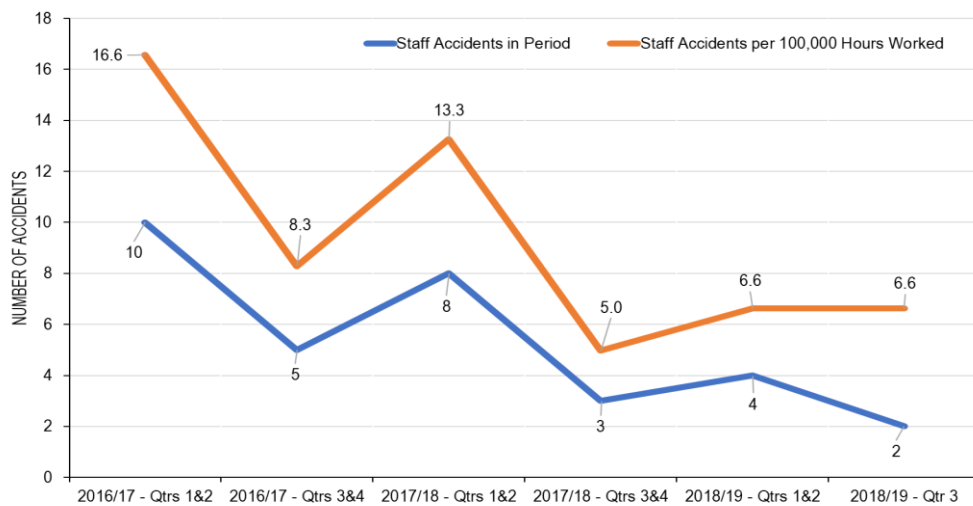
Although the reduction in reporting period from 6 months to 3 is an obvious contributing factor, it is still a notable reduction overall and reflected in the figure of 3.8 accidents per 100,000 hours worked; the lowest ever on the Somerset contract. The fact that this calculation uses the number of accidents calculated against a constant number of hours worked, gives an accurate reflection in the accident trend graph below.

There were no injuries to members of the public, or incidents reported under the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR).

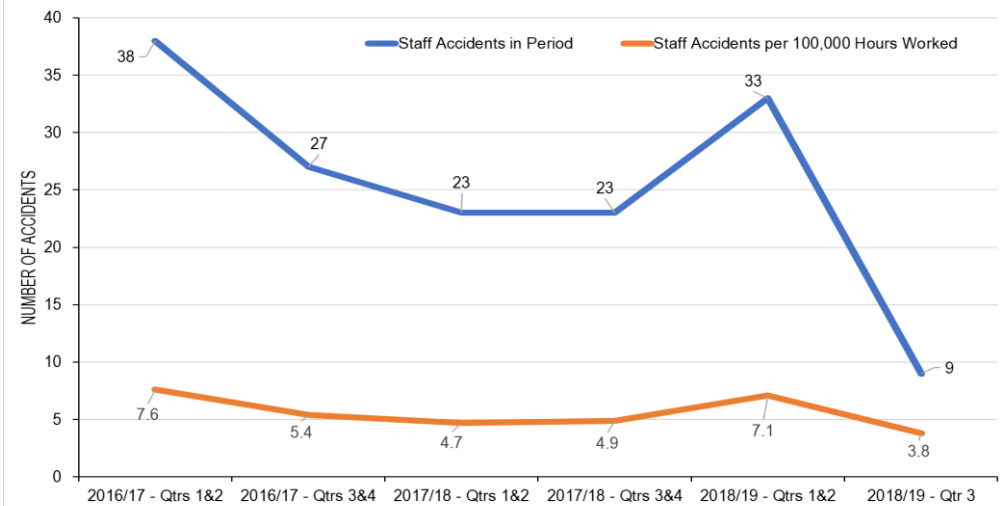
Near Miss (NM) reports used to identify potential hazards for further review has decreased when measured against the previous report. It is given as 577 for Qtr 3 (previously 1,837). Kier monitor these reports constantly to invoke any actions needed or plan required training through the use of 'toolbox talks' (subject specific training modules). As a high number of NM's is always seen as proactive and a positive, this reduction has resulted in further training for 'hazard identification' being instigated and ongoing.

Page 24

Viridor - What does H&S performance look like on Somerset Recycling Sites



Kier ES - H&S performance figures for Kier employees



Why do we measure and report this?

In accordance with the waste hierarchy, reducing the amount of waste that is generated in the first place, is the best environmental (and financial) outcome. Reporting on the amount of waste overall (and residual waste in particular) that each household in Somerset generates, ensures we continue to target the minimisation of residual waste, in addition to ensuring that we treat what waste does arise as a valuable resource.

What tonnage have we had to handle this quarter?

Over Q1 - Q3 the total waste Reused, Recycled & Composted decreased by -13.69kg/hh, with -7.87kg/hh of material lost at the kerbside and -5.82kg/hh from recycling sites. Of these amounts, green garden waste from the kerbside accounted for -5.36kg/hh, with -7.65kg/hh of green garden waste coming from the sites.

There was also a corresponding decrease in the amount of household residual waste disposed of -3.62kg/hh, with -5.82kg/hh from kerbside, offset by an increase at the recycling sites of 2.19kg/hh. This brought the Total Household Arisings to 756.60kg/hh for the first three quarters, with a continuing overall decrease of -17.32kg/hh, the majority of which -13.69kg/hh coming from the kerbside service.

This resulted in an overall cumulative performance for NI 191:

Residual Household Waste per Household (kg/hh) = **355.23kg/hh**

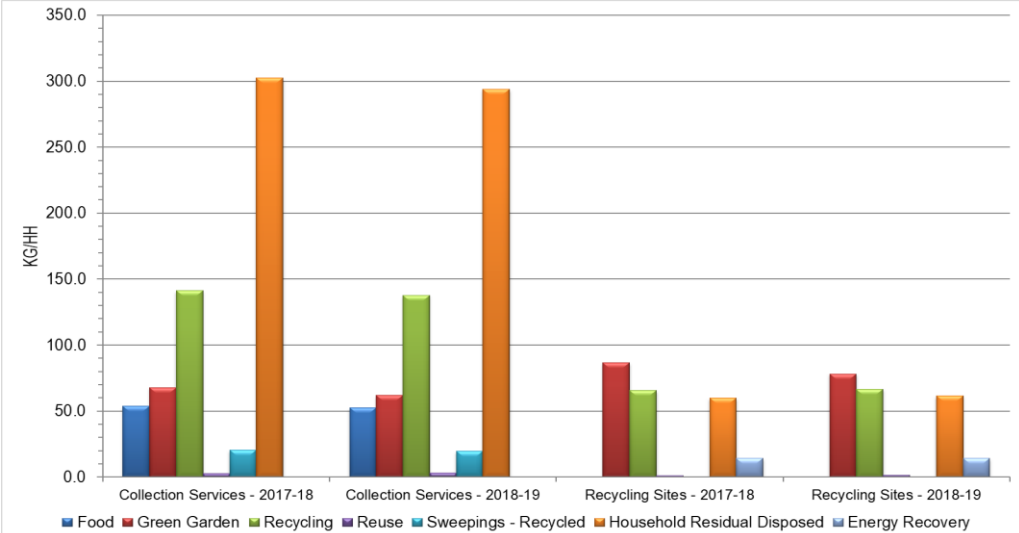
A decrease of almost **7kg/hh** from the previous year's **366.22kg/hh**.

We also had a cumulative performance for NI 193:

Percentage of municipal waste landfilled = **45.83%**

An increase of nearly **1%** from the previous year's **44.83%**

This will of course start reducing significantly when we start sending Somerset's residual waste to the new Avonmouth RRC towards the end of this year.



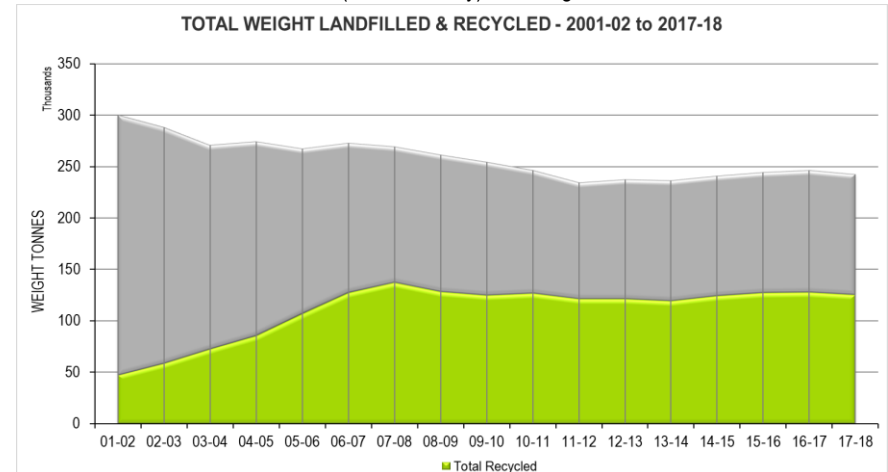
What are we doing to ensure we continue to improve?

Various initiatives have either commenced, or are planned to do so over the next 12-18 months, some of which include:

- 1) Schools education programme.
- 2) Recycle More, which will include the introduction of PTT, cartons, battery collections and increasing the capture of small electricals.
- 3) Food waste participation campaign.
- 4) Increasing targeted social media publicity.
- 5) A new draft Waste Minimisation Strategy - informed by expected national policy, this will include setting targets and considering how we report waste minimisation.
- 6) Moving away from landfill by 2020.
- 7) Focus on plastics.
- 8) Focus on reuse as set out in Business Plan 2019-2024.
- 9) Ensuring new developments are planned with waste in mind.

What will future success look like?

A reduction in the amount of household waste we handle, with more used as a resource - tackling the stagnation that has been seen in Somerset (and nationally) in driving down waste.

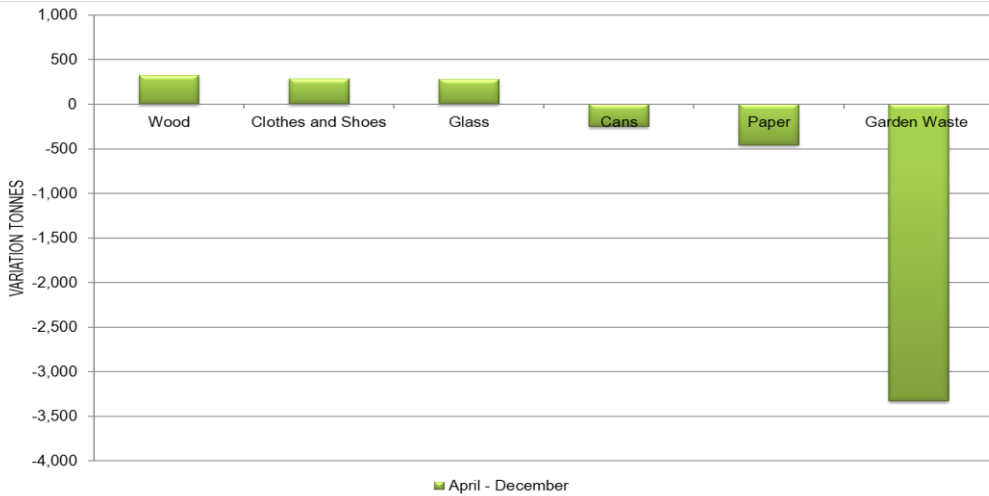




Why do we measure and report this?

Where waste does arise, the best thing that can be done with it is that it is recycled. The recycling rate at kerbside and at our recycling centres helps keep track of how we are managing our household waste, ensuring we are pushing as much of it as we can up the waste hierarchy to derive the most benefit from it, whilst keeping our costs down.

What has happened in this quarter?



What has driven the changes in this quarter?

SWP's overall recycling rate for April - December 2018 decreased slightly compared to the same period last year. This was driven by a decrease in the recycling rate at the kerbside 46.49%, as well as at the recycling sites 70.38%. The main drivers continued to be decreases in garden waste across both the kerbside and recycling sites, as well as dry recycling at the kerbside.

The significant reduction in garden waste was seen across both the kerbside collections, down -1,372 tonnes and the recycling sites, down -1,959 tonnes and was a result of the exceptionally hot and dry summer.

Materials that saw significant changes in the weight collected compared to the same period last year were: Garden waste down -3,331 tonnes, paper down -458 tonnes and cans down -253 tonnes.

These were all offset slightly by an increase in the amount of wood recycled, up 322 tonnes, clothes and shoes up 284 tonnes and glass up 282 tonnes.

Recycling and reuse rate (NI192) for Apr-Dec 2018: 53.05% (decrease of -0.58% over previous year)

What are we doing to ensure we continue to improve?

Work continues on contract procurement for the new Recycle More service. Construction of the new Resource Recovery Centre at Avonmouth to move us away from landfilling our residual waste, which will greatly improve the result for NI 193 in around 15 months time. More detail on these two major projects can be found in the Business Plan section of this report.

What will future success look like and what are we doing about it?

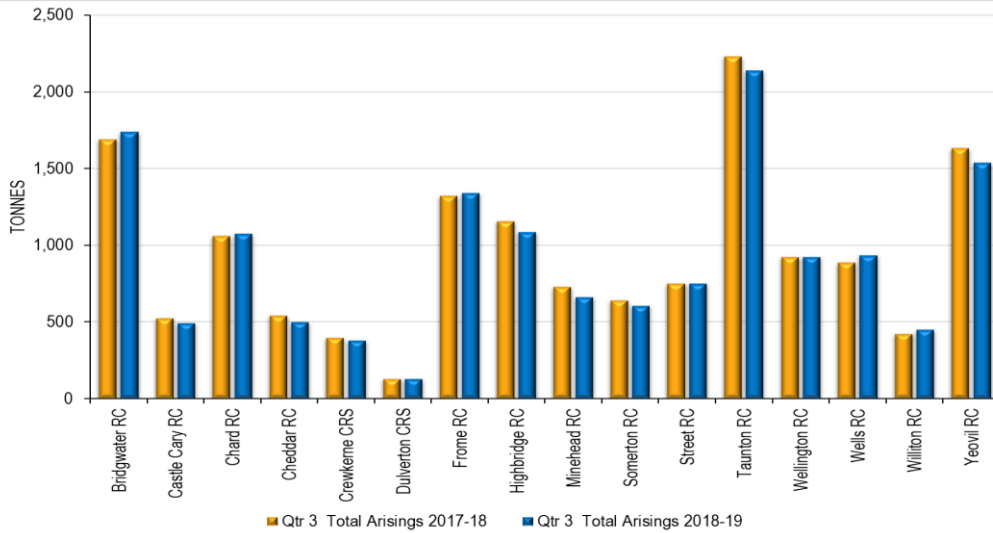
As ever, future success would see lower total arisings as well as reductions in NI 191 and increases in NI 192 after commencement of Recycle More, as well as significant reductions in NI 193, once Avonmouth RRC is receiving the majority of Somerset's residual household waste.

Recycling Sites

Somerset's 16 recycling centres are vital resources for the local community. Whilst garden waste and bulky waste (e.g. fridge/freezers) a big driver for people using their local recycling centre, they also enable people to recycle a wide range of other materials - including water-based paint, wood, batteries, gas bottles, oil and light bulbs. There is a reuse shop at the Priorswood site and arrangements at nearly all other sites to ensure materials capable of being reused are captured.

What has happened and what has changed in this quarter?

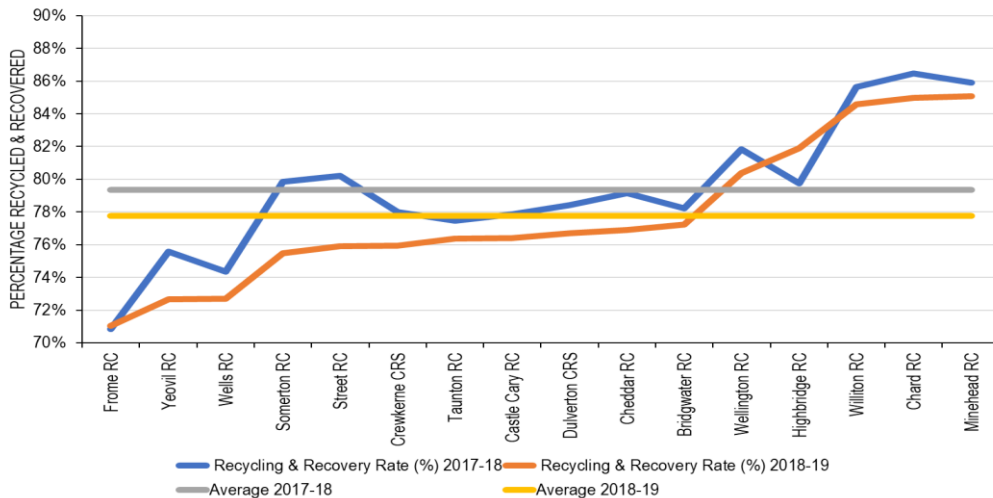
Page 27



Recycling Site	Qtr 3 Visitor Numbers		
	2017-18	2018-19	% Change
Bridgwater RC	41,597	40,837	-1.83%
Castle Cary RC	8,432	8,925	5.85%
Chard RC	28,112	25,332	-9.89%
Cheddar RC	12,277	11,620	-5.35%
Crewkerne CRS	5,178	5,111	-1.29%
Dulverton CRS	1,777	1,852	4.22%
Frome RC	24,202	25,583	5.71%
Highbridge RC	31,140	30,088	-3.38%
Minehead RC	23,453	22,897	-2.37%
Somerton RC	13,968	13,675	-2.10%
Street RC	17,482	17,770	1.65%
Taunton RC	61,068	56,658	-7.22%
Wellington RC	21,408	22,262	3.99%
Wells RC	19,698	19,560	-0.70%
Williton RC	14,270	10,449	-26.78%
Yeovil RC	38,286	35,708	-6.73%
All Sites	362,348	348,327	-3.87%

Note : Table shows Q3 only, rather than cumulative data for Q1 - Q3.

Q1 - Q3 RECYCLING SITE RECYCLING RATE % - 2018-19 COMPARED TO 2017-18



Total LACW arisings are down by -799 tonnes. This total comprises of -1,670 tonnes of garden waste and -83 tonnes of wood for recovery, offset by increases in recycling & reuse of +582 tonnes, residual waste +542 tonnes and hardcore & soil +129 tonnes.

Without the loss of the 1,670 tonnes of garden waste the total recycling rate (incl. recovery 77.30%) would have been closer to the result for 2017-18 (78.69%). However, the difference is quite marginal and it is expected the outturn figure for 2018-19 will be closer to the result for 2017-18.

The best performing sites for Q1-Q3 are, Minehead RC (85.09%) and Chard RC (84.98%), with the worst performing being Frome RC (71.05%) and Yeovil RC (72.67%).

Forthcoming changes to site opening hours should help improve recycling rates at sites, such as Wells, where an additional day with the site being open should allow more time for site staff to sort recyclable materials from 'black bag' waste.

The number of visits dropped from 1,318,761 in 2017-18 to 1,285,397 in 2018-19, which equates to a reduction of 33,364 (2.53%). The majority of the reduction in visits was seen in October 15,924 (10.36%).

It is difficult to know why visitor numbers vary from year to year, especially if no changes such as opening hours, charging or facilities, have been made at the site. The variance may just reflect the normal fluctuations in site usage by the public.

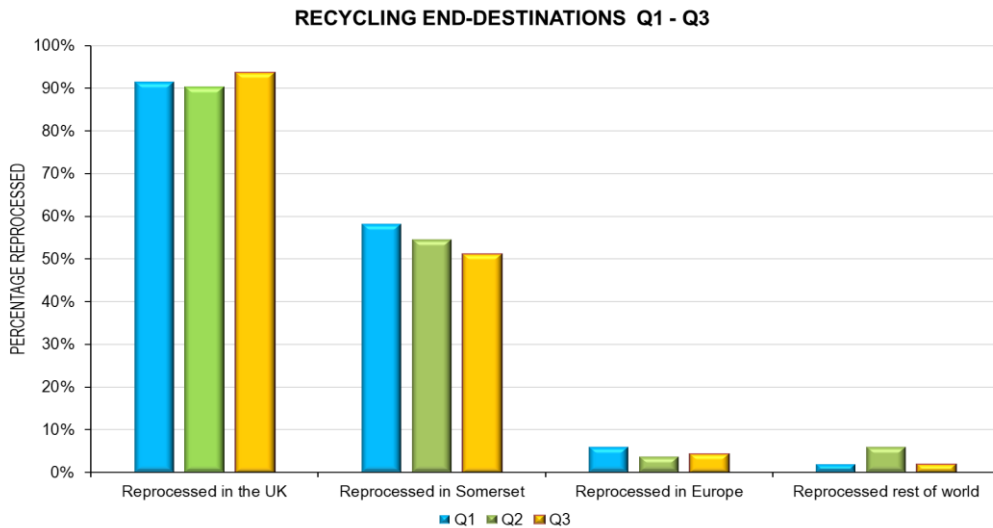


Why do we measure and report this?

As the first Authority in the UK to publish the detail of what we do with our household waste, it remains important that we are transparent to our Members and residents in terms of how and where we treat and recycle the materials we handle - in particular how much stays in Somerset and the UK, and how much remains in closed loop recycling. In the run-up to Recycle More, it is particularly important that we emphasise to Somerset residents that the way they separate their recycling and the way we collect it means that it is nearly all recycled in the UK and in the 'best' way possible - building trust in our services.

What are the headline numbers for 2018/19?

Have there been any significant changes since the last report?



In Q3 we recycled 94% of our waste in the UK. This is a slight increase on the previous quarters and reflects market demands. We exported more to Europe and less further afield. Viridor and Kier both sell materials on the spot market and send them to where there is most demand. We recycled slightly less in Somerset this quarter, and this is due to lower garden waste tonnages. We still reprocessed 51% of our waste in Somerset (down from 54% in Q2 and 58% in Q1).

Cardboard and paper are the main materials exported this quarter, along with some plastic bottles. Whilst the high quality paper from the kerbside is recycled into newsprint in the UK, mixed paper from schools and recycling centres are sent to other markets. The paper and cardboard has largely been exported to Germany and the Netherlands, with some going further afield. Plastic bottles are mostly recycled in the UK with some being exported to Malaysia, Slovakia, Belgium and Turkey. Textiles continue to be exported to developing countries for reuse.

The banks for plastic bottles and pots, tubs and trays at recycling centres continue to prove increasingly popular with residents, with over 50 tonnes collected in Q3 compared to 49.5 tonnes in Q2 and 34.6 tonnes in Q1. The mixed plastics are sent to Viridor's plastic reprocessing plant in Kent where they are sorted into different plastic types and sent to reprocessors to be made into new plastic packaging and other products.

What changes are likely to have happened the next time we report?

What will future success look like?

Overseas markets are continuing to restrict imports of waste. This may impact on materials exported, however SWP is largely insulated from this due to the high quality of our kerbside sort material. The exception to this is when the balers break down at the kerbside depots and materials are sent to a MRF which use their own reprocessors.

The appointment of a new collections contractor and transition to Recycle More will increase the amount of recyclables captured (both existing and new materials). We will continue to produce high quality, in-demand recyclables. We will continue to reprocess in the UK where possible, and into closed loop applications.

The Resources and Waste Strategy was published in December 2018. SWP were honoured to be recognised in the strategy for our commitment to collecting quality materials for recycling, using our kerbside sort collection service and innovation in providing separate food waste collections. There are a number of key policies in the strategy, and we await further detail through the consultations.

We are researching information about carbon savings to add to the benefits of the End Use Register and looking at new ways of presenting the information to give Somerset residents confidence that their efforts to separate their recyclables make a difference.

We expect consultations in late February on:

- 1) Extended Producer Responsibility.
- 2) Deposit Return Schemes.
- 3) Consistency in Collections.

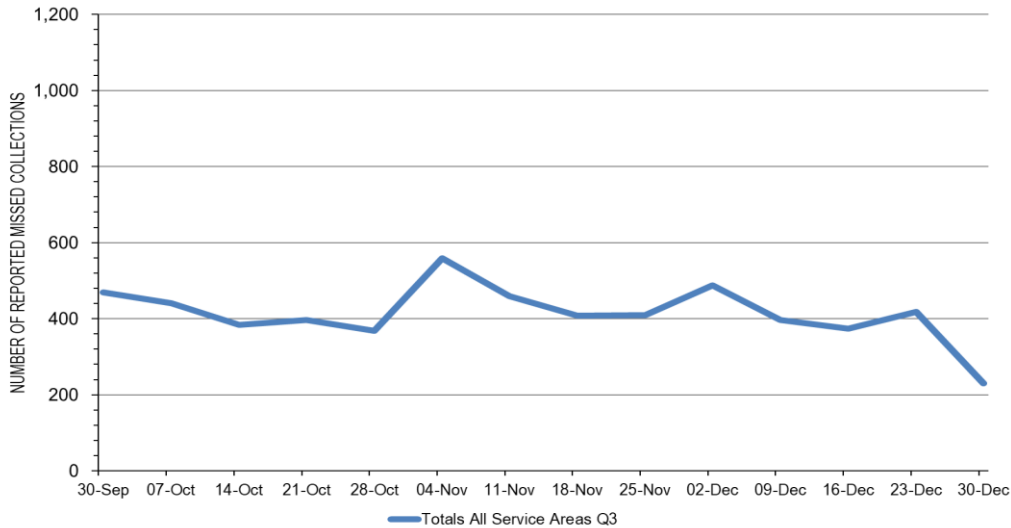
The SWP plans to respond to each of them.



Why do we measure and report this?

Missed collections remain the cause of the majority of customer contacts to the Waste Partnership and remains an area of concern whilst we are in the process of moving from our incumbent collection contractor, to the new Recycle More contract.

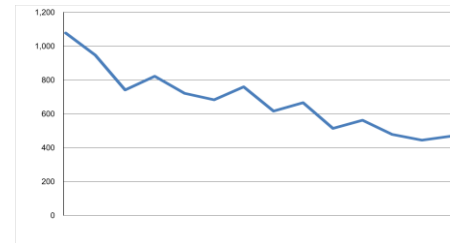
What are the headline numbers?



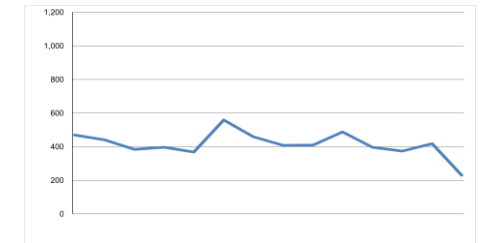
What are the issues underlying current performance?

The current performance continues to be impacted by the difficulty in attracting and keeping staff and the age of the fleet. However, following the introduction of improved maintenance and recruitment plans, we can see the hoped for stabilisation of the service.

Comparing last quarters performance graph below left, to this quarter below right, we can see we are still vulnerable to outside factors causing a certain amount of fluctuating performance. In general, measures appear to be having the desired effect and we will continue to seek improvement but can see an overall steadying of performance. This quarter dropping to 1.01 missed per 1,000 collections compared to an average for Q1-Q2 of 1.55 missed per 1,000 collections.



Q2



Q3

What are we doing about it?

This is an important measure of overall contract performance. We will continue to monitor the level of missed collections weekly and analyse this data in our regular operation meetings with our contractor Kier. The main aim will be to identify issues early and take any action necessary to mitigate against escalation in the numbers of reported missed collections.

Where possible we will continue to identify and support measures to recruit and retain suitably qualified drivers and other staff, and are in discussions with Kier to identify any opportunities to utilise resources which could benefit the Somerset contract as there portfolio of waste related contracts reduces and these become available.

We continue to meet regularly with the senior management at Kier, to review performance. We also continue to monitor the effectiveness of the improvement plan to ensure this live document is capable of meeting the current pressures on the service.

Where do we expect to be by the end of the year?

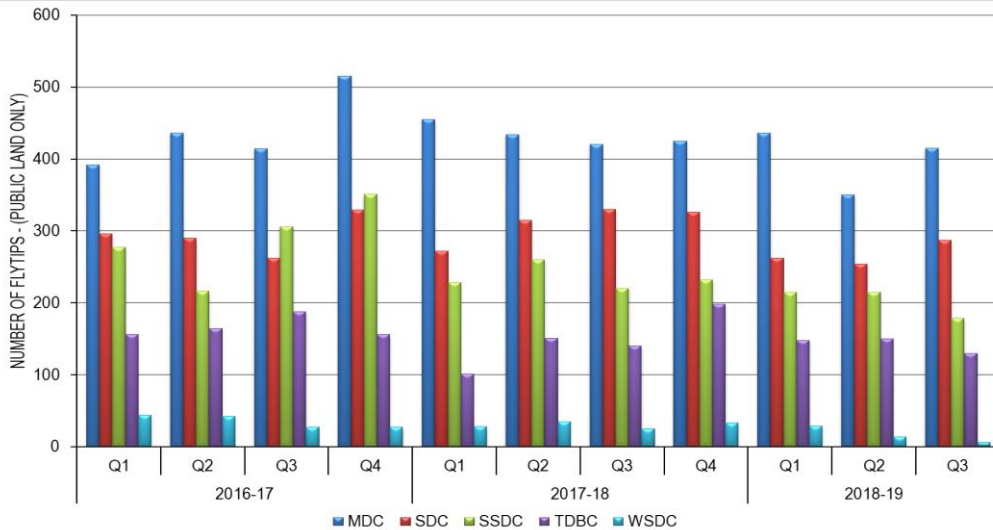
By the end of the year we aim to be back at our long term trend level of missed collections achieving 1 per 1,000, noting that January - March can be a challenging time given weather and the volumes of waste being dealt with after Christmas. We expect the underlying factors (staff and fleet) to have been adequately mitigated, and we will expect a plan from Kier to manage any post-Brexit or Summer staff shortages, which may impact on service quality. With the service stabilised we will redouble our efforts with Kier to address any remaining areas of underperformance but recognise the aging fleet and other factors arising from extending assets beyond their intended life, until the new contract begins, will continue to make this area challenging.



Why do we measure and report this?

Fly tipping continues to be a blight on the Somerset landscape and it is vitally important that we monitor whether any of the service changes we make impacts the level of this criminal activity. Whilst we report fly tipping numbers as part of this Board report, the Waste Partnership has little control or influence over the number of fly tips being shown, as the statutory function to manage fly tipping events still rests with the partner District authorities.

What are the headline numbers?



Have there been any significant changes in what's being fly tipped?

The number of incidents for Q1-Q3 have dropped by a total of -324 incidents, from 3,414 in 17-18 to 3,090 in 18-19. The number of fly-tipping incidents in most Districts continues to improve this year by between -39 and -114 incidents, with the smallest reduction in West Somerset and the greatest in Sedgemoor. The exception to this was in Taunton Deane who have seen an overall increase of 36 incidents, although all of these were in Q1, with improvements for both Q2 and Q3. There is no evidence that any of SWP's activities have contributed to any increases in fly-tipping.

Overall across the Partnership the main increases were 'Tyres' (+76), 'Construction / demolition / excavation' (+31), with the decreases being 'Other household waste' (-309), 'Green' (-29) and 'Other commercial waste' (-26).

What are we doing about it?

Whilst we report fly tipping numbers as part of this Board report, the Waste Partnership has little control or influence over the number of fly tips being shown, as the statutory function to manage fly tipping events still rests with the partner District authorities.

What will future success look like?

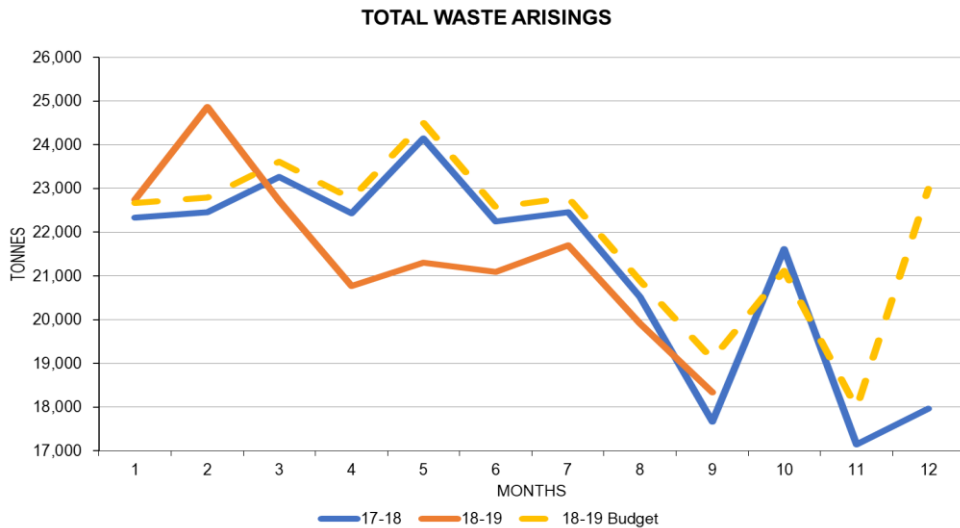
A continuing reduction in the total number of fly tips across the Somerset, as has been demonstrated over the last couple of years. No negative impacts from any SWP actions. Continued effective joint working with Districts around enforcement (and crucially, publicising any successful prosecutions).



Why do we measure and report this?

It is important to keep track of how we are managing our finances, ensuring we are remaining within budget. A separate finance report continues to be presented to the SWB, but a summary is included here to ensure that this report presents a rounded picture of our performance.

What is our forecast outturn position?



What has changed since the last time we reported?

This is the third quarterly finance report for 2018-19. It compares the budget (set in Dec 2017) to the actual spend for the first 9 months of 2018-19 and our revised expectation of what the full year budgetary position will look like.

Collection budget: The budget for all District partners is showing a £65k overspend - negligible in the context of a £17.1m collection budget. This is a direct result of increased garden waste customers for which additional income collected locally.

Disposal budget: Q3 is showing a significant £1,049k underspend from the budget, which is driven by 2 key factors. Firstly, due to snow the March 2018 disposal costs were far lower than were accrued for at the end of the 2017-18 financial year. When this accrual was reversed in Q1 of the 2018-19 financial year it resulted in a £305k benefit to the current year budget. Secondly, our forecasts for the rest of the year now expect tonnages to be lower than were predicted when the budget was set in Dec 2017 (because actuals for Q3 and Q4 last year were lower than expected, and these actuals are now reflected in our expectations for this year). Tonnages are currently 2.1% less than the same period last year.

Savings request: A request for a saving of £800k was made by SCC of SWB and approved by SWB in September. SWP are on track to deliver these in-year savings due to the approval of the core services contract, tight management of non-customer facing budgets, and lower than forecast waste tonnages.

What are we doing to ensure we remain within budget/deliver required savings?

- 1) Continuous monitoring of waste volumes and tracking spend.
- 2) Schools education program and media communication to drive appropriate behaviour to maximise waste minimisation and recycling.
- 3) Review of all budget lines to identify any spend areas that could be frozen, reduced or stopped.
- 4) Review of earmarked reserves to release any possible one off funds.
- 5) Negotiations with Disposal contractor to secure in year savings as part of the contract extension.
- 6) Closely reviewing waste data: As shown in the diagram above, there are reductions in green waste and landfill (the former likely to have been driven by the hot dry summer). Whilst it is early in the year and much can yet change, this disposal budget is on target to deliver SCC's saving request.

What will future success look like?

- 1) All partners are underspent in total at the year end (this would take into account income received at the Districts for chargeable services).
- 2) In year waste volumes are less than budgeted (noting that many of the influences on this - e.g. the weather - are outside of SWP control).
- 3) Budgets identified for in year savings are not overspent at year end.
- 4) Contractor negotiations are successfully concluded.
- 5) Savings requirements made by partners of SWP are delivered in full.

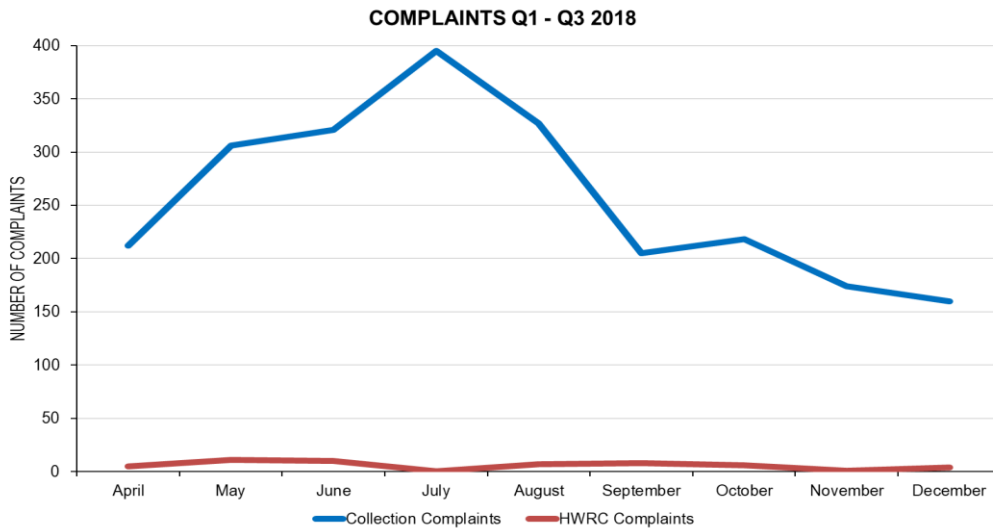


Why do we measure and report this?

SWP's revised vision highlights the importance of delivering excellent customer service, and the importance of driving behavioural change. It is vital that SWP are accountable to the board on these crucial aspects of our service.

What are the headline numbers?

Key highlights in performance



Overall call volumes have reduced mainly due to the work completed by the operations team in managing the contract more closely, especially around service issues.

Recycling Site complaints also fell slightly with an average number of about 3 per month, down from 5.

Additionally, we saw a reduction in collection complaints during Q3 of 2018, supporting the evidence that shows service issues are under control.

TDBC & West Somerset - TDBC do not currently have the resource capacity to provide this report quarterly.

What changes are likely to have happened the next time we report?

What will future success look like?

Expectations in Customer Contact - We expect call volumes to increase between January & March as 50,000+ Garden Waste Renewals will be sent out in the first week of February with at least 30% of these expected to renew by phone. Alongside this, trends suggest we will experience service disruption due to bad weather which again will increase call volumes/complaints, etc.

My Waste Services – Development work on MWS will continue during this period and be near completion.

My Waste Services - Successful conclusion of this project, enabling customers to undertake all their transactions online at SWP, whilst still ensuring that those customers who use phone access, via District Councils, have a seamless customer experience. This will also allow us to encourage channel shift. The new system should also enable us to much more effectively monitor trends in customer interactions, so that we can identify issues.

We expect to have My Waste Services ready to go-live during the 2019-20 financial year, when SWP will launch online reporting via its website and app.

What are the headline numbers?

Social Media

Facebook followers:	3,838	Start of	4,466	End of
Twitter followers:	2,120	October	2,215	December

Website Hits

Oct	66,475	No. of Page	54,197	Unique Page
Nov	57,324	Views	47,335	Views
Dec	105,966		89,357	

Sorted Ezine

Oct	Not Sent	Deliveries	-	Unique
Nov	6,815		4,144	Opens with
Dec	6,451		4,034	Images

Briefing sent monthly to 326 parishes and directly or indirectly to every County and District Councillor.

Pledge Against Preventable Plastic cards: 10,000 printed in September for the Schools Against Waste Programme, to distribute to pupils during its 100 primary school visits.




What are we focussing on in the next quarter?

Communications on ...




- 1) Weather and waste collections.
- 2) Advanced promotion of the recycling sites upgrade.
- 3) Further efforts to encourage both reduction in plastic purchases and increased recycling of plastic household and food pots, tubs and trays.
- 4) Garden waste subscriber renewals and encouraging new subscribers to the service.
- 5) Food waste reduction promotion messages with Credit Unions.

Key highlights in performance

Facebook Topics

		Reach
	25/10/2019 - Most frightening thing about Halloween ...	17,407
	27/11/2019 - Got bottle tops? Recycle bottle tops - by post...	90,919
	01/12/2019 - Your festive collections - and easy ways to save at Christmas ...	56,215

Twitter Topics

		Reach
	08/10/2019 - Libraries reduce waste, enable reuse and save money ...	1,860
	01/11/2019 - Don't bury your pumpkin in landfill ...	4,502
	03/12/2019 - Changes to collections for Christmas ...	2,024

What will future success look like?

Based on past trends, 200 additional followers on Facebook per month, 30 additional followers on Twitter per month.

Improving impact from a rising engagement by residents in all the communications channels of Somerset Waste Partnership and their promotion of behaviour change to reduce-reuse-recycle.



Contact us

If you have any specific questions or comments on this publication, please contact the Somerset Waste Partnership on 01823 625700, or email enquiries@somersetwaste.gov.uk

This document is also available in Braille, large print, tape and on disc and we can translate it into different languages.
We can provide a member of staff to discuss the details.
Please phone 01823 625700.



Somerset Waste Board meeting
 29 March 2019
 Report for decision

Paper
 Item No.

Recycle More & Collection Contract Procurement: Update

Lead Officer: Mickey Green, Managing Director

Author: Mickey Green, Managing Director

Contact Details: 01823 625707

<p>Forward Plan Reference:</p>	
<p>Summary:</p>	<p>This report summarises progress in procuring a new collection contractor (and hence delivery of Recycle More). It accompanies a confidential paper where the Board will make a decision on the preferred bidder for the Collection Contract. It is expected that the identity of the preferred bidder will be announced on 13 May 2019. The preferred bidder will commence delivering services on 28 March 2020.</p>
<p>Recommendations:</p>	<p>It is recommended that the Board:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Notes the progress made in procuring a new collection contract. 2. Agrees the case for applying the exempt information provision as set out in the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A and therefore to treat the attached confidential report and its appendices in confidence, as they contain commercially sensitive information, and as the case for the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing that information. 3. Subject to the approval of recommendation (2) above, agrees to exclude the press and public from the meeting for the consideration of the attached confidential report and its appendices where there is any discussion at the meeting regarding exempt or confidential information. 4. Considers the recommendations contained within the confidential report. 5. Subject to approval of the recommendations above, authorise the Managing Director to notify the preferred bidder (and unsuccessful bidders) and take such actions are necessary to progress through to contract award and service mobilisation. 6. Agrees that the Somerset Waste Partnership reserves the right to not proceed with the award of a contract should new information come to light during the standstill period and/or before entering into a contract.

	<p>In this instance, it is recommended that the Managing Director and Administering Authority’s Director of Corporate Affairs be given joint delegated authority to take any necessary action in relation to the conclusion of the contract to protect the Waste Partnership’s interests - this could include a decision not to enter into a contract and go back out to market.</p>
<p>Reasons for recommendations:</p>	<p>To ensure that progress with the procurement of a new collection contractor is transparent, whilst maintaining the commercially confidential nature of the Somerset Waste Board (SWB) decision to appoint a preferred bidder.</p> <p>The accompanying confidential report contains commercially sensitive information relating to the contract and the Council’s financial and business affairs. Officers recommend that this is treated as exempt information. “Exempt information” is defined by Section 100 of the Local Government Act 1972, by Schedule 12A to that Act. Much of this information will be provided to the Board by way of a verbal update (as moderation of ISDS submissions will have been undertaken in week commencing 29 October).</p>
<p>Links to Priorities and Impact on Annual Business Plan:</p>	<p>The procurement delivers Task 5.2 within the SWB Approved Business Plan 2018-23 concerning the implementation of future collection arrangements.</p>
<p>Financial, Legal and HR Implications:</p>	<p>In addition to delivering the significant environmental benefits of Recycle More a new collection contract aims to deliver significant savings to all partners, through reduced contract costs, lower disposal costs and additional recycling credits for district partners – estimated in total at up to £1.7m. The confidential paper accompanying this report will set out the result of the financial evaluation (60% of bidders total score), affordability, the likely capital requirements and the business case for Local Authority borrowing.</p> <p>A robust procurement process has been developed to realise these benefits, enable potential suppliers to propose innovative solutions to meet our environmental and financial objectives, and ensure that risks are shared appropriately. The stages following the appointment of a preferred bidder are set out in section 4 of this report. The expert legal, financial procurement and technical and commercial advisors who have been fully involved in the project to date will continue to provide support in these crucial stages. Our target is to have progressed to contract award on 13 May 2019. This timetable reflects the need for the standard contractual standstill period following notification to bidders of the results of the procurement process.</p> <p>Collection Contractor staff will TUPE transfer to the new</p>

	contractor on 28 March 2020. SWP have held meetings with all staff at each depot in recent weeks to keep them updated on the process, and engagement with collection contract staff will be key part of the mobilisation period.
Equalities Implications:	An Equalities Impact Assessment is attached to this report. This impact assessment has been updated at key milestones throughout the procurement project and will continue to be updated as we progress through to service commencement and Recycle More roll-out.
Risk Assessment:	The risks related to the procurement of a new collection contractor and Recycle More have been reviewed and are set out in SWP's updated risk register (summarised in our performance report). The procurement implications of potential Brexit scenarios have been considered and are reflected in SWP's 'no deal Brexit' risk register.

1. Background

1.1. A progress report on the procurement of a new waste and recycling collection contractor was presented to the Board in February 2019, summarising:

- the 50/50 risk sharing mechanism developed and agreed
- the establishment a 'Somerset Waste Enhanced Environmental Performance' fund (SWEEP) which will be jointly funded by SWP and our future collection contractor through a top-slice of 2% of the recycling income due to partners and 2% due to the contractor – around £140,000 each year
- the final work undertaken ahead of issuing final tender documents on 30 January
- the reasons for scheduling on 29 March the Board meeting to decide upon the preferred bidder

Recycle More will enable the public to recycle even more at the kerbside, adding in the following materials to the weekly collection (with additional containment provided – likely to be a reusable sack):

- Plastic pots, tubs and trays (including black plastic)
- Food and beverage cartons (e.g. tetrapaks)
- Small electrical equipment (e.g. a kettle or toaster)
- Household Batteries

This is in addition to what can already be recycled every week – food, paper, glass, cans, aerosols, plastic bottles, cardboard, foil, textiles and shoes. Garden waste, clinical waste, bulky waste and assisted collections will be continued broadly as they are now.

It will maintain the kerbside sort system that is so crucial to the excellent environmental performance that SWP already achieves, with over 90% of our materials reprocessed in the UK each week. With so much more recycled each week, the frequency of residual waste will be reduced to every three weeks.

For communal properties additional materials that residents will be able to recycle each week will be plastic bottles, plastic pots, tubs and trays (in addition to the paper, glass, cans and aerosols they can already recycle). We will work in partnership with our new contractor to enable residents of communal properties to use the full range of kerbside services for recycling.

2. Progress to date

- 2.1. Final tenders were returned by bidders on 27 February. With support from the SCC Procurement team, a team of SWP officers, finance, representatives from partners (e.g. ICT and customer service) and our commercial and technical advisers have been evaluating the bids during March, with scores moderated in week commencing 18 March.

On 22nd March SWP met with senior officers from partners authorities (Strategic Management Group and s151 Officers/Finance Directors), the New Service Member Task and Finish Group. Confidential updates were also provided on 22nd March to other key stakeholders, for example the chair of the Joint Waste Scrutiny Panel and Support Services for Education (through whom we deliver services to schools).

A meeting of the Joint Waste Scrutiny Panel on 27th March considered this paper and the confidential paper. Due to the deadline for publishing papers, any recommendations from the Joint Waste Scrutiny panel will be verbally fed through to the SWB before they make their decision on the preferred bidder.

The method statements are the same as those used at the ISDS (detailed solutions submitted by bidders in Autumn 2018), though some changes have been made to the detail (for example question and, word-count) as we learnt from the ISDS stage. Method statements are as follows:

Criteria	Method Statement
Mobilisation & Efficiencies	Service Mobilisation Plan
	Transition to Recycle More (Roll Out)
Customers & community	Social Value
	Monitoring
	Customer Services
Resources, assets and facilities	Management & Organisational Structure
	Waste Flows
	Resources - Labour
	Assets
	Depots and Facilities
	Robustness of Financial Model
Collection Approach	Scheduling & Route Planning
	Collection Methodology - kerbside services
	Collection Methodology - communal bin collections and Schedule 1 Collections (schools & certain businesses)
	Bulky Waste Collections
	Clinical Waste Collections
	Collection Container Management
	Processing & Marketing of Dry Recycling

ICT	Information, Communications Technology
Health & Safety	H&S Policies & procedures
	H&S Assessed Solution (operation of assets)
	H&S Assessed Solution (other)

3. Issues to be addressed in confidential discussion

3.1. Appointment of preferred bidder

In confidential session the board will decide upon the preferred bidder. The preferred bidder will be the 'most economically advantageous tender' (MEAT), with 60% of the score on the price and financial evaluation and 40% on quality.

How the preferred bid deliver's the Business Case

In addition to considering this, the board will consider the capital funding requirements, the business case for local authority borrowing, and the extent to which the procurement project has delivered the detailed aims as set out in the Business Case in October 2017:

- Optimising the likelihood of delivering the level of financial savings to SWP that was originally planned in December 2016 (£1,677k in total)
- Improve our environmental performance by reducing residual waste and increase our recycling rate. SWP's target was that that once rolled out, Recycle More will help increase our recycling rate up to 60%
- Deliver a transition from the existing service specification to Recycle More (a contractual requirement)
- Reduce the amount of residual waste sent to landfill (whilst our target was to reduce residual waste by up to 23%, the Resource Recovery Centre currently being constructed at Avonmouth will be operational in April 2020 so we will no longer be sending our residual waste to landfill).
- Implement improvements to service quality (for example by improved use of technology), support behavioural change and deliver social value

4. Next steps

- 4.1. The table below shows the next stages beyond the decision on a preferred bidder. It will be crucial to progress rapidly through to contract award given the lead-time for vehicle build and depot construction:

Action	When	Comments
End of call-in period	8 April	Governance requirement on all SWB decisions – we can't notify bidders until this has finished
Contractual standstill period	To 18 April	Mandatory period in procurement process.
Public announcement of contract award	13 May	Planned date of public announcement of new contractor and target date for contract award
Mobilisation	To end March 2020	New provider gears up to provide the services including procurement of vehicles, plant and equipment. Close engagement with staff and comms planning
Service Commencement	28 March 2020	The first collections by the new provider will be on Monday 30 March 2020.
Complete roll out of Recycle More	End of March 2022	The specification requires that Recycle More must be rolled out in 5 phases within 2 years of commencement, including a bedding in period of 3 months and allowing for a period of learning and reflection in March and April 2021.

5. Background papers

- 5.1. Previous papers:

- Report to SWB "Recycle More" 16th December 2016.
- Report to SWB "Contractual Negotiations for Recycle More" 30 June 2017,
- Confidential Report to SWB "Contractual Negotiations and Procurement Strategy for Recycle More" 3 November 2017.
- SWP Business Plan 2018-23 Approved by SWP on 15th December 2018.
- Report to SWB "Recycle More & Collection Contract Procurement: Update" 23 February 2018
- Report to SWB "Recycle More & Collection Contract Procurement: Update" 29 June 2018

- Report to SWB “Recycle More & Collection Contract Procurement: Update” 28 September 2018
- Report to SWB “Recycle More & Collection Contract Procurement: Update” 2 November 2018, Confidential Report to SWB “Recycle More & Collection Contract Procurement: Consideration of ISDS submissions and approach to final tender specification” 2 November 2018.
- Report to SWB “Recycle More & Collection Contract Procurement: Update” 14 December 2018, Confidential Report to SWB “Recycle More & Collection Contract Procurement: Consideration of ISDS submissions and approach to final tender specification” 14 December 2018.
- Report to SWB “Recycle More & Collection Contract Procurement: Update” 15 February 2019

5.2. Equality Impact Assessment

This page is intentionally left blank

Somerset Waste Board meeting
29 March 2019
Report for information

Paper
Item No.

Financial Performance Update 2018/2019

Lead Officer: Mickey Green, Managing Director and Sarah Rose, Finance Officer

Author: Sarah Rose, Finance Officer

Contact Details: serose@somerset.gov.uk

Forward Plan Reference:	
Summary:	The report sets out the financial performance against the approved Annual Budget for the first 10 months of the current financial year from April to the end of January.
Recommendations:	That the Somerset Waste Board notes the summary financial performance to date as contained in this report.
Reasons for recommendations:	The Board needs to be aware of the financial performance of the Somerset Waste Partnership as it delivers the approved Business Plan and delegated waste service functions, to ensure that it is being managed appropriately.
Links to Priorities and Impact on Annual Business Plan:	The Annual Budget is entirely linked to the Annual Business Plan and sets out the financial resources required to deliver the Plan and the waste collection and disposal services that have been delegated to the Somerset Waste Board. Financial monitoring will show how the Partnership is managing its resources as it delivers the Annual Business Plan.
Financial, Legal and HR Implications:	Any in-year underspends attributable to partners against the Annual Budget are traditionally made available for return or for reinvestment. Conversely, failure to stay within the Annual Budget for the Somerset Waste Partnership will directly impact on the partner authorities, who would be required to make good any shortfall at year end. There are no legal or HR implications.
Equalities Implications:	None.
Risk Assessment:	Members will be aware from previous reports and presentations that the waste budget and actual costs, particularly disposal volumes, remain highly volatile.

1. Background

- 1.1. The Annual Budget for 2018/2019 was originally set at the Board meeting of 23rd February 2018 at £45,145,256.

Subsequently, the Board has agreed a number of in-year budget reductions and a drawdown from earmarked reserves on the disposal budget at the September meeting. In addition, the Board agreed the extension to the Viridor contract at the November 2018 meeting, which brings a saving from 2018/2019 onwards. Following these decisions, the 2018/2019 the Waste Board budget now stands at £44,445,260.

Partners contribute to the overall costs in accordance with our Cost Sharing Agreement. Individual contributions are based on key cost drivers such as household numbers, sparsity and garden waste customer numbers. As the waste disposal authority, all such costs fall to the County Council.

- 1.2. Our Annual Budget is predominantly spent on making payments to our main contractors – Viridor and Kier.

2. Current Financial Position

- 2.1. The table below shows the variations from budget on all our major expenditure areas. **For the avoidance of doubt in the table above, negative figures shown in brackets are underspent budgets. Figures not in brackets are overspent budgets.** (A zero figure indicates that the line is on budget, or that it is not a budgetary responsibility of that partner. Figures are rounded to the nearest £000).

Summary of budget variances

	SCC £'000	MDC £'000	SDC £'000	SSDC £'000	TDBC £'000	WSC £'000	Total £'000
Head Office	(54)	(2)	(2)	(3)	(2)	(1)	(63)
Disposal Costs	(963)	0	0	0	0	0	(963)
Collection - Recycling	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Collection - Refuse	0	0	(0)	(0)	0	(0)	(0)
Collection - Garden	0	35	4	75	21	15	150
Collection Costs	0	3	2	4	3	1	14
Recycling Credits	(59)	13	11	19	10	5	(0)
Container Purchase & Delivery	0	(15)	(3)	(3)	(9)	(2)	(32)
Other	(0)	(5)	(16)	(20)	(5)	(2)	(48)
	(1,075)	30	(4)	72	19	17	(942)

Overall, the end of January position shows the Somerset Waste Partnership budget is forecast to be **underspent by £942,000** (2.12% of the current budget). By way of comparison, the overall underspend forecast was £984,000 (2.21% of the current budget) when previously reported to the December Board.

2.2. Waste Collection

The waste collection budgets have moved from a £65,000 overspend position to a £134,000 overspend, a movement of £69,000.

Head office costs have increased by £24,000 from the figures reported to the February Board. As part of the head office restructure it was always envisaged there would be some redundancy costs in line with the Business Case agreed by SMG. There are however some ongoing savings in reduced staff costs and a reduction in general office expenditure. This is a one year additional pressure and partners will benefit from reduced staff costs from 2019/20 onwards.

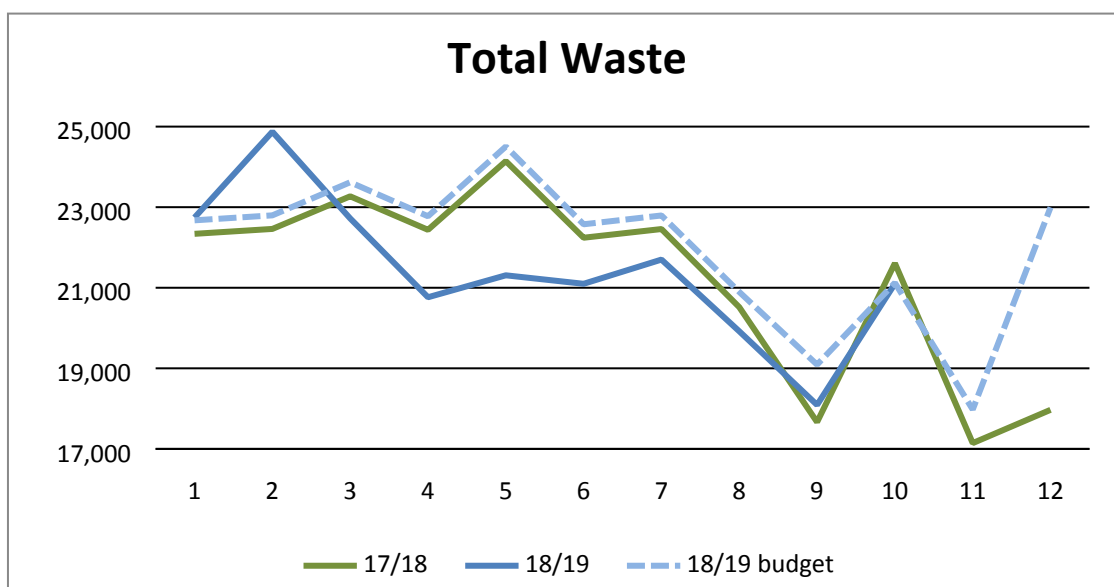
Forecasts for recycling credit income has reduced by £24,000 based on the most recent tonnage information available (December 2018).

There have also been small increases in expenditure in container purchase and delivery costs as well as bulky waste collections.

As previously reported much of this overspend is offset by garden waste recycling income raised locally by Districts.

2.3. Waste Disposal

The waste disposal figure for the Board at the end of January showed an underspend of £1.075m, which is an improvement on the last budget report to the Board (£1.049m). Members will recall that the trends in the waste disposal budget have been downwards for the current financial year, although some of the savings are one-off caused by year end estimating and the severe weather in March 2018. The graph below shows that actual waste volumes have been closer to the budgeted figures in the latest quarter.



The current trend is a 2.2% reduction in tonnages overall from 2017/2018.

2.4 Recycle More project funding

The figures reported above do not include any drawdown of the earmarked

reserve for Recycle More. Available funds at the start of 2018/2019 stood at £616,106, (including the County Council funding, but excluding the increase from the lease budget approved at the February Board). It has been agreed by the Board that we keep this funding separate from the continuation budget, and report on it separately. Section 151 officers have wanted clarity between the on-going budget requirement and the one-off project funding.

Up to the end of January, only £182,172 of this earmarked reserve has been spent, although further costs will be incurred with the on-going support for Eunomia (our technical consultants) and specialised external legal support. Additional support has come from procurement, legal, finance and technical staff at the Administering Authority and within Somerset Waste Partnership, which is why these costs have been kept so low.

Post contract award there will be mobilisation and roll out costs for the new service. The exact costs will depend on the winning contractor and agreed roll-out methodology and communications but these are anticipated to be £2.2 million.

3. Consultations undertaken

- 3.1. The Senior Management Group receives a summary financial management report on a regular basis, and regularly covers financial topics on their agenda.

4. Implications

- 4.1. Potential over and underspends as in section 2 above, if trends continue, would result in these figures at outturn for the individual partners.

5. Background papers

- 5.1. Previous Financial Performance and Annual Budget reports to the Somerset Waste Board (all available on the website or from the report author).

Somerset Waste Board meeting
 29th March 2019
 Report for information

Paper
 Item No.

SWP Responses to National Resources and Waste Consultations

Lead Officer: Mickey Green, Managing Director

Author: Julie Searle, Development and Monitoring Officer

Contact Details: 01823 625717

Forward Plan Reference:	
Summary:	<p>As highlighted in the 15 February SWB discussion on the new national Resources and Waste Strategy, central government has published 4 consultations on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Consistency in Household and Business Recycling Collections (consistency) 2) Reforming the Packaging Producer Responsibility System (EPR) 3) Introducing a Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) for England, Wales and Northern Ireland 4) Plastic Packaging Tax <p>All four consultations run for 12 weeks with closing dates of 12/13 May. Whilst SWP is still working through the consultations, this board paper summarises our understanding of the implications for Somerset, and our likely position in response.</p>
Recommendations:	<p>That the Somerset Waste Board:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) notes the contents of this report and discusses the implications of the consultations, 2) delegates responsibility to the Managing Director of the Somerset Waste Partnership to finalise consultation responses.
Reasons for recommendations:	<p>To ensure the board are kept up to date with developments in the waste sector. The consultations set out more detail of significant changes to the policy landscape and will have significant implications on Somerset.</p>
Links to Priorities and Impact on Annual Business Plan:	<p>Business Plan 2019-24: 3.2 Strategy and Influence - Developing SWP's strategy, responding to consultations</p>
Financial, Legal and HR Implications:	<p>There are major potential financial implications from consultation proposals, but these are still not completely clear. Most policies are not proposed to be implemented until 2023, so there is no</p>

	<p>immediate impact on costs. Initial estimates of financial costs of proposals within the consultation are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DRS: £43k - £238k annual cost to SWP (depending if on-the-go or all-in). See section 4 for further information. • EPR: Commitment to the full net cost recovery for local authorities (recycling, refuse and littering) from packaging, but proposal to use funding formulas may mean that this doesn't truly cover costs • Free garden waste: Potential £6m cost based on lost income, diversion from recycling centres, increased collection costs, net of reduced residual waste costs. This excludes any assumption of the impact on home composting or on the viability of recycling centres. • Mandatory separate weekly food waste collection: Unclear at this point. SWP may receive funding, but bespoke solutions may be needed at many communal points • Minimum standards require two-weekly refuse collection: Unclear if this will reduce any EPR payments we would otherwise be entitled to, despite the fact that all the evidence demonstrates that moving to 3-weekly refuse will support SWP in collecting even more high-quality recycle and reducing avoidable waste. <p>Legal obligations would be likely to be significant (e.g. minimum service standards) but there is insufficient detail at this stage of what these implications might be. There may be HR implications (e.g. additional staff required to enable free garden waste collections)</p>
<p>Equalities Implications:</p>	<p>N/A – As these proposals are consultations (and some are subject to further consultation) there is insufficient information on which to base an Equalities Impact Assessment.</p>
<p>Risk Assessment:</p>	<p>The Risk Register has been updated with the risks relating to the consultations. There are significant opportunities from EPR and consistent recycling collections (for example with better labelling and fewer hard to recycle products on the market). Key risks include the loss of valuable material through a DRS scheme, the costs and negative environmental impact of free garden waste collections, unrealistic approach to implementation of food waste from all properties (e.g. those which simply do not have space), significant negative environmental and financial impacts of the potential inclusion in minimum standards of maximum of two-weekly refuse collections, failure of government to truly recompense the full net costs of what it may require us to do in the future.</p>

1. Background

- 1.1. The Board considered the Resources and Waste Strategy at their February 2019 meeting. The Board meeting noted that the strategy included 19

promises of consultation, that 4 consultations were expected imminently (which have since been published) and that whilst SWP welcomed nearly all of the strategy, was honoured to be the only LA case study in the strategy, there were a number of areas of concern for us. The consultations flesh out some of these areas of concern, have created new areas of concern, but also provided reassurance on some key elements of central Government's direction of travel.

1.2. SWP is still analysing the consultation documents and preparing its consultation responses (there are around 275 detailed questions across over 450 pages and 4 documents). As part of that we are engaging with our partners in Somerset, across the region, and through national organisations in the resources and waste sector. SWP is actively taking part in discussions at national level with the aim of influencing the direction of government policy, in particular to address the areas that we see of greatest risk to SWP:

- Minimum standards which require refuse collection to be collected at least every two weeks (see section 2 of this report)
- Free garden waste collection (see section 2 of this report)
- Failure to truly cover the full net costs that SWP faces from these proposals (all proposals, but in particular section 3 of this report)
- An 'All-in' Deposit Return Scheme (see section 4 of this report)
- The potential inclusion of unnecessary elements in minimum standards which are best left to local discretion (e.g. standard bin colours)

2. Consistency of Collections

2.1. *What are the key proposals in the Government's consultation:*

This consultation is concerned with having consistent collections and recycling to improve the quantity and quality of municipal waste recycled in England. It is consulting upon:

- collect the same core set of dry recyclable materials from all types of household
- requiring separate weekly food waste collections from all households by 2023
- whether waste collection authorities should provide a free garden waste collection service for households with gardens during the growing season
- how to achieve greater separation of dry materials in collections
- the benefits of having standard bin colours
- whether statutory guidance on minimum service standards for waste and recycling services should be introduced (including restrictions on the frequency of residual waste collection)
- how to develop non-binding performance indicators to support local authorities to deliver high quality and quantity in recycling and waste management
- how to support joint working between local authorities on waste;
- alternatives to weight-based targets
- options to significantly increase the separate collection of recyclable materials from businesses (including public sector organisations)

Subject to the outcome of this consultation there will be a further consultation in

late 2019 or early 2020 on regulatory changes to implement these measures and supporting guidance.

2.2. What is SWP's emerging position:

SWP agree with the general principles of consistency in collections and has long been an advocate for high quality recycling. Our existing systems mean we are already achieving many of the aims:

- Weekly collections of food waste to most households
- With the introduction of Recycle More, we will be collecting the core recycling materials proposed
- Operating kerbside sort collections which results in high quality recycling and which are the government's favoured scheme.
- Investigating carbon reporting to go alongside our weight-based reporting
- Partnership working

However, we do have some serious concerns with some proposals including

- Introduction of statutory minimum standards for collections, including fortnightly refuse frequency
- Introduction of free garden waste to all properties
- A lack of understanding of the challenges involved in rolling out weekly food waste collection to all property types (noting that overall we welcome this proposal)

We strongly believe that how recycling and refuse collections are delivered should be a locally made decision taking into account the local area, housing types and demographics. We agree with the principle of a standard set of materials, but how this is collected should be down to individual councils.

Refuse frequency: We are very concerned about the potential for minimum standards for refuse frequency, particularly as this may be linked to receiving full funding from producers under Extended Producer Responsibility. As the Board is aware, our own research has shown that restricting refuse capacity is a strong driver for increased recycling and that once the recycling and food waste is removed, there is very little left to be disposed of in the refuse bin which allows for lower frequency collections. SWP's view is that there is no evidence to support the government's proposal, it is inconsistent with their own policy goals (zero avoidable waste by 2050) and will lead to producers paying more than is necessary under EPR. The focus of our lobbying effort will be on this issue (and garden waste). There is also a risk that the minimum standards could change over time, which could mean that services will need to change, but without a recognition of how viable this is in the real world.

Garden Waste: The proposal to offer free garden waste collections during the growing season will have a major impact on SWP and partners. We estimate that it could cost us up to £6m (net of reduction in disposal costs) with the removal of income to the districts, increased costs of collections, and diversion from recycling centres. It does not take into account people who may stop home composting (the preferred environmental option for garden waste) or the impact on recycling centres with the loss of the large amounts of material and visits. The practicality of the proposals are questionable, including the part-year nature

of it. So whilst the financial impact (in particular to District Councils) is significant, the environmental impact is of very great concern to SWP – our impression is that this is government simply chasing weight-based targets, and not focussing on what is the environmentally right thing to do. SWP will be drawing together the evidence to support our position.

Reprocessing capacity: SWP has pioneered transparency in recycling with our End Use Register and has always expressed a preference for recycling in the UK with over 90% of our current recyclables reprocessed in this country. We want to keep the trust of our residents who can be satisfied that we are producing high quality and in-demand recyclables. SWP will highlight the need to ensure that UK reprocessing capacity is increased in line with the aspirations that Government has for more authorities to do things the Somerset way.

Food waste: Whilst we already offer food waste collections to all suitable properties, we have difficulties in offering the service to flats. We have trialled this before and found take-up to be low and problems with increased contamination. However, it remains an important priority for us to find ways to enable residents living in these properties to recycle even more. SWP's preference (where space permits) is to move to the kerbside type service. Whilst all consistency materials will be available to communals under Recycle More, we have many communal properties where container storage is an issue, both within the flat and in any communal bin storage area – these constraints need a bespoke approach to work through. One standard solution will not work for all communal properties, and SWP will continue to seek to understand the detail of the proposals and press for the importance of recognising the work involved with communal properties, and the costs that come with this.

We will be doing further work on the impacts of these proposals and lobbying with other LAs and national organisations as well as responding in detail to the consultation questions.

Businesses: SWP feel that there are potential opportunities to be gained from the proposal to include businesses that produce household-like waste in the consistency arrangements. There are large numbers of small-medium sized businesses in Somerset who may be able to benefit from these proposals, increasing their recycling and reducing refuse disposal costs. SWP will investigate how we can facilitate this through providing advice and information and even whether there is a role for us to assist with group procurements to help save costs. This is going to be a key area for SWP in developing its longer term strategy, and in working with partners to understand how together we can improve Somerset's wider environmental outcomes and our response to climate change. SWP will seek to engage through our partners and with Somerset's business organisations – our initial analysis does suggest that the proposals will lead to cost increases for small and micro-businesses, of which Somerset has a significant proportion.

3. Extended Producer Responsibility for packaging

3.1. *What are the key proposals in the Government's consultation:*

The proposals covered in this consultation are concerned with reforms to the packaging waste regulations and explore:

- The definition of full net cost recovery and approaches to recovering full net costs from producers
- Incentives to encourage producers to design and use packaging that can be recycled
- The businesses that would be obligated under a packaging extended producer responsibility system
- How producer funding is used to pay local authorities for the collection and management of household packaging waste and to support the collection for recycling of household-like packaging arising in the commercial waste
- Mandatory labelling on all packaging to indicate if it is recyclable or not
- New packaging waste recycling targets for 2025 and 2030, and interim targets for 2021 and 2022
- Alternative models for the organisation and governance of a future packaging extended producer responsibility system
- Measures to strengthen compliance monitoring and enforcement including for packaging waste that is exported for recycling

The following principles for any EPR scheme are set out in the consultation:

- Businesses will bear the full net cost of managing the packaging they handle or place on the market at end of life. Subject to consultation, this would include the cost of collection, recycling, disposal, the clear-up of littered and fly tipped packaging, and communications relating to recycling and tackling littering
- Fees raised from obligated businesses will be used to support the management of packaging waste and the achievement of agreed targets and outcomes. This is to include the collection of a common set of packaging materials for recycling across the UK. Local authorities will be expected to meet any minimum service standards (in place in each nation) for the household collection service they provide
- All packaging should be labelled as recyclable or not recyclable to make it easier for people to recycle and dispose of packaging waste; with the labelling scheme addressing packaging that may be collected via alternative routes such as a DRS.

3.2. *What is SWP's emerging position:*

The principle of EPR is strongly welcomed by SWP, in particular:

- The producer pays principle and commitment to covering local authority costs
- The definition of full net cost recovery actually covering all the costs – recycling, refuse and littering.
- How it will incentivise producers to design better (i.e. more recyclable) products

However, SWP is very concerned by the suggestion that the amount of funding that LAs may be entitled to from EPR could be subject to meeting a minimum standard of refuse collection every two weeks at most. This was an unexpected proposal from Government in the consultation. SWP's view is that restricting LAs

discretion in choosing the appropriate frequency for residual waste collection is:

- Inconsistent with government's aim of '*zero avoidable waste by 2050*'.
- Inconsistent with the expected impact of the other policies Government is consulting on, which will increase household recycling substantially, and hence reduce the need for residual waste
- Contrary to the evidence the reducing residual waste frequency is proven to reduce avoidable waste, especially food waste. As board members are aware, 25% of what's in Somerset's residual bins currently is food waste. We expect to see the amount of food waste collected increase significantly when we introduce Recycle More.

SWP also believe that restricting residual waste frequency will lead to higher costs for packaging producers than are necessary, and as such will seek to reflect this point in its lobbying, so as to build further support for SWP's arguments.

Whilst SWP welcome the government's commitment to fund the full net costs to local authorities, it proposes to do this by means of funding formulas driven in part, by classification of local authorities as one of 6 different types, and in part by reference costs for an efficient service. SWP is concerned that this will not truly cover the costs we face and may be inequitable and lack transparency. SWP will also be pushing for meaningful local authority involvement in the set-up and ongoing administration of any EPR governing body, alignment between materials subject to EPR and consistent recycling collections, and a classification of materials that is less binary than 'non-recyclable' or 'recyclable' so as to enable consumers to make more informed choices.

SWP is undertaking further modelling to understand the potential financial impact of this proposal on SWP – which we expect to be very significant. SWP will share its emerging findings with the Board on 29 March. SWP continues to explore the detailed aspects of the consultation to ensure that the governance model proposed best meets our interests, and to encourage a clearer labelling of packaging materials rather than simply indicating whether they are recyclable or not recyclable.

4. Deposit Return Scheme

4.1. *What are the key proposals in the Government's consultation:*

This consultation seeks views on proposals to introduce a DRS for drinks containers in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, whilst recognising that any DRS should form part of a coherent system across the UK. It refers to systems where consumers pay an upfront deposit which they must return the container to redeem.

There are two options being considered in the consultation. The first option, known as the '**all-in**' model, would not place any restrictions on the size of drinks containers in-scope of a DRS. This would target a large amount of drinks beverages placed on the market. The second option, known as the '**on-the-go**' model, would restrict the drinks containers in-scope to those less than 750ml in

size and sold in single format containers. This model would target drinks beverages most often sold for consumption outside of the home (while 'on-the-go'). An alternative to introducing a DRS would be for all drinks containers to be captured under a reformed packaging producer responsibility system.

This consultation proposes that the materials included in a DRS could be polyethylene terephthalate (PET) and high-density polyethylene (HDPE) plastic bottles, steel and aluminium cans, and glass bottles. It is proposed to include all soft drinks (including water and juices), alcoholic drinks and drinks containing milk and plant-based drinks e.g. smoothies, milkshakes, ready-to-drink coffee, flavoured milk and yoghurt drinks. The intention is to exclude drinks containers containing milk from a DRS. Disposable cups are not in scope of the DRS proposed but views are asked for on whether they should be included or not.

4.2. What is SWP's emerging position:

Whilst SWP believe that DRS is the wrong priority given the other changes proposed (in particular EPR), if there is a DRS then it should be focussed on tackling litter, and hence be a UK wide 'on-the-go' scheme. Key points SWP are likely to make in support of its position are:

- 'Quality' recyclers like SWP will be the clear losers from DRS. Initial modelling suggests that an 'all-in' scheme could potentially cost SWP £2.5m over the next 10 years. An on-the go DRS would be likely to cost more like £400k over 10 years. SWP will continue to undertake financial modelling, and this initial estimate may change substantially as we undertake further work. It is not clear if there will be fair compensation for this new burden. These cost impacts do not consider the costs that may result from having a sub-optimal fleet (i.e. recycling vehicles designed to collect materials which now flow through a DRS scheme)
- DRS is likely to make kerbside sort more expensive and riskier for those authorities who do not yet currently provide this service, through uncertainty on future tonnages – recycle income and vehicles. It therefore may make it less attractive to other authorities, who may delay their decision making on moving to kerbside sort until its full impacts are known. This is contrary to the strong emphasis in the Government's strategy on encouraging more local authorities to move to a 'quality' kerbside recycling system like SWP has.
- As discussed at the February Board meeting, DRS is a type of Extended Producer responsibility. It therefore risks duplication with the packaging producer responsibility scheme, which should have much greater impact than DRS. As well as duplicating existing kerbside collections, it may lead to two complex administrations (for EPR and DRS being established). There is a practical limit to how much change that can be managed at any one time. The government's own analysis shows that EPR and 'all-in' DRS combined will cost society £243m.
- One key aim of a DRS is to reduce litter. If there is a DRS, then it should be focussed on tackling this issue. To ensure that it tackles commonly littered materials, SWP believe that it should include single use cups and cartons. This will minimise the detrimental impacts on the kerbside recycling collection service. Whilst SWP continues to work with District Council

partners, there is little evidence that this will reduce street-scene costs in rural areas like Somerset.

- If there is a DRS, SWP welcome the reference to local authorities being able to receive money from deposits on material they collect (this was something SWP lobbied for), though we need more detail on how the funding formula would work. However, we believe that this proposal is likely to be impractical as if materials with deposits were placed in our recycling boxes or bins, then there is a chance that this could increase littering through people seeking to harvest this material and spilling the rest.

5. Tax on Plastic Packaging

5.1. *What are the key proposals in the Government's consultation:*

The government is planning to tax plastic packaging that contains less than 30% recycled material to stimulate end markets for plastic and promoted better design of packaging. The consultation includes several specific questions on defining the scope of the tax, the threshold for recycled content, how the tax is levied, the treatment of imports and exports, avoiding tax evasion, managing administrative burdens, particularly on smaller operators. It is proposed to implement the final tax as part of EPR reforms.

5.2. *What is SWP's emerging position:*

SWP is supportive of the proposal, as it will be key to driving demand for recycled plastic. Adequate demand for recycled plastic is crucial to ensuring that the plastic that is collected goes to best use. It supports SWP's goal of aiming for closed loop recycling. Most of the questions in this consultation are of a very technical nature and SWP is not best placed to comment upon them. However, we will review all aspects of the consultation to ensure that it will align with other aspects of the proposed reforms to the national resources and waste system.

6. Options Considered and reasons for rejecting them

- 6.1.** SWP could choose not to respond to the consultations, but that means that we would have no influence over the direction of policy that will significantly affect us in the future. As all 4 consultations are inter-related, it is necessary to consider them and respond to them as a whole.

7. Consultations undertaken

- 7.1.** Discussed at SMG in March, and draft consultation responses will be reviewed by SMG at their April meeting. District colleagues have been encouraged to examine the littering and fly-tipping related elements of the DRS consultation, as these relate to District Council responsibilities. SWP will continue to engage with others to inform our responses, and to encourage others to reflect our views on the key risks and opportunities for SWP and Somerset.

8. Implications

- 8.1. SWP will continue to work to understand the consultations, working with all partners to ensure that we understand the potential impact of proposals. We will also work across the SW and with LA partners nationally to influence the policies.

9. Background papers

- 9.1. SWB 15 February paper
<http://democracy.somerset.gov.uk/documents/s9782/National%20resources%20and%20waste%20strategy.pdf>

Consultation on Consistency in Household and Business Recycling Collections in England

<https://consult.defra.gov.uk/environmental-quality/consultation-on-consistency-in-household-and-busin/>

Consultation on reforming the UK packaging producer responsibility system

<https://consult.defra.gov.uk/environmental-quality/consultation-on-reforming-the-uk-packaging-produce/>

Introducing a Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) in England, Wales and Northern Ireland

<https://consult.defra.gov.uk/environment/introducing-a-deposit-return-scheme/>

Plastic packaging tax

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/plastic-packaging-tax>

The Resources and Waste Strategy -

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/765914/resources-waste-strategy-dec-2018.pdf