

CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 12 th March 2024
Report Subject	Resource and Waste Strategy
Cabinet Member	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Regional Transport Strategy
Report Author	Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation)
Type of Report	Strategic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Council supports the declarations made by Welsh Government for the Public Sector to become net zero by 2030 and in December 2019, Cabinet approved the development of a Climate Change strategy, which set key aims and actions for creating a carbon neutral organisation. Reducing consumption and increasing reuse and recycling to save precious resource is a key part of reaching net zero.

The draft Resource and Waste Strategy sets out the strategic direction to reduce waste and exceed Welsh Government statutory recycling targets. Without action the authority currently faces circa £1m of fines for failing to achieve these targets in 2021/2022 and 2022/2023, as well as a further risk of similar fines in 2023/2024 and beyond. The new Strategy demonstrates to the Minister our commitment to make change.

This report provides feedback on the consultation exercise that took place on a draft of the Resource and Waste Strategy and presents the final strategy document for consideration.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That Cabinet acknowledges the progress made on achieving a robust and effective Resources and Waste Strategy to meet net zero targets, achieve statutory recycling targets, and mitigate against the risk of infraction fines.
2	That Cabinet approves the Resource and Waste Strategy to meet net zero targets, achieve statutory recycling targets, and mitigate against the risk of infraction fines.
3	That Cabinet agrees that a further report be presented in June outlining the Council's transition to a restricted capacity residual waste collection model.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	RESOURCE AND WASTE STRATEGY																		
1.01	<p>Background and Context The Council supports the declarations made by Welsh Government for the Public Sector to become net zero by 2030 and in December 2019 Cabinet approved a the development of a Climate Change strategy, which set key aims and actions for creating a carbon neutral organisation.</p> <p>Unsustainable consumption of precious resources and waste disposal has a significant impact on our environment and cannot be decoupled from its impact on our climate. Taking steps to reduce consumption and move away from traditional linear resource models of make, buy, dispose, to a circular model, is imperative.</p>																		
1.02	<p>We cannot make the required step changes alone and a collective effort from residents, the workforce and the wider community will be essential to reduce consumption and improve our recycling performance.</p> <p>Furthermore, as a public body we must ensure we work with our communities to protect the long-term impact of our decisions in line with the Well-Being and Future Generations Act (2015) and the Environment Act (2021).</p> <p>We also consider upcoming legislative and policy change such as the introduction of Extended Producer Responsibility, Deposit Return schemes and the inclusion of Energy from Waste (EfW) being included in the Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS). All of which will impact the materials that we collect and ultimately the cost of disposal.</p>																		
1.03	<p>As reported previously we are guided by the Welsh national waste strategy, Towards Zero Waste (2010) and the Beyond Recycling Strategy (2021), which is a strategy to make the circular economy in Wales a reality.</p> <p>The Welsh Government has set an overall zero waste target by 2050 and challenging reuse, composting, and recycling targets for Councils in the interim.</p> <p>The current recycling rate in Flintshire of 61.51% (2022/23) is well below the level required to achieve current (64%) and future targets (70%+).</p> <p>The tables show our performance over the last three years, where we have continually missed the target, and shows that the future target of 70% needs to be achieved in 2024/25.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="244 1839 1423 2063"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Target</th> <th>Actual Performance</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2020/21</td> <td>64%</td> <td>63.98%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021/22</td> <td>64%</td> <td>60.08%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022/23</td> <td>64%</td> <td>61.51%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2023/24</td> <td>64%</td> <td>TBC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2024/25</td> <td>70%</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Target	Actual Performance	2020/21	64%	63.98%	2021/22	64%	60.08%	2022/23	64%	61.51%	2023/24	64%	TBC	2024/25	70%	
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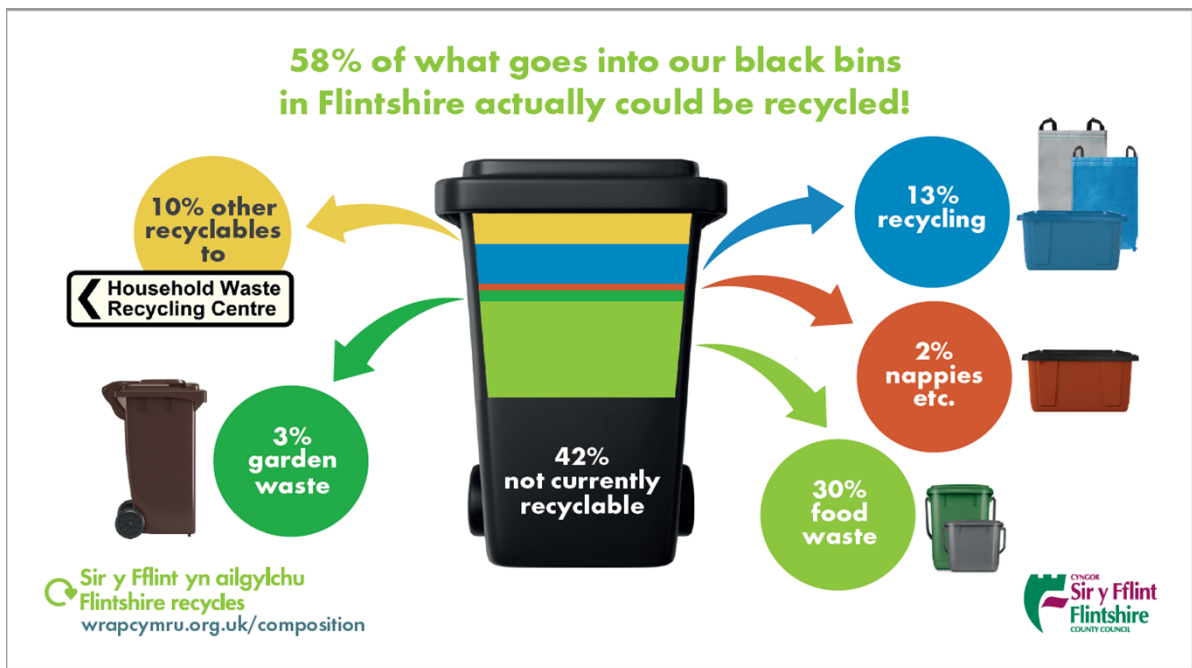
1.04 The Waste (Wales) Measure (2010) made the targets for reuse, recycling and composting statutory from 2012-13. This status allows Welsh Government to levy financial penalties against Councils that fail to achieve them. The statutory targets are weight based and have increased gradually over time.

We have continually reported that the Council faces significant fines for not achieving the statutory recycling targets for 2021/22 and 2022/23. These fines for missing the targets over the two years equate to circa £1M.

The targets increase further from 1 April 2024 and the Council faces further fines per annum on current recycling levels which could exceed £1M annually.

1.05 On review of our Waste Strategy in early 2023 officers made it explicitly clear that without significant service changes we were unlikely to achieve the statutory targets in future years due to the high volumes of recyclable items being placed in the residual waste bin that could have been collected via the weekly recycling collection service or at the household recycling centres (HRCs).

The pictorial diagram below shows the latest compositional analysis from 2022 of this waste and the percentage of waste that could have been diverted to recycling:



This information shows us that despite providing a comprehensive weekly recycling collection service, supported by additional provision at five household recycling centres (HRCs), that a number of residents are choosing to place these valuable materials into the residual waste bin where they are then lost and cost the authority a significant amount of money for disposal.

Using data from 2022/23, to achieve the 70% recycling target, we need to divert 7,600 tonnes of material from the residual waste stream to the existing kerbside recycling services or HRCs.

The compositional analysis shows 13,410 tonnes of material in the residual waste bin that could have been recycled using the existing services and, of this, 6,940 tonnes was food waste. The following table summarises the materials found in the black bin.

Materials	% of Kerbside Residual	Mass of Materials (t)
Food Waste	30%	6,940
Dry Recycling	13%	3,010
Other Recycling	10%	2,310
Garden Waste	3%	690
Absorbent Hygiene Products (AHP)	2%	460

The remaining 42%, 9,710 tonnes, is none recyclable waste that was correctly presented in the residual waste bin.

The disposal of residual waste costs the Council £3.4m a year, as well as creating the previously mentioned risk of an infraction fine. If we stopped disposing of enough residual waste to meet the 70% target (7,600T) this would reduce the Council's spend on residual waste disposal by over £890,000. This would result in additional costs for the disposal of some recyclable items (e.g. food, wood, rubble); however, these are considerably less costly than residual waste.

Due to the current risk of infraction fines and inability to achieve statutory targets this has been highlighted as a strategic risk rated red for the Authority.

1.06 Following the waste strategy review in early 2023, and the recommendations put forward to introduce an operating model that could result in achieving the 70% target in 2024/25 (restricting the capacity of waste that could be disposed of in the residual waste bin), Cabinet made the decision not to make any changes to the Waste Strategy, but to appeal to residents to increase their recycling and undertake a further period of monitoring to see if rates could be achieved through education and enforcement alone.

An action plan, including this approach along with other opportunities such as finding a recycling solution for some hard to recycle wastes such as absorbent hygiene products (AHP), was presented to the Minister for Climate Change for consideration in deciding whether to levy a fine. This action plan was not accepted by the Minister as being sufficient to give assurance of the Council's approach and commitment in meeting the current and future targets.

Further work was requested by the Minister for the Authority to provide a realistic and evidenced based action plan and Resource and Waste Strategy.

1.07 Despite the Minister not accepting the action plan presented by the Council, several interventions were still progressed through the period of monitoring requested by Cabinet. These included:

Engagement and Education - more than thirty engagement events took place over the summer months in 2023 which included attendance at local fayres and festivals, community engagement events, door knocking exercises, presentations to community groups. Participation and engagement at these events were well received; however, their impact is difficult to quantify. Leaflets in multiple languages were developed to improve engagement and understanding of our services with those in our communities who do not have Welsh or English as a main language. A leaflet was distributed to all residents with the council tax bill to inform them of the recycling performance, the risk of infraction fines and a plea to engage with the recycling service. Other local and national campaigns were promoted such as the Be Mighty. Recycle food waste campaign.

Enforcement - enforcement of excess waste presentation was reinforced ensuring the no side waste presentation and fully closed black bin lid procedure was monitored. This resulted in 1,693 first stage letter (informative/engagement) being issued, 159 Section 46 Notices being issued, and two Fixed Penalty Notices being issued for continued non-conformance. This demonstrated short term improvement with residents identified.

Participation - in late September (2023) recycling participation studies were undertaken of a select number of properties over the six days of the working week to establish engagement with the service. The resident participation in the weekly service was:

Waste Type	Recycling Presentation Rate (3,289 properties)
Glass	10-20%
Paper/Card	36-61%
Plastic/Tins	36-68%
Food Waste	17-32%

This information showed that there was still low customer participation in the weekly recycling collection service, specifically food waste and glass recycling.

Larger Bin Requests - properties where six or more people reside can request a larger bin if they can demonstrate that they utilise the recycling collection service fully. Of those assessed in the last few months of 2023, 92% of applicants were refused the larger bin due to having excess recycling in the black bin. Those residents were supported to utilise the weekly recycling service to it's fullest so that they did not have excess waste and so could manage with the existing bin size.

AHP Recycling - the recycling of absorbent hygiene products (AHP) has been explored following introduction of the collection service in 2022 utilising Welsh Government capital funding to set up the service. The recycling potential for this product is minimal and the calculated recycling benefit is estimated to be just 0.34% (high estimate) based on tonnages collected and that identified through the compositional analysis. Due to cost limitations and the recycling benefit already obtained through EfW, it is not realistic to introduce this service to achieve 70% recycling. The benefit to AHP collection is to remove odorous waste stream from the residual waste bin by collecting it on a weekly basis.

Staff Resilience - in July 2023 Cabinet approved the recruitment of three additional Recycling, Compliance and Data officers to supplement the existing two positions. The recruitment has taken place with new officers undertaking training to deliver the commitments detailed in the strategy. The position of Waste Strategy Manager has also been filled following a protracted recruitment exercise.

Recycling Data - following adoption of these initiatives there has been no significant improvement in the tonnages of recycling collected, as shown in the table below. The boxes highlighted red show a negative change in tonnages collected in comparison to the year previous, the boxes highlighted green show a positive change.

	Residual Waste	Plastics/Tins	Paper/Cardboard	Food	Glass	Garden Waste
2022	13150.39	1906.20	2716.96	2475.09	2693.75	5843.88
2023	13322.17	1722.40	3020.90	2393.56	2602.45	7288.06
Tonnage Difference	+171.78	-183.80	303.94	-81.52	-91.30	1444.18
1.08	<p>The Minister has yet to decide whether to impose any fines for 2021/2022 and 2022/2023 and is also monitoring Flintshire's performance in 2023/2024 closely. In arriving at a decision, the Minister has stipulated that the Council must be committed to improving its performance to achieve the statutory minimum targets which is of fundamental importance and the plan needs to be credible, in terms of the actions proposed and the commitment from the Authority in place to deliver them.</p> <p>Since that time, dialogue with the Minister for Climate Change and senior Welsh Government officials has led to the development of a new Resource and Waste Strategy to demonstrate an evidence led strategic approach to address the performance of the Authority and mitigate against the risk of fines.</p> <p>Whilst reviewing the Authority's performance and seeking to develop the action plan, the following challenges have been identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing budgets and accessible funding • Instilling long term behavioural change of our residents • Political support • Reducing residual waste arisings • Encouraging use of the food waste recycling service • Increasing all recycling streams • Providing opportunities for increased reuse of items • Providing effective recycling services to flats and houses of multiple occupancy (HMOs) • Bridging barriers to utilising the service (accessibility, storage, containers) • Finding sustainable recycling outlets for some waste items (carpets, AHP, flexible plastics) • Procurement of sustainable disposal outlets • Our waste infrastructure capacity • Staff resilience, retention, and recruitment • Changing legislation (workplace recycling/deposit return scheme/extended producer responsibility) 					
1.09	<p>WRAP and Local Partnerships have been assisting officers to review the Council's current waste strategy for opportunities for improvement and efficiency. The scope of the work being undertaken has been split into four workstreams which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workstream 1: Waste Strategy – To provide an evidence-based plan to Welsh Government on developing a strategy to reach 70% recycling. • Workstream 2: Infrastructure – A review of the current infrastructure and plans to map against service and strategy requirements. • Workstream 3: Decarbonisation of Fleet – Review of future electric fleet requirements to align with infrastructure review. • Workstream 4: Workplace Recycling – A review of trade collections with a view to ensure compliance with new regulations in April 2024. 					

Workstream One

Workstream one began in the summer of 2023 with a full review of the Council's existing Waste Strategy, which has been assessed together with Welsh Government policy and statutory recycling targets to ensure that the Council's aspirations for delivering an effective and efficient strategy aligned with national standards. To facilitate this review several sub-workstreams have been taking place to gather a comprehensive understanding of the current strategic and operational position, these include:

- Existing waste strategy review
- Identifying challenges to overcome.
- Reviewing previous political decisions
- Recycling performance and data review
- Operational review and efficiency (kerbside collections and HRCs)
- Recycling and waste tonnage and collection round modelling
- Staff resource and resilience

This workstream is now concluding with the production of a draft Resource and Waste Strategy which will guide the service through the next six years to 2030.

1.10 **Resource and Waste Strategy**

The Resource and Waste Strategy has been designed to be succinct, easy to read and accessible to help our residents engage with the service, its priorities and hold the Council accountable for achieving its set objectives, national recycling targets and minimising the risk of infraction fines.

The strategy begins by setting out the Council's vision:

"Our vision is to lead Flintshire towards a circular economy, maximise our resource efficiency, minimise waste and work collaboratively with our communities to take collective environmental responsibility. Through an effective resource and waste strategy, we aim to safeguard the well-being of current and future generations, support the local economy and reduce our impact on climate change."

Then setting eight clear objectives:

- 1) To be a net carbon zero Council by 2030 and support wider decarbonisation actions across the County;
- 2) Prioritise waste minimisation through proactive engagement with our communities;
- 3) Increase reuse and repair through partnership with third sector organisations;
- 4) Achieve Welsh Government targets to reuse, recycle and compost over 70% of the waste we collect;
- 5) To provide efficient, innovative, and cost-effective services;
- 6) Meet budgetary requirements and avoid fines;
- 7) To invest in our infrastructure to future proof services to accommodate service growth;
- 8) Utilise proportionate and effective enforcement for non-conformance.

It then goes on the present global, national, and local context that the Strategy sits within. The Strategy has been developed in line with the waste hierarchy, supporting the principles of waste prevention and minimisation, supporting re-use, recycling and finally residual recovery and landfill for items not suitable for re-use or recycling. The Strategy also outlines the drivers for change so that our residents

	<p>are fully informed as to why there is a need to implement a Strategy focusing on recycling performance, infraction fines and waste compositional analysis.</p>
1.11	<p>To achieve our objectives, there are five priorities that set out what we want to achieve and how these will be achieved. The priorities are:</p> <p>Priority 1: Waste Minimisation and Reuse Our priority is to reduce overall waste arisings within Flintshire and increase the amount we reuse to avoid disposal. Our approach will be focused on helping residents and businesses reduce the amount of waste they produce and enabling better reuse of items.</p> <p>Priority 2: Increase Recycling We need to increase our recycling rate to 70% and beyond by 2024/25 to ensure that we meet Welsh Government targets, avoid materials being needlessly discarded, promote a circular economy, meet net zero carbon targets and avoid financial penalties.</p> <p>Priority 3: Decarbonisation We have committed to be a net carbon zero Council by 2030 and supporting wider decarbonisation actions across the County.</p> <p>Priority 4: Infrastructure Delivering effective and efficient recycling services, that maintain the quality of the materials collected and ensure the capability of accommodating increases in future growth requires robust infrastructure to be in place.</p> <p>Priority 5: Enforcement We want to ensure that we make reducing, reusing, and recycling household waste as easy and as accessible as possible. We will continue to support residents on their recycling journey, but we will also deliver fair and robust enforcement of waste policies and illegal activities such fly tipping, where necessary</p>
1.12	<p>Strategy Focus The focus of the Resource and Waste Strategy is to support our residents and communities to avoid waste and promote and enable the reuse or repair of valuable materials and avoid disposal. Where it is not possible to reduce, reuse or repair items, then the strategy aims to enable residents to recycle as much of their waste as possible and make it easier to recycle a wider variety of materials. Disposal, through energy recovery, is the last resort for any materials that cannot be reused, repaired or recycled.</p> <p>Supporting our residents and communities to minimise waste produced, repair and reuse or recycle while embedding long term behaviour change is core to our Resource and Waste Strategy.</p> <p>This aligns in with our Council Plan 2023/28 priority Circular Economy, sitting in the Green Society and Environment theme, where we have committed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieving Welsh Government recycling targets • Developing a Recycling Waste Transfer Station for the deposit and processing of recyclable materials • Promoting the option to reuse and repair unwanted items at Household Recycling Centres by partnering with local charities or social enterprises. • Working in partnership, to actively support and engage with community led

	<p>groups by developing recycling initiatives.</p> <p>The engagement and support of elected members is crucial in shaping the policies and procedures that will be necessary to support the delivery of the new Resource and Waste Strategy. Several members workshops have taken place over the years, explaining how the waste and recycling services operate, highlighting the statutory targets and what we need to do to achieve these, including the impact of failing to meet them. These sessions have proven fundamental in developing Council's strategy in the past.</p>
1.13	<p>Strategy Consultation and Outcomes</p> <p>We cannot make the required changes alone and a collective effort is required. It was important that Members, residents, and our communities had the opportunity to shape proposals and therefore we undertook a consultation on a draft Resource and Waste Strategy to ensure that our objectives aligned with our service users needs and priorities and expectations.</p> <p>The consultation took place over a period of six weeks from 1st December 2023 until 12th January 2024. The consultation took the form of a short online survey with set questions focused on the objectives and actions of the strategy. Where access to the online survey was not possible, paper surveys were provided and available. The questions asked are detailed in Appendix 1</p> <p>To deliver the consultation to as many key stakeholders as possible several communication channels were utilised to raise as much awareness as possible. These included, but were not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designated webpage detailing purpose of the consultation, a copy of the draft report and link to the online survey (+19,000 views) • An online survey • Engagement events at Connects Centres/libraries. • Press release and social media campaign • Promotion at the household recycling centres (HRCs) • Promotion via GovDelivery email service (c.30,000 subscribers) • Briefings for MPs/MSs/Town and Community Councils. • Workshops for Elected Members • Briefings for Elected Members
1.14	<p>Consultation Responses</p> <p>A total of 5,333 responses to the online survey were received which demonstrates the interest and importance this strategy has within our community. The responses received for each question posed are detailed in Appendix 2</p> <p>There was strong support for majority of the questions asked with most finding the objectives Very Important/Important or Strongly agree/Agree with our proposed actions. There were three questions which received split views, these were on the following actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support residents to restrict the amount of residual waste that can be disposed of in the black bin to encourage greater recycling by either reducing the frequency of collections or reducing the capacity (size) of the black bin. • Introduce a 'no recycling in residual waste' policy at the household recycling centres to maximise recycling. • Take enforcement action against those who do not recycle correctly and those who do not recycle at all.

	<p>(These responses are detailed in question 7, Appendix 2)</p> <p>While there were varied views as to whether these measures would help our residents recycle more, each one of these actions is key to achieving deliverability of five of the objectives that were strongly supported; namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be a net zero carbon Council by 2030 and support wider decarbonisation actions across the County • Prioritise waste minimisation through proactive engagement with our communities. • Achieve Welsh Government targets to reuse, recycle and compost over 70% of the waste we collect. • To provide efficient, innovative, and cost-effective services. • Meet budgetary requirements and avoid fines. • Utilise proportionate and effective enforcement for non-conformance. <p>Due to their significance in achieving our overall aims, these actions have been retained in the strategy.</p>
1.15	<p>When asked ‘are there ‘any barriers preventing you from sorting your waste and recycling’ 30.7% of the respondents answered yes, with an option to provide further detail. This showed that the three main barriers were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I don’t have enough space to store all the recycling containers needed. • I’m unsure about what I can and cannot recycle. • I don’t have all the containers I need. <p>(These responses are detailed in question 10 & 11, Appendix 2)</p> <p>This feedback has allowed us to further understand why there may have been lack of support for the initiatives detailed in section 1.14 and what may prevent our residents from maximising the use of our recycling collection service. Actions to overcome and support residents to reduce these barriers are now included in the actions of the strategy and will support them in being able to any future service change.</p>
1.16	<p>Further to the set question asked in the consultation, further opportunity was given for respondents to provide more detail and context to their responses. These responses have been reviewed and categorised so that they can support informing the final strategy. Appendix 3 details out the themes of the responses which are separated to three categories.</p> <p>Green: Comments that relate to areas of focus or suggestions that were already included in the draft Resource and Waste Strategy. This demonstrates that the strategy aligned well with residents’ expectations.</p> <p>Amber: Comments that relate to areas of focus or suggestions that hadn’t been included in the draft Resource and Waste Strategy, have now been considered. This demonstrates the value or, and positive feedback from, the public consultation.</p> <p>Red: Comments that relate to areas of focus or suggestions that we know we won’t be implementing due to their impacts being in conflict to the objectives of the strategy.</p>

	<p>Where comments or suggestion have not been included in the strategy then a frequently asked question (FAQ) document will be produced informing respondents why it has not been possible to include their suggestions.</p> <p>Appendix 4 details the sections of the final strategy that were amended following review of the consultation returns.</p>
1.17	<p>Following review at the Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the 5th March 2023, the draft strategy was supported; however, members requested an amendment to the wording of one of the key actions under Priority 2 – Increase Recycling. The committee recommended changing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will restrict the amount of residual waste that residents can dispose of in the black bin to encourage greater recycling by all residents either by reducing the frequency of collections or the capacity of the bin. <p>To</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We may restrict the amount of residual waste that residents can dispose of in the black bin to encourage greater recycling by all residents either by reducing the frequency of collections or the capacity of the bin. <p>The Committee also moved an amendment to a recommendation of the report presented to them. They moved the following change to recommendation 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That Scrutiny agrees that a further report be presented in June outlining the Council’s transition to a restricted capacity residual waste collection model. <p>To</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That Scrutiny agrees that a further report be presented to the June meeting outlining the Council’s proposals to increase recycling rates in line with priority 2 in the draft strategy.
1.18	<p>The final draft Resource and Waste Strategy for consideration can be viewed in Appendix 5</p> <p>Should this Strategy be adopted then it is proposed that a further report be brought to Cabinet in June outlining the Council’s transition to a restricted capacity residual waste collection model as committed to in priority two of the Strategy. This action is fundamental in achieving the statutory recycling target of 70% and will be the first action to implement if the Strategy is adopted.</p> <p>Furthermore, the Strategy will be presented to the Minister for Climate Change for consideration along with a detailed action plan for its implementation to continue our journey to 70% recycling.</p>

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	The work is being supported by Local Partnerships and Waste Resources Action Programme (WRAP) Cymru.
2.02	Recruitment of a Waste Strategy Manager and Recycling, Compliance and Data Officers has been undertaken.

3.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT										
3.01	<p>A full Integrated Impact Assessment has been undertaken on the Resources and Waste Strategy and has assisted in informing the following:</p> <p>Ways of Working (Sustainable Development) Principles Impact</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Long-term</td> <td>The proposals will drive improvements to recycling performance and achieving a Circular Economy. Through proactive engagement and education, we will drive behavioural change. Reducing the Council's carbon emissions to support the climate change agenda for future generations.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Prevention</td> <td>The proposals will help prevent the increasing amounts of waste generated and therefore reduce the Council carbon footprint. Wastes that are odour or perceived as unhygienic in nature will be collected most frequently to minimise impact on our residents.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Integration</td> <td>Through the provision of positive engagement in multi languages we ensure inclusion of all within our communities with our services. Reviewing and updating our assisted waste process will ensure everyone in our community can engage with the services we provide.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Collaboration</td> <td>The proposal requires further work with Welsh Government, and partners, to find sustainable solutions for nonrecyclable materials. Working collaboratively with businesses, third sector, schools and charities to deliver objectives.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Involvement</td> <td>Improved engagement with Flintshire residents, businesses, schools, third sector and charities to ensure they understand their responsibilities and ensure waste minimisation, reuse and recycling before disposal. Through the provision of positive engagement in multi languages we ensure inclusion of all within our communities with our services. Reviewing and updating our assisted waste process will ensure everyone in our community can engage with the services we provide.</td> </tr> </table> <p>Well-being Goals Impact</p>	Long-term	The proposals will drive improvements to recycling performance and achieving a Circular Economy. Through proactive engagement and education, we will drive behavioural change. Reducing the Council's carbon emissions to support the climate change agenda for future generations.	Prevention	The proposals will help prevent the increasing amounts of waste generated and therefore reduce the Council carbon footprint. Wastes that are odour or perceived as unhygienic in nature will be collected most frequently to minimise impact on our residents.	Integration	Through the provision of positive engagement in multi languages we ensure inclusion of all within our communities with our services. Reviewing and updating our assisted waste process will ensure everyone in our community can engage with the services we provide.	Collaboration	The proposal requires further work with Welsh Government, and partners, to find sustainable solutions for nonrecyclable materials. Working collaboratively with businesses, third sector, schools and charities to deliver objectives.	Involvement	Improved engagement with Flintshire residents, businesses, schools, third sector and charities to ensure they understand their responsibilities and ensure waste minimisation, reuse and recycling before disposal. Through the provision of positive engagement in multi languages we ensure inclusion of all within our communities with our services. Reviewing and updating our assisted waste process will ensure everyone in our community can engage with the services we provide.
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	Prosperous Wales	Positive – improving waste minimisation, reuse and recycling of recycling materials resulting in world leaders in recycling performance
	Resilient Wales	Positive – Less demand for raw materials, promoting Circular Economy. Decarbonising our infrastructure and providing county-based disposal solutions.
	Healthier Wales	Positive – reducing vehicle movements and emissions and allowing for the responsible management of controlled waste
	More equal Wales	No impact
	Cohesive Wales	Positive – building community engagement with residents, businesses, third sector, schools and charities to deliver objectives.
	Vibrant Wales	Positive – improving waste minimisation, reuse and recycling of recycling materials and working towards carbon reduction
	Globally responsible Wales	Positive - reducing the reliance on the extraction of raw materials and destruction of natural habitats and ecosystems by the reprocessing of recyclable materials. By eliminating, minimising, reusing or recycling waste materials we will reduce carbon emissions.
3.02	We are highly unlikely to achieve the statutory recycling targets without making significant changes to improve recycling performance and reduce the amount of waste in the residual waste bin.	
3.03	The risk of not achieving the statutory recycling targets could result in a significant financial penalty for the Council (£200 for every tonne not recycled) if Welsh Government were to choose to levy the infraction fines. This equates to £1M for failing to achieve the targets in 2021/2022 and 2022/2023, and potentially in excess of £1M per annum from 2024/25, for which there is no available budget and would equate to a 1% rise in council tax.	
3.04	The disposal of residual waste costs the Council £3.4m a year, as well as creating the previously mentioned risk of an infraction fine. If we stopped disposing of enough residual waste to meet the 70% target (7,600T) this would reduce the Council's spend on residual waste disposal by over £890,000. This would result in additional costs for the disposal of some recyclable items (e.g. food, wood, rubble); however, these are considerably less costly than residual waste.	
3.05	The lack of appetite by our customers to improve recycling performance and implement changes could result in the loss of the Sustainable Waste Management Grant from Welsh Government to invest in Flintshire. The value of this grant to Flintshire is currently £0.742m.	
3.06	Negative public impression of the service will be managed through positive and proactive engagement which is a key theme through each of the priorities within the strategy.	

4.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED
4.01	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Regional Transport Strategy
4.02	Flintshire residents
4.03	Elected members
4.04	Town and Community Councils
4.05	Members of the Senedd
4.06	Members of Parliament
4.07	Flintshire County Council officers and employees
4.08	Groups with protected characteristics

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix 1 - Resource and Waste Strategy - Consultation questions
5.02	Appendix 2 - Resource and Waste Strategy - Consultation question responses
5.03	Appendix 3 - Consultation Comment Synopsis and Consideration
5.04	Appendix 4 - Strategy Amendments Post Consultation
5.05	Appendix 5 - Draft Resource and Waste Strategy

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	Towards Zero Waste Municipal Waste Sector Plan - Collections blueprint Beyond Recycling Strategy Climate Change Strategy Council Plan

7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	Contact Officer: Ruth Tulley, Regulatory Services Manager Telephone: 01352 704796 E-mail: ruth.tulley@flintshire.gov.uk

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
8.01	Extended Producer Responsibility policy approach aimed at shifting the responsibility for managing end-of-life products, including their disposal and recycling, from the consumer to the producer.

Deposit Return Scheme a system designed to encourage the return and recycling of beverage containers, typically plastic bottles, glass bottles, and aluminium cans.

Emissions Trading Scheme an approach used to control pollution by providing economic incentives for reducing emissions of pollutants into the atmosphere.

Energy from Waste the process of generating energy, typically in the form of electricity and/or heat, from the combustion of waste materials.

Residual Waste Materials that remain following efforts to reduce. Reuse, recycle or compost. Commonly known as 'general waste' or 'black bin waste'.

Kerbside Collections the collection of recycling and waste from residential properties

Household Recycling Centres Waste disposal centres where residents can dispose of domestic waste and recycling items that are not collected at the Kerbside.

Net Zero The balance between the amount of greenhouse gases being produced and the amount that are being removed from the atmosphere.

Circular Economy Extending the life cycle of products by reusing, regenerating, sharing, repairing, and recycling existing materials.

Waste Composition The types and volumes of materials found in a waste stream.

Resources Materials, such as glass, plastic, paper fibres, that can be utilised to produce new items.

Infraction fine a financial penalty imposed by government for not meeting statutory recycling targets.