

Rutland County Council

Catmose, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 6HP
Telephone 01572 722577 Email: governance@rutland.gov.uk

SUPPLEMENTARY ITEM

10) WASTE STRATEGY CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

Scrutiny is being asked to comment on the Public Consultation Document that goes live on 7 June 2021.

(Pages 3 - 14)

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Municipal Waste Management and Streetscene Strategy 2021 – 2035

Summary Document

Achieving our goals will be a collective effort between the Rutland residents and communities, businesses, the Council and its service providers.

1. Introduction

Rutland County Council (RCC) is developing a new Waste Management and Streetscene Strategy for 2021-2035. We want to make sure we manage the waste that the County and our residents generate responsibly and for the benefit of the environment. We have also developed our strategy to respond to the Government's national policy and the draft Environment Bill. Our new strategy also takes account of the amount of waste we currently generate as a County and the costs of providing waste collection, disposal and street cleaning services.

Rutland's draft Waste Management and Streetscene Strategy sets out the approach the Council will take to managing the County's waste from 2023 onwards.

The Government's draft Environment Bill sets a target for all local authorities to increase recycling rates by 2035. To meet these national requirements RCC must transform its waste management services so that the County can reduce waste and increase recycling rates while also minimising cost to address increasing budgetary pressures.

This draft Waste Management and Streetscene Strategy sets out how Rutland County plans to manage your waste in the future. Achieving our goals will be a collective effort between the Rutland residents and communities, businesses, the Council and its service providers.



2. Our Vision

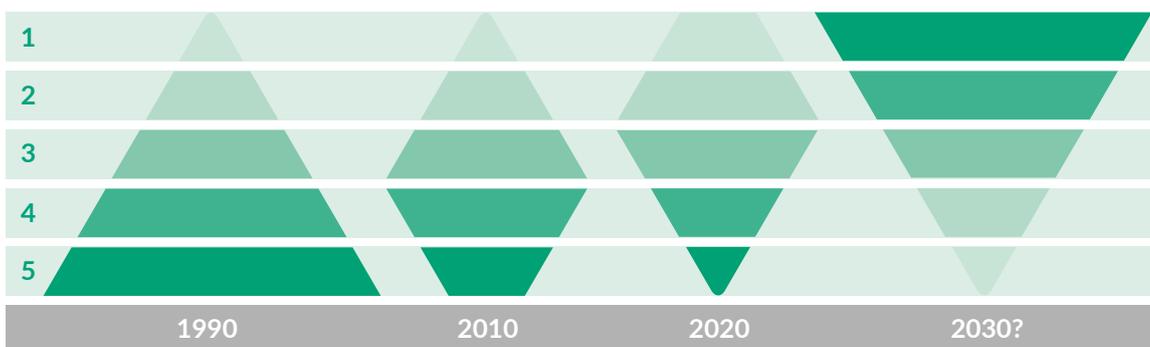
The Council's vision is for a clean, green and sustainable county. How we manage the County's waste in future will play an important role in helping to achieve this vision.

Rutland County Council is committed to achieving the 2030 waste hierarchy, which sets out the priority order for managing waste materials based on their environmental impacts. We will work in partnership with residents, businesses and our local communities to:

1. Prevent waste from being created
2. Encourage and enable reuse of waste
3. Recycle as much of the remaining waste as possible
4. Recover waste that cannot be recycled e.g. energy from waste incineration
5. Dispose of the very limited amount of residual waste responsibly.

Evolution of Waste Management Practices:

In the past, most waste was dealt with by disposal, but over time that will shift increasingly to recycling, reuse and ultimately prevention.



1. Prevention

Using less material in design and manufacture. Keeping products for longer; reuse. Using less hazardous materials.

2. Preparing for reuse

Checking, cleaning, repairing, refurbishing, whole items or spare parts.

3. Recycling

Turning waste into a new substance or product. Includes anaerobic digestion and composting.

4. Other recovery

Includes materials from waste and some landfilling; also co-incineration plants, and incineration plants.

5. Disposal

Includes landfill, and incineration plants.

*The Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011 require local authorities to adopt the 'waste hierarchy' approach to managing waste – prioritising waste materials based on their environmental impact.

RUTLAND'S CURRENT RECYCLING RATE IS **56%**
IF ALL OUR RESIDENTS RECYCLED EVERYTHING THEY COULD AT HOME



A RECYCLING RATE OF **67.8%**
could be achieved

3. Our Goals

Rutland's current recycling rate is 56.0% (2018/19). We compare well to other areas and are currently ranked 33rd out of 345 English local authorities **However**, If Rutland residents recycled everything they could at home then our recycling rate would rise to 67.8%.

Increasing our recycling rate could help to save money on the cost of disposing of waste. More importantly, if we can reduce the amount of waste we create this could avoid extra costs for the Council and residents. This will also be the best option for the environment.



Waste composition - Black bin*

12% comprised waste which could have been recycled from home using the kerbside collection service (paper and cardboard **3.7%**, plastics **3.3%**, glass **1.6%**, garden waste **1.6%**, metals **1.4%** and batteries **0.1%**)

41% was food waste

3% was textiles

4% was disposable nappies

40% of the bin was made up of general residual waste items such as packaging, organic material (such as tissues and cloths) and fines (anything below 10mm in size)

GOAL ONE



Achieve a kerbside recycling rate target of

65%

Our goals for Rutland’s approach to waste management are to:

- Increase the amount of waste recycled by the County (per household)
- Reduce the overall amount of waste generated by the County (per household)
- Optimise costs by keeping waste arisings to a minimum and maximising the amount of waste prevented, re-used and recycled.
- Reduce the level of carbon emissions from managing and processing the County’s waste.
- Avoid and reduce waste crime, with particular focus on littering, dog fouling and fly-tipping.

GOAL 1	Achieve a kerbside recycling rate target of 65%	
GOAL 2	Improve recycling at both HWRC sites to achieve a target of 85% of waste recycled	
GOAL 3	Ambition to reduce residual household waste arisings to less than 6kg/hhld/week	
GOAL 4	Achieve a net-zero waste management carbon footprint before 2050	
GOAL 5	Reduce the number of fly-tipping incidents to 200 per year	
GOAL 6	Ambition to reduce streetscene, waste collection and disposal costs by 10%	

GOAL TWO



Improve recycling at both HWRC sites to achieve a target of

85%

of waste recycled



4. Our Role

Waste management is a statutory responsibility. Rutland County Council has a duty to separately collect, manage, treat and dispose the 'municipal waste' generated in the county. Rutland also has a statutory duty to operate at least one Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC).

Working with our partners the Council provides these waste management and streetscene services:

- Kerbside waste and recycling collections
- Household Waste and Recycling Centres (HWRCs)
- Bulky household waste collections
- Commercial waste collections
- Street cleansing operations

Our communities are at the heart of reducing the amount of waste we produce and helping to manage it in a way that helps the environment. Residents and businesses can make choices that help to reduce the amount of waste generated and reuse and recycle any remaining waste. Making these individual choices can also help to minimise additional costs in running waste and local streetscene services.



GOAL THREE



Ambition to reduce residual household waste arisings per week to less than

↓ **6KG**

5. Our Drivers for Change

5.1 Carbon reduction

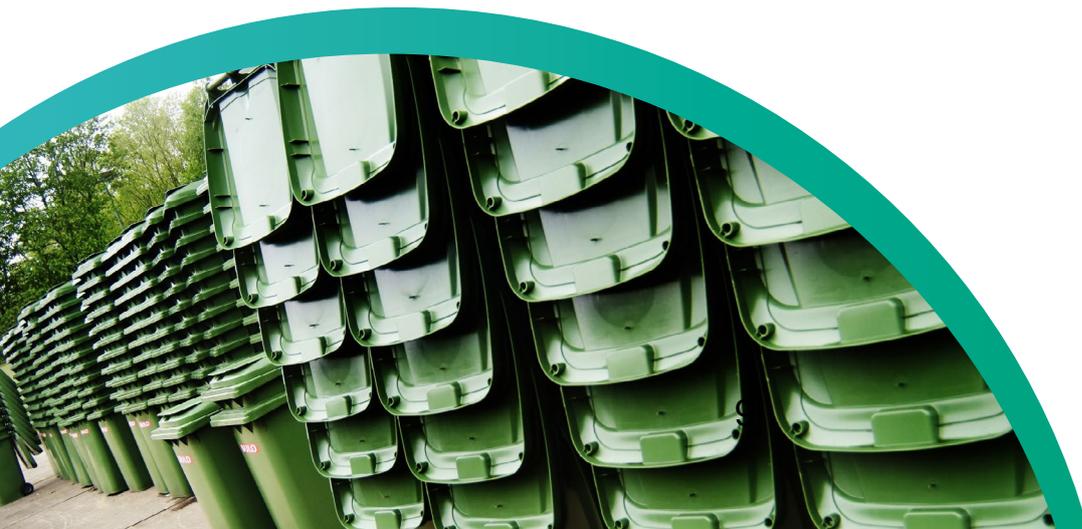
In 2019, the UK government became the first major economy in the world to set a legally binding target to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) from across the UK economy by 2050. Rutland County Council has passed a Climate Change Action Motion with a commitment to make sure the Council's activities achieve a net-zero carbon footprint as soon as possible and before 2050.

5.2 Behaviour change

The Council provides statutory waste management and street cleansing services. However, it is residents and businesses who have the power to drive change through their waste management and streetscene habits and overall commitment to use these services in the most effective and efficient way. Therefore, working in partnership together is critical if we are to achieve the vision and objectives in this strategy.

To reduce costs and meet future policy and legislative requirements through driving waste up the hierarchy, Rutland residents and businesses need to change their waste management behaviour. Similarly, the Council must provide the services which facilitate this change.

To maximise the amount of waste recycled and minimise the amount of waste thrown away, the Council aims to encourage residents and businesses to prevent, reduce, re-use and recycle by delivering education and awareness campaigns, providing increased waste hierarchy-orientated opportunities (i.e. through facilitating local re-use and repair opportunities), and through increasing residents' ability to recycle. (not only through the range of recyclables collected, but also through having policies which support increases in the number and size of receptacles for recycling). The Council will also play a role in restricting residual waste (for example by adjusting capacity and frequency of collections) and through the enforcement of Council policies.



GOAL FOUR



Achieve a **net-zero** waste management carbon footprint before **2050**

5.3 Financial climate

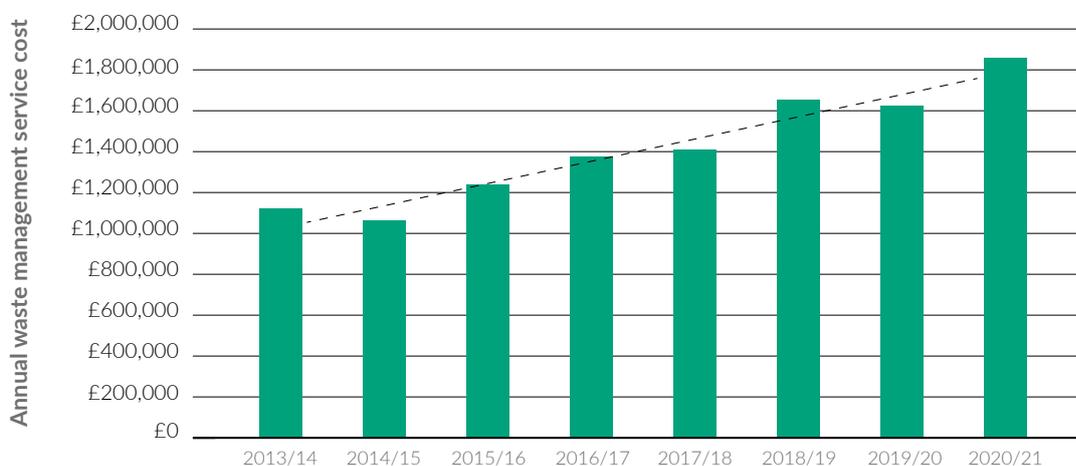
Rutland County Council is a commissioning authority, meaning all waste services are contracted out. The cost of residual waste collection and disposal in Rutland equals the total combined cost of collecting and processing recycling AND garden waste at the kerbside:

Proportion of kerbside waste management costs



The waste management and streetscene service currently costs the Council £1,858,610 per year to run. Costs are rising, as the graph below shows. This increasing trend in costs is partly because the amount of residual waste is increasing and, at the same time, recycling rates are decreasing.

Total annual waste management service costs



GOAL FIVE



REDUCE the number of fly-tipping incidents to

200 ↓
per year

The Council is facing significant budgetary pressures and is committed to aspiring to reduce service costs by 10%. To achieve this, and so to meet the objective of optimising costs, fundamentally, wherever possible, waste must be prevented. If it cannot be prevented, then it must be re-used. If it cannot be re-used, then it must be recycled and if it cannot be recycled, then it should be disposed of through other recovery means, namely by using Energy from Waste facilities (where waste is incinerated to produce electricity).

5.4 Policy and legislative impact

The Government's Waste Management Plan for England (published in January 2021) contains detailed measures designed to support a new national 65% recycling target for municipal waste by 2035. The waste management plan includes a number of key drivers that are currently subject to public consultation with the aim of implementing a new national approach between 2023 and 2024. These are:

- **Consistency of collections:** The Government is considering introducing a requirement for a consistent set of dry recyclable materials to be collected from all households and businesses (glass, metal, plastic, paper and card); separate food waste collections for households and businesses and free garden waste collections.
- **Re-use:** The Government is considering how Household Waste Recycling Centres (also known as 'Civic Amenity site of 'tip') can play a more effective role in resource efficiency, for example through encouraging re-use. Further measures will also be explored, such as setting re-use targets for local authorities, requiring them to set their own targets, or requiring reporting to encourage provision of re-use facilities.
- **Deposit Return Schemes (DRS):** Glass, cans and plastic drinks containers may be collected through reverse vending machines sited, for example, at supermarket car parks, as well as at the kerbside.

These areas are all included in the Government's draft Environment Bill 2020. The Environment Bill also helps deliver commitments in Defra's 2017 Litter Strategy to promote proportionate and effective enforcement against littering.

GOAL SIX



Ambition to **REDUCE** streetscene, waste collection and disposal **costs** by

10% ↓

6. Future service requirements

6.1 Future kerbside waste management requirements

Through the Environment Bill 2020 the Government may require Rutland County Council to enhance its kerbside waste management service and offer:

- Separate collections of recycling materials from households (glass, metal, plastic, paper and card) except when it is not technically or economically practicable, or there is no significant environmental benefit in doing so, in which case twin stream recycling should be offered;
- Weekly separate collections of food waste from households; and
- Potentially free separate collections of garden waste from households.

In addition, the Council will need to consider the implications of the recycling composition of materials changing, affected by deposit return schemes (i.e. the quantities of cans, glass and plastic bottles present in recycling and residual waste streams which may affect the quantities collected and reprocessed).

6.2 Future HWRC waste management requirements

The Council is committed to providing at least one Household Waste Recycling Centre within the County. Our two existing sites, North Luffenham and Cottesmore, are limited in the accessible services they are able to offer due to their size and layout so we need to consider our future provision. There is also an opportunity to improve the service for example by accepting and charging for commercial waste and charging for 'DIY' types of waste (such as plasterboard, rubble and hardcore, ceramics, soil, wood and tyres) and by diverting more waste to be re-used.



6.3 Future commercial waste collection requirements

The Environment Bill may require local authorities to offer businesses:

- Separate collections of recycling materials (glass, metal, plastic, paper and card), except when it is not technically or economically practicable, or there is no significant environmental benefit in doing so, in which case twin stream recycling should be offered; and
- Weekly separate collections of food waste.

The service offered to businesses is therefore expected to change (along with the kerbside collection service offered to households).

6.4 Future streetscene requirements

To reduce littering, dog fouling and fly-tipping, the Council will carry out enforcement action against offenders as part of educational and awareness raising campaigns.

Rutland County Council is committed to deterring littering, dog fouling and fly-tipping through supporting and delivering campaigns to reduce the costs of the service and to reduce environmental impact. This includes supporting national campaigns such as Defra's 'Keep it, Bin it' campaign, Keep Britain Tidy campaigns (for example, the Great British Spring Clean), and Clean Up Britain.



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