

# Draft waste management strategy

## A 10-year plan for Lewisham 2021–31



# Contents

Foreword.....	3
Why is a waste management strategy needed? .....	4
What has already been achieved?.....	5
Ambition and six priorities .....	8
Priority 1. Leading the way forward.....	9
Priority 2. Shaping services to follow the Waste Hierarchy .....	11
Priority 3. Working together for an improved local environment.....	13
Priority 4. Using waste as a resource following the Circular Economy principles .....	16
Priority 5. Reducing carbon emissions, decreasing energy waste and improving air quality... ..	18
Priority 6. Adding social value .....	21
Project Planner .....	23

# Foreword

With a new Waste Management Strategy for Lewisham, aligned with the Council's Climate Change Emergency Plan, the Council is committed to reducing waste, improving air quality, and protecting the environment for future generations.

The waste management strategy 2021–2031 supports Future Lewisham, our recovery plan which sets out four themes at the heart of the councils' response to the impact of the pandemic.

- A greener future
- A healthy and well future
- An economically sound future
- A future we all have a part in

The council is passionate about providing a cleaner, greener, environmentally sustainable borough and encouraging civic pride for everyone who lives, works and visits Lewisham.

The council is also committed to tackling the small minority of people who engage in anti-social behaviour to the detriment of local people/communities.

A team of enforcement officers has been established to tackle enviro-crime including fly tipping which blights our local communities. The council will provide residents with information and updates on the work undertaken by the enforcement team.

We want to offer a roadmap setting how residents, businesses, visitors, housing providers and Council services can work together towards a circular economy based on the 3 Rs (Reduce, Recycle and Reuse).

Adopting a circular economy has huge benefits on our environment, as well as on our communities and local economies. Less energy, water and resources are consumed to produce, transport, recycle and dispose of materials. Less polluting and greenhouse gases are released in the air. Less tax-payer money is spent on waste management activities. More locally-sourced materials and products are exchanged within communities which leads to strong local economy and social cohesion.

The draft waste management strategy presents a set of six priorities for the years to come.

**Priority 1.** Leading the way forward.

**Priority 2.** Shaping services to follow the waste hierarchy.

**Priority 3.** Working together for an improved local environment.

**Priority 4.** Using waste as a resource following the circular economy principles.

**Priority 5.** Reducing carbon emissions, decreasing energy waste and improving air quality.

**Priority 6.** Adding social value.

We would like to invite you to give your comments and ideas on the consultation we will hold during the summer, to help us shape the final strategy together. We intend to involve all stakeholders and equality groups in the borough to design the strategy around people's needs and aspirations.

Thank you for your support.

**Councillor Sophie McGeevor**  
**Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport**

# Why is a waste management strategy needed?

Lewisham is a dynamic and vibrant place to live, work, learn and play, with diverse and creative communities, award winning services and ambitious growth and regeneration plans for the future. These plans and our growing economy will create opportunity for residents and businesses and makes it essential that the growing amount of waste and recyclable resources that are produced will be managed in a sustainable and cost-effective way to the benefit of all.

The amount of waste produced and disposed of continues to rise, not just in Lewisham but across the world. Since our previous waste strategy was published, the way in which waste is dealt with has changed dramatically – from a ‘problem’ to be managed to a valuable source of materials that can be harnessed and re-used again before final disposal. We also need to think about ways of reducing the amount of waste that is generated, so there is less waste to deal with in the first place.

A consequence of poor waste management is often referred to as enviro-crime that can affect our local neighbourhoods including businesses. Litter, fly tipping, graffiti, flyposting, contaminated recycling and dog fouling are all forms of enviro-crime that has a negative impact on us all. Damaging our environment, our neighbourhoods and our economy.

The council has established a dedicated enforcement team that will tackle enviro-crime by enforcing the rules and issuing fixed penalty notices for a range of offences that detract from a clean street environment. If fixed penalty notices are not accepted or paid then the council will endeavour to take offenders to court and ask that the strongest penalties are given when offenders are found guilty.

The enforcement activities will be supported by the Cleaner Lewisham campaign and the development of the Cleaner Lewisham App that enables street based problems to be logged with the Council for action and feedback when the issue has been resolved.

Timely reports and data will be shared on the council’s website so that local people can see the positive effect of action being taken to crack down on enviro-crime across the borough.

We will work hard to help people minimise and manage the waste they produce, encourage them to recycle more, reduce contamination, and take pride in their local environment. We will engage and encourage everyone to take part and make an effort so that future generations benefit from the actions that we take together – now!

In order to make these improvements, we need to

involve as many people as possible. We will need to engage and work with as many residents, businesses, registered social landlords, housing providers, partners and other stakeholders as we can to develop and reconfigure services that meet the needs of our customers in the face of shrinking resources. We have done well over the past 10 years in reducing the amount of waste produced and the amount that has been recycled, but there is more to be done and this is reflected in the tasks we have set ourselves.

We will need to be innovative and the council will need to invest in new ways of managing waste which may increase the cost of services at the same time that the public sector is under pressure to improve efficiency and reduce expenditure. We will have to be more efficient, innovative and committed than ever, and the public will have to play their part.

We need to consult widely on this Draft Waste Management Strategy that sets out how we will approach waste management during the next 10 years to ensure solutions designed to deliver environmental improvements have involved all key stakeholders and, more importantly, been designed around the needs of the Borough’s diverse community as well as its physical characteristics.

# What has already been achieved?

Lewisham Council faces a number of challenges in providing sustainable waste management for those who live work and visit the borough, these include:

- Pressure from the Government to meet stretching waste targets
- The costs of waste management are rising and to a certain extent are dictated by commercial waste operations
- The problems of disposing of waste in London is a concern given the lack of space and therefore capacity for materials to be disposed of
- Inner city demographics of Lewisham provide additional challenges in terms of sustainable waste management options including differing housing stocks, lack of and size of gardens and a higher proportion of hard to engage groups with transient populations
- Rising public expectations and changing behaviour

- towards sustainable waste management options, including having limited influence on supply side factors of consumption and packaging design as well people not utilising the services provided
- Definitions and classifications of waste are ambiguous and don't aid service planning and delivery for example classification of commercial waste operations and definition of household waste to include hospitals
- For a number of reasons high levels of contamination in the dry recycling have meant that recycling tonnages have reduced
- The increasing amount of fly tipping and illegal waste left for collection.
- Location and suitability of street litter bins.

In 2019 Lewisham unveiled a £1.4 million 'recycling and reduction' plan as part of efforts to meet the mayor's 50% recycling target by 2025.

Speaking at the cabinet meeting on 11 December 2019, the Executive Director for Housing, Regeneration and the Environment said:

"It is generally accepted that recycling is more difficult for residents in flats; there is a high proportion of flats in the borough. Further, it is expected that development within the borough over the coming years will include a large number of flats.

"Those factors mean that achieving recycling levels comparable with outer London boroughs, which tend to have a lower proportion of flats, will be challenging".

# What has already been achieved? (continued)

The table shows the amount of waste produced, collected and disposed of by Lewisham Council over the past 10 years.

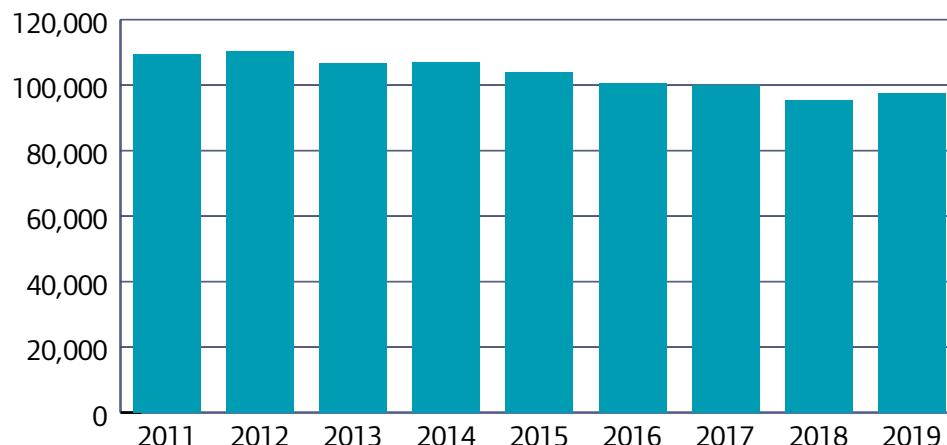
Whilst the results are impressive, more needs to be done to reduce the amount of waste created and this can be achieved by working together to deliver the Waste Management Strategy.

Lewisham Council – local authority collected waste from households 2010 to 2020				
Year	Residual household waste per household (kg/household)	Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting	Percentage of municipal waste sent to landfill	Collected household waste per person (kg)
2010–11	762.0	18%	10%	419.6
2011–12	768.0	17%	9%	410.1
2012–13	734.7	20%	9%	396.5
2013–14	725.3	18%	8%	377.0
2014–15	732.4	17%	0%	373.5
2015–16	698.4	18%	1%	349.2
2016–17	668.3	18%	1%	333.6
2017–18	616.3	22%	0%	328.7
2018–19	546.2	28%	0%	317.5
2019–20	557.3	27%	0%	319.9
Averages	681.0	20%	4%	363.0
Percent change since 2010–11	-27%	9%	-10%	-24%

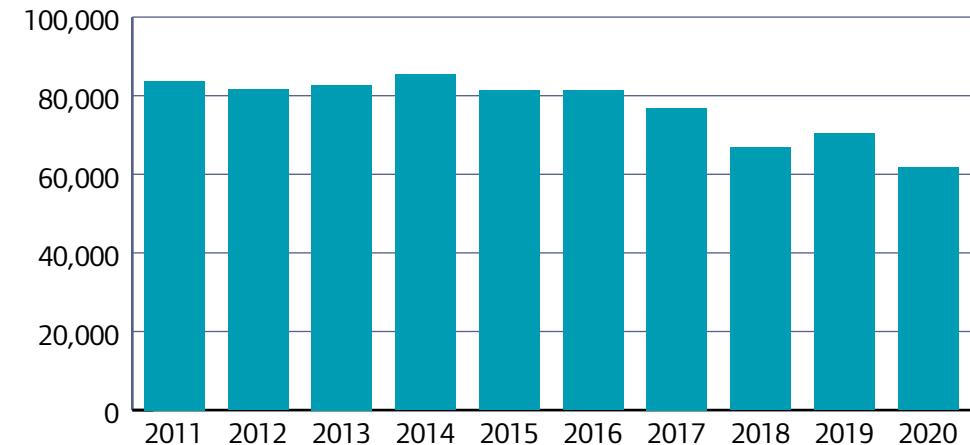


# What has already been achieved? (continued)

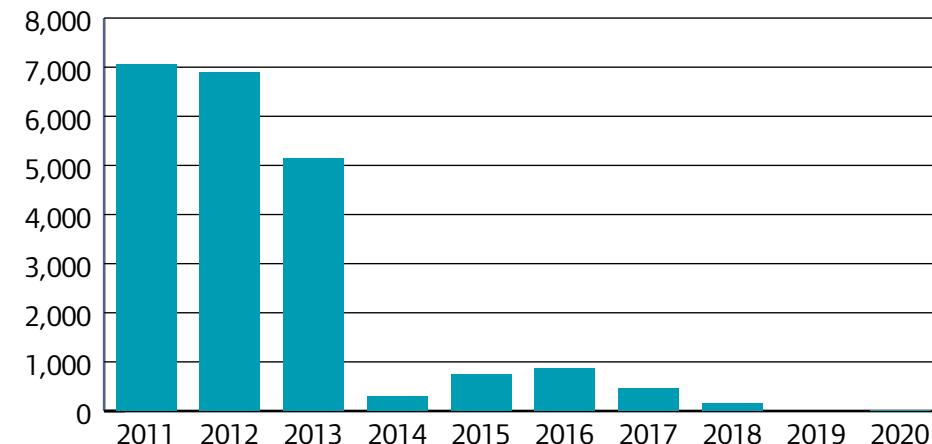
**Total Household waste collected**



**Household waste sent for incineration**



**Household waste to landfill**



**Household waste recycled/composted/reused**

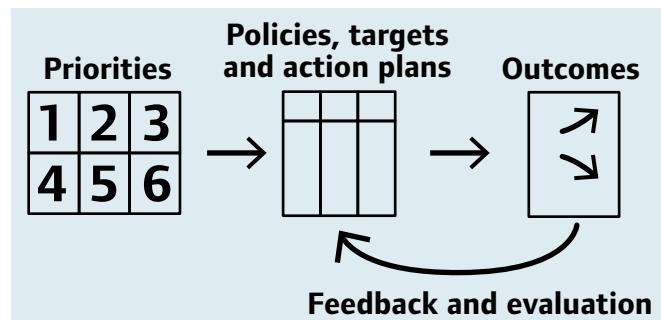


# Ambition and six priorities

The Council's ambition is to work with all partners in Lewisham to limit waste to a minimum, be innovative and show leadership to go towards a circular and regenerative economy that benefits the environment, local businesses and communities.

Building on the current situation, evidence studies, consultation findings and best practice, we have defined six priorities for the Council wastes management service and partners to develop policies, targets, workable action plans and monitoring processes. In a fast evolving and ambitious borough, it is key to regularly evaluate the outcomes to revise and adapt plans according to user feedback.

When ambition and priorities are shared, it is easier to make waste management in Lewisham a collective success.



## **Priority 1. Leading the way forward**

We want the Council and partners to be ambitious, show leadership and to innovate in the way waste is managed in Council facilities and estates and in developments to come.

## **Priority 2. Shaping services to follow the Waste Hierarchy**

We want the Council and partners to adapt their services to consumers' needs following the 'Waste Hierarchy'.

## **Priority 3. Working together for an improved local environment**

We want the Council to collaborate with residents and stakeholders to achieve the best results together.

## **Priority 4. Using waste as a resource following the Circular Economy Principles**

We want the Council and partners to manage our waste as a material resource to enhance our sustainability and the circular economy.

## **Priority 5. Reducing carbon emissions, decreasing energy waste and improving air quality**

We want the Council and partners to reduce net carbon emissions coming from waste and contribute to local air quality improvement.

## **Priority 6. Adding social value**

We want the Council and partners to contribute economic, social, and environmental benefits to the local community by supporting local supply chains, employment and social cohesion.

# Priority 1. Leading the way forward

We want the Council and partners to be ambitious, show leadership and dare to innovate in the way waste is managed in Council facilities and estates and in developments to come.

## Objectives

### 1. Leading by example

Demonstrate leadership to influence others through using circular economy principles in the way we manage our own waste in the schools, community facilities, estates and public spaces the Council owns.

### 2. Exploring innovative solutions

Invest in new ways of managing waste to improve efficiency and reduce expenditure in the longer run.

### 3. Setting ambitious targets and collecting data

Follow targets set in the new London plan and collect data to measure progress.

- Municipal waste (household and business) recycling target of 50% by 2025 and 65% by 2030
- 50% reduction in food waste and associated packaging waste/person by 2030
- Zero biodegradable or recyclable waste to landfill by 2026

- Construction and demolition – 95% reuse/recycling/recovery by 2030
- Excavation – 95% beneficial use by 2030
- 100% of the borough's municipal waste should be managed within London by 2026
- Fuel-free waste service vehicles by 2030 and zero emission fleet by 2050.

### 4. Using policies to assist site managers and developers with their projects

Enforce Local Plan policies to help site managers to update their waste management facilities to align with the circular economy objectives, and developers to design projects that aim to be net zero-waste, that manage as much waste as possible on site, and that include adequate, flexible, and easily accessible storage space and collection systems that support recycling and re-use.

## What we are already doing

- Reduction and Recycling Plan 2019–2022 approved in 2020
- The Council stopped ordering plastic cups; front staff have been supplied with reusable water bottles
- Council secured an award at the 'Awards for Excellence in Recycling and Waste Management' for 'The Best Local Authority Recycling Initiative 2019' for our work in cutting contamination on an estate in Brockley
- Officers are now working with Lewisham Homes to identify further estates where the pilot can be extended.
- Waste collection services collect data in all wards to measure issues and progress by location, tenure and premise type. Via a new Cleaner Lewisham app using Artificial Intelligence and connected to Waste Collection Rounds
- Policies S11 and S12 in the new Lewisham Local Plan currently subject to consultation set requirements based on circular economy principles for new waste management facilities and new development proposals.

# Priority 1. continued

## Our ideas

- Encourage all staff to become waste and recycling ambassadors, advocating the philosophy of achieving more sustainable waste management and supporting the aim of delivering an overall reduction in our waste and recovering more waste for reuse and recycling.
- Look to phase out the use of single-use plastics from within our own buildings and encourage business aligned to the Council to do likewise.
- Take zero-tolerance approach to littering and fly-tipping in the public space through education, communication, service adaptation, policy development and enforcement.
- As underutilized spaces and graffiti can sometimes contribute to create an environment that encourages anti-social behaviour in the public space such as littering and fly-tipping, support the use of the empty spaces for community gardens and artwork and develop street art and gardening policies and activities to facilitate the improvement of the borough.
- Continue improve intelligence-led and data-driven waste services, using technology and innovation to improve efficient, target “hotspots” and tackle problem areas.
- Explore the installation of user-friendly local reuse stations, in parks or other Council-owned ground-floor spaces (accessible through walking and cycling to the reuse station)
- Explore selecting pilot estates to introduce collective waste systems that can be fully or partly underground (it is known that recycling is more difficult in flats where internal storage space is reduced).
- Enforce against the minority who engage in anti-social behaviour to the detriment of local people/neighbourhoods.



# Priority 2. Shaping services to follow the Waste Hierarchy

We want the Council and partners to be ambitious, show leadership and dare to innovate in the way waste is managed in Council facilities and estates and in developments to come.

## Objectives

### 1. Helping to avoid/reduce waste

Help to prevent waste of resources such as food leftovers or excessive packaging and support sharing economy facilities to help people borrowing/hiring instead of buying.

### 2. Encouraging to repair/reuse locally

Promote repairing, purchasing, donating, exchanging used items such as bikes, furniture, computers or clothes within the borough.

### 3. Ensuring recycling/composting

Provide user-friendly services to ensure that recyclable material is actually recycled/composted.

### 4. Incineration/recovery

Ensure residual waste treatment maximises the value recovered from waste (resources and energy).

### 5. Minimising disposal

Continue to effectively manage our waste to avoid disposal by landfill.

## What we are already doing

- 12 water fountains are provided in parks and public spaces to reduce plastic waste.
- 18 textile banks for people to recycle clothes, shoes and fabric materials are available across the borough.
- Provision of a Cycle Loan Scheme where people can borrow a quality bike for £10/month instead of buying one. Tips on how to maintain or repair a bike on the Council's website with link to available trainings.
- In 2017, introduction of weekly food waste collection in parallel with weekly recycling bin collection while general waste is collected only fortnightly to encourage people to sort waste better, including on red routes. Monitoring of missed collections.
- Increased capture of food and dry recycling materials (glass, cans, paper and cardboard, plastic bottles and mixed plastics). In 2019, the recycling rate was 29.5% (28% in 2018, 22% in 2017 and 17% in 2016).
- Supply of compost bins for £10 to encourage to compost rather disposing garden waste. Fortnightly garden waste collection is possible against a £80 yearly subscription.
- Provision of a chargeable commercial waste and recycling service for local businesses, alternative to private waste carriers. Provision of a chargeable clinical waste collection service for organisations and businesses such as care homes, nurseries, and schools.
- Bulky waste: Free collection of mattresses and collection of Christmas trees at 12 seasonal collection points.
- Provision of a borough-wide Reuse and Recycling Centre on Landmann Way in New Cross. It is a co-mingle site, all recyclables go in one container and will be separated off site. It is required to book a slot and register a vehicle.
- On the same site in New Cross, the SELCHP Energy Recovery Facility was built through a partnership between the public and private sectors. Energy is produced from black bin rubbish and non-recyclable waste. It reduces the borough reliance on fossil fuels and is able to produce enough electricity to power around 48,000 homes. After incineration, leftover metals are extracted and sent to be recycled while the incinerator bottom ash is used as a secondary aggregate in both road construction and the building industry.

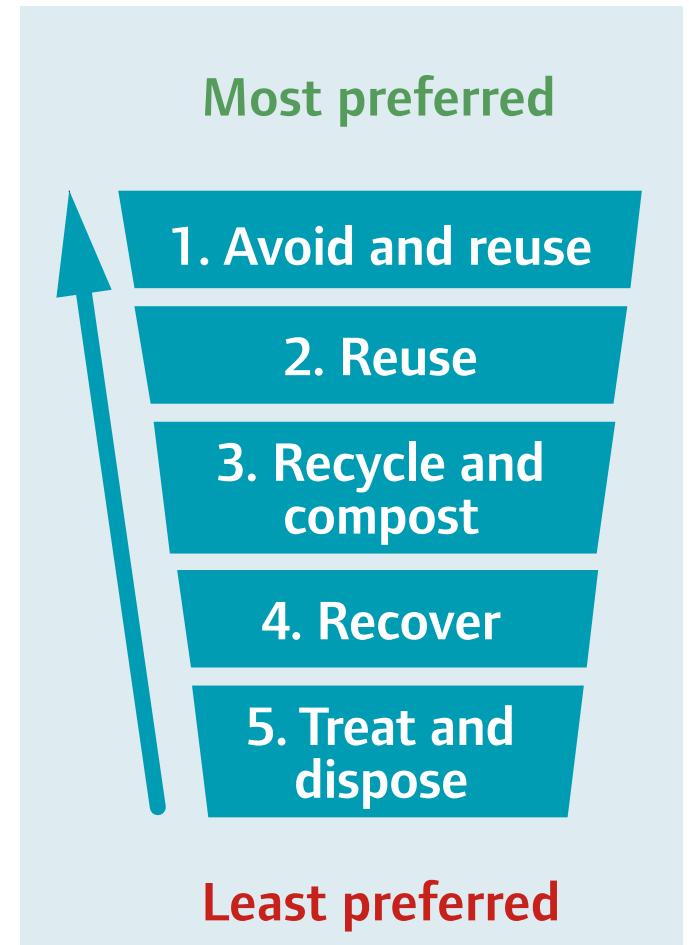
Improvements in the amount of household waste recycled has led to a positive reduction in the amount of household waste sent to SELCHP Energy Recovery Facility. For example, 82% of household waste was incinerated in 2017 compared to 69% in 2019. The amount of household waste sent to landfill dropped from 0.7% in 2017 to 0.1% in 2019.

# Priority 2. continued

## Our Ideas

- Roll out food service for properties with wheelie bins on estates.
- Ensure all households have the appropriate waste containers and provide solutions for better recycling and food waste collection from properties located in blocks of flats, above shops, or that have limited storage space (e.g. communal underground systems and community composting points). 40% of properties are flats in the borough.
- Explore how to group different existing textile and Waste Electronic and Electrical Equipment (WEEE) collection points to simplify their use. Partnerships with supermarkets and community facilities may support this.
- Create project plans regarding potential repair and re-use shops the shops could be social enterprise organisations making use of existing networks of Repair Cafes, Refurbishment Hubs and Restart Projects.
- Explore how to simplify the functioning of the main Reuse and Recycling Centre and allow people to collect and reuse items stored at the centre.

- Review the current provision of street litter bins, to ensure bins have sufficient capacity and are of a design to prevent overspill in between emptying and incorporating the opportunity to recycle.
- Consider the use of community recycling skips on a rolling programme so that residents who may not be able to get to the Reuse and Recycling centre have an opportunity to recycle items that otherwise may have been disposed of as waste or fly tipped.
- Improved Commercial Waste Service to support increased commercial recycling, reduction of illegal dumping and facilitate payments, for instance through the introduction of a Council Trade Waste Service app or additional communal commercial bin storage. Look into offering a commercial food waste collection service.
- Review options on improving the delivery of effective waste, recycling and cleansing services in all areas that benefit from the night-time and weekend economy.



# Priority 3. Working together for an improved local environment

We want the Council and partners to collaborate with residents and stakeholders to achieve the best results together.

## Objectives

### 1. Improve enforcement activities

To crack down on the minority of people engaged in anti-social behaviour, that contributes to a poor street environment, increased clearance costs.

### 2. The development of the Cleaner Lewisham Programme

This includes a reporting App, so that residents can report concerns and receive feedback

### 3. Sharing responsibility with all users

Help people, households, businesses and organisations to take greater personal responsibility for improving their local environment and managing their waste in a sustainable way.

### 4. Generating behaviour change

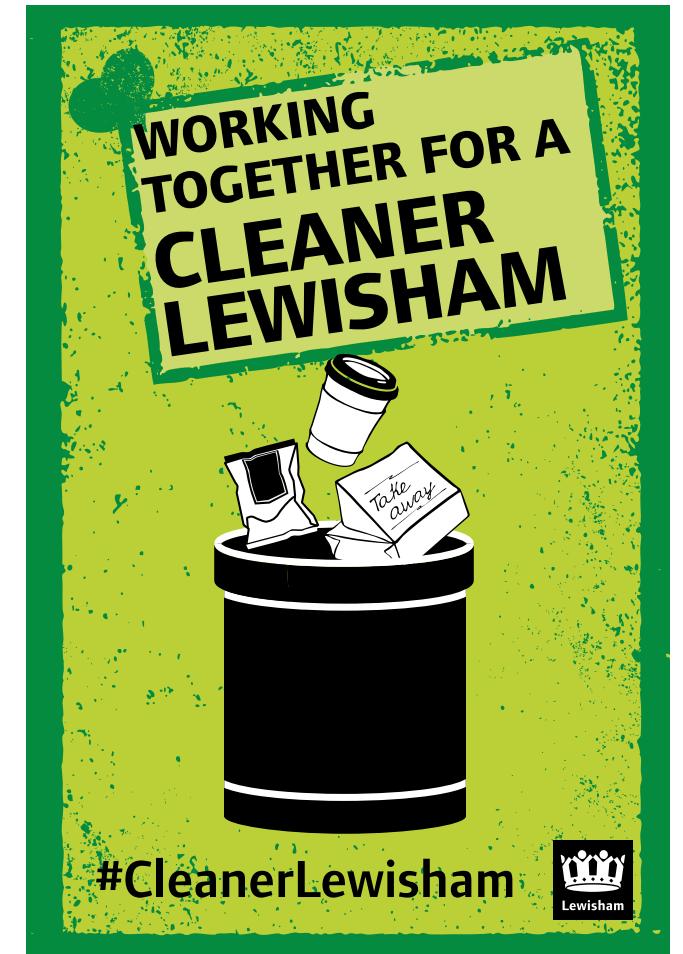
Encourage positive behaviour change through making our services more user-friendly, adapting our communication modes, education activities, and supporting the voluntary sector.

### 5. Hold regular consultations

Collect data and feedback regularly to ensure solutions are effective and work around the needs of Lewisham's diverse community including all equality group characteristics.

### 6. Coordinate Council services

Create Corporate Governance board to support the development and implementation of robust waste management plans for every Council service so they work towards the strategy objectives and can reduce costs together.



# Priority 3. continued

## What we are already doing

- Award-winning educational project on recycling in an estate in Brockley, in partnership with housing association and residents.
- The waste reduction project on Douglas Way Market in conjunction with Strategic Waste & Cleaning teams led to a 50% reduction in residual waste and increased recycling.
- Interventions at School Assemblies to educate young people on the importance of recycling and the benefits of creating School Eco-Groups to help schools become cleaner and greener.
- In 2019, a ‘Barriers to Waste’ consultation was held to identify the challenges to recycling. A total of 5528 residents responded to the survey during a 7-week period. While a great majority (75%) of residents were happy with the services provided, it was found that more or clearer information on what can be recycled and all the services the Council offers.
- The Council supports national campaigns such as ‘Love Your Clothes’ and ‘Love Food, Hate Waste’ campaign, runs free workshops for residents and advertise swap events.

- In 2020, a pilot outreach programme run by the Council’s Strategic Waste and Environment team was available for free to all primary schools in the borough. Workshops included interactive learning and fun games centred on plastic pollution and the ‘Three R’s’: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.
- The Council’s website gives extended information on how to donate clothes, furniture and other household items, how to reduce unsolicited junk mail and plastic waste, how to use the Reuse and Recycling Centre in New Cross, how to dispose WEEP such as light bulbs, batteries, printer cartridges, small devices, phones (including charity Catbytes that repairs and collects phones, tablets and computers), how schools, colleges and universities in the borough can recycle their old electrical and IT equipment for free, how businesses have to dispose their waste.
- Environmental Enforcement distributes Fixed Penalty Notices to offenders for not complying with rules.



# Priority 3. continued

## Our Ideas

- Launch a new public consultation in Summer 2021 with the support of external engagement advisors, targeting a wide range of users including residents, businesses and organisations in the borough, with the aim of finalising the Waste Minimisation Strategy.
- Following this, together with key stakeholders such as the different council services and service providers, other local authorities, housing associations, developers and registered providers, develop a solid Delivery Plan including borough model, policies, targets, budget and phased approach.
- Use external expertise for mapping, data analysis, modelling and planning, to integrate services, changes and consultee feedback, to remove duplications and reduce costs (including refuse vehicle and fly-tipping cleaning costs).
- Introduce a corporate governance board and create two new posts within the current Strategic Waste Team: a Behaviour Change and Engagements Officer and a Strategic Waste Officer.
- Run a key engagement campaign around the importance of waste minimisation, recycling and

reuse and promote the Council and partners available services, using a comprehensive set of actions that could include improved website information, advertisements in the public realm and social media, organisation of events and fun awareness-raising art interventions such as sculptures and totems made of single-use plastic waste in line with past successful local actions ('Feed the Cows' in 2007 and 'WEEE Man' in 2012.

- Work with blocks of flat managers to trial different projects to help reduce contamination (items not sorted properly) and reach target of 50% of the Local Authority collected waste to be recycled by 2025. Provide guidance on roles and responsibilities to ensure managers all have secured suitable designated areas for waste and recycling bins storage and presentation on collection days, and have informed staff and occupiers on how to use the facilities correctly.
- Consider using an incentive scheme and/or charging people for over-production of residual general waste and contamination of recycling bins, to encourage them to recycling and composting more and sending bulky and hazardous items to the reuse centre.



- Enforce to a greater extent against people who continually fail to sort, store and present their waste correctly for collection. Only 340 penalties were distributed in 2018/2019.
- Within market areas and town centres assist market traders and shops to manage their waste properly and meet their commercial waste duty of care.
- Promote and work with all charities working towards a circular economy and sustainable waste management: Zero Waste Shopping (Climate Action Lewisham), Lewisham Donation Hub, Young Lewisham, Food Banks, Bike Project, Healthy Living Platform, Ecocommunities Spaces, Greenpeace Clean-ups.

# Priority 4. Using waste as a resource following the Circular Economy principles

We want the Council and partners to manage waste as a material resource to enhance our sustainability and the circular economy

## Objectives

### 1. Encouraging construction and design from and for recycling/reuse

Help designers, builders, businesses and organisations to rethink their services and products in a way that they use recycled/renewed/reused resources, and their products are also recyclable/renewable/reusable. Support them in adapting their buildings to reduce water, heat and energy waste.

### 2. Helping reduce reliance on single use items

Seek incentives to help businesses and organisations to avoid using single use items.

### 3. Supporting the development of a local sharing economy

Provide or support services and platforms to help local community and businesses to share, exchange, repair products locally.

### 4. Extending producers' responsibility

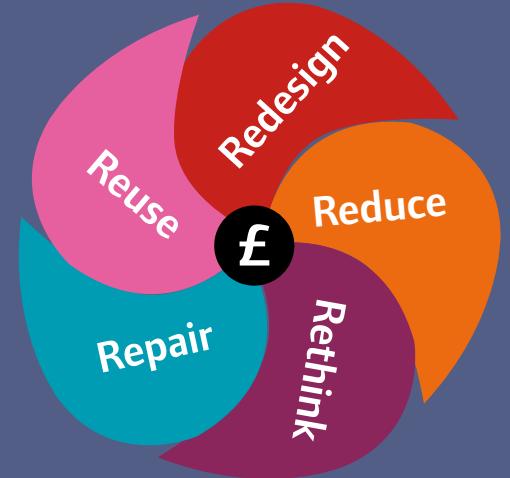
Encourage producers to extend product.

## What we are already doing

- Regarding the construction sector, the Council encourages sustainable building and retrofitting whenever possible. The new Lewisham Local Plan that was recently subject to consultation reflects this approach with policies S2 (Sustainable Design), S11 (Reducing and managing waste) and S12 (Design to support the circular economy).
- Via Lewisham's Community Energy Fund, we supported the Retrofit Action for Tomorrow (RAFT) initiative, an innovative engagement project with St Winifred's School whereby pupils were introduced to the concepts of sustainable building and retrofitting in the context of their school.
- Lewisham Council commissioned playground designs that were following Circular Economy principles. For instance, recycled materials such as go-kart tyres and oak railway sleepers were used to create the Hilly Fields Play Area.
- The New Generation Youth and Community Centre commissioned by the Council has a structure made of recyclable materials such as timber panels.
- The Council supports and promotes the 'London Recycles' campaign via social media. London

Recycles provides toolkits and resources to both households and businesses to help them reduce, recycle and reuse waste.

- Improvements to Landmann Way, the current centre for reuse and recycling within the borough, are currently ongoing. These include new containers and new signage. A suitable area is proposed where residents can browse items for reuse, which, if successful, will generate a reduction in the waste to be disposed of.

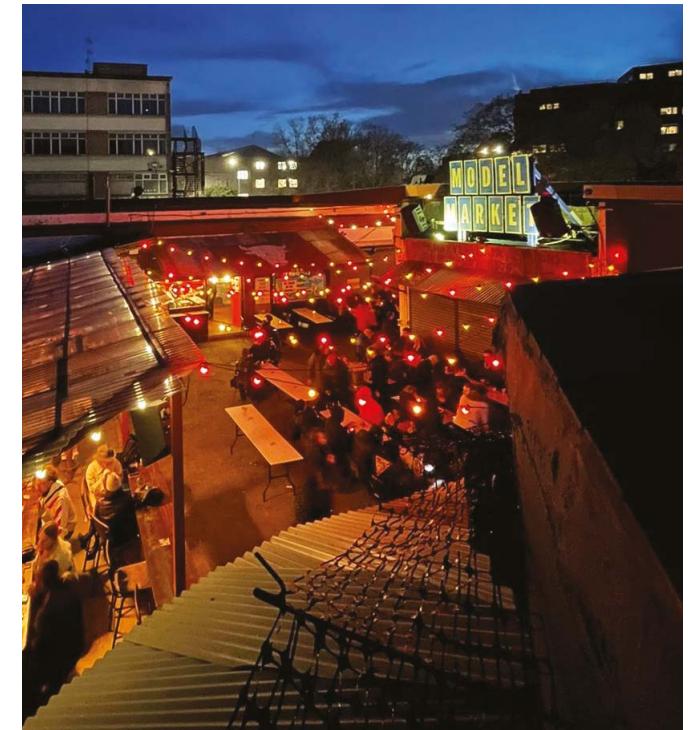


# Priority 4. continued

## Our Ideas

- For Meanwhile pop-up projects, encourage the use of recycled and reusable materials such as shipping containers and structures made of reclaimed wood.
- Safeguard space to store excavation and demolition materials locally to be able to reuse them in the borough, for instance as road aggregates.
- Make it clear how garden waste collected by the Council from households and green space maintenance is used or sold within the borough, for instance as compost or wood chips for mulching.
- UK Government is proposing an Environment Bill, it sets out new legal frameworks for air pollution, water quality and nature conservation. It also establishes a new environmental watchdog – the Office for Environmental Protection – to hold

- governments and other public bodies to account when the environment is under threat, and we will lobby Government to adopt Extended Producer Responsibility so that the producer pays for waste materials and packaging.
- Using incentives such as a grant, contest or quality label, encourage businesses and local industries to sell and use reusable or recyclable products and packaging (e.g. cutlery, straws, bags, glasses, bottles, cups, boxes).
- Support the organisation of events that encourage people to share and exchange items locally (e.g. swap cloth fairs, flea markets, garage sales)
- Share and praise local businesses and organisations for their good work on using reusable materials for their projects (e.g. Model Market, Mountfields Park Cafe, Manor House Community Garden.



# Priority 5. Reducing carbon emissions, decreasing energy waste and improving air quality

We want the Council and partners to reduce net carbon emissions coming from waste and contribute to local air quality improvement.

## Objectives

### 1. Thinking local and reducing movement

Reduce the need for vehicular movement to reduce transport carbon emissions through optimising Council vehicle routes and ensuring municipal waste is managed within the borough and at a minimum within London.

### 2. Using low-emission vehicles

Choose clean fuel technology for the Council's vehicles and reduce and adapt the fleet so all are zero-emission by 2050.

### 3. Choosing low-carbon footprint processes, resources and products

Increase the procurement of resources and products containing recycled/recyclable content.

### 4. Optimising waste treatment performances

Reduce the level of carbon emissions generated by our waste composting, recycling, treatment and energy recovery methods.

### 5. Optimising building performances

Reduce energy waste and level of carbon emissions generated by building heating/lighting, ensuring that the highest standards of insulation and natural light are incorporated into new buildings and developments.



# Priority 5. continued

## What we are already doing

- In February 2019, we agreed a motion to declare a ‘climate emergency’ and in March 2020 a Climate Emergency Action Plan was approved by Mayor and Cabinet to make the borough carbon neutral by 2030.
- Lewisham Council has also signed up to the UK100 “Net Zero Local Leadership Pledge”, alongside over 40 other local leaders, to reach zero carbon before national government.
- In 2017, by linking properties’ Unique Street Reference Numbers (UPRN) to collection routes, Lewisham could ensure pin-point accuracy and efficiency in organising collections.
- The Council has appointed a consultancy to undertake a feasibility study for a heat network supplying new and existing buildings in the north of the borough with heat from the SELCHP waste incineration plant. The feasibility study includes a route optimisation study to determine the most effective route between SELCHP and Goldsmith’s College.
- Agreement in December 2019 of a new investment strategy for vehicles ensuring low emission standards and compliance with the Ultra Low

Emission Zone resulting in the Council’s fleet were upgraded to comply with highest standards of emissions (Mercedes-Benz Econics).

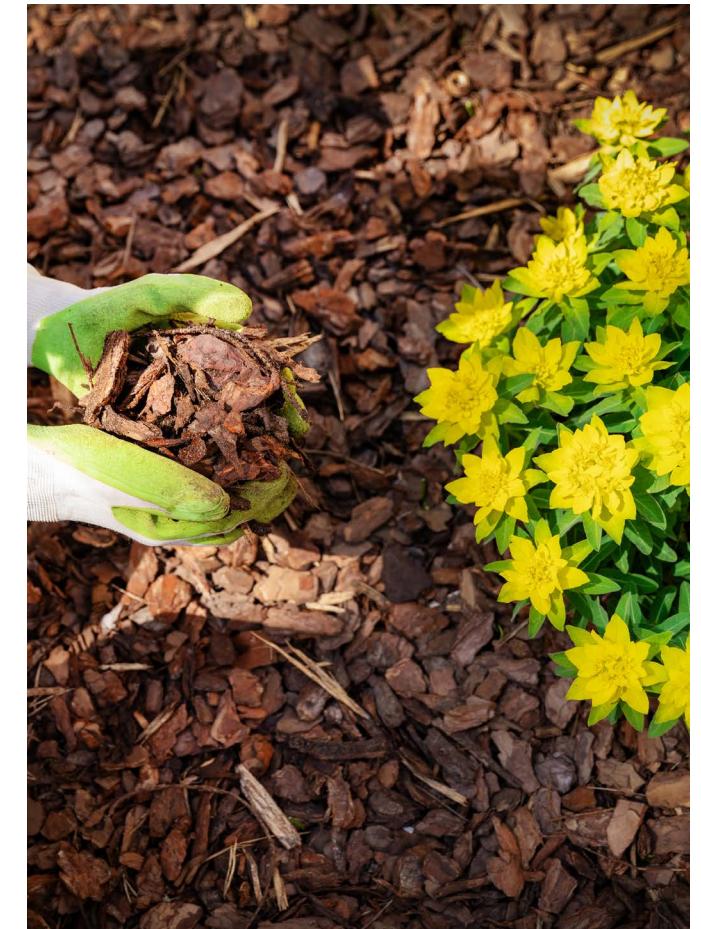
- Street cleaning and garden maintenance staff walk and use human-powered tools whenever possible.
- The Council successfully bid for £175k funding from the Government’s Low Carbon Skills Fund to assess and develop detailed proposals for zero carbon retrofit work on 10 corporate sites and 5 schools, supported by RAFT (Retrofit Action for Tomorrow) and preventing demolishing/rebuilding.
- In the borough, a ‘warm mix’ has been introduced on road resurfacing, reducing carbon emissions by 10-15% and improving the efficiency and effectiveness of planned works.
- Development of several local Combined Heat and Power Plants, as part of new developments such as ‘The Renaissance’, that include biomass boilers to reuse heat and avoid wasted energy. New facilities and developments also meet high standards regarding insulation and natural light, allowing minimum use of heat and lighting (e.g. New Generation Youth and Community Centre).



# Priority 5. continued

## Our Ideas

- Where appropriate and safe to do so, reduce the amount of waste transported to recycling centres by managing waste locally, for instance in the park where it was generated (use dead leaves and wood chips as mulching on planting beds).
- Companies contracted by Lewisham asked to commit to minimising emissions through intelligent logistics and by the use of electric vehicles and other low-zero emission options (e.g. cargo-bikes such as the Putney Pedals bikes used to collect waste and recycling from businesses). Continue provide EV charging points and safe cycle infrastructure through the borough to support these companies.
- Publish an annual ‘Corporate Use of Resources’ statement setting out performance in relation to corporate carbon emissions, energy consumption, water, waste and recycling, paper use, staff travel, procurement, IT (information technology) and other environmental indicators.
- Support the delivery of Climate Emergency Action Plan, Lewisham Air Quality Action Plan and Lewisham Energy Masterplan.
- Utilise round optimisation to continue reduce vehicle mileage for waste collections.
- Actively seek ways of increasing the procurement of products containing recyclable content and low-carbon footprint products as a means of reducing the carbon footprint of the products we use (e.g. set provider quality standards).
- Optimise our waste management processes to work towards the achievement of the Mayor of London’s Carbon Intensity Floor (CIF) and Emissions Performance Standard (EPS) targets through finding ways to encourage a focus on recovering materials and reprocessing routes which deliver greater CO<sub>2</sub> reductions and to provide support for decentralised energy generation from waste that is no more carbon intensive than the prior solution.
- Support the launch of the new Ultra Low Emission Supplier Directory from Cross River Partnership including suppliers that guarantee to deploy ultra-low emission vehicles.



# Priority 6. Adding social value

We want the Council and partners to contribute economic, social, and environmental benefits to the local community by supporting local supply chains, employment and social cohesion.

## 1. Using a holistic approach

Provide economic, social and environmental benefits to the community through our circular economy and waste management activities.

## 2. Increasing job/learning opportunities

To local people Increase access for local people to gain employment and work experience in the delivery of the Council's waste services.

## 3. Supporting local businesses and local supply chain

Seek to use local products and services and encourage local businesses and organisations to do so as well.

## 4. Helping local community action

Support volunteering activities, local schools and organisations that help deliver the objectives of the strategy.

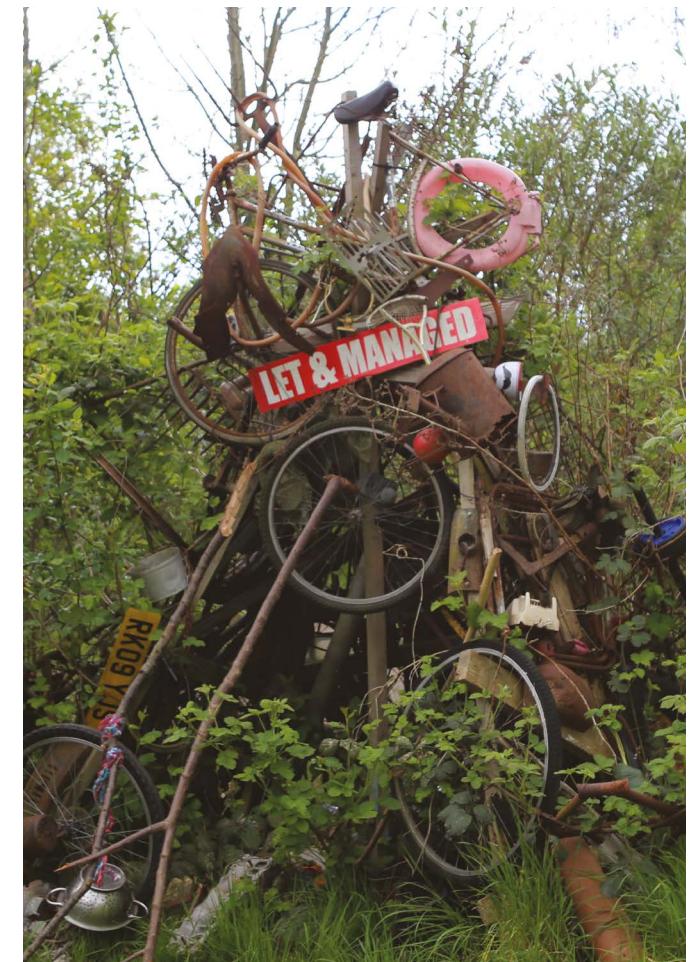
## What we are already doing

- Within the Lewisham Cleansing and Waste Services, 40 long-term agency workers were transferred onto permanent contracts.
- Following Lewisham Sustainable Procurement Code of Practice, the Council engages and requires contractors to engage local supply chain wherever possible, seek to employ locally as a first option, provides local work experience opportunities, offers paid apprenticeships or volunteering opportunities, supports and attends local job fairs and applies corporate social responsibility (e.g. in schools).
- On the Council's website, Lewisham Council is calling local building, electrical and plumbing companies to be their suppliers and provide a phone number to ask for an application form.
- The Council's website promotes local charities helping the most vulnerable such as 'FoodCycle' and 'Refill'. FoodCycle is a charity that aims to reduce hunger and loneliness while combating food waste. Local businesses can sign up to Refill to let people know they can refill their water bottle for free.
- Through local outreach events and activities about waste minimisation, the Council and the voluntary sector, add to the social cohesion and sense of community in schools, estates and communities.
- Commit to the 'Lewisham Business Growth Strategy 2013–2023' that aims to boost Lewisham's contribution to the London economy by enhancing the ability of new and existing business to thrive and grow.

# Priority 6. continued

## Our Ideas

- Explore how to map the borough resources to help local suppliers and purchasers to connect and exchange products locally (e.g. regarding food and drinks: community gardens, orchards, restaurants, food banks, hospitality schools, breweries). Promote existing maps such as Falling Fruit map.
- Support the provision of convivial spaces and organisation of events for people to meet, exchange and donate items to reduce wasting unwanted items as well as reinforcing sense of community (e.g. seed and plant banks in community gardens, clothes swap fairs, flea and local farmer/producer markets, garage sale trails).
- Seek ways to buy and use items collectively to reduce the amount of items in the first place and add to social cohesion. For instance Men's Sheds are community spaces for men to connect, converse and create, using shared tools and materials.
- Explore how to expand the use of the Lewisham Local Card to encourage residents and businesses to buy locally, reduce their need to travel and decrease the chance for local resources and products to be wasted.
- Actively seek professionals living in the borough to fill the two new posts within the current Strategic Waste Team: a Behaviour Change and Engagements Officer and a Strategic Waste Officer.
- Study how to make local repair, recycling and reuse hubs attractive and well designed so they become pleasant social spots where people can meet neighbours and interact.
- Support and collaborate with the local non-profit sector to run campaigns and activities regarding waste minimisation.



# Project planner

	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Target Date/ Timeline</b>
1	Development of Review and Waste Strategy draft including Communication Plan	April 2021
2	Soft Market testing for Food waste disposal completed and evaluated	March 2021
3	Appoint company to carry out composition survey and provide feedback	April 2021
4	Research key aspects on behavioural change	March to April 2021
5	Financial modelling on proposed changes to disposal services	March to June 2021
6	Equalities Impact Assessment drafted	April 2021
7	Draft Waste Strategy presented to, and agreed by, WSOR Board	13 April 2021
8	Agree finalised Communication plan	June 2021
9	Report to Sustainable Development Scrutiny Committee	mid June 2021
10	Report to Mayor and Cabinet on draft Waste Strategy and approval to consult with the public	July 2021
11	Launch Waste Strategy consultations and engage with residents and businesses	July to September 2021
12	Waste Management Policy Development with Members	July to October 2021
13	Participation survey	September 2021
14	Collate feedback from consultation and events	October to November 2021
15	Equality Impact Assessment following consultation	October to November 2021
16	Report back to Mayor and Cabinet with findings	December 2021
17	Adoption/Rollout of Waste Strategy and Delivery Plan	January 2022 onwards

