



Data and research priorities around Waste and Resource.



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Data and research priorities around Waste and Resource

- The importance of data
- Developing policies and priorities, particularly around data and research
- Latest data issues around litter and fly-tipping



The importance of data and developing policies and priorities, particularly around data and research

Resources and Waste Strategy

- Sets out how we will preserve material resources by:
 - minimising waste,
 - promoting resource efficiency
 - and moving towards a circular economy in England.

By, eg

Helping consumers take more considered actions



The importance of data and developing policies and priorities, particularly around data and research

Resources and Waste Strategy contd

- 3 initial key policies in development – Deposit Return Scheme, Consistency in waste collection, Extended Producer Responsibility for packaging.

Data priority: Key example: we need to ensure we have sufficient LA data to inform modelling, Impact Assessments and policy development for consistency and EPR for packaging.



Resources and Waste Strategy contd

Chapter 3 pages 9 and 10 of the Strategy:

- improve recycling rates by ensuring a consistent set of dry recyclable materials is collected from all households and businesses
- reduce greenhouse gas emissions from landfill by ensuring that every householder and appropriate businesses have a weekly separate food waste collection, subject to consultation
- improve urban recycling rates, working with business and local authorities
- improve working arrangements and performance between local authorities



Resources and Waste Strategy contd

Pages 9 and 10 of the Strategy contd

- drive greater efficiency of Energy from Waste (EfW) plants

Review R1 efficiency standards for waste incineration?

- address information barriers to the use of secondary materials
- encourage waste producers and managers to implement the waste hierarchy in respect to hazardous waste
- tackling waste crime

For example, review where policy options, including EPR, might fit in terms of littered packaging? And what about policy options around non-packaging litter?, Carriers/brokers/dealers reform? Drivers of fly tipping?



Sustainable Waste Management - the research challenges

- Defining sustainability – environmental, but what about social and economic sustainability?

For example, construction waste – what data would we need to support a roadmap to Zero Avoidable Construction Waste for example?

- Predicting human behaviour, including as consumers.
- Deciding where intervention required and how - eg where are the real market failures?, voluntary action or legislation?

Reviewing essential packaging regulations, Policy options around Resource Efficiency, Textiles – pros and cons of possibly policy options?.



Research challenges contd

- Preserving Natural Capital including raw materials - waste hierarchy
Research into better product design? 'designing out' waste for consumer products, including product standards and labelling.
- GHG emissions – Life Cycle, not just the waste management, although that is important.

More research on emissions from landfill, including woodland landfill, Developing an index of global emissions for the products we consume, including imported products



Research challenges around new data - where will the new data come from to monitor progress?

- Commitment in the Resources and Waste Strategy to monitor progress:
 - reducing waste arisings, total and residual – always need more data, more detail
 - including prevention of waste via reuse, repair (data?).
 - decrease use of raw materials (raw material consumption) and other forms of natural capital



Latest data issues around litter and fly-tipping

Key examples:

- LA costs around litter, including cleansing.
- Non packaging litter (as well as packaging litter)
- Terrestrial litter getting into marine environment
- Roadside litter
- Geographic incidence of fly tipping
- Drivers of fly tipping



As ever, data is all important

- Two recent publications from Defra for evaluating progress:
 - Evaluation Plan - quite policy specific
 - Indicators (*'Monitoring Progress'*)

.... world moves on, data changes, including quality and methodology.
Will whatever is appropriate to measure in 2021 be the same in 2031?



Department
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Thank you