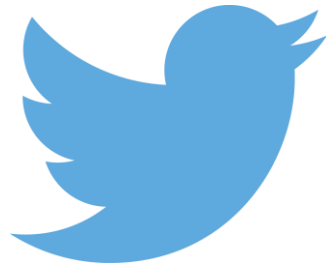




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Local authority frontline service challenges



*Mission
Based
Government*

The five missions

1. Kickstart economic growth

to secure the highest sustained growth in the G7 – with good jobs and productivity growth in every part of the country making everyone, not just a few, better off.

2. Make Britain a clean energy superpower

to cut bills, create jobs and deliver security with cheaper, zero-carbon electricity by 2030, accelerating to net zero.

3. Take back our streets

by halving serious violent crime and raising confidence in the police and criminal justice system to its highest levels.

4. Break down barriers to opportunity

by reforming our childcare and education systems, to make sure there is no class ceiling on the ambitions of young people in Britain.

5. Build an NHS fit for the future

that is there when people need it; with fewer lives lost to the biggest killers; in a fairer Britain, where everyone lives well for longer.

Meanwhile... on the frontline

- Local authority budgets
- Skills shortages and workforce matters
- Homelessness / temporary accommodation
- Adults and Childrens' Services
- SEND
- Neighbourhood services; waste and resources, parks and public realm, leisure, highways, school meals.....

Local authority finances.....

- Gaps in budgets and growing
- £6.4 billion in day-to-day spend in 2024/25
- Homelessness, Asylum Support and Families in temporary accommodation
- Adult and Childrens' Services, SEND /SEND Transport
- IFS data 1.9% cut (at best)

Where does this leave the waste and resources conundrum

- We need investment to reduce emissions and improve recycling but...
- Costs of ETS could materialise BEFORE changes to EPR and DRS
- Gaps in the proposals could lead to the UK avoiding higher costs by reversing the welcome trend of processing more on home territory



Upcoming budget



NEW MUNICIPALISM

Delivering for local people and local economies



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Emissions Trading Scheme

The impact of proposed extension to include emissions from burning waste

What is ETS and why waste?

- A maximum cap set on carbon emissions allowed from burning fossil fuels for energy and aviation
- Individual allowances are reduced each year, incentivising decarbonisation
- Inclusion of fossil carbon emissions from thermal treatment of waste from 2028

What is the impact?

- Likely range of costs is from £270m to £1,160m per year, starting in 2028 and rising as the cap is reduced
- Equivalent to £45 to £77 per tonne (source: Tolvik)
- Likely knock-on effect on Landfill Tax, to ensure it doesn't become cheaper option, could rise to £175/tonne.
- Some costs will be offset by Extended Producer Responsibility and new burdens funding



What should we do?

1. Plan

- Add this to your corporate risk register
- Show impact in your medium term financial strategy
- Ensure your Section 151 Officer understands the issue as well as you do
- Make members aware of the urgent need to increase recycling and reduce residual waste

2. Engage with your suppliers

- 'Legal change' clauses in contracts are harder to apply than you think
- Suppliers may face financial distress and need certainty/support
- Financial mechanisms are likely to be complicated
- Successful negotiation will only come from openness and integrity by all parties

3. Support your suppliers to decarbonise

- The objective is to cut carbon emissions from burning waste, not to minimise compliance costs
- Operators will be trying to access funding, so work with them to support this

4. Review and improve your collection arrangements

- Cut residual waste capacity through smaller bins and if allowed, less frequent collections
- Optimise recycling provision
- In two-tier areas, share the capital burden

5. Enhance communications activities

- Target recycling messages to focus on plastics, electricals, textiles
- Focus efforts directly onto householders at the point of using their bins, making recycling the default choice
- Understand and apply best practice in behaviour change

6. Invest in advanced IT systems

- Data is your friend, use it to learn about who recycles, who contaminates etc
- Householder communications are most effective when in-cab systems are directly linked to your contact centre and website
- Go digital, go mobile



Conclusions

- This is going to be expensive, deliberately so
- Compliance by paying the penalty is not as good as stopping the carbon pollution, you have scope to act
- Active engagement with plant operators is the only way to optimise outcomes

- This is a flawed system as it does not make the polluter pay and does not achieve aims of the waste hierarchy, but it's here to stay

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