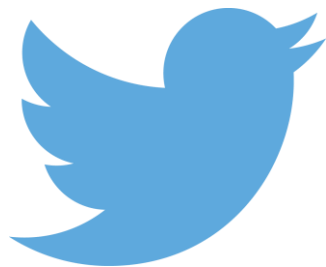


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Resources and Waste Strategy 2018

What are the key implications /questions for local authorities?

The Resources and Waste Strategy for England 2018

Key questions

Key aims of the Strategy

- Addressing sustainable production, resource recovery and waste crime, through initiatives such as improving consistency of recycling, reducing plastic pollution and packaging,
- Maximise the value we get from our resources – creating a more circular economy.
- Target setting : phasing out all plastic waste by 2030, preventing food waste going to landfill by 2030, new waste and recycling targets e.g. **halve residual waste by 2042 /double resource efficiency by 2050/ zero plastic waste by 2042**
- New policy measures, targets and metrics and consultations on issues such as a Deposit Return Scheme, Extended Producer Responsibility ('polluter pays').

Ongoing Concerns

Government has committed to cover costs of new burdens as a result of improving consistency using income from EPR reforms

EPR REFORMS WILL NOT NOW BE PHASED IN FROM 2023

It was hoped the scheme administrator would be set up and begin distributing some payments from producers to local authorities.

Strong objections from producers and packaging industry particularly in light of impacts of COVID

The proposed changes “are so massive that it’s important they are implemented properly”..

“We must not lose sight of the fact that this adds huge costs to consumers, which could add £200 on to bills every year. Can the government really afford to introduce a system that hit consumers this way?”

Impacts on Local authorities

Current state

- **2024** targeted for first phase of EPR – c. **£1.7 billion** would be shared around local authorities by the administrator. (c. £1.2 billion going to LA's)
- A Scheme Administrator (SA) will be appointed. **It will start to mobilise in 2023 and will be fully operational in 2024.**
- Obligated producer costs to be around £1.7 billion each year
- Around **£1.2bn** of this cost arises from managing household waste and currently falls on taxpayers (i.e. local authorities). This figure is made up of around **£800m household packaging recycling costs and HWRC costs, £300 million household packaging residual costs, and managing packaging in street bins is expected to cost £100m.**
- Focussing on payments for household packaging waste and packaging in street bins managed by local authorities means that **all households** will be able to recycle the same packaging materials from home achieving aim of consistency.
- Further systems administrations costs (including the costs of communications campaigns and regulator costs) are also expected to be around £100m;

Problems for local authorities

- Local authorities have delayed procurement of infrastructure and materials extending contracts before they go to markets with necessary requirements.
- Danger that contract updates and procurements will need to be made in a period of uncertainty.
- Slowing investment in necessary recycling and processing infrastructure
- Many contracts usually have a minimum agreement of seven years.

Questions/implications

Delivering a core set of recyclable collections

- How will this affect current recycling collections - multi-stream as opposed to twin stream - New bins, vehicles , collection routes, collection frequencies.

Weekly food collections

- New systems, bins, vehicles.
- Access to preferred treatment option of anaerobic digestion

Free Garden waste collections ?

- Many currently charge for collections - New costs for separate collections or can mixed food and garden waste be included/ loss of income

Collections from difficult locations e.g. flats

Residual waste reduction targets/incinerator tax?

Disengagement due to complexity

Educational /awareness raising costs

Existing waste contracts/new contracts/procurement – made in period of uncertainty

Increased journeys & increased carbon emissions

Q./ Will existing collections/arrangements meet the above requirements? (TEEP)

Q./ How much flexibility for local arrangements?

NEW MUNICIPALISM

Delivering for local people and local economies

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