

**Meeting: Cabinet**

**Date: 20<sup>th</sup> April 2021**

**Wards Affected: All**

**Report Title: Resource and Waste Management Strategy Action Plan**

**Cabinet Member Contact Details:** Cllr Mike Morey Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture, Tel: 853316, mike.morey@torbay.gov.uk.

**Director/Assistant Director Contact Details:** Kevin Mowat, Director of Place, Tel: 208433, Kevin.Mowat@torbay.gov.uk

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## **1. Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to highlight the actions that need to be undertaken over the next few years to achieve the outcomes of Torbay's revised Resource and Waste Strategy.

This document will be a living document which will evolve due to changing customer demands and evolving targets set by central government as part of their draft strategy 'Our Waste, Our Resources: A Strategy for England', which is still in the consultation process and has been delayed due to the current Covid 19 pandemic.

The main focus of this Action Plan is on education and support for our customers in Torbay, and this document will set out how this will be managed, with timelines and targets to help increase recycling, reduce disposal as well as manage our resources to compliment the Climate Change agenda.

## **2. Reason for Proposal and its benefits**

To enable Torbay Council to achieve its Climate Change targets we need to help residents to use less virgin resources and recycle more materials from their households, so that we can move closer to our 50% recycling target.

This will be beneficial in many ways, there will be less wasted source materials, and residents will be made more aware of better resource management which will see more materials recycled and less waste being disposed.

As well as positively contributing to Climate Change objectives, this also has financial benefits to Torbay Council with increased income from recycled materials collected and a reduced disposal costs as a direct result.

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### **3. Recommendation(s) / Proposed Decision**

- (i) That the Resource and Waste Management Strategy Action Plan be approved.

#### **Appendices**

Appendix 1: Resource and Waste Management Strategy Action Plan

# Supporting Information

## 1. Introduction

Currently Torbay Council has a recycling rate of 41% compared with the majority of neighbouring Councils in Devon who are recycling at nearer to 50%. The only exceptions are Plymouth and Exeter who have lower recycling rates than Torbay.

The Council's recently approved Resource and Waste Management Strategy sets a target of at least 50% recycling and this Action Plan is the roadmap to taking us towards this target.

## 2. Options under consideration

The options currently being considered can be found in the attached Action Plan.

## 3. Financial Opportunities and Implications

The current cost of disposing of a tonne of waste at the Energy from Waste plant in Plymouth is about £95 per tonne. This means that every 1% improvement in the recycling rate gives a disposal saving of approximately £47,500, as well as additional income from the sale of recyclable material.

## 4. Legal Implications

None.

## 5. Engagement and Consultation

The Strategy and the Action Plan have been developed to reflect the public consultation that was undertaken from September to November 2020.

## 6. Purchasing or Hiring of Goods and/or Services

Any procurement undertaken to achieve the targets set within the Action Plan will follow Torbay Council's Procurement guidance.

## **7. Tackling Climate Change**

The Torbay Resources and Waste Strategy and accompanying Action Plan seek to support a path towards carbon neutrality by 2050 and will look to consider the amount of embedded carbon in the materials that are collected for recycling and the environmental benefit of recycling as opposed to extraction of raw materials to produce new products.

## **8. Associated Risks**

If the Action Plan is not approved then it is unlikely that tangible improvements in the recycling rate and any associated financial savings will be achieved.

## Equality Impacts

9.	Identify the potential positive and negative impacts on specific groups			
		Positive Impact	Negative Impact & Mitigating Actions	Neutral Impact
	Older or younger people			There is no differential impact
	People with caring Responsibilities			
	People with a disability			There is no differential impact
	Women or men			There is no differential impact
	People who are black or from a minority ethnic background (BME) <i>(Please note Gypsies / Roma are within this community)</i>			There is no differential impact
	Religion or belief (including lack of belief)			There is no differential impact
	People who are lesbian, gay or bisexual			There is no differential impact
	People who are transgendered			There is no differential impact
	People who are in a marriage or civil partnership			There is no differential impact
	Women who are pregnant / on maternity leave			There is no differential impact

	Socio-economic impacts (Including impact on child poverty issues and deprivation)		There is no differential impact
	Public Health impacts (How will your proposal impact on the general health of the population of Torbay)		There is no differential impact
10..	<b>Cumulative Council Impact</b> (proposed changes elsewhere which might worsen the impacts identified above)	No	
11.	<b>Cumulative Community Impacts</b> (proposed changes within the wider community (inc the public sector) which might worsen the impacts identified above)	No	