

# Kirklees

## Resources & Waste Strategy 2021-2030





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# 1.0 Foreword

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## Welcome and thank you for your interest in Kirklees Council's Resources and Waste Strategy.

In 2019 we declared a climate emergency and published our vision of a clean, green, sustainable future for Kirklees with zero waste to landfill. We aim to make Kirklees completely carbon neutral by 2038.

We are working in partnership with residents, not just delivering services to them, everyone in Kirklees has a part to play so that we can achieve our vision. The first stage of this partnership was the public consultation to aid in the development of our waste strategy, but it doesn't end there. Moving forward, we will continue to work with residents from across the borough through various initiatives.

The development of the waste strategy plays a huge part in our vision. Kirklees will be a place where waste is valued as a resource through re-use, recycling, and recovery. To achieve this, we all need to take responsibility for the waste we generate and make the best decisions on what to do with it.

Key to these outcomes have been our decisions to:

- Engage with residents, businesses and communities in a way that works for them, using a Place based approach which is engaging, straightforward and visible.
- Achieve a recycling rate of at least 70% at our Household Waste & Recycling Centres by 2025.
- Recycle at least 55% of municipal waste by 2025.
- Reuse or recycle as much of the resources collected via our bulky waste collections as possible.
- Ensure that the environment across the district delivers our vision of a clean, green, sustainable future for Kirklees.
- Lead by example and set a precedent of good practice to reduce waste, reuse materials, and increase recycling.

**This Resources and Waste Strategy 2021 sets out our ambitions for the future in more detail. Together we can reach a carbon neutral Kirklees.**



Cllr Mather



Cllr Simpson

## 2.0 Our Vision

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Our overall vision for Kirklees is to be a district that combines a strong, sustainable economy with a great quality of life - leading to thriving communities, growing businesses, high prosperity, and low inequality where people enjoy better health throughout their lives.

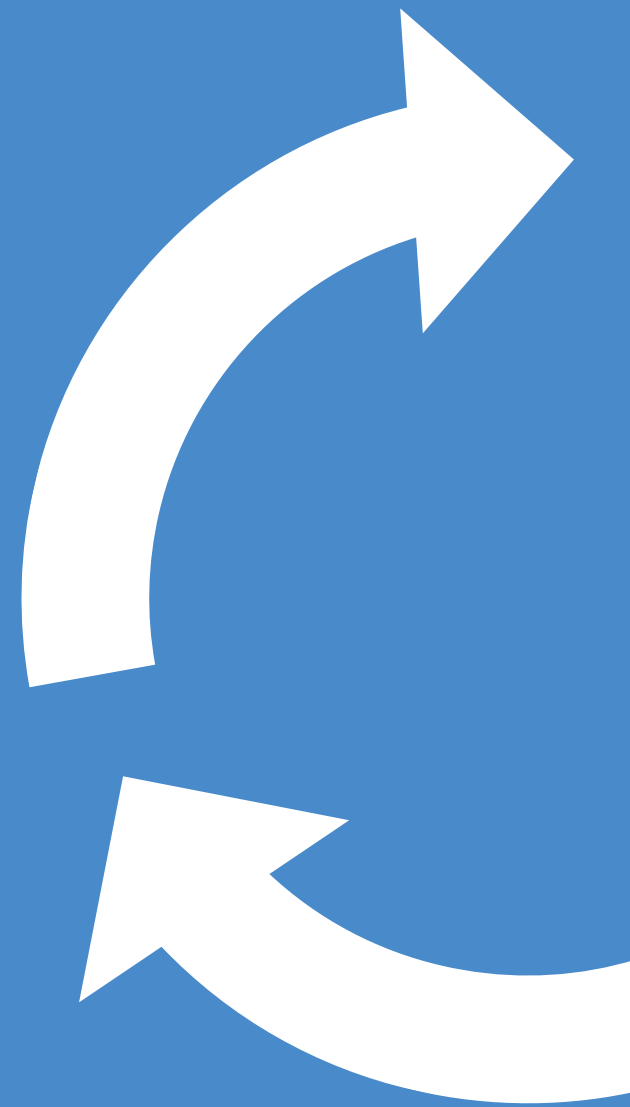
One of our shared outcomes to achieve our vision, is that people in Kirklees experience a high quality, clean and green environment. Our built and natural environment contributes to people's quality of life and makes the district a more attractive place in which to live and invest. We want to connect people and places, improve air quality and be resilient in the face of extreme weather, as well as helping people reduce waste and recycle more.

Tied into our corporate vision and outcomes, our vision for waste management is:

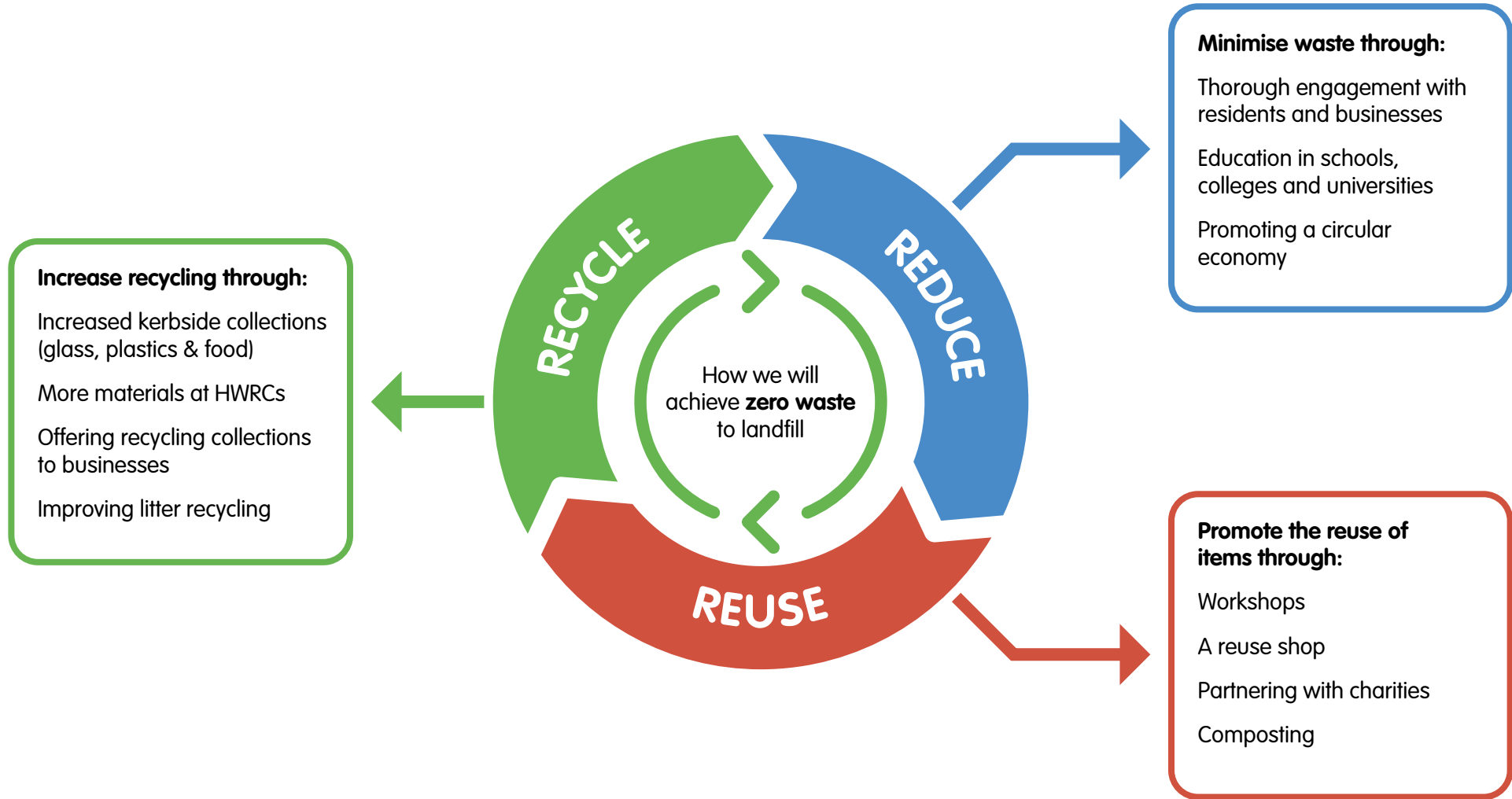
**"a clean, green, sustainable future for Kirklees with zero waste to landfill and where waste is valued as a resource through re-use, recycling, and recovery."**

Kirklees' ambition is to be at the forefront of the national drive towards tackling Climate Change, eliminating waste and valuing resources by empowering our residents to live sustainably. As a council, we will enable our residents and businesses to reduce, reuse, and recycle their waste. For us to achieve this, we will need to work together and take ownership and responsibility for the waste we generate and make more sustainable decisions on what we do with it.

We shared our vision with the people of Kirklees in 2020 and this strategy sets out our pathway to a zero-waste future, based on the views and ambitions shared with us by our communities.



# 3.0 Our Ambitions

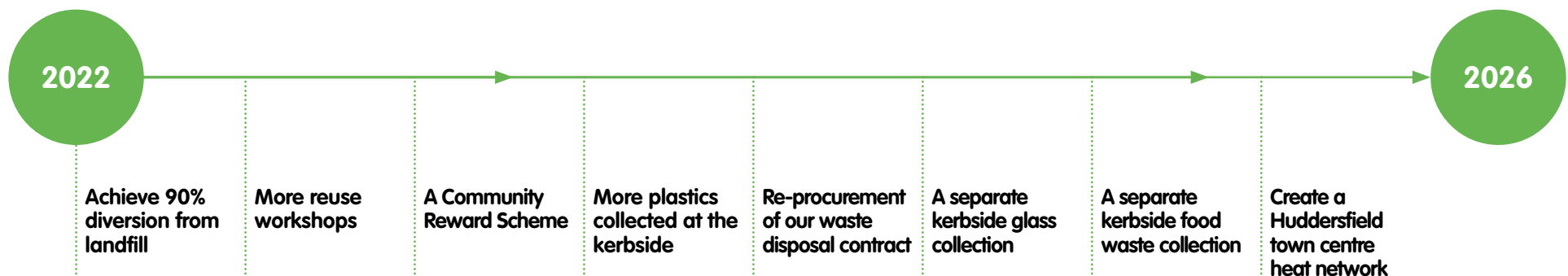


## 3.1 Our 12 month and 5 year pledges

Within the **next 12 months** we will deliver the following...



Within the **next 5 years** we will deliver the following...



## 4.0 Our challenges

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The UK Government has passed legislation to reach 'net zero' greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. It is recognised that specific policies will be required to address key areas of emissions across the economy, which includes how we approach and reduce waste.

The UK Government issued its plan for a 'Green Future' with the publication of its 25-year waste and resources strategy for England in December 2018.

This sets out the government's vision to minimise waste, promote resource efficiency and move towards a circular economy. The strategy has an overall vision of eliminating avoidable plastic waste by 2042 and eliminating avoidable waste of all kinds by 2050.

To achieve this, the strategy tackles issues through the full product life cycle from production, consumption and through to its end-of-life. The main aspects to the policy are outlined below which are all subject to further consultation, for which the outcomes may impact the direction of the Kirklees' strategy.

### **Polluter Pays**

Currently packaging companies only pay 7% towards the estimated £1bn cost of dealing with the waste they produce. The government strategy aims to change this by transferring the full cost of recycling and waste management away from local authorities and diverted to those who produce and profit from the production of packaging.

### **Deposit Return Scheme**

The scheme will see consumers charged a deposit up-front when purchasing a drink in a single-use container which can then be redeemed when the empty container is returned. The scheme is proposed to be rolled out in 2023 subject to further consultation.



## 4.0 Our challenges cont...

### Consistent Recycling Systems

Due to the wide-variety of recycling methods in operations by local authorities, the strategy aims to roll out a consistent system across England. This will create a standardised set of recyclable materials which all local authorities would be expected to collect.

### Food Waste

The strategy commits to providing all households with a weekly food waste collection. This is in an effort to reduce greenhouse gases produced in landfills, and to create a compost material. For similar reasons, the strategy also considers introducing free garden waste collections.

### Waste Crime

Fly-tipping is a national issue and the new strategy aims to crack down on this type of crime by improving the regulation and tracking of waste infrastructure.

The government strategy sets some ambitious targets, including the target to recycle **65% of municipal waste by 2035**. To achieve this, the strategy pushes for implementation of the waste hierarchy which places the largest focus on the prevention of waste and reuse of materials, with disposal being the least desirable solution as seen in the illustration.

### Climate Emergency

Kirklees Council declared a 'climate emergency' in January 2019, recognising the scale of the climate challenge posed by a changing climate and this was followed by the council setting an ambitious 'net zero' carbon emissions target for the district, together with a new Air Quality Action Plan running to 2024.

The 'net zero' target aligns with the UK legislation for 'net zero' by 2050 and the Leeds City Region pledge for 2038. A modern waste strategy that prioritises the waste hierarchy is key in achieving these targets. This includes not only how we minimise and treat our waste, but also how we will seek to identify opportunities for sustainable energy generation resulting from our district's waste.

MOST PREFERABLE



LEAST PREFERABLE

Reduce

Reuse

Recycle

Recover

Dispose

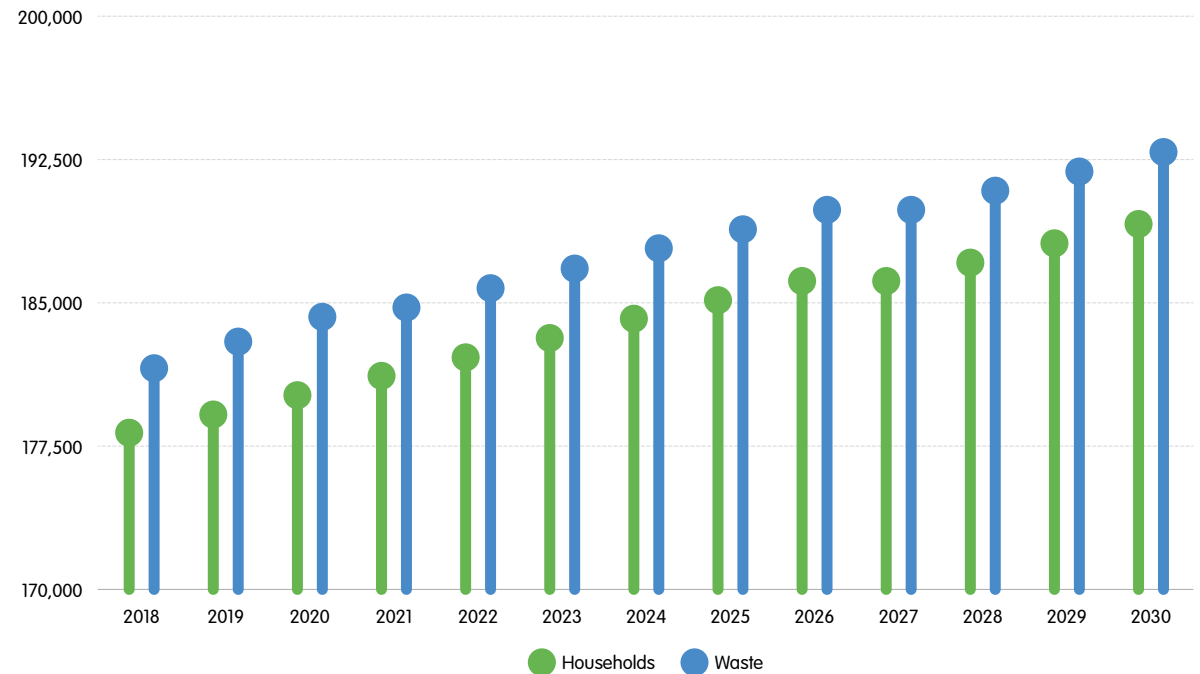
## 4.0 Our challenges cont...

**In 2020, we produced around 186,660 tonnes of waste, of which 26.7% was recycled, with over nine million collections to 182,000 homes, and as a growing district this is set to increase further.**

Placing items for recycling in the green bin unfortunately is not enough to reduce waste and tackle climate change. We want to generate understanding that waste reduction and reuse are key in tackling climate change and creating a sustainable future. So one of our key challenges is changing the perception, that recycling is the answer - we want to empower individuals to help them reduce their waste and reuse, and view recycling as last option.

Promoting and developing a local circular economy, along with the other measures outlined within this strategy, will help ensure that we achieve this.

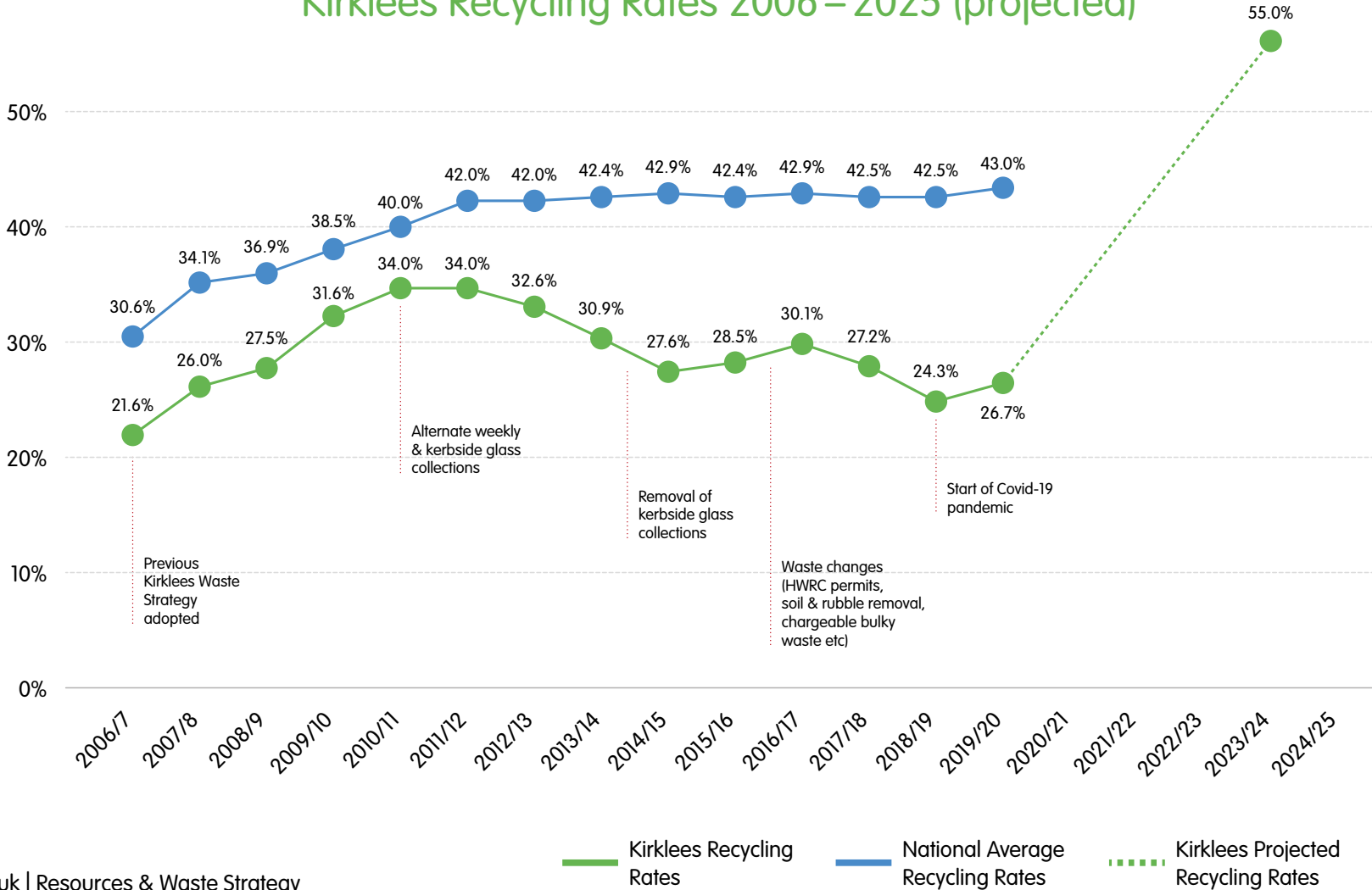
Kirklees Projected Households 2018 – 2030



Source: ONS 2018-based household projections

# 4.0 Our challenges cont...

Kirklees Recycling Rates 2006 – 2025 (projected)



## 5.0 **Delivering Modern, Sustainable Services**

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We will enable our residents and businesses to reduce, reuse, and recycle as much of their waste as possible by delivering the modern, sustainable services set out here.

## 5.1 Engagement and Communication

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We will actively engage with residents, businesses and communities in a way that works for them, using a place based approach which is engaging, straightforward and visible.

To minimise the amount of waste we produce and maximise recycling we must all work together.

A common and shared understanding of the Waste Hierarchy and our own roles and responsibilities within it is essential in the journey to achieve our Zero Waste ambitions. Clear, proactive, and on-going communication and engagement with our residents, communities, and businesses is paramount to enable a sustained change in mindset. Working with our people, partners, and places to deliver this strategy will enable us to continue to listen and learn from each other.

### **Workshops**

Building on the success of our Food Waste Workshops we will expand our programme to provide advice and practical guidance to enable residents to save money, reduce waste, and reuse resources.

Feedback from residents during the Autumn 2020 engagement showed how popular the current workshops are, with a demand for a wider range of opportunities including:

- Repair workshops and cafés (support to fix broken electrical items, clothes, and furniture)
- Upcycling workshops (teaching how to transform and improve old furniture and other items)
- Clothing swap (exchange clothes and textiles)
- Drop-in advice sessions in your local community
- How to compost and the different types of products available.



# 5.1 Engagement and Communication cont...

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## **Community Events**

Recycling and Waste Advisors will attend Kirklees community events, providing advice and guidance in the very heart of our communities across the district.

We will develop a responsive 'recycling roadshow' to travel across the district to deliver messages in the community, listening to ideas on how we can achieve our Zero Waste ambition together.

## **Community Reward Scheme**

We will develop and introduce a community reward scheme, which gives back to communities that achieve the highest or greatest increase in recycling, to enrich their local economy, environment, and wellbeing.

## **Recycling Champions**

A network of volunteer Local Recycling Champions will help provide advice and guidance to their local community on reducing, reusing, and recycling waste. Our Recycling Champions will be supported by our Kirklees Waste Advisors.

## **Education**

Climate Change and sustainable waste management are multi-generational issues and many of our young people are already passionate about what needs to change. Working with schools to develop and deliver meaningful educational resources will empower our children to really make a difference both now and in the future. We will build on our strong links with schools to encourage and promote a clean, green, and sustainable future for future generations.

We will also work with colleges and universities to support entrepreneurship and skills development in relation to waste management / circular economy; encouraging and enabling young people to explore, innovate and set up new sustainable businesses within the district.



## 5.1 Engagement and Communication cont...

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### **Tackling Barriers**

A focus will be placed on overcoming and addressing barriers which prevent residents from recycling. Talks with developers and managing agents will be undertaken and the Waste Management Design Guide will assist with ensuring properties are designed with appropriate facilities, as well as strengthening links with landlords across the borough.

A project to assess all shared bin storage areas will be undertaken, starting with Kirklees Homes and Neighbourhoods, and then expand to private tenants. This will be undertaken in conjunction with the council's place standard work to ensure the correct action is taken for what is important to communities.

Engagement with the business community will continue to identify and remove barriers to circular practises where possible to reduce waste production, and better reuse materials.

We will also be enhancing our customer care for those contacting the council in relation to waste related complaints and enquiries, therefore improving the service and experience for our residents.



## 5.1 Engagement and Communication cont...

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### **New Resident Pack**

Knowing what can and cannot be recycled can be confusing, particularly for those moving into Kirklees from a different local authority. We will create a new resident's pack to make it easier for residents to know how our recycling service works.

### **Visitor Centre – Waste Disposal Facility**

Improvements to the visitor's centre at the waste disposal facility will allow our residents and other interested parties to visit the site and see first-hand how their recycling is sorted and managed.

This will provide greater clarity and transparency on the recycling process and allow residents to follow the journey of their waste, reducing the ambiguity on what happens to materials after their bin is emptied.

We will offer more visits to schools and allow children to see waste being processed to stimulate further conversations at home. The visitor's centre will also be equipped with educational and take-home materials.

### **Staff Engagement**

We recognise that to provide the best advice and guidance to our residents and businesses, we need to ensure that our staff, councillors, and MPs are aware of (and support) the work we are doing and receive the same engagement.

We will therefore provide training sessions for our staff to learn about the recycling process and circular economy principles, to better equip them to reinforce the messages to residents and businesses as well as tours of our facilities.





## 5.2 Recycling & Waste Collections

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In line with our climate emergency declaration, we will aim to double our recycling rate and recycle at least 55% of municipal waste by 2025.

### **Increased Material Collections**

Based on the views and ambitions shared with us by our communities in the Autumn 2020 public engagement, our residents want to be able to recycle more materials at the kerbside. We will modernise the kerbside collection service offered and increase the number of recyclable materials collected to include the items our residents told us they would most like to recycle which were glass, mixed plastics, and food waste. This will be implemented alongside campaigns to help our residents minimise and reduce waste creation in the first place.

### **Container Trials**

An extensive options appraisal has been completed and the top scoring options were presented to residents for their feedback during the Autumn 2020 engagement. The scores from the options appraisal alongside the feedback from our residents has been consolidated and whilst there was strong overall support, there was

no clear indication of the preferred container for glass collections. This is a critical decision and to ensure our communities are engaged in the service changes and we fully understand any community or operational impacts, early trials will now be conducted to test viability and define the best option for delivering this across Kirklees.

### **Garden Waste**

A chargeable garden waste collection service is available to residents via a 240 litre brown bin. This service was introduced in 2019 and has been steadily growing over the last two years. We are not proposing to make any changes to how we collect garden waste (unless national regulations change) but will be looking to explore the possibility of selling the compost we produce through our household waste and recycling centres, promoting a circular economy.



## 5.3 Waste Disposal

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### **Waste Disposal Contract**

In 1998, Kirklees was the second local authority in the UK to be awarded a waste treatment Private Finance Initiative (PFI) grant funding. The foundations and principles of the existing contract were set out over 20 years ago when the international and national focus was avoidance of landfill disposal.

Whilst visionary at the time, the current national waste strategy has since changed to focus on a circular economy, so the aims and performance indicators of the existing waste disposal contract are now outdated.

The current contract includes the following infrastructure:

- Energy from Waste (EfW) facility in Huddersfield.
- Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) in Huddersfield (the sorting technology is limited compared to modern standards).
- Two Waste Transfer Stations in Huddersfield and Dewsbury.
- 5 Household Waste and Recycling Centres (HWRCs) across the district.

- Composting facilities in Huddersfield.
- Monitoring of two closed landfill sites at Hollins Hey and Honley Wood.

All of the above sites and facilities are operated and maintained by the contractor, with ownership of fully operational and maintained assets to be handed back to Kirklees at the end of the contract on 31st March 2023 with an option to extend.

This provides an ideal opportunity to modernise services provided to Kirklees residents, as the kerbside recycling service has been operating within the limitations of the contract and associated facilities.

It is a priority for us to investigate all contract options available and give consideration to how current infrastructure will be best used to maximise diversion and sustainability.

## 5.3 Waste Disposal cont...

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### **Future Waste Treatment**

Our future waste flows (figure 3) will include additional materials collected from the kerbside including glass, additional plastics, and food waste. We are also keen to ensure that we maximise the potential for the district's waste streams to play their part in contributing to our 'net zero' carbon emissions journey.

This will require modernisation of the MRF and development of an anaerobic digestion facility to treat food waste.

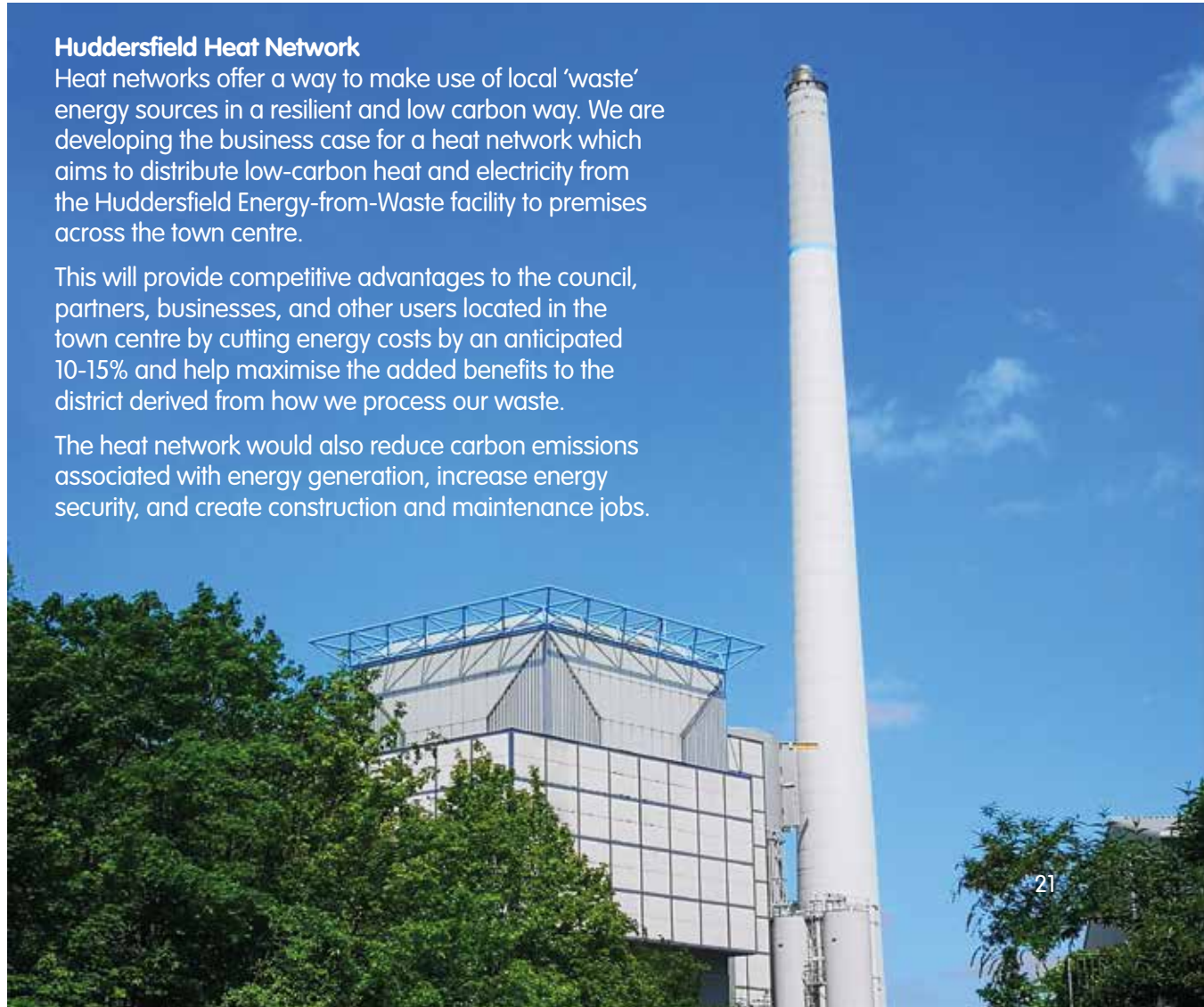
Anaerobic digestion offers a way to sustainably treat food waste as well as providing an important low carbon source of 'biofuel' that could help supply other parts of our waste infrastructure and fleet. A feasibility study will be undertaken to determine whether building a council owned facility is more cost effective and efficient than the alternative of transportation to an existing facility.

### **Huddersfield Heat Network**

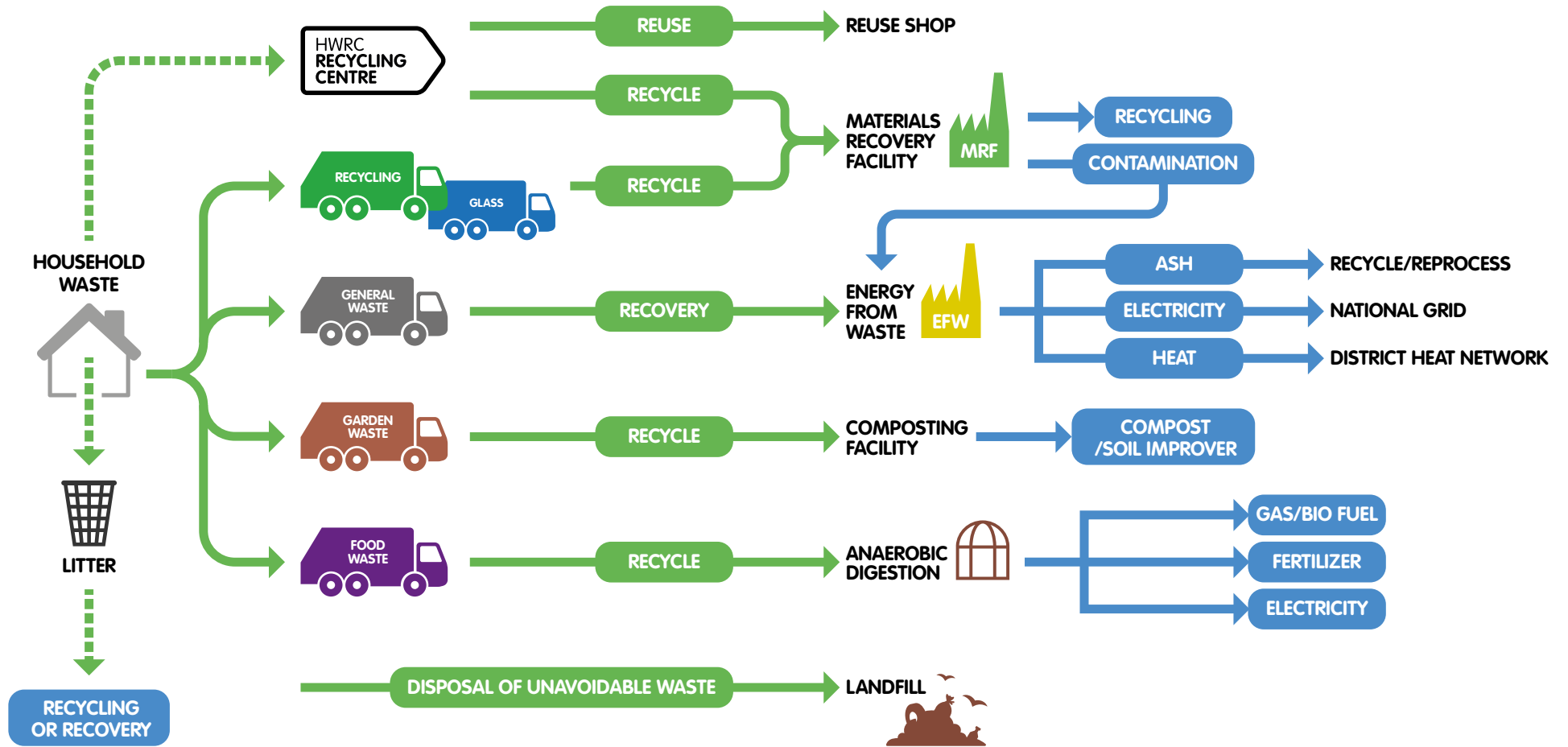
Heat networks offer a way to make use of local 'waste' energy sources in a resilient and low carbon way. We are developing the business case for a heat network which aims to distribute low-carbon heat and electricity from the Huddersfield Energy-from-Waste facility to premises across the town centre.

This will provide competitive advantages to the council, partners, businesses, and other users located in the town centre by cutting energy costs by an anticipated 10-15% and help maximise the added benefits to the district derived from how we process our waste.

The heat network would also reduce carbon emissions associated with energy generation, increase energy security, and create construction and maintenance jobs.



## 5.3 Waste Disposal cont...



## 5.4 Household Waste & Recycling Centres (HWRCs)

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We will aim to achieve a recycling rate of at least 70% at our Household Waste and Recycling Centres by 2025.

### Site Review

We will review our five Household Waste & Recycling Centres (HWRCs) to ensure they are delivering a suitable service to Kirklees residents. We will redevelop and refurbish sites to modernise our offer to residents, refresh signage, improve traffic flow and enable resident to maximise recycling through the sites. This will include reviewing our opening times with a view to increasing the number of hours the sites are open to residents. We will also consider the introduction of Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) technology, which will continue to protect against trade waste abuse and improve the customer journey.

### Increased Materials

To encourage more recycling on-site, we will provide more containers to capture a wider range of materials. As part of the Autumn 2020 engagement, we asked residents which materials they would most like to be able to recycle onsite and these were: soil and rubble, more types of plastics, and mattresses.

Based on this engagement feedback, we will review the provision for recycling or disposal of these items. The review will seek to maximise reuse and minimise disposal to landfill and work closely with businesses to find creative reduce/reuse/recycle solutions at source.

### Mobile Recycling Centre

To ensure our residents have adequate access to recycling facilities, we will introduce a mobile recycling centre at easily accessible locations, including rural communities, allowing residents to bring along a wide selection of recyclable materials. These mobile centres will not accept general waste. We will also explore partnering with a charitable organisation that could accept reuse or repair items from residents. This is important not only in avoiding waste, but also providing communities with more affordable items and charities with an income stream to continue their work supporting some of our most vulnerable communities and reduce dependence on individual car travel.



## 5.4 Household Waste & Recycling Centres (HWRCs) cont...

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### **Reuse Shop**

We will complete an early trial for a reuse shop in Huddersfield whereby items coming into our Emerald Street and Thornhill HWRC sites which are of value or could be reused can be diverted into the shop and sold on to others to promote reuse instead of disposal.

If the trial is successful, we will look at expanding the scheme to other sites across the borough.

### **Empowering Residents**

Many residents arrive at HWRCs with a variety of materials which have been gathered together for general waste however there could potentially be recyclable items contained within these.

We will explore how we can offer advice and support to residents on-site to empower them to recycle more of the materials they arrive with.

### **Businesses**

Providing easily accessible, sustainable choices for businesses is important and we will be exploring how we can improve the offering at the sites.

As this waste needs to be captured separately from that of households, this could be achieved by potentially having separate entrances for trade vehicles or using the proposed ANPR technology, however this will be explored further to determine viable options.



## 5.5 Bulky Waste Collection Service

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We will aim to reuse or recycle as much of the resources collected via our bulky waste collections as possible.

Kirklees offers a bulky waste collection service for a wide range of household items including white goods, furniture, TVs, and carpets. We will create greater links with charities to reuse and donate items that can be collected and are in a good condition. There are online platforms that allow communities to share resources, which could be explored for this and build on the proposed reuse shop trial.

For items which cannot be reused, we will introduce a revised booking system for bulky waste collections which will allow for a 'slot' to be booked, similar to how an online grocery shopping delivery works. This will make it more user-friendly for residents knowing exactly when their waste will be collected and will improve our street scene with items only being placed outside when necessary.

## 5.6 Bring Sites

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There are around 110 'bring sites' across Kirklees whereby residents can deposit items such as glass and textiles.

A review of these sites will be undertaken considering work arising from this strategy and the forthcoming Government Deposit Return Scheme, as the function of these sites will change.

There would be a view to rationalise the number and scope of sites across the district, especially when the new waste collection method is implemented.

Some of these sites include banks for materials collected by charities and consideration will be given to ensuring that this continues in a managed and fair way in the future.

There is the potential to engage with local communities to help select charities to be supported locally within their area.





## 5.7 Landfill Sites

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Kirklees has several closed landfill sites across the district which are monitored for leachate and/or the production of landfill gas (LFG).

The aftercare and monitoring of landfill sites will be proactively reviewed to explore whether there are opportunities for these sites to be used for other

purposes that will help achieve our environmental outcomes such as green infrastructure creation and tree planting or harnessing low carbon 'waste' energy.

## 5.8 Our Cleaner Environment

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We will ensure that the environment across the district delivers our vision of a clean, green, sustainable future for Kirklees.

### **Street Sweeping**

The removal of litter and detritus from our streets is important to communities, especially considering the pandemic, which has seen people enjoying local amenities much more. A service review will be undertaken to capture these impacts alongside place based feedback, which will allow us to explore the most suitable delivery models and innovations that minimise environmental impact.

A Land Audit Management System (LAMS) will be introduced to monitor the quality of service delivery to our communities and businesses. We will also review our vehicle use and in line with our fleet replacement programme, opt for more sustainable vehicles such as electric sweepers.

### **Litter bins**

Kirklees has over 7,000 litter bins across the borough, many of which are in a poor condition or not in the most convenient locations.

We will be introducing more recycling facilities, particularly in areas that demonstrate high foot fall, with a view to these being innovative solutions and utilising sensors to monitor build up as well as green initiatives such as incorporated solar panels. We will also ensure adequate facilities to dispose of dog mess.

This will be supported by a comprehensive engagement and awareness programme to manage any contamination issues. This on-street recycling will help re-enforce the behavioural changes needed to ensure we maximise recycling at kerbside as well.

### **Non-compliance**

The government's national strategy has an aim to tackle and reduce waste crime such as fly-tipping. Resources within the enforcement service will be increased including an improved fly-tipping response model, to ensure we are able to conduct more proactive work as well as re-introduction of a litter tackling scheme.



## 5.9 Commercial Waste Service

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Kirklees provides a commercial waste collection service to approximately 3,500 businesses, schools, and charities throughout the borough. This is currently limited to residual waste collections and we will be introducing a new recycling offering.

This will be offered to all businesses, schools, and charities across the district with a particular package of support offered to schools in keeping with our improved engagement and communication.

This will include exploring how using this service could also help achieve our wider climate emergency outcomes through helping these organisations reduce waste and emissions and to provide another potential source of low carbon energy generation.

To help improve the visual impact on streets and town centres, we will explore opportunities to take large bin stores off the streets.

With very limited space within the town centre, finding the space to place commercial bins out for collection is often difficult; alternative locations will be explored to take these off-street fronts on collection days, making the streets more visibly pleasing.

We will also work with businesses to explore and understand the opportunities for creating a circular economy that enables links and partnerships between local businesses themselves and with the wider community to reduce waste production, and better reuse materials, keeping them in circulation for longer and avoiding disposal.

## 5.9 Commercial Waste Service cont...

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Enabling business growth and innovation is a key part of the Council Plan, Kirklees Economic Strategy and Kirklees Economic Recovery Plan.

This is particularly important as businesses recover from the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

There are multiple opportunities in the Waste Strategy to work with local business/enable commercial

opportunities and support local skills development. We will take a 'Business First' approach.

## 6.0 **Leading by Example**

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We will set a precedent of good practice by improving our own facilities and working practices across all of our operations to lead the way to reduce waste, reuse materials, and increase recycling.



## 6.1 Council Facilities

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Similar to the work planned in schools, helping them to create recycling systems, we think we can do better at recycling more within our own office and council-run buildings.

We will undertake an audit of the recycling facilities within our council-owned buildings to ensure consistent and prominent recycling facilities are available with appropriate signposting and advice. This will link closely with the engagement we plan to undertake with staff in ensuring everyone is aware of what materials they can recycle and how/where they can do so.

We will also ensure to procure businesses that use green energy and, across our estate, look at how we can maximise the reuse of materials / furniture as well as use of innovative technology to reduce carbon impact such as lighting controls, using renewable materials in buildings work, and having green energy supply.



## 6.2 Catering

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The council's catering service receives many deliveries for food and other materials for their catering provision, much of which arrives in non-recyclable packaging such as film.

We will work with producers and suppliers to use more sustainable packaging and transport options and promote the use of providers who can demonstrate minimisation of packaging and the use of sustainable and recyclable materials.

Through our catering services in schools, community buildings, and cafes we handle significant quantities of food, some of which can become waste. We will ensure that this waste is recovered through composting or anaerobic digestion when the facilities become available through the delivery of this strategy.

## 6.3 Venues & Events

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We will minimise the use of single-use plastics such as plastic cups and cutlery at our venues and catered events and provide alternatives such as collectable, re-useable, or compostable/biodegradable items. We will also look to extend this support to private festivals and events held across the borough.

We will be exploring how we can support event organisers by offering advice on more sustainable alternatives and enabling the collection of recyclable materials with minimal contamination.



## 6.4 Kirklees Homes and Neighbourhoods

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Kirklees Homes and Neighbourhoods manage approximately 22,000 homes.

When looking at how improvements to recycling facilities can be made to properties such as those in flats, multi-occupancy or occupied by leaseholders, we would like to explore this within our own council homes and lead by example for private managing agents and landlords.

A project to assess all shared bin properties across the district and provide facilities similar to the trial will be undertaken which will start with Kirklees Homes and Neighbourhoods, and then expand to private tenants.

This would be undertaken in conjunction with the place standard work being conducted to ensure the correct action is taken for what is important to communities.

Homes and Neighbourhoods manage a high turnover of property tenants, emptying properties of potentially reusable or repairable items. We will work with the service and charitable organisations to find homes for items that could be used elsewhere or sold in local charity shops. This will extend to our Building Services to ensure we reuse and recycle as much of the materials produced as possible.



## 6.5 National Initiatives

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Alongside modernising and improving our own services, we recognise that there are many national initiatives which would benefit our residents and businesses, and we are committed to identifying and participating in appropriate schemes.

We are committed to enabling our residents to recycle a wide breadth of materials however we first need to evaluate the schemes available as although certain materials may be collected, these are not always recycled or disposed of in the most sustainable way.

Initiatives which we will be exploring further include: coffee cups, nappy, and crisp packet recycling schemes. These will require further research into their sustainability and practicalities of being introduced.

We will also be exploring how and where we can install more refillable water stations across the borough to encourage minimising single-use plastics. We will keep abreast of future initiatives and be proactive in our consideration of them where they would result in improved waste and sustainability outcomes.



## 6.6 Our People

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Kirklees Council recognises the importance of working in partnership with all of our employees and trade unions in continuing to develop an organisational culture that embraces change, seeks continuous improvement, and takes responsibility for actions.

We recognise that to lead by example, we need to ensure our workforce is fully engaged and our staff understand and recognise the important role they play as a key link with local communities.

In order to ensure our workforce is supported to deliver the ambitious targets within this strategy, we will ensure our staff, from the front line right through to service

managers, are engaged and involved in the early design and implementation of initiatives and uphold our ethos of 'doing with and not to'. We will further support this cultural transformation by providing ongoing learning and development for all of our staff in response to the changing organisational needs.



## 7.0 **Supporting Kirklees Families**

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In Kirklees, we want to make sure we provide support to those families who need it, and the Recycling and Waste Service offers this in a variety of different ways.



## 7.0 Supporting Kirklees Families

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Some residents need extra help presenting their bins due to mobility issues; we provide doorstep services for these households where there isn't a capable resident who is at least 16 years old.

Some Kirklees residents have complex health needs and require a very different waste disposal service from their home.

An assessment is undertaken for these residents jointly with the health service to accommodate the collection of large volumes of non-hazardous healthcare support materials. We would like to support Kirklees families even further.

Our Bin Collection Teams are working within Kirklees communities each day. This team is ideally positioned to operate as the 'Eyes and Ears' of our communities.

All council officers have a safeguarding role to play, including Bin Collection Teams. We will seek to create an improved process for linking our Bin Collection Team with the Corporate Safeguarding Team, making it as easy as possible to seek support between services – a digital safeguarding triage.



## 7.1 Ensuring Equality

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All of the changes introduced as part of this strategy will have an accompanying integrated impact assessment that combines equality and environmental impacts to identify and address any potential equality and environmental concerns.

Kirklees takes a firm stance on ensuring equality and sees inclusion as being at the heart of our recovery.

We will also, where required, take an equitable view of services provided to ensure that communities are allocated the appropriate resources and opportunities needed to reach an equal outcome.

The service is governed by a number of existing waste and recycling-related policies which will require review when introducing any service changes.

## 7.2 Environmental Impact

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Taking into consideration the government targets for emissions and air quality, alongside our Climate Emergency, all initiatives outlined within this strategy will be explored ensuring these targets are considered and measures taken to reduce the environmental impact within Kirklees.

We are committed to regularly assessing our waste vehicles and routes used to collect from properties. We maximise the use of low, ultra-low, and zero-emission vehicles to minimise emissions as we collect from properties and use the most efficient routes possible to do so. We recognise that larger zero-emission vehicles are a fast-developing area of innovation, and whilst there may not be a current viable alternative to business as usual fossil-fuelled waste vehicles, this is likely to change over the course of this strategy. We will be proactive in our adoption of viable zero and low emission waste vehicles as they become available and meet required operational standards and value for money considerations.

Promotion and support for residents and business to implement circular principles will allow less waste to be transported and therefore work to minimise the amount of waste leaving the authority on large heavy goods vehicles. This will reduce the road miles of our waste as well as traffic congestion, meaning fewer pollutants via emissions and improving battery technologies.

We are committed to exploring all possible avenues to reduce our emissions including the use of technology to assist with this. We will be exploring the possibility of technology allowing waste vehicles to move through signalised junctions reducing 'stop-start' acceleration and deceleration and therefore reducing emissions as well as the use of sensors to monitor litter build up resulting in more efficient collections. We will also ensure our procurement strategy takes emissions into consideration and keeps track of evolving technology such as hydrogen-fuelled vehicles.



## 8.0 Ongoing Monitoring

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In order to oversee the progress of the strategy and track the outcomes and benefits, ongoing monitoring will be established which will include developing and defining service performance measures. We will conduct and publish a 5-year review of this strategy in 2026 to measure progress of the action plan and make any adjustments as necessary.

Reporting to Defra is required on a quarterly basis, this will be published on our website to inform residents of progress and promote transparency of the service.

## 9.0 Action Plan

Section	Action	Why?	When
<b>5.1 Engagement &amp; Communication</b>	Create a variety of reuse workshops available for residents to attend	To provide knowledge and practical advice on how to reuse items and avoid them being disposed of	Year 2022-2023
	Recycling and Waste Advisors to be in attendance at Kirklees events	To provide a physical presence to share information and advice with residents and provide another avenue for residents to seek advice	Ongoing
	Develop a 'recycling roadshow' to deliver messages across the district	To provide a physical presence to share information and advice with residents and provide another avenue for residents to seek advice	2022
	Introduce a community reward scheme	To give back to communities and enrich their economy, environment, and wellbeing	2021 & ongoing
	Introduce a Recycling Champions scheme	To provide residents with a point of contact within their own community to help share advice and answer queries alongside Kirklees Advisors	2021
	School assemblies and sessions around recycling and waste reduction	To educate children on the importance of waste reduction and encourage taking this learning home	Ongoing
	Engaging with businesses on waste reduction and recycling	To empower and enable businesses to find cost-effective circular solutions that support sustainable business growth.	Ongoing

Section	Action	Why?	When
<b>5.1 Engagement &amp; Communication</b>	Create a landlord's forum to engage more closely with private landlords on how to support tenants to recycle	To engage with those who face the most difficulty with reducing and recycling their waste to enable them to do so	2026
	Scheme created aimed at addressing barriers for those who struggle with recycling	To engage with those who face the most difficulty with reducing and recycling their waste to enable them to do so	Ongoing
	Create a 'new resident's pack' for those new to the area	To ensure residents moving to Kirklees from other local authorities are aware of how our recycling system works	2023
	Visitor centre improvements at our waste disposal facility	To provide first-hand experiences on how waste and recycling is treated and provide transparency	2026
	Internal education for Kirklees employees, councillors, and MPs	To enable Kirklees staff to understand the recycling methods and better equip them to be consistent with this messaging	Ongoing
<b>5.2 Recycling &amp; Waste Collections</b>	Infrastructure evaluation	To ensure facilities are fit for purpose and able to accommodate a new collection system	2021
	Trials of different collection containers	To gain further understanding of their effectiveness and deliverability	2022
	More materials accepted for recycling in the green bin (plastics, cartons)	To enable these materials to be recycled at the kerbside and promote the waste hierarchy	Tentative: 2022
	A separate glass collection is introduced	To enable these materials to be recycled at the kerbside and promote the waste hierarchy	2024
	A separate food waste collection is introduced	To enable these materials to be recycled at the kerbside and promote the waste hierarchy	2025
	Review of waste collection policies	To reflect the different phases of change to the collection service	Ongoing

Section	Action	Why?	When
<b>5.3 Waste Disposal</b>	Re-procurement of our waste disposal contract	To ensure a flexible, fit-for-purpose contract is in place to effectively treat our waste	2022
	Feasibility study on access routes to an anaerobic digestion facility	To enable treatment of food waste collected	2022
	Create a Huddersfield town centre heat network	To provide low-cost energy to nearby users	2025
<b>5.4 Household Waste &amp; Recycling Centres (HWRCs)</b>	Feasibility study of HWRCs	To assess their current state and improvement requirements	2024
	Introduce ANPR technology at sites	To provide residents with easier access to sites	2027
	Increase materials accepted at HWRCs	To enable more materials to be recycled and promote the waste hierarchy	Tentative: 2022
	Introduce a mobile recycling centre	To provide more accessible locations for residents to recycle their resources	2023
	Create a scheme to empower residents to recycle more at HWRCs	To ensure more items are diverted for reuse and recycle as opposed to general waste disposal	2026
	Introduce a reuse shop	To ensure more items are diverted for reuse and recycle as opposed to general waste disposal	2021 (trial)
	Explore trade waste access at HWRCs	To allow business to dispose and recycle waste at sites and reduce fly-tipping	2030

Section	Action	Why?	When
<b>5.5 Bulky Waste Collection Service</b>	Create greater links with charities and reuse initiatives for bulky waste items that could be repaired and/or reused	To keep items in circulation for longer in line with the waste hierarchy	2023
	Improve the booking system for bulky waste collections	To improve accessibility and functionality for residents	2022
	Analysis of resources collected	To ensure good quality items can be reused	Ongoing
<b>5.6 Bring Sites</b>	Review of bring site locations and functionality	To ensure these are providing the most efficient service	2026
	Textile bank policy review	To ensure a fair and consistent approach to choosing charitable partners	2026
<b>5.7 Landfill Sites</b>	Review of landfill sites	To explore whether sites can be utilised more effectively	2030
<b>5.8 Our Cleaner Environment</b>	Review of street sweeping operations	To assess current service levels and plan in future demand	2022
	Street sweeping innovation and best practise review	To explore digital solutions and service improvements	2024
	Review and audit of litter bin locations and functionality	To ensure these are in convenient locations and also increase the number of recycling facilities available	2022
	Improved fly-tipping response model	To better respond and tackle this type of waste crime and create a cleaner environment for Kirklees	May 2022
	Review of waste enforcement resourcing	To ensure efficient resource to cover the borough and allow for more proactive measures	2024
<b>5.9 Commercial Waste Service</b>	Re-introduce a litter tackling scheme	To spot and address littering and allow for restorative and educational work	2025
	Introduce a new commercial recycling collection service	To improve the service offering and increase the amount of materials being recycled to promote the waste hierarchy	2022
	Introduce a scrap store initiative	Create a circular economy to reduce waste production, and better reuse materials, keeping them in circulation for longer and avoiding disposal.	2027



	Action	Why?	
<b>6.1 Council Facilities</b>	Audit of council-owned buildings to ensure consistent recycling facilities	To enable Kirklees staff to recycle efficiently whilst at work and lead by example	2026
	Review of the council estate to maximise reduction and reuse opportunities	To lead by example in promotion of the waste hierarchy and aim to reduce waste and reuse items	2027
<b>6.2 Catering</b>	Review of catering contracts to promote more sustainable packaging	To minimise the use of un-recyclable packaging	Ongoing
	Exploration of how food waste can be recycled from the catering service	To avoid this resource being disposed of with general waste	Ongoing
<b>6.3 Venues &amp; Events</b>	Phase out the use of single-use plastics at our venues and events	To minimise the use of un-recyclable materials in favour of more sustainable ones	2023
	Provide support to private festivals to minimise the use of single-use plastics	To minimise the use of un-recyclable materials in favour of more sustainable ones	Ongoing
<b>6.4 Kirklees Homes &amp; Neighbourhoods</b>	Review of recycling facilities within Homes and Neighbourhoods properties	To lead by example for private landlords and managing agents and maximise benefits for residents/tenants	Ongoing
	Review processes for emptying and refurbishing properties for new tenants to consider reusable and/or repairable items	To minimise waste and provide materials for local charities.	Ongoing
<b>6.5 National Initiatives</b>	Support and introduce national recycling schemes across the district	To support more items to be recycled	Ongoing
	Install more refillable water stations across the district	To promote the reduction in single-use plastic bottles	Ongoing
<b>6.6 Our People</b>	Provide training and ongoing support to our workforce	To support and enable them to deliver the strategy ambitions	Ongoing

	Action	Why?	
<b>7. Supporting Kirklees Families &amp; Ensuring Inclusion</b>	Review of our assisted collections policy	To ensure our most vulnerable residents receive the correct support	2022
	Create a digital safeguarding triage	To promote the welfare and safeguarding of our residents	Ongoing
<b>7.1 Ensuring Equality</b>	Review and equality impact of any policy changes introduced	To highlight and address any potential equality concerns	Ongoing
<b>7.2 Environmental Impact</b>	Continued monitoring of carbon emissions and air quality	To regularly monitor and assess the environmental impact of our vehicles	Ongoing
	Build an environmentally friendly fleet	To support the Climate Change agenda and carbon net zero targets	Ongoing

