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| Committee | Full Council |
| Month | November 2023 |
| Report Title | Essex Waste Strategy |
| Report Author | Georgia Arnold Deputy Town Clerk |
| Attachments | None |

Summary

Agenda item 11

At the October Council noted Essex County Council is hosting a consultation on its draft waste strategy. Council resolved (extract of draft minutes):

To appoint Cllr Gadd with officers to prepare a draft response to the consultation which will be presented to Council for approval at the November meeting.

This report therefore is the draft response to the consultation for Council to consider for submission.

The consultation closes 22 November 2023.

Recommendations

To support the draft response for submission.

WASTE STRATEGY FOR ESSEX

CONSULTATION SURVEY

Why Your Views Matter

We want to know what you think to help us make sure we get things right for the future management of waste in Essex and understand what our strategy means for residents of Essex.

This is an opportunity for you to have your say on the draft strategy and Strategic Environmental Assessment. We want to understand whether you think the vision, priorities, targets and ambitions in the strategy are the right ones. We want to know if there is anything else you think we should consider.

We will review all the feedback we receive. Each response will help to shape the final version of the Waste Strategy for Essex.

We want to ensure that everyone who wants to have their say is able to do so. If you would like a large print version of this document, a paper copy, or to discuss alternative options, please contact 0345 6037625 or email wastestrategyforessex@essex.gov.uk.

Data protection

Essex County Council is facilitating this consultation on behalf of the Essex Waste Partnership. Essex County Council fully complies with information legislation. If you would like the full details of how we use personal data, and the rights you have about its use, please go to www.essex.gov.uk/privacy-adults or call 03457 430430.

Taking Part

You can fill in our online feedback form at:

<https://consultations.essex.gov.uk/rci/waste-strategy-for-essex-consultation/>

You can send back a paper feedback form to: Freepost RTKH-XUBZ-CJZS, Essex County Council, Waste Strategy for Essex, County Hall, Chelmsford, CM1 1QH. However, if you want to help the council save money, please use a stamp, and send to this address: Waste Strategy for Essex, Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford, CM1 1QH. You may wish to keep a copy of your response to our consultation for your own records.

The consultation period will open on **Wednesday 13 September 2023** and closes on **Wednesday 22 November 2023**. Paper copies will be accepted by post for a further five working days, closing on Wednesday 29 November 2023.

Your opinions are valuable to us. Thank you for taking the time to read this and respond. Please ignore any questions that you do not wish to answer.

By completing and sending this consultation to Essex County Council, you are giving your consent for us to use the information you have provided.

WASTE STRATEGY FOR ESSEX

CONSULTATION SURVEY

1. Are you completing the consultation

as an individual on behalf of an organisation (please state below)

Saffron Walden Town Council

2. If you are responding as an individual, which of the following best describes you?

Then continue from Question 8

- private citizen an elected councillor or office holder
 other

If you are responding on behalf of an organisation:

3. Please select which organisation type (Please select only one item)

- Town or parish council Registered charity Community group
 Public service organisation (e.g. Police, NHS) Private business
 Special interest group (please specify) Other (please specify)

4. Does your organisation primarily work with or represent people from any of these groups? Please tick all that apply

- Older people Children/ young people Disabled people
 Transgender people Pregnant people and Black and ethnic minority
 Religious or faith new mothers people
communities Women Men
 Lesbian, gay or bisexual people Other (please specify)

5. Which district(s), borough(s) or city does your organisation cover? Please tick all that apply

- Basildon Colchester Tendring
 Braintree Epping Forest Uttlesford
 Brentwood Harlow Southend
 Castle Point Maldon Thurrock
 Chelmsford Rochford Another neighbouring county
 Other (please state) Prefer not to say

6. What is the name of your organisation?

Saffron Walden Town Council

7. Please provide an email address for your organisation:

georgia@saffronwalden.gov.uk

Our Vision

To help us move towards our net zero targets, the partnership has drafted a vision for the future:

We aspire to be a zero waste county. By working together we will reduce waste, protect the environment and conserve resources.

Achieving zero waste in Essex means reusing and recycling as much as possible, and recovering as many resources as possible from the waste that remains.

What is the Essex Waste Partnership?

A partnership comprising all 12 district, borough and city councils and the county council in Essex (see appendix 13). The partnership was set up to ensure cost-efficient and sustainable waste management across the county.

Net Zero means a state where there is a balance between the amount of greenhouse gases released into the atmosphere by a human activity, and the amount which is removed. A commitment to net-zero carbon is associated with a commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to achieve this balance.

Resources means materials that can be used to create products. Resources can be virgin materials or secondary raw materials.

Recovery means a waste treatment process that is used to recover energy and new raw materials from the waste. Recovery waste treatment processes include anaerobic digestion and Energy from Waste (EfW).

8. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this vision statement for the Waste Strategy for Essex?

Strongly
Disagree

Mostly
Disagree

Not sure

Mostly
Agree

Strongly
Agree

9. Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about the vision?

Our Targets

We believe we should, as a minimum, commit to achieving national waste targets set by the government. Therefore, our proposed targets are:

Net zero greenhouse gas emissions

We will contribute to reducing the county's greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050.

Waste disposal

We will send no more than 10% of waste to landfill by 2035.

Waste reduction

We will halve the amount of residual waste produced per person by 2042.

Collection Services

We will ensure that all Essex residents have access to separate food waste collections by 2026.
We will ensure that all Essex Residents have access to comprehensive recycling services for plastic, paper and card, metal, glass, food and garden waste by 2026.

Recycling

We will reuse, recycle, or compost 65% of waste by 2035.

Current Performance

In 2020 Essex councils collected over 725,000 tonnes of waste and recycling, the equivalent weight of roughly 58,000 London buses.

On average, each resident in Essex produces around 463 kg of waste per year which is 16% more than the national average. In 2020/21 the recycling rate in Essex was 52% which is higher than the national average of 44%.

As one of the largest waste partnerships in the country, the EWP recognises it has a key role to play in delivering a more circular economy in the UK and contributing to the achievement of national waste and recycling targets. Setting targets enables the partnership to track its performance against its vision and strategic aims. To find out more about national targets, please visit **Appendix 4 National Legislation**.

Greenhouse gas means gases that trap heat in the atmosphere and contribute to climate change. This causes the greenhouse effect. Water vapour, carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide, methane and ozone are the primary greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

10. Which of the following statements best describes your thoughts on the targets in the draft strategy?

- I would prefer more ambitious targets
- I think the targets are about right
- I would prefer less ambitious targets
- I would prefer no targets at all
- I'm not sure

11. If you answered “more ambitious” targets, which of the following best describes your view?

I would prefer higher targets

I would prefer the targets to be achieved sooner

I would prefer higher targets that are achieved sooner

12. If you answered “less ambitious” targets, which of the following best describes your view?

I would prefer lower targets

I would prefer the targets to be achieved at a later date

I would prefer lower targets that are achieved at later date

13. Is there anything else you’d like to tell us about the targets

We are disappointed that ECC are proposing a target which only seeks to achieve the minimum legally required, particularly given its historic disappointing performance. We note the recent National Infrastructure Commission report underlining the critical importance of high recycling rates, and also that Wales is already achieving more than 65% recycling currently. Higher recycling rates are therefore achievable and ECC should learn from Wales and set a properly demanding target

Our Ambitions

The strategy also sets out stretching ambitions and aspirations that the partnership will aim for to deliver greater change and impact more quickly.

Our ambitions are:

Waste reduction

We aim to reduce waste by 10% by 2030. We aspire that Essex will be a zero waste county by 2055.

Waste Disposal

We aim to send zero waste to landfill by 2030.

Recycling

We aim to reuse, recycle or compost at least 70% of waste by 2030.

Achieving zero waste in Essex means reusing and recycling as much as possible, and recovering as many resources as possible from the waste that remains.

The partnership will create plans, publish our progress, and regularly review this strategy to ensure it is fit for purpose.

To find out more about how our targets and ambitions are defined, please visit **Appendix 10 Targets and Ambitions Definitions**.

14. Which of the following statements best describes your thoughts on the ambitions in the draft strategy? Please select only one item

- | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| I would prefer higher ambitions | I think the ambitions are about right | I would prefer lower ambitions | I would prefer no ambitions at all | I'm not sure |

15. If you answered "higher ambitions", which of the following best describes your view? Please select only one item

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |
| I would prefer higher ambitions | I would prefer the ambitions to be achieved sooner | I would prefer higher ambitions that are achieved sooner |

16. If you answered "lower ambitions", which of the following best describes your view?

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| I would prefer lower ambitions | I would prefer the ambitions to be achieved at a later date | I would prefer lower ambitions that are achieved at later date |

17. Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about the ambitions

We would wish for properly demanding targets and note that 2055 is so far away as to be meaningless. The strategy should contain continuing targets during the currency of the strategy.

Approach to Partnership Vision

The next section of the consultation survey asks you questions about the approach the partnership proposes to follow to deliver the partnership's vision, targets and ambitions.

The priorities cover:

- Supporting the move to a circular economy
- Services that deliver the waste hierarchy
- Partnership working to maximise the impact of our work
- Supporting residents to reduce their waste and recycle more

What is the waste hierarchy?

The Waste Hierarchy sets out the order in which options for waste management should be considered based on environmental impact. It is a legal framework that has become a cornerstone of sustainable waste management.

What does it mean in practice?

Under the waste hierarchy, activities that prevent waste and increase recycling are shown to have the least impact. Applying the waste hierarchy when designing services and making decisions will help the partnership take the right decisions and achieve our vision of a zero waste county.

Achieving zero waste in Essex means reusing and recycling as much as possible, and recovering as many resources as possible from the waste that remains.

Move to a Circular Economy

The best way to reduce the environmental impact of waste is to embrace a circular economy. In a circular economy, our finite resources are conserved and used efficiently. That's why the circular economy is a priority in this strategy and the partnership proposes to:

Realise the opportunities arising from the circular economy model that will bring wider benefits to Essex

To deliver this priority, the EWP will:

- Encourage the growth of the green business sector and jobs in Essex to deal with waste in innovative ways
- Support businesses to adopt circular economy principles and practices
- Integrate the principles of the circular economy in council strategies and policies
- Support communities to reduce their waste and reuse and repair more
- Design services that increase closed loop recycling where waste is collected and recycled to make the same type of product.

What is a circular economy?

A circular economy is an economic system designed with the intention that maximum use is extracted from resources and minimum waste is generated for disposal.

Why is the circular economy a good thing?

There are clear environmental benefits from reducing waste in manufacturing, and designing products that are easy to repair and recycle. The transition to a circular economy can also provide opportunities for green growth and jobs.

Where are we now?

Most products are still designed and created using a linear economy model where resources are taken, manufactured, used and disposed of. We have moved into a recycling economy where a proportion of materials are recycled but not retained at their highest quality.

How do we get to a circular economy?

The transition to a circular economy requires us all to rethink how resources are valued and managed. The model relies on designing products that are durable, easy to maintain and repair. This encourages and enables individuals to reuse the products many times. Finally, the products should be designed to enable straightforward recycling when they can no longer be reused or repaired.

What is closed loop recycling?

Closed-loop recycling is a process where waste is collected and recycled to make the same type of product. For example, glass bottles can be remade into more glass bottles.

18. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this priority?

Strongly Disagree Mostly Disagree Not sure Mostly Agree Strongly Agree

19. Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about the priority or approach to delivering this priority?

Delivery requires a behavioral change, in the first instance businesses and residents must be encouraged to purchase reusable products, rather than one time use – for instance products with excess packaging i.e., water bottles, lunches, skin care products.

Services that Deliver the Waste Hierarchy - Prevention

The best way to reduce the impact of waste is to prevent waste being produced in the first place. We can do this by using less materials during manufacture, only buying what we need, and using what we already have. The partnership is proposing to deliver services that follow the waste hierarchy with priority given to waste prevention:

Deliver a system that puts waste reduction at its centre

To deliver this priority, the EWP will:

- Develop and deliver information and activities to help and inspire residents to reduce their waste
- Design future waste collection services to encourage residents to reduce their waste
- Work with government to seek stronger legislation and regulation to hold businesses to account
- Support local businesses that operate sustainably or encourage waste reduction

What is waste prevention (waste reduction)?

Action to prevent waste being produced to reduce or minimise the amount of waste requiring final disposal. Minimising waste saves on collection and disposal costs and helps to reduce the demand for raw materials.

Why is waste prevention important?

Although we need to recycle more, we need to address the problem that we create too much waste. On average, each resident in Essex produces around 463kg of waste per year (equivalent to roughly half the weight of a Fiat 500) that's almost 8% less waste per person compared to 2010-11, but 16% more than the national average.

What is the waste hierarchy?

The Waste Hierarchy sets out the order in which options for waste management should be considered based on environmental impact. It is a legal framework that has become a cornerstone of sustainable waste management.

What does it mean in practice?

Under the waste hierarchy, activities that prevent waste and increase recycling are shown to have the least impact. Applying the waste hierarchy when designing services and making decisions will help the partnership take the right decisions and achieve our vision of a zero waste county.

Achieving zero waste in Essex means reusing and recycling as much as possible, and recovering as many resources as possible from the waste that remains.

20. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this priority?

Strongly Disagree Mostly Disagree Not sure Mostly Agree Strongly Agree

21. Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about the priority or approach to delivering this priority?

Services that deliver the Waste Hierarchy - Reuse

The waste hierarchy shows that the next best option is to re-use products as much as possible by maintenance and repair, as well as borrowing, renting or buying second-hand. That's why Reuse is a priority in this strategy and the partnership proposes to:

Work together to encourage and support reuse and repair initiatives

To deliver this priority, the EWP will:

- Support business to deliver reuse and repair services
- Support communities to deliver local reuse and repair initiatives
- Develop and deliver information and activities to help and inspire residents to reuse and repair more
- Support sharing platforms that promote reuse
- Develop enhanced reuse services through Essex County Council's network of Recycling Centres
- Lobby government to accelerate a repair and reuse culture within business

What does reuse mean?

For businesses, reuse means designing products to be used many times, such as reusable packaging. In homes, reuse includes buying products that use refillable containers or reuse plastic bags. It contributes to sustainable development and can save raw materials, energy and transport costs.

Why is re-use important?

Although we need to recycle more, we need to address the problem that we create too much waste. On average, each resident in Essex produces around 463kg of waste per year (equivalent to roughly half the weight of a Fiat 500) that's almost 8% less waste per person compared to 2010-11, but 16% more than the national average. If we reuse more products, we can reduce the amount of waste generated.

What is the waste hierarchy?

The Waste Hierarchy sets out the order in which options for waste management should be considered based on environmental impact. It is a legal framework that has become a cornerstone of sustainable waste management.

What does it mean in practice?

Under the waste hierarchy, activities that prevent waste and increase recycling are shown to have the least impact. Applying the waste hierarchy when designing services and making decisions will help the partnership take the right decisions and achieve our vision of a zero waste county. Achieving zero waste in Essex means reusing and recycling as much as possible, and recovering as many resources as possible from the waste that remains.

Essex County Council (ECC) is responsible for providing Recycling Centres for Household Waste ("Recycling Centres"). ECC currently operates 21 recycling centres in Essex. To view a full list visit www.loveessex.org/find-your-nearest-recycling-centre

22. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this priority?

Strongly
Disagree

Mostly
Disagree

Not sure

Mostly
Agree

Strongly
Agree

23. Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about the priority or approach to delivering this priority?

Services that deliver the Waste Hierarchy - Recycle

If waste cannot be prevented or products and materials reused, then turning materials into new products by recycling is the next option on the waste hierarchy. That's why Recycling is a priority in this strategy and the partnership proposes to:

Increase recycling by delivering comprehensive services and supporting residents to recycle as much as possible

To deliver this priority, the EWP will:

- Provide collection services, recycling centres, and local community recycling facilities
- Ensure that all Essex residents have access to separate food waste collections
- Ensure that all Essex residents have access to frequent and comprehensive services for recycling plastic, paper and cardboard, metal, glass, food, and composting garden waste
- Ensure residents have the right information to recycle as much as possible
- Continue to support home composting

What does recycling mean?

The reprocessing of waste materials into the same products or different ones.

Where are we now?

Our recycling rate varies in each area of Essex and has plateaued over recent years. A significant change is needed to achieve our targets.

By improving recycling collections and the introduction of kerbside food collections, we have increased the proportion of waste recycled from 21% in 2000/01 to 52% in 2020/21. But our recycling rate varies in each area of Essex and has plateaued over recent years.

Roughly 25% of waste thrown away in the general rubbish bin is food waste. Not only is this a waste of money but it's also damaging the environment. When food waste is sent to landfill, it doesn't just safely breakdown. Instead, it lets off harmful greenhouse gases which contribute to climate change. However, when food waste is recycled at the kerbside, it is transformed into energy and fertiliser. It's amazing to think that recycling just six tea bags generate enough energy to boil a kettle to make another cuppa!

Disposing of food waste in the general rubbish is also costly. In fact, it's costing Essex taxpayers £9 million a year to dispose of! Currently not all households in Essex have access to a separate food waste collection.

24. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this priority?

Strongly
Disagree

Mostly
Disagree

Not sure

Mostly
Agree

Strongly
Agree

25. Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about the priority or approach to delivering this priority?

The proposed delivery options above must include residents and retailers. Retailers need to pay for their waste to be collected and typically most would use the cheapest option.

Currently recycling centers are operating with a booking system, which means residents can not use their closest recycling Centre and need to drive further away to use the Centre within their county.

Services that deliver the Waste Hierarchy - Recovery

The waste hierarchy shows that if we can't prevent, reuse or recycle, then recovery of energy and materials from the waste is preferable to disposal. By rethinking our waste and recovering energy, we can ensure that the climate impact of managing food and non-recyclable waste is minimised and reduce our reliance on disposal by landfill. That's why Recovery is a priority in this strategy and the EWP proposes to:

Use technologies for the treatment of food and non-recyclable waste that aim to minimise the environmental impact of waste, and maximise energy and material recovery

To deliver this priority, the EWP will:

- Reduce our reliance on disposal by landfill
- Use anaerobic digestion as the most viable technology for the treatment of unavoidable food waste to recover energy and fertiliser
- Use Energy from Waste (EfW) as the most viable technology for the treatment of residual waste to recover energy and materials
- Aim to capture and use heat from Energy from Waste (EfW) facilities to improve the efficiency of treatment facilities for residual waste
- Continue exploring new technologies to improve the efficiency of treatment facilities, such as carbon capture and storage
- Continue working to reduce the amount of plastic material in residual waste

What does landfill mean?

Landfill or Landfill sites means land in which waste is deposited, often disused quarries. Essex still relies too heavily on landfill as the main method for disposing of waste. In 2022 we sent around 350,000 tonnes of resident's waste to landfill. Landfill is not a long-term option for non-recyclable waste. According to the waste hierarchy, it is environmentally the worst option and is likely to continue to cost more than other waste management options.

What does Anaerobic Digestion mean?

Food waste in the majority of Essex is collected by waste and recycling crews and taken to local processing plants. Anything that is not food waste, such as caddy liner bags or packaging, is separated from the load.

Food waste is then processed and transformed into a biogas that is rich in methane, and fertiliser. This biogas is used to generate green energy that can be used across Essex. By using this green energy, it reduces our need to use fossil fuels.

What does recovery mean?

In recovery, a waste treatment process is used to recover energy and new raw materials from the waste. Recovery waste treatment processes include anaerobic digestion and Energy from Waste (EfW).

What does Energy from Waste (EfW) mean?

Energy from waste is a recovery process that takes residual waste and turns it into electricity.

Energy from Waste facilities need to be correctly and flexibly sized, efficient and be designed with emerging technologies in mind, to ensure we further reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve efficiency in the future. Capturing and using the heat generated from EfW processes significantly increases the overall efficiency of the process and the environmental benefits.

What does Carbon capture, utilisation and storage mean?

Carbon capture, utilisation and storage is a technology to prevent carbon emissions produced by industrial activity being released into the atmosphere. Carbon captured is either stored deep underground where it cannot enter the atmosphere, or used in other industrial processes.

26. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the EWP should reduce the use of landfill?

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Strongly Disagree | Mostly Disagree | Not sure | Mostly Agree | Strongly Agree |

27. To what extent do you agree or disagree that adopting the use of anaerobic digestion for the treatment of food waste is the right solution?

| | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Strongly Disagree | Mostly Disagree | Not sure | Mostly Agree | Strongly Agree |

28. To what extent do you agree or disagree that, after recycling everything we can, adopting Energy from Waste (EfW) for residual waste is the right solution?

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Strongly Disagree | Mostly Disagree | Not sure | Mostly Agree | Strongly Agree |

29. Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about the priority or approach to delivering this priority?

Whilst reliance on land fill must be reduced, use of EfW (an incinerator) is not appropriate either due to the air pollution and emissions caused – detrimental to its neighboring sites, due to the pollution, noise, traffic, litter and smell. We note also that the National Infrastructure Commission report (especially p.128) opposes more energy waste given the adverse climate impacts.

Collaborate and Innovate

We can achieve more when we work together and in partnership with others, learning from each other and trying new things. That's why collaboration and innovation is a priority in this strategy and the partnership proposes to:

Innovate and work collaboratively with each other and with government, businesses and institutions to create a more sustainable waste system

To deliver this priority we will

- Work to reduce the carbon impact of waste operations by increasing use of alternative fuels for our vehicles and equipment, and making waste transport routes as efficient as possible.
- Work together to make the network of recycling centres, waste transfer stations and depots as efficient as possible
- Explore carbon capture and carbon offsetting to mitigate unavoidable greenhouse gas emissions.
- Stay abreast of innovation, trends and examples of best practice to shape service design
- Work together and maximise opportunities to increase recycling in public spaces and reduce litter.
- Be an active voice striving to shape government policy, legislation, and regulation through engagement, consultations, and lobbying.
- Work together to develop opportunities for employment, environmental benefit, and reduced costs.

What is the Essex Waste Partnership?

A partnership comprising all 12 district, borough and city councils and the county council in Essex (see appendix 13). The partnership aims to ensure cost-efficient and sustainable waste management across the county.

What does carbon offsetting mean?

Carbon offsetting can help individuals and organisations to compensate for any emissions they cannot avoid or reduce by paying for an equivalent amount of emissions to be reduced or removed elsewhere.

What does carbon capture, utilisation and storage mean?

Carbon capture, utilisation and storage is a technology to prevent carbon emissions produced by industrial activity being released into the atmosphere. Carbon dioxide is captured and either stored deep underground where it cannot enter the atmosphere, or used in other industrial processes.

30. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this priority?

Strongly
Disagree

Mostly
Disagree

Not sure

X
Mostly
Agree

Strongly
Agree

31. To what extent do you agree or disagree that Collaboration and Innovation should be achieved through the following means:

Work to reduce the carbon impact of waste operations by increasing use of alternative fuels for our vehicles and equipment, and making waste transport routes as efficient as possible.

Strongly Disagree Mostly Disagree Not sure Mostly Agree Strongly Agree

Work together to make the network of recycling centres, waste transfer stations and depots as efficient as possible

Strongly Disagree Mostly Disagree Not sure Mostly Agree Strongly Agree

Explore carbon capture, utilisation and storage, and carbon offsetting to mitigate unavoidable greenhouse gas emissions

Strongly Disagree Mostly Disagree Not sure Mostly Agree Strongly Agree

Stay abreast of innovation, trends and examples of best practice to shape service design

Strongly Disagree Mostly Disagree Not sure Mostly Agree Strongly Agree

Work together and maximise opportunities to increase recycling in public spaces and reduce litter.

Strongly Disagree Mostly Disagree Not sure Mostly Agree Strongly Agree

Be an active voice striving to shape government policy, legislation, and regulation through engagement, consultations, and lobbying

Strongly Disagree Mostly Disagree Not sure Mostly Agree Strongly Agree

Work together to develop opportunities for employment, environmental benefit, and reduced costs

Strongly Disagree Mostly Disagree Not sure Mostly Agree Strongly Agree

32. Is there anything else that you'd like to tell us about the priority or approach to delivering this priority?

Agree with the above principles but how would they be implemented, i.e., how would opportunities to increase recycling in public places be enacted locally? Town and parish councils need suitable funding for the bins and collection services,

Educate and Engage

Supporting residents with information and education that inspires changes in attitudes and adoption of new behaviours is essential to achieving the partnership's vision, targets and ambitions for a zero waste county. That's why education and engagement is a priority in this strategy and the partnership proposes to:

Listen to residents and deliver information and initiatives to encourage changes in attitudes and behaviour to reduce waste and recycle more

To deliver this priority, the EWP will:

- Engage regularly with residents to understand barriers, improve service design and increase participation in waste prevention and recycling services
- Examine the composition of recycling and waste to identify opportunities to target initiatives and design of services
- Provide service information and develop and deliver a programme of activities and education to embed waste as an environmental issue and inspire residents to make changes

The Love Essex brand created for the Essex Waste Partnership enables the partner councils to deliver better results for residents through cost effective campaigns and services. Providing consistent messages, the Love Essex campaigns and services inspire behaviour change with the goal of reducing waste, recycling more and making Essex a better place to live.

33. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this priority?

Strongly Disagree Mostly Disagree Not sure Mostly Agree Strongly Agree

34. Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about the priority or approach to delivering this priority?

Local partners (i.e., business improvement districts, town/parish councils, schools) could support the delivery of educating residents. All of the community should be educated and engaged, including businesses and organisations.

Research, planning and performance monitoring

We want residents to be able to hold the partnership to account for achieving our aims. Therefore the partnership will:

- Create action plans to set out clear milestones and pathways to delivering our vision, targets and ambitions
- Adopt best practice indicators to monitor performance and track progress
- Review and publish performance and progress annually against the vision, targets, and ambitions of this strategy

We recognise that national policy and legislation, the composition and volume of our waste, and the attitudes and behaviours toward waste will change over time. As a result, this strategy and the services and initiatives delivered by the partnership will need to be updated to reflect this.

The partnership will:

Comprehensively review this strategy every five-years to ensure alignment with any changes in national policy and legislation, trends in waste generation, and the development of new approaches and technologies.

To find out more about national targets, please visit Appendix 4 National Legislation.

To find out more about how our targets and ambitions are defined, please visit Appendix 10 Targets and Ambitions Definitions.

35. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this approach to research, planning and performance monitoring?


Strongly
Disagree


Mostly
Disagree


Not sure

Mostly
Agree


Strongly
Agree

36. Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about the approach to research, planning and performance monitoring?

Whilst Essex County Council will be monitoring its own milestones how can it ensure all districts will be delivering the same message if the strategy is not mandatory?

Final opportunity to comment on the content of the strategy

37. Is there anything else that needs to be considered around the draft Waste Strategy for Essex?

Strategic Environment Assessment Questions

The partnership has commissioned a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The Environmental Report (Appendix 8) presents the findings of the SEA and has been prepared in accordance with the SEA regulations. This assessment ensures a high level of protection for the environment and that sustainability is at the forefront of the strategy.

In this section of the survey, you have the opportunity to give us your views on the Environmental Report on the Strategic Environmental Assessment. If you don't wish to provide feedback on the SEA, you can click 'no' to move to the final section of the survey.

To view the Environmental Report (SEA) in full, please view Appendix 8 which can be found at <https://consultations.essex.gov.uk/rci/waste-strategy-for-essex-consultation/>

38. Do you wish to provide any comments on the Environmental Report?

Yes

No

If 'Yes', proceed to question 39.

If 'No', proceed to question 42.

39. Does the Environmental Report correctly identify the likely significant effects of the draft Strategy?

Yes

No

If 'Yes', proceed to question 41.

If 'No', proceed to question 40.

40. What are your views on the likely significant environmental effects of the draft Strategy?

41. Is there anything else you would like to tell us about the Environmental Report?

Equality and Diversity Monitoring Questions

Thank you for answering the questions so far. In this final section we ask you to let us know a bit more about you, so we understand who we are hearing from.

All responses are anonymous and your answers will be kept completely confidential. It is voluntary to disclose this information. If you choose not to answer these questions, it will not affect your participation

42. Which Essex district, city or borough do you live in?

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Basildon | <input type="radio"/> Colchester | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Tendring |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> Braintree | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Epping Forest | <input type="radio"/> Uttlesford |
| <input type="radio"/> Brentwood | <input type="radio"/> Harlow | <input type="radio"/> Southend |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> Castle Point | <input type="radio"/> Maldon | <input type="radio"/> Thurrock |
| <input type="radio"/> Chelmsford | <input type="radio"/> Rochford | <input type="radio"/> I live in another neighbouring county |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> Other (please state) | <input type="radio"/> Prefer not to say | (please state) |

43. Which age group do you belong to? Please select only one option.

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Under 16 | <input type="radio"/> 35 - 44 | <input type="radio"/> 65+ |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> 16 - 24 | <input checked="" type="radio"/> 45 - 54 | <input type="radio"/> Prefer not to say |
| <input type="radio"/> 25 - 34 | <input type="radio"/> 55 - 64 | |

44. What is your gender?

- | | | |
|---|------------------------------|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Male | <input type="radio"/> Female | <input type="radio"/> Non-binary |
| <input type="radio"/> Prefer to self-describe (option to state below) | | <input type="radio"/> Prefer not to say |

45. What is your ethnicity? Please tick all that apply

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| <input type="radio"/> White British | <input type="radio"/> Black or Black British African | <input type="radio"/> Asian or Asian British | <input type="radio"/> Chinese |
| <input type="radio"/> White Irish | <input type="radio"/> Black or Black British Caribbean | <input type="radio"/> Pakistani | <input type="radio"/> Mixed Other |
| <input type="radio"/> White Other | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Mixed White/Black African | <input type="radio"/> Asian or Asian British Indian | <input type="radio"/> Not Known |
| <input type="radio"/> Gypsy/ Roma | <input type="radio"/> Mixed White/Black Caribbean | <input type="radio"/> Asian or Asian British Other | <input type="radio"/> Prefer not to say |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> Traveller of Irish Heritage | <input type="radio"/> Black Other | <input type="radio"/> Mixed White/Asian | <input type="radio"/> Other (please state) |
| | | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Asian Other | |

46. What is your religion/ faith? Please select only one option

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Christian | <input type="radio"/> Buddhist | <input type="radio"/> None | <input type="radio"/> Prefer not to say |
| <input type="radio"/> Muslim | <input type="radio"/> Sikh | <input type="radio"/> Not sure | |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> Hindu | <input type="radio"/> Jewish | <input type="radio"/> Other (please state) | |

47. Do you consider yourself to have an impairment? Please select all that apply.

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> No impairment | <input type="radio"/> Mental Health Needs | <input type="radio"/> Autism spectrum disorder |
| <input type="radio"/> Hearing impairment/deaf | <input type="radio"/> Drug or alcohol addiction | <input type="radio"/> Other (please state) |
| <input type="radio"/> Visual impairment/blind | <input type="radio"/> Physical impairment | <input type="radio"/> Prefer not to say |
| <input type="radio"/> Deafblind | <input type="radio"/> Learning difficulties/disabilities | |