

**South Ayrshire Council**

**Report by Assistant Director - Place  
to Leadership Panel (Special)  
of 1 March 2022**

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**Subject: Waste Strategy 2021 – 2031 Progress Report**

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**1. Purpose**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Elected Members with the annual review of progress in delivering the South Ayrshire Council Waste Strategy 2021 to 2031.

**2. Recommendation**

- 2.1 **It is recommended that the Panel considers the annual review of the South Ayrshire Council Waste Strategy 2021 to 2031 as shown in [Appendix 1](#) and agrees to an annual review of the strategy to be submitted to the Service and Performance Panel.**

**3. Background**

- 3.1 The Waste Management sector within the United Kingdom has been evolving rapidly over the past decade. This is due to a number of factors such as market demand in relation to recycle, reprocessing and legislative requirements, notwithstanding the financial constraints local authorities face whilst having a legislative responsibility for the collection, disposal and reprocessing of household waste.
- 3.2 The Council has a statutory duty under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 to arrange for the collection and disposal of household waste and, where requested, to arrange for the collection and disposal of commercial and industrial waste.
- 3.3 On 24 June 2021, the Council approved the [Waste Strategy 2021-2031](#) and associated Action Plan to:
- Set policies and actions to meet the requirements as set out in the Environmental Protection Act (1990) and Scotland's Zero Waste Plan 2010 and align to the national Circular Economy Strategy 'Making Things Last' (February 2016);
  - Establish how to meet the ban on biodegradable waste to landfill in January 2025 as set out in the Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012;
  - Build on the success of the Household Recycling Charter compliant service; and

- Meet the objectives set out in the Climate Change Act (2009) and the subsequent 2019/20 programme for government.

#### **4. Proposals**

4.1 Since the approval of the strategy, progress has been made on a number of action points as noted in [Appendix 1](#).

4.2 Two of the key actions within the strategy are actions 5 and 7 where the service is required to;

- Develop and build/ procure infrastructure to meet South Ayrshire Council requirements for residual waste, recycling, and garden waste treatment; and
- Consider options for Household Waste Recycling Centre provision for Ayr and Prestwick.

4.3 An initial appraisal of land has been undertaken in relation to both of these actions, with Leadership Panel of January 2022 approving purchase of the site, should it meet the required criteria. The Council are now engaging with consultants to design and cost the proposals.

4.4 Action 13 - We are currently working on a business case for the expansion of green waste recycling as part of our proposed new waste facility. This will realise our ambition to increase our capacity and product to a commercialised operation which will treat all garden waste collected within South Ayrshire. It is anticipated the business case will be substantially complete by May 2022.

4.5 Action 17 - There was a delay in commencing the review of street cleansing due to the pandemic which has caused some concern however a project team has now been set up with a view to completing the review within the next 12 months.

4.6 Action 22 - Work has commenced in conjunction with East Ayrshire Council to procure a solution to the landfill ban in 2025. We currently have a residual waste contract out to tender for a 2 year period which will take us up to 2024 where a new treatment contract will be planned to commence.

4.7 Action 28 - The Council launched a dedicated bin app in December 2020 which has already proved to be very successful. The service has continued to promote and expand the service throughout 2021/22 with 20% of South Ayrshire households having now downloaded the app.

4.8 It is proposed that officers provide an annual update on progress of the Waste Strategy to the Service and Performance Panel.

4.9 As implementation of the strategy progresses future papers will be presented to Leadership Panel for approval as necessary for successful delivery of the Waste Strategy.

#### **5. Legal and Procurement Implications**

5.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

5.2 There are no procurement implications arising from this report.

## **6. Financial Implications**

6.1 A capital budget allocation of £12.150m has been approved in line with the infrastructure requirements identified within the Waste Strategy.

## **7. Human Resources Implications**

7.1 There are no human resource implications related to the content of this paper at this time.

## **8. Risk**

### ***Risk Implications of Adopting the Recommendations***

8.1.1 There are no risks from adopting the recommendations.

### ***Risk Implications of Rejecting the Recommendations***

8.2.1 There is a risk that in rejecting the recommendations the Council will jeopardise meeting legislative requirements over the next 10 years including meeting the ban on biodegradable waste to landfill in 2025.

## **9. Equalities**

9.1 The proposals in this report have been assessed through the Equality Impact Assessment Scoping Process. There are no significant positive or negative equality impacts of agreeing the recommendations and therefore an Equalities Impact Assessment is not required. A copy of the Equalities Scoping Assessment is shown in [Appendix 2](#).

## **10. Sustainable Development Implications**

10.1 ***Considering Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)*** It has been determined that an SEA will not be pursued as meeting the main outcomes for this strategy is part of a national plan which is aligned with relevant legislation.

## **11. Options Appraisal**

11.1 An options appraisal has not been carried out in relation to the subject matter of this report.

## **12. Link to Council Plan**

12.1 The matters referred to in this report contribute to Commitment 6 of the Council Plan: A Better Place to Live/ Enhanced environment through social, cultural and economic activities.

## **13. Results of Consultation**

13.1 Consultation has taken place with Councillor Ian Cochrane, Portfolio Holder for Environment, and the contents of this report reflect any feedback provided.

**14. Next Steps for Decision Tracking Purposes**

14.1 If the recommendations above are approved by Members, the Assistant Director - Place will ensure that all necessary steps are taken to ensure full implementation of the decision within the following timescales, with the completion status reported to the Leadership Panel in the 'Council and Leadership Panel Decision Log' at each of its meetings until such time as the decision is fully implemented:

<b><i>Implementation</i></b>	<b><i>Due date</i></b>	<b><i>Managed by</i></b>
Annual report update to the Service and Performance Panel	March 2023	Service Lead – Neighbourhood Services
Waste strategy refresh and 5 year update	March 2026	Service Lead – Neighbourhood Services

**Background Papers**    **None**

**Person to Contact**    **Kenneth Dalrymple, Service Lead – Neighbourhood Services**  
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**Date:**    **18 February 2022**

Appendix 1

Key Theme	Action	Measurable Action	Priority	Timescale	Progress	% Complete
Waste Reduction & Prevention	1	Develop and initiate waste aware campaigns to minimise the use of single use plastics within South Ayrshire.	Medium	Medium Term	Working with Sustainable Development Team to develop campaigns for the reduction of single use plastics	30%
	2	Develop a reuse plan to identify and coordinate reuse activities including supporting the development of partnerships with third sector organisations.	Medium	Long Term	Currently working on an initiative with Cunninghame Housing to provide re-use container for furniture at our Troon HWRC. Reuse possibilities will be included in proposals for any new waste facility	20%
	3	Engage with partner organisations to form and encourage strategies to reduce overall waste arisings	Low	Long Term	We are in regular contact with Zero Waste Scotland and APSE to develop strategies for the reduction of waste arisings. In the short term the Waste Aware Team are about to commence activities externally to engage with Community Groups and Educational Facilities.	15%
	4	Conduct composition analysis for all waste streams and participation studies in relation to food waste.	Low	Long Term	Compositional Waste Analysis commenced on 31st January. Food Waste Participation studies to be commenced in March 2022. A compositional waste analysis will be undertaken bi-annually.	20%
Infrastructure and Development	5	Develop and build/procure infrastructure to meet South Ayrshire Council requirements for residual waste, recycling and garden waste treatment	High	Medium Term	An initial appraisal of land has been undertaken with Leadership Panel approving purchase of the site should it meet the required criteria. The Council are now engaging with consultants to design and cost the proposals.	5%
Infrastructure and Development	6	Review service provision in line with the introduction of a deposit return scheme	Medium	Medium Term	The introduction of a deposit return scheme has been deferred by the Scottish Government and we are awaiting further clarity from Zero Waste Scotland on implementation details	5%
	7	Consider options for Household Waste Recycling Centre provision for Ayr and Prestwick.	High	Medium Term	An initial appraisal of land has been undertaken with Leadership Panel approving purchase of the site should it meet the required criteria. The Council are now engaging with consultants to design and cost the proposals.	5%
	8	Prepare options appraisal/business case for the separation and resale of metals/plastics and cartons stream and direct sale of other recycling streams and review contractual arrangements for recycle materials	High	Short Term	This will form part of the proposals for a new waste facility and will depend on the capital costs of procuring a picking line. Initial discussion have taken place with East Ayrshire Council to work in partnership with their facility at Western Rd in Kilmarnock but from a business viability perspective this option will need to be assessed with the option of running our own plant at a new facility.	15%

Key Theme	Action	Measurable Action	Priority	Timescale	Progress	% Complete
	9	Undertake options appraisal and business case relating to household and commercial waste bin infrastructure	Low	Long Term	Not commenced	0%
	10	Work in partnership with the Planning service to forward plan operational requirements of new developments.	Low	Short Term	A policy paper has been prepared for discussion with the Planning service.	80%
	11	Develop and implement a booking system for all HWRC's	High	Medium Term	The service has been developing the booking system with the supplier and ICT over the past 6 months. The system will incorporate both domestic and commercial waste bookings at our sites and has undergone initial testing of the system. Due to the pandemic we have struggled to procure the tablets for the sites however these have now arrived and we will be testing on site in the near future.	95%
	12	Consider new digital and technological platforms in service delivery and waste reduction.	Medium	Long Term	In-Cab Technology has been installed in our refuse collection vehicles and with training programmed for March 2022 with a go live anticipated in May.	30%
Commercialisation and the Circular Economy	13	Develop a business plan for the commercial expansion of the green waste facility following any infrastructure investment	High	Short Term	A project team has been set up to develop a business plan. Initial scoping is complete and work on the business plan has commenced.	50%
	14	Collaborate with the Council's procurement service to maximise material and contractual opportunities	Medium	Long Term	The service has engaged with the Procurement team and are discussing and developing future contracts	35%
	15	Review material acceptance policy at Household Waste Recycling Centre's in relation to industrial waste	Low	Medium Term	The service is currently researching Policy & Procedures in other local authority areas to appraise different approaches and successes.	10%
	16	Develop business activity within commercial waste across South Ayrshire	Medium	Long Term	The Commercial Waste Team is engaging with our customer base and actively seeking new customers to maximise revenue. The pandemic over the past 2 years has caused significant disruption however since April last year the service has increased its customer base by 87 businesses.	40%
Enhanced Environment	17	Conduct a service review of street cleansing with associated action plan	High	Short Term	Due to resource issues over the past year with regards to the pandemic, this review has recently commenced and should take up to 12 months to complete. A project team has been set up and a scope has been completed.	5%

Key Theme	Action	Measurable Action	Priority	Timescale	Progress	% Complete
	18	Map all litter bin locations on our streets and in our parks to maximise resources and optimise routing	Low	Short Term	This process is complete from a Waste Management perspective with bin locations mapped on the GIS system. Mapping will commence within our Parks and Open spaces over the next 3 months to complete the action.	70%
	19	Develop a strategy and programme for all Council premises to be aligned to the household recycling charter	Medium	Medium Term	A strategy has been developed and a business case is being prepared with regards to the funding required.	25%
	20	Consider options and develop a plan for commercial bin infrastructure in our town centres	Medium	Long Term	Meeting set up with Project Implementation Team to take forward as we require to work in partnership with other departments	15%
	21	Develop options to transfer to an electric or ultra-low emissions fleet in line with the Council's Fleet Strategy	High	Long Term	No commenced. This will look at technologies such as hydrogen fueled vehicles prior to 2030	0%
	22	Deliver a solution for the ban on biodegradable municipal waste to landfill in 2025	High	Medium Term	Work has commenced in conjunction with East Ayrshire Council to procure a solution to the landfill ban in 2025. We currently have a contract out to tender for 2 years which will take us to 2024 where a new contract will commence.	40%
	23	Develop a contamination policy for both householders and commercial properties across South Ayrshire including other Council departments	Medium	Medium Term	A contamination policy has been prepared and will be brought to the first Leadership Panel after the election in May	90%
Communication & Engagement	24	Develop a Waste Engagement and Communications framework which outlines how and when waste management will engage with stakeholders and within the Council itself	Medium	Short Term	Work is underway to formulate a Schedule of activities	10%
	25	Develop new communication methods for engagement with communities, businesses and partner organisations	Medium	Medium Term	Use of Social Media, MyBin App and Sky Ads being utilised to engage with communities, businesses and partners	70%
	26	Develop an online platform for commercial customers	High	Medium Term	Research being carried out with a view to implementation following roll out of In-Cab Technology	10%
	27	Develop educational videos and story boards for the promotion of the strategic objectives within the waste strategy	Medium	Short Term	Videos relating to the service and in particular to reduce contamination are now available on our Website.	65%
	28	Actively promote the SAC MyBins app and continue to develop its functionality	High	Short Term	Promoted through Tenants & Residents Newsletter & SAC Live magazine and social media. Regular updates with	100%

Key Theme	Action	Measurable Action	Priority	Timescale	Progress	% Complete
					App provider to ensure constant development to suit user requirement needs	



## South Ayrshire Council Equality Impact Assessment Scoping Template

Equality Impact Assessment is a legal requirement under the Public Sector Duty to promote equality of the Equality Act 2010. Separate guidance has been developed on Equality Impact Assessment's which will guide you through the process and is available to view here: [Equality Impact Assessment including Fairer Scotland Duty](#)

Further guidance is available here: [Assessing impact and the Public Sector Equality Duty: a guide for public authorities \(Scotland\)](#)

The Fairer Scotland Duty ('the Duty'), Part 1 of the Equality Act 2010, came into force in Scotland from 1 April 2018. It places a legal responsibility on Councils to actively consider ('pay due regard to') how we can reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage, when making strategic decisions. See information here: [Interim Guidance for Public Bodies](#) in respect of the Duty, was published by the Scottish Government in March 2018.

### 1. Policy details

Policy Title	Waste Strategy
Lead Officer (Name/Position/Email)	Kenneth Dalrymple, Service Lead – Neighbourhood Services – kenneth.dalrymple@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

**2. Which communities, groups of people, employees or thematic groups do you think will be, or potentially could be, impacted upon by the implementation of this policy? Please indicate whether these would be positive or negative impacts**

Community or Groups of People	Negative Impacts	Positive impacts
Age – men and women, girls & boys	n/a	n/a
Disability	n/a	n/a
Gender Reassignment (Trans/Transgender Identity)	n/a	n/a
Marriage or Civil Partnership	n/a	n/a
Pregnancy and Maternity	n/a	n/a
Race – people from different racial groups, (BME) ethnic minorities and Gypsy/Travellers	n/a	n/a
Religion or Belief (including lack of belief)	n/a	n/a
Sex – gender identity (issues specific to women & men or girls & boys)	n/a	n/a
Sexual Orientation – person's sexual orientation i.e. LGBT+, lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, heterosexual/straight	n/a	n/a
Thematic Groups: Health, Human Rights & Children's Rights	n/a	n/a


**3. What likely impact will this policy have on people experiencing different kinds of social disadvantage? (Fairer Scotland Duty). Consideration must be given particularly to children and families.**

Socio-Economic Disadvantage	Negative Impacts	Positive impacts
Low Income/Income Poverty – cannot afford to maintain regular payments such as bills, food, clothing	n/a	n/a
Low and/or no wealth – enough money to meet Basic living costs and pay bills but have no savings to deal with any unexpected spends and no provision for the future	n/a	n/a
Material Deprivation – being unable to access basic goods and services i.e. financial products like life insurance, repair/replace broken electrical goods, warm home, leisure/hobbies	n/a	n/a
Area Deprivation – where you live (rural areas), where you work (accessibility of transport)	n/a	n/a
Socio-economic Background – social class i.e. parent’s education, employment and income	n/a	n/a

**4. Do you have evidence or reason to believe that the policy will support the Council to:**

General Duty and other Equality Themes Consider the ‘Three Key Needs’ of the Equality Duty	Level of Negative and/or Positive Impact (High, Medium or Low)
Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation	n/a
Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not	n/a
Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. (Does it tackle prejudice and promote a better understanding of equality issues?)	n/a
Increase participation of particular communities or groups in public life	n/a
Improve the health and wellbeing of particular communities or groups	n/a
Promote the human rights of particular communities or groups	n/a
Tackle deprivation faced by particular communities or groups	n/a

**5. Summary Assessment**

<b>Is a full Equality Impact Assessment required?</b> (A full Equality Impact Assessment must be carried out if impacts identified as <b>Medium and/or High</b> )	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>YES</b>  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>NO</b>
<b>Rationale for decision:</b>	
<b>There are no equality issues relating to the waste strategy or its potential action plan outcomes and should not affect those with protected characteristics</b>	
	
<b>Signed :</b>	<b>Service Lead</b>
<b>Date:</b>	12 February 2022