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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

Email: corporate.services@fingal.ie

County Hall
Swords
Fingal
Co. Dublin

Tuesday, 25th October, 2022

To Each Member of the Climate Action, Biodiversity, Environment Strategic Policy Committee

Dear Councillor

A meeting of the Climate Action, Biodiversity, Environment Strategic Policy Committee will be held in the at 4.30 pm on Tuesday, 25th October, 2022 to consider the following Agenda:

Yours Faithfully

B. Buckley
Meetings Administrator
Corporate Services

.....

A G E N D A

- 1 Confirmation and Re-Affirmation of Minutes of Climate Action, Biodiversity, Environment SPC meeting held on Monday 27th June 2022
- 2 National Waste Management Plan

- 3 Coolmine and Estuary Recycling Centres - A Review of Pricing and the Provision of a Free Bulky Waste Service
- 4 Litter Management Plan

MOTIONS

- 5 Councillor P. Mulville - Data Centres

“That this Committee in light of the recent concerns in relation to energy prices recognises the unique strain that Data Centres put on our grid with Eirgrid, estimating 30% electricity consumption from these Centres by 2030, therefore calls on the Chief Executive for a moratorium on new Data Centres within this Council’s administrative area until a national policy is in place that can ensure our energy security is protected and that this Motion, if agreed, will be included on the agenda of the next Council Meeting as part of the Strategic Policy Committee report, for adoption by the Full Council.”

- 6 Councillor M. McCamley - Micro Generation Scheme

“That the Chief Executive provides an update on the Micro Generation Scheme for solar panels on domestic homes and details of the NC6 application form.”

- 9 Councillor J. Newman - Analysis of heat pump and energy upgrades

“That the Chief Executive will provide an update, report and analysis of the energy upgrades carried out in Council’s owned properties within Fingal since 2019 and that this report includes details on heat pumps and any issues that have been identified with regard to energy savings or otherwise.”

Comhairle Contae Fingall
Fingal County Council

Minutes of Climate Action, Biodiversity, Environment Strategic Policy Committee

Monday, 27th June, 2022

PRESENT

Councillor David Healy, Councillor Joe Newman, Councillor Paul Mulville, Councillor Pamela Conroy, Councillor Mary McCamley, Councillor Aoibheann Tormey

Apologies: Seamus McGrath

OFFICIALS PRESENT

David Storey, Director of Services; Catherine O'Donovan, Senior Executive Officer; John Daly, Senior Engineer; Ronan O'Reilly, Senior Executive Engineer, Kevin Halpenny, Hans Viser, Executive Parks Superintendent; Deborah Tiernan, Assistant Parks Superintendent, Kevin Vallely, Executive Engineer, Chris Rooney, Senior Executive Engineer, Maria Hand, Senior Staff Officer, Noreen Wright, Staff Officer

The Area Chairperson, Councillor David Healy, presided.

CABE/8/22 (Agenda Item No 1)

Confirmation and Re-Affirmation of Minutes of 29th March 2022

The minutes of the meetings of the 29th March 2022, were **AGREED**.

The minutes were proposed by Cllr Healy and seconded by Cllr McCamley

CABE/9/22 (Agenda Item No 2)

The Weather Stations for Schools Project

Presentation was given by Mr Vallely.

Questions asked by various members were answered by Mr Vallely.

CABE/10/22 (Agenda Item No 3)
Fingal County Council's Textile Recycling

Presentation was given by Ms O'Donovan.
Questions asked by various members and answered by Ms O'Donovan and Ms Wright.

CABE/11/22 (Agenda Item No 4)
Cllr. J. Newman - Light Pollution

Mr Rooney read out the report - Light pollution and Public lighting.
MOTION AGREED

CABE/12/22 (Agenda Item No 5)
Cllr. D. Healy - Programme of Training

Following a discussion on the topic the motion was **NOTED**.

CABE/13/22 (Agenda Item No 6)
Cllr. P. Mulville - Fingal Draft Biodiversity Action Plan 2022 to 2030

Mr Viser read out the report and the motion was agreed. Ms O'Donovan to submit the motion to the Biodiversity Action Plan.

MOTION AGREED

The Meeting ended at 18:26

AREA CHAIRPERSON

DATED

Fingal County Council

Climate Action Biodiversity and Environment

Strategic Policy Committee

25th October 2022

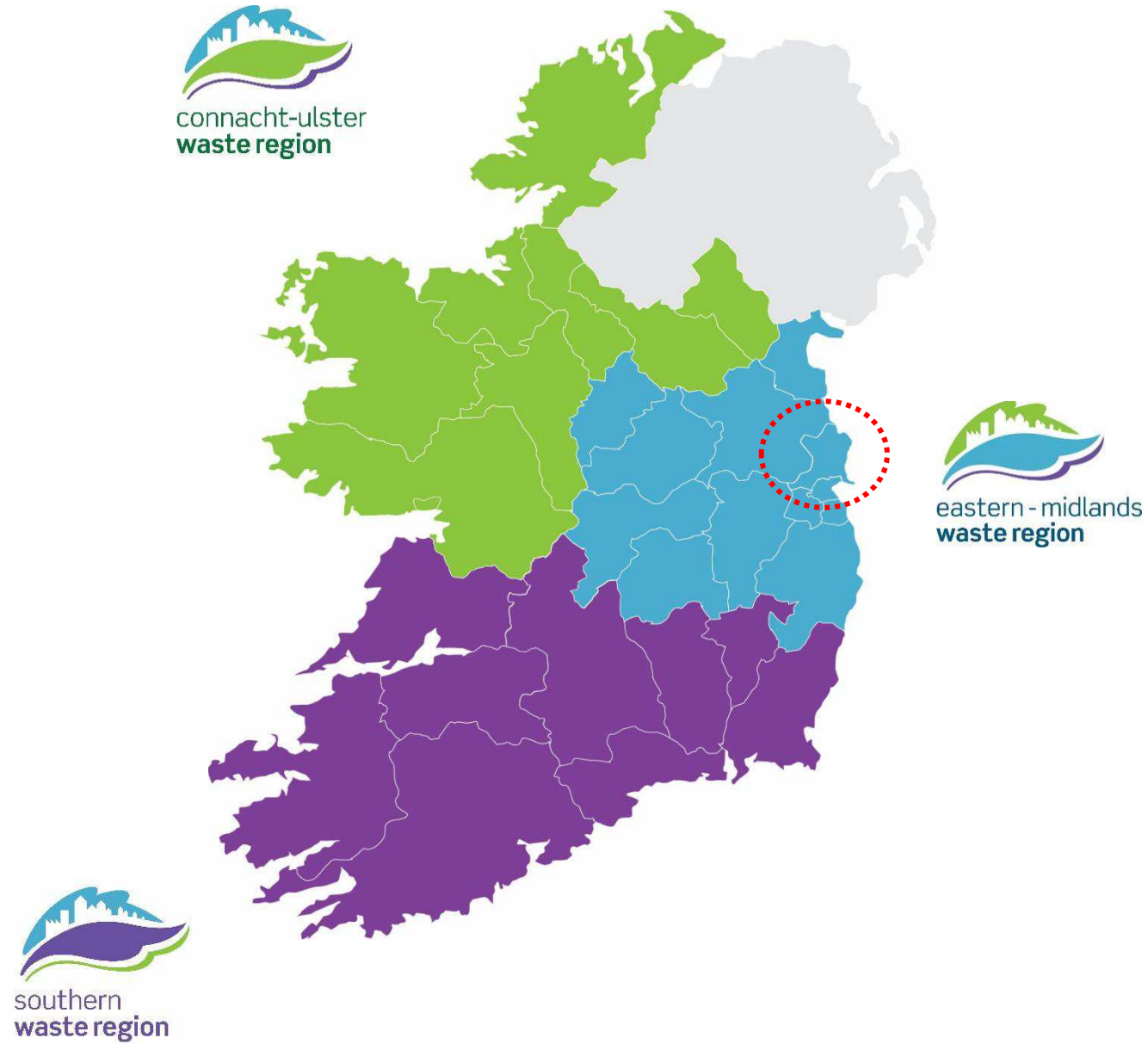
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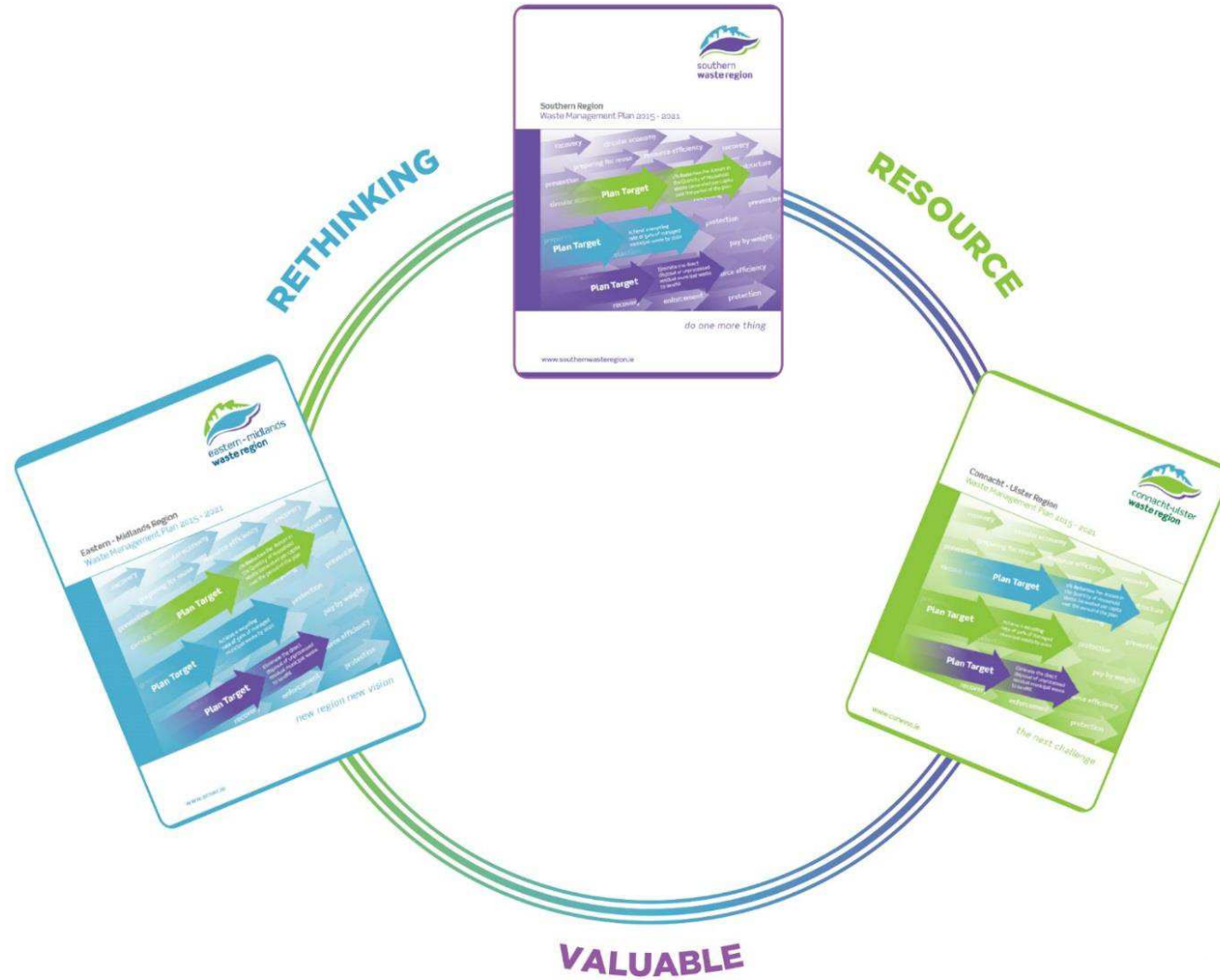
National Waste Management Plan

for a

Circular Economy

Update





mywaste



English | Gaeilge

Search



what ▼

where ▼

why ▼

business

more ▼

Search our A-Z Waste Management Guide

Find an item | start typing

Go

Start typing the object you want to dispose of (eg. glass, aerosol, pizza box) to find out more about how and where to dispose of it properly.



St.

COUNTY MEATH

COUNTY KILDARE

vestown

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COUNTY DUBLIN

Dublin

HOWTH

Agenda

- The Plan and the Process
- Ambition, Targets, Policies and Actions
- Key Takeaways

Background

- Waste Management Act Section 22
- Waste Policy “A Resource Opportunity”
- Regional Structures / Lead Authorities
- 3 Regional Plans National Coordination
- Coordinated Implementation

Plan Evaluation

Key Learnings:

- Dependencies
- Targets / Controls
- Flexibility
- Collaboration

Plan Evaluation

Recommendations:

- Replacement Plan
- Regional Focus
- Retention
- Collaboration
- Targets/Responsibilities

Big Changes

- Single National Plan ✓
- Circularity ✓
- Collaboration ✓
- Co-ownership ✓

Draft Waste Management Plan

Old Model



Engagement with Key Stakeholders

Engagement with Key Stakeholders

New Model



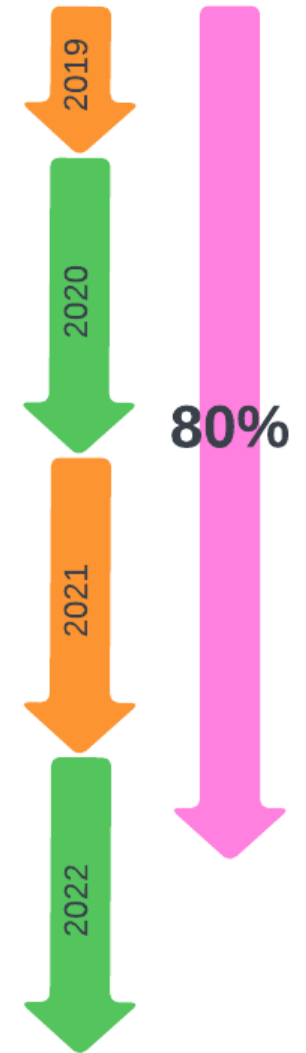
Draft Waste Management Plan

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Engagement

- Q4 2019 – Consultations on Evaluation Process
- Q1 2020 – Coordinated CCMA Submission on National Policy
- Q3 2020 – Publication of National Policy
- Q1 2021 – Pre Draft Consultation
- Q2 2021 – Publication of Evaluation
- Q3 2021 – Draft Preparation Commencement
- **Q4 2021 – Stakeholder Workshops** ✓
- Q1 2022 – Local Authority Briefing Sessions
- **Q2 2022 – Local Authority Oversight Process** ✓
- Q3 2022 – Approval to Proceed to Statutory Consultation
- Q4 2022 – Executive Agreement / Publication



Workshop – Format

Pre.

Content

Post

- Introduction
- Poll Questions
- Breakout Sessions
- Miro Boards
- Summary

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National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy
Co-Ownership Workshops - Consumption #1
Briefing Note

Consumption trends in Ireland across domestic, production and construction sectors indicate continued growth over the short to medium term. Ireland's levels of consumption per capita is one of the highest in Europe. The challenge as a society is to move away from wasteful linear patterns to sustainable consumption models which use resources better.

During this workshop you will have the opportunity to share your views on the role of the National Waste Management Plan in response to the linear consumption challenge.

WORKSHOP – RUNNING ORDER	
Opening Remarks and Introductions	10 mins
The Role of the Waste Plan	5 mins
Consumption in Ireland	5 mins
White Board Session	30 mins
BREAK	10 mins
Breakout Rooms	25 mins
Reporting Back & Discussion	25 mins
Closing	3 mins

As our agenda shows we are inviting participants to engage in a virtual white board session to identify and discuss disrupters to linear consumption patterns.

Following a short break we will organise participants into 3 breakout rooms to discuss specific topics related to influencing consumption.

The room topics are:

- Awareness and Education Measures
- Regulatory Measures
- Incentives & Opportunities

Your views throughout the workshop will help to better inform and shape future measures in the National Waste Plan. We look forward to hearing from you.

You can contact the team in advance of the workshop at the following address nationalwasteplan@rpsgroup.com

Questions for discussion during the workshop include:

- What are the key levers to influence consumption patterns?
- How to ensure the new National Waste Plan is effective in addressing consumption?
- What will future success look like?
- Who takes ownership of future measures?

Project:	National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy
Workshop Date:	2 nd December 2021
Workshop Title:	Capture Co-Ownership Workshop 1

The following table provides a high-level overview of the key discussion points and issues raised by participants at the Workshop. We welcome any additional comments or issues you wish to raise, and these may be added both within the table against specific points or at the end of the table where there is an opportunity for any general or other comments to be provided.

Item	Notes	Comment
Targets	General	
	The Irish Waste Management Association opposes the proposed introduction of recycling targets in waste permits; previously opposed soft plastics in recycling bins and the deposit return scheme for plastic bottles and cans (preference digital DRS).	
	Waste targets are thought to be unrealistic as their calculation was based on a German method that does not translate to our waste system. The 2019 recycling rate is 37%. The target of increasing this to 65% by 2025 is very ambitious.	
	The commercial sector currently has a worse recycling rate than that of the residential sector. Focusing on improving segregation and recycling rates in the commercial sector will make it much easier to achieve significant progress and prove more effective in reaching recycling targets.	
	A voluntary commercial segregation scheme could be used where businesses opt to allow waste to be audited in order to receive discounted local commercial rates for high levels of compliance and segregation.	
Eco modulation	It is important to utilise the smart practices outlined in Repak's recent eco-modulation proposals when making decisions effecting this sector.	
	The plateau in recycling rates is largely due to too much non-recyclable material being placed on the market by producers.	
	Eco modulation and eco fees should be used to provide a financial disincentive to producers using non-recyclable material.	
	Eco modulation is the concept of penalising the use of materials that are less environmentally friendly and rewarding the use of those which are better.	
	Repak have 3 categories for eco modulation on plastic packaging proposed for Ireland, each with a different eco fee associated with them:	

Key Challenges

PREVENTION

Continue the drive for reuse and prevention across all waste streams

RECYCLING

Continue to push up recycling rates

PLASTICS

Continue to reduce the use of single use plastics

TEXTILES

Address the impact of textiles on waste management

FOOD

Continue to improve segregation across all settings

TREATMENT

Move towards self sufficiency across all waste streams and process

CONSTRUCTION

Provide alternative uses and outlets for construction and demolition wastes

GOVERNANCE

Provide leadership and protect consumer rights

Key Themes

- Consumption

“the action of using up a resource”

- Capture

“the process of collecting a natural product so that it can be used”

- Compliance

“the act of obeying an order rule or request”

Influence

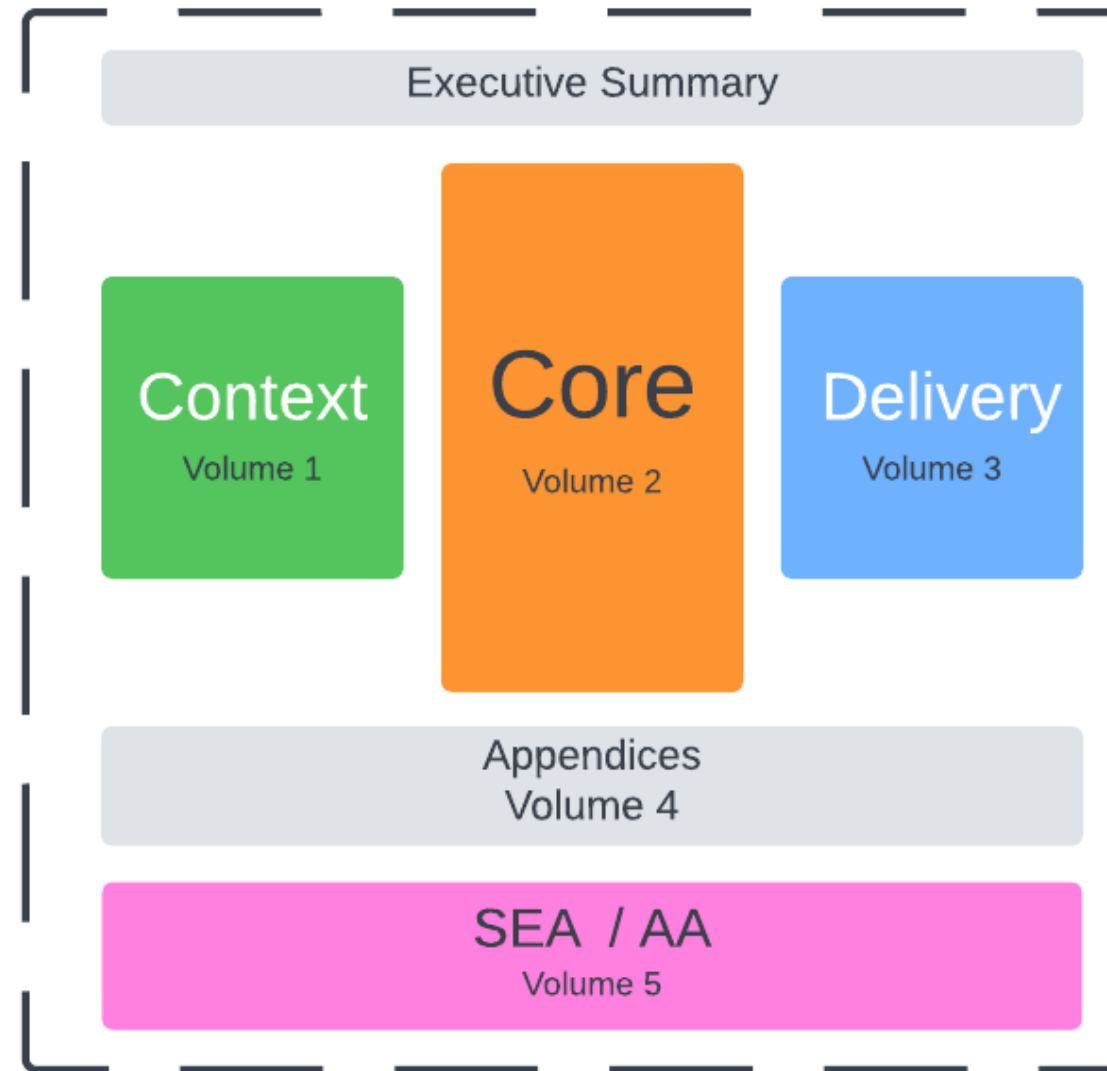
Improve

Enable

Collaboration – Workshops - >100 Key Stakeholders



The Plan



Context

Part A
Rules

Part B
Landscape

Part C
Resources

Core

Part A
Core Positions

Part B
Core Policies

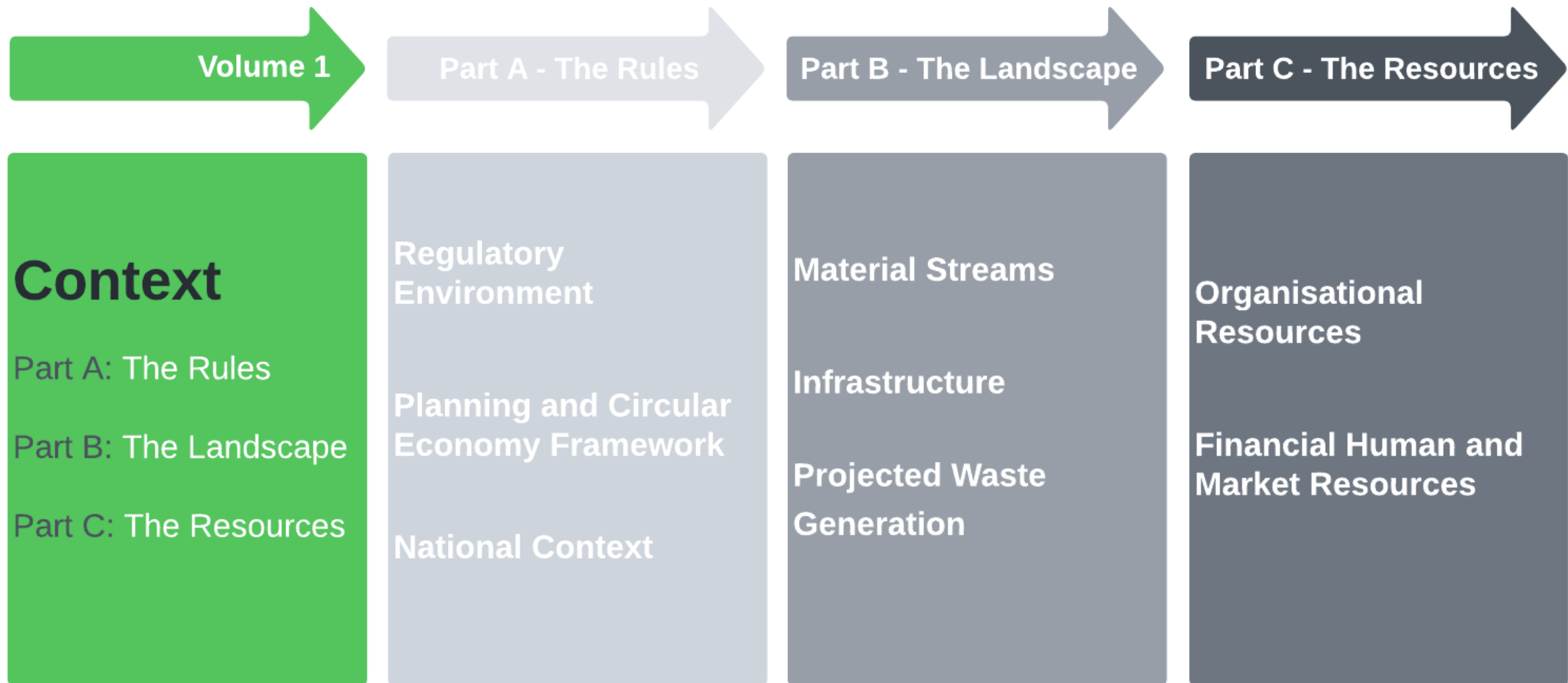
Part C
Focus Areas

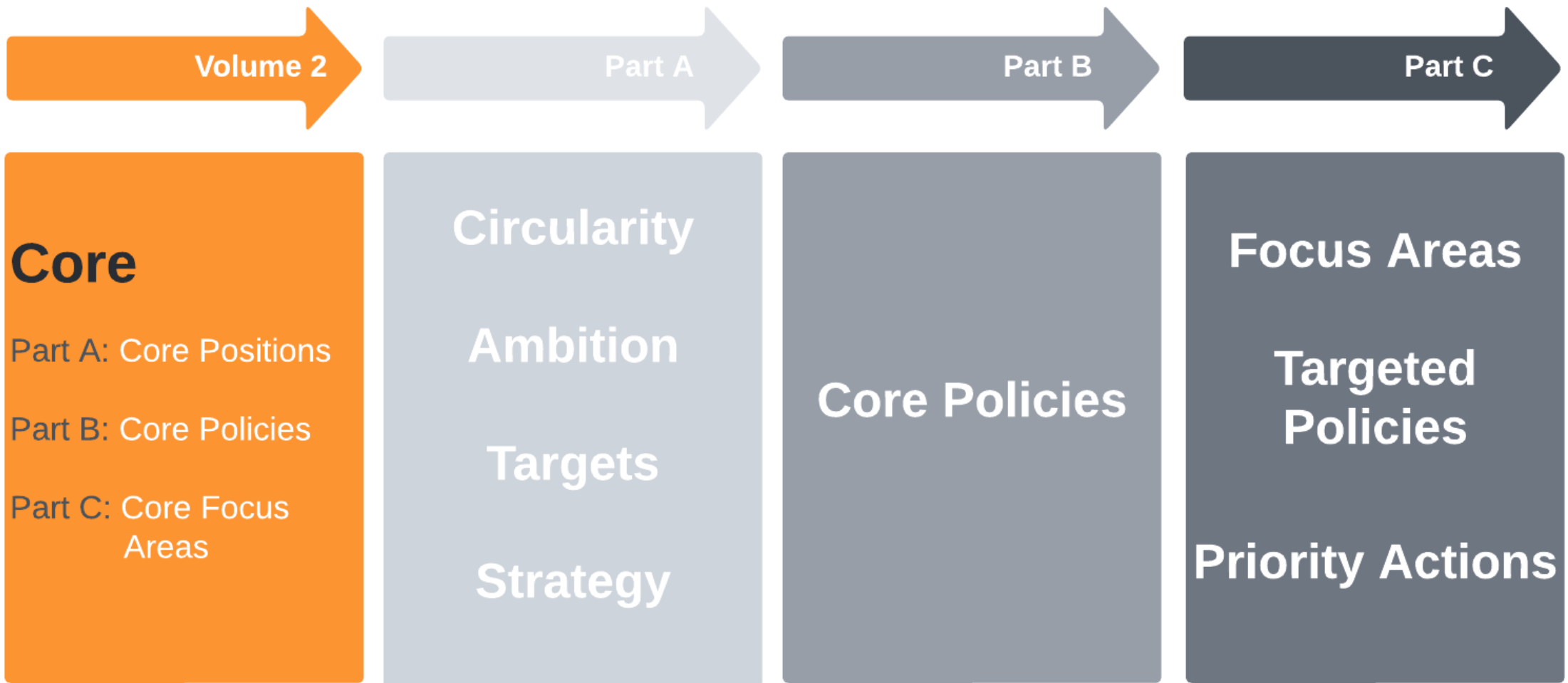
Delivery

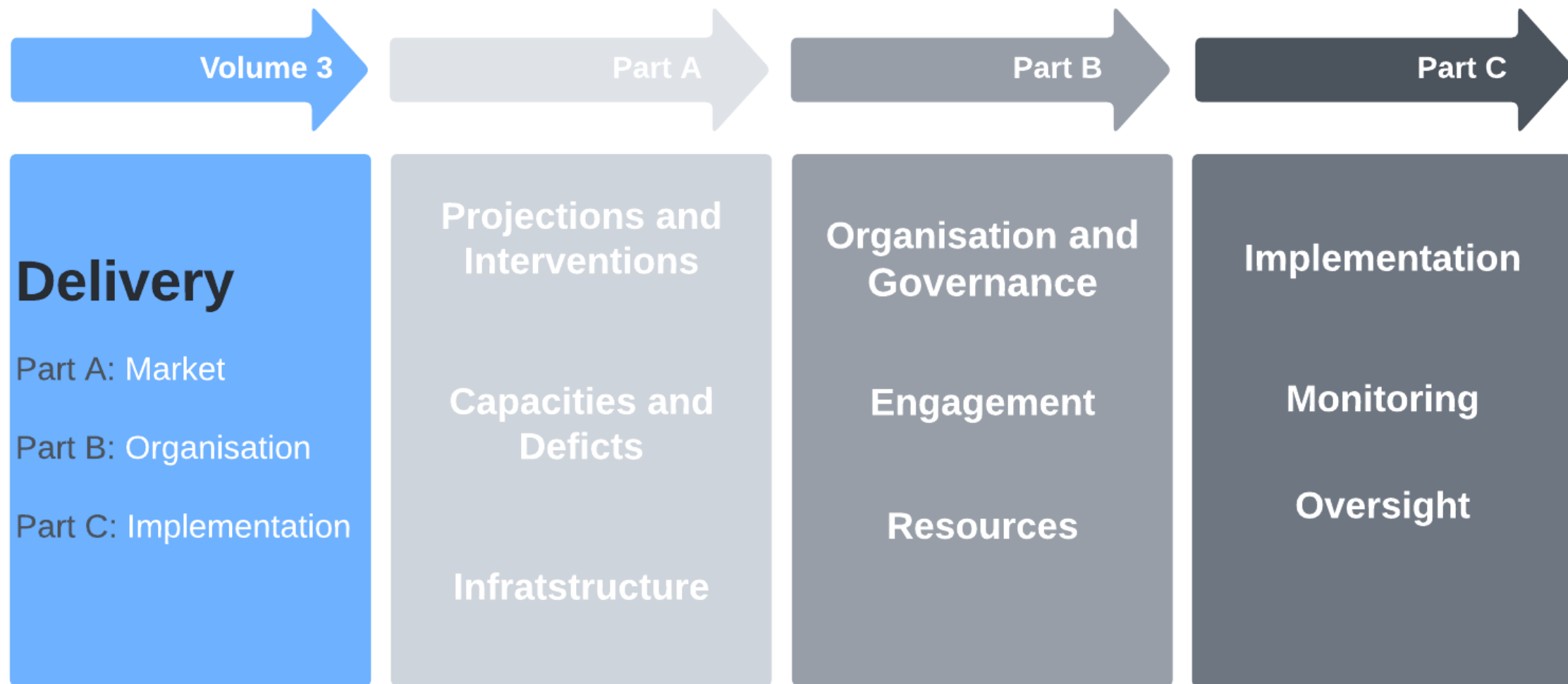
Part A
Market

Part B
Organisation

Part C
Implementation









mywaste

Circularity

Improved Enforcement

Better Regulation

Increased Awareness

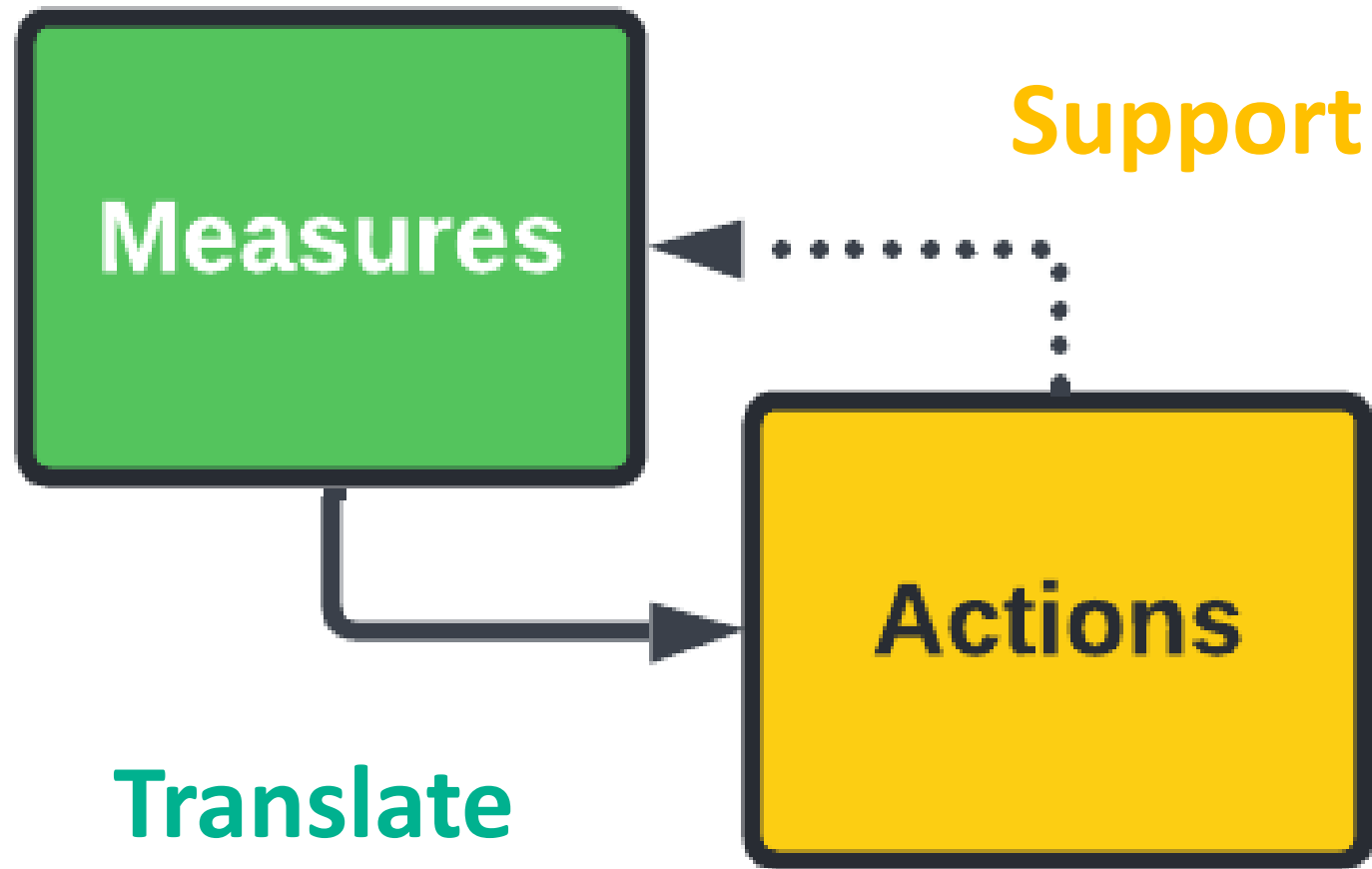
Increase in Recovery

Increase in Recycling

Better Collection Systems

Reduction in Landfilling

Climate Action | Climate Action | Climate Action | Climate Action



“The **ambition** of the National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy is **0% waste growth** by **maintaining** waste management and behavioural advances and **accelerating the transition** to a circular economy by **influencing** sustainable consumption, **improving** the capture of all wastes **optimising** circularity and **enabling** compliance with policy and legislation”.

Targets



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

A Waste Action a Circular Econ

Ireland's National V
2020-2025

Circular Economy
Measures

1

Consumption

2

Contamination

3

Reuse

4

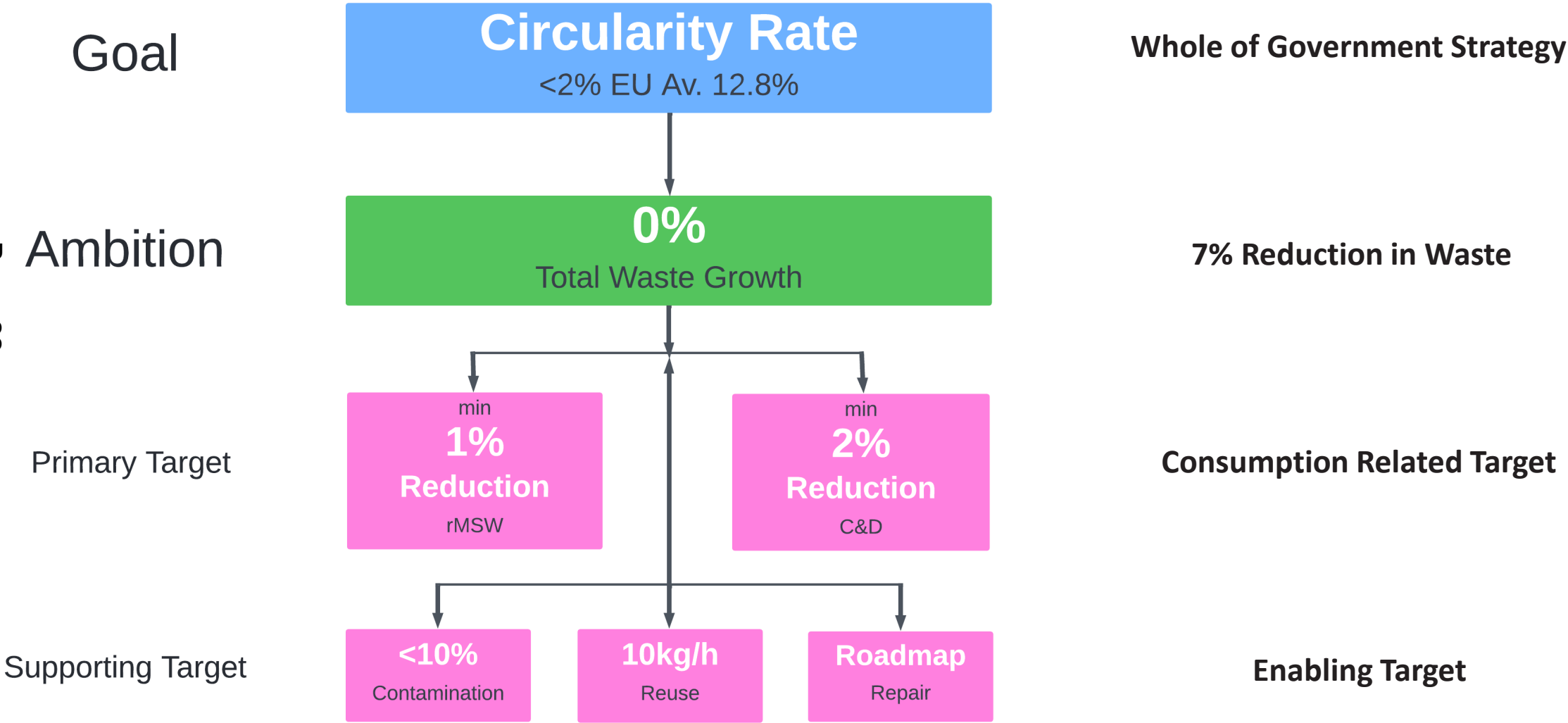
Repair

mywaste

National Waste Management Plan

Goal, Ambition and Targets

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Ambition

NWMP Target 1
Consumption

NWMP Target 2
Contamination

NWMP Target 3
Reuse

NWMP Target 4
Repair

EU Targets
Recycling

EU Targets
Packaging

EU Targets
SUP

EU Targets
ELV'S

EU Targets
Batteries

EU Targets
Landfill

EU Targets
Food

EU Targets
WEEE

65% by 2025
and 70% by
2030

Plastics Wood
Metals Glass
Paper/Board

Collection Target
and recycled
content target

95% Reuse and
Recovery

New collection
targets 2023, 25
and 30

10% Disposal
Target

50% Reduction
by 2030 ("020)

65% Collection
Target

Strategy

Evaluation/Recommendations/National Policy/Strategic Approach/Core/Policies/Focus Areas/ Targeted Policies/Policy Measures/Measurement

Core Policies

Cross cutting policies/positions incorporating existing and new strategic objectives and core principles.

- Focus Area 1
Household
- Focus Area 2
Commercial
- Focus Area 3
Food
- Focus Area 4
P&P
- Focus Area 5
SUP
- Focus Area 6
Infr. Reg.
- Focus Area 7
Inf. R/R
- Focus Area 8
Inf. Recycling
- Focus Area 9
Inf. Recovery
- Focus Area 10
Inf. Disposal
- Focus Area 11
Inf. Haz
- Focus Area 12
C&D
- Focus Area 13
Textiles
- Focus Area 14
EPR's
- Focus Area 15
Haz.
- Focus Area 16
Collection

Focus Area Fact Sheets

FOCUS AREA ONE Municipal Household Waste 1 Purpose To provide universal access to, and increase participation in, regulated collection systems and to improve source segregation to preserve the inherent value of resources. Targeted Policies FA1.1: Identify and promote new means, methods and key drivers of sustainable consumption to contribute to a reduction in waste generation and material re-use. FA1.2: Work to ensure that all household settings can avail of an authorised waste service including kerbside, CA Sites or other appropriate alternatives. FA1.3: Strengthen the monitoring and measurement of household waste data and implement appropriate enforcement measures in response to the deficits identified. FA1.4: Identify and implement enhanced collection and segregation systems for additional waste streams for all household settings to maximise the quantity and quality of materials collected. 	What is it? Municipal household waste is mixed waste and separately collected waste including paper and cardboard, glass, metals, plastics, biowaste, wood, textiles, packaging, waste electrical and electronic equipment, waste batteries and accumulators, and bulky waste, including mattresses and furniture Challenges: Curbing household consumption. Maximising the capture of household municipal waste streams through regulated collection. Driving for greater source segregation to ensure that material collected is of sufficient quality to enable circular processing of these materials. Owners: Local Authority Sector, EPA, Waste Collectors.
	Priority Actions PA1.1: Deliver continued and focussed behavioural change campaigns and projects, targeting households, that enable the transition to sustainable consumption. PA1.2: Work with local authorities and the waste sector to: i. Maximise the number of households on kerbside systems; ii. Standardise the colour coding of bins; and iii. Promote the list of items accepted in the mixed dry recycling bin with a particular emphasis on visual representation of items. PA1.3: Identify potential waste streams to be subjected to preliminary feasibility as additional kerbside service. PA1.4: Review the application of existing incentivised charging arrangements and examine the potential for enhancements and improvements. PA1.5: Identify and investigate unauthorised collection or disposal/recovery of household waste, ensure the consistent and targeted application of the waste storage and presentation bye-laws and incorporate into the RMCEI process.

Priority Actions

PA1.1: Deliver continued and focussed behavioural change campaigns and projects, targeting households, that enable the transition to sustainable consumption.

Established by the CCMA:

“To oversee the completion and making of the National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy on behalf of the Local Authority Sector”.

National Waste Management Plan

Oversight Process

Membership

John McLaughlin (Chair)	CE	Donegal County Council
Mary Walsh	EAO	Cork City Council
Louis Duffy	DoS	Cork County Council
Liam Bergin	Exec Mgr	Dublin City Council, EMR RWMPO, WERLA and NTFSO
David Storey	DoS	Fingal County Council
Emer Concannon	A/DoS	Sligo County Council
Matthew Byrne	WEO	Donegal County Council
Tom Shanahan	DoS	Offaly County Council & NWCPO
Larry Whelan	SE	Meath County Council
Seán Scott	LA WPC	Local Government Management Agency
Peter Burke	SEO	Local Government Management Agency

National Waste Management Plan

Oversight

Process

Key Stages

- Plan Core
- Plan Context
- Plan Delivery
- Plan Appendices
- Plan SEA and AA
- Final Review and Recommendation

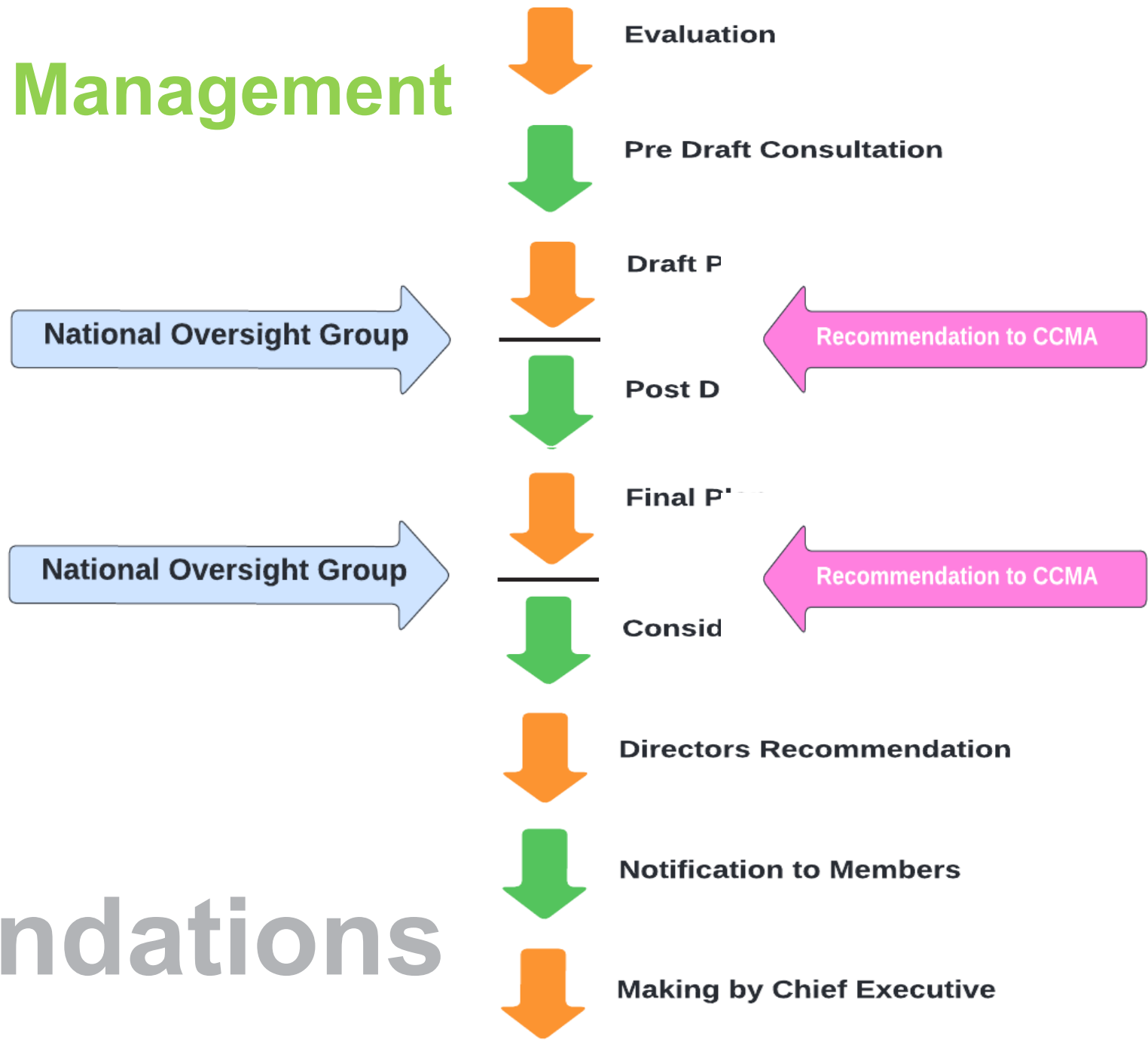


National Waste Management Plan

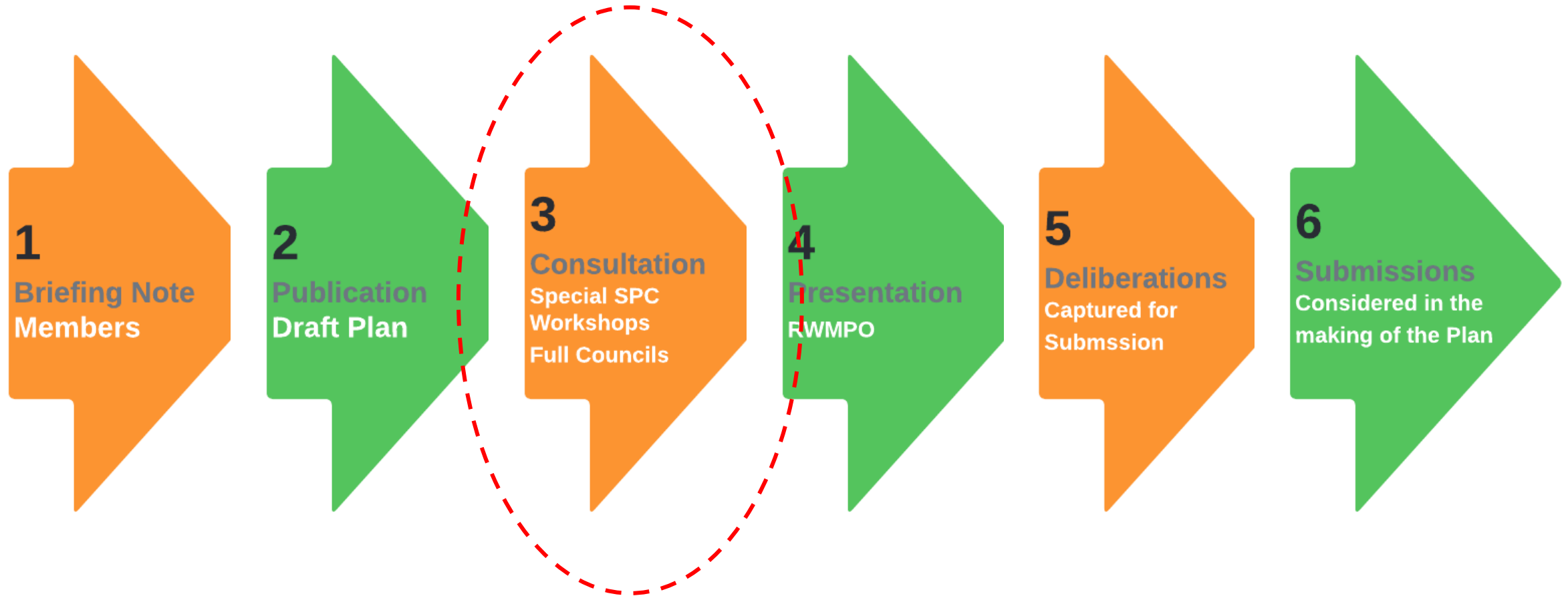
Oversight Process

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Key Recommendations



Consultation Post Draft



Key Takeaways.....

Governance & Structures

“A business as usual model will not deliver a more Circular Economy, an analysis of the requisite structures is necessary in order to position the sector to deliver its mandate and respond to the challenges and opportunities ahead”.

Resourcing

“The move to a more Circular Economy will undoubtedly present opportunities, however, there will still be a cost to the Local Government Sector both in terms of Financial & Human Resources and the consequential benefits will not always be felt within the Sector”.

Interdependencies

“The achievement of national policies and targets is fundamentally predicated on the interdependence of key stakeholders including Government, Local Government, The EPA, ABP, and Industry”.

Infrastructural Deficits and Responses

“Ireland has inadequate waste treatment capacity with continued dependence on waste exports. The private sector has responded with proposals which would alleviate this situation and contribute to self sufficiency”.

Continuity and Contingency

“Authorised waste treatment activities have inadequate business continuity provisions including contingency arrangements. While the LA sector is obligated to facilitate contingency planning it also seeks to condition waste activities in this regard”.

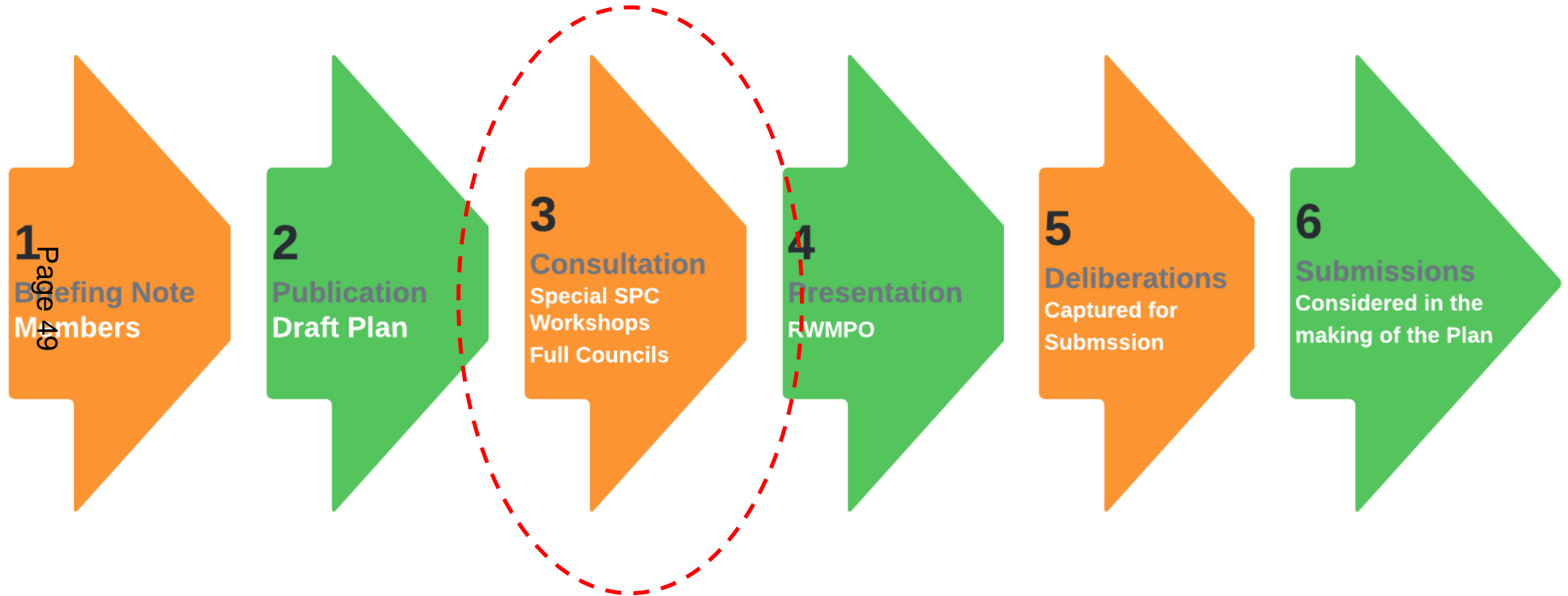
Monitoring and Mitigation

“The National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy will prioritise the monitoring of all waste data while promoting waste generation mitigation measures including prevention, reuse and circularity”.

Process and Procedures

“The RWMPO’s will work through the office of the Local Authority Waste Programme Coordinator to ensure that the sector is engaged at all stages to deliver the best possible plan on behalf of the sector”.

Consultation Post Draft



Fingal County Council

Climate Action Biodiversity and Environment

Strategic Policy Committee

25th October 2022



Fingal County Council

Coolmine and Estuary Recycling Centres

A Review of Pricing and the Provision of a Free Bulky Waste Service

Introduction

As part of the debate during the Annual Budget Meeting held on 20th November 2021 the Director of Services for Operations confirmed that a review was being undertaken with regard to the pricing structure in place in the Council's recycling centres in Coolmine and Estuary. During the debate the members also requested that this review included consideration to the introduction of a free bulky waste collection to households in the County. This report has been prepared in that context with a view to also assisting future decision making on the management of the recycling centres. A number of recommendations have been included in this report

National Policy

A national review of the Civic Amenity Sites (CAS) was carried out by the 3 regional authorities, Eastern Midland, Connacht Ulster and Southern Waste Regions in 2021. The final report made 13 recommendations with recommendation number 4 being important in terms of the context of this review namely *"develop a framework for a collective approach to the optimization of income, minimization of costs, and consistency on gate fees, domestic and commercial"*. The report identifies that there is a relatively even split nationally between those local authorities which provide the service themselves, as is the case in Fingal, and those local authorities which have contracted out the service. DLRCC has retained the service in house while both Dublin City Council and SDCC have outsourced the service to a contractor.

The report identifies the footfall at Estuary Recycling Centre as being the highest in the Country. Important to note that the report identifies that only a small number of facilities nationally show financial sustainability, but it does highlight the community value of the CAS service. The report makes two other key recommendations namely

- Develop a consolidated strategy for the promotion of general and specific CAS services
- Devise a strategy for the promotion of the Circular Economy Package (CEP) by the LA sector with the support of Government.

The Council is not aware of any progress being made on either of these recommendations.

The Polluter Pays Principle is one of the key principles underlying the European Union's (EU) environmental policy. Application of the principle means that polluters bear the costs of their pollution including the cost of measures taken to prevent, control and remedy pollution and the costs it imposes on society. By applying the principle, polluters are incentivised to avoid environmental damage and are held responsible for the pollution that they cause. It is also the polluter, and not the taxpayer, who covers the cost of remediation.

Coolmine and Estuary Recycling Centres

Both Council recycling centres accept a number of different waste streams for recycling purposes but do not accept household waste. Certain items are accepted free of charge while others are accepted with a charge. The following items are free of charge in the centres;

- paper
- cardboard
- cartons
- tins and cans

- glass bottles and jars
- plastic bottles – they should be washed and squashed with tops removed
- clean plastic packaging
- clothes
- Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE)
- fluorescent tubes and energy-saving bulbs
- car and household batteries
- cooking oil and engine oil

While the following items are accepted with a charge;

- bulky waste (e.g. Furniture, carpet)
- wood
- metal
- green waste (restricted to cars and small trailers)
- soil and stones
- duvets and pillows
- household hazardous waste (paint, herbicides, household cleaners etc.)

Recycling Centres Opening Times

The opening and closing times at the two centres, which were extended in 2017/2018, differ and are set out in the following table. The differences in opening and closing times reflects the staffing levels available at both facilities. The Council has received requests for extended opening times in Coolmine in line with Estuary which would require, based on current staffing levels, the employment or redeployment of 6 additional staff. In addition, requests have been received to open the Centres on a Sunday and again this requires the employment of additional staff.

	Coolmine Recycling Centre	Estuary Recycling Centre
Monday	9am to 4pm	8am to 8pm
Tuesday	9am to 4pm	8am to 8pm
Wednesday	9am to 4pm	8am to 8pm
Thursday	9am to 4pm	8am to 8pm
Friday	9am to 4pm	8am to 8pm
Saturday	9am to 4pm	8am to 8pm
Sunday and Bank Holidays	Closed	Closed

Recycling Centres Use

The table below provides a breakdown on the vehicle usage in Estuary and Coolmine Recycling Centre's from 2018 to 2021. We don't have accurate vehicle data prior to 2018. Both centres have seen a significant increase in vehicle usage which can be directly attributed to increased opening times from 2018 and as a result of the Covid 19 pandemic. While there has been a significant increase in vehicle use this is not mirrored in increased income as is set out in the next section on charging but has resulted in a significant increase in overall costs in the running of the centres. In 2019 as an example over 150,000 vehicles used the centres free of charge as they were recycling WEEE/ dry recyclables.

Year	Coolmine	Estuary	Total Vehicle Usage
2018	112,942	177,344	290,286
2019	132,919	181,736	314,655
2020	136,044	161,199	297,243
2021	132,756	181,900	314,656

Recycling Centres Charging

Charges in the two centres have remained at the same level since 2010 and while they have been reviewed and increases were mooted in 2019 no increases have taken place in 12 years. Charges in the two centres were compared to the charging in place in other similar centres, operated directly or on behalf of one of the other local authorities, which are near Fingal. The table below provide a breakdown of the charges in place for non-green waste.

Non-Green Waste

Vehicle Type/ Size	Fingal County Council	Dublin City Council	Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council	South Dublin County Council	Meath County Council
Car Boot	€8	N/C	N/C	N/C	N/C
Car	€16	€15	€30	€15	€30
Estate Car/ Jeep/ SUV	€16	€20	€30	€21	€30
Car Van – Car plus trailer	€40	€40	€60	€42	€50
Van Intermediate/ Transit Van	€128	€70	€100 (plus charge for trailer)	€84	€80

It is notable that Fingal has the lowest charge across a number of the headings above apart from the Van Intermediate. However, it is noted that the number of vehicles meeting this criteria was 8 and 9 respectively in 2020 and 2021 in Coolmine and 45 and 63 in Estuary.

The following table provides a similar breakdown for green waste charges across the same local authority areas.

Green Waste Charges

Vehicle Type/ Size	Fingal County Council	Dublin City Council	Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council	South Dublin County Council	Meath County Council
Car Boot	€4	N/C	N/C	N/C	N/C
Car	€8	€2 per bag	€8	€9.50	€30
Estate Car/ Jeep/ SUV	€8	€16 1m3 bag	€25	€21	€30
Car Van – Car plus trailer	€24		€25	€30	€50
Van Intermediate/ Transit Van	Not accepted		€50 (plus charge for trailer)	€60	€80

Again, across many headings Fingal charges are the lowest. It should be noted that we have seen an increase in the volume of green waste in Estuary particularly since the closure of the private facility in Lusk in 2018. Anecdotally the view is that most of this green waste is commercially generated rather than coming from households. Again, anecdotally registrations of vehicles using Estuary have been identified as being from Louth and Meath with a view expressed by staff in the centres that because of lower pricing individuals are travelling to our centres with their waste. As we don't and can't collect data on vehicle registrations it is not unreasonable to assume that there is merit in this view.

The following table provides an analysis of the total expenditure and income since 2015 which shows clearly the significant and increasing deficit in the running of Estuary and Coolmine recycling centres year on year.

Year	Expenditure	Income	Surplus/ Deficit
2015	€1,450,000	€595,000	€855,000
2016	€1,540,700	€651,000	€889,700
2017	€1,676,300	€812,000	€864,300
2018	€1,870,000	€980,000	€890,000
2019	€1,887,000	€1,098,000	€789,000
2020	€2,408,000	€1,176,000	€1,232,000
2021	€2,759,000	€1,121,000	€1,638,000

When we look at the breakdown of the expenditure in each of the last three years it is principally made up of two fixed costs namely payroll and minor contracts. The minor contracts elements are procured through competitive tender. The following table sets out the total payroll and minor contract costs for the years 2019 to 2021. The significance of these figures is that they clearly demonstrate that there is effectively no way to reduce running costs in the centres with the current opening times and these costs as has already been highlighted would increase through increased opening hours.

	Total Expenditure	Payroll Costs	% of total expenditure	Minor Contracts	% of total expenditure
2019	€1,887,000	€549, 993	29%	€1,252,178	66%
2020	€2,408,000	€568,366	24%	€1,706,315	71%
2021	€2,759,000	€580,606	21%	€2,021,639	73%

Bulky Waste Collection

As part of the discussion on the Annual Budget the Council had requested that a bulky waste service be introduced similar to that in place in Dublin City Council. The view expressed by Councillors was that the outcome of providing such a service was that it would reduce the amount of fly tipping. At the City Council Budget meeting in 2021 the City Council Members proposed the reintroduction of a bulky waste service.

The Polluter Pays Principle underlies EU environmental policy. Article 191(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) states that *“Union policy on the environment inter alia shall be based on the precautionary principle and on the principles that preventative action should be taken, that environmental damage should as a priority be rectified at source and that the polluter should pay”*. Any proposal to introduce a free bulky waste service should be considered in this overarching policy context.

The report writer and the SEO in the Castleknock Mulhuddart Area spoke to our counterpart in DCC. Dublin City Council has provided a bulky waste service for a number of years covering every Area of the City. This service is **not a free service** and is based on a 3-year rolling programme. Important to note that the service is available to all citizens in the area where the service is provided at a cost of €40 per every 5 items presented. The Council has budgeted €500,000 net per annum to provide this service which is delivered from the Councils own resources. Each Area has a driver, 2 helpers and a vehicle with a hook lift truck to provide this service. Based on the Council’s own estimates of the service the actual cost for each lift is €80 meaning that a €40 subsidy is provided. The management of the service is carried out with notices through letter boxes in each house in the area where the service is being provided. According to City Council staff this generates on average approximately 60 requests each week for the service. This was greatly curtailed during Covid. While the City official acknowledges the service is extremely popular in in each area it has had little or no effect on illegal dumping and fly tipping. As an example, over 2,000 bags of illegally dumped waste were removed from one area alone in a calendar year.

In a recent report presented to City Councillors the Executive Manager recommended against the introduction of a free bulky waste service for a number of reasons namely;

- that the service places a significant annual budget requirement on the Council
- it is not in line with waste policy and is open to abuse
- it would undermine the ability to provide an on demand service
- it would discourage use of the Civic Amenity Facilities.

The Council has looked at arrangements in place in other local authorities with regards to bulky waste. In the first instance Fingal County Council proposes to look at providing free household bulky waste events (eg mattress drop off days, household furniture etc.) during the year, at the Recycling Centres, where a gate fee is payable to ensure the service complies with the polluter pays principle. We will continue to also look at other alternatives.

Conclusion

Recommendation number 4 of the 13 recommendations in the national report on recycling centres is important in the context of this review namely *“develop a framework for a collective approach to the optimization of income, minimization of costs, and consistency on gate fees, domestic and commercial”*. The opening and closing times at the two centres, which were extended in 2017/2018, reflects the staffing levels available at both facilities. The Council has received requests for extended opening times in Coolmine, in line with Estuary, and also request to open the centres on Sunday which would require an increase in staffing levels.

The recycling centres at Estuary and Coolmine have seen a significant increase in activity particularly during the Covid lockdown years. The increase in usage has substantially increased the cost of providing the service with the current deficit increasing year on year. It is essential that the cost of running the centres is monitored and that charges increase in line with other recycling centres outside the County.

The bulky waste service provided by Dublin City Council is delivered at a cost to the public of €40 for every 5 items collected. The service while very popular with the citizens has not reduced the level of fly tipping in areas across the City. The delivery of a similar service in Fingal would require the redeployment of staff from the other operational duties currently which would result in a diminution in the level of service provided. The introduction of a free bulky waste service would be contrary to Article 191(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) with regard to the polluter pays principle.

Recommendations

Based on the above report and the assessment the following changes to charging and the management of the centres are recommended.

- Increase all charges in line with the charges in neighbouring Counties. A table of the proposed revised charges is outlined below.
- Apply a minimum charge for all vehicles of €4 per vehicle which based on usage figures for 2020 would generate €392,000.
- Apply a charge to all commercial green waste operators reflecting the commercial nature of their activity as set out in the table below.
- Revise the charge for Van Intermediate as the level of income generated indicates a difficulty in assessing this charge.
- Assess the option of extending the opening hours at Coolmine Recycling Centre to bring them in line with those operating at Estuary.
- Provide household bulky waste events (eg mattress drop off days, household furniture days – couches, tables, carpets, baths etc.) with a gate fee of €4 ensuring the service complies with the polluter pays principle
- Consider other options and alternatives in managing bulky waste which is in place in other local authority areas to continue to increase the levels of recycling across the County.

Charges Non-Green Waste

	Current Charge	Proposed Charge
Car Boot	€8	€4
Car	€16	€30
Estate Car/ Jeep/ SUV	€16	€30
Car Van – Car plus trailer	€40	€50
Van Intermediate/ Transit Van	€128	€80 plus €20 charge for trailer

Green Waste Charges

	Current Charge	Proposed Charge
Car Boot	€4	€4
Car	€8	€16
Estate Car/ Jeep/ SUV	€8	€20
Car Van – Car plus trailer	€24	€35
Van Intermediate/ Transit Van	Not accepted	€80

References

National Review of Civic Amenity Sites Government of Ireland

Special Report - The Polluter Pays Principle: Inconsistent Application across EU Environmental Policies and Actions. EN 2021 European Court of Auditors



Review of Coolmine and Estuary Recycling Centres & Bulky Waste Collection

Presentation to Area Committees

Senior Executive Officer

November 2023

Context of Review



- Recycling Centre Opening Times
- Usage
- Recycling Centre Charges
 - Non Green Waste
 - Green Waste
- Charging comparisons with adjoining local authorities
- Current Expenditure and Income
- Bulky Waste Collection

Opening Times



	Coolmine Recycling Centre	Estuary Recycling Centre
Monday	9am to 4pm	8am to 8pm
Tuesday	9am to 4pm	8am to 8pm
Wednesday	9am to 4pm	8am to 8pm
Thursday	9am to 4pm	8am to 8pm
Friday	9am to 4pm	8am to 8pm
Saturday	9am to 4pm	8am to 8pm
Sunday and Bank Holidays	Closed	Closed

Recycling Centre Usage



Year	Coolmine	Estuary	Total Vehicle Usage
2018	112,942	177,344	290,286
2019	132,919	181,736	314,655
2020	136,044	161,199	297,243
2021	132,756	181,900	314,656

Current Expenditure and Income



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Year	Expenditure	Income	Surplus/ Deficit
2015	€1,450,000	€595,000	€855,000
2016	€1,540,700	€651,000	€889,700
2017	€1,676,300	€812,000	€864,300
2018	€1,870,000	€980,000	€890,000
2019	€1,887,000	€1,098,000	€789,000
2020	€2,408,000	€1,176,000	€1,232,000
2021	€2,759,000	€1,121,000	€1,638,000



Current Charging Comparisons

Non-Green Waste

Vehicle Type/ Size	Fingal County Council	Dublin City Council	Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council	South Dublin County Council	Meath County Council
Car Boot	€8	N/C	N/C	N/C	N/C
Car	€16	€15	€30	€15	€30
Estate Car/ Jeep/ SUV	€16	€20	€30	€21	€30
Car Van – Car plus trailer	€40	€40	€60	€42	€50
Van Intermediate/ Transit Van	€128	€70	€100 (plus charge for trailer)	€84	€80

Current Charging Comparisons Green Waste



Vehicle Type/ Size	Fingal County Council	Dublin City Council	Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council	South Dublin County Council	Meath County Council
Car Boot	€4	N/C	N/C	N/C	N/C
Car	€8	€2 per bag	€8	€9.50	€30
Estate Car/ Jeep/ SUV	€8	€16 1m3 bag	€25	€21	€30
Car Van – Car plus trailer	€24		€25	€30	€50
Van Intermediate/ Transit Van	Not accepted		€50 (plus charge for trailer)	€60	€80

Bulky Waste Collection



- Context - Article 191(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) - Polluter Pays Principle
- DCC currently provide a paid service for bulky waste
- Recommendation against the introduction of a free bulky waste service in DCC for a number of reasons namely;
 - the service places a significant annual budget requirement on DCC
 - it is not in line with waste policy and is open to abuse
 - it would undermine the ability to provide an on demand service
 - it would discourage use of the Civic Amenity Facilities.

Conclusions



- Significant increase in activity.
- Resulting in increased service cost.
- Consideration for Extended Opening Times – Coolmine.

Page 67 Existing charges are not in line with adjoining local authorities

- Cost associated with Bulky Waste Service would be excessive.
- A free bulky waste service is contrary to Article 191(2) of the TFEU Polluter Pays Principle.

Recommendations



- Increase in charges in line with adjoining local authorities.
- Introduce €4 charge for all cars
- Review requirements for extending opening hours in Coolmine
- Consider alternatives for recycling across the County
- Provide free household bulky waste events with gate fee on certain dates

Proposed New Charges Non-Green Waste



	Current Charge	Proposed Charge
Car Boot	€8	€4
Car	€16	€30
Estate Car/ Jeep/ SUV	€16	€30
Car Van – Car plus trailer	€40	€50
Van Intermediate/ Transit Van	€128	€80 plus €20 charge for trailer



Proposed New Charges **Green Waste**

	Current Charge	Proposed Charge
Car Boot	€4	€4
Car	€8	€16
Estate Car/ Jeep/ SUV	€8	€20
Car Van – Car plus trailer	€24	€35
Van Intermediate/ Transit Van	Not accepted	€80

Litter Management Plan 2023- 2025

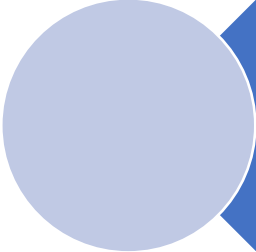
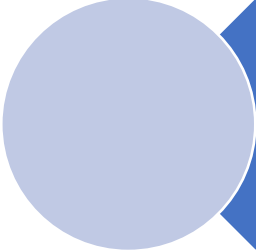
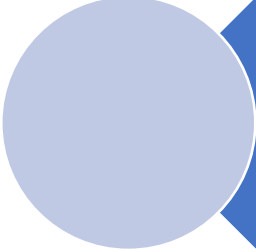


Litter Pollution Act 1997

"litter"

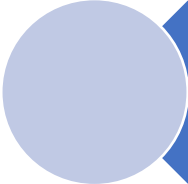
means a substance or object, whether or not intended as waste that, when deposited in a place other than a litter receptacle is or is likely to become unsightly, deleterious, nauseous or unsanitary, whether by itself or with any other such substance or object, and regardless of its size or volume or the extent of the deposit;

Classification of Litter

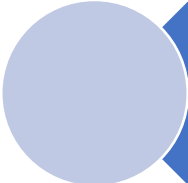
-  Casual Littering eg cigarette butts, crisp bags,
-  0-20 bags equivalent probably householder disposing of own waste includes bulky waste
-  >20 bags, probably an unauthorised waste collector includes bulky waste

Litter Pollution Act 1997

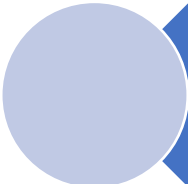
Litter Management Plan



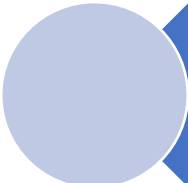
Section 10 – Litter Management Plan Required



Section 11 – Requirements of a Litter
Management Plan



Section 12 – Procedure for Making, Amending or
Replacing a Litter Management Plan



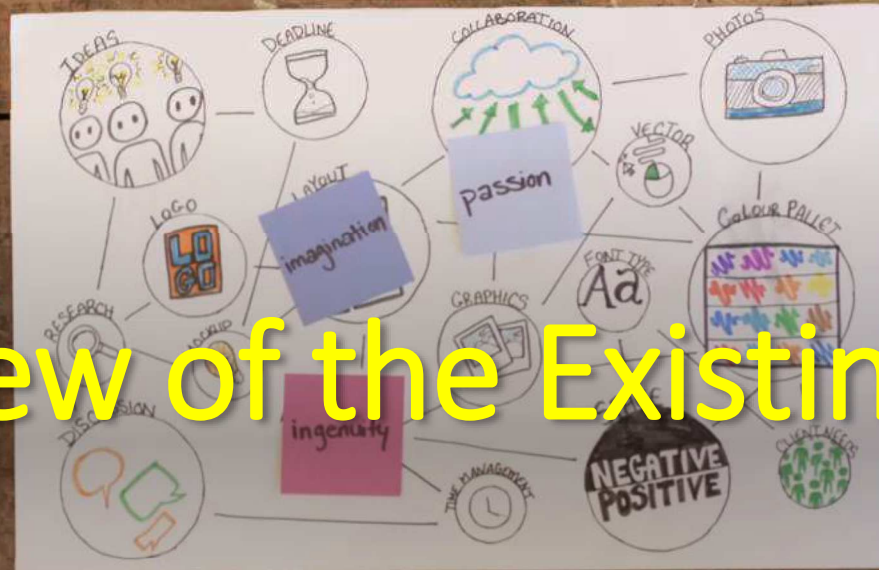
Section 13 – Duties are a Reserved Function of a
Local Authority

Requirements of Litter Management Plan

- 11. — (1) A litter management plan shall—
- (a) specify such **objectives** as the local authority deems are appropriate to prevent and control litter in its functional area
- (b) specify the measures to encourage **public awareness** with a view to eliminating litter pollution, including educational and information measures directed at young persons,
- (c) specify the **measures** or arrangements that are to be undertaken by the local authority in order to attain the objectives of the plan, and

- d) include information on, or be formulated having regard to—
 - I. an appraisal of all **existing** litter prevention and control programmes being operated by the local authority,
 - II. the **policies and objectives** of the local authority in relation to the prevention and control of litter,
 - III. the **measures** which, in so far as the local authority can determine, will or may be taken during the relevant period by persons other than the local authority for the purposes of preventing and controlling litter,
 - IV. the facilities at which waste may be deposited by members of the public for recovery or disposal within the meaning of the Waste Management Act, 1996,
 - V. the steps to be taken by the local authority to enforce the provisions of this Act in its functional area, and
 - VI. any incidental and ancillary matters.

Review of the Existing Plan



Considerations



BOTTLE BANKS / TEXTILE
BANKS/ RECYLING
CENTRES



PARKS &
BEACHES



PARKLETS



DOG FOULING



HOUSEHOLD BLACK BAG
WASTE



EVENING & WEEKEND
PATROLS



RE-INTRODUCTION OF
CCTV



WASTE BYE LAWS



ENVIRONMENTAL
AWARENESS



COMPACTOR BINS



STREET CLEANING



TECHNOLOGY



Timeline



CLIMATE ACTION, BIODIVERSITY, ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 25th OCTOBER 2022

ITEM 05

Cllr P. Mulville – Data Centres

“That this Committee in light of the recent concerns in relation to energy prices recognises the unique strain that Data Centres put on our grid with Eirgrid, estimating 30% electricity consumption from these Centres by 2030, therefore calls for a moratorium on new Data Centres in this Council’s administrative area until a national policy is in place that can ensure our energy security is protected and that this Motion, if agreed, will be included on the agenda of the next Council Meeting as part of the Strategic Policy Committee report, for adoption by the Full Council.”

Response:

At both national and regional level, policy and objectives set out in both the NPF and RSES promote and support communications networks and digital infrastructure at appropriate locations. Specifically, National Strategic Outcome 5

‘Strong Economy Supported by Enterprise, Innovation and Skills’ of the National Planning Framework (NPF) aims to create places that can foster enterprise and innovation and attract investment and talent. Delivering this outcome will require the coordination of growth and place making with investment in world class infrastructure, including digital connectivity. NSO 5 sets out the importance of digital and data innovation and indicates a number of objectives to achieve this including: *‘Promotion of Ireland as a sustainable international destination for ICT infrastructures such as data centres and associated economic activities.’*

The RSES indicates that the increasing use of digital technologies is impacting on every aspect of our lives and due to a fast moving and evolving infrastructure, the region will need to be able to respond and adapt to future communications networks and technology along with changing work practices and emerging economic models. RPO 8.25 on Communications Networks and Digital Infrastructure states: *‘Support the*

national objective to promote Ireland as a sustainable international destination for ICT infrastructures such as data centres and associated economic activities at appropriate locations.'

Due to continued support for Data Centres within Government policy, a moratorium on new data centres runs contrary to government policy at this time. Furthermore, recent comments from the IDA outline that data centres are an *"integral part of the technology ecosystem"*, and *"the inability of technology companies to expand their data centre footprint is problematic in terms of continuing to attract investment and to continue to maintain the investment we have here."*

FCC must align with national policy and must be consistent with the requirements of the NPF. As such, any decision in relation to a potential moratorium on data centres is one for central government.

As indicated above, national policy dictates how individual local authorities deal with such matters. It should however be noted that the overprovision of any one land use in a particular area is not appropriate and this will be managed through the development management process and any applications for a certain facilities/land use have regard to the number of such facilities already in operation in a particular area.

In relation to grid capacity, this is an issue for the operator of any such facility, which would need to go through a grid connection application process.

CLIMATE ACTION, BIODIVERSITY, ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 25TH OCTOBER 2022

ITEM 06

Cllr M. McCamley – Micro Generation Scheme

“That the Chief Executive provides and update on the Micro Generation Scheme for solar panels on domestic homes and details of the N6 application form.”

Response

The Micro Generation Support Scheme (MSS) is administered by the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI). The key features of the scheme applying to domestic solar pv are as follows:

Domestic applicants can apply to the SEAI for a grant towards the cost of installing Solar PV equipment. In 2022, capital grants are available up to a maximum of €2,400.

Homes built pre-2021 are eligible.

Buildings do not have to meet a minimum BER (Building Energy Rating) standard.

MSS is targeting support for 380MW of installed micro-generation capacity, to contribute to the target of up to 2.5GW of solar renewables under the Climate Action Plan. Depending on panel size, that equates to over 1 million solar panels, on approximately 70,000 buildings.

A substantial body of supporting policies and infrastructure is / has been put in place to enable MSS and this has been led by a Micro Generation Working Group under action 105 of the CAP 2021. Stakeholders include DECC, The Commission of Regulation of Utilities (CRU), ESB Networks (ESBN), and SEAI. Details of the initiative can be found at <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/b1fbe-micro-generation/>

Homeowners will need to have a smart meter and a suitable ESBN export grid connection. Both can be applied for from ESBN by submitting NC6 and NC7 forms. Once form NC6 is submitted, ESBN will prioritise that property for a meter upgrade if an upgrade is required. Timelines will be dependent on whether the property is based in a ‘current (smart meter) deployment planning area’. NC6 form should be completed by the technician at the time solar pv

panels are installed. (If an NC6 form has not been submitted, contact the installation company to complete one and return it to ESN..)

The export tariff which is called the Clean Export Guarantee is expected to be available before the end of 2022, once legal work is completed. A tax free allowance of €200 was introduced in Budget 2021 in respect of personal income received by households who sell residual renewable electricity, which they generate, back to the grid. This is to allow domestic users have the small amount of revenue that they will earn from micro-generation exempted from tax.

The scheme is open for business. As this is not a local authority scheme, no details are available on take up, numbers of applicants, or numbers processed / enabled, at the time of this request. The Council supports SEAI Sustainable Energy Community scheme and these communities are supported through an SEAI mentor.

For information on smart meters and grid connections, contact [ESB Networks](#)
For information on grants, contact [the Sustainable Energy Authority Of Ireland](#)
For information on Clean Export Guarantee contact CRU.

CLIMATE ACTION, BIODIVERSITY, ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 25TH OCTOBER 2022

ITEM 09

Councillor J. Newman – Analysis of heat pump and energy updates

“That the Chief Executive will provide an update, report and analysis of the energy upgrades carried out in Council’s owned properties within Fingal in the last couple of years since 2019 and that this report includes details on heat pumps and any issues that have been identified with regard to energy savings or otherwise.”

Response:

Architects

Our Energy Efficiency programme commenced in 2021. As part of that first pilot phase, we successfully managed to retrofit the 65 council properties we had been allocated funding for, moving their BER rating to a B2 or higher level making them much warmer and healthier for residents, but also helping to reduce their energy usage and costs.

The Retrofit Programme is a ten-year programme that will see us upgrade some 25% of our housing stock to a B2 BER standard. As part of that we're carrying out a variety of works to each home in order to achieve that higher rating. These works vary depending on the type, size and age of the property but may include new triple-glazed windows, LED lighting, rewiring, fitting of new external doors, placement of PV panels on roofs, installation of heat pumps, an upgrade of external wall and attic insulation and the upgrade of heating controls.

Importantly, this work is all carried out done with residents still living in their homes.

Whilst our 2022 allocation for funding for retrofitting was 81 homes, we are targeted to complete in the region of 100 properties. Subject to the availability of additional funding to progress the rollout further in 2023, we hope to be in a position to carry out energy upgrade works to some 200 homes across the County.

We have had a strong positive response to the upgrades to date.

Building Facilities

Fingal County Council's first Energy Performance Contract is finishing the implementation stage. The contract was signed in December 2021. This contract is for the energy efficiency upgrades for Blanchardstown Civic Offices and County Hall, Swords. The primary measures included for both buildings are a complete LED lighting upgrade, solar photovoltaic (PV) system, high efficiency boiler systems and heat pump air handling unit upgrades. Both facilities will operate on a state of the art building management system controls upgrade - The total implementation cost of these measures is €1,053,607 of which FCC will pay a fixed maximum of €500,000. The balance of the investment is provided by the contractor (Lawler Sustainability), who, under the contract conditions, also take the entire risk of any cost increase.

Under the Energy Performance Contract (EPC) terms, the contractor, Lawler Sustainability, is responsible for the design, installation and maintenance of the energy efficiency measures. The total energy savings from these works is designed to deliver 37% reductions in energy usage per year. The savings will give FCC a guaranteed return with the remainder paid to the contractor Lawler Sustainability; this allows the contractor to recoup some of their upfront investment and allows them to cover the cost of maintenance (both new and existing equipment) along with any remainder as profit. Payments are made to the contractor on a monthly basis, and are based on verified energy savings calculated according to the contract clauses – payments are reduced accordingly if savings targets underperform. Once the first phase of the Energy Performance Contract is complete and has delivered the targeted results, Fingal County Council will look to roll out the model on a number of further projects across a number of buildings. A successful EPC contract model is the preferred vehicle for incorporating Fingal maintenance and services contracts with the delivery of energy efficiency and technical improvements in FCC buildings. The energy efficiency improvements will put Fingal on the trajectory for meeting our 2030 Energy and CO2 targets. The EPC model means that the contractor is fully incentivized to ensure that the measures are correctly designed, installed, and maintained, for the duration of the nine year contract, while ensuring the entire technical and performance risks remain with the contractor.