

# Islington Waste Reduction and Recycling Plan

## April 2023 to March 25

# Contents

Glossary.....	4
Introduction .....	5
Background .....	6
Recycling rates nationally and locally .....	6
Recycling performance in Islington .....	6
Waste and the Climate Emergency .....	8
National waste policy .....	9
London Environment Strategy.....	10
Our policies and strategies .....	10
Objective 1: Waste reduction .....	12
Reducing food waste .....	12
Reducing single use plastic .....	13
Composting .....	14
Sharing and repairing .....	14
Repair and reuse community cafes .....	14
Moving towards a circular economy .....	15
Residual waste collections.....	15
North London Waste Authority waste prevention.....	16
Objective 1: Summary .....	17
Objective 2: Maximising Recycling and Reuse .....	18
Our recycling ambition for 2030 .....	18
Recycling service commitment.....	18
Improving recycling on estates.....	18
Making recycling more accessible.....	20
Improving the quality of recycling .....	21
Expanding food waste recycling collections.....	23
Improving recycling in social and private rented accommodation .....	23
Easier access to containers for door to door recycling .....	24
Better recycling at our markets .....	24
Recycling plastic bags and wrapping .....	25
Reuse and recycling centres .....	25
Increasing reuse .....	26
Behaviour change to increase recycling.....	27
Compulsory recycling and enforcement .....	28
Parks and tree waste .....	28
Commercial waste recycling .....	29
Objective 2: Summary .....	30
Objective 3: Reducing Environmental Impact .....	32
Reducing carbon emissions .....	32
Recycling and refuse fleet.....	32
New technology .....	33
Vehicle safety.....	33
NLWA and London Energy Limited vehicles .....	34
Objective 3: Summary .....	35
Objective 4: Maximising local waste sites .....	36
Managing and disposing of our recycling and waste.....	36
Objective 4: Summary .....	37

Dashboard.....	38
Summary action plan.....	41

DRAFT

# Glossary

BWRF: Bulky Waste Recycling Facility

DRS: Deposit Return Scheme

DVSA: Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency

EPR: Extended Producer Responsibility

EPS: Emissions Performance Standard

eRCV: Electric Refuse Collection Vehicles

GHG: Greenhouse Gases

HGV: Heavy Good Vehicle

LACMW: Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste

LACW: Local Authority Collected Waste

LEL: London Energy Limited

LES: London Environment Strategy

NLWA: North London Waste Authority

RRC: Reuse and Recycling Centre

RRF: Resource Recovery Facility

RRP: Reduction and Recycling Plan

ULEZ: Ultra Low Emissions Zone

# Introduction

In June 2019, Islington Council declared a climate emergency and we committed to working towards a target of net zero carbon by 2030. To achieve this, we need to dramatically increase the proportion of waste that is recycled and reduce overall levels of waste and consumption.

Our Strategic Plan, 'Islington Together for a More Equal Future'<sup>1</sup> sets out our ambition of a cleaner, greener healthier Islington, and promises to 'support residents and businesses to make better use of resources, reduce waste and improve recycling rates'. Although we provide a comprehensive and regular recycling collection service for our residents, recycling rates have remained stable for a number of years. The average Islington household produces 349kg of waste every year, nearly the weight of a polar bear. Of this, around 30% gets reused, recycled or composted. The rest is sent to an energy from waste facility where it is incinerated with energy recovery.

Islington's high and increasing proportion of flats and relatively small gardens with little garden waste, makes achieving high recycling rates harder than for many other areas. Despite this, Islington's dry recycling rate (excluding food and garden waste) in 2000-21 was 23%, higher than the average for the whole of London (21.6%) and higher than the average for North London Waste Authority (NLWA) boroughs (20%).

This Plan sets out a detailed waste reduction and recycling action plan through to 2025. But we want to go much further and have set an ambition to recycle 40% of household waste and 75% of the commercial waste collected by Islington Council by 2030, whilst continuing to try to reduce overall levels of household and commercial waste. We will achieve this through a combination of service changes, including improvements and expansion of services, and increased use by residents and businesses of the services that we provide.

We will focus on improving recycling on estates with significant investment into improving recycling facilities across our estates, and on increasing levels of food waste recycling. We will also focus on reducing waste, especially food and single use plastic and increasing reuse, to reduce waste disposal costs and carbon emissions.

Our proposals will mean a better recycling experience for residents on estates, and opportunities to recycle more for all residents. By reducing waste, and especially food waste, residents and businesses will be able to save money, and by reducing the amount of waste overall, residents and businesses will be contributing towards Islington's target to be a net zero carbon borough by 2030.

We will also need government to deliver on the promises they have made to introduce a range of new recycling reforms at a national level - extending producer responsibility, so that producers of waste are responsible for the impact of the waste that they produce, a deposit return scheme to incentivise more recycling, and the move towards more consistent recycling collections and packaging labelling. These will all help residents and businesses to recycle more and reduce waste.

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.islington.gov.uk/about-the-council/vision-and-priorities>

# Background

## Recycling rates nationally and locally

Over 60% of household waste can be reused, recycled, or composted based with the best performing Local Authorities in England and Wales achieving comparable recycling rates. However, recycling rates vary significantly across the country. London's current recycling rate is 33% compared to 44% nationally. The Government's target was to achieve a 50% household recycling rate by 2020 with a further target of recycling 65% of municipal waste by 2035.

London Boroughs have a range of specific circumstances that make high levels of recycling more difficult to achieve. Inner London boroughs are also generally performing less well than outer London Boroughs. This is considered to be due to high levels of deprivation and population density, high percentage of flats and significant rented accommodation, low numbers and small sizes of gardens generating small quantities of garden waste for composting, highly transient, younger population, the need to engage with a culturally diverse population and significant day-time commuters and visitors. The performance range is from 19% (Tower Hamlets) to 50% (Bexley). The average performance for inner London boroughs is 29%. Islington's dry recycling rate (excluding food and garden waste) compares well with the whole of London and other North London Waste Authority (NLWA) boroughs.

## Recycling performance in Islington

Across Islington, most residents have access to regular, frequent and comprehensive recycling services for a range of materials including food waste. However, while at least 60% of the household waste stream is easily recyclable, our recycling rate is currently around 30%. This means there is far greater potential for residents to recycle more using the services they receive.

For households with weekly door-to-door recycling collections, around 47% of household waste is recycled, including garden waste, whereas for estates with communal recycling collections, only 24% is recycled (see Figure 1 below).

We also know that overall, a smaller proportion of food waste is recycled than for other recyclables. For street properties, around 70% of available mixed dry recycling is collected for recycling but only 21% of available food waste is collected. For estates, this is 44% of available mixed dry recycling and 11% of food waste (see

Figure 2 below).

Figure 1 Proportion of household waste that is recycled for street properties and estates

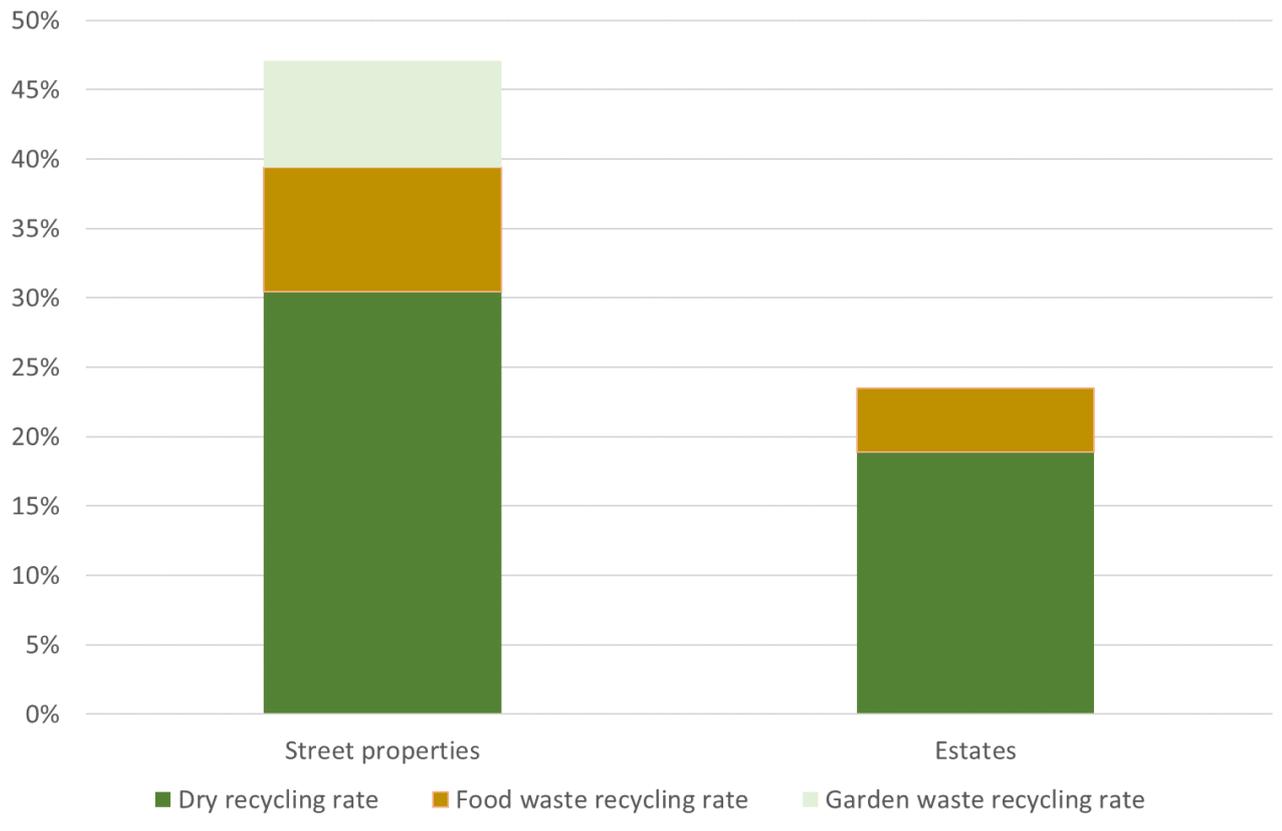
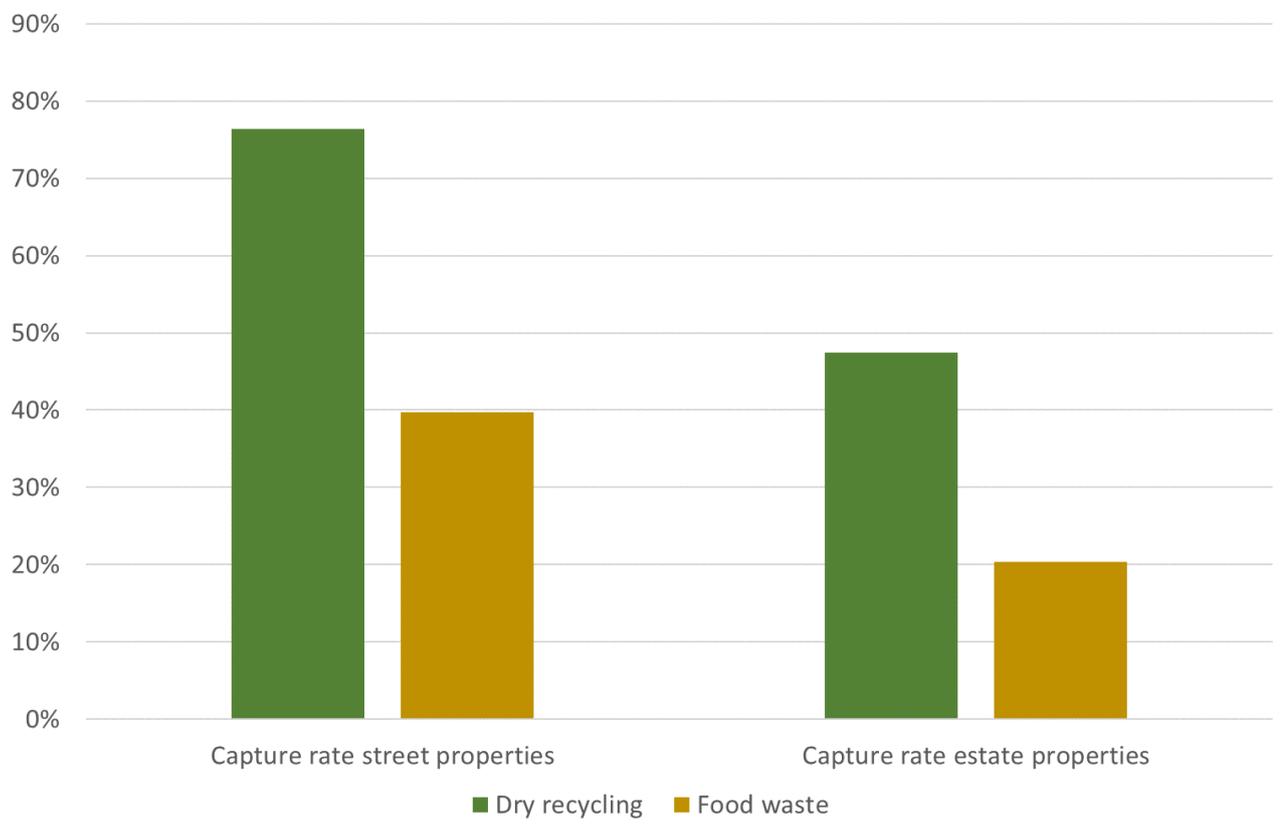


Figure 2 Proportion of recyclable materials that are collected for recycling, from street properties and estates

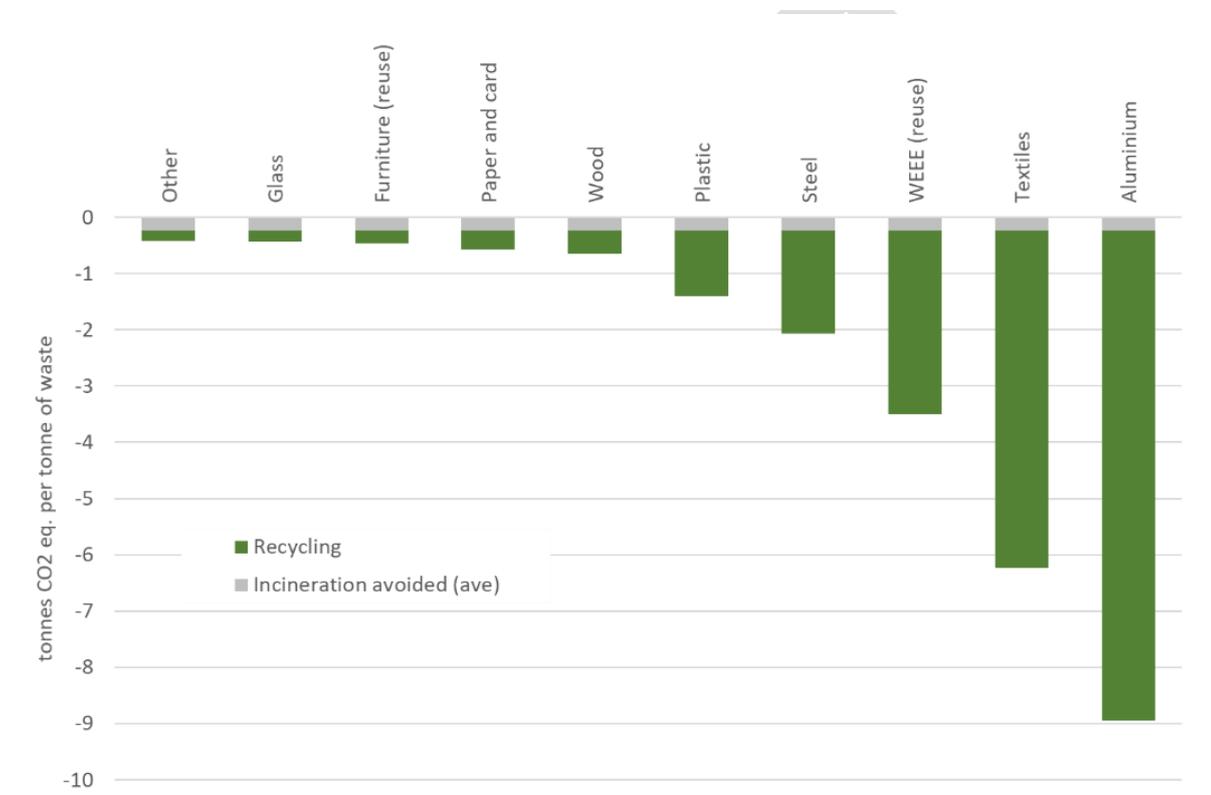


We will therefore focus on two key areas: improving the use of food waste recycling services, both by extending services to remaining properties and increasing participation in these services; and on increasing recycling rates from purpose built blocks of flats, through a substantial investment programme in improving recycling facilities on estates and increasing the use of these facilities. We aim to back both of these areas with behaviour change programmes to encourage and incentivise residents to divert more of their recyclable waste away from disposal, supported by an expanded Recycling Team.

## Waste and the Climate Emergency

For every tonne of waste that gets recycled instead of incinerated, about two tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> are prevented from being emitted into the atmosphere. This figure is much higher for some materials, such as electrical items, textiles and aluminium<sup>2</sup>.

Figure 3 Tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions prevented by recycling different materials



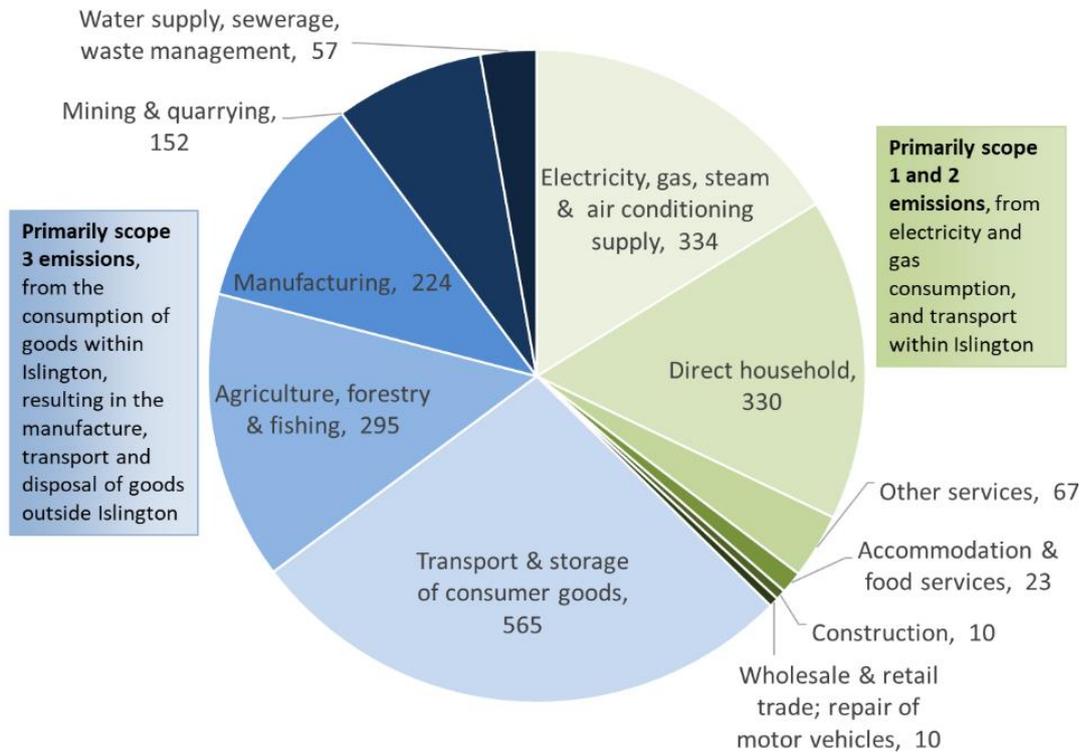
UK households waste 6.5 million tonnes of food every year, of which 4.5 million tonnes is edible<sup>3</sup>. The average family can save £60 a month by reducing food waste, but as well as being a waste of money, food waste also feeds climate change. When we throw something in the bin, it's not just food that is going to waste, it's all the precious resources which went into making it. And each one has an impact on climate change.

<sup>2</sup> EPS Ready Reckoner Guidance, Report for Greater London Authority, Eunomia Research and Consulting, May 2019

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.lovefoodhatewaste.com/why-save-food>

Furthermore, around two thirds of all the carbon emissions relating to Islington residents and businesses, some 1.4m tonnes, are related to the manufacture, transport, consumption and disposal of consumer goods outside Islington.

Figure 4 Total emissions by source industry (Ktonnes CO2e) 2018



Our Plan therefore focusses not just on recycling more, but on reducing waste, including more reuse, sharing and repairing.

Our Circular Economy Action Plan<sup>4</sup> sets out our approach to moving towards a more circular economy in Islington, including actions to increase reuse and repair.

## National waste policy

The Government published the Resources & Waste Strategy in 2018 which set out ambitions for higher recycling rates and included proposals for three major reforms: improved consistency of collections, a Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) for drinks containers, and reforming packaging producer requirements via an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) scheme. Consultation on the reforms has taken place and further details are expected in 2023 including specific recycling targets and details of the funding arrangements for Local Authorities. Implementation of these policies may require changes in recycling collection services.

The proposed changes have the potential to make recycling easier for consumers, and to increase the share of the responsibility taken by the producers of packaging waste for the cost of collection and disposal of that material. However, a lack of progress in delivering on these policies at a national level makes detailed planning at this stage difficult.

<sup>4</sup> [www.islington.gov.uk/circulareconomy](http://www.islington.gov.uk/circulareconomy)

# London Environment Strategy

In May 2018 the Mayor published his London Environment Strategy (LES), which sets out objectives, targets and policies for the effective management of London's municipal waste and the acceleration to a circular economy. The strategy's waste objectives, targets and minimum service levels for London are:

Objective 1 - Drive resource efficiency to significantly reduce waste, focusing on food waste and single use packaging.

Objective 2 - Maximise recycling rates.

Objective 3 - Reduce the environmental impact of waste activities (greenhouse gas emissions and air pollutants).

Objective 4 - Maximise local waste sites and ensure London has sufficient infrastructure to manage all the waste it produces.

The LES includes an expectation of London recycling 65% of municipal waste recycling by 2030. Municipal waste is household waste plus waste similar in nature to household waste, including commercial waste, whether collected by the Local Authority or not. The strategy also assumes a London wide household waste recycling rate of 50% by 2030 whilst acknowledging the different abilities of London Local Authorities to contribute to this London wide target, and identifies additional Government interventions needed to achieve the targets.

It is a requirement of the Mayor for London councils to prepare and submit a Waste Reduction and Recycling Plan (RRP) to demonstrate conformity with the Mayor's London Environment Strategy.

## Our policies and strategies

This Plan follows on from our first RRP 2018-2022<sup>5</sup> and forms part of a clear and robust set of policies aimed at increasing recycling and reducing waste and carbon emissions.

In 2019, Islington Council declared a Climate Emergency<sup>6</sup> and committed to creating a clean and green Islington and becoming net zero carbon by 2030. 'Vision 2030: Building a Net Zero Carbon Islington by 2030'<sup>7</sup> sets out how we plan to achieve this.

Our Strategic Plan 'Islington Together, For a More Equal Future'<sup>8</sup> includes specific commitments to creating a cleaner, greener, healthier Islington and restates its commitment to working towards a target of net zero carbon by 2030.

---

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.islington.gov.uk/recycling-and-rubbish/recycling/waste-reduction-and-recycling-plan-2018-2022>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.islington.gov.uk/environment-and-energy/climate-emergency>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.islington.gov.uk/~media/sharepoint-lists/public-records/energyservices/businessplanning/strategies/20202021/20201209vision2030islingtonzerocarbo>

<sup>8</sup> <https://democracy.islington.gov.uk/documents/s25785/Appendix%20A%20-%20Strategic%20Plan.pdf?>

Our new Local Plan<sup>9</sup> will include robust new policies for delivering sustainable development based on circular economy principles. This includes policies to ensure that all developments adopt a circular economy approach to design and construction and that buildings are designed to help to support people recycle.

The recycling and disposal of the recycling and waste we collect is managed by the NLWA, the statutory waste disposal authority for seven north London Boroughs including Islington. The NLWA with its constituent Boroughs is preparing a new Residual Waste Reduction Plan, which will continue to support the waste prevention activity of the constituent boroughs and will replace the current plan<sup>10</sup>.

DRAFT

---

<sup>9</sup> [https://www.islington.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy/local\\_plan\\_review](https://www.islington.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy/local_plan_review)

<sup>10</sup> [https://www.nlwa.gov.uk/sites/default/files/inline-files/2565222-nlwa-residual-waste-reduction-plan-2020\\_v5.pdf](https://www.nlwa.gov.uk/sites/default/files/inline-files/2565222-nlwa-residual-waste-reduction-plan-2020_v5.pdf)

# Objective 1: Waste reduction

**We will reduce the amount of waste that is sent for disposal, particularly avoidable food and single use plastics, and items that could be repaired, shared or reused, and move towards a more circular economy where materials stay in use for as long as possible.**

By reducing overall levels of waste, we are reducing the carbon emissions from the production, transportation and disposal of unused goods. We are also helping residents save money by reducing consumption costs and saving the Council money by reducing disposal costs.

## Reducing food waste

We want to reduce food waste while maximising the proportion of food waste that is collected for recycling. We will continue to support the Mayor of London's target of reducing food and drink waste by 50% of 2015 levels by 2030 by achieving a year on year reduction in food waste that is not recycled.

Evidence shows that separate food waste collection schemes are also linked to lower amounts of total food waste from householders<sup>11</sup>. Therefore, we will actively encourage more residents to recycle their food waste, while also encouraging all residents to reduce the amount of food waste they have in the first place. We will aim to do this through a costed and resourced behaviour change programme, engaging directly with residents to encourage real changes in food waste behaviours.

The Council has used extra funding received from energy generation at the publicly-owned Edmonton EcoPark to provide additional support to its most vulnerable residents and businesses during the cost of living emergency. As part of this, we will deliver a campaign to increase levels of food waste recycling from households, and with the NLWA, we will support a London wide campaign to reduce levels of food waste, delivered as part of London Council's One World Living Action Plan<sup>12</sup>, which aims to reduce consumption-based emissions across London.

And we will work as a member of the Circular Food Procurement working group, convened as part of the One World Living Plan, to reduce food waste within our most significant food related contracts.

We will continue to actively promote the annual Food Waste Action Week as well as increasing the number of residents and businesses using food sharing apps such as Olio and Too Good To Go.

We will work with the Family Kitchens programme as part of Islington's adult education programme to deliver cookery courses that help participants to reduce food waste and make more sustainable as well as healthy food choices.

---

<sup>11</sup> <https://wrap.org.uk/resources/report/impact-food-waste-collections-household-food-waste-arising>

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.londoncouncils.gov.uk/node/39485>

We will continue to reach out at community events to promote the food waste prevention message through our community outreach work, our Recycling Champions programme and through the NLWA's waste prevention programme.

And we will work as a member with the Circular Food Procurement working group, convened as part of London Council's One World Living Action Plan<sup>13</sup>, which aims to reduce consumption-based emissions across London.

## Reducing single use plastic

We continue to take a range of actions to reduce the use of single use plastic in Islington and our own operations. There are now 23 public water fountains in Islington, as well as an increasing number of cafes providing free refills. We'll support the use of the Refill App that provides the locations of free water refill points including water fountains and retailers. This helps residents to carry their own refillable water bottle, safe in the knowledge that they won't have to buy another plastic bottle of water if they run out, saving them money too.

Within the Council, we have eliminated plastic sachets, stirrers and cups from our own internal catering and we've worked with film companies located in Islington to reduce onsite use of single use plastic water bottles.

We've supported campaigns to reduce 'unflushables', plastic waste that is sometimes disposed of down the toilet and we will continue to encourage the use of reusable, washable nappies to Islington residents through our support of The Real Nappies for London reusable nappy scheme. A voucher worth £54.15 is available via the NLWA to Islington parents or guardians who are either expecting a baby or whose baby is up to 18 months old. Vouchers can also be redeemed with nappy laundry services. To support this, at least six nappy swap events are held each year where residents can donate and/or take reusable nappies, maternity wear and baby clothes free of charge. The events provide peer-to-peer advice, support and networking. These actions reduce the cost of purchasing nappies and reduce the amount of nappy waste. Reusable nappies are long-lasting and can be used again by other children resulting in further environmental and financial benefits.

Each baby using reusable nappies can result in nearly a tonne of waste being saved. In 2020-21, 216 vouchers were issued and 169 were redeemed resulting in around 148 tonnes of waste being avoided. We will aim to increase the total number of vouchers redeemed, and hence waste avoided, by 15% each year from 2021/22.

We are also working with NLWA to develop initiatives for reducing single use plastic waste from period waste.

Our first Low Plastic Zone, where businesses are encouraged to commit to reducing single use plastic waste, was launched in 2019 with a second low plastic zone in Caledonian Road launched in 2022. We will continue to support Low Plastic Zones (subject to a review of their effectiveness currently underway), as well as promoting refill options and using our progressive procurement policy to reduce unnecessary single use plastic.

About 70% of plastic waste in the UK is packaging waste, totalling 2.3 million tonnes a year<sup>14</sup>. While Islington is doing what it can to encourage a shift away from unnecessary single use plastic, urgent action is needed at a national level. Islington have supported proposals from the

---

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.londoncouncils.gov.uk/node/39485>

<sup>14</sup> <https://wrap.org.uk/taking-action/plastic-packaging>

government to introduce Extended Producer Responsibility, which will give producers of packaging materials a far greater responsibility for managing the impacts of those materials. This should lead to reductions in the quantity of plastic and other packaging materials and waste, an increase in recycling and reuse and importantly, the funding needed to support Local Authorities in collecting this material.

## Composting

### Community composting

There are around 68 separate community gardening clubs in Islington. Many of these will be actively composting on site, and reducing the waste they have collected, but many more may be in need of advice and information. In either case, we expect community gardeners to be managing these gardens so that waste is reduced and as much material is composted on site as possible to provide a source of compost and soil improver. We'll support these community gardening clubs with advice and information, access to compost bins at reduced prices and collections of excess garden waste that can't practically be managed on site.

### Home composting

We will continue to offer a range of home composting units to local residents through a trusted supplier at subsidised rates to make home composting easy and accessible for residents with gardens.

## Sharing and repairing

### Library of Things

In November 2021 we opened our first Library of Things in the Bright Sparks shop in Finsbury Park. In the first three months, over 120 items were borrowed, the equivalent of over £3,000 worth of items and more than a tonne of goods that if purchased would eventually be disposed of. A new location is being sought for this facility following the closure of Bright Sparks in November 2022. We are also committed to identifying opportunities for additional similar facilities, as well as supporting other community based reuse and exchange ideas. Each Library of Things is expected to result in up to 1,000 items borrowed each year. We will seek funding to support the opening of at least one more Library of Things as well as working in partnership with Library of Things to increase the number of borrows each year.

### Repair and reuse community cafes

Our Repair and reuse community cafes are events where attendees can bring old or damaged belongings to potentially be fixed by specialists for free and as well as learning how to repair items themselves, or where attendees can bring unwanted items, such as clothes, and swap them for other items.

As part of our Islington Greener Together festival, Islington worked with Bright Sparks, Mer-IT and Traid to deliver two repair cafes in the Angel Shopping Centre. During these events, 14 computers, laptops and electrical items and 20 pieces of clothing were repaired. More importantly, each attendee was taking an active part in repairing. Electronic equipment and textile repairs were carried out by the participants themselves with help of tutors. This is likely to result in more repairs carried out by residents independently.

We will organise six repair and reuse community cafes each year and use them to drive culture change around repair and reuse of many common items where repair can be a relatively easy DIY option but can be prevented by a lack of confidence, knowledge or correct tools. Repair and

reuse community cafes can help our residents to access a cost-free repair service and assistance so they can attempt the repairs themselves. And they can help residents swap unwanted items for other items that can be put to good use, saving money for residents.

The events will be delivered with community partners that are active in the local circular economy, showcasing their skills and services locally to further support circularity, and in local community spaces such as libraries, community centres or high street. As part of the events, there will also be volunteering opportunities for council staff and Islington's recycling champions, opportunities that will be used to spread enthusiasm about repairing and waste prevention.

The six events aim to result in at least 100 residents engaged face to face, and 100 items repaired with at least 1000 residents engaged online together with a wider increase in the awareness of and ability to repair household goods. Event feedback from attendees will help us to ensure future events are effective.

## Moving towards a circular economy

In January 2022, Islington published its Circular Economy Action Plan<sup>15</sup>, fulfilling a commitment from our first RRP. It sets out how important it is not just to recycle more in our fight against climate change, but to reduce overall consumption emissions. With two thirds of all carbon emissions resulting from the activities of Islington's residents and businesses occurring outside the Borough, from the manufacture, transport, consumption and disposal of consumer goods outside of Islington, we have to focus on reducing emissions arising outside of Islington, but as a direct result of our own spending choices and behaviour.

Our Circular Economy Action Plan sets out a range of actions, relating to our policies and strategies, buildings, transport, local economy, planning, waste reduction, reuse and recycling, and communications and engagement. The Plan will be kept under constant review, and we will publish an updated Circular Economy Action Plan by April 2024.

## Residual waste collections

The majority of Boroughs across England have found that with regular, frequent collections of both organic and recyclable material, the need for collections of what little remains on a weekly basis is reduced. In the majority of Local Authorities in England and Wales, residual waste is collected less frequently than weekly, and most Local Authorities with the highest recycling rates collect residual waste less than weekly. There is also strong evidence that collecting residual waste less frequently and limiting the amount of space available for this waste directly encourages residents to out a greater proportion of their waste for recycling and composting, leading to higher recycling rates.

This can also lead to significant savings as a result of lower levels of waste disposal and reduced vehicle movements.

In Islington we recognise that with our high density of population and limited garden spaces, there would be practical issues to be overcome and we continue to encourage residents to make full use of the recycling services available to them.

However, with only one in four homes that are offered a weekly door to door collection of food waste using the service regularly, and the need to significantly increase recycling rates and

---

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.islington.gov.uk/environment-and-energy/climate-emergency/circular-economy>

reduce the amount of waste we send for disposal, it is right to explore the feasibility of weekly collections of dry recycling and food waste with fortnightly collections of residual waste.

We have reviewed options for the separate collection of food and garden waste from each other in line with the Mayor of London's preferred approach, and have concluded that the cost of doing this does not currently justify the service change. We will continue to keep this option open in the context of the government's potential requirements around separate food waste collections, and as part of a wider ongoing operational service reviews.

## North London Waste Authority waste prevention

The NLWA works in partnership with Islington and the other constituent Boroughs to plan and deliver a range of waste prevention activities. NLWA's Residual Waste Reduction Plan for 2022-25, sets out how NLWA is supporting the waste prevention activity of the constituent boroughs through digital and outreach activities, whilst also enabling community-based organisations to develop and deliver waste reduction projects through the Waste Prevention Community Fund.

Some of these initiatives include:

- A pan-London Food Waste Campaign delivered in partnership with ReLondon, London Boroughs and London Waste Disposal Authorities to inform and empower individuals to reduce food waste.
- Business engagement in existing and new Low Plastic Zones, and a review of the project to ensure these campaigns are as effective as possible.
- A research project with schools to help understand how waste minimisation education could best be provided to increase knowledge of waste issues and waste reduction amongst school staff, pupils, and wider school community. The research was completed in August and is informing proposals for engagement and education work in schools.
- Support for the Real Nappy campaign by paying a subsidy of £54.15 per baby to parents/carers in north London who use reusable nappies rather than disposable ones. The level of subsidy reflects the saving to NLWA (and therefore the constituent Boroughs) of not having to dispose of the nappies in the waste stream.
- Developing options for reducing single use plastic period product waste.
- Not-for-profit organisations have the opportunity to apply to the Waste Prevention Community Fund of £120,000 for projects that support waste prevention in north London.
- A series of repair and upcycling events delivered across the Authority area, complementing those to be provided by Islington Council.
- The annual Waste Prevention Exchange conference will be delivered to bring together sector experts on a programme of topical waste prevention issues.
- Production of videos that show what happens to north London's waste and recycling, following items of household recycling from the home, through the recycling process, until they are turned into something new.
- Campaigns to raise awareness of and increase attendance at reuse and recycling centres.
- Campaigns to raise awareness of and increase participation in north London's reusable nappy scheme.
- The NLWA have also formalised an agreement with Bright Sparks, allowing Bright Sparks to collect reusable furniture from Hornsey Street Reuse and Recycling Centre for resale and reuse in the local community.

# Objective 1: Summary

We will

- ✓ Actively encourage more residents to recycle their food waste, while also encouraging all residents to reduce the amount of food waste they have in the first place. We will

- Deliver a costed and resourced behaviour change programme, engaging directly with residents to encourage real changes in food waste behaviours.
- Support the Pan London Sustainable Food Campaign.
- Actively promote the annual Food Waste Action Week as well as increasing the number of residents and businesses using food sharing apps such as Olio and Too Good To Go.
- Work with the Family Kitchens programme as part of Islington's adult education programme to deliver cookery courses that help participants to reduce food waste and make more sustainable and healthy food choices.
- Promote the food waste prevention message through our community outreach work, our Recycling Champions programme and through the NLWA's waste prevention programme
- Work as a member with the Circular Food Procurement working group, convened as part of London Council's One World Living Action Plan.

- ✓ Reduce the use of single use plastic in Islington and our own operations.

We will

- Support the use of the Refill App that provides the locations of free water refill points including water fountains and retailers
- Encourage the use of reusable, washable nappies to Islington

residents through our support of The Real Nappies for London reusable nappy scheme and reduce single use plastic waste from period products

- Continue to support Low Plastic Zones (subject to a review of their effectiveness)
- Promoting refill options
- Use our progressive procurement policy to reduce unnecessary single use plastic
- ✓ Support community gardening clubs through
  - Advice and information
  - Access to compost bins at reduced prices
  - Collections of excess garden waste that can't practically be managed on site
- ✓ Seek funding to support the opening of at least one more Library of Things as well as working in partnership with Library of Things to increase the number of borrows each year.
- ✓ Deliver six Repair Cafes each year
- ✓ Explore the feasibility of weekly collections of dry recycling and food waste with fortnightly collections of residual waste.
- ✓ Work in partnership with NLWA and the other constituent Boroughs to support NLWA in planning and delivering a range of waste prevention activities

So that we can

- ✓ Reduce household waste, especially food and single use plastic
- ✓ Increase levels of sharing and repairing
- ✓ Encourage more home and community composting
- ✓ Reduce emissions of GHGs from our waste and recycling operations
- ✓ Reduce the costs of collection and disposal

## Objective 2: Maximising Recycling and Reuse

**We will increase the proportion of household and commercial waste that is collected for recycling, composting or reuse, with a particular focus on increasing food waste recycling rates and helping residents on estates to recycle more.**

By increasing the proportion of waste that is recycled, we will reduce the environmental impact and the cost to the Council of the collection and disposal of these goods.

### Our recycling ambition for 2030

This Plan sets out a detailed waste reduction and recycling action plan through to 2025. But we have set an ambition to recycle 40% of household waste by 2030. We will achieve this through a combination of service changes, including improvements and expansion of services, and increased use by residents and businesses of the services that we provide. To achieve our longer term aims we will develop further robust and costed proposals which we will agree and begin to implement during the course of this Plan.

### Recycling service commitment

We're committed to providing recycling services to all our residents and other customers that meet and exceed the minimum requirements of government and the Mayor of London and provide good quality, reliable services whilst providing value for money to our residents.

### Improving recycling on estates

As part of our recycling service commitment, we aim to provide excellent recycling services for our residents in purpose-built blocks of flats and for residents in private and socially rented properties.

Our ongoing Better Recycling Sites programme has seen investment in improved estate recycling points across Islington. By increasing capacity, ensuring a regular, reliable and conveniently located service and by improving the way recycling sites look and are maintained, we aim to make it easier for residents to recycle more.

We are already investing £100k each year in improving communal recycling sites between 2021/22 and 2023/24 with extra investment earmarked. In addition, we have committed at least £600k through our Thriving Neighbourhoods Programme<sup>16</sup>, supported by an expanded Council Recycling Team to work with communities on estates to deliver more improvements to recycling facilities and increase recycling rates on estates.

And as part of budget for 2023/24, we have committed a further £2m over three years to support the transformation of recycling facilities across all of Islington Council's estates.

---

16

<https://democracy.islington.gov.uk/documents/s28129/Thriving%20Neighbourhoods%20Programme%20-%20Investment%20in%20Estates%20and%20Neighbourhoods.pdf>

As a result of this investment, starting immediately and working through to at least 2026/27, we will ensure that all estates have enough space in their recycling bins so residents can recycle at all times, that wherever possible, recycling sites for estate residents are conveniently located within the grounds of those estates, that local recycling facilities are kept to at least the Flats Recycling Package standard (see below), and that we engage with residents to help achieve higher levels of recycling on our estates.

## Flats Recycling Package<sup>17</sup>

The Flats Recycling Package ensures that good operational and communications standards are in place for recycling and rubbish services in flats. This means:

### Operational

- Clean and well-maintained bins and bin areas
- Adequate collections to prevent overflows
- Appropriate apertures on recycling bins big enough to accept plastic bags of recycling and with locked reverse lids.
- Collection of the six main recyclable materials (food and drink cans, mixed glass bottles and jars, cartons, mixed paper, cardboard, plastic pots and tubs and trays)
- Convenient location of recycling bins for residents

### Communications

- Clear and visible signage on and above the bins
- Recycling communications sent to residents at least once a year
- Posters highlighting recycling messages
- Residents informed of what they should do with large items or bulky waste (including reuse options)

The Flats Recycling Package is the result of a ground breaking trial involving Islington Council, ReLondon, Peabody Housing Trust and five other London Boroughs.

Many of our estates were built at a time when waste composition was very different in quantity and nature. Refuse chutes were incorporated into many estate buildings to enable residents to conveniently dispose of all of their unseparated rubbish. Today, waste is different. Recycling and food waste need to be collected separately from other waste. There are more bulky items in the waste stream, and the single refuse chutes present in many blocks regularly become blocked, costing money, causing inconvenience for residents and risk to caretakers who have to clear them, and posing a potential fire risk. All this can also act as a disincentive for recycling.

As part of our ongoing programme of investment in improving recycling facilities, through our routine repairs and maintenance programme on housing estates, and through investment in our new builds programme, we will review on a case by case basis, whether refuse chutes offer the best option for sustainable waste management, and whether

---

<sup>17</sup> <https://relondon.gov.uk/resources/toolkit-flats-recycling-package>

alternative recycling and refuse arrangements might help to provide better services and higher recycling rates.

## Making recycling more accessible

We have worked together with one of our suppliers of recycling containers to develop a recycling bin that is more easily accessible for residents in wheelchairs or for children. We're carrying out a review to see whether these containers help our residents to recycle more. Subject to this review, we will include bins with greater accessibility, where appropriate, into proposals for improvements to recycling sites on estates.

Figure 5 Recycling and refuse bin store, including accessible recycling bin and green roof



# Improving the quality of recycling

Figure 6 Most common contaminants found in recycling bins



We want to increase the proportion of waste that is recycled, but also the quality of recycling that is collected. If there is a significant amount of contaminants (this is material that cannot be sorted and recycled from the mixed recycling bins) in a recycling bin, it could result in the contents of the bin being disposed of.

We will continue to drive down levels of contamination in recycling bins in several ways.

## Better recycling bin design and technology

Islington has led the development of a new design of recycling lid that makes it harder to dump refuse sacks and other large items into recycling bins and reduces contamination at communal recycling sites. These bins are now used as standard.

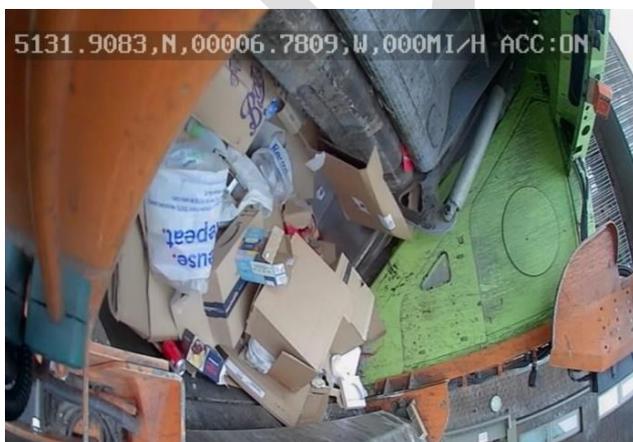


Figure 7 Cameras on recycling vehicles help to detect and prevent contamination

We are tackling contamination through direct and targeted behaviour change actions to householders where the problem occurs, and through working with caretakers and housing providers to help identify and address problems locally.

We have worked with tech companies to develop and introduced a new camera system on our recycling collection vehicles that helps to detect contamination as it enters the vehicle and trace it back to the source.

## Working with landlords

We have introduced a contaminated recycling bin policy that places a greater responsibility on landlords to ensure their residents are using their recycling sites properly. If a recycling bin on an estate contains too much non-recyclable material to be emptied as recycling, we will contact the landlord and ask them to either remove the contamination so we can collect the recycling, make their own arrangements to empty the bin, or ask Islington to empty the bin as rubbish, for which there is a collection charge. At the same time, we will place an information sticker on the bin to make residents aware, and offer the landlord help in communicating with their residents to get the recycling message across. This is helping to improve recycling on estates and increasing engagement with responsible landlords.

## Separate bins for textiles and small electrical items

Other than household rubbish, contaminated recycling bins often contain clothes, small electrical items or food waste, items that can be recycled, but not as part of the mixed household waste recycling stream. ReLondon have carried out trials that show that the presence of textile, small electrical and food waste recycling bins can help reduce the amount of these materials that are placed in mixed recycling bins. We want to increase the number of textile and small electrical recycling sites in the Borough and will work with our housing landlords, to expand our network of textile and small electrical recycling banks into estates. This will result in improved recycling facilities for our estate residents, as well as reducing levels of contamination in recycling bins.

## Separate bins for cardboard

The number of large pieces of cardboard in the waste stream has also increased as online shopping and home deliveries increase. When large pieces of cardboard are placed in recycling bins, the bins can quickly appear full and unusable for other residents. We will explore whether providing separate cardboard recycling bins next to mixed recycling bins can help to provide extra space for residents to recycle, and provide more convenient and reliable recycling services for residents.

## Space for recycling

For residents to be able to effectively separate out their recyclable waste for recycling, they need the space to be able to do it. Research shows this is one of the key reasons residents don't recycle.

We already have robust guidance to ensure that new developments provide sufficient space for recycling in new developments. The draft new Local Plan reinforces this requirement, ensuring that new developments provide space both within the home for segregation of recycling, as well as in communal bin areas.

Our Circular Economy Action Plan commits us to updating this guidance for recycling storage space as appropriate to ensure it is robust and effective.

## Expanding food waste recycling collections

### Food waste recycling collections from purpose built blocks of flats

We are expanding food waste recycling facilities to all purpose-built blocks of flats, consisting of seven households or more, where there is space to accommodate and service communal food waste recycling bins. Most suitable council owned estates already receive the service and we are extending the service to remaining private blocks and properties managed by social landlords.

We aim to provide this service to most estate properties but in some instances, blocks have proved harder to service, or there have been local issues with service provision. We aim to provide this service to all suitable properties by March 2024. Wherever the service is provided, we deliver additional or replacement food waste containers for use inside the property on request, as with other properties with a door to door service. Compostable caddy liners will continue to be available free of charge through libraries and other collection points.

### Improving recycling from flats above shops

During 2022, Islington was one of the first Local Authorities in England to offer a dedicated food waste recycling service to residents in flats above shops. The service is being offered on a trial basis to residents along Holloway Road to see if the service is practical and effective. While we are currently evaluating this trial, we are committed to providing this service to all residents in flats above shops if this is practicable and affordable and in line with any guidance expected from central government as part of its Waste and Resources Strategy. Government have also committed to providing funding to support these new services and we await the details of this promise.

We will also make it easier for residents living in flats above shops to get hold of recycling sacks, by introducing an online request and home delivery service. This will replace the current twice yearly delivery service. Residents can also continue to collect recycling bags free of charge from local libraries and other local collection points.

## Improving recycling in social and private rented accommodation

We want to ensure that all our residents have access to regular and convenient recycling collections, wherever they live or whoever their landlord is. We will continue to work with social and private landlords to provide guidance, advice and practical support to improve recycling, but we also expect landlords to take responsibility for recycling at their properties to ensure their residents can and do recycle effectively. Local Authorities are required, by law, to collect recycling from householders, and this requirement is likely to be extended to include food waste. This requirement can only be delivered fully with the cooperation of landlords.

In particular we will; provide a range of communications materials and support, including leaflets, posters and template letters to landlords to use; work with landlords to ensure the food waste recycling service is provided for their residents; require landlords to take responsibility for any non-recyclables in communal recycling bins, providing support where needed, and; if necessary, and as a last resort, use appropriate enforcement measures to

require landlords to provide adequate recycling facilities with enough capacity at their properties

## Easier access to containers for door to door recycling

We provide free recycling boxes, food waste containers and reusable garden waste bags to residents in street properties receiving a weekly door to door recycling collection.

These are available free of charge on request and residents may request as many as they reasonably need for their recycling. We aim to deliver recycling containers to residents within five days of the request.



For some properties with no storage space at the front of their property, we provide free clear recycling sacks. However, many residents prefer the recycling sacks and like to use them to provide additional capacity for storing their recycling before collection. We have made these sacks easier to collect as they are now available free of charge from our libraries. During the pandemic we also made these sacks available from a number of community centres and many estate concierge offices and we are retaining these additional collection points for recycling sacks and compostable kitchen caddy liners.

## Better recycling at our markets

Markets are an important part of local community life, and can both reflect and shape the nature of local communities. They can also be sources of large amounts of waste. We provide recycling and rubbish collection services to all our markets, but recognise that more can be done to tailor the service we provide to the nature of the individual markets and the waste they produce.

We aim to improve levels of recycling at our markets, as well as encouraging reuse and waste reduction. We will focus on Chapel Market where a project is underway to review and improve our support for this vital market. This will include improvements in recycling services for the market, including for food waste, and use the outcomes to inform the way we provide services for other markets across Islington.

Figure 8 Materials accepted at our reuse and recycling centre in Hornsey Street

 Aerosol	 Batteries	 Bikes	 Books
 Car batteries	 Cartons	 Clothes	 Cooking oil
 Crisp packets	 Expanded polystyrene	 Food tins and drinks cans	 Fridges and freezers
 Furniture	 Garden Waste	 Gas bottles	 Glass bottles and jars, mixed
 Hardcore and rubble	 Large electrical appliances	 Light bulbs	 Mattress
 Mobile phones	 Paper and card	 Plasterboard	 Plastic packaging, mixed
 Printer cartridges	 Scrap metal	 Small Electrical Appliances	 Soil and stones
 TVs and monitors	 Used engine oil	 Wood and timber	

## Recycling plastic bags and wrapping

Islington, along with all other NLWA Boroughs and most Councils across England, collect rigid plastic containers for recycling. This includes items such as plastic bottles, yogurt pots, fruit punnets and so on. Flexible plastics, such as plastic bags, cling film and especially metallised plastic used for crisp packets are harder to sort and to recycle. The government has said that it wants all Local Authorities to collect plastic bags and wrapping material for recycling by 2026-2027, and we will work with NLWA to ensure that this happens in Islington by this date, or earlier.

In the meantime, many supermarkets and retailers have started to collect plastic bags and wrapping, either in store, or in some cases as part of their home delivery service. We are actively promoting these services, but also call on all those involved in these initiatives to ensure that there is transparency around where and how this material is recycled.

## Reuse and recycling centres

Islington has one Reuse and Recycling Centre (RRC) located at Hornsey Street. It is operated by London Energy Limited under contract to the NLWA. Islington works in partnership with NLWA to ensure the site offers the best service possible to our residents and others who choose to use the site.

Mattresses and polystyrene have been added to the list of items that can be collected for recycling. NLWA are working on plans to expand this offer further, with the aim of being able to recycle carpets and hard plastics in 2023.



while other services such as Tiptapp provide convenient ways for unwanted items to be collected for disposal or reuse. Some local businesses and charities also offer collection and reuse services for good quality furniture.

Residents on estates generally dispose of their bulky waste by using communal collection points within their estate. As well as trying to recycle and reuse more of this material, we will encourage residents on estates and elsewhere to consider alternative ways of reusing or repairing their unwanted items through effective communications and signposting, as well as trying ways to share reusable items with neighbours within the estate.

Islington set up Bright Sparks in 2010 and it operated as a successful and independent reuse organisation until November 2022. We will continue to support reuse organisations and businesses in Islington including exploring whether some of the services offered by Bright Sparks can be resumed by a new organisation.

## Behaviour change to increase recycling

Across Islington, most residents have access to regular, frequent and comprehensive recycling services for a range of materials including food waste. However, while at least 60% of the household waste stream is easily recyclable, our recycling rate is currently around 31%. This means there is far greater potential for residents to recycle more using the services they receive.

Recycling rates on estates with communal recycling collections are lower than for households with weekly door to door collections (24% compared with 47%). Furthermore, a much lower proportion of food waste is recycled than of dry recyclables.

By focussing on data driven community engagement and behaviour change activities, we aim to significantly increase participation in our recycling services, particularly on estates and for food waste and increase the proportion of waste that gets recycled. We aim to deliver a programme of behaviour change, door knocking and community led engagement events that will, over time, help Islington reach its ambition of recycling 40% of household waste. Through our Net Zero Carbon Programme we have delivered a series of themed community engagement events over the course of 2022-23, to address a number of our priority areas, including waste reduction, reuse and recycling. These will help to inform our behaviour change programmes going forward, as well as providing a platform for local stakeholders to co-design future activities and campaigns.

As part of this campaign, we will seek funding to launch a recycling incentive scheme, aimed at effectively communicating key recycling messages and providing incentives to residents to recycle more.

We also know, from feedback from our residents, that there continues to be confusion about what can and cannot be recycled in Islington, as well as a lack of confidence about what happens to the recycling we collect. We support government proposals to improve labelling on packaging, and to streamline the range of materials that can be recycled. But in the meantime, we will put extra effort into communicating clear and effective information with our residents about what can be recycled, and what happens to it once we collect it.

## Recycling Champions

In 2019 we launched our Recycling Champions scheme, which encourages local residents to act as champions for recycling in Islington. Our Recycling Champions have helped out at local community events to promote recycling, delivered leaflets to local residents, promoted local in-store flexible plastics recycling schemes and provided some great ideas for improving recycling in Islington. We have also arranged for a site visit to the recycling sorting facility at Edmonton and will continue to offer these to facilities that are able to receive visitors.

We are particularly keen to have recycling champions who live on our estates to help to promote their local recycling facilities, to encourage neighbours to make better use of them, and to feedback to the Council what we need to do to improve the service. Our ambition is to have at least 200<sup>18</sup> Recycling Champions by March 2025, with representation from across our communities and housing types.

## Communicating with our communities

There are many active and vibrant community and resident groups across Islington, including voluntary, faith based and cultural organisations and schools and we will (together with our partners in NLWA) engage with these groups to raise awareness of recycling and encourage these groups to raise awareness of recycling among their communities. As well as ensuring our Recycling Champions scheme reflects our diverse communities, we will also take our Repair Cafes to community centres around the Borough to make them as accessible as possible for our communities.

## Compulsory recycling and enforcement

Islington has a compulsory recycling policy, which means that it is compulsory for residents to recycle using the recycling service we provide. The policy emphasises the need for education and encouragement before enforcement. Legislative changes have made it harder for Local Authorities to use this policy effectively in a fair and reasonable way and we will continue to encourage the government to reverse these damaging changes to legislation.

However, Local Authorities are able to require that only certain waste streams are placed in certain bins, and to only empty the container if these requirements are met. We are currently taking this approach regarding non-recyclable materials in communal recycling bins, and will explore the feasibility of applying a similar approach to residual waste containers and food waste bins.

## Parks and tree waste

We want to improve opportunities for users of our parks to recycle more, but we also need to ensure that the recycling we collect is not mixed with non-recyclable material, and especially items such as dog waste, food or used nappies. We will trial the provision of litter bins with compartments for recyclable material and if these trials are successful, we will start to provide recycling bins for parks across the Borough.

---

<sup>18</sup> Up front 70 in March 2022

We will also ensure that the compostable material from parks and tree maintenance is composted, either on site, or through local composting facilities.

## Commercial waste recycling

Our commercial recycling and waste service offers the same high quality recycling service to businesses that we offer our residents, with the same assurances about the end destinations. We are committed to offering recycling services for a range of materials, including food waste, at competitive prices that incentivise recycling over rubbish, and with service arrangements customised to suit the needs of businesses.

Our commercial recycling and waste service will offer advice on recycling solutions and ideas to meet business needs while also helping the environment and ensuring compliance with waste legislation. It aims to be the greenest in London, send no waste to landfill and be competitively priced.

During 2021 we worked with ReLondon to develop a new Commercial Waste Strategy. The Strategy identifies five long term priorities following on from the recovery of the service from the impact of Covid 19. These are:

- Maximising our recycling rate;
- Increasing our income for re-investment in the service;
- Improving our commercial waste service and customer experience;
- Engaging and educating local businesses; and
- Improving our internal knowledge and process

As a result of our new commercial waste strategy, we are committed to achieving a recycling rate for the commercial waste that we collect of 48.5% by 2024/25, with a longer term target of recycling 75% of the commercial waste we collect, including a significant increase in food waste recycling, by 2030.

To achieve these ambitions we will:

- Set and achieve recycling targets for the service, supported by sales targets for recycling;
- Expand our food waste recycling service offer and review the case for a separate glass recycling collection service;
- Ensure recycling services are more affordable than disposal;
- Introduce new bin weighing technology to support monitoring and reporting;
- Implement a robust new marketing strategy;
- Work with other teams in the council to offer package deals for our customers;
- Implement various back-office updates to help improve our customer complaints and collections processes, data capture and internal reporting;
- Continue to work with Business Improvement Districts in the borough, improving the service offering for members;
- Develop a programme of customer education on recycling and waste;
- Develop a programme of education for local businesses on commercial waste compliance, and;
- Be an active membership of the ReLondon commercial waste network.

## Objective 2: Summary

We will

- ✓ Invest in improving recycling on estates and ensure that
  - All estates have enough space in their recycling bins so residents can recycle at all times
  - Wherever possible, recycling sites for estate residents are conveniently located within the grounds of those estates
  - Local recycling facilities are kept to at least the Flats Recycling Package standard
  - We engage with residents to help achieve higher levels of recycling on our estates.
- ✓ Review on a case by case basis, whether refuse chutes offer the best option for sustainable waste management, and whether alternative recycling and refuse arrangements might help to provide better services and higher recycling rates
- ✓ Include bins with greater accessibility, where appropriate, into proposals for improvements to recycling sites on estates
- ✓ Drive down levels of contamination in recycling bins through
  - direct and targeted behaviour change actions
  - camera systems on our recycling collection vehicles
  - contaminated bin policy
  - expand our network of textile and small electrical recycling banks into estates
  - separate cardboard recycling bins next to mixed recycling bins
- ✓ Extend the food waste recycling service to remaining suitable private blocks and properties managed by social landlords
- ✓ Provide a food waste recycling service to all residents in flats above shops if this is practicable and affordable and in line with any guidance expected from central government as part of its Waste and Resources Strategy
- ✓ Make it easier for residents living in flats above shops to get hold of recycling sacks, by introducing an online request and home delivery service
- ✓ Work with social and private landlords to improve recycling. We will
  - provide a range of communications materials and support, including leaflets, posters and template letters to landlords to use;
  - work with landlords to ensure the food waste recycling service is provided for their residents;
  - require landlords to take responsibility for any non-recyclables in communal recycling bins, providing support where needed, and;
  - if necessary, and as a last resort, use appropriate enforcement measures to require landlords to provide adequate recycling facilities with enough capacity at their properties
- ✓ Improve levels of recycling at our markets, as well as encouraging reuse and waste reduction, focussing on Chapel Market
- ✓ Work with NLWA to ensure that we can collect plastic bags and wrapping material for recycling by 2026-2027 or earlier.
- ✓ Develop proposals and seek funding for a mobile reuse and recycling centre, to collect materials that cannot be recycled through the normal mixed recycling route, but which can be

- recycled with the right recycling arrangement in place
- ✓ Develop proposals and seek funding to enable us to recycle and reuse a greater proportion of the bulky household waste that we collect
  - ✓ Encourage residents on estates and elsewhere to consider alternative ways of reusing or repairing their unwanted items through effective communications and signposting.
  - ✓ We aim to deliver a programme of behaviour change, door knocking and community led engagement events that will, over time, help Islington reach its ambition of recycling 40% of household waste
  - ✓ Sign up at least 200<sup>19</sup> Recycling Champions, with representation from across our communities and housing types
  - ✓ Seek funding to launch a recycling incentive scheme
  - ✓ Review enforcement procedures in relation to communal recycling, food and residual waste bins
  - ✓ Trial the provision of litter bins with compartments for recyclable material and if these trials are successful, we will start to provide recycling bins for parks across the Borough
- ✓ Ensure that the compostable material from parks and tree maintenance is composted, either on site, or through local composting facilities
  - ✓ Implement our Commercial Waste Strategy including
    - promotion of recycling and food waste service to current and potential customers
    - delivery of process, reporting and customer experience improvements to ensure high quality service delivery
    - delivery of engagement and education activities to local businesses
- So that we can
- ✓ Improve recycling facilities for residents on estates
  - ✓ Increase household and commercial recycling rates, including for food waste
  - ✓ Raise awareness of and engagement in our recycling services across our communities
  - ✓ Make it easier for residents to recycle hard to recycle items
  - ✓ Reduce GHG emissions from our waste and recycling operations
  - ✓ Reduce waste disposal costs

---

<sup>19</sup> Up from 70 in March 2022

## Objective 3: Reducing Environmental Impact

**We will reduce the environmental impact, including greenhouse gas emissions, of our recycling and waste services, through minimising waste and increasing recycling, reducing fleet emissions and working with NLWA to deliver more efficient waste processing arrangements.**

### Reducing carbon emissions

Increasing recycling of different materials has a different impact on emissions of carbon. Of course, there are other benefits to recycling more – it saves money and avoids unnecessary depletion of resources. And reducing consumption and waste overall is the best option. But there is a clear saving in carbon emissions for recycling overall, and particularly when recycling metals (which already have a high recycling rate), textiles and electrical items (for reuse) food and plastics.

The London Environment Strategy requires Boroughs to measure the environmental impact of waste services by measuring the carbon emissions, as well as the amount of waste produced and recycled. This measurement is called the Emissions Performance Standard (EPS).

In practice, this means that while collecting and recycling material emits some greenhouse gases, recycling the collected material into a new product may result in less emissions than both disposal of that item by landfill or incineration, and of making the same items from virgin materials.

The EPS calculation takes account of all waste collection and disposal operations, from collection of waste and recycling at the doorstep, through to final disposal or recycling. We will use the EPS tool to monitor the impact of our waste and recycling operations.

By reducing levels of waste and recycling more, by moving to a net zero tailpipe emissions fleet, by working with NLWA to use a new more efficient Energy from Waste Facility and by removing what waste we can from the waste stream before disposal, Islington aims to reduce its net greenhouse gas emissions.

### Recycling and refuse fleet

Islington is committed to replacing all of their current petrol or diesel fleet vehicles with electric or alternative fuel vehicles by 2030 as per the council's Net Zero Carbon Vision 2030 commitment. This will save around 2,886 of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 2030.

We already have 4 x electric Refuse Collection Vehicles (eRCVs) within the fleet bringing an estimated total saving of 100 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per year, as well as six 7.5t electric caged tipper vehicles. We will receive a further 4-6 eRCVs to be within the fleet before the end of 2023 saving a further 150 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions each year.

All of our recycling and refuse fleet will be zero tailpipe emissions by 2030. To achieve this we will ensure that:

- all new cars and vans (less than 3.5 tonnes) will be zero emission from 2026
- all heavy goods vehicles (greater than 3.5 tonnes) will be fossil fuel-free from 2030

- no fossil fuelled vehicles of any size will be purchased after 2030

Low-emission vehicles and technology are routinely trialled before purchase and so our drivers are given the opportunity to use the vehicle in everyday work and are encouraged to feed back to the fleet and transport department on the benefits and downsides of the vehicles.

In April 2022, 15% of the council's fleet vehicles were electric with a target of 35% by 2025. 10 x HGV waste and recycling vehicles are fully electric with two of these vehicles being converted from diesel to electric within our own fleet. We will be converting another 4 x recycling RCV's by April 2023.

And of course where possible we are also avoiding the use of vehicles altogether, both by running more efficient services and using bikes, ebikes and cargo bikes for a range of services instead of cars and vans.

## New technology

To support our drive towards a zero emissions fleet, Islington is leading the way with a range of innovative technology trials and developments.

Our infrastructure upgrade at the Waste Recycling Centre is due to be completed by September 2023. This will result in approximately 75 ultra-rapid chargers being installed within the depot, supporting our move towards greater number of electric powered vehicles.

Our Vehicle to Grid trial with Moixa completed in December 2022 and is currently being evaluated. The trial aimed to demonstrate how Vehicle to Grid technology can provide a solution to potential electricity grid capacity issues.

We will seek to work with vehicle manufacturers who have vehicle to load capabilities in their vehicles resulting in a wheeled power source via a simple adaptor that plugs directly into the charger socket. So instead of power going in to charge the battery, charge is sent outwards, via the adaptor, to whatever is plugged in.

We will use solar panels as an energy source to store power either directly back to vehicles or within the battery storage system on vehicles and we will procure chargers which have bidirectional capabilities ensuring energy from vehicles can be redirected to the grid/building/equipment.

We will install smart chargers which can charge vehicles at particular times of the day or night when energy tariffs are lower and we will install fast and rapid chargers across all main council buildings by March 2024.

## Vehicle safety

All of our Council owned waste and recycling HGVs have achieved a five star Direct Vision Standard rating, measured by how much a driver can see directly through their cab windows. Safe System measures help improve the safety of our HGVs further and in line with many other Local Authorities, Islington intends to join the Driver and Vehicle

Standards Agency Earned Recognition scheme<sup>20</sup> which will ensure comprehensive oversight of Islington's continued commitment to fleet safety and maintenance compliance.

## NLWA and London Energy Limited vehicles

In addition to Islington's own fleet, we rely on the activities of NLWA to manage the waste and recycling that we collect. The vehicle fleet of NLWA's current main waste transfer, treatment and disposal contractor, London Energy Limited (LEL), and those of LEL's subcontractors are now all Ultra Low Emissions Zone (ULEZ) compliant. While it is a requirement of the main waste contract between NLWA and LEL to use Euro IV vehicles as a minimum, LEL have initiated a vehicle replacement programme to ensure vehicles comply with the ULEZ. All vehicles are now Euro VI, leading to a significant reduction in Nitrogen Oxide and Dioxide emissions.

A review is underway looking at alternative fuels for vehicles with LEL. The ambition ultimately is to have a zero-carbon emissions fleet, dependent on available technology.

The new Resource Recovery Facility (RRF) at Edmonton Ecopark will include an additional 370 solar Photo Voltaic panels. These additional panels will provide a 20% increase in total output for the whole system from 755kWp to 905kWp.

---

<sup>20</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/dvsa-earned-recognition-guidance-and-forms>

## Objective 3: Summary

We will

- ✓ Use the EPS tool to monitor the impact of our waste and recycling operations.
- ✓ All of our recycling and refuse fleet will be zero tailpipe emissions by 2030.
  - all new cars and vans (less than 3.5 tonnes) will be zero emission from 2026
  - all heavy goods vehicles (greater than 3.5 tonnes) will be fossil fuel-free from 2030
  - no fossil fuelled vehicles of any size will be purchased after 2030
  - reduce our fleet size and increase use of cargo and ebikes
- ✓ Complete the vehicle charging infrastructure upgrade at the Waste Recycling centre

- ✓ Work with vehicle manufacturers who have vehicle to load capabilities in their vehicles
- ✓ Use solar panels as an energy source to store power either directly back to vehicles or within the battery storage system on vehicles
- ✓ Install smart chargers which can charge vehicles and install fast and rapid chargers across all main council buildings
- ✓ Join the DVSA Earned Recognition Scheme

So that we can

- ✓ Eliminate net greenhouse gas emissions from our vehicles
- ✓ Improve the safety of our vehicles

## Objective 4: Maximising local waste sites

**We will work with NLWA to support the Mayor's aim of retaining the economic value of waste within London and managing London's waste within London.**

### Managing and disposing of our recycling and waste

The recycling and disposal of the recycling and waste we collect is mainly managed by the NLWA, the statutory waste disposal authority for seven north London Boroughs. The NLWA is a partnership with seven north London councils including Islington. The NLWA works with local recycling companies to sort and recycle the material we collect.

LEL operates Hornsey Street household waste recycling centre in Islington which receives most of Islington's mixed dry recycling, food waste, garden waste and residual waste. LEL also operates the energy from waste facility at the Edmonton Ecopark where Islington's waste is sent, as well as operating some other local facilities. LEL is wholly owned by the NLWA.

Islington and the other six constituent Boroughs work together with NLWA to develop new opportunities for managing waste in a more sustainable way. For example, recycling arrangements for mattresses were established during 2021 that enabled mattresses collected by the seven Boroughs, including Islington, to be recycled.

NLWA operates a sorting facility at Wembley which sorts wood, mattresses, metal, cardboard and hard-core material. Up to 10,000 tonnes per annum is processed at the site with approximately 30% of this being recovered for recycling and reuse. In addition, NLWA are developing a new treatment facility at the Edmonton Eco-Park for bulky waste and other waste streams. This is expected to process between 30,000 and 65,000 tonnes of material each year with around 30% of this being recovered for recycling and reuse.

The redevelopment of the Edmonton Ecopark will include a new RRF. This will contain a new RRC for NLWA residents able to handle approximately 8,000 tonnes of waste per annum. It will also contain a new waste reception point and transfer station that will replace the existing Bulky Waste Recycling Facility (BWRF). Both will be completed by

NLWA continues to keep under review the options for the pre-treatment of residual household waste to remove material such as plastic before entering the energy recovery facility

NLWA is developing a new contract to manage the education and visitor centre at the new RRF, due to be in place by December 2022. NLWA will also continue to work with the Boroughs to develop a new contract for the management of the state-of-the-art facilities at the Ecopark.

## Objective 4: Summary

We will

- ✓ Continue to work in partnership with NLWA and the constituent Boroughs to deliver the waste management infrastructure needed to manage the waste we collect.
- ✓ Support NLWA with the development of new treatment facility for bulky and other waste streams at Edmonton Ecopark

- ✓ Support NLWA with the development of a new Reuse and Recycling Centre at Edmonton Ecopark
- ✓ Work with NLWA to review of options for pre-treatment of residual household waste
- ✓ Support NLWA to deliver a new education and visitor centre contract

So that we can

- ✓ Manage all the waste we collect as sustainably and reliably as we can

DRAFT

# Dashboard

Performance Targets	Baseline Performance (2019/20)	Performance Target 2025/26	Metric Guidance / Data source
Total annual household waste per head (kgs/head)	227.27 kg/head pa	211.8 kg/head pa	Current RRP target. Defra stats (Ex BVPI84a)
Total annual household residual waste collected per household (kgs/household)	353.02 kg/hh pa	295.3 kg/hh pa	Current RRP target. Defra stats (Ex NI191)
Total annual household avoidable (edible) food waste (kgs/head)  Note: London TRiFOCAL Food Waste Composition Study 2017, M.E.L. Research indicated that 0.94 kg/wk/hh of avoidable waste was disposed of by Islington householders (of six London Boroughs surveyed, the average was 1.13 kg/hh/wk.  A WCS is due to be carried out by NLWA in 2022. A baseline and target will be reviewed following this study.	n/a	TBC	
Annual household waste recycling rate (% by weight)	31.6%	36%	Current RRP target. Defra stats

Performance Targets	Baseline Performance (2019/20)	Performance Target 2025/26	Metric Guidance / Data source
Annual Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste (LACMW) <sup>21</sup> recycling rate (% by weight)	20%	39%	Defra stats
Proportion (%) of properties receiving the Mayor's minimum level of service for household recycling			
% of kerbside properties (all households on a kerbside collection) collecting six main dry materials (glass, cans, paper, card, plastic bottles and mixed rigid plastics (pots, tubs and trays) <u>and separate food waste</u> )	100%	100%	Islington Council data
% of kerbside properties (all households on a kerbside collection) collecting six main dry materials (glass, cans, paper, card, plastic bottles and mixed rigid plastics (pots, tubs and trays))	100%	100%	Islington Council data
% of flats (communal collections and flats within commercial buildings, excluding flats above shops) collecting six main dry materials <u>and separate food waste</u>	52%	100%	Islington Council data
% of flats (communal collections and flats within commercial buildings, excluding flats above shops) collecting six main dry materials (glass, cans, paper, card, plastic bottles and mixed rigid plastics (pots, tubs and trays)).	100%	100%	Islington Council data
% of flats above shops collecting six main dry materials (glass, cans, paper, card, plastic bottles and mixed rigid plastics (pots, tubs and trays)) <u>and separate food waste collection</u>	3%	100%	Islington Council data

---

21 LACMW refers to household waste and business waste where collected by the local authority. See <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/local-authority-collected-waste-definition-of-terms>

Performance Targets	Baseline Performance (2019/20)	Performance Target 2025/26	Metric Guidance / Data source
% of flats above shops collecting six main dry materials (glass, cans, paper, card, plastic bottles and mixed rigid plastics (pots, tubs and trays)).	100%	100%	Islington Council data
Proportion (%) of waste fleet heavy vehicles that are ULEZ compliant	100%	100%	See <a href="http://www.tfl.gov.uk/modes/driving/ultra-low-emission-zone">www.tfl.gov.uk/modes/driving/ultra-low-emission-zone</a>
Performance of LACW activities against the Mayor's EPS (tonnes of CO <sub>2</sub> eq per tonne of waste managed).	0.005	-0.01	GLA EMS tool used ( <a href="#">Tool found here</a> )

# Summary action plan

Ref	Theme	Action title	Action Description	Expected Impact/target	Timescale for action	Cost implication	WCA/W DA
Objective 1: Waste reduction							
Isl 1	Waste reduction	<a href="#">Food waste reduction</a>	<p>Actively encourage more residents to recycle their food waste, while also encouraging all residents to reduce the amount of food waste they have in the first place.</p> <p>Deliver a costed and resourced behaviour change programme, engaging directly with residents to encourage real changes in food waste behaviours.</p> <p>Actively promote the annual Food Waste Action Week as well as increasing the number of residents and businesses using food sharing apps such as Olio and Too Good To Go.</p> <p>Work with the Family Kitchens programme as part of Islington's adult education programme to deliver cookery courses that help participants to reduce food waste and make more sustainable as well as healthy food choices.</p>	<p>Annual reduction in household food waste that isn't recycled, based on household waste sample analysis, pledges or surveys</p> <p>Annual increase in users of food sharing apps</p>	<p>By March 2025</p> <p>Food waste reduction campaign to be delivered during 2023.</p> <p>Food waste recycling behaviour change programme delivered by September 2023</p>	<p>Linked to food waste recycling campaign</p> <p>£50k from energy generation revenues at Edmonton Eco-Park.</p> <p>Additional support from NLWA.</p>	WCA/W DA

Ref	Theme	Action title	Action Description	Expected Impact/target	Timescale for action	Cost implication	WCAW DA
			<p>Through the NLWA's waste prevention programme, we will continue to reach out at community events to promote the food waste prevention message.</p> <p>Work as a member with the Circular Food Procurement working group, convened as part of London Council's One World Living Action Plan.</p>				
Isl 2	Waste reduction	<a href="#">Reduce single use plastic</a>	<p>Reduce the use of single use plastic in Islington and our own operations.</p> <p>Support the use of the Refill App that provides the locations of free water refill points including water fountains and retailers</p> <p>Encourage the use of reusable, washable nappies to Islington residents through our support of The Real Nappies for London reusable nappy scheme, and reduce plastic waste from period products</p> <p>Continue to support Low Plastic Zones (subject to a review of their effectiveness)</p> <p>Promoting refill options</p>	<p>Annual reduction in use of single use plastic that isn't recycled, based on household waste sample analysis and pledges or surveys</p> <p>15% year on year increase in redeemed vouchers based on 2021/22 baseline of (tbc September)</p> <p>Increase in number of businesses pledging to reduce their plastic waste</p>	By March 2025	None	WCA

Ref	Theme	Action title	Action Description	Expected Impact/target	Timescale for action	Cost implication	WCAW DA
			Use our progressive procurement policy to reduce unnecessary single use plastic				
Isl 3	Waste reduction	<a href="#">Support community composting</a>	Support community gardening clubs Advice and information Access to compost bins at reduced prices Collections of excess garden waste that can't practically be managed on site	Increase in number of community gardening clubs composting on site	By March 2025	None	WCA
Isl 4	Waste reduction	<a href="#">Library of Things</a>	Reopen the first Library of Things. Seek funding to support the opening at least one more Library of Things and increase the number of items borrowed	1,000 items borrowed each year	By March 2025	Approx £40k one off funding	WCA
Isl 5	Waste reduction	<a href="#">Repair Cafes</a>	Deliver six Repair Cafes during each year	Reduced consumption and increase in repair skills. 100 resident face to face engagements, 100 items repaired.  Event feedback from users to assess changes in behaviour	By March 2024	None	WCA

Ref	Theme	Action title	Action Description	Expected Impact/target	Timescale for action	Cost implication	WCA/W DA
IsI 6	Waste reduction	<a href="#">Restricting residual waste</a>	Explore the feasibility of collecting residual waste fortnightly, with weekly collections of recycling, food and garden waste	Review completed, proposals reviewed for decision	By March 2025	To be confirmed	WCA
IsI 7	Waste reduction	<a href="#">NLWA Waste Prevention Plan</a>	Work in partnership with NLWA to develop and deliver the NLWA Waste Prevention Plan	Reduction in waste arisings, monitored by NLWA	By March 2025	None	WDA
Objective 2: Maximising Recycling							
IsI 8	Maximising recycling	<a href="#">Recycling ambition for 2030</a>	Develop further robust and costed proposals for achieving a 40% recycling rate by 2030, which we will agree and begin to implement during the course of this Plan.	Proposals for achieving 40% recycling rate by 2030 agreed	By March 2025	To be confirmed	WCA
IsI 9	Maximising recycling	<a href="#">Recycling site improvements on estates</a>	Invest in improving recycling on estates and ensure that  All estates have enough space in their recycling bins so residents can recycle at all times  Wherever possible, recycling sites for estate residents are conveniently located within the grounds of those estates	2.5% increase on recycling rate  All estate sites meeting the Flats Recycling Package standard	By March 2026	£100k capital per annum allocated  At least £600k Thriving Estates programme funding	WCA

Ref	Theme	Action title	Action Description	Expected Impact/target	Timescale for action	Cost implication	WCA/W DA
			<p>Local recycling facilities are kept to at least the Flats Recycling Package standard</p> <p>We engage with residents to help achieve higher levels of recycling on our estates.</p>			£2m over three years for recycling infrastructure improvements on estates	
Isl 10	Maximising recycling	<a href="#">Recycling site improvements on estates</a>	Review on a case by case basis, whether refuse chutes offer the best option for sustainable waste management, and whether alternative recycling and refuse arrangements might help to provide better services and higher recycling rates	Increased recycling rate and resident satisfaction with services	Ongoing	Assessed case by case	WCA
Isl 11	Maximising recycling	<a href="#">Make recycling sites more accessible</a>	Include bins with greater accessibility, where appropriate, into proposals for improvements to recycling sites on estates	<p>Improve accessibility of recycling sites</p> <p>Increased number / proportion of recycling sites with accessible recycling bins</p>	By March 2025	None	WCA
Isl 12	Maximising recycling	<a href="#">Improving the quality of recycling from estates and reducing</a>	<p>Drive down levels of contamination in recycling bins</p> <p>direct and targeted behaviour change actions</p>	<p>Increase in recycling</p> <p>Aim for zero contaminated loads</p>	Ongoing	None	WCA

Ref	Theme	Action title	Action Description	Expected Impact/target	Timescale for action	Cost implication	WCAW DA
		<a href="#">contamination</a>	<p>camera systems on our recycling collection vehicles</p> <p>contaminated bin policy</p> <p>expand our network of textile and small electrical recycling banks into estates</p> <p>separate cardboard recycling bins next to mixed recycling bins</p>	<p>At least 20 new textile recycling sites on estates, collecting 30 tonnes each year in total</p> <p>At least six new small electrical recycling banks</p> <p>At least six trial sites</p> <p>Increase capacity at estate recycling sites and increase recycling rates</p>			
Isl 13	Maximising recycling	<a href="#">Food waste recycling for purpose built flats</a>	Extend the food waste recycling service to remaining suitable private blocks and properties managed by social landlords	1.5% increase in recycling rate	By March 2024	None	WCA
Isl 14	Maximising recycling	<a href="#">Food waste for flats above shops</a>	Provide a food waste recycling service to all residents in flats above shops if this is practicable and affordable and in line with any guidance expected from central government as part of its Waste and Resources Strategy	<p>0.7% increase in recycling rate</p> <p>Tonnage collected</p> <p>100% of households with a food waste recycling service</p>	By March 2025	To be confirmed and awaiting details of funding	WCA

Ref	Theme	Action title	Action Description	Expected Impact/target	Timescale for action	Cost implication	WCAW DA
						from government	
Isl 15	Maximising recycling	<a href="#">Recycling for flats above shops</a>	Make it easier for residents living in flats above shops to get hold of recycling sacks, by introducing an online request and home delivery service	Increase recycling and make recycling more convenient	By March 2025	None	WCA
Isl 16	Maximising recycling	<a href="#">Improving recycling in private rented accommodation</a>	<p>Work with social and private landlords to improve recycling:</p> <p>provide a range of communications materials and support, including leaflets, posters and template letters to landlords to use;</p> <p>work with landlords to ensure the food waste recycling service is provided for their residents;</p> <p>require landlords to take responsibility for any non-recyclables in communal recycling bins, providing support where needed, and;</p> <p>If necessary, and as a last resort, use appropriate enforcement measures to require landlords to provide adequate recycling facilities with enough capacity at their properties</p>	<p>Increase recycling rate</p> <p>Reduction in reported incidents of site contamination</p> <p>Provision of food waste recycling service to all properties</p>	By March 2025	None	WCA

Ref	Theme	Action title	Action Description	Expected Impact/target	Timescale for action	Cost implication	WCA/W DA
Isl 17	Maximising recycling	<a href="#">Recycling at markets</a>	Improve levels of recycling at our markets, as well as encouraging reuse and waste reduction, focussing on Chapel Market	Pilot project at Chapel Market completed  Proportion of market waste recycled	By March 2024	Supported by Good Growth Funding	WCA
Isl 18	Maximising recycling	<a href="#">Plastic bags and wrapping collections</a>	Work with NLWA to ensure that we can collect plastic bags and wrapping material for recycling by 2026-2027 or earlier.	1.6% increase in recycling rate	By March 2027	None	WCA/W DA
Isl 19	Maximising recycling	<a href="#">Mobile reuse and recycling centre</a>	Develop proposals and seek funding for a mobile reuse and recycling centre, to collect materials that cannot be recycled through the normal mixed recycling route, but which can be recycled with the right recycling arrangement in place	1.5% increase in recycling rate	By March 2026	Costs to be assessed	WCA/W DA
Isl 20	Maximise recycling	<a href="#">Increase reuse and recycling of bulky waste</a>	Develop proposals and seek funding so we can recycle and reuse a greater proportion of the material we collect	Increase in proportion by tonnage of collected bulky waste to be recycled or reused	By March 2025	Cost to be assessed	WCA
Isl 21	Maximise recycling	<a href="#">Increase reuse and recycling of bulky waste</a>	Encourage residents on estates and elsewhere to consider alternative ways of reusing or repairing their unwanted items through effective communications and signposting.	Increase reuse and decrease amount of waste collected	By March 2025	WCA	

Ref	Theme	Action title	Action Description	Expected Impact/target	Timescale for action	Cost implication	WCAW DA
IsI 22	Maximising recycling	<a href="#">Behaviour change</a>	Seek funding to deliver a programme of behaviour change, door knocking and community led engagement events that will, over time, help Islington reach its ambition of recycling 40% of household waste	Up to 2.5% increase in recycling rate and supports other initiatives	Ongoing Food waste recycling behaviour change programme delivered by September 2023	To be confirmed. Part funded as part of Islington's NZC programme campaign.  Food waste recycling campaign £50k from energy generation revenues at Edmonton Eco-Park.	WCA
IsI 23	Maximising recycling	<a href="#">Behaviour change – recycling champions</a>	Sign up at least 200 Recycling Champions, with representation from across our communities and housing types	Increase community engagement  200 Recycling Champions (up from 70 in March 2022), at least one third from estates and at least one third identifying	By March 2025	None	WCA

Ref	Theme	Action title	Action Description	Expected Impact/target	Timescale for action	Cost implication	WCAW DA
				as black or Asian minority ethnic  Increase number of 'actions' undertaken by Recycling Champions			
Isl 24	Maximising recycling	<a href="#">Behaviour change – incentive scheme</a>	Seek funding to launch a recycling incentive scheme	Supports overall programme to reduce waste and increase recycling	By March 2025	To be confirmed	WCA
Isl 25	Maximise recycling	<a href="#">Compulsory recycling</a>	Review enforcement procedures in relation to communal recycling, food and residual waste bins	Completed review of enforcement options	By March 2025	None	WCA
Isl 26	Maximise recycling	<a href="#">Recycling in and from parks</a>	Trial the provision of litter bins with compartments for recyclable material and if these trials are successful, we will start to provide recycling bins for parks across the Borough  Ensure that the compostable material from parks and tree maintenance is composted, either on site, or through local composting facilities	Increase recycling within parks and composting of waste from parks	By March 2025		WCA

Ref	Theme	Action title	Action Description	Expected Impact/target	Timescale for action	Cost implication	WCA/W DA
Isl 27	Maximise recycling	<a href="#">Commercial waste recycling</a>	<p>Implement our Commercial Waste Strategy including</p> <p>Promotion of recycling and food waste service to current and potential customers</p> <p>Delivery of process, reporting and customer experience improvements to ensure high quality service delivery</p> <p>Delivery of engagement and education activities to local businesses</p>	<p>Increase in % of commercial waste collected by Islington that is recycled</p> <p>Commercial recycling rate 48.5% of which</p> <p>Dry mixed recycling 19%</p> <p>Food recycling 29%</p>	By March 2025	To be confirmed	WCA
Objective 3: Reducing Environmental Impact							
Isl 28	Reduce environmental impact	<a href="#">Emissions Performance Standard</a>	Use the EPS tool to monitor the impact of our waste and recycling operations.	<p>Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from our waste and recycling service</p> <p>EPS target of -0.01 tCO2eq per tonne of managed waste and 1,068 Total tCO2eq throughout the whole waste management process</p>	March 2025	n/a	WCA/W DA

Ref	Theme	Action title	Action Description	Expected Impact/target	Timescale for action	Cost implication	WCAW DA
Isl 29	Reduce environmental impact	<a href="#">Fleet emissions – electric vehicles</a>	<p>All of our recycling and refuse fleet will be zero tailpipe emissions by 2030.</p> <p>all new cars and vans (less than 3.5 tonnes) will be zero emission from 2026</p> <p>all heavy goods vehicles (greater than 3.5 tonnes) will be fossil fuel-free from 2030</p> <p>no fossil fuelled vehicles of any size will be purchased after 2030</p>	<p>At least 4 more eRCVs (8 in total)</p> <p>At least 35% of Council fleet to be electric</p>	<p>By March 2024</p> <p>By March 2026</p>	Funded from fleet replacement budget	WCA
Isl 30	Reduce environmental impact	<a href="#">Fleet emissions – electric vehicles</a>	<p>Complete the vehicle charging infrastructure upgrade at the Waste Recycling centre</p> <p>Work with vehicle manufacturers who have vehicle to load capabilities in their vehicles</p> <p>Use solar panels as an energy source to store power either directly back to vehicles or within the battery storage system on vehicles</p> <p>Install smart chargers which can charge vehicles and install fast and rapid chargers across all main council buildings</p>	Completion of charging infrastructure project	By September 2023	Supported by £1.5m GLA Good Growth Funding	

Ref	Theme	Action title	Action Description	Expected Impact/target	Timescale for action	Cost implication	WCAW DA
Isl 31	Reduce environmental impact	<a href="#">Fleet safety</a>	Join the DVSA Earned Recognition Scheme	To support our commitment to fleet safety and compliance	By March 2025	None	WCA
Objective 4: Maximising local waste sites							
Isl 32	Maximise local waste sites	<a href="#">Waste management facilities</a>	Continue to work in partnership with NLWA and the constituent Boroughs to deliver the waste management infrastructure needed to manage the waste we collect	Increase recycling rates and provide reliable waste management facilities	Ongoing	Funding mechanisms in place	WDA
Isl 33	Maximise local waste sites	<a href="#">Waste management facilities – bulky waste pre-treatment</a>	Support NLWA with the development of new treatment facility for bulky and other waste streams at Edmonton Ecopark	Increase recycling rates 30k to 65k tonnes per annum, 30% recycling rate	By March 2025	As above	WDA
Isl 34	Maximise local waste sites	<a href="#">Reuse and Recycling Centre, Edmonton Ecopark</a>	Support NLWA with the development of a new Reuse and Recycling Centre at Edmonton Ecopark	Increase recycling rate ~8k tonnes per annum	tbc	As above	WDA

Ref	Theme	Action title	Action Description	Expected Impact/target	Timescale for action	Cost implication	WCAW DA
Isl 35	Maximise local waste sites	<a href="#">Pre-treatment of residual waste</a>	Work with NLWA to review of options for pre-treatment of residual household waste	Review complete	By March 2024	Subject to review	WDA
Isl 36	Maximise local waste sites	<a href="#">Education and visitors centre, Edmonton Ecopark</a>	Support NLWA to deliver a new education and visitor centre contract	Raise awareness of recycling and waste operations	By March 2024	Funding mechanisms in place	WDA