

Falkirk Council



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Foreword

As individuals and organisations we are becoming increasingly aware of our impact on the environment, and the need to look after the precious resources and materials we all depend on within our society. Every day, at home and at work, we acquire, use and dispose of resources. Too many of those resources end up being wasted.

Falkirk Council has already made huge progress towards sustainable waste management. The amount of waste collected has decreased over the last five years, and of the waste produced, over 50% of it is now recycled or composted. This has dramatically cut the amount of waste we have “thrown away” into landfill sites.

However we must continue to improve. Above all, we have to recognise that everything we use and throw away is a resource which has a value. We should try to preserve, capture, and use resources again wherever possible. This makes environmental and economic sense. In addition to local authority collected waste there are many other wastes produced by business in the area. This waste can be significant in quantity and value and we must strive to keep the value of these resources in our economy.

We must move from a “linear” economy where resources are used for a short time, disposed of and new resources introduced to replace those thrown away. This is inefficient and unsustainable. We need to address this through greater **resource efficiency**, where waste is minimised. We must close the loop, recycling to reuse materials again and again.

This makes business sense. It is recognised that Scottish businesses can save over £1.4 billion pounds simply by being more resource efficient. Last year the Council landfilled over 7,000 tonnes of recyclable material that could have been recycled. Landfill costs the Council over £0.5m annually in landfill tax, money which can be better used for the benefit of our communities.

The Scottish Government has set out its Zero Waste Plan which establishes a vision for a Zero Waste Society. It aims to bring a step change in the way we use resources in Scotland. The Zero Waste Plan is supported by ambitious climate change legislation including powers to tackle the climate impacts of waste, new Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012, and also a national Zero Waste Scotland delivery programme. This programme supports action by businesses, householders and local authorities to reduce waste and improve their efficient use of resources.

The Zero Waste Plan for Scotland proposes long term targets¹ of recycling 70% of all Scotland’s waste, and only 5% of all waste ending up in landfill by 2025. The Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012 include obligations to separately collect key recyclable material and food waste from businesses and households. In addition to these targets an overall waste reduction target for Scotland is being consulted upon. I believe that these targets and new obligations are ambitious but achievable aims.

A Zero Waste Society anticipates a new approach, making the most effective use of all our resources, avoiding waste and reusing resources wherever we can. It offers environmental and economic benefit with a more sustainable future that brings jobs and new ways of working. Many business opportunities lie in

¹ See Table1 for a full list of the targets in the Zero Waste Plan

recycling, reprocessing and manufacturing, through the capture of high quality materials from recycling systems.

A Zero Waste Society needs commitment and resolve from every one of us. Already in our communities people are taking action to prevent waste and use resources more efficiently. These are the champions of change and I am convinced that Falkirk Council should help lead the way, supporting those in our communities willing to take on the Zero Waste challenge. I want you to share our enthusiasm to meet, and exceed the targets, and gain the benefits for our communities from doing so.

Councillor Doctor Craig R Martin

Convenor: Environmental and Community Safety Committee

1. Introduction

This Zero Waste strategy sets out the strategic direction for waste and resources within the Council's control for a period of up to 10 years. The strategy follows consultation on a Joint Main Issues Paper prepared by Falkirk and Clackmannanshire Councils. The process for the development of the strategy included a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the proposed strategy and its impacts (based on the Joint Main Issues Paper), culminating in the publishing of an Environmental Report. The comments received from the consultation, and the recommendations from the Environmental Report, have been incorporated into the final strategy where possible. This process was supported by Zero Waste Scotland.

The need for the strategy has arisen from the creation of a new national policy framework for waste. Waste is primarily a devolved matter and therefore the national policy framework is set by the Scottish Government; within the wider European Union policy context. The new national policy is contained in a Zero Waste Plan, launched in June 2010 by the Scottish Government.

Since publication, Scotland's Zero Waste Plan has been further supported by the Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012, the launch of a consultation on *Safeguarding of Scotland's Resources - a programme for the efficient use of materials*, and a Zero Waste Scotland (ZWS) delivery programme supporting its implementation. There has also been a range of supporting guidance produced including statutory guidance on the implementation of the Waste Hierarchy, new guidance on the Duty of Care, and a Kerbside Good Practice Guide for waste collections aimed primarily at local authorities.

Scotland's Zero Waste Plan introduced a step change in the thinking and approach to waste within Scotland. The focus has moved away from addressing municipal waste through avoiding landfill, to the more ambitious aim of moving towards a zero waste, resource efficient society. This suggests that the creation of waste should be avoided. However once created, waste should be considered as a valuable material resource that needs to be brought back into use within the Scottish economy at its highest level of value. This can be achieved via "closed loop" recycling processes, for example where glass bottles are recycled locally to make raw material for new glass bottles.

The Council's strategy reflects this change in direction and seeks to maximise the benefits this can bring to the local economy and the environment. The next sections of this strategy set out the background to the strategy including the history of the previous waste management plans implemented by the Council, performance to date, and the scope of the new strategy.

The key drivers shaping this Zero Waste strategy from European to local level, the financial drivers, and the tools available to the Council are also explained.

This strategy focuses on the main challenges ahead on the path to zero waste and sets out policy objectives and actions to address these. These challenges have been identified in seven key issues:

- The climate change impacts of waste
- Preventing waste and improving resource efficiency
- Providing leadership on moving to a zero waste society and engaging with householders and businesses to help them achieve this

- Optimising the Council's Waste Services for the future
- Maximising the economic benefit of the path to a zero waste society
- Ensuring we have the correct resources and waste management infrastructure
- The management of non–recyclable waste

The final section of the strategy explains how progress on its implementation will be monitored and actions updated.

2. Executive Summary

Background

This Zero Waste Strategy replaces the Council's previous waste strategies which were the Forth Valley Area Waste Plan (2003) and the Forth Valley Strategic Outline Case (2006).

The Council has now implemented the majority of the actions agreed within these previous plans. The main drivers for this strategy are the new obligations arising from the European Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC revised, the publication of Scotland's Zero Waste Plan (2010) and the supporting Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012.

Performance to date

Currently the Council is one of the top performers for recycling with a rate of 53.1% for the period April 2011 – March 2012 (Local Authority Collected Waste). This compares to the latest Scottish local authority average of 38.2%² published by SEPA for the period 2010/11.

The Council has successfully undertaken a range of waste prevention actions and in recent years the total waste arising has peaked. However the most recent waste analysis for the Council shows that a significant proportion of recyclates are still being placed in Green wheeled bins as non-recyclable waste and ending up in landfill. In fact up to 50% of the material found in the Green wheeled bins is recyclable. Whilst the Council has performed well it is clear more needs to be done to ensure recyclable material is separated for collection and onward recycling.

Scope of the new strategy

The new strategy covers "all" waste collected and produced by the Council, rather than just municipal waste. It summarises current arrangements for waste management and sets out the actions that will be necessary for the Council to move towards the vision for a zerowaste society over a period of up to 10 years. The strategy will guide future decision-making by the Council and successful delivery will require the engagement of all key stakeholders. This includes the support of a wide range of Council services, Community Planning Partners, the Scottish Government, Zero Waste Scotland, the community, businesses and householders.

The Council has become a top waste management performer in Scotland and a continuation of this high level of performance is expected by local communities and key stakeholders. However the next steps in the zero waste journey will be very challenging. Budget constraints, increasing costs associated with transport and landfill tax, and ensuring that householders and businesses continue to receive quality and efficient services regardless of their rural or urban location will present significant challenges.

² SEPA Waste Data – Local Authority Collected Waste reporting
http://www.sepa.org.uk/waste/waste_data/waste_data_reports/lacw_reporting/lacmw_summary_reports.aspx

The Main Issues to be addressed by the strategy

The policy objectives for each of the Main Issues identified in the Introduction to the strategy are set out below. These will be used by the Council to set the strategic direction for waste related issues and to help our communities progress along on the path towards a zero waste society.

These policy objectives are covered in more detail in the main body of the strategy and this is where associated actions for each Main Issue are also identified. For explanations of terminology and the details of current services please refer to the Glossary and Appendix 1.

Tackling Climate Change:

1. Minimise the environmental and climate change impacts from waste management activities.
2. Use the national Carbon Metric, Waste Hierarchy, and other relevant carbon accounting tools for decision making purposes.

Preventing Waste:

1. To champion waste minimisation within the community thereby reducing costs to the Council, households, and the business sector, and limiting the environmental impact of waste.
2. To work with the Scottish Government, Zero Waste Scotland and waste producers to reduce the amount of waste created.

Leadership and Engagement:

1. Future Council policies, strategies and plans should recognise the new zero waste national policy framework.
2. The Council will continue to maximise the opportunities to attract funding to further support zero waste projects.
3. The Council should continue to develop beneficial service opportunities with other councils and Zero Waste Scotland, as well as private and third sector partners.
4. The Council will encourage, and support, Community Planning Partners and other key organisations in the area to adopt Zero Waste principles.
5. The Council will lead by example by continuing to promote a Zero Waste approach and raise awareness of the need to address waste related issues within its communities.

Optimising Services:

1. To meet or exceed the targets set in Scotland's Zero Waste Plan (set out in Table 1).
2. To ensure that the Council's waste collection services deliver Best Value and the Best Practical Environmental Option to comply with the Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012 and Kerbside Good Practice Guidance.

3. To maximise the capture rate, quality and value of material collected in line with the Waste Hierarchy.

Maximising Economic Benefit from Zero Waste:

1. Maximise the value of waste by minimising the amount of low value non-recyclable waste, and ensuring that waste is collected and reused/recycled/composted to achieve its highest economic value possible.
2. To seek to maximise, where appropriate, the local economic benefit from the Council's procurement processes for waste services and support the inclusion of recycled or reused content where practical in supplier specifications.
3. Encourage investment in Zero Waste opportunities in the Council area.

Improving Waste and Resource Management Infrastructure:

1. To continue the Proximity and Self Sufficiency Principles applied to waste management within the Council area.
2. The Council's economic development and planning functions should prioritise waste prevention over reuse and recycling, wherever possible, to minimise overall infrastructure requirements.
3. To use the Council's influence, planning, and economic development policies to encourage the right mix of waste infrastructure is developed to meet future targets, focusing upon high value reprocessing and recycling opportunities.

Managing Non-Recyclable Waste (Residual Waste):

1. To minimise the amount of non-recyclable waste requiring treatment in line with the Waste Hierarchy.
2. To adopt a policy of zero waste going directly to landfill, i.e. any non-recyclable waste must be treated to extract any remaining value before the residual element is landfilled.
3. Continue the policy of a flexible approach to the procurement of residual waste treatment, utilising short to medium term contracts to ensure that the Council can respond to future changes in regulation and taxation.
4. To reduce the environmental impact from the Council's waste management legacy sites where practical and feasible.

3. Background

3.1 The Council's Waste Management Plans

The Council's previous strategy was the Forth Valley Area Waste Plan (2003) and the Forth Valley Strategic Outline Case (2006). These joint plans with Stirling Council & Clackmannanshire Council sought to reduce the amount of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) going to landfill and, in particular, to achieve European Union Landfill Directive (1999/31/EC) targets to reduce Biodegradable Municipal Waste (BMW) material being landfilled.

The Forth Valley Area Waste Plan (AWP) was aligned to the National Waste Plan (2003) and focused on implementing the Best Practical Environmental Option (BPEO), with a range of recycling and waste prevention measures to reduce waste production and the amount of waste going to landfill. The BPEO was supported by funding from the national Strategic Waste Fund (SWF). The Council successfully implemented the plan's targets and actions, and many of the principles are still relevant today. However the introduction of the Scottish Government's Zero Waste Plan in 2010, brought a focus on all waste rather than just Municipal Waste.

The Forth Valley Strategic Outline Case (SOC) in 2006 detailed how the Council intended to meet the long term EU Landfill Directive targets up to 2020. The Scottish Executive provided funding for a range of extra recycling collections and encouraged the Forth Valley Councils to work with Fife and Perth & Kinross in a joint procurement of a non-recyclable waste treatment facility. This work was superseded by the new 'Zero Waste' approach in January 2008, which signalled the abandonment of large scale non-recyclable waste treatment solutions and affirmed the earlier Forth Valley BPEO approach.

The Forth Valley Councils have focused on waste prevention action, maximising recycle & organic waste capture, before finally considering non-recyclable waste treatment. Therefore this new Zero Waste Strategy is a further, evolution of the Council's approach.

3.2 Performance to date

Currently Falkirk is one of the top performers for recycling/composting within Scotland's 32 local authorities with a rate of 54.2% for the period April 2011 – March 2012³ for Household waste.

In April 2011 the national recycling/composting performance measurement changed to measure Household waste only and the Commercial waste collected by Councils has now been excluded. This change has been made to bring Scotland's performance measurement into line with EU requirements.

The long term trend in performance for the Council, recorded using SEPA data, is shown in Chart 1 below. The chart shows what method was used to manage the total waste collected and it includes Household and Commercial waste in order to show the long term trend.

³ SEPA Waste Data Flow Annual summary

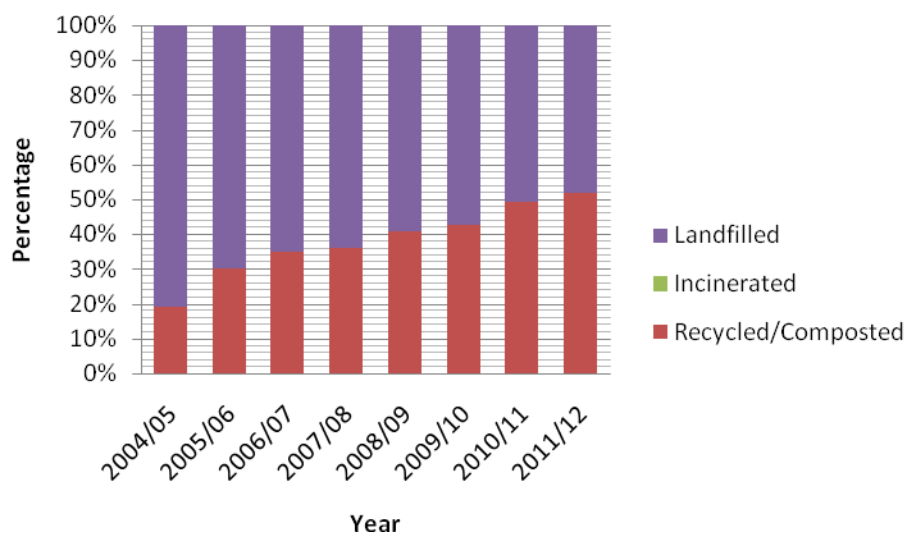
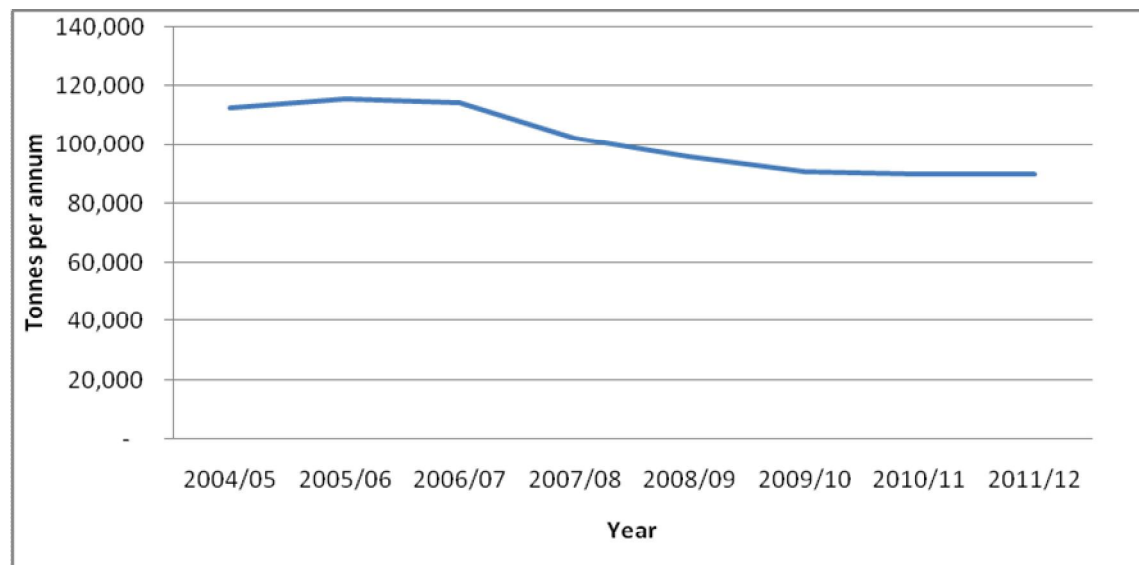
Chart 1 – Falkirk Council Recycling Performance (Local Authority Collected Waste)

Chart 2 below show the total waste arising that was collected by the Council. During the time period shown in the chart the total waste arising collected peaked. This was in the 2005/06 year at 115,257 tonnes. Thereafter the total waste declined to 90,309 tonnes in year 2011/12. This represents a reduction of 22% and compares very favourably to an average reduction of 8.6% for Scotland's local authorities as a whole during the period 2004/05 to 2010/11 (derived from SEPA annual reports for all 32 Councils⁴).

⁴ SEPA Waste Data – Local Authority Collected Waste reporting
http://www.sepa.org.uk/waste/waste_data/waste_data_reports/lacw_reporting/lacmw_summary_reports.aspx

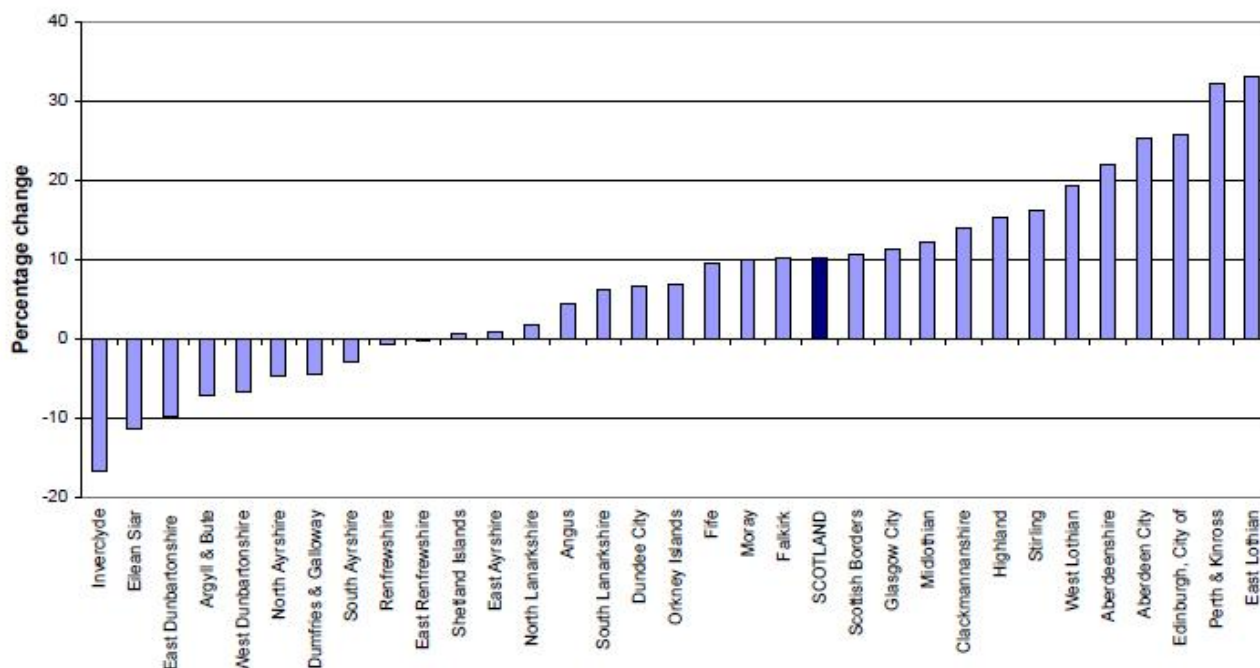
Chart 2 – Falkirk Council Waste Arising (Local Authority Collected Waste)

The total waste arising in the Council area has been affected by a range of factors such as changes in population, the number of households, and the economic downturn. Waste arising can be reduced by waste prevention actions, such as the use of light weight packaging, greater levels of home composting, reductions in “junk” mail, and when waste material avoids the Council’s waste collection systems altogether, for example when clothes are donated directly to charity shops for reuse.

While the Council has successfully undertaken a range of waste prevention actions it is unclear whether the downward trend of waste arising will continue. It is unclear how much of the downward trend over the last five years is a result of the economic downturn or how much is long term change due to the waste prevention actions taken by the Council and national bodies such as Zero Waste Scotland.

Perhaps the most significant drivers of the increase in the total waste arising are population and household growth. The most recent projections, using 2010 National Records of Scotland population projections, are that Falkirk’s population will grow by 10.1% between 2010 and 2033 from 153,280 to 168,688.⁵ This matches an expected 10.2% increase in Scotland’s population as a whole. Chart 3 below shows the predicted population changes for all Council areas.

⁵ Sourced from Scottish Population Projections for Scottish Areas 2010-based, published 29 February 2012

Chart 3 – Project percentage change in population (2010 based) by Council area 2010-2035

The Scottish Government predicts that on average the number of households will increase by 23% across all Council areas in the period of 2010-2035⁶. The trend in the growth of household numbers is driven by more adults living alone, which is generally accompanied by an increase in waste production per capita. Research suggests that the average person living alone will produce twice as much waste as a person living in a household which has five or six people⁷.

Given the above average projections for household and population growth it will be challenging for the Council to halt or reverse growth in total waste arising in the short term, especially if there is also an upturn in economic growth. For this reason it may be best to focus upon measuring future performance in terms of the kilograms of waste produced per household per annum, rather than the total waste arising.

3.3 Waste Composition

Periodic analysis of non-recycled waste, often referred to as “black bag waste”, is undertaken by the Council with assistance from Zero Waste Scotland. This analysis helps to establish what materials are not being recycled and enables the targeting of communication to help reduce the amount of recyclable material that is mistakenly treated as non-recyclable waste by householders and businesses. It also assists in the design and planning of processes for the collection and treatment of the waste.

The most recent analysis for the Council area in 2010/11 shows that a significant proportion of recyclable waste is still being placed in Green bins as non-recyclable waste, ending up in landfill. For example the analysis showed that, despite the paper and card collection offered via the Blue Bin service in Falkirk, around 14% of the waste by weight in Green bins is recyclable paper and card. Across the area this is equivalent to 4,945 tonnes of paper and card unnecessarily landfilled per year.

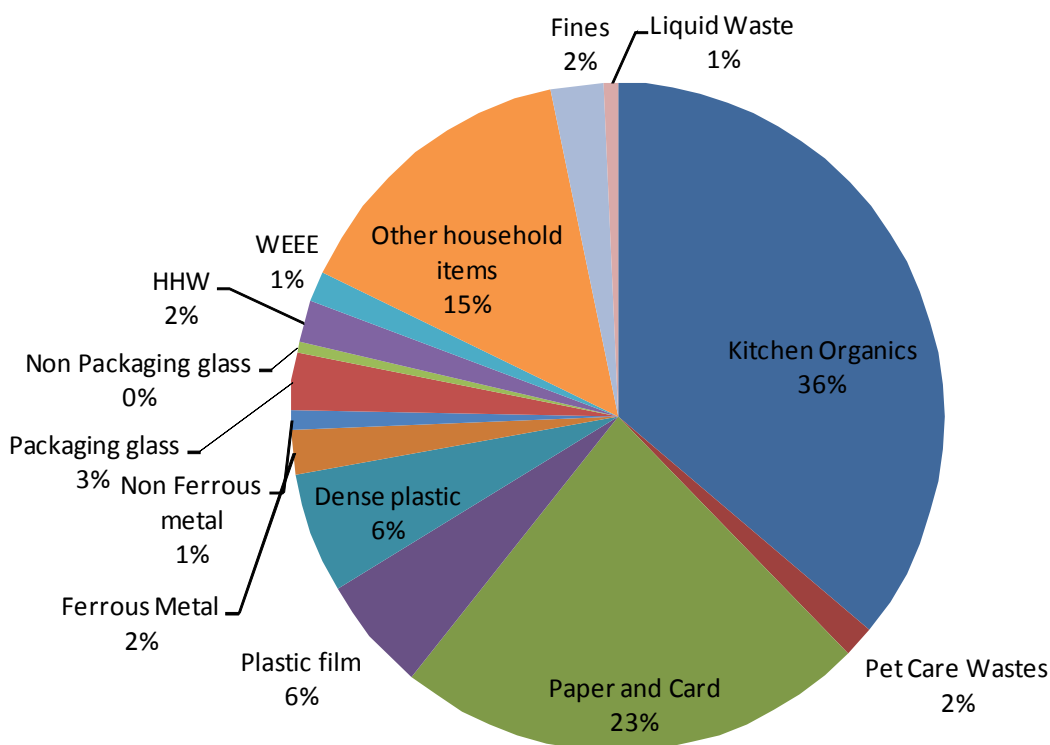
⁶ National Records of Scotland, Household Projections for Scotland 2010-based, Published on 14 June 2012

⁷ The Open University Household Waste Study, Factsheet No 2, Factors which influence Household Waste Generation, October 2008

Chart 4 below shows the percentage breakdown for each material identified in the Council’s waste analysis.

Chart 4 – Falkirk Waste Analysis 2010/11*

Sample Analysis of Non-Recycled Waste



* The “Other household items” category includes a range of waste items including textiles, shoes, nappies, furniture and rubble. HHW is Household Hazardous Waste which includes batteries, light bulbs and hazardous chemicals. WEEE is Waste Electronic and Electrical Equipment and “Fines” are small pieces of waste that are not able to be identified for sorting into any of the other categories.

It is clear that there is still more to be done to ensure recyclable and compostable material is appropriately separated for collection and onward recycling.

During 2010/11 Zero Waste Scotland funded the Council to undertake a study into the Impact of Targeted Campaigns on Kerbside Recycling and Residual Waste Arising. This showed that targeted advice and encouragement could reduce the amount of recyclates and food waste in non-recycled waste. In the longer term it is recognised that greater education and awareness to promote waste sorting used in tandem with appropriate enforcement measures will be required to achieve future recycling targets and reduce waste management costs.

The Council is committed to further Waste Composition studies to monitor performance figures to measure its progress on the path to zero waste and inform its service design and planning.

Householder non-participation with the Council’s recycling initiatives is the single greatest threat to meeting future targets and can severely limit the cost effectiveness of the service provided. It should be recognised

that apart from general waste awareness campaigns, and targeted intervention to improve material capture rates, participation is essential on both environmental and economic grounds.

3.4 Scope of the New Strategy

In line with the new national policy the strategy will address “all” waste arising in the Council area rather than just municipal waste. However it is noted that information on commercial and industrial waste in the Council area is currently limited and so this hinders target setting. It is hoped that this issue will be addressed in the medium term by the actions contained in the Waste Data Strategy published by SEPA. This also means that all waste collected by the Council (and the waste it produces itself) will be within the scope of the strategy. The strategy summarises current arrangements for waste management and sets out the actions that will be necessary for the Council to move towards the vision of a zerowaste society over a period of 10 years.

The new Strategy will be used to guide future decision-making by the Council, mapping out a way forward in terms of:

- achieving national recycling and composting targets;
- initiatives to control waste arising and waste growth;
- potential partnership arrangements, economic and community benefits;
- determining the way forward for the procurement of residual waste treatment;
- determining future resource implications for waste management;
- determining the gaps in infrastructure.

The successful delivery of the Strategy will require involvement, consultation and engagement across all sectors. This includes the support of other services across the Council, as well as Community Planning Partners, Scottish Government, Zero Waste Scotland, the community sector, businesses and householders.

4. Key Drivers

4.1 The European Context

The European Union (EU) has established a number of Directives aimed at harmonising waste policies throughout Europe, guaranteeing environmental protection and supporting economic growth through resource efficiency. The following EU directives have strongly influenced national waste management policy and have led to the introduction of several new pieces of national legislation.

The Waste Framework Directive

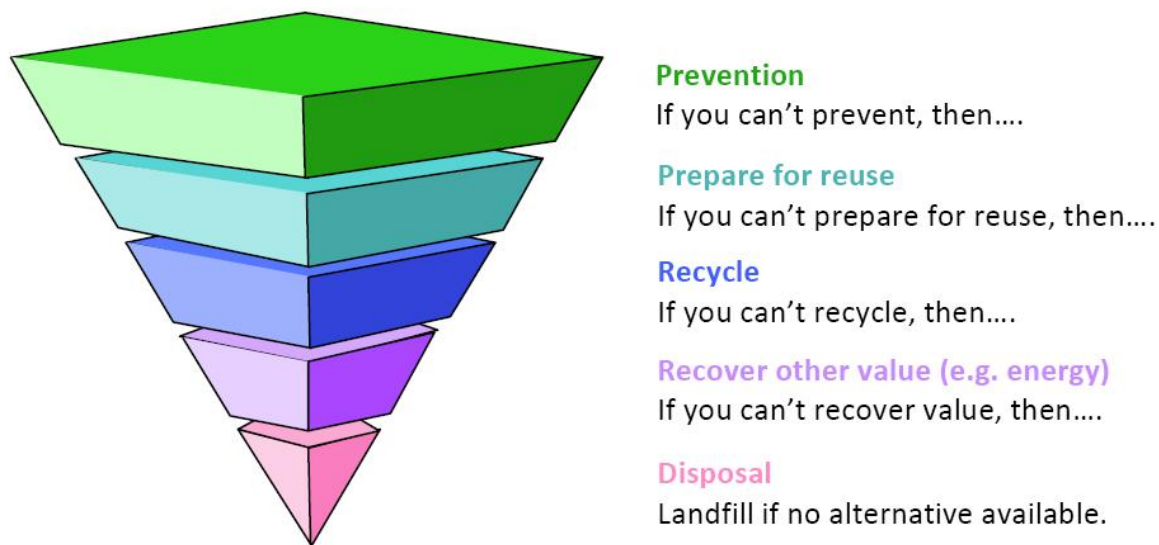
In December 2008, the revised Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC came into force. This provides the overarching structure for waste policy and legislation across EU member states. It introduced the first EU wide recycling targets. By 2020 Member States must:

- ***reuse or recycle 50 per cent of household waste (this includes composting of organic wastes)***
- ***reuse, recycle or recover 70 per cent of non-hazardous construction & demolition waste.***
- **produce a Waste Prevention Plan and to have a National Waste Management Plan (NWMP) in place.**

Scotland's Zero Waste Plan sets the national policy structure to implement the Directive in Scotland. The Scottish Government has recently consulted on a new programme, *Safeguarding Scotland's Resources – A Programme for the Efficient Use of Our Materials*, which will form the basis of a national Waste Prevention Plan.

The rWFD has reaffirmed the waste hierarchy as a core policy principle. Figure 1 below shows a depiction of the waste hierarchy with the most preferred solution for waste being the top [Prevention] segment of the pyramid and the bottom [Disposal] segment being the least preferred solution.

Figure 1 – The Waste Hierarchy⁸



The Waste Management Licensing (Scotland) Regulations 2011 translates the rWFD into Scots law. Schedule 4 provides a statutory duty on local authorities to implement the waste hierarchy. The government is proposing to issue further guidance on this duty and how it may be discharged. Local authorities will have to ensure that recyclates and compostable material collected are directed to the highest value use in order to comply with this guidance. This will have implications for the design of future collection systems and enforcement as new material standards are required to be met. Councils will also be required to show how they have complied with the hierarchy in a Biannual Statement. This will be linked to the Council's Climate Change reporting framework.

The Landfill Directive

The Landfill Directive (1999/31/EC) requires a progressive reduction in the landfilling of biodegradable municipal waste (BMW) and the pre-treatment of wastes before landfilling, in order to reduce waste volume and minimise the environmental impact of disposal. The Landfill Directive sets targets and timescales for reducing the amount of biodegradable municipal waste (BMW) sent to landfill. For the UK these are as follows:

- **75% of 1995 levels by 2010**
- **50% of 1995 levels by 2013**
- **35% of 1995 levels by 2020**

Prior to the rWFD the Landfill Directive was the prime driver for national policy. To help implement the targets in the Directive the Landfill Allowance Scheme (LAS) was developed to manage individual BMW targets for each Council in Scotland.

⁸ Waste Hierarchy Diagram extracted from the Scottish Governments Policy Statement, Zero Waste Regulations, October 2011

The overall impact of this target regime on local authorities has been diluted due to the UK definition of Municipal Waste being broadened to also include waste collected by private waste management companies. The Directive's targets have also now been overtaken by Scotland's Zero Waste Plan and the Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012. These will ban biodegradable material going to landfill completely. This means that the Council will no longer be required to comply with the LAS in the future.

Other targeted Directives

There are a range of European Directives that target particular materials and will place obligations on the producers of those materials. Producer Responsibility schemes, such as those for End of Life Vehicles (ELVs), Waste Electrical & Electronic Equipment (WEEE), and Batteries will all impact in some way upon the Council's waste management activities and increasingly on the activities of manufacturers in the area.

4.2 The National Context

The Scottish Government use the structure set by EU policy and the associated Directives to provide a national framework for the regulation of waste. The key components are:

Scotland's Zero Waste Plan

The Zero Waste Plan for Scotland was published in June 2010 setting a new vision for how waste will be managed in the future. The Zero Waste Plan proposes that discarded materials are treated as a resource rather than a waste, and introduces a range of radical new measures that go further than the rWFD, including:

- landfill bans for specific waste types, such as organics, aiming to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and capturing their value as a resource for the economy;
- mandatory separate collections of specific waste types, including food (to avoid contaminating other materials and ensure high quality recyclates for reprocessing) and commercial collections;
- new targets that will apply to all waste, a 70% recycling target and a maximum of 5% sent to landfill, both by 2025;
- restrictions on the material input to all energy from waste (EfW) facilities with mandatory extraction of dense plastics and metals prior to treatment;
- development of a Waste Prevention Programme for all wastes, making prevention and reuse central to actions and policies;
- measuring the carbon impacts of waste using a Carbon Metric to prioritise the recycling of resources which offer the greatest environmental and climate change mitigation benefits.

The key targets are set out in Table 1 below.

Table 1 – Zero Waste Plan Targets⁹

Target/Cap	Year	Derivation
40% recycling/composting and preparing for re-use of waste from households.	2010	Scottish Government target.
No more than 2.7 million tonnes of biodegradable municipal waste to be sent to landfill.	2010	Article 5(2) of the EU Landfill Directive.
50% recycling/composting and preparing for re-use of waste from households	2013	Scottish Government target.
The preparing for re-use and the recycling of 50% by weight of waste materials such as paper, metal, plastic and glass from household waste and similar.	2020	Article 11(2)a of the EU Waste Framework Directive.
No more than 1.8 million tonnes of biodegradable municipal waste to be sent to landfill.	2013	Article 5(2) of the EU Landfill Directive.
60% recycling/composting and preparing for re-use of waste from households.	2020	Scottish Government target.
No more than 1.26 million tonnes of biodegradable municipal waste to be sent to landfill.	2020	Article 5(2) of the EU Landfill Directive.
70% recycling and preparing for re-use of construction and demolition waste.	2020	Article 11(2)(b) of the revised EU Waste Framework Directive.
No more than 5% of all waste to go to landfill.	2025	Scottish Government target
70% recycling/composting and preparing for re-use of all waste by 2025.	2025	Scottish Government target.

⁹ Scotland's Zero Waste Plan, Annex A - Zero Waste Targets and Data Needs page 20, June 2011

Also flowing from the actions in the Zero Waste Plan are a range of new regulations and associated plans /programmes; the key ones are covered below.

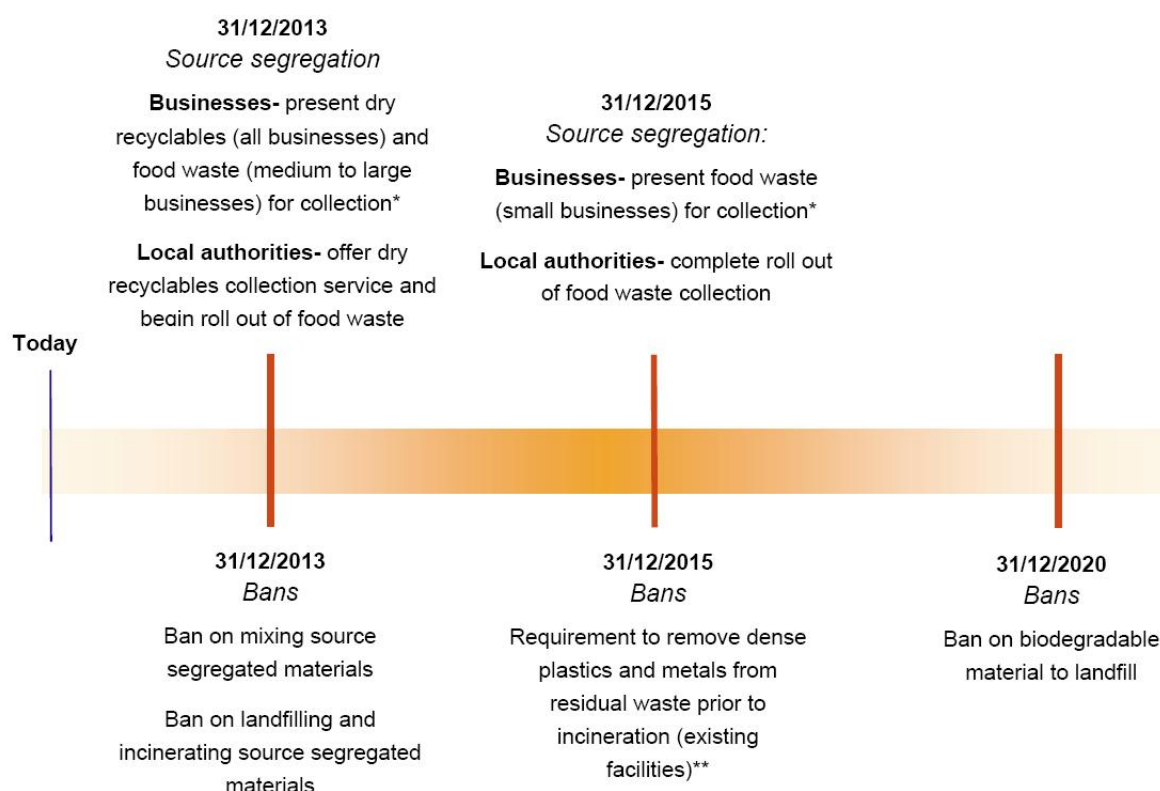
Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012

These regulations are designed to help support the implementation of the Zero Waste Plan. The regulations will implement the landfill bans and recycle/food waste separate collection requirements proposed in the Zero Waste Plan and introduce:

- the requirement for local authorities to offer separate collection of glass, metals, plastics, paper, card, and food waste to householders and businesses in their area;
- the **mandatory** separation of recyclates and food waste by businesses and other organisations;
- a biannual report for local authorities, developed in partnership with CoSLA, to build understanding and trust with the public on waste management within their area.

The timeline for the proposed bans and separation requirements is set out in Figure 2 below.

Figure 2 – Timeline for Separate Collections and Landfill Bans¹⁰



* Applies to businesses involved in food production, food retail or food preparation

** For new facilities, this requirement will come into effect on commencement of the regulations

Other Guidance

¹⁰Extracted from the Scottish Governments Policy Statement, Zero Waste Regulations, October 2011

Further guidance has been issued by the Scottish Government in addition to the 2012 regulations. This includes:

- the application of the Waste Hierarchy for collections and waste treatment to ensure the quality of recycle material is maintained, and in particular how commingled recycle collections should comply with its requirements;
- the Duty of Care to support the new regulations;
- a Kerbside Good Practice Guide to ensure waste collections use the best practice approach.

The government will develop further quality standards or codes of practice for recycling if required and at the time of publication is consulting on a Quality Action Plan for the operation of Material Recycling Facilities (MRFs).

Carbon Metric

The Carbon Metric is a new system for measuring the carbon performance of waste management methods. Under the new system, tonnage diversion levels will be weighted by applying a 'carbon factor' to the materials collected. This takes into account the environmental benefits of recycling materials compared to sending them to landfill. It uses the carbon dioxide emissions saved as a "proxy" for the wider environmental impact of waste. This is believed to be the first attempt anywhere in the world to apply climate change weightings to waste management performance measurement.

The new system will help to prioritise the materials and waste management options needed to reach the target for 70% recycling by 2025. In particular it will prioritise materials with a high carbon impact such as plastics, which currently have relatively low levels of recycling in Scotland.

The Metric is focused on recycling impacts, although a separate Carbon Metric may also be developed for reuse impacts in the future. The Carbon Metric will be reported on a national basis.

Safeguarding Scotland's Resources

The government's proposed Waste Prevention Plan, *Safeguarding Scotland's Resources* has been consulted upon in 2012. It is proposed at this point that this will set targets for the reduction in total waste arising for Scotland (15% reduction in total waste arising by 2025) as well as introducing a range of new waste prevention & resource efficiency actions or obligations. In addition it could also pave the way for the introduction of greater use of Scottish specific Producer Responsibility and voluntary waste reduction agreements within various industry sectors. This may have the beneficial impact of reducing the quantity of waste that has to be collected by the Council. The *Safeguarding Scotland's Resources* consultation also includes a more joined up and targeted support programme for businesses to help them improve their resource efficiency.

Producer Responsibility

In the UK targets exist for the recycling and recovery of packaging waste as part of Producer Responsibility Regulations i.e. the producers of the material pay for the cost of collection and recovery of the waste from their product; this cost is ultimately paid for by consumers purchasing the product. With few exceptions most of the costs currently associated with collecting and recycling waste falls upon local authorities. A

recent report for the Scottish Government found that many manufacturer/producer companies relied on local authorities providing waste collection and sorting services, and therefore at the moment tax-payers are supporting waste producers. The introduction of measures to address this situation and extend producer responsibility to the benefit of council tax payers therefore makes sense.

Linked to producer responsibility obligations is the possible introduction of Deposit Return Schemes and Reverse Vending in Scotland. Such schemes provide consumers with a small payment or loyalty reward for the return of containers such as plastic/glass bottles and cans. If such schemes were introduced and adopted by mainstream retailers in Scotland the amount of this kind of material being collected by the Council in recycle collections could decrease significantly, as well as reducing the levels of this type of material in litter. A further proposed measure that could reduce litter and resource use is the complete ban on single use carrier bags, or the introduction of a carrier bag charge at point of sale.

This potential decline in recycle materials collected is expected to occur with other waste materials such as textiles. As the international market price for used clothes rises more businesses are expected to offer cash for used clothes, and so we can expect this material to decline in the waste stream as householders are encouraged to sell their unwanted clothes.

Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009

Waste issues are a significant element of the Climate Change Act. Over the last ten years there have been major reductions in emissions from the waste sector due to the reduced landfilling of biodegradable waste. Continued improvement to reduce emissions will be more challenging as landfill becomes a smaller element of the solution to waste.

Chapter 5 of the Act contains provisions which enable Scottish Ministers to make regulations relating to the acquisition of accurate information about waste, and the promotion of waste reduction and recycling by different methods. There are a range of other provisions including targets for the reduction of packaging, and for the introduction of Deposit and Return Schemes, as well as charges for the supply of carrier bags.

Depending upon future implementation these have the potential to impact upon the Council's waste management services. In addition Part 4 of the Climate Change Act applies duties to public bodies to make decisions that will further the aims of the Act.

“A public body must, in exercising its functions, act in the way best calculated to contribute to the delivery of the targets set in... this Act.”

Section 44 of the Act places three climate change duties on public bodies in Scotland and contains powers to enable Scottish Ministers to create further duties. The current duties on require that a public body must act:

- in the way best calculated to contribute to the emissions reduction targets;
- in the way best calculated to deliver any statutory adaptation programme; and
- in a way that it considers most sustainable.

4.3 The Local Context

The Council faces significant challenges in the development of a zero waste policy during a difficult financial and economic context. It is anticipated that the economic downturn and its effects of public finances will take many years to resolve. The Council's new Corporate Plan 2012-17 (indicates that it is likely that there

will be real terms grant cuts during that period. The Plan recognises the challenges this presents and that the Council must work as *One Council*, in an integrated and targeted manner to meet the needs of its communities and ensure that best value is maintained in its service provision. In particular the Plan recognises the need to achieve carbon reduction and move towards zero waste.

The Council has a duty to provide Best Value, a duty to comply with Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012, a duty to meet the requirements of the Climate Change Act and now also a requirement to comply with the Waste Hierarchy and the subsequent guidance issued on it. Some of these public duties have potential to conflict, e.g. the requirement to collect food waste by virtue of the Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012, increases the level of service at a time of severe budget restrictions and may appear to conflict with the Best Value duty. However in practice best value requires the Council to discharge its duties, in a way which contributes to the achievement of sustainable development. The separation of food waste has social, economic and environmental benefits that will outweigh the short term economic issues and therefore can be justified as providing best value.

The Council has made significant progress in recycling its waste and has been at the forefront of initiatives to move towards zero waste. It now faces challenges to make a significant push towards zero waste and must do so in the face of the financial, economic and demographic pressures. It must help prepare households for the additional measures that will be necessary. Local recycling campaigns have been very well received and successful in gaining the support of householders and these must be sustained. The Council must also work in partnership with local business, preparing them for the additional measures that will be required to reduce, re-use and recycle. This may present opportunities for some local businesses and, where feasible, it will be important to assist business to exploit this potential.

4.4 Financial Drivers

Clearly the financial drivers for the strategy are critical to its success. The projected constraints to Council budgets coincides with increased costs for landfill, thus reinforcing the financial drive towards recycling. The landfill tax escalator increases the standard rate of landfill tax by £8 per tonne per annum until April 2014 when Landfill Tax will reach £80 per tonne. In comparison, the average cost of disposal by landfill, known as the 'gate fee' is currently around £18 per tonne¹¹. This charge compares with alternatives to landfill for non-recyclable waste: £79 estimated for Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT); and £82 for incineration (a form of Energy from Waste - EfW).

Funding provided by the Scottish Government through the Revenue Support Grant makes no provision for increasing landfill tax costs to local authorities, therefore this places an increasing expenditure pressure on the Council. It reinforces the need to reduce materials going into the waste stream and ensure where possible that material collected is recycled or composted. Audit Scotland's local authority performance indicators¹² show that the average net cost of Waste Collection & Disposal per premise for Scotland's 32 local authorities rose by 11% over the last 4 years (from £147.93 in 2008/09 to £164.26 in 2011/12). This is despite reducing waste quantities and the increasing percentage of material recycled or composted during that period.

¹¹ WRAP Gate Fees Report 2012 (landfill rate for Scotland, average MBT rate, and average post 2000 facilities EfW rate).

¹² Derived from Audit Scotland Local Authority Performance Indicator 23 (2011/12 and 210/11)

4.5 Tools for the Council to achieve Zero Waste

Whilst the challenges above are many, the Council has been highly successful in meeting past challenges in relation to sustainable waste management. Councils have a range of tools at their disposal to meet the new challenges and Falkirk Council has adopted many of these. The tools are:

- Waste collection services offered to householders and businesses.
- Education and awareness activities, including waste prevention messages for householders, businesses, schools, and the Council's staff.
- Minimising Council produced waste and managing what is produced in line with best practice.
- Using regulatory powers in an enforcement role and to reinforce the "polluter pays" principle to achieve compliance with its waste and recycling services.
- Embedding Zero Waste Policy into Council activities including procurement functions.
- Planning Policy – encouraging new investment in the area which provides the correct mix of new resource management infrastructure.
- Economic Development Support– targeting the Council's services and partnerships in this area to assist local businesses to move towards zero waste, managing their waste issues and investing appropriately in the waste sector.
- Attracting grant funding - targeting funding support for Zero Waste Projects and embedding appropriate zero waste criteria in all grant funding.
- Community Planning – demonstrating clear leadership on Zero Waste that enables others to follow and gain the benefits and embedding Zero Waste targets in the Single Outcome Agreement
- Partnership working with other Councils, the third sector, and businesses to create opportunities with environmental and/or economic benefits around waste management.

5. Main Issues addressed by the Strategy

Flowing from the drivers and challenges identified above a range of Main Issues have been identified and for each of these a number of policy objectives and actions are set out.

Issue 1 - Climate Change

The creation and management of waste is a major contributor to climate change and the impact of waste management may be greater than many other energy related emissions under the control of the Council. Local authorities do not directly control waste production but they can exert some influence on it.

The release of methane, which is 24 times more potent than carbon dioxide as a Green House Gas (GHG), is a major contributor to climate change. Methane emissions to the atmosphere originating from landfill sites are being reduced through increased recycling and composting, treatment of non-recyclable waste and a Waste (Scotland) Regulation ban on organic waste going to landfill sites.

It is anticipated that over time, the emphasis of performance monitoring on waste management will move from the current, simple, waste tonnage measurement approach to one where performance is based more on overall Climate Change impact. As a result there will be greater emphasis on the recycling of waste materials that have a high embedded carbon impact and which score highly on the Carbon Metric; examples of these materials are metals, plastics and textiles. This will require the Council to be adaptable and flexible as it focuses its collection efforts on capturing a high percentage of these materials within the mix of recyclates in order to meet the 70% target.

The reporting of the climate change emissions and the impact from waste reduction measures will also be included in the Council's corporate performance reporting including its Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy.

At the same time, in order to comply with the public duty under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009, emissions from the transport and collection of waste will need to be tackled through the efficient design of any new collections and the procurement of efficient vehicles. The Act also aims to encourage greater levels of recycling away from the home and workplace through "Recycling on the Go". In practice this means providing the opportunity to recycle materials in public places such as high streets, shopping centres and other public venues – a measure strongly supported by a survey of Falkirk residents. This ensures that waste is treated as a resource in all locations and reinforces the behaviour change required by all of us to achieve a Zero Waste Society.

Tackling Climate Change

Policy Objectives:

1. Minimise the environmental and climate change impacts from waste management activities.
2. Use the national Carbon Metric, Waste Hierarchy, and other relevant carbon accounting tools for decision making purposes.

The actions are:

1. Design and implement Council waste related services to address the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 (CCA) duty to reduce the overall emissions from waste operations. Complete by December 2014.
2. Encourage measures for the recycling of waste materials that have a high embedded carbon impact.
3. Ensure the ongoing procurement of more efficient vehicles and measure the changes in performance. This will be incorporated into annual progress reporting.
4. Support the development of new “Recycling on the Go” infrastructure by the Council, Town Centre Management organisations and interested stakeholders based on the best practice guidance from Zero Waste Scotland. Complete a network of sites for the Council area by December 2017 with first sites introduced in 2013.

Issue 2 – Preventing Waste

Household waste is the main component of the waste collected by the Council and has shown a declining trend. However with the significant projected growth in population and an increasing number of households towards 2025 this situation is unlikely to continue, assuming these growth projections materialise.

The Scottish Government has met its initial target of the stabilisation in waste growth by 2010. It is expected that future waste reduction targets will be set as part of the Safeguarding Scotland's Resources programme. A 15% reduction in total waste arising is proposed for 2025.

Previous waste growth estimates prepared for the 2003 Area Waste Plan suggested a 1.5% per annum growth in total waste arising in the medium to long term; although the total waste arising has stabilised across Scotland in 2010. In light of these previous estimates, and given the limited tools available to the Council to prevent waste, it would be logical to set a waste arising reduction target based on waste per household, as well as an overall tonnage figure.

The Council has supported a wide range of waste prevention and resource efficiency actions including: targeted education provided to schools, support for EcoSchools projects; funding and promotion of advice/support for Home Composting, Reusable Nappies and Mail Preference (junk mail) activities; and an extensive public awareness campaign.

Support for further actions will continue. A key area will be to encourage local businesses to arrange take back schemes for material they have a producer responsibility for, such as waste electrical equipment, batteries and packaging.

Preventing Waste

Policy objectives:

1. To champion waste minimisation within the community thereby reducing costs to the Council, households, and the business sector and limiting the environmental impact of waste.
2. To work with the Scottish Government, Zero Waste Scotland and waste producers to reduce the amount of waste created.

The actions are:

1. Set a total waste arising reduction target, on a per household basis, after considering the actions and targets proposed in the Safeguarding Scotland's Resources Programme. This target should be set by December 2013 using the baseline identified by the Safeguarding Scotland's Resources Programme.
2. Support the Scottish Government's efforts on improved producer responsibility obligations for Scotland, including reducing the burden on the Council.
3. Support greater levels of reuse for targeted materials through the design of the Council's waste management services. Targeted "reuse" materials and products to be identified and a Reuse Action Plan, (including training and employment opportunities, to be developed by December 2013.
4. To exert influence on suppliers and external stakeholders to adopt waste reduction targets and zero waste principles, for example by encouraging greater use of Site Waste Management Plans for new construction projects or promoting business sector "zero waste pledges". To be implemented through the Community Planning Partnership, and supplementary planning guidance by December 2014.
5. Improved signposting for local businesses to Resource Efficient Scotland and the Scottish Energy and Resource Efficiency Service (SERES) , through the Council's waste services, business support, and regulatory functions, in order to assist local businesses reduce the amount of waste they generate and implement the Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012. This will be in place by September 2013.
6. Ensure that the future design and procurement of collection services and recycling/reprocessing services is fully compliant with the waste hierarchy guidance, maximises the quality and value of the collected material, and encourages "closed loop" recycling markets where possible.

Issue 3 - Leadership and Engagement on Waste & Resource Use

The Council will continue to show leadership to its community, as it did when the Area Waste Plan was first launched and the first recycling systems were introduced to households. This new Strategy promotes a further step change with a new drive towards the creation of Zero Waste communities with a recognition that waste materials are valuable resources. Key to the strategy's success will be action taken by the Council to reduce the waste it produces and to support communities and businesses to tackle all waste issues – to reduce, reuse and recycle.

Leading by Example

The Council cannot expect householders and businesses to commit to the drive towards Zero Waste without its services leading the way. The Zero Waste Strategy will steer Council policy and be embraced by all services. This is in the context of the statutory duties imposed by the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009, Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012 and the statutory guidance on the Waste Hierarchy. Key functions where action plans to meet the new obligations will be required include: Building Maintenance, Facilities and Estates, Architects & Design, Procurement, and Catering Services.

In addition to new obligations to separate waste there are a range of good practice agreements that Council services can adopt and the Council will work closely with Zero Waste Scotland to introduce these measures. For example the “half waste to landfill” commitment is relevant to building maintenance and architects/design functions and offers hands on support to help implement good practice on waste and reduce costs. New voluntary agreements may soon extend to other sectors to help these functions comply with the new Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012 and gain the associated economic benefits. The adoption of these agreements by the Council, supported by Zero Waste Scotland, will help encourage local business to follow a similar path and lead to economic and environmental benefits while reducing costs. These actions will further support the Council's commitment to reduce greenhouse gases under the Scottish Climate Change Declaration. There are also changes planned for procurement processes arising from the Government's Procurement Reform Bill. Table 2 below summarises the main impacts on the Council's own services.

Linking to Other Plans and Strategies

The Zero Waste strategy connects strongly with the Council's corporate planning framework including related strategies, policies and plans on Local Development, Litter, Procurement, Sustainable Development, Climate Change, Service Plans and Outcome Agreements, as well as the Zero Waste Plan at a national level, to ensure they incorporate the zero waste objectives and help contribute towards a Zero Waste Society. Incorporation of zero waste policies in Service Plans will assist in mainstreaming the Council's approach across its services.

Table 2 –Assessment of the impact of Zero Waste on Council services.

Council Function	Waste Reduction Targets	Food Waste Collection	Separate collection for recyclates	Changes to Contract Specification	Voluntary Commitment
Waste Collection	High	High	High	Medium	Medium
Schools	Medium	High	High	Medium	High
Facilities Management	Low	High	High	Medium	Medium
Architects & Design	High	Low	Low	High	High
Building Maintenance	High	Low	High	High	High
Roads Maintenance	High	Low	Medium	High	Medium
Catering Services	Medium	High	High	Low	High
Grounds Maintenance	Medium	Low	High	Medium	Low
Procurement	Medium	Low	Low	High	High
Economic Development	Medium	High	High	Medium	High

In addition to the table above there will also be a requirement to update the Supplementary Planning Guidance in relation to, amongst other things, the requirements for waste storage space in new housing and commercial development. Ensuring properly designed waste storage and access at the planning stage of new build, or change of use, prevents future problems of nuisance, such as bins on street, and helps assist compliance with the Waste Hierarchy and Waste (Scotland) regulations 2012.

Support to Local Communities

Local authorities can support local communities to take action through funding projects and providing advice and guidance. The Council facilitates Zero Waste volunteer schemes within the community and staff from the Council provide guidance and advice on resource management issues to the business sector.

Funding for community led projects has become more restricted as a result of the constraints on public expenditure in recent years. The Council has its own grant programmes, and in addition, under the Landfill Communities Fund (LCF) scheme a proportion of the Council's landfill tax is refunded to the Falkirk Environment Trust (FET). Currently, under HMRC rules, the funds from the Trust are restricted to particular categories of projects. These are targeted at general improvement of the physical environment, for example category *OBJECT D: The provision, maintenance or improvement of a public park or other general public amenity*. As previously this funding cannot be directly invested in recycling or waste prevention schemes.

Trusts currently claim 6.2% of the Council's landfill tax payments (HMRC rules). This gives the Council's landfill contract operators, Avondale Environmental Ltd a 90% tax credit on this proportion of the tax. The refunded payments on the Council's tax may be supplemented by landfill tax contributions from other users of local landfill sites. However under the new Zero Waste Plan target regime; landfill disposal will drop to 5% of waste arising by 2025. Avondale Environmental Ltd.'s new Material Recovery Facility may cause landfill rates to drop at a much faster rate as residual waste is recovered and non-recyclable waste is turned into a refuse derived fuel (RDF) for use in energy from waste (EfW) facilities. This will in turn reduce landfill tax payments.

Under proposals in the Scotland Bill, landfill tax will be devolved to the Scottish Government by 2015. While landfill is expected to decline significantly, several other European countries have taxes on other waste treatments such as EfW as well as landfill; this is to further encourage waste prevention, reuse and recycling in preference to energy recovery. Therefore, it is possible, depending on the approach taken by the Scottish Government in the future, that this area of taxation could raise substantial revenue for local communities.

With the new national policy emphasis on Zero Waste, grant schemes and Environmental Trust contributions could be further encouraged to support projects targeted at achieving Zero Waste Communities. This approach could utilise the principles of leverage to access other sources of funding.

Leadership and Engagement

Policy objectives:

1. Council policies, strategies and plans should recognise the new zero waste national policy framework.
2. The Council will continue to maximise the opportunities to attract funding to further support zero waste projects.
3. The Council will continue to develop beneficial service opportunities with other councils and Zero Waste Scotland, as well as private and third sector partners.
4. The Council will encourage and support Community Planning Partners and other key organisations in the area to adopt Zero Waste principles.
5. The Council will lead by example by continuing to promote a Zero Waste approach and raise awareness of the need to address waste related issues within its communities and with businesses.

The actions are:

1. Adopt a Zero Waste Strategy.
2. The Council will continue to facilitate volunteering within their communities in tandem with the ZWS volunteer programme. This will be an ongoing action.

3. Set service waste reduction targets. This should be in place by December 2013.
4. The Council will collaborate with, and coordinate where appropriate, relevant grant funding schemes, including the Landfill Tax Trust, to ensure that their funding programmes and criteria reflect the move towards Zero Waste targets and where possible there is targeted support for zero waste projects. A scoping study of funding schemes and the changes required, including the possibility of further grant funding for community projects being derived from Council landfill tax savings will be completed.
5. The Council will encourage the Scottish Government to provide landfill tax revenue to zero waste projects under any new landfill tax regime post 2015. This should be actioned via the Council's response to any future consultations on this issue.
6. The Council will adopt a common approach on the new policy and regulation framework with Zero Waste Scotland, SEPA, and the Scottish Government to ensure consistent messages are given to all businesses and other stakeholders on the major zero waste changes ahead. This will be an ongoing action.
7. To maintain a high level of awareness of the key zero waste issues amongst businesses, schools, and householders through the use of a wider range of electronic media, innovative approaches, and face to face engagement. This will be an ongoing action.
8. Update Supplementary Planning Guidance relating to waste storage and access matters for all planning applications and business developments to take account of Waste Hierarchy and Kerbside Good Practice guidance. To be completed by December 2013.
9. Adopt relevant Zero Waste Scotland Voluntary Agreements to reduce waste produced from the Council, for example the *Half Waste to Landfill* commitment for Building Maintenance, Construction contracts and Design functions; and the *Hospitality and Food Service Voluntary* agreement for catering and events functions.
10. Ensure appropriate enforcement action is taken where powers exist on littering and flytipping offences to maintain high environmental standards and prevent environmental damage. This will be an ongoing action with progress reported annually.
11. Review and amend where appropriate the licensing process for Street Traders and Public Entertainment to ensure compliance with the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 and Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012.

Issue 4 - Optimising Services for the Future

The collection services for recyclates and organic material will require to be significantly altered in order to meet the new national targets set out Scotland's Zero Waste Plan and the requirements of the Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012. This change will require additional resources to implement and operate new services. Table 3 below summarises the factors influencing on the Council's waste services.

Table 3 – Factors Impacting on Collection Services

Drivers for Change	Impact on Council collections
Mandatory food waste collection - Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Food waste collections require to be provided to householders and businesses - additional resources of manpower, vehicles and containers. ➤ The capture of food waste separately will mean the non-recyclable waste element, Green Bin material, becomes a much smaller fraction of the collection service. This will necessitate a redesign of services to take account of this change. ➤ The costs of collections will increase in the short term as the additional services are rolled out.
New material quality and collection standards Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012, Kerbside Good Practice Guide and forthcoming Quality Action Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A key range of recyclates must be collected to ensure compliance. ➤ Some materials may require to be collected differently to optimise their use in high value reprocessing opportunities e.g. food waste. ➤ Contamination of Blue Bin recyclates will have to be minimised to ensure compliance with material quality standards. ➤ Greater use of education will be required to achieve the reduced contamination levels and high participation levels. Enforcement may need to be considered to reach the targets required. ➤ Material collected for recycling or composting must be used for that purpose due to the prohibition from landfilling separately collected waste. The non-recyclable waste (Green Bin) collection can no longer be treated as the priority collection over recyclable collections as Blue Bins will fill up quicker e.g. during disruption from severe weather events.
Compliance with Waste Hierarchy and Carbon Metric measure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The collection of materials will have to be organised in a way that ensures they can be used for the highest value purpose e.g. glass collected separately to enable re-melt rather than collected mixed. ➤ Collections will need to focus on capturing the materials with the greatest Carbon Metric impact, while minimising transport emissions.
Zero Waste Plan targets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Recyclable material incorrectly placed in the non-recyclable (Green Bin) must be reduced to near zero to ensure future targets are met. ➤ Greater use of targeted intervention and enforcement powers and will be required to reduce the loss rate for recyclable material.
Best Value	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Greater use of intervention / education effort and (where necessary) enforcement powers will be required to reduce the cost of recyclates lost in non-recyclable waste collections.

The Redesign of Collection Services

The Council is required to introduce Food Waste Collections for households in line with the Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012. This is a significant addition to the current collection services and the new collection will require some time to become established. Good progress has been made in the roll-out of this service. The

Regulations will also require the Council to change their commercial waste services to provide separate recycling and food waste collections for commercial premises.

It should be noted that, in recent waste analysis sampling, food waste was found to be more than one third of the mixed non-recyclable waste in household Green Bins. The removal of this food waste material through the new collection service means that the volume and weight of material in the average Green Bin is reducing substantially.

In Best Value terms it may no longer be justified to maintain the current capacity or frequency of the existing Green Bin collection service, except for special cases where householders needs are such that specific exemptions would apply, for example on medical grounds. For these special cases appropriately safeguarded capacity and frequency of services would be provided by bespoke arrangements.

Reducing the frequency or volume of the non-recyclable waste collection (Green Bin) can increase recyclate captured by up to a third by incentivising householders to use the correct collection container. This process has already been successfully implemented by the Council when they moved to a fortnightly collection for non-recycled material. The introduction of food waste collection requires a further change because the majority of household waste material will have been removed from the Green bin to the Blue bin, Black box and Food Waste collections.

The new obligations on the Council, at time of general budget contraction, means that opportunities for savings are limited. However opportunities to use existing budgets to greater effect in an “invest to save” approach by increasing participation and reducing contamination will reduce costs. Incentivising householders and businesses to use the correct waste containers and by adjusting collection frequencies and container capacities could help offset cost increases. Approximately 7,000 tonnes of recyclable material is not being recycled by households. If recycled successfully this represents £525,000 per annum of potential savings in landfill tax alone.

Material quality is now fundamental to ensuring that collected materials can be recycled. New material quality and collection standards are being developed for recyclate collections as part of a new national policy framework; this includes national guidance on the Waste Hierarchy and Kerbside Good Practice being developed by Zero Waste Scotland, the Scottish Government and SEPA. The Council must ensure it can meet these standards in the future or risk being unable to have collected material reprocessed.

To ensure the quality of collected material the Council will have to take robust action to reduce contamination of bins by householders and businesses. In addition, the design of collection systems will require that high quality materials are captured at every stage; for example glass should be collected by colour so that it can be used for “closed loop” re-melt recycling rather than low grade use in aggregate displacement. The Council will need to strengthen its current approach to contamination by continuing to improve information to householders through a variety of means in a comprehensive awareness campaign.

Use of enforcement action to secure high participation and quality recyclate material will likely become a necessity, albeit an action (i) of last resort taken after extensive advice and intervention has failed or (ii) in situations where there is refusal to comply with recycling services. This may include treating recyclates in the Green Bin as contamination.

Improved Customer Engagement – Customer Charter

The requirement to develop more extensive collection services to meet the new targets and regulations, plus the need to ensure local residents fully utilise the collection systems and minimise any contamination, will result in increased expectations on both the Council and from householders & businesses. A clear statement of expectations is therefore a sensible way to address this issue and a Customer Charter is proposed.

This Charter will clearly explain the expectations of, and duties upon, the Council and what residents and businesses can expect from the Council in terms of service standards. The Charter will be required to achieve the correct balance between meeting Council obligations and the needs of householders & businesses and their responsibilities for their waste.

WRAP has developed a Waste Collection Commitment¹³ for householders and Zero Waste Scotland has a Voluntary Collection Commitment under development for Business Recycling and Waste Services that may be used as a baseline for the development of this Charter.

The Charter, associated service information, and reporting, will inform householders and businesses of the “waste journey” and end destination for the material they have recycled in order to ensure confidence in the system.

Optimising Services

Policy objectives:

1. To meet or exceed the targets set in Scotland’s Zero Waste Plan (set out in Table 1).
2. To ensure that the Council’s waste collection services deliver Best Value and the Best Practical Environmental Option to comply with the Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012 and Kerbside Good Practice Guidance.
3. To maximise the capture rate, quality and value of material collected in line with the Waste Hierarchy.

The actions are:

1. Conduct periodic service reviews of all household and business collections, to ensure that the high quality of recycle/compostable material collected is maintained or moved up the Waste Hierarchy. First review to report in 2013 with implementation to be completed by the end of 2015.
2. The development of a Customer Charter explaining our service standards and the expectations and requirements upon householders & businesses. Charter to be completed and implemented by July 2015.
3. Following the introduction of the Waste (Scotland) Regulations, ensure that charging for commercial waste, operates in a way that complies with the forthcoming Voluntary Commitment

¹³ Obtainable via the WRAP website at http://www.wrap.org.uk/local_authorities/waste_commitment.html

in this area. Review charging regime and implement any necessary changes by the end of 2015.

4. Development of a contamination and enforcement protocol/intervention policy for all collection bins and boxes.
5. To incentivise communities to move to zero waste, investigate the potential to return to the community, in part, some of future savings achieved from increased participation and reduced contamination following major service changes.

Issue 5 - Maximising the Economic Benefit from Zero Waste

In addition to the “invest to save” approach proposed in the review of waste collections there are a range of partnership opportunities available involving neighbouring Councils that should be further developed and explored. These include joint education and awareness campaigns, the continuation of joint procurement (for waste services), potential for shared waste collections particularly with regard to food waste, commercial waste, and shared bulky uplift services. Partnership opportunities also include working closely with the Scottish Government, Zero Waste Scotland and Community Planning partners to further share the zero waste vision.

The impact of the new zero waste regime on businesses will be significant. Many will benefit from reduced costs but they may also require help to implement the changes. A new Resource Efficient Scotland business support programme will be created in April 2013 which will help businesses become aware of and implement their obligations under the Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012. It is important that the Council alerts local business to the provision of the waste regulations and their implications for their operations. Action via the Council’s business support team and other regulatory functions will be necessary to communicate the effects of these changes. Partnerships with local business through the Falkirk Business Panel, town centre management and other business networks will be important in communicating and promoting collaborative measures. Specific sectoral initiatives will be important to meet the needs of the area’s businesses in key sectors such as food manufacturing, chemicals, retailing or tourism.

It is anticipated that a move towards a more resource efficient, zero waste community will bring forward some additional employment opportunities. The waste sector is already a major employer in the area with significant infrastructure established by companies such as Avondale Environmental. Further opportunities to develop measures to generate employment through zero waste will be investigated through the course of the strategy’s implementation.

The Council can use its own purchasing powers to influence the practice of its suppliers and to promote zero waste. It has implemented its procurement policies successfully to include community benefits clauses which gain added benefits in jobs, training and local purchasing. It is proposed that zero waste measures be introduced to add to the economic benefits being gained.

Maximising Economic Benefit from Zero Waste

Policy objectives:

1. Maximise the economic value of waste generated by minimising the amount of low value non-recyclable waste, and ensuring that waste is collected and reused/recycled/composted to achieve its highest economic value possible.
2. To seek to maximise, where appropriate, the local economic benefit from the Council’s procurement processes.
3. Encourage investment in Zero Waste opportunities in the Council area.

The actions are:

1. Use the Council’s influence to boost economic activity and reduce the costs to businesses of zero

waste through working in partnership with Business Gateway, Scottish Enterprise, Zero Waste Scotland and existing mechanisms e.g. Falkirk Business Panel, the Forth Valley Resource Efficiency Partnership and Business Improvement Districts. This will be an ongoing action.

2. Falkirk and its neighbouring Councils should continue to work together on a range of joint working opportunities. This will be an ongoing action with progress reported annually.
3. Provide guidance and support for the Council's commercial collection customers to help them through the implementation of the Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012. Information and advice provided from 2013 to the end of 2015 during the implementation period of the Regulations.
4. Support and encourage the development of collaborative local solutions through for example: Business Improvement Districts (BIDs), joint procurement models and other relevant schemes. This will be an ongoing action with progress reported annually.
5. Establish policies through the Council's procurement services to support the inclusion of recycled or reused content measures where practical in supplier specifications (by end 2013).
6. Consider further joint Council waste contracts to achieve opportunities from larger volumes which may support local innovation, infrastructure and economies of scale. This will be an ongoing action with progress reported annually.
7. Economic development strategies should incorporate the opportunities from Zero Waste and should examine the specific needs for the area's key sectors. To be implemented at its next revision.

Issue 6 – Improving Waste and Resource Management Infrastructure

The move towards a Zero Waste Society will require a range of infrastructure and facilities to ensure that future targets can be met. The existing local infrastructure and largely that across Scotland has been focused on landfill, with levels of recycling & composting lower than necessary to achieving the Zero Waste targets. As we move closer towards zero waste no further landfill capacity can be envisaged as being required in the Falkirk Council area. As more and more recycle material is returned to use within the economy there will be a greater need for the expansion of reprocessing facilities, high quality recycle sorting & bulking facilities, and treatment facilities for non-recyclable waste. The higher value of materials treated through recycling and reprocessing facilities will ensure greater economic benefit to communities and a key focus for the future will be to capture that economic benefit for the Council area. The paragraph below summaries this situation with an example:

“One of the key growth sectors is the reprocessing industry. As new material becomes available and the value of materials increases, new opportunities to process materials into viable market products are created. For instance, today some 440,000 tonnes of high grade plastics (food plastics) go direct to landfill, whereas material collected, baled and exported to global markets commands around £130 per ton. If these plastics were reprocessed back into food grade material they would have a value in excess of £1,000 per ton. This is value that could be benefiting the Scottish economy, by creating jobs and supplying, for example, local bottling companies, thereby displacing the use of virgin materials. To realise this opportunity we need to improve collection systems and encourage businesses to invest in reprocessing technology and capacity; something being promoted by ZWS. A similar story would apply to many other materials that are currently in the waste stream.”¹⁴

The Scottish Government has begun to quantify the change required with some early forecasts of the changing need for resource management facilities provided by SEPA in Appendix B to Scotland’s Zero Waste Plan.¹⁵ These forecasts are based on the former Area Waste Plan boundaries and are likely to be updated periodically. These forecasts are for all waste types including waste collected by the Council.

Estimated infrastructure capacity need for the Council’s collected waste, if Scotland’s Zero Waste Plan 2025 targets are achieved, using current levels of total waste arising, are:

- 70% Recycling/Composting - 63,085tpa;
- 30% Non-recyclable Waste Treatment - 27,037tpa;
- 5% landfill of residual material (after Treatment)– 4,506tpa.

The Council’s landfill and non-recyclable waste treatment requirements are being met locally and there is currently a significant 10 year landfill supply and a 200,000tpa MBT facility in the Falkirk Council area. This is based on current tonnage estimates and subject to the outcome of competitive tendering. The necessary infrastructure for recycling and reprocessing is less certain and therefore the Council’s priorities must be focused on securing sufficient facilities for these higher value processes. Note that, for the purposes of land use planning, these processes are considered potentially less harmful to the environment and human health than waste management processes such as landfilling and therefore are treated as general industrial activities.

¹⁴ Draft BRIA for Zero Waste Regulations, Scottish Government, October 2011

¹⁵ Obtainable via the SG website <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Environment/waste-and-pollution/Waste-1/wastestrategy/annexb/table>

The Council has its own recycling infrastructure, such as Roughmute and Kinneil Kerse Recycling Centres. The Council will continue to promote the Self Sufficiency & Proximity Principles from previous waste plans and so achieve the targets firstly with internal, or own area, services & resources and then seek to use other external providers where required. This is likely to require some further expansion of the Council's existing facilities to add further storage capacity and containers for reuse and recycling of new waste streams at both Recycling Centres. There are a range of private sector facilities within the Council area and also in other adjacent Council areas. Some examples of these are shown in Table 4 below.

Table 4 – Examples of Existing Resource Management Infrastructure - proximity principle

Facility Type	Examples	Level of importance
Reprocessing Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Glass Remelt, United Glass (OI Manufacturing), Alloa. ○ Windrow Composting Site, Falkirk Council, Kinneil Kerse, Boness. ○ Windrow Composting Site, Clackmannanshire & Stirling Council Polmaise, Stirling. ○ Plastics Reprocessing, Avanti Scotland, Alva. ○ Wood Waste, AW Jenkinson Wood Waste Ltd, Boness. ○ Soil & rubble, Eagle Recycling, Denny. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ National & UK ○ Local ○ Local ○ Regional& National ○ Regional& National ○ Local & Regional
High Quality Recycling Sort	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Household & Commercial recyclates MRF, Oran Environmental Solutions, Grangemouth. ○ Aluminium cans bulk collection point, ACE, Alloa. ○ Textiles& Footwear, Nathans, Denny. ○ Metals, Foundry Steels, Grangemouth: J Graham, Stirling (some of a range of scrap metal collectors). ○ Construction & Demolition Waste, Central Demolition, Bonnybridge. ○ Plastics, Oran Environmental Solutions, Kilbagie& Grangemouth. ○ Waste Disposal Services, Keillibank, Alloa 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Regional ○ National ○ National & UK ○ Local ○ Regional ○ Regional ○ Local
Recycling Collection & Transfer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Roughmute Recycling Centre & Transfer Station, Falkirk ○ Polmaise Recycling Centre & Transfer Station, Stirling (WTS shared with Clackmannanshire Council) ○ KinneilKerse Recycling Centre, Boness ○ Forthbank Recycling Centre, Alloa ○ ACE, Whins Road, Alloa ○ Waste Disposal Services, Keillibank, Alloa ○ Plastics, Oran Environmental Solutions, Kilbagie& Grangemouth. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Local ○ Local ○ Local ○ Local ○ Local ○ Local ○ Regional
Non-recyclable waste treatment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MRF , Avondale Environmental Ltd, Polmont 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Regional
Landfill Disposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Landfill Site, Avondale Environmental Ltd, Polmont (the largest of a range of landfill sites). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Regional

* Solid waste facilities only

Safeguarding existing sites

With the need to capture more materials for recycling there is also a need to ensure the existing Council owned recycling infrastructure can be expanded & developed if required. Therefore it is proposed that suitable planning policies recognising this situation are incorporated into the Local Development Plan.

Encouraging the right mix of new infrastructure

A key concern for the future is the location and type of new infrastructure generated by the private sector in response to the demands driven by the Zero Waste agenda. There is a risk that this may focus upon residual (non-recyclable) waste treatment, such as the Energy from Waste (EfW), rather than on the higher value recycling processes that will be required to meet the Council's Zero Waste obligations. In evaluating infrastructure proposals the Council will recognise that investment has to be primarily focused on reprocessing, high quality sorting, and recycling/composting infrastructure.

Improving Waste and Resource Management Infrastructure

Policy objectives:

1. To continue the Proximity and Self Sufficiency Principles applied to waste management within the Council area.
2. The Council's economic development and planning functions will prioritise waste prevention over reuse and recycling, wherever possible, to minimise overall infrastructure requirements.
3. To encourage the right mix of waste infrastructure is developed to meet future targets, focusing upon high value reprocessing and recycling opportunities.

The actions are:

1. The Council's will encourage investment in new high value waste facilities where required to meet clear gaps in current recycling & reprocessing infrastructure. This can be supported by the Local Development Plan.
2. Through the Local Development Plan an appropriate screening process, or set of policy criteria, should help identify potentially suitable industrial sites for recycling/reprocessing infrastructure that helps meet the need to move up the waste hierarchy. This should be undertaken in line with wider planning policies, and in compliance with the capacity requirements contained in Appendix B of the Zero Waste Plan (note that a Habitat Risk Assessment will be required to be included in any screening process).
3. Existing Council owned waste infrastructure should be safeguarded for future use and expansion where necessary to meet the capacity required for the Zero Waste Plan targets.
4. Prepare an annual update report on progress in developing the infrastructure to meet the capacity needs identified by SEPA and the economic opportunities identified by ZWS. This should be implemented via the Local Development Plan reporting process.

Issue 7 – Managing Non-Recyclable Waste (Residual Waste)

Residual waste has in the past been landfilled, however the challenging restrictions on landfill set by Scotland's Zero Waste Plan and rising landfill tax will in future require residual waste to be treated to extract maximum value from it. Recyclable materials contained within this fraction of waste are often used for energy production rather than being returned to the economy because they are mixed and contaminated by non-recyclable materials. The residual waste analysis mentioned previously in section 3 has shown that this contains significant levels of recyclates resulting in considerable lost reprocessing value.

The Forth Valley Councils proposed a flexible approach to the procurement of residual waste treatment in their SOC Plan, as opposed to the alternative option of entering into a major infrastructure investment in the form of a Public Private Partnership (PPP) type arrangement. In a rapidly changing policy and regulatory environment this flexible approach has proven to be a prudent and successful tactic as EU and national policy has increasingly moved towards eliminating mixed non-recyclable waste in favour of greater separate collection of waste materials.

As recycling and composting rates increase to meet the new targets the quantity of non-recyclable waste treatment required by the Council will continue to fall and will become 30% or less of total waste arising.

Currently the Council has a contract in place with Avondale Environmental Ltd that incorporates both landfill disposal and waste treatment. This contract operates until August 2015 with possible contract extensions utilised. Given the significant risks of long term investment in this area the Council proposes to continue with this flexible and competitive approach to procuring residual treatment capacity from external providers.

The Council has a closed landfill site at Kinneil Kerse, Boness. The site is of an older design than modern landfills and therefore its environmental impact from emissions to air and water, during its use and now after closure, are higher than current modern landfill standards would allow. With this historical legacy in mind it is appropriate to attempt to minimise any further impacts arising from the site. This can be addressed through, firstly, preventing the further release of emissions where practical and, secondly, by utilising the site for new renewable energy opportunities, where feasible, to offset its negative environmental impacts. Energy production from landfill gas on the site is not viable, however the alternative practice of gas flaring to reduce the site's methane emissions will be installed in 2013.

The policy objectives for Managing Non-Recyclable Waste (Residual Waste) are:

1. To minimise the amount of non-recyclable waste requiring treatment in line with the Waste Hierarchy.
2. To adopt a policy of zero waste going directly to landfill (i.e. any non-recyclable waste must be treated to extract any remaining value before the residual element is landfilled).
3. Continue the policy of a flexible approach to the procurement of residual waste treatment, utilising short to medium term contracts to ensure that the Council can respond to future changes in regulation and taxation.
4. To reduce the environmental impact from the Council's waste management legacy sites where practical and feasible.

The actions are:

1. Examine all Council controlled non-recyclable waste streams to assess the options for maximising the value and opportunities from them. Assessment of Options to be completed by December 2015.

5. Monitoring of Progress

A range of key outcome measures will also be proposed as a consequence of establishing the strategy. These will be incorporated into the Single Outcome Agreement for the Council and are likely to focus on key performance measures such as: climate change impact, reductions in waste arising, recycling and composting rates achieved, provision of appropriate infrastructure, and also the economic benefit achieved.

Progress on the implementation of this strategy, and associated environmental monitoring, will be reported annually to the relevant Council committee and posted on the Council's website. In addition performance information from SEPA, Audit Scotland, and the Council's Land use Planning and Sustainability/Climate Change Reporting will also record progress of the strategy. Further information on progress may also be provided via the Council's website and other forms of media. The Council will also communicate its progress to local networks of businesses etc. to maintain their involvement in its implementation.

If you would like to discuss any aspects of this strategy or are seeking to get more involved in making Falkirk a Zero Waste Community please contact:

Falkirk Council

Email to: zerowaste@falkirk.gov.uk

Telephone: 01324 50 44 44

Glossary of common terms

AWP – Area Waste Plan

BMW - Biodegradable Municipal Waste (any municipal waste that is capable of undergoing anaerobic or aerobic decomposition, such as food and garden waste, and paper/card)

BPEO - Best Practicable Environmental Option - The BPEO procedure establishes, for a given set of objectives, the option that provides the most benefit or least damage to the environment as a whole, at acceptable cost, in the long term as well as in the short term (Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution (1988) 12th Report – Best Practicable Environmental Option)

CHP - Combined Heat and Power

DEFRA – the UK Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Deposit and Return Schemes – cans, plastics/glass bottles carry a deposit value that is refunded to the purchaser when the containers are returned to the retailer/producer.

EfW or EFW - Energy from Waste

EU – European Union

Forth Valley – the aggregation of Clackmannanshire, Falkirk and Stirling Council areas.

GHG – Green House Gas (one of six commonly recognised gases which trap heat in the earth's atmosphere)

HMRC – Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs

LAS - Landfill Allowance Scheme

MBT - Mechanical Biological Treatment systems

MRF - Materials Recovery Facility (used for sorting and separating recyclates)

MSW - Municipal Solid Waste (waste from households, as well as other waste which, because of its nature or composition, is similar to waste from households)

NWMP – National Waste Management Plan

Non- Recyclable Waste – material that is currently not recyclable or compostable and therefore is sent to landfill or a residual waste treatment process. Note that non recyclable waste may also include recyclable or compostable material that has not been correctly sorted by householders and businesses.

PP - Proximity Principle

PPC - Pollution Prevention and Control Act (1999) (Regulations 2000)

PPP- Public Private Partnership arrangement

Recyclates – the term used for recyclable materials.

RCV - Refuse Collection Vehicle

RDF - Refuse Derived Fuel

Reverse Vending – A reverse vending machine is a device that accepts used (empty) beverage/food containers and returns money to the user.

rWFD – revised Waste Framework Directive

Self Sufficiency Principle - aiming to address waste issues with your own resources

SEA - Strategic Environmental Assessment

SEPA Scottish Environment Protection Agency

SOC - Strategic Outline Case (funding application by the Forth Valley Councils to the then Scottish Executive)

Tpa - Tonnes per annum

WEEE - Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Directive (2002/96/EC)

WFD - Waste Framework Directive (75/442/EEC)

WPP – Waste Prevention Plan

WRAP - Waste and Resources Action Programme (government funded programme to reduce waste)

ZW – Zero Waste

ZWP – Scotland's Zero Waste Plan

ZWS - Zero Waste Scotland (WRAP's programme in Scotland)

Appendix 1 – Summary of current services

Falkirk Council offers its residents a three bin kerbside collection service, a kerbside box (including food waste collection) and a textile recycling sack. Falkirk currently operates a fortnightly residual (non-recyclable) waste collection service for the majority of properties using a:

- *Green* 240ltr wheeled bin, although some properties such as flats still receive a weekly collection.

Approximately 95% (68,000) of households are provided with a fortnightly kerbside dry recyclate collection service. The dry recyclate service incorporates the following:

- *Blue* 240ltr co-mingled bin (cans, paper, card, mixed plastic, tetra paks)
- *Black* 50ltr box collected separately (colour segregated glass, small electrical items, textiles - within a separate bag, and batteries)
- The council also provides a fortnightly kerbside collection service to approximately 64,000 households for green (compostable garden) waste and food waste. The green waste is collected in a *Brown* 240ltr wheeled bin and the food waste in a 23ltr external caddy.

Residences in multi occupancy buildings are provided with a weekly communal dry recyclate collection (this is currently under review with the anticipation that the majority of these properties will revert to an alternate week collection of residual waste and co-mingled dry recyclate). Residual waste is disposed of in either a *Green* wheeled bin, black bag or communal waste bin.

The council also provides a recycling led commercial service to customers on a variety of frequencies as required. In addition a weekly food waste collection service for households is in the process of being implemented. The current collections, excluding the food waste collection currently being implemented, are summarised below:

Material Stream	Collection Frequency	Container	Materials Collected
Residual (non recyclable)	Fortnightly	240ltr <i>green</i> wheeled bin	Residual (non recyclable) waste
Recycling - Co-mingled	Fortnightly	240ltr <i>blue</i> wheeled bin	Mixed Paper, Cardboard, Plastic bottles, Food & Drinks cans, Mixed plastics, Tetra pak
Recycling - Pre sorted	Fortnightly	50ltr <i>black</i> box	Colour segregated glass, small waste electrical items (WEEE) & batteries
Textiles	Fortnightly	Plastic Sack	Clothing, Shoes, Bags, Belts, Blankets, Quilt covers, Duvets, pillow cases and sheets
Garden	Fortnightly	240ltr <i>brown</i> wheeled bin	Flowers and plants, Grass clippings, Hedge trimmings, Weeds, Leaves, Prunings, Twigs and small branches
Food Waste	Weekly	5ltr silver internal caddie and 23ltr external container	Food waste including vegetables, meat, dairy, tea bags and coffee grounds.
Special Uplifts	On request	Loose	Bulky Uplifts of household items but no DIY
Commercial Waste	On request	Various containers as requested	As Residual and Recycling – comingled above

Other Services

In addition to the household kerbside collection, the following services and facilities are provided:

- Falkirk has a network of over 90 recycling points where users can recycle, food & drink cans, glass, paper and textiles.
- Falkirk has two Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC) one at Kinneil Kerse Recycling Centre, Grangemouth Road, Boness and one at Roughmute Recycling Centre, Bogton Road, Bonnybridge. These offer a variety of waste separation opportunities for householders.
- A Waste Transfer Station, based at Roughmute, Bonnybridge.
- Waste awareness and waste prevention campaigns and activities in partnership with Zero Waste Scotland (ZWS) and community bodies. These focus upon waste prevention and niche reuse/recycling activities such as home composting, real nappies and waste prevention activities.

Appendix 2 – References and Useful Links

<To be populated on adoption>