

# Cabinet

15 October 2024

## Review of the Dorset Council Waste Strategy

### For Decision

**Cabinet Member and Portfolio:**

Cllr J Andrews, Place Commissioned Services

**Local Councillor(s):**

All local councillors

**Executive Director:**

Jan Britton, Executive Lead for Place

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**Report Status:** Public (the exemption paragraph is N/A)

**Brief Summary:**

The document in appendix 1 is the Dorset Council Waste Strategy. It has been reviewed to take account of the progress made to date and the recent changes in legislation. It updates the current Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Dorset 2008 (and the revised version published in 2017).

The strategy sets the strategic vision and framework for how we will deal with waste in Dorset in the longer term, but it has a focus on the actions that will be undertaken over the next 5 years, due to the significant legislative changes that are anticipated in that timeframe.

**Recommendation:**

That the Cabinet approves the revised Dorset Waste strategy.

**Reason for Recommendation:**

To detail how we will continue to minimise waste, maximise recycling and embed a circular economy within Dorset. The strategy document details our achievements so far, the challenges ahead, our vision for the future and our policy objectives to drive further improvements.

To ensure that the strategy remains a valid, high level document which can provide a framework for future decisions regarding waste management in Dorset.

## **1. Report**

1.1 In this strategy document, Dorset Council's vision for waste is to provide a high performing, high quality, efficient and value for money waste service, that helps to make Dorset a great place to live, work and visit.

Our strategic aims are:

- To increase Dorset's recycling and composting rate through the application of the waste hierarchy and fostering a circular economy.
- To deliver an effective and cost efficient waste service which maintains high customer satisfaction.
- To continue to reduce the carbon emissions from the waste management service to improve its impact on climate change.
- To continue to meet our statutory requirements to remain safe and legal.

1.2 The strategy is structured around 7 policy objectives designed to support the implementation and achievement of these strategic aims. The objectives are based on a combination of national policy drivers, our legal obligations and targets, our recycling experience, best practice, and our own aspirations. They have an emphasis on the continued reduction of the amount of total waste that is produced, achieving even higher levels of recycling and composting, recovering more value from residual waste that is not recycled or composted and minimising the amount that is sent to be buried in the ground at landfill sites.

1.3 Waste management is recognised as a fast changing area and the strategy will continue to be under periodic review and refinement. Actions from this strategy will be achieved and monitored through the production of the annual waste service plan, which in turn is supported by team action plans.

1.4 An addition has been made to the strategy document following comments at the Place and Resources Overview Committee on 12 September 2024 regarding how the Household Recycling Centres (HRCs) outside of the council area will be reflected in the waste strategy. The following sentence has been added to policy objective 5:

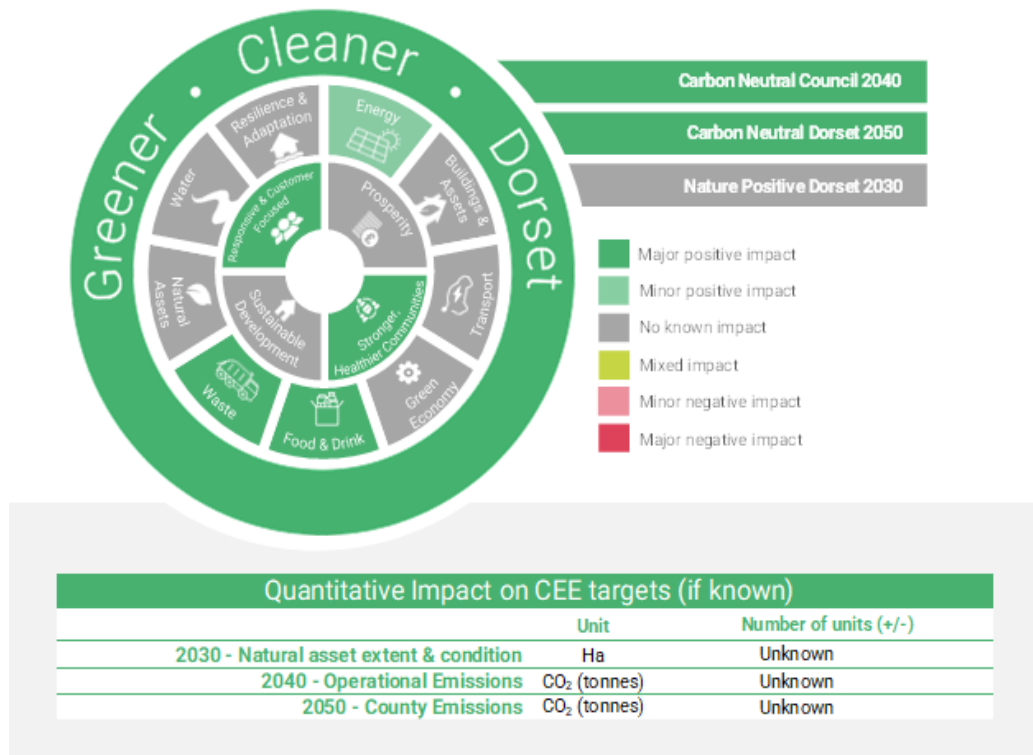
“Endeavor to collaborate with neighbouring authorities to identify opportunities to develop waste infrastructure projects / arrangements that offer best value for money for Dorset residents.”

## 2 Financial Implications

There is no change to the budget requirement as a result of the recommended strategy.

The waste service will continue to remain under pressure to deliver financial savings wherever possible. In order to positively contribute towards the forthcoming budget planning process, we will endeavour to reduce, reuse, and recycle as much of our waste as possible, thus minimising the amount of residual waste destined for disposal which is more expensive. This will generate savings and reduce our carbon footprint.

## 3 Natural Environment, Climate & Ecology Implications



### ACCESSIBLE TABLE SHOWING IMPACTS

Natural Environment, Climate & Ecology Strategy Commitments	Impact
Energy	Minor positive impact
Buildings & Assets	No known impact
Transport	No known impact
Green Economy	No known impact
Food & Drink	Major positive impact
Waste	Major positive impact

Natural Assets & Ecology	No known impact
Water	No known impact
Resilience and Adaptation	No known impact

Corporate Plan Aims	Impact
Prosperity	neutral
Stronger healthier communities	Major positive impact
Sustainable Development & Housing	neutral
Responsive & Customer Focused	Major positive impact

#### **4 Well-being and Health Implications**

None

#### **5 Other Implications**

N/A

#### **6 Risk Assessment**

6.1.1 **HAVING CONSIDERED:** the risks associated with this decision; the level of risk has been identified as:

Current Risk: Low  
Residual Risk: Low

#### **7 Equalities Impact Assessment**

An initial screening exercise has been undertaken which concludes that this strategy review does not require a full Equalities Impact Assessment (EQIA) at this stage because it is a high level document only which will be used as a framework for any future decisions regarding waste management in Dorset.

Following the approval of this document, the waste team will then proceed with a number of workstreams to look at specific aspects of the waste service, for example, a review of the Household Recycling Centres, etc. It would be at this point that we would carry out a public consultation exercise and we would review the existing individual EQIAs.

#### **8 Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Dorset Council Waste Strategy 2024  
Appendix 2 – Extract from minutes of the Place and Resources Overview committee 12 September 2024

**9 Background Papers**

N/A

**10 Report Sign Off**

This report has been through the internal report clearance process and has been signed off by the Director for Legal and Democratic (Monitoring Officer), the Executive Director for Corporate Development (Section 151 Officer) and the appropriate Portfolio Holder(s)