Beyond Recycling
Making the circular economy a reality in Wales

Keeping resources in use for as long as possible and avoiding waste to bring us a greener, fairer and more prosperous Wales.

Our Strategy

• The strategy sets out the headline actions that we are planning to shift Wales towards a circular economy.

• The people of Wales are central in making the change. It is you that helped us reach the goals outlined to the right.

• Shifting to a circular economy has the potential to
  o Make savings of up to £2 billion for the Welsh economy
  o Create ‘green jobs’
  o Make Wales more resilient to the rising costs and decreasing amounts of materials.

• We aim to spark a cultural change where unnecessary waste is prevented, and discarded material are thought of as resources rather than waste.

A Joined-Up Agenda

This strategy joins with other key strategies and plans in the Welsh Government:

Prosperity for all: the national strategy for Wales
Economic action plan
Delivering on the Well-being of Future Generations Act Goals
Natural Resource policy
Prosperity for all: A Low Carbon Wales

Key
Resource efficiency
Economic opportunities
Reducing carbon emissions

The Circular Economy Timeline

2019
Increasing Business Recycling Consultation

2020
Beyond Recycling Strategy
90% Recycling Rate for Construction Sector

2021
New Business Waste Regulations *
Ban on Highly Littered Single Use Plastics *

2023
Requirement to have implemented Extended Producer Responsibility for Packaging
Maximum 5% Waste Sent to Landfill

2025
Carbon Neutral Public Sector
92% Reduction in Waste Sector Emissions
70% Household, Municipal & Industrial Recycling Rate

2030
50% Reduction in Avoidable Food Waste

2050
100% Recycling
Zero Waste
Carbon Neutral
Our Core Themes

Guided by the five ways of working of the Well-being of Future Generations Act these are the 6 core themes that will lead us towards a more circular economy:

**Build on our recycling record**
- Become zero-waste by 2050
- 100% recycling rate from all sectors including household, construction, business etc.
- Fully utilise the infrastructure in Wales to reduce food waste

**Supporting prevention and reuse**
- Reduce the amount of waste from households, and the industrial and commercial sectors
- Promote repair, re-use and remanufacture to communities and businesses

**Driving innovation and material use**
- Reduce the amount of materials we use, and move away from using materials with a high carbon footprint
- Increase use of recycled and remanufactured content.
- Support innovation in areas like bioplastics

**Investing in infrastructure**
- Additional waste management infrastructure to ensure maximum return from collected materials
- Infrastructure to support reuse, repair and remanufacture
- Decarbonise current infrastructure

**Enabling communities and businesses**
- Bring communities together to develop initiatives to promote re-use and repair.
- Support businesses to save and make money, and become resilient through using local and regional supply chains.

**Using government levers**
- Build on schemes like our Landfill Disposals Tax Communities Scheme, to deliver innovative projects
- Use government funding, legislation, taxation and purchasing to drive Wales to a circular economy

**Headline actions**
1. Become a world leader in recycling
2. Prioritise procurement of wood, remanufactured and recycled content
3. More efficient use of food
4. Invest in clean technology for materials collection
5. Enable collective community action
6. Create business opportunities
7. Phase out single use plastic
8. Take full responsibility for our waste.

These actions fit into each of our core themes