



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Beyond Recycling

Indicators

BEYOND RECYCLING INDICATORS

This set of indicators has been developed to demonstrate the connection between policy and outcome within the circular economy strategy, with indicators to track progress in the desired direction.

The indicators have also been designed to link to the national indicators under the Well-being of Future Generations Act. Where there are gaps in our data, these are set out and our plans to address those gaps highlighted.

We will continue to refine and update this document over time, ensuring the indicators for a circular economy continue to work with the wider indicators, including those under the Well-being of Future Generations Act and the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

Headline Indicators

Level	Indicator	Supporting Policy
1.1	Household waste per capita	The production of the everyday products – including cars, clothes and food – accounts for 45% of global carbon emissions. In addition, our level of consumption uses far more than our fair share of the earth's resources.
1.2	Municipal waste sent to landfill ^[1]	By 2025 we will send zero waste to landfill.
1.3	Municipal waste that is recycled ^[1]	We want to make Wales a zero waste nation by 2050. This means effectively a 100% recycling, composting or preparation for re-use rate from all sectors.
1.4	Net zero carbon public sector ^[2]	The Public Sector in Wales will collectively achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, decarbonising buildings, transport and supply chains.

Activity Data

Level	Indicator	Supporting Policy
2.1	Food waste reduction ^[3]	We will eradicate avoidable food waste. We will work with businesses across the whole supply chain, from farm to fork, to minimise waste and maximise resource efficiency and support Fareshare Cymru in their redistribution of surplus food.
2.2	Carbon saving per capita from recycling - the Carbon Index ^[4]	The majority of Local Authorities in Wales have adopted the 'Collections Blueprint'. In Wales this has increased investment in reprocessing and reduced carbon emissions for every local authority.

2.3	<p>2.3.1 We will work to prioritise the use of sustainable and low carbon materials in construction funded through WG Housing Capital Investment Programmes</p> <p>2.3.2 We will work to use more low carbon materials in the refurbishment of the social housing stock</p> <p>2.3.3 We will work to use more low carbon materials in the construction of new schools</p>	<p>We will apply the prioritisation of the use of sustainable and low carbon materials first to public sector construction including, the Innovative Housing Programme, the refurbishment of the social housing stock in Wales, and the construction of new schools. We will also explore the introduction of embedded carbon footprint technical standards.</p>
2.4	<p>Eco schools – percentage of primary and secondary schools that sign up</p>	<p>The Eco-Schools programme has developed an eco-aware generation who are not simply focussed on waste reduction and recycling but how schools and communities can contribute towards improving wider outcomes such as better communities and reducing emissions.</p>
2.5	<p>Items repaired by repair cafes^[5]</p>	<p>We will further support and fund repair cafes across Wales, as well as encouraging citizens to make use of the repair cafes.</p>
2.6	<p>Procurement – percentage of public sector spend that is spent in Wales</p>	<p>Moving to a circular economy is key to the delivery of key environmental outcomes. But crucially it can also improve economic and social outcomes. Economically, through taking a circular approach which shortens supply chains, it can improve efficiency, create employment and increase competitiveness.</p>
2.7	<p>Plastic sent outside Wales – percentage of collected plastic waste that is not processed in Wales ^[6]</p>	<p>We will take responsibility for our waste, not exporting it to be a problem elsewhere. We want to keep recycled resources in Wales for use in our material production and economy.</p>
2.8	<p>Modernising the waste fleet with ultra-low emissions vehicles (ULEV's)</p> <p>2.8.1. Percentage of RRV (single-pass resource recovery vehicles)</p> <p>2.8.2. Percentage of RCV (conventional refuse collection vehicles)</p> <p>2.8.3. Percentage of light commercial vehicles</p>	<p>We will reduce environmental pollution through changing the collection vehicles used. This will also reduce air pollution, improving the environment and public health, whilst leading to a decrease in dependency on fossil fuels.</p>

Policy Implementations

Level	Indicator	Supporting Policy
3.1	Welsh Government Collections Blueprint ^[7]	Signing up to the collections blueprint means continuity in recycling and waste collections across Wales, leading to an increased quality of collected materials.
3.2	Sustainable businesses - increase the number of businesses adopting sustainable policies	We will also expand our innovation support on resource efficiency and increase the number of businesses signed up to the Business Wales' Green Growth pledge

Infrequent data to be monitored:

- National Indicator 15 - Amount of waste generated that is not recycled, per person.
- Survey data on waste produced by Construction and Demolition (C&D) and Industrial and Commercial (I&C) sectors, These form an important element of our monitoring of our food waste reduction target.
- Zero carbon schools – number of 21st Century schools that are zero carbon

Data in Development

• Consumption carbon data

The carbon emissions data we record are territorial emissions and therefore exclude the emissions from materials and goods that are produced elsewhere for use in the Welsh marketplace.

• Waste Carbon footprint

We are working to develop an indicator similar to the Scottish Waste Carbon Metric that can be used for policy development and monitoring in respect of waste prevention and recycling. This will allow us to focus on the materials which have the highest associated carbon footprint, and therefore whose reduction or recycling will make a significant difference in carbon emissions.

• Material Footprint / One Planet living

We are working on developing a series of footprint data. Accurate measurement depends on the production of Input-Output tables which provide a single framework

showing the relationship between components of value added, industry inputs and outputs, and product supply and demand. Previous work by the Stockholm Institute at the University of York determined that if everyone in the world were to consume the same as the average Welsh citizen, 2.5 planets would be required to produce global resources. We need to determine what one planet resource use would equate to in respect of raw material consumption per person. We will prioritise the use of sustainable and low carbon materials in construction in Wales to support progress towards whole life net zero carbon for construction. Three indicators in development will work to prioritise the use of sustainable and low carbon materials in construction under the Innovative Housing Programme, use more low carbon materials in the refurbishment of the social housing stock and use more low carbon materials in the construction of new schools.

- **Circular Economy jobs**

We will work with other Government departments to consider a common measure of circular economy jobs. However, the Welsh Government's aim is for the economy as a whole to become circular, not one which has a desired percentage of circular economy jobs.

FOOTNOTES

[1] As a proportion of total municipal waste collected by local authorities

[2] The Welsh Public Sector will collectively achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. We will decarbonise our buildings, transport and supply chains.

[3] The amount of avoidable food waste per capita from households, retail and the hospitality and food service. Aim to reduce by half based on a 2007 baseline.

[4] The Carbon Index – produced annually by Eunomia. The Recycling Carbon Index measures the environmental performance of councils' recycling services. The Carbon Index uses the amount of each material that a council collects to calculate how much carbon is saved.

[5] Items fixed, or partly fixed by repair cafes operated under the Repair Café Wales banner

[6] Sometimes local authorities will sell recycling to a company in Wales, which then exports it. In some cases the information about what happens once it's been sold within Wales is not available. In these cases the last known destination, i.e. Wales, is noted.

[7] The Welsh Government has provided guidance to Local Authorities on what it considers to be the most sustainable approach to waste collections. The number of local authorities in Wales who follow the Welsh Government's preferred method of collection – the blueprint.



