

**Argyll and Bute Council**  
**Comhairle Earra-Ghàidheal Agus Bhòid**

*Customer Services*  
*Executive Director: Douglas Hendry*



*Kilmory, Lochgilphead, PA31 8RT*  
*Tel: 01546 602127 Fax: 01546 604435*  
*DX 599700 LOCHGILPHEAD*  
*28 August 2019*

**SUPPLEMENTARY PACK 1**

**BUTE AND COWAL AREA COMMITTEE - EAGLESHAM HOUSE, ROTHESAY on TUESDAY, 3 SEPTEMBER 2019 at 10:00 AM**

I enclose herewith amended **item 7 (RECYCLING PERFORMANCE)** for the above meeting.

Douglas Hendry  
Executive Director of Customer Services

**AMENDED ITEM**

**7. RECYCLING PERFORMANCE (Pages 3 - 8)**

Report by Executive Director with responsibility for Roads and Infrastructure Services

**Bute and Cowal Area Committee**

Councillor Jim Anderson (Vice-Chair)	Councillor Gordon Blair
Councillor Jim Findlay	Councillor Audrey Forrest
Councillor Bobby Good (Chair)	
Councillor Yvonne McNeilly	Councillor Jean Moffat
Councillor Alan Reid	Councillor Len Scoullar

Contact: Adele Price-Williams - 01546 604392

This page is intentionally left blank

---

**ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL****BUTE AND COWAL AREA COMMITTEE****ROADS AND INFRASTRUCTURE  
SERVICES****3 SEPTEMBER 2019**

---

**RECYCLING PERFORMANCE**

---

**1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1 Argyll and Bute Council is both a waste collection and waste disposal authority. Waste and recycling collections are delivered mainly by council staff with some recycling collections carried out by third sector groups.
- 1.2 Waste disposal is dealt with by 3 separate models across the council as follows:
- Island sites e.g. on Mull and Islay where landfill sites are operated directly by the council;
  - Helensburgh and Lomond area where waste is disposed of at sites outside of Argyll and Bute;
  - A 25 year (2001 – 2026) Waste PPP contract which covers the rest of Argyll and Bute including Bute and Cowal.
- 1.3 Waste figures for all four administrative areas have been summarised within this report. Because of the way the reporting is carried out it is not possible to accurately break down the information on an area by area basis for all data.
- 1.4 National policy decisions, guidance and regulations e.g. relating to the Biodegradable Municipal Waste landfill ban will have a significant impact on future recycling, composting and recovery performance.
- 1.5 It is recommended that Members note and give consideration to the details as outlined in this report and the national policy drivers that will likely impact over the next few years.

---

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

BUTE AND COWAL AREA COMMITTEE

ROADS AND INFRASTRUCTURE  
SERVICES

3 SEPTEMBER 2019

---

## RECYCLING PERFORMANCE

---

### 2.0 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Argyll and Bute Council is both a waste collection and waste disposal authority. Recycling, composting and recovery (i.e. other landfill diversion) statistics are reported quarterly within the council's performance system Pyramid. Statutory returns to SEPA e.g. licensed site tonnage, landfill tax and waste data flow vary from quarterly to annual.

2.2 This report provides details on the council's recycling and landfill diversion performance along with national policy, targets and regulations which are likely to impact on future performance.

### 3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 It is recommended that Members note and give consideration to the details as outlined in this report and the national policy drivers that will likely impact over the next few years.

### 4.0 DETAILS

4.1 Argyll and Bute Council operate a performance management system 'Pyramid'. Quarterly recycling/composting, recovery and landfill percentages are included - split between the Islands landfill sites, Waste Management PPP and Helensburgh/Lomond areas. Bute and Cowal's waste is managed within the PPP contract area. These details include:

- percentage of waste recycled and composted;
- percentage of waste recovered e.g. other landfill diversion;
- combined percentage of waste recycled, composted and recovered;
- percentage of waste to landfill;
- tonnes of biodegradable municipal waste to landfill.

**Percentages Summary of Landfill, Recycling, Composting and Recovery-  
2017 and 2018**

		<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>
Argyll & Bute wide	% of waste recycled, composted and recovered	49.4%	48.8%
	% waste recycled and composted	36.5%	35.5%
	% waste recovered	12.9%	13.3%
	% waste landfilled	50.6%	51.2%
	Tonnes of biodegradable municipal waste to landfill	18,556	18,671
Waste PPP	% of waste recycled, composted and recovered	52.8%	49.6%
	% waste recycled and composted	34.9%	31.8%
	% waste recovered	17.9%	17.8%
	% waste landfilled	47.2%	50.4%
Helensburgh & Lomond	% of waste recycled, composted and recovered	44.9%	50.2%
	% waste recycled and composted	38.6%	41.9%
	% waste recovered	6.3%	8.2%
	% waste landfilled	55.1%	49.8%
Islands	% of waste recycled, composted and recovered	40.4%	38.7%
	% waste recycled and composted	40.4%	38.7%
	% waste recovered	0.0%	0.0%
	% waste landfilled	59.6%	61.3%

4.2 Some points to note are as follows:

- The council Waste PPP combined recycled, composted and recovery has decreased from 52.8% to 49.6% in 2018. It is notable that this figure and the following figures have decreased in figures noted below. This is mainly due to the fact that post Greenlight Environmental administration, tonnages have been collected and counted through the council site at Blackhill,

Helensburgh for onward recycling. This has therefore increased the figures relative to Helensburgh & Lomond. This is due to the vehicle and staff being located in Helensburgh & Lomond and the return of the glass waste to that locale for processing.

- Renewi has recently made significant investment by refurbishing the Mechanical Biological Treatment plants within the PPP contract area. This investment of £1.5m should see an increase in recovery in future years.
- The councils Waste PPP combined recycled, composted and recovery rate has decreased from 52.8% to 49.6% in 2018.
- The percentage of waste recycled and composted in 2017 was 34.9%. The percentage figures for 2018 has decreased to 31.8%.
- The percentage of waste recovered in 2017 was 17.9% which has decreased slightly to 17.8%. The reason for the drop in recovery was due to the plant refurbishments which meant the plants were out of commissions for a short period of time.
- The waste to landfill for 2017 was 47.2%. However, this has increased in 2018 to 50.4%. This is due to most of the glass waste being processed through Helensburgh & Lomond and the drop in recovery performance with plant refurbishments.
- The tonnage of waste to landfill through the Renewi contract is 17,385 in 2017, compared to 17,527 in 2018.
- The island model figures show a decrease in waste recycled, composted and recovered. The figures in 2017 sits at 40.4%, however; the 2018 figures have a decrease to 38.7%. Furthermore, island sites show a decrease in waste recycled and composted, and a slight rise in waste landfilled. There is no scientific reason for this and the variance is minimal. Factors may include loads awaiting uplift, weather and/or tourism.
- Recycling and composting is mainly from recycling collections, bring sites and segregated wastes from recycling/civic amenity sites. Recovery is predominantly moisture process loss and/or compost like output from mixed waste treatment plants operated by the council's Waste PPP partner or other waste contractors.
- On-going discussions are taking place with Renewi to include the glass waste within the PPP contract.

### **Waste (Scotland) Regulations**

4.3 The Waste (Scotland) Regulations were introduced by the Scottish Government in 2012. The regulations included the following key objectives:

- Local Authority provision of recycling services to domestic properties and businesses (charges can be levied for business collections) in 2014;
- Local Authority provision of food waste collections to domestic properties and businesses (exemptions exist for food waste collections in rural areas) in 2014/15;
- High quality recycle producing 'closed loop' recycling;
- Restrictions on inputs to Energy from Waste Facilities (EfW); and
- A ban on Biodegradable Municipal Waste (BMW) to landfill from January 2021.

## 5.0 CONCLUSION

5.1 Progress has been made on recycling, composting and recovery performance in 2018. National Policy drivers such as the ban on biodegradable waste to landfill will have significant implications for future waste treatment and landfill diversion performance.

## 6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1	Policy	National policies and regulations will likely impact on future landfill diversion performance.
6.2	Financial	The 2021 ban on biodegradable waste to landfill will have financial implications. Detail on the financial implications to the council can be found in the September 19 Waste Strategy report to the Environment Development and Infrastructure committee.
6.3	Legal	The 2021 landfill ban is a legal requirement under the Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012. Complying with the ban will also likely result in changes to the Waste PPP contract.
6.4	HR	None
6.5	Equalities	Fairer Scotland Duty implications may be prevalent.
6.6	Risk	Risks to the council on the 2021 landfill ban are mainly financial. A national deposit scheme for drinks containers will hopefully have overall environmental benefits although it may impact negatively on the council recycling rates and income.

6.7 Customer Services None at present.

**Executive Director:** Pippa Milne

**Head of Roads and Infrastructure Services:** Jim Smith

**Policy Lead:** Cllr Roddy McCuish

**For further information contact:** John Blake – Fleet, Waste & Transport Manager