
CLIMATE CHANGE STATEMENT

One Planet Cardiff Summit

The Council held its first One Planet Cardiff Summit at Techniquest on 13 June 2023. Over 120 delegates from Cardiff businesses and not-for-profit organisations came together to share experiences of delivering carbon neutrality, make vital new connections, and discuss how to accelerate change. It was a great event with lots of energy, healthy discussion, and networking. I am also grateful to the Leader of the Council for setting the pace and vision for change in his opening address at the Summit.

The event provided a great deal of feedback on the challenges and opportunities from a range of perspectives. Working with the Climate Emergency Board established by the Cardiff Public Services Board (PSB), we are now looking at how we can develop actions around some of the key themes from the Summit, including:

- How to share or signpost reliable sources of information that support carbon neutral journey planning for business and organisations of all sizes.
- Exploring how carbon reduction standards, commitments and pledges can integrate with emerging 'carbon aware' procurement processes.
- Considering ways to increase information and knowledge to support behavioural change messaging and action.
- Exploring options for an annual event and options for community or procurement focus.

World Refill Day

World Refill Day took place on 16 June 2023, which is a global day of action to highlight the need for everyone to move away from disposable, single use products and move to a more sustainable circular economy based on refill and reuse.

The Council has been signed up to the Refill scheme since it began, working with cafés and restaurants to encourage them to let people refill their water bottle on the move to reduce the use of single use plastics in the city. Since then, the Refill scheme has expanded, and the Refill app enables people to find out where they can refill their water bottles for free. It also provides discount offers and rewards for using your own cup/mug at coffee shops, as well as cheaper lunch deals if you use your own lunch box.

On World Refill Day this month, the 'Love Where You Live' Team gave out 160 refillable bottles near our new water refill point in Cardiff Market and encouraged residents to download the Refill app.

Coastal Protection Scheme

Following the submission of the Full Business Case and additional supporting information that was requested by Welsh Government, I am pleased to confirm that Welsh Government has approved the scheme and the Council has received a letter confirming the award of funding for the scheme. Following acceptance of the funding within the required timescales, we expect the construction phase to start within the next few months.

Flood Protection Schemes

Welsh Government has awarded grant funding of £100,000 (at 85% match funding) to the Council for the installation of property level protection within the River Rhymney catchment and for improvements to flood protection works at the Nant-Fawr brook.

Design work on the Whitchurch Flood Alleviation Scheme is currently ongoing. The Flood Risk Management Team will be holding a public engagement meeting about this scheme in Whitchurch next month following on from consultation with local ward members.

Workplace Segregated Recycling

Workplace Recycling Regulations come into force in April 2024. The Council's Trade Waste Team is working to support businesses in complying with these changes and many are already making these changes as shown by the figures provided in the table below:

Service	Number of business customers having at least one collection per week
Food	583
Glass	172
Metal & Plastic Containers	390
Paper & Card Fibres	616
Non-Recyclable	1,499
Dry Mixed Recycling still to convert	587

In addition, all 119 primary schools in Cardiff have now converted to the Workplace Recycling Regulations standard and are segregating their recycling. This has been supported by funding from One Planet Cardiff, which has supported the purchase of new internal bins.

Podback Coffee Pod Collection Service

All Cardiff households received a leaflet advertising the new coffee pod collection service in April 2023, and 2,600 residents are now signed up for the collections which are managed by the Council's Cleansing Teams. Residents are able to sign up for coffee pod recycling collections via www.podback.org and Podback will send out the correct bags to use and an information leaflet within 10 working days of signing up.

Residents can then request a collection using the online form at www.cardiff.gov.uk/podback and customers will be contacted in order to confirm their collection day. Podback provide two types of bag: green bags for plastic pods and white bags for aluminium pods. Coffee pods will only be accepted in the dedicated Podback bags. When bags are about to run out, customers need to log into their online account to re-order the bags.

Love When You Leave

To manage the end of the academic year, when thousands of students leave their accommodation in Cardiff, the Love Where You Live Team has been busy in the Cathays and Plasnewydd wards supporting the 'Love When You Leave' campaign. The take-away van has been collecting small electrical items, textiles/clothing, CDs/DVDs/books, household batteries, ceramics (plates, cups etc.), pots/pans/cutlery, together with in-date, non-perishable food donations for re-use and recycling.

Improvements to Waste Collections

Positive progress has been made in reducing the number of formal complaints in relation to waste collections. Figures show an overall decrease of 39% (2,089 reported in 2021/22 and 1,267 reported in 2022/23), which can be attributed to:

- The four-day working single shift pattern, which has now 'bedded-in' and crews are now more familiar with their new rounds; and
- A combination of Heavy Goods Vehicle (HGV) training provided in-house and by Cardiff & Vale College, which helped to reduce driver shortage levels that were experienced by the Council in 2021/22.

Following a review of the assisted lift scheme in March/April last year, several improvements were made, including:

- The appointment of a designated Correspondence Officer to try and resolve repeat complaints;
- Digital changes to in-cab devices so drivers have easily accessible information and are able to confirm collections to be made at each assisted lift property;
- Workforce training; and
- Supervisor monitoring.

These improvements are being reviewed on a quarterly basis, with further controls being implemented. The service is still having challenges during the summer months, with delays to some garden waste collections. Garden waste from these properties was recollected on later days or weekends, but this did lead to a number of complaints.

At present, the Council provides collection services for over 175,000 properties. In 2022/23, 25,642,468 collections took place and 16,580 were reported as missed. The amount of non-collections relates to less than 0.07% of the collections made during this period.

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Cabinet Member for Climate Change
23 June 2023