
CLIMATE CHANGE STATEMENT

Collaboration with Cardiff Metropolitan University

The Council has begun to work in collaboration with Cardiff Metropolitan University's School of Management to support their 'Business Solutions and Transformation' module. Through this course, the Council will work with students, as future business leaders and managers, to challenge them to consider how to reduce carbon in business management. I was delighted to be invited to kick off the challenge with students at the University recently. This work helps embed building carbon impact considerations into business operations, as well providing the Council with a broad range of ideas and insights from a diverse group of course participants.

Impact of Strike Action on Waste & Recycling Services

The current industrial action is due to continue up to 26 November 2023. This has had the following impact on residential collections across Cardiff:

- Residual – no impact
- Food – no impact
- Segregated Recycling – no impact
- Co-mingled Recycling – change in service; collected every 2 weeks alongside residual / black waste
- Nappies / Absorbent Hygiene Products (AHP) – change in service; collected alongside residual / black waste bin
- Garden Waste – no service during strike action

Pallets of garden waste sacks are available at both Lamby Way and Bessemer Close Recycling Centres and Community Hubs (Ely & Caerau Hub, St Mellons Hub, Powerhouse Hub, Central Library Hub, Grangetown Hub, Rhydpennau Hub, Llandaff North & Gabalfa Hub and Penylan Library & Community Centre) to support residents who want to bring garden waste to the recycling centres. These will be issued free of charge, in limited numbers, whilst stocks are available.

Segregated Recycling Programme

We are aiming for the next phase of the segregated recycling expansion to 36,000 households to be completed by March 2024. The new recycling system using reusable sacks and a glass bottle & jar caddy will be rolled out in the following areas: Ely, Gabalfa, Grangetown, Heath (West), Llandaff, Pentwyn, Pentyrch, Radyr, Rhiwbina, Splott and Trowbridge. The team will work closely with ward members and residents in January 2024 to help people with the changes. Residents will also receive a briefing pack with the delivery of the re-usable bags and glass caddies to properties.

Following this phase, we will focus on the remaining areas of the city, to be delivered throughout Summer 2024.

The changes will support the following outcomes:

- Removal of 27 million single-use, co-mingled recycling bags used each year.
- Improvement in the quality of recycling collected, supporting improvements in recycling performance and the circular economy of materials returned to manufacturing.
- A reduction in Cardiff's carbon footprint. 45% of all carbon emissions in the world comes from the production of materials and, therefore, improving the circular economy through recycling will remove the need to extract and produce new materials.

We are continuing to work on solutions for flats and larger HMOs.

Ban on Single-Use Plastics in Wales

Legislation prohibiting the supply of single-use plastic items to consumers in Wales takes effect from 30 October 2023. From that date, the Environmental Protection (Single-use Plastic Products) (Wales) Act 2023 will introduce Phase 1 of the ban, which will mean that businesses are no longer able to sell or supply the following items:

- Single-use plastic plates (including paper plates coated in plastic)
- Single-use plastic cutlery (e.g. knives, forks, spoons, sporks and chopsticks)
- Single-use plastic drinks stirrers
- Single-use plastic drinking straws
- Cups made of expanded or foamed extruded polystyrene
- Takeaway food containers made of expanded or foamed extruded polystyrene
- Single-use plastic balloon sticks
- Single-use plastic-stemmed cotton buds

Shared Regulatory Services has been advising businesses to run down existing stock of single-use plastic goods ahead of the 30 October deadline and to identify alternatives to plastic when sourcing these items in future. Businesses that may have single-use plastic products left over when the ban comes into effect later this month are advised to speak to the Council, as well as their suppliers and any trade association, about how to recycle these products.

Waste & Recycling Education

The Waste Campaigns team has been welcoming university students back to the city over the last month or so, whilst also taking the opportunity to educate them on how to use the Council's recycling services when living in Cardiff. The team has spoken to over 2,000 students so far, and this engagement work is continuing over the coming weeks. The 'Really Rubbish' primary school workshops have also been relaunched this month, and the team is available to visit primary schools across Cardiff to teach children about the importance of reducing and reusing waste items, as well as recycling them correctly.

Hydrogen Day Event

On 10 October 2023, I attended an event at the Pierhead Building in Cardiff Bay that was held to mark Hydrogen Day on 8 October and which showcased the benefits, opportunities and technological advancements relating to the use of low carbon hydrogen as a long-term renewable energy source. The event was organised by HyCymru, the Wales Hydrogen Trade Association, and brought together experts in Wales who are leading the way on clean hydrogen production and distribution, alongside representatives of existing projects in Germany, Finland and the USA. Hydrogen stands to make a significant contribution as a low carbon fuel for both heavy industry and heavy goods transport and it was encouraging to see the wide support and attention that this emerging industry is receiving in the region.

Councillor Caro Wild
Cabinet Member for Climate Change
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