

CARDIFF'S DRAFT RECYCLING AND WASTE STRATEGY 2021-25

Consultation

Appendix B

Reaching
64% and
Beyond



This document is available in Welsh /
Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg



**One
Planet
Waste**



CARDIFF'S DRAFT RECYCLING AND WASTE STRATEGY 2021-25





Cllr Michael foreword

Our draft recycling and waste strategy has been split into 7 key headline aims. These aims represent the range of actions that we need to take over the next 4-5 years, to achieve our statutory recycling targets and maintain Cardiff as a leading recycling City.

You may wish to provide your views within each section, or there may be certain aims that you're more interested in providing a comment on. You can choose which sections, and questions you'd like to answer.

These aims are:

- 1. Improve material quality** - we aim to improve the quality of the recyclable material collected, to provide high quality material to local re-processors. This could be achieved through an expanded recycling collection from kerbside properties, alongside increased support and education for residents.
- 2. Increase recycling participation and capture of priority materials** - we need to make sure that we're doing all we can to encourage recycling as a priority, through all services provided. We will also consider whether a further restriction on general waste collections will encourage increased use of food waste, recycling and hygiene collections.
- 3. Increase opportunities for communities and residents to recycle** - we will work to increase the range of materials we can recycle in Cardiff. Alongside this, we will look to provide convenient community locations to recycle smaller items.
- 4. Make use of all available data, to develop targeted actions** - Cardiff's vision is to be a smart, data led city. We will make seek ways to modernise the service, and ensure our data is available and accessible for all to view.
- 5. Reduce single use plastics** - in line with our vision to be a One Planet Cardiff, we will look to reduce single use plastics through our buildings, and through the collection services we provide.
- 6. Encourage and support the prevention, reuse and repair of materials** - this strategy will aim to provide an increased focus on the waste hierarchy, through partnership working with community groups and organisations, alongside the opening of a re-use shop.
- 7. Contribute towards developing a circular economy within Wales** - everything that we do aims to contribute towards the national objective of One Planet, Zero Waste by 2050. We are already doing some great work here, with the one of the first electric refuse collection vehicles within Wales and we want to expand on this work throughout the cycle of the recycling and waste strategy

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Section 1- Improve material quality

A recent analysis of the material collected from green bags within the City identified that:

- 23.7% of items placed into green bags, collected from the kerbside were incorrect
- 41.4% of items placed into green bags, collected from blocks of flats were incorrect

Whilst our process is able to segregate small items of contamination, for example the incorrect plastic type, the range of 'dirty' material being included in a real issue. For example, food waste, nappies and even medical waste.

For this reason, we lose 30% of the material we collect for recycling, and it is used as fuel to create energy rather than used as a resource and made into new products. To put scale to the issue, that's over 10,000t of material lost in 2019/20. That's the weight of 10,000 giraffes!

While educating residents and enforcing correct use by issuing £100 Fixed Penalty Notices can play a part in changing behaviour, we know that an overhaul and expanded recycling service is required. Staying as we are is not an option.

Further separating materials will improve the quality of items collected. Choosing a container that is not single use, and needs to be returned to a property, will encourage residents to use them correctly. It's also a more sustainable option.

Where collection crews leave recycling containing incorrect items currently, bags are often left on the pavement and attacked by pests. This leads to litter over the floor.

The container type chosen will assist our collection crews in being able to far easier identify if incorrect items have been included, whilst being more resistant

to attacks from pests.

We have considered 2 expanded recycling collection options that are available to us, which are briefly summarised as:

- Full kerbside sort- this option requires the full separation of all recyclable materials, with 4 separate containers provided for glass, paper, cardboard and tins/cans/plastic bottles, tubs and trays. All recyclable materials, including food, are collected on a single collection vehicle and sorted into their own individual compartments on the collection vehicle
- 'Three stream' collection- this option still requires the separation of material, but paper and cardboard is mixed together. Residents will have 3 separate containers for glass, paper/cardboard and tins/cans/plastic bottles, tubs and trays. Recycling is collected on one vehicle, and food waste is collected by a separate vehicle.

These options are explored in more detail on page xxxx of the recycling and waste strategy.

After considering these options, and on balance with the challenges faced within an urban City (more of these challenges can be found on page xxxx), we will be trialling a new collection and improved collection method across 4,000 properties across the City. This collection will involve 3 containers being provided, which is the 'three stream' collection option:

- A red re-useable sack for paper and cardboard
- A blue re-useable sack for tins/cans and plastic bottles, tubs and trays
- A glass caddy for glass bottles and jars

These will all be collected weekly.



Do you agree that this is the most suitable option for Cardiff?

- Yes
- No- a full kerbside sort collection should be considered
- No- there should be different options for different areas of the City
If no, please explain your reasons why



Do you agree that any proposed changes should be implemented on a trial basis?

- Yes
- No

If no, please explain your reasons why



Do you agree that Cardiff needs to improve the quality of material collected?

- Yes
- No

If no, please explain your reasons why



If we were to provide alternative containers for your recycling across the City, which would you prefer:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Re-useable hessian sacks | <input type="radio"/> A mixture of all |
| <input type="radio"/> Recycling boxes | <input type="radio"/> Don't know |
| <input type="radio"/> Recycling caddies | <input type="radio"/> Other |



How do you currently store your recycling before collection?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Keep full bags inside until collection day | <input type="radio"/> Put items straight into green bags outside |
| <input type="radio"/> Line a bin with a bag, and keep it in a bin | <input type="radio"/> Store bags outside once they're full |
| <input type="radio"/> until collection day | <input type="radio"/> Other |



Do you recycle every week?

- Yes No

If yes, rank the below, in order of your priority motivations to recycle

- It's more practical, with recycling collected every week
- I'm told I have to
- It's 'the norm'
- Materials should be used again
- Recycling saves energy
- Recycling brings in income to local authorities
- Recycling increases job opportunities
- To contribute towards reducing the impact of climate change



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Thinking about the materials you recycle in your green bags, and how much you produce, how often do you think you would need a collection?

Material	Weekly	Once a fortnight	Monthly	Don't know
Paper				
Cardboard				
Tins, cans and aerosols				
Plastic bottles, tubs and trays				
Glass bottles and jars				

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Where do you go to access information about the correct materials to put into recycling bags?

- Cardiff Gov app
- Cardiff Council website
- Look on the green recycling bags
- Contact Cardiff Council digitally
- Contact Cardiff Council over the phone
- Request advice from local community
- Don't know where to look for information

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If you don't know whether an item can be recycled in your green bags, what do you do with it?

- Put it in the green bag anyway
- Put it in my black bin/red striped bag
- Make every effort to find out how to recycle it
- Take it to a Household Recycling Centre
- I don't know



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Do you think the Council does enough to inform residents about how and what to recycle?

Yes No

If no, or if you have any comments, how could we improve this?
You can tick more than one answer

- Increased outreach sessions in community locations
- Work with communities and volunteers to help deliver messages
- Make better use of social media, and other digital platforms
- Improve the range of languages that information is available in
- Deliver more leaflets/letters to households
- Work with children, including schools and youth clubs
- More face to face door knocking
- Issue £100 Fixed Penalty Notices for repeated incorrect use, to act as a deterrent
- Other

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Are you aware of what happens to your recycling and waste once it's collected?

Yes No

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If no, would you like more information about this?

Yes No



Garden waste collections

Garden waste collections are not a statutory duty for local councils to provide free of charge. The pressures of COVID 19, and current availability of HGV drivers nationally, has meant a number of delays to collections over the past 18 months. We thank you for your continued patience.

In 2019/20, it cost £95,000 to process incorrect material from within our garden waste collections. We provide a garden waste collection for grass cuttings, non-invasive weeds, trimmings and foliage. However, we regularly find items such as general waste, green recycling bags, garden furniture and nappies when the garden waste load is being processed.

This means the load needs to be sorted, which costs us both financially and environmentally if we lose this material to the energy recovery facility.

From analysis, we know that on the whole, incorrect material is coming from areas that use green wheeled bins. Incorrect material is being 'hidden' at the bottom of the bins, so our collection crews are unable to reject the bin for collection.

We need to consider all options to improve this situation, and we would like to understand your views.



Do you use your garden waste collection?

- Yes No



Which of these do you use for your garden waste collections?

- Green wheeled bin I don't use a garden waste container
 White re-useable sacks



If you use your garden waste collection, how often do you put your garden waste out for collection?

Summer

- Every fortnight Once every couple of months
 Once a month I don't use garden waste collections

Winter

- Each monthly collection
 Just in October/November as the garden dies back
 Once every couple of months



Before the challenges of the past 18 months, we would move to a monthly collection in October. We recognise from feedback that this is often too early to accommodate leaf fall, and the end of the gardening season. **If we were to provide fortnightly garden waste collections up until the end of November, do you agree that you could cope without a collection in December, January or February? We would provide additional services to collect Christmas trees**

- Yes No I don't use garden waste collections

11 Councils in Wales currently charge for the collection of garden waste. By charging for the collection of garden waste, on a subscription basis, Councils are able to ensure they are only visiting the properties that need a collection. This makes collections more efficient, and provides a better service for residents with a reduction in potential delays to the service. In Cardiff, we visit 135,000 households over a fortnight, but we know that on average across the City, only 12% of properties put out their bin every collection. This reduces to 2% over the winter months.



Do you think we should introduce an annual charge of £35 for fortnightly garden waste collections, between March-November? This would be approximately £1.80 per collection. Residents would need to sign up and pay each year.

- Yes No

If you have said yes, why?

- I would rather pay for a kerbside collection than have to take my garden waste elsewhere
- Not everyone has garden waste at their properties, so those who do should pay for a collection
- It would make collections more efficient
- It's not a statutory service, so I'd like to see money invested in other services rather than garden waste collections

If you have said no, why?

- I don't have enough garden waste to pay for collections
- I would just use my black bin/red striped bags
- I would rather take my garden waste to a Household Recycling Centre for free
- The material should be collected for free, as it contributes towards recycling rates
- I could not afford this fee

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Would you sign up for an annual subscription for garden waste collections, if they were provided free of charge? If you did not sign up, you would not receive a garden waste collection at the kerbside

- Yes No

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Do you bring any garden waste to a Household Recycling Centre?

- Yes No

If no, why?

- I can't access a Household Recycling Centre, as I don't have a car
 I don't have any extra garden waste
 I feel it should be collected from the kerbside
 I can't take it in my wheeled bin, and don't have a different container to transport it
 I don't want to take the material in the car, as it can make the car dirty

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If you weren't sure whether an item should be included in your garden waste collections, what would you do with it?

- Hide it in the green bin/white re-useable sack Take it to a Household Recycling Centre
 Put it in my black bin/red striped bag I don't know
 Make every effort to find out how to recycle it

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Do you agree that the collection of garden waste should be temporarily removed from a property, if they are misusing the service? Education and advice would be provided first

- Yes No Don't know



Section 2 - Increase Recycling Participation and capture of priority materials

In Cardiff, we are currently recycling 58% of our material. This falls short of our statutory target of 64% and we are not seeing the year on year increases required to meet 70% recycling by 2025.

We know there is more we can do, improving recycling rates not just from households, but also looking at other operations. For example, our trade waste collections, household recycling centres and street cleansing.

We also need to look at food waste. Food waste is a key contributor towards climate change. 30% of the food we produce is wasted. If, as a planet we stopped wasting food, we'd eliminate 8% of our total emissions.

Yes, despite offering weekly collections of food waste, we know that almost 40% of the waste within black bins/

red striped bag is still made up of both avoidable, and unavoidable, food waste.

If your food waste is avoidable, we'd like to work with you to help you understand how to stop wasting food, working with partners like WRAP Cymru and their Love food Hate Waste Campaign.

But, where food waste is unavoidable, we need you to recycle it. Food waste is a resource, and when processed is used to create energy to power Cardiff homes!

If we could divert all food waste from our black bins/red striped bags into the weekly food collection, we could see a performance increase of around 2%!



FOOD WASTE COLLECTIONS



Do you participate in food waste collections?

- Yes No

If not, why not?

- Don't have the equipment I need
- I live in a flat, and there is no food waste collection
- I don't waste any food, and home compost
- I can put it into my black bin outside, where it won't smell
- It's dirty/unhygienic
- I wasn't aware there was a food waste collection
- Other



If you do participate in food waste collections, how often do you put your kerbside caddy out for collection?

- Every week Every fortnight
- I don't take part in food waste collections



If you recycle food waste, what motivates you to do this? Rank the below, in order of your priority motivations to recycle

- It's more practical, with food waste collected every week
- I wouldn't have space in my black bin/red striped bags if I didn't
- I'm told I have to
- To contribute towards reducing the impact of climate change
- It's 'the norm'
- Recycling food creates energy



What would encourage you to participate, or participate more regularly in food waste collections? (you can choose more than one answer)

- Nothing- I already take part weekly, and could do no more
- More information and education provided about how to take part in the service
- Risk of receiving a £100 Fixed Penalty Notice if I don't take part
- Reduced black bin/red striped bag collections e.g. moving to a 3 weekly collection/ reducing bin size/limiting to 2 red striped bags per collection
- Understanding the benefits of participating, for example the carbon impacts

IMPROVING RECYCLING PARTICIPATION IN BUSINESSES

Cardiff Council's trade team collects recycling and waste from over 3000 businesses in the City. The team offers collections of all recyclable materials, including food waste, paper, glass and cardboard. Despite this, recycling performance is at 40%.



Do you agree that the recycling performance of our trade waste collections needs to increase?

- Yes
- No



Do you believe businesses have a responsibility to ensure they are segregating material for recycling, even if it costs them more money?

- Yes
- No



Are you aware that businesses will soon have a legal obligation to separate all recyclable material for collection? (more information can be found at xxxxx)

- Yes
- No





What do you think may be the challenges businesses face, in separating material for recycling? (you can choose more than 1 answer)

- Lack of internal storage for separate bins
- Lack of external storage for separate bins
- High staff turnover, to explain the correct use of bins
- Costs
- I don't know

HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING CENTRES

We are now recycling over 80% of material at our Household Recycling Centres. This improvement is due to the improved controls, including the booking in system which has deterred traders from illegally disposing of material, and the strong no mixed waste policy now being applied to all users. We thank all residents for embracing these controls, and making our Household Recycling Centres one of the best performing within Wales.



Do you use Household Recycling Centres?

- Yes
 - No
- If yes, which centre do you most regularly use?
- Lamby Way
 - Bessemer Close



Households are currently limited to 30 visits per year (on average, 2 visits per month). Is this allowance enough for your needs?

- Yes
- No



Are there any further improvements you would like to see at the Household Recycling Centres?

- Improved customer signage
- Increased interaction with site attendants
- Removal of the pre booking system
- Improved layout
- Increased opportunities to donate items to be re-used



Do you agree the booking system has improved your experience at the Household Recycling Centres?

- Yes No

If yes, what improvements have you seen?

- Reduced traffic and waiting times
- More spaces to park safely
- Better quality of service from recycling attendants
- Other (please specify)

Do you have any further comments in relation to Household Recycling Centres?



Are you aware that we have a re-use shop, The Cabin, based at Lamby Way Recycling Centre?

- Yes No



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Section 3 - Increase opportunities for residents and communities to recycle

In order to increase our recycling performance, we need to make recycling as easy and accessible as possible for our communities. WRAP's National Recycling Tracker survey 2020 identified that 15% of respondents believed that local council's do not collect enough things for recycling.

We'd also like to be able to support the ability to recycle, without the use of a car. We'd like to increase the provision of local recycling outlets, to prevent barriers and support active travel across the City.



Would you like to see additional materials collected from the kerbside for recycling?

- Yes No Don't know

If yes, what collections would you like to see offered? (you can choose more than one)

- Household batteries
 Tetra Pak (cartons)
 Textiles
 Small electrical items
 Coffee pods
 Nappy recycling
 Other (please specify)



Would you like to be able to recycle smaller items, for example small electrical items & household batteries, locally within your community. For example, within local Hubs?

- Yes No Don't know

If yes, which items would you like to be able to recycle?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Household batteries | <input type="radio"/> Small electrical items |
| <input type="radio"/> Tetra Pak (cartons) | <input type="radio"/> Coffee pods |
| <input type="radio"/> Textiles | <input type="radio"/> Other (please specify) |



Are you aware of Terracycle initiatives, to recycle 'hard to recycle' items such as crisp packets, cleaning products, food pouches (link to Terracycle website)

- Yes No



Local external recycling banks, for items such as glass bottles and paper have been removed in recent years, due to incorrect usage and fly-tipping. When these recycling facilities were available, did you use them?

- Yes No



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Would you like to see the re-introduction of local external recycling banks, within your community?

Yes

No

Don't know



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When you no longer have a use for a large household item, for example a dining table/sofa, how do you remove it from your house?

Book a Council bulky waste collection

Take it to a Household Recycling Centre

Try to donate it to a charity

Advertise for free on social media platforms

Attempt to sell online, and on social media platforms

Arrange a collection from the company I'm buying a new item from



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If the Council could offer a re-use collection for large household items, is this something you would be interested in using?

Yes

No

Don't know

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Section 4 - Make use of all available data, to develop targeted actions

Through our Capital Ambition, Cardiff has identified its vision to be a Smart City. One of our missions is to be a 'data-driven city' using data to improve decision making, provide better services and promote innovation in the City. We will also work to identify sources of data, within the recycling services operation, that we can further publish in line with the open data strategy. This includes

areas such as education and enforcement action statistics, as well as promoting the open data available in relation to recycling and material destinations including stats wales and information published from waste data flow at www.myrecyclingwales.org.uk



Do you think it's important to more openly share data about recycling and waste services?

- Yes No Don't know

If yes, what sort of information would you like to see in the public domain?

- Recycling performance
- Where recycling materials are sent to be processed, and their end destination
- The breakdown of material collected e.g. what material is within green recycling bags, black bins etc
- Contamination levels
- Education and enforcement activities
- Street cleansing statistics
- Number of household collections provided
- Other



Do you agree that there should be regular on street analysis, to determine which households are taking part in recycling services? This would help target residents who may require additional education

Yes

No

Don't know



Where it is identified a household is not taking part in a recycling collection service, do you agree that education and support should be provided to find out why?

Yes

No



Where education and support has been provided, and a property continues to not participate, do you agree that formal enforcement notices should be issued requiring the household to take part?

Yes

No

Don't know



Do you agree that the Council should embrace new technologies, to improve our services. This could include technologies such as litter bin sensors, mobile working devices, on vehicle bin weighing equipment etc

Yes

No

Don't know



Section 5 - Reduce Single Use Plastics

Cardiff's One Planet Strategy proposes a wide range of ambitious actions that will begin to form the basis of a delivery plan to achieve Carbon Neutrality. Within this, there is a commitment to reduce the Council's use of Single Use Plastics, and the recycling and waste service is integral in developing and implementing an action plan for Single Use Plastics.

We currently issue 24 million single use green recycling bags across the City, for the kerbside collection of dry recyclables. As mentioned within Section 1, we recognise the recycling collection service needs to be reviewed not only to improve material quality and increase recycling rates, but to also significantly reduce our carbon impact in terms of single use plastics.



Do you agree that the Council should not be reducing its single use plastic impact, by moving to re-useable recycling containers?

- Yes No Don't know



Do you feel suitably informed about how to recycle different types of plastic?

- Yes No Don't know



The Council has responded in favour in the consultation, to provide deposit return schemes for single use items (you can find out more about this xxx). Would you return your items if a deposit return scheme is introduced within Cardiff?

- Yes No Don't know

If no, what would you do with your items?

- Continue to use kerbside recycling schemes
 Move towards re-useable containers, to avoid increased fee on purchases
 Continue to use litter bins for 'on the go' items
 I don't know



Are you aware of Re-fill Cymru, and its app/website identifying locations that provide re-fill across the City? (link to website)

- Yes No I am now



Would you like to see increased re-fill zones throughout Cardiff, for example water stations in key public locations

- Yes No Don't know



Has the covid-19 pandemic made you more reluctant to re-fill, with a preference to move towards single use, disposable items?

- Yes No Don't know



How do you think the Council could reduce, or support initiatives that reduce single use plastic across the City?



Section 6 - Encourage and support the prevention, reuse and repair of materials

Welsh Government's Beyond Recycling strategy states 'In order to move to a circular, low carbon economy we will need to reduce the amount of waste produced by households, businesses and the public sector so that unnecessary waste is prevented, products are re-used and repair and remanufacturing are a core part of our society'

Our vision is that the actions from Cardiff waste strategy will not just be about achieving statutory recycling targets. Whilst this is a clear priority for Cardiff, we do not want to lose focus of the fact that this performance needs to be generated in a sustainable way. This will be achieved through aims and objectives that not only generate recycling performance, but also those that support waste prevention, reuse and a circular economy.



Do you take participate in any of the following, which aim to prevent waste? You can choose more than one answer

- Use real nappies
- Love food, hate waste initiatives such as only buying what you need, finding a use for left overs, storing food correctly to enhance lifespan
- Home compost
- Shop in zero waste stores
- Take re-useable shopping bags, and refuse single use bags
- Choose 'pre loved' for items such as clothes, furniture
- Take re-fill containers, for drinks, food supplies etc
- Borrow rather than buy
- Other (please specify)



Would you like to see the Council doing more to promote waste minimisation initiatives?

- Yes No Don't know

If yes, what options do you think we should explore?

- Offering incentives to encourage use of real nappies
- Offering incentives to encourage home composting
- Increased promotion of waste minimisation initiatives
- Consider re-usable recycling containers, rather than single use plastics
- Work with partners, to increase the number of re-fill locations in Cardiff
- Other (please specify)



Were you previously aware of the repair options available within Cardiff? Repair Cafes will soon be restarted across the City, and there is a repair directory available at www.repairefficiencywales.co.uk

- Yes No



The Council is currently working with Repair Café Wales, and Benthg Cymru to increase mobile repair/borrowing events across the City. Is this something you would be interested in attending?

- Yes No Don't know



Do you think the Council should develop a Zero waste map, identifying recycling/re-fill locations across the City?

- Yes No Don't know



In partnership with Wastesavers, the Council has launched a re-use shop 'The Cabin' at our Lamby Way Recycling Centre. You will be able to donate items that are too good to waste, which will be sold back to communities at a small cost. As well as creating 30 jobs within the South East Wales region, the operation is also supported by 100 volunteers. Will you donate items, and/or shop at The Cabin?

- Yes - I'll do both
 Yes - I will shop there
 Yes - I will donate there
 No
 Don't know

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Section 7 - Contribute towards a circular economy within Wales

As stated in Beyond Recycling 'The Government cannot bring about the transition to a circular economy alone.' We recognise the individual actions play a big part in this transition, and will work with our residents and other stakeholders to recognise their contribution.

As a Council, we also have a clear responsibility to work towards this goal, with much of our corporate

vision outlined within our One Planet Cardiff strategy. One of the areas we are working on is reducing carbon emissions, by considering the use of electric vehicles within our vast collections and cleansing fleet. We currently have 17 electric vehicles across the service, and are one of the first Welsh local authorities to have an electric Refuse Collection Vehicle (RCV).



Do you agree that the Council should look to move the electrical vehicles, where the relevant infrastructure is available?

Yes

No

Don't know

Cardiff is committed to being a child friendly city, and we are already working with our child friendly city teams, in making young person's ideas a reality. We are doing this by expanding Terracycle points throughout the City and painting a community mural at the Recycling Centre designed by children.



Do you agree that it's important to tap into the enthusiasm of young people, to make long term changes? For example, through offering recycling and waste minimisation talks to schools

Yes

No

Don't know



Cardiff Council is a partner of Caru Cymru, a Keep Wales Tidy initiative which aims to inspire everyone to take action and take care of the Environment. The vision is for Caru Cymru to be interwoven into life in Wales, so it becomes second nature to 'do the right thing'. This could mean taking litter home, recycling 'on the go', cleaning up after your dog.

We are so lucky in Cardiff to have a comprehensive network of passionate volunteers through the Love where you Live campaign.



Have you volunteered to improve the local environmental quality of your area in the past?

- Yes No Don't know

If yes, how did you take part in the volunteering?

- I'm a Love where you live Litter champion
 I'm a Keep Cardiff Tidy Litter champion
 I'm part of a community group e.g. Keep Grangetown Tidy
 I just saw the opportunity and got involved



Would you like to learn more about volunteering in Cardiff?

- Yes No Don't know



Do you agree that a deposit return scheme should be launched in Wales, to reduce the impact of litter on the Local Environment. As part of this scheme, you would receive money back if disposable bottles were returned to a deposit return point. Please remember, this is a scheme that would need to be introduced by the Government in Westminster, and not Cardiff Council

- Yes No Don't know