

Essex Waste Partnership

# DRAFT WASTE STRATEGY



# FOR ESSEX

2024 - 2054

## Survey Easy Read version



**RETHINKING**  
OUR WASTE

Working together for Essex  
Essex County Council,  
Essex District, Borough  
and City Councils

# Introduction

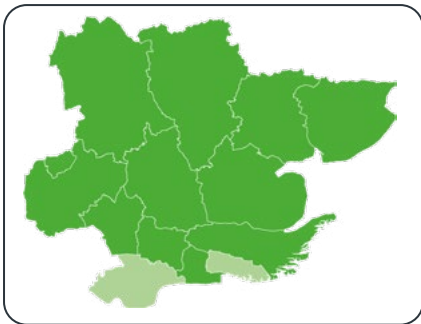


When we say ‘we’ in this document, we mean the ‘**Essex Waste Partnership**’. (**The EWP**)

The EWP is made up by the councils in Essex.



This does not include Southend and Thurrock.



When we say “you” we mean people who live within the boundaries of Essex County Council.

If you live in Southend and Thurrock you are not included in this strategy.



The councils in Essex are working together to make a new “Waste Strategy”.



This strategy will tell you how we will manage the waste made in Essex for the next 30 years.



There is an EasyRead version of the strategy.

# Introduction



The strategy explains the goals for how we will reduce and manage waste in Essex.

## Why are we doing this?



- The current strategy for Essex was created in 2007. It needs to be updated as a lot has changed since then.



- Waste management has an effect on climate change. It is currently responsible for about 4% of greenhouse gas emissions in the UK.

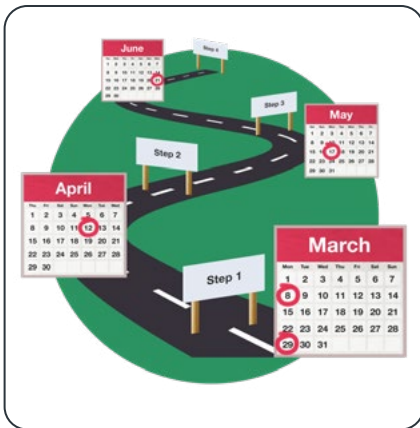


- We need to reduce our impact on the environment. We need to do this now to achieve the goal of Essex becoming a net zero county by 2050.



- We can help reduce the amount of greenhouse gas emissions made by the way we collect and treat waste.

# The Essex Waste Strategy



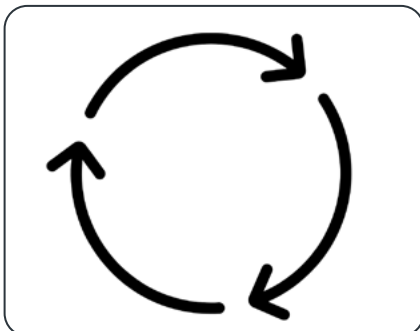
We have written the draft strategy so we are clear about how we aim to reduce waste.

It tells you what we are aiming to do, by when and how.



The key parts of the draft strategy are:

- Working together to make a better waste system.

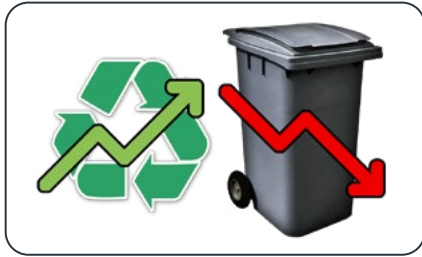


- Using a **Circular Economy**. This means minimising our waste and recycling more.



- Design a system that puts waste reduction first.

# The Essex Waste Strategy



- Helping people to reduce waste and recycle more.



- What we can do with things we cannot recycle.



- Setting targets and aims that will help us reach our goal.



- Being able to measure how well we are doing to meet our targets.



**Targets** are what we need to achieve.

We would like to go beyond these targets.

**Aims** are what we would like to achieve

# Why your views matter



We want to know what you think. This will help us to make the right choices and understand what our strategy means for people living in Essex.



We want to understand whether you think the focus areas and goals in the strategy are the right ones.

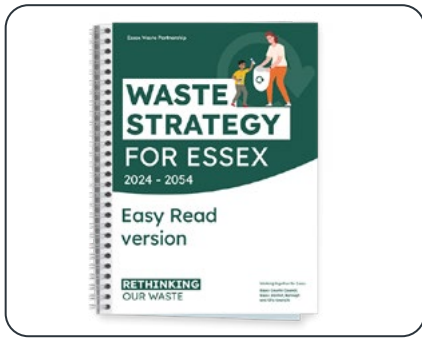


We want to know if there is anything else you think we should think about.



We will look at all the feedback we receive. Each response will help make the final version of the Waste Strategy for Essex.

# Why your views matter



You do not have to take part if you do not want to.

But your answers will help us to write the final 2024 - 2054 Waste Strategy for Essex.



We follow the law about data protection.



We will not share any information about you without your consent.

Some of the questions use a scale.



Yes



I'm not sure



No

# The EWP's Goal

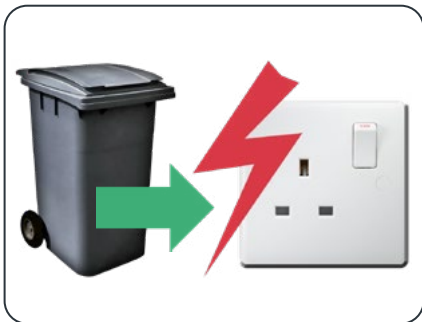


## Our goal:

We aim to be a **zero waste** county. By working together, we will reduce waste, protect the environment and resources.



**Zero waste** means reusing and recycling as much as possible. It also means using **recovery** for the waste that is left over.



**Recovery** is when waste is treated and used to make energy or other materials.



**Net Zero** means the amount of greenhouse gases released and the amount removed is the same. To have net-zero carbon we need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions



# Question 1: The EWP's Goal

Please tick the box to tell us if you agree or disagree with the goal.



Is becoming a **zero waste** county important to you?



Yes



I'm not sure



No



Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about the goal?

Please write below.



# Our Targets

**Targets are things we are committed to doing.**



## **Our Targets**

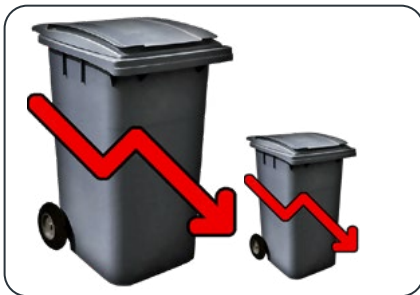
We need to at least reach the national targets set by the government.

Our proposed targets are:



## **Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

We will help to reduce the county's greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050.



## **Waste reduction**

We will halve the amount of leftover waste made by each person by 2042.



## **Recycling**

We will reuse, recycle or compost 65% of waste by 2035.



## **Waste disposal**

We will send no more than 10% of waste to landfill by 2035.

# Our Targets



## Collection services

We will provide food waste collections to everyone by 2026.

We will collect a wide range of recycling at kerbside by 2026.



The Essex Waste Partnership is one of the biggest waste partnerships in the UK.



They need to help reach the national targets for waste and recycling.



By setting targets and measuring how well they are doing, it helps us know how well the partnership is performing.

## Question 2: Our Targets

Please tick the box to tell us your views on the targets?



**We need to at least reach the national targets set by the government.**



I agree with the targets



I'm not sure



I disagree with the targets

**If you disagree, why do you disagree?**

We need more targets

We need less targets

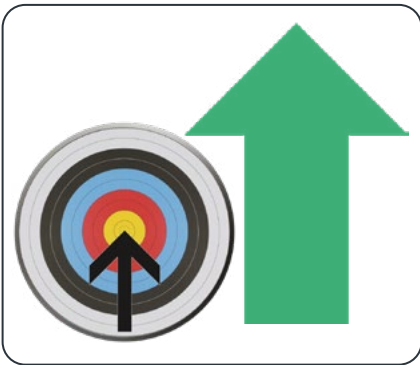


Are there any targets you think are missing?

Please write below.



# Our Aims



## Our Aims

The strategy also has aims that go further than the national targets. These will deliver bigger changes and quicker impact.



## Waste reduction

We aim to reduce waste by 10% by 2030. We hope that Essex will be a **zero waste** county by 2054.



## Recycling

We aim to reuse, recycle or compost 70% of waste by 2030.



## Waste disposal

We aim to send **zero waste** to landfill by 2030.

## Question 3: Our Aims

Please tick the box to tell us your views on the aims?



**What do you think about the aims?**



I agree with  
the aims



I'm not sure



I disagree  
with the aims

**If you disagree, why do you disagree?**

We need more aims

We need less aims



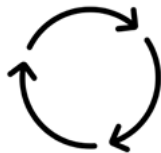
Are there any aims you think are missing?

Please write below.



# What we will do

The next questions are about what we plan to do and how we will do it.



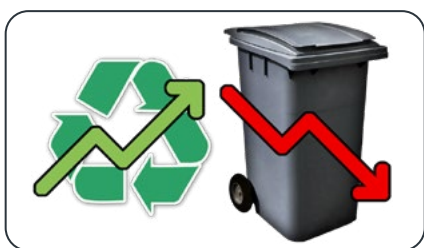
- Help move to a **Circular Economy**.



- Provide services that deliver the **Waste Hierarchy**.



- Working together to make a better waste system.

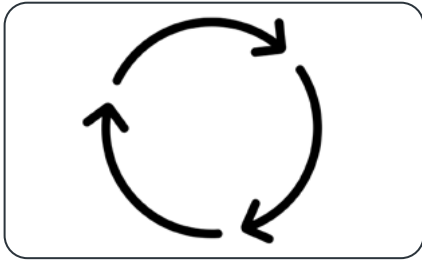


- Teach people how to reduce their waste and recycle more



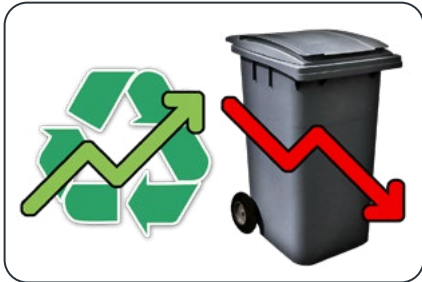
- Keep you up to date

# What we will do - Use a Circular Economy



## A Circular Economy

The best way to minimise our waste is to use a **Circular Economy**. This is where things are made to be reused forever.



This means we will reduce our waste, reuse things and recycle more.

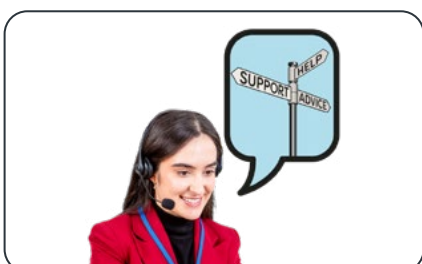
## The EWP will:



Make the most of ideas in the **Circular Economy** model that will help Essex.



Rethink what to do with things that we cannot recycle.



Help businesses and people living in Essex do this.



# What we will do - Use a Circular Economy



## Why is the Circular Economy a good thing?

The way we make things is important. A **Circular Economy** removes waste completely.



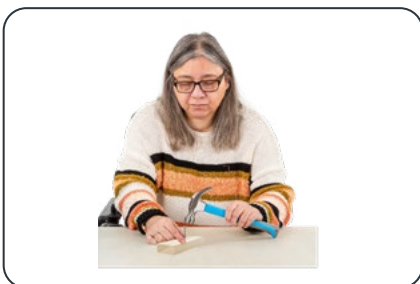
## Where are we now?

Most items are still designed to be used and then thrown away. They often can't be used in the same way and overtime, can't be recycled anymore.



## How do we get to a Circular Economy?

To use the **Circular Economy** model, we need to think about how things are made.



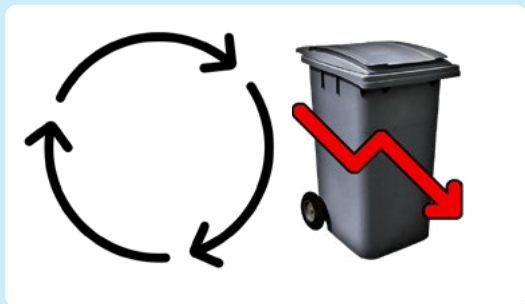
Items need to be long-lasting and easy to repair. This allows people to reuse the items for as long as possible.



When items can no longer be reused or repaired, they should be easy to break down and recycle.

## Question 4: Using a Circular Economy

Please tick the box to tell us if you agree or disagree with this.



**Is using a Circular Economy in Essex important to you?**



Yes



I'm not sure



No

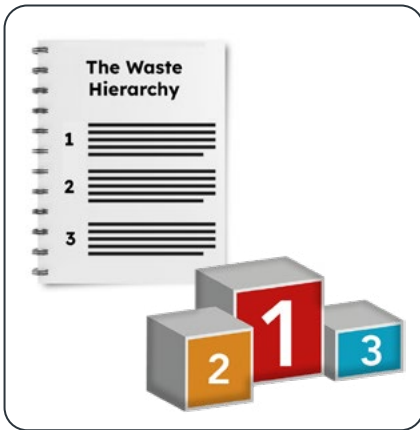


Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about using a Circular Economy?

Please write below.



# What we will do - Use the Waste Hierarchy



## What is the Waste Hierarchy?

The **Waste Hierarchy** is a way to rate waste management options by what is best for the environment.

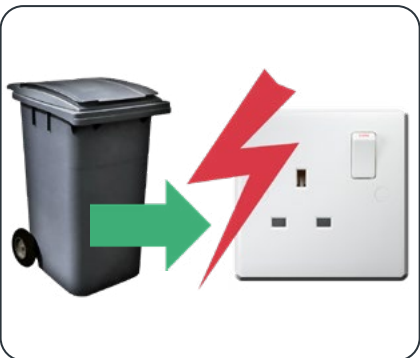
It is a legal set of rules that is important for waste management.



## What does it mean?

Avoiding waste is the best activity and landfill is the worst.

Items and materials should be reused first. When they are no longer reusable, they should be recycled.



They should only be sent for **recovery** or disposal as a last resort.

**Recovery** is when waste is treated and used to make energy or other materials.



Reaching **zero waste** in Essex means reusing and recycling as much as possible. It also means using **recovery** for what is left over.

# What we will do - Use the Waste Hierarchy



The best way to reduce the impact of waste is to stop waste being made in the first place.

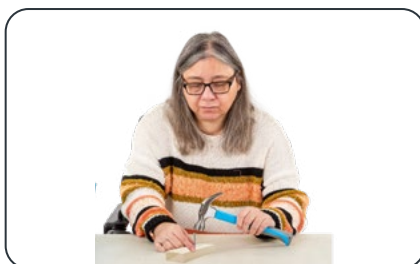


Using the **Waste Hierarchy** system will make sure we make the right choices about waste.



Using the **Waste Hierarchy** system means we will:

- Help people living in Essex to reduce their waste



- Help people living in Essex to reuse and repair more

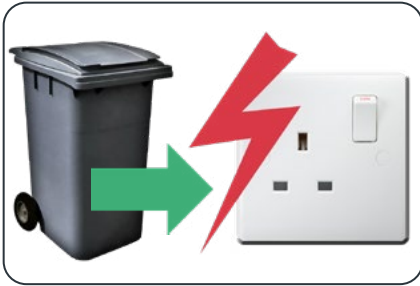


- Help people living in Essex to recycle more



- Send less waste to landfill

# What we will do - Use the Waste Hierarchy



- Use **Recovery** to treat waste that cannot be recycled to make energy



## Why is waste prevention important?

We need a big change to reach our targets. We need to recycle more, but also need to address the problem that we create too much waste.



## Why is re-use important?

We create too much waste. If we reuse more items, we can reduce the amount of waste generated.



## Why shouldn't we use landfill?

Landfill is the last resort. We must make sure that the impact of waste disposal is as little as possible.

# Question 5: Use the Waste Hierarchy

Please tick the box to tell us if you agree or disagree with this.



**Is using the Waste Hierarchy system in Essex important to you?**



Yes



I'm not sure



No



Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about using the Waste Hierarchy?

Please write below.



# Work together



The amount of people in Essex is likely to grow by 6%. More people means more waste produced.



It is important that waste services respond to these changes so we can improve the way we manage waste.



The government has made the Environment Act 2021. This is a guide on how to manage waste using the **Circular Economy** model.



It will also put new rules on councils and businesses to make sure they are doing their part.



**The EWP will:**

Work together to make a better waste system.

Work with government and businesses to make a better waste system.

## Question 6: Work together

Please tick the box to tell us if you agree or disagree with this.



**Is it important for us to work together to make a better waste system?**



Yes



I'm not sure



No



Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about the partnership working together?

Please write below.





# Educate



People make mistakes. Some people do not realise the affect their waste has on the environment.

Many people place items in the recycling that shouldn't go in there.

Lots of people find it difficult to reduce their waste.



**The EWP will:**

Teach people how to reduce their waste and recycle more.



The Love Essex brand helps councils in Essex deliver campaigns and services. Love Essex aims to inspire people living in Essex to reduce their waste and recycle more.

## Question 7: Educate

Please tick the box to tell us if you agree or disagree with this.



**Is it important to teach people how to reduce their waste and recycle more?**



Yes



I'm not sure



No



Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about teaching people to reduce waste and recycle more?

Please write below.



# Keep you up to date



This strategy will last for 30 years, from 2024 to 2054.



The type and amount of waste created will change.



We think it is important that people living in Essex know how we are getting on with the strategy and can get involved.

## The EWP will:



Share our progress on our goal, targets and aims

Involve people living in Essex

## Question 8: Keep you up to date

Please tick the box to tell us if you agree or disagree with this.



**Is it important to keep you up to date?**



Yes



I'm not sure



No



Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about keeping you up to date?

Please write below.





Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about the **Waste Strategy**?

Please write below.



## About you

The following questions are to help us understand more about you. You do not have to answer these questions if you do not want to.

How old are you? Please tick the box



Under 16

16 to 24

25 to 34

35 to 44

55 to 64

45 - 54

Over 65

Prefer not to say

Where in Essex do you live? Please tick the box



Chelmsford

Basildon

Braintree

Brentwood

Castle Point

Colchester

Epping  
Forest

Harlow

Maldon

Rochford

Tendring

Uttlesford

Southend

Thurrock

I don't live in  
Essex

Prefer not to  
say

What gender do you most identify with? Please tick the box



A man

A woman

Non-binary

Prefer not to  
say

I use my  
own word

Please answer here if  
you would like to tell  
us in your own words:

What is your ethnic background? Please tick the box



White: British

White: Irish

White: Other

Gypsy / Roma

Black : African

Black: Caribbean

Black: Other

Asian: Pakistani

Asian: Indian

Asian: Other

Mixed: White/  
Black African

Mixed: White/  
Black Caribbean

Mixed: White/  
Asian

Mixed: Other

Traveller

Chinese

Not known

Prefer not to  
say

Who has completed this questionnaire? Please tick



I answered the questions for myself



I answered the questions for someone else

Do you have a disability? Please tick the box



Yes

No

Prefer not to say

This is how I describe my disability

What is your religion? Please tick the box



Christian

Muslim

Hindu

Buddhist

Sikh

Jewish

None

Not sure

Other





If you have any questions or comments about this survey, you can email us at:

[wastestrategyforessex@essex.gov.uk](mailto:wastestrategyforessex@essex.gov.uk)



Or you can post it to us at:

Freepost RTKH-XUBZ-CJZS  
Essex County Council  
Waste Strategy for Essex  
County Hall  
Chelmsford  
CM1 1QH



Thank you for taking the time to answer our questions.



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Paper copies will be accepted by post until 29 November 2023.