



WASTE STRATEGY

FOR ESSEX

2024 - 2054

Appendix 4 National Policy and Legislation

The management of waste is heavily regulated to ensure everyone has access to waste and recycling services and to protect the environment now and for future generations.

It is important that both current and emerging national policy and legislation is followed when designing and operating waste services or developing a strategy.

Some of the most significant national policy and legislation impacting waste management and the development of the Waste Strategy for Essex are:

Environmental Protection Act 1990: This details the roles and obligations of councils to collect and dispose of waste

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1990/43/contents>

Our Waste, Our Resources: A Strategy for England (2018): This is the national policy for waste management in England. It sets an overarching framework for waste management in England with a focus on:

- preserve material resources by minimising waste, promoting resource efficiency and moving towards a circular economy.
- Protecting the natural environment by reducing and managing waste safely, and tackling waste crime.

The strategy sets national commitments and targets relating to waste reduction and recycling, as well as limiting the use of landfill.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/765914/resources-waste-strategy-dec-2018.pdf

The Environment Act 2021: This piece of legislation provides the Government with the powers to deliver on many of the commitments detailed in ‘Our Waste, Our Resources: A Strategy for England (2018)’ through the introduction of new waste regulations in the future. It includes specific powers relating to:

- **Extended Producer Responsibility** to make manufacturers and retailers responsible for the cost of dealing with their products when they are thrown away
- **Deposit Return Schemes** allowing for the introduction of a national for returnable deposits on drinks bottles
- **Consistency of Collections** to expand the range of materials collected from households for recycling and composting
- **Labelling of Products** to make it easier to understand what can and cannot be recycled

The Circular Economy Package (2018): This EU regulation has been transposed into UK law and sets legally binding national targets to:

- Recycle at least 65% of waste by 2035
- Reduce landfill to maximum of ten percent of waste by 2035

The Essex Waste Partnership will review the impact of national policy throughout the life of the strategy to ensure any future decisions taken are fully aligned with new legislation.

Essex Waste Partnership

This information is issued by Essex County Council on behalf of Essex Waste Partnership

To have your say on the draft Waste Strategy for Essex 2024-2054 and to see the full list of appendixes, visit <https://consultations.essex.gov.uk/rci/waste-strategy-for-essex-consultation/>

For help filling out the survey, call **0345 6037625**

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RETHINKING
OUR WASTE