



Cabinet

To the Cabinet on Friday, 27 January 2023

Date of meeting: Monday, 06 February 2023

Time: 17:30 Please note start time.

Venue: The Council Chamber

The Symington Building, Adam and Eve Street, LE16 7AG

Members of the public can access a live broadcast of the meeting from the [Council website](#), and the meeting webpage. The meeting will also be open to the public.

- Information Exchange from Portfolio Holder
- Topical Issues
 - Questions
 - Petitions
 - Notices of Motion

Agenda

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| 1 | Apologies for Absence | |
| 2 | Declarations of Members' Interests | |
| 3 | Draft Cabinet Minutes - 16 January 2023 | 3 - 10 |
| 4 | Budget 2023.24 and Medium-Term Financial Strategy (2024.25 to 2026.27)- To Follow | |
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| 8 | Section 100A(4) - Local Government Act 1972 | 157 - 158 |

- 9 Exempt: Interim Update of Harborough District Commercial Services Limited to the Shareholder**
- 10 To consider any matters of special urgency (to be decided by the Leader)**

LIZ ELLIOTT
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HARBOROUGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Phillip King - Leader, Simon Whelband - Member

HARBOROUGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE CABINET MEETING

held at
Council Chamber, The Symington Building, Adam and Eve Street,
Market Harborough, LE16 7AG

16th January 2023

commencing at 5.30pm

Present:

Councillors: Bateman, Dann, Hallam, King (Chair) and Whelband

Officers: E. Bird, C. Bland, R. Chew, L Elliott, S. Hamilton, V. Jessop, C Mason & C.
Pattinson, J. Ward-Langman,

Officers remotely: D. Atkinson and C. Pattinson

INFORMATION EXCHANGE FROM PORTFOLIO HOLDERS

Strategy

Councillor King reported that the UK Shared Prosperity Business Grants fund recently opened for the first round, and closes at the end of January 2023. He also reported that case studies should be available shortly regarding the funding given to small businesses within the district to aid recovery post the pandemic.

Councillor King also advised that he had recently attended meetings with Aviva and Stagecoach to discuss changes and problems with bus services across the district.

TOPICAL ISSUES

There were none.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were none.

DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

There were none.

MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on the 5th December 2022 be approved as a correct record.

ELECTRICITY SUPPLY CONTRACT

The Portfolio Holder introduced the report which recommended the awarding of a contract that will secure the Council's electricity supply from October 2024 to September 2028 at the most advantageous price.

Long term commitment to contracts for energy enables the Council to achieve value for money and security of supply. ESPO traders purchase energy up to 18 months in advance and by opting into this purchasing strategy, the Council is likely to achieve significantly better value for money than through alternative procurement arrangements.

In response to a question regarding the environmental implications including contributions to achieving a net zero carbon Council by 2030, it was confirmed that the installation of solar panels on Council buildings would be one example of contributing towards the Council achieving its goal of overall energy efficiency and exploring the use of localised renewable energy.

Following the discussion it was;

RESOLVED that :

- (i) the Council award a contract for electricity supplies commencing October 1st, 2024 to TotalEnergies Gas & Power Ltd. (TotalEnergies) via Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation (ESPO) Framework Reference 191_24.
- (ii) authority be delegated to the Council Leader, Portfolio holders and Deputy Chief Executive to opt in or out of the 'green tariff' that is available when charges are reviewed on a six-monthly basis.

Reasons for Recommendations

Electricity supplies are essential to the Council's operation and function; the Council has procured its energy requirements through ESPO frameworks for some time, and

this has proved cost-effective. Procurement of a new contract by the same method will ensure supply and is the preferred means of achieving value for money.

DRAFT BUDGET 2023/24 & THE MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY (2024/25 TO 2027/28)

The Portfolio Holder introduced the report which set out the Councils Draft 2023/24 Budget and Medium-Term Financial Strategy (2024/25 to 2027/28) (MTFS) in respect of revenue, capital, and reserves.

It was noted that over the past few months all services have been reviewing their service budgets and have generated net savings of £957k for 2023/24 (£4.5m over the MTFS period). Further, on the 19th December the government issued their provisional financial settlement which awarded the Council New Homes Bonus of £1.7m and other grants in excess of £1m. In summary it was noted that the Council has a surplus revenue budget for the first two years of the MTFS (£4.2m), which will be set-aside, to contribute to meeting the forecast deficit budgets of the last three years of the MTFS (£4.5m).

The Portfolio Holder highlighted that the Council has addressed significant inflationary pressures, which have been incorporated into the service budgets. Following the Council decision in December 2022 not to approve the Councils participation in a Strategic Partnership with Melton Borough Council, the budget does not include any savings that were included in the business case.

In February 2022, Council approved the 2022/23 Budget and MTFS and the key points to note were as follows:

- service net expenditure of £11.6m,
- budget requirement of £13.0m,
- Council Tax (Band D) of £177.97, and
- Council Tax Base of 37,389.4

As part of 2021/22 year-end, the 2021/22 Quarter 4 was reported to Cabinet in July and £286k in brought forwards was agreed. In addition, £175k grants were required to be brought forward. This resulted in a 2022/23 Updated Budget with a net expenditure of £12.0m.

The Council has delivered a number of other initiatives over the past year, including: a new Corporate Plan; development of both a Young Persons and Rural Strategies; continued its significant ICT transformation programme; submitted a Round 1 Levelling Up bid; been successful in achieving considerable external government funding (including £2.1m in UK Shared Prosperity Fund); distributed £630k in Jubilee Grants

to celebrate the late HM the Queens Platinum Jubilee; and over the past few months, along with Melton Borough Council the Council had been developing a joint business case to support a strategic partnership between the two Councils.

Following a comprehensive discussion it was;

RESOLVED that :

- A. The following be included in the Draft “Revenue” 2023/24 Budget and MTFS (2024/25 to 2027/28):
 - (i) various service-related budget changes noted in paragraphs 3.5 to 3.11 to the report.
 - (ii) various non-service funding budget changes noted in paragraphs 3.12 to 3.17 to the report.
 - (iii) Council Tax, Business Rates and Collection Fund related budget changes noted in paragraphs 3.18 to 3.23 to the report

This includes an increase in Council Tax for 2023/24 of 2.99% and a notional increase of 2.99% for each year of the MTFS (2024/25 to 2027/28).
- B. Authority be delegated to the Director, Resources, following consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance & Assets, to distribute the “Final” Forecast 2022/23 Collection Fund Surplus/(Deficit) to respective Preceptors by the statutory deadline (31st January) as detailed in paragraph 3.24 to the report.
- C. Draft Budget 2023/24 and MTFS (2024/25 to 2027/28) be approved as summarised at Table 4. The detailed service budgets are shown at Appendix 1 and 2, as detailed in paragraphs 3.25 to 3.26 to the report.
- D. Reserves allocations be approved as summarised at Table 5, Appendix 4, as detailed in paragraphs 3.27 to 3.31 to the report.
- E. Capital Programme for 2023/24 and for the MTFS (2024/25 to 2027/28) be approved as shown at Appendix 5, as detailed in paragraphs 3.32 to 3.37 to the report.
- F. Authority be delegated to the Director, Resources, following consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance & Assets, in respect of capital projects that are impacted by inflation. The detailed wording of the delegation is shown at paragraph 3.36 to the report.

2. The continuation of the transformation programme and continuous improvement be endorsed, thereby ensuring that the Council remains “Committed to Financial Sustainability & Resilience to enable Community Investment”.

Reasons for Recommendations

To provide the opportunity for consultation on the emerging budget position for 2023/24 and the MTFs, with a focus on the revenue budget, reserve allocations and proposals for the capital programme.

MID-YEAR TREASURY MANAGEMENT REPORT 2022/23 AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS

In accordance with the requirements of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy’s (CIPFA) Code of Practice on Treasury Management, the Council is required to receive, as a minimum, three main treasury reports each year – the annual Treasury Management Strategy Statement, a Mid-year Review Report and an Annual Report.

The Portfolio Holder introduced the report thereby ensuring that the Council is implementing best practice in accordance with the Code.

Further information was requested regarding details of the investment institution SMBC, as detailed in Appendix 3 to the report. Post meeting note: SMBC Bank International plc is a wholly owned subsidiary of its Japanese parent company SMBC. It was established in March 2003 as Sumitomo Mitsu Banking Corporation Europe Limited and changed its name in 2020 to SMBC Bank International plc.

RESOLVED that :

- (i) the Mid-Year Treasury Management Report for 2022/23 and treasury activity be noted.
- (ii) the Prudential Indicators be noted.

Reasons for Recommendations

The regulatory environment places responsibility on Members for the review and scrutiny of treasury management policy and activities.

ANNUAL TREASURY MANAGEMENT REPORT 2021/22 AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS

The Portfolio Holder introduced the report highlighting that the Council is required by regulations issued under the Local Government Act 2003 to produce an annual treasury management review of activities and the actual prudential and treasury indicators for 2021/22. He advise that this report meets the requirements of both the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management, (the Code), and the CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities, (the Prudential Code).

RESOLVED that :

- (i) the Annual Treasury Management Report for 2021/22 be noted.
- (ii) the Prudential Indicators for 2021/22 be noted.

Reasons for Recommendations

The regulatory environment places responsibility on members for the review and scrutiny of treasury management policy and activities.

HOUSING ENFORCEMENT POLICIES AND FINANCIAL PENALTIES

The Portfolio Holder introduced the report which outlined the Council's approach to housing enforcement to ensure that there is transparency for owners, landlords, agents and tenants of private sector and social housing properties through the Housing Enforcement Policy and more specific enforcement powers including the introduction of civil penalties for certain housing offences.

Following a discussion it was;

RESOLVED that :

- (i) subject to consultation identifying no significant impacts upon a draft policy, the following draft policies be approved :-
 - a) The Housing Enforcement Policy (appendix A)
 - b) The Housing Enforcement Civil Penalties Policy (appendix B)
 - c) The Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards Policy (appendix C)
 - d) The Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Policy (appendix D).
- (ii) any draft policy be reconsidered which is the subject of a representation that has a significant impact upon the proposed policy.

- (iii) authority be delegated to the Director of Governance and Law the authority to incorporate minor amendments required following consultation into the policies, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Communities Wellbeing and Housing.

Reasons for Recommendations

Local Housing Authorities (“LHA”) are the primary enforcement agency for ensuring the protection of the health, safety and welfare rights for occupiers and visitors in private sector housing within England and Wales.

The housing enforcement policy sets out the general approach of Harborough District Council (“the council”) to private sector housing enforcement and it sets out what owners, landlords, their agents and tenants of private sector properties can expect from officers.

The introduction of civil penalties or financial penalties provides officers with a different tool to deal with non-compliant landlords and can be used as an alternative to prosecution. The council must have approved and published policies before they can issue financial penalties.

CORE BUSINESS SYSTEMS SOFTWARE

The Portfolio Holder introduced the report which proposed the awarding of a contract that would provide business critical software supporting the day to day functioning of the Council.

RESOLVED that the contract to supply hosted software including Uniform, Document Management System, Public Access & Total Land Charges for a period of 4 years, with a 2 year extension if required, be awarded to Idox Software Ltd.

Reasons for Recommendations

Robust and integrated software packages are essential for the day to day running of a wide variety of services across the Council. A review of the Council requirements and possible solutions in the market took place in Q4 2021. It identified that limited alternatives to the Idox products are available, especially when investigating solutions that fit with the ICT Strategy Principles.

All options for the future provision of integrated software solutions were comprehensively assessed in an outline business case prepared in March 2022. The

business case had regard to the cost of moving to an alternative solution, the functionality required across multiple Service Areas and the key dependencies required for the ICT Transformation Programme. It was concluded that the Idox software solution was the most appropriate for the Council.

TO CONSIDER ANY MATTERS OF SPECIAL URGENCY

There were none.

The meeting ended at 6.26 pm

Harborough District Council

LEICESTERSHIRE RESOURCES AND WASTE STRATEGY 2022 - 2050



Title:	Report 2: LEICESTERSHIRE RESOURCES AND WASTE STRATEGY 2022 - 2050
Status:	Public
Key Decision:	Yes
Report Author:	Russell Smith Head of Environmental Services.
Portfolio Holder:	Cllr Jonathan Bateman Planning, Environment and Waste
Appendices:	1. Leicestershire Resources and Waste Management Strategy 2022 – 2050 2. Equality Impact Assessment

Executive Summary

This report sets out the final draft of the Leicestershire Resources and Waste Strategy (LRWS Strategy) 2022-2050. It replaces the previous Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy originally adopted in 2002.

The LRWS strategy has been developed through a collaborative approach between district and county council partners that form the Leicestershire Waste Partnership. It has been finalised further to an extensive public consultation and sets out how the Leicestershire Waste Partnership intends to manage municipal waste up until 2050.

The strategy contains a range of pledges. Some of the pledges contained within the Leicestershire Resources and Waste Strategy can only be implemented if sufficient ongoing additional funding is provided by Government to cover the costs incurred by both the waste disposal and collection authorities respectively.

The LRWS will be considered for adoption by all councils that form the Leicestershire Waste Partnership.

Recommendations

It is recommended that Cabinet:

1. Adopt the Leicestershire Resources and Waste Strategy (appendix 1).
2. Endorse the continuation of the waste partnership but request that it is developed and enhanced to ensure appropriate political, strategic and organisational engagement.
3. Request the partnership explores collaborative opportunities which have the potential to deliver environmental improvements, whilst helping to reduce costs across the waste-system, such that cost shunting is avoided and mutual benefits are shared across all partners.

4. That authority is delegated to the Director for Communities and Wellbeing, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Environment and Waste to sign off any further amendments to the strategy on behalf of Harborough District Council, to incorporate legislative, regulatory, or national policy changes recommended by the Leicestershire Waste Partnership. Any such changes would be communicated in writing to all members.

Reasons for Recommendations

1. The Strategy provides a policy framework to enable a sustainable system of waste management to be implemented.
2. Policy Justification and Previous Decisions - Under the Waste and Emissions Trading Act 2003, all two-tier authorities are required to have in place a Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for the management of municipal waste within their areas. The LRWS sets out how the LWP intends to manage municipal waste in the period up to 2050. The LRWS replaces the Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy (LMWMS) which was last updated in 2011.
3. The results from the consultation exercise have been incorporated and a final Strategy produced.
4. The Strategy provides a policy framework to enable a sustainable system of waste management to be implemented.
5. The Strategy includes objectives and pledges which provide guiding principles and commitments to deliver the waste management service as a whole to meet the overall vision.
6. Each authority within the Leicestershire Waste Partnership (LWP), which comprises the County Council and the seven district councils in Leicestershire, is in the process of seeking adoption of the final Strategy.
7. The Strategy sets out the broad direction for delivery of service development. Further work is required on the details before any major changes can be introduced.

1. Purpose of Report

2. To seek the Cabinet approval and adoption of the Leicestershire Resources and Waste Strategy 2022 (LRWS/Strategy). The Strategy sets out how the Leicestershire Waste Partnership (LWP) intends to manage municipal waste up until 2050.

3. Background

4. The first Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy (LMWMS) was adopted by the Leicestershire Waste Partnership (LWP) in 2002. In 2006 it was comprehensively reviewed including a public consultation and full Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The Strategy was subsequently updated in 2011 to reflect changes in performance and the economic climate since 2006 but maintained the objectives of the 2006 Strategy.
5. The LWP commissioned consultants Frith Resource Management to undertake a full review of the Strategy.
6. The national Resources and Waste Strategy (RWS) was released in 2018. It focuses on known problems with effective solutions that will reduce reliance on single use plastics,

cut confusion over household recycling, tackle the problems of packaging and end food waste.

7. The RWS outlines how the Government aims to make the UK more resource efficient and to move towards a circular economy which keeps resources in use for longer. The RWS covers the period until 2050 and includes the Circular Economy Package target of 65% recycling rate of municipal solid waste by 2035.

8. Details

9. Following on from the publication of the national RWS, two rounds of consultations were released with local authorities identified as key stakeholders. These included proposals that are expected to affect local waste services including mandatory weekly food waste collections, free garden waste collections, the introduction of a deposit return scheme for single use drinks containers, extended producer responsibility for packaging (this is in essence where the full cost of collection, recycling and disposing of packaging is met by the producers of the packaging), and a move towards consistent waste collections by all local authorities. These three policies are known collectively as the 'Collection and Packaging Reforms' and consist of;
 - a. Deposit Return Schemes (DRS) (England, Wales & NI) – closed June 2021
 - b. Reforming the UK packaging responsibility system/Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) (UK) – closed June 2021
 - c. Consistency in household and business recycling collections (England) – closed July 2021
10. To date, the results of the second round of consultations have only been published for extended producer responsibility for packaging (pEPR). They have not yet been published for a deposit return scheme and consistency in household and business recycling collections.
11. Legislation to enable the policy changes within the RWS are contained within the Environment Act which received Royal Assent on 9 November 2021.
12. The review of the LMWMS has considered the potential forthcoming legislative changes and these are reflected accordingly and, in some instances, caveats have been made due to the continued delay of confirmation of Government policy.
13. It is important to note the Strategy is high-level and therefore non-site specific.
14. **Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy Review Process**
15. The purpose of a joint municipal waste management strategy is to:
 - a) Identify the baseline position;
 - b) Outline where partners want to be and when by;
 - c) Articulate how this will be achieved.
16. To achieve the above the following steps were undertaken:
 - a) Strategy Review Steps Outputs

- b) Production of a detailed Project Plan
- c) Project planning, gap analysis, data analysis Baseline Report
- d) Undertake full Equalities and Human Rights Impact Assessment Equalities and Human Rights Impact Assessment
- e) Agree objectives and options and options assessment criteria Draft Options Appraisal Report and Draft Headline Strategy
- f) Strategic Environmental Assessment
- g) (SEA) Scoping Report and 5-week statutory consultation; Draft Environmental Report, Public Consultation Report
- h) Finalisation of Strategy Final Headline Strategy
- i) Action Plan
- j) Final Action Plan

17. Overall Findings

18. The results to the survey were analysed and the key conclusions were;

- The proposed Vision and Strategy resonate with residents
- The understanding of the relationship between waste and climate change is limited.
- Residents are enthusiastic about greater engagement in reducing waste and increasing recycling and recognise they have a key role to play (community initiatives and collective action).
- Communications and engagement activities need to be developed bearing in mind learning from behavioural science, addressing the environmental, personal and social factors that can affect behaviour.

19. The key themes that have been highlighted in the consultation responses together with the issues and considerations that have been raised are summarised below. These are not presented in an order of priority;

- Tackling fly-tipping - an area of concern for residents.
- Putting pressure on producers – residents would like to see producers take more responsibility and use recyclable packaging for their goods.
- Increased access to sustainable activities – recognition of these to be accessible and affordable for all, especially waste prevention and reuse.
- Engagement and encouragement – respondents like to be kept informed and suggested potential for incentives for rewarding positive behaviours.
- Educating residents - suggested that efforts need to be made to encourage understanding the issue of waste and its relationship to climate change.
- Concerns with food waste collections - respondents were generally positive on the introduction of food waste collections but there were concerns raised of how it works in practise e.g. smells and hygiene.
- Expanding kerbside recycling - to reduce the amount of residual waste, respondents were keen for the introduction of a wider variety of materials collected at the kerbside.
- Accessibility of garden waste collections – residents were generally satisfied with the service but a reoccurring theme was accessibility to this service and charging.
- Restricted residual waste collection and household size – residents from larger households raised concerns on restricted residual waste. Overall the option of a

fortnightly collection with a smaller size bin was more favourable (39%) than a three weekly collection with a current size bin (16%).

- Improving HWRCs - levels of satisfaction with HWRCs were high although some respondents did raise concerns regarding short opening hours, too few HWRC sites and inaccessibility.

20. Changes to the Strategy

21. A key theme which came out of the consultation exercise, which is not dealt with by the pledges, is fly-tipping. Leicestershire Waste Partnership has therefore committed to address this and added an additional pledge (pledge 2 below).

22. Minor modifications have been made to the remaining 12 pledges but it is not considered that these existing pledges require alteration. The final pledges are;

- 1) All councils within the Partnership will review their purchasing activities and internal waste management services to seek to promote waste prevention, reuse and recycling to support the objectives of this Strategy and lead by example.
- 2) Environmental crime, particularly fly-tipping does not recognise council boundaries. The Partnership will work together to reduce fly-tipping and litter across Leicestershire and educate residents, businesses, or anyone disposing of rubbish, about their legal duty of care to dispose of their rubbish responsibly.
- 3) The Partnership pledge to support and encourage waste prevention activity across LWP. This will include working with stakeholders, residents and communities to prevent unnecessary waste arising, for example through food waste reduction campaigns such as Love Food Hate Waste.
- 4) The Partnership pledge to continue delivering reuse services and expand activities where practicable, working in partnership with other stakeholders and to signpost to places that advocate for waste prevention and reuse, in support of developing a circular economy. This includes a pledge to continue to improve the collection of items for reuse at Household Waste Recycling Centres and explore the development of reuse shops at suitable sites.
- 5) The Partnership will implement and promote separate food waste collections to all households, subject to confirmation of the national policy, legislation and the provision of total ongoing Government funding. This will be as soon as possible when contracts and circumstances dictate. The County Council will procure anaerobic digestion capacity to treat the collected food waste in a manner that contributes to effective carbon emissions reduction across the County and improves soil quality.
- 6) The Partnership will explore the use of alternative fuels for collection vehicles and the transportation of waste and resources to further reduce carbon emissions of the service and improve air quality.

- 7) The Partnership will continue to offer a garden waste collection system to Leicestershire residents. This will follow national guidelines as to the form of the collection and will be subject to legislation and total ongoing Government funding. The Partnership will continue to procure composting capacity to treat the collected garden waste in a manner that supports carbon reduction and improves soil quality.
 - 8) The Partnership shall ensure that the full range of recyclables (as specified by the Government and subject to funding) are collected from residents (and businesses where applicable) across Leicestershire by 2025, or as soon as possible when contracts and circumstances allow.
 - 9) The Partnership shall continue to explore the viability of adding extra materials to recycling collections (e.g. for batteries, small electric goods or clothing) striving to continually improve Leicestershire's recycling performance.
 - 10) The Partnership will put in place collection systems to contribute towards the achievement of the national 65% recycling target by 2035. This may include restricting residual waste capacity to encourage greater materials separation, carbon savings and resource recovery. Improvements in materials recovery at Household Waste Recycling Centres will also contribute towards the national target.
 - 11) The Partnership will continue to allocate a communications budget sufficient to help promote good recycling behaviour and support resource recovery to progress the circular economy and low-carbon objectives of this Strategy.
 - 12) The County Council will reduce waste sent to landfill to less than 5% by 2025, well in advance of the 10% national target by 2035. The County Council will undertake future procurement processes for residual waste treatment (alternatives to landfill) in line with the vision and objectives of this Strategy.
- 23.** In the period during the public consultation the Government released its response to its extended producer responsibility for packaging consultation and has confirmed that glass which was originally to be included in the proposed deposit return scheme will now be part of extended producer responsibility for packaging. No further modelling was undertaken within the options appraisal due to the continued uncertainty around the Government's preferred approach, however the future waste and recycling projections were updated to take account of this amendment.
- 24.** Due to the continued uncertainty in regards to Government policies a Local Government finance position statement also been added to the Strategy on Plan
- 25.** A further step in the review process is produce an Action Plan. The Action Plan provides a route map for delivering the vision, objectives and pledges set out in the Strategy. It provides a clear direction of travel to ensure that resources and waste are managed effectively

26. The Action Plan will guide the implementation of the Strategy and will be subject to regular review and monitoring. Changes may be made to the Action Plan in response to (for example):

- 26.1.1 Accelerated or delayed implementation of actions
- 26.1.2 Variance in predicted performance of actions
- 26.1.3 Changes in Government policy, legislation or regulations; or
- 26.1.4 Other changes in circumstances

27. The Action Plan has been divided into the following themes:

- Reuse/Circular Economy
- Recycling (performance & collections)
- Residual Waste Reduction
- Partnership Working
- Leading by example
- Communication
- Carbon

28. Some of these themes contain overlapping elements. Each action within the plan details what action is to be taken, how this relates to either an objective or pledge of the Strategy, by whom and when.

- 29.** The Action Plan associated with the Resources and Waste Strategy is high level but builds on the objectives and pledges of the Strategy. There may be further (more detailed) actions for example: a procurement plan; individual Council action plans; business cases, or; communications plans.

30. Conclusion

- 31.** It is recognised that further clarity from Government is needed to fully understand the impact of the potential policy changes which may be the most significant seen for many years. The options modelled which support the Strategy provide a reasonable guide to the magnitude of changes that might be expected and are subject to forthcoming legislation and future funding mechanisms.
- 32.** The Strategy sets the LWP in a robust policy position for an imminent period of substantial change (2023 – 2027) and longer term goals and will help deliver on Net Zero priorities.

33. Implications of Decisions

34. Corporate Priorities

- 35.** The strategy will further the Corporate Plan, in particular the creating a sustainable environment to protect future generations priority.
- 36.** The adoption of many of the pledges will aid the Council's Climate Emergency work and Net Carbon Reductions.

37. Financial

- 38.** Due to the continued uncertainty regarding Government policies a Local Government finance position statement has also been added to the Strategy:
- 39.** This Strategy has been published during a time of uncertainty in regard to the Government's progression of the implementation of the national Resources and Waste Strategy (Our Waste, Our Resources: A Strategy for England). The Resources and Waste Strategy was released on 18 December 2018 and sets out how Government will preserve material resources by minimising waste, promoting resource efficiency and moving towards a circular economy.
- 40.** Three significant consultations took place during 2019 including Consistency in Household and Business Recycling Collections in England, a Deposit Return Scheme and Extended Producer Responsibility for packaging. Further secondary consultations took place in early 2021 and subsequent changes from 2024/25 could include mandatory household food waste collections, restrictions on garden waste charging and the introduction of a deposit return scheme for drinks containers. At this present time Government has not released the outcomes from two of the consultations, therefore

there remains uncertainty in regards to forthcoming legislation and future funding mechanisms.

41. All councils are facing challenging financial outlooks. The pressures of high inflation levels, coupled with an ever-increasing demand for core services, is presenting a challenge across the whole local government sector.
42. In acknowledgement of this some of the pledges contained within the Leicestershire Resources and Waste Strategy are caveated and can only be implemented if sufficient ongoing additional funding is provided by Government to cover the costs incurred by both the waste disposal and collection authorities respectively.
43. Over-and-above the finance position statement noted in paragraphs 39 to 42, the Council will keep members informed of potential financial impacts as the process moves forward. In respect of the currently approved budget (2022/23 + Medium-Term Financial Strategy 2023/24 to 2026/27), as noted in the [Budget Principles report considered by Cabinet in November 2021](#) (para 3.8 a), the Council will be entering into a new waste collection contract from 2025/26 and the financial strategy has:
 - A. built in the future cost of collection by including annual inflationary increases reflecting the average increases of the current contract.
 - B. included a 5% cost escalator to reflect the potential costs associated with the government's potential changes to future waste collection.
44. Cabinet agreed to apply similar [budget principles](#) (para 3.13.1) for the 2023/24 Budget and Financial Strategy currently being developed.

45. Legal

46. Legislation to enable the policy changes within the Recycling Waste Strategy (RWS) are contained within the Environment Act which received Royal Assent on 9 November 2021.
47. The review of the LMWMS has considered the potential forthcoming legislative changes and these are reflected accordingly, and, in some instances, caveats have been made due to the continued delay of confirmation of Government policy. It is important to note the Strategy is high-level and therefore non-site specific.
48. Each authority within the Leicestershire Waste Partnership (LWP), which comprises the County Council and the seven district councils in Leicestershire, is in the process of seeking adoption of the final Strategy.
49. For Harborough District Council, the strategy will be considered by Scrutiny and adopted by Cabinet.
50. The Strategy highlights that significant legislative changes are on the horizon. In responding to these, the waste partnership will need to be maintained and enhanced to ensure appropriate political, strategic and organisational engagement. As government policy evolves, the partnership will need to explore collaborative opportunities which are most effectively able to deliver the changes required and ensure the balance of risk and reward is shared across both the waste disposal and collection authorities. Innovative collaborative opportunities should be considered which have the potential to deliver environmental improvements, whilst helping to reduce costs across the waste-system, such that cost shunting is avoided and mutual benefits are shared across all partners.

51. Policy

52. The adoption of the strategy will form part of the policy for collections and waste management moving forwards, it will also link into Council's Bin Policy currently in place.

53. Environmental Implications including contributions to achieving a net zero carbon Council by 2030

54. The Strategy sets the LWP in a robust policy position for an imminent period of substantial change (2023 – 2027) and longer-term goals and will help deliver on Net Zero priorities. This vision of the strategy is particularly pertinent:

55. "To work towards a circular economy and contribute to achieving net zero carbon by 2050 in Leicestershire. This means fully embracing the waste hierarchy by preventing waste and keeping resources in circulation for as long as possible, through reuse, repair and recycling, to realise their maximum value whilst minimising environmental impacts"

56. Risk Management

Risk No	Risk Description	Likelihood	Impact	Risk
1	Preparedness for significant changes in national policy	Significant	Critical	Medium
2	Affordability of implementing significant legislative and national policy changes	High	Critical	High
3	Delayed outcomes from Government consultation	Significant	Critical	Medium

Risk No	Mitigation
1	Engage in consultations and ensure consideration the impact of these significant changes to national policy. Ensure strategy pledges are sufficiently caveated to be clear that implementation of changes with significant resource implications will be subject to full and ongoing government funding. Strategy development to progress, overseen by Leicestershire Waste Partnership.
2	Ensure strategy pledges are sufficiently caveated to be clear that implementation of changes with significant resource implications will be subject to full and ongoing government funding.
3	Leicestershire Waste Partnership in place to monitor updates, consider implications and advise on next steps or risks as required.

57. Equalities Impact

- 58.** An Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment (EHRIA) Screening was undertaken and concluded that the review of the LMWMS was subject to a full EHRIA. This EHRIA provides a strategic framework and further EHRIAs will be undertaken, where appropriate, for delivery of activities, and as specific schemes are developed.
- 59.** This EHRIA has enabled the LWP to assess whether the new LRWS discriminates or has any adverse impact on any particular community or group of people within Leicestershire. The key outcome of the EHRIA is for the LWP to ensure the LRWS promotes accessible services, accessible information and appropriate equality training where required.

60. Data Protection

- 61.** There will be no Data Protection implications.

62. Summary of Consultation and Outcome

63. Public Consultation

- 64.** Following a stakeholder mapping exercise, a public consultation commenced on 31 January 2022 and ran for 12 weeks until 25 April 2022.

- 65.** The full suite of documents for public consultation comprised of;

a) The Draft Leicestershire Resources and Waste Strategy

- i. Describes the approach the LWP would take in delivering recycling and waste management services from 2022 – 2050
- ii. Contains the vision, objectives and pledges that sit alongside forthcoming national changes
- iii. Includes 11 pledges covering; leading by example; waste prevention; reuse; food waste collections; alternative fuels; garden waste collections; consistent collections; extra materials for recycling collections; the national recycling target of 65% by 2035; communications to target recycling behaviour and reduction of waste sent to landfill.

b) The Draft Options Appraisal Report

- i. Explores the current and alternative ways of delivering the wastes services, the associated costs and the recycling rates that could be achieved as well as considering potential implications of upcoming national policy changes
- ii. Provides evidence behind the pledges within the draft Strategy.

c) The Draft Environmental Report – from the SEA process

- i. Considers the environmental impacts of the alternative ways of delivering the Strategy
- ii. Involved a five week statutory consultation period from July 2021 and received input from Natural England, Historic England and the Environment Agency.

- 66.** In addition to the above, a consultation summary document outlining the main aspects of the Strategy was available to view.

- 67.** The consultation documents were available online via the County Councils 'Have Your Say' webpage and signposted from Partner websites. Hard copies were available upon request.
- 68.** The consultation comprised a survey (predominately online) consisting of tick box questions and open comments. Questions sought views on the vision, objectives and pledges within the draft Strategy and asked a series of questions on waste prevention, reuse and recycling behaviours.
- 69.** A wide range of communications were used to promote the survey utilising online and printed media. Presentations were given to specific groups and an online forum and workshop was delivered by Community Research, an independent research marketing firm.
- 70.** The quantitative and qualitative responses to the online questionnaire and responses from groups and organisations to the public consultation are presented in the attached Consultation Report (appendix B).

71. Public Consultation Findings

72. Have Your Say Survey Results

- 73.** A total of 5233 responses to the online survey were received. Almost two thirds of the respondents were female (63%). Compared to the known population of Leicestershire (Census 2011) this shows that females were overrepresented, and males underrepresented. Almost half (45%) of respondents were aged between 45-64 years. Underrepresented age groups in respect to population include 15-24 years old and those over the age of 85 years.
- 74.** The majority of the respondents were supportive of the vision with 83% in agreement; "To work towards a circular economy and contribute to achieving net zero carbon by 2050 in Leicestershire. This means fully embracing the waste hierarchy by preventing waste and keeping resources in circulation for as long as possible, through reuse, repair and recycling, to realise their maximum value whilst minimising environmental impacts"
- 75.** 83% of respondents also agreed with the pledges and an analysis of the open text comments revealed that fly-tipping was the most common issue, followed by residents wanting more pressure placed on producers to make their packaging recyclable and products more easily repairable. Other comments referred to increasing education and engagement so people have a better understanding of link between waste and climate change.
- 76.** In regard to behaviours, 38% of respondents said that they currently compost at home with 70% expressing an interest in taking part in reuse activities such as using an online platform for selling goods and taking items to a Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC).

- 77.** For food waste collections, respondents were generally positive on the introduction of food waste collections (65% of respondents stated they did not see any barriers to participating in a weekly food waste collection service) but there were concerns raised of how it works in practice e.g. smells and hygiene.
- 78.** Evidence shows that delivering the highest recycling rates and reducing carbon emissions can best be achieved by restricting general rubbish capacity (either through distributing smaller bins or collecting the waste less frequently) alongside adding more recycling services including weekly food waste collections. Respondents were asked which service configuration they would prefer. Overall, the option of a fortnightly collection with a smaller bin size was more favourable (39%) than a three-weekly collection with a current size bin (16%).
- 79.** Overall, the majority (64%) of the respondents agreed with the draft Strategy to some extent.

80. Other Consultation Activity

- 81.** A company called Community Research were commissioned to explore residents' views of the draft Strategy. An online forum was conducted with 25 Leicestershire residents taking part and completing a series of tasks including polling questions, discussion boards and self-filmed videos.
- 82.** Key conclusions included that the vision and strategy resonated with residents and addressed many of their concerns; and that residents are enthusiastic about greater engagement in reducing waste and recycling and recognise the key role they have to play.
- 83.** Presentations were provided to various groups in order to capture their views and these included Leicestershire Equalities Group, Leicestershire Parish Clerks and County Youth Council for Leicestershire.
- 84.** Members commented that references to fly-tipping and litter within the Strategy needed strengthening, noted the differences between district kerbside collections and to look to have a common collection regime, to make county wide communication easier.

85. Alternative Options Considered

- 86.** The Leicestershire Waste Partnership could choose not to adopt this strategy given the absence of clarity from Government. Further clarity from Government is needed to fully understand the impact of the potential policy changes which may be the most significant seen for many years.
- 87.** However, the options modelled which support the Strategy provide a reasonable guide to the magnitude of changes that might be expected and are subject to forthcoming legislation and future funding mechanisms. It has been agreed that to progress with the adoption process, subject to the pledges being caveated where required, is appropriate.

88. Background papers

88.1.1.1 <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2003/33/contents>

88.1.1.2 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/resources-and-waste-strategy-for-england>

Leicestershire Resources and Waste Strategy 2022 - 2050



Foreword

The Government set a clear ambition to improve the environment within a generation in their 2018 Strategy; 'A Green Future: our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment. How we manage our waste plays an important part in achieving this ambition as everything that we buy, use and eventually throw away has an impact on our environment.

The Leicestershire Waste Partnership (the County Council and the seven District and Borough Councils) work together to manage all of the household waste that is produced in Leicestershire. In this Strategy, the Partnership sets out how we will deliver recycling and waste management services up to 2050.

We are working towards reducing the amount of waste that is produced, increasing recycling, reducing carbon emissions to support net zero ambitions and keeping resources in use for longer. Additionally, we are pledging to reduce waste sent to landfill.

Depending on the funding that we receive from the Government, we are committed to introducing separate food waste collections across Leicestershire, offering garden waste collections to all residents, and expanding recycling collections.

We are also committed to reviewing our own purchasing activities and internal waste management services to lead by example.

But we can't do this alone. We need people to work with us to achieve these ambitions and we are committed to working with stakeholders, residents and communities to prevent unnecessary waste from being produced in the first place, to promote good recycling behaviour and support resource recovery to progress a circular economy. By working together, we can improve our environment, now and for the future.



Local government financial statement

This Strategy has been published during a time of uncertainty in regard to the Government's progression of the implementation of the national Resources and Waste Strategy (Our Waste, Our Resources: A Strategy for England). The Resources and Waste Strategy was released on 18 December 2018 and sets out how Government will preserve material resources by minimising waste, promoting resource efficiency and moving towards a circular economy.

Three significant consultations took place during 2019 including Consistency in Household and Business Recycling Collections in England, a Deposit Return Scheme and Extended Producer Responsibility for packaging. Further secondary consultations took place in early 2021 and subsequent changes from 2024/5 could include mandatory household food waste collections, restrictions on garden waste charging and the introduction of a deposit return scheme for drinks containers. At this present time Government has not released the outcomes from two of the consultations, therefore there remains uncertainty in regard to forthcoming legislation and future funding mechanisms.

All councils are facing challenging financial outlooks. The pressures of high inflation levels, coupled with an ever-increasing demand for core services, is presenting a challenge across the whole local government sector.

In acknowledgement of this some of the pledges contained within the Leicestershire Resources and Waste Strategy are caveated and can only be implemented if sufficient ongoing additional funding is provided by Government to cover the costs incurred by both the waste disposal and waste collection authorities respectively.

Executive summary

How we view 'waste' has changed; it is no longer only something to get rid of, but is considered a valuable resource, to be retained and reused, or avoided at all where possible. Using waste as a resource can help to reduce the raw materials needed for producing new goods, which has environmental, social and financial benefits. This updated Leicestershire Resources and Waste Strategy (LRWS / the 'Strategy') reflects this global current thinking and describes the recycling and waste management services which will be delivered by the Leicestershire Waste Partnership (LWP)¹ from 2022 up to 2050. The Vision of the LRWS is:

To work towards a circular economy and contribute to achieving net zero carbon by 2050 in Leicestershire. This means fully embracing the waste hierarchy by preventing waste and keeping resources in circulation for as long as possible, through reuse, repair and recycling, to realise their maximum value whilst minimising environmental impacts.

This vision is supported by specific Strategy objectives and a range of pledges and measures that sit alongside national policy changes - setting a direction for long term management of material resources for the benefit of the residents and communities of Leicestershire². In addition, the Strategy includes:

- The policy framework - the current and future context for resources and waste management, considering local issues e.g. air quality, and global issues such as carbon reduction / greenhouse gas reduction and climate change.
- Strategy delivery - how resources and waste will be managed to achieve the vision and objectives, through the services provided by the LWP to its residents and communities and 12 pledges regarding commitments, actions and performance.

¹ Leicestershire Waste Partnership comprises Leicestershire County Council and the seven District and Borough Councils. Leicester City Council is an associate member.

² Note that this Strategy does not cover Leicester City Council which is a unitary authority with its own waste collection and disposal arrangements.

The LRWS includes a focus on waste prevention (avoiding waste generation in the first place) and developing more initiatives on reuse of goods - both at the Household Waste and Recycling Centres and in the community. There are challenging targets around recycling and reuse, aiming to enhance Leicestershire's performance from current levels (around 44% recycling rate) to 65% by 2035, with the majority of progress made over the next five years through the Countywide implementation of weekly food waste collections, more consistent and effective recycling collections and, subject to Government guidelines and funding, potential changes to garden waste collections.

If the national 65% recycling rate is to be met the amount of residual waste (all general mixed 'rubbish') managed by Councils will need to fall from around 260kg per person to around 160kg per person by 2035. Furthermore, the management of residual waste in Leicestershire is also set to change with a pledge to reduce the amount of waste landfilled from current levels (of around 30%) down to 5% by 2025. This is substantially ahead of the new national target of 10% landfilled waste by 2035.

The net effect of the measures within the LRWS is a reduction in the amount of carbon (as measured in CO2 equivalents) in the range of 5,000 -10,000 tonnes of CO2 eq. each year from the collection and management of wastes and resources in the County. This is equivalent to taking between 1,800 – 3,600 cars off the road, in terms of annual emissions savings.

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1. Introduction

What is a Resources and Waste Strategy?

This document is the Leicestershire Resources and Waste Strategy (LRWS) for the Leicestershire Waste Partnership (LWP). The partnership comprises Leicestershire County Council (the Waste Disposal Authority) and the seven Leicestershire Waste Collection Authorities (the District and Borough Councils). Leicester City Council manages its waste via separate arrangements as a Unitary Authority.

This LRWS is an update to the Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy which has been in place since 2002 and was reviewed and updated in 2006 and 2011 respectively.

The LRWS describes the recycling and waste management services which will be delivered by the LWP up to 2050. The Strategy sets out:

- The policy framework - the current and future context for resources and waste management, considering local issues e.g. air quality, and global issues including carbon reduction / greenhouse gas reduction and climate change.
- The vision, aims, and objectives - what the LWP wants to achieve in terms of resources and waste management.
- Strategy delivery - how resources and waste will be managed to achieve the aims and objectives, through the services provided by the LWP to its residents and communities.

How we view 'waste' has changed; it is no longer only something to get rid of, but is now considered a valuable resource, to be retained and reused, or avoided at all where possible. Also, the adverse impacts of raw material inputs e.g. the resources we use, are becoming increasingly apparent, meaning now more than ever raw materials need to be used efficiently and conserved. Using the resources from waste can help to reduce the raw materials needed for producing new goods, which has environmental, social and financial benefits. This updated LRWS reflects this global current thinking.

The Strategy covers services for managing municipal solid waste (MSW). MSW is all the waste

collected by the local authorities in the LWP³. This includes household, commercial and street cleansing wastes, and wastes taken to the Household Waste and Recycling Centres (HWRCs).

As Waste Collection Authorities, the District and Borough councils have a legal duty to collect municipal waste and Leicestershire County Council, as the Waste Disposal Authority (WDA), has a legal duty to treat, manage and dispose of MSW. The WCAs and WDA work in partnership, recognising that joint working on planning the collection, treatment (composting, recycling, and recovery) and disposal of waste supports efficient service delivery for residents and communities, including businesses.

This Strategy runs up to 2050, however it will be reviewed regularly at appropriate periods during this time. Reviews are needed to make sure the Strategy remains current and in line with national guidance.

How is the service delivered?

All districts in Leicestershire currently have household collections of recycling, residual⁴ and garden waste. Food waste is not currently collected district wide by any WCA; however some have either collected this in the past or have trialled weekly food waste collections over the last few years, including Harborough District Council, Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council and Oadby & Wigston Borough Council. North West Leicestershire District Council have been successfully trialling a food waste collection since November 2019, and continue to do so.

Recycling

How recycling is collected is broadly consistent across the LWP. Six of the Districts collect all recycling material together in one container (typically a wheeled bin), this is often referred to as a 'commingled collection' and is collected every two weeks. Residents in North West Leicestershire District on the other hand, are provided with a mixture of bags and boxes to separate out key recyclable materials, which are then placed in different compartments on a specialist vehicle. This is often referred to as a 'kerbside-sort' or 'multi-stream' collection. Examples of the containers for each District and Borough council are shown below.

³ It also applies to similar wastes collected by other parties; however this is not under the control of the local authorities.

⁴ 'Residual' waste is 'black bin' waste that is not separated, so is mixed waste or 'general rubbish'.



Commingled collections for:
 Blaby District Council,
 Charnwood Borough Council,
 Harborough District Council,
 Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council,
 Melton Borough Council and
 Oadby & Wigston Borough Council



Kerbside sort
 or multi-stream
 collections for
 North West Leicestershire
 District Council

All of the commingled recyclable materials collected from residents are currently sent to a Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) in Leicester. At this facility, recycling is separated using a combination of manual and automatic sorting processes to sort material streams before being baled and sent for reprocessing.

North West Leicestershire District Council has its own arrangement for processing recycling (which is already separated on the vehicle as it collects from households). Their recycling is transported to a depot in Coalville. Here, the materials are unloaded from the collection vehicles and tipped into dedicated bays where further separation is used where needed. For example, magnets are used to separate the metals from the plastic. Once baled, the collected recyclables are sold on, and this can be directly to reprocessors.

Garden waste

Unlike recycling and residual waste, the collection of garden waste is a non-statutory service and is a discretionary service provided by Local Authorities. As such, Local Authorities are able to provide this service for free, or to ask residents to pay for its collection. All authorities in the LWP charge for the collection of garden waste, except for North West Leicestershire District Council who offer this service for free. Residents wishing to have their garden waste collected typically pay an annual subscription fee which covers the cost of a wheeled bin, vehicles and crew that collect garden waste.

Residents are also encouraged to use other methods to dispose of garden waste. Firstly, via home composting garden waste (cuttings, trimmings, plants, branches and other garden waste which can be composted). Alternatively, residents can also take their garden waste to any of the Household Waste and Recycling Centres.

Household Waste and Recycling Centres (HWRCs)⁵ are provided for residents to dispose of any bulky or additional waste and recycling which cannot be collected through the kerbside collection. There are fourteen HWRCs located across Leicestershire, as shown in the image below. These sites are managed by Leicestershire County Council.

Figure 1: HWRCs across Leicestershire.

The map illustrates the distribution of Homeless Workplaces (HWRCs) across Leicestershire. The locations are marked with red dots and labeled as follows:

- Bottesford
- Shepshed
- Loughborough
- Melton
- Lount
- Coalville
- Mountsorrel
- Somerby
- Leicester City
- Oadby
- Kibworth
- Market Harborough
- Lutterworth
- Whetstone
- Barwell

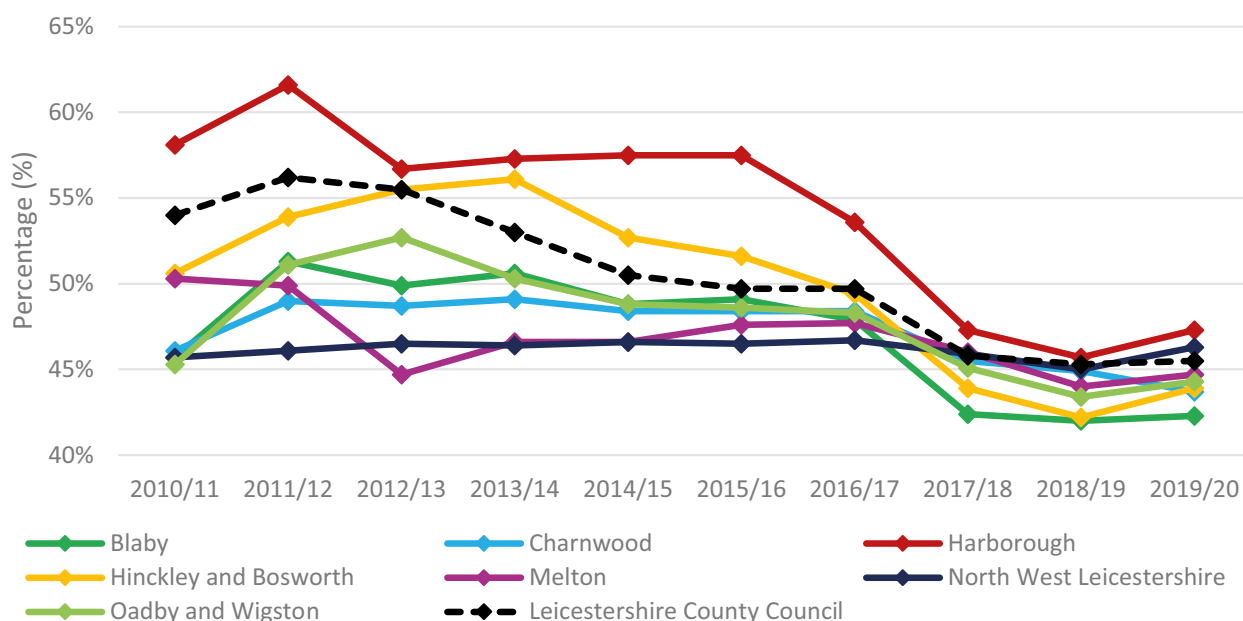
The map also shows the following districts and boroughs, indicated by arrows:

- North West Leicestershire District
- Charnwood Borough
- Melton Borough
- Loughborough
- Shepshed
- Lount
- Coalville
- Mountsorrel
- Somerby
- Leicester City
- Oadby and Wigston Borough
- Oadby
- Kibworth
- Market Harborough
- Lutterworth
- Blaby District
- Hinckley and Bosworth Borough
- Barwell

In 2019/20, the combined reuse, recycling and composting performance was 45.5% for household waste from collections at the kerbside and from the HWRCs. This is lower than the UK's target to recycle 50% of household waste by 2020. The average for England within the same period was 43.8%, meaning that Leicestershire did perform above national average, despite the fall in overall performance shown below. A key reason for the fall, shown in Figure 2, was not that householders were recycling less, but that a facility which was extracting extra recycling from residual waste had closed.

10

Figure 2: Current and historic recycling rates for Leicestershire Councils 2010/11 - 2019/20.



Although the recycling rate is above the national average, the amount of waste sent to landfill (the least desirable outcome) was 31.8% in 2019/20, this is much higher than the average landfill rate for local authorities in England, for the same time period (8.5%). Both reducing the waste sent to landfill and increasing recycling are key elements of this Strategy (see section 3).

Who delivers the collection services?

The collection of waste and recycling is the responsibility of the District and Borough Councils. The delivery of this service can be managed in several ways; in-house (the Council run the collections using their staff), via a Local Authority Trading Company (a type of publicly owned 'arms length' company), or by outsourcing the service to a private contractor (also known as contracting out the service). At present, four of the District and Borough Councils operate this service in house (Blaby, Hinckley & Bosworth, North West Leicestershire and Oadby & Wigston) and three are outsourced to the private sector (Charnwood, Harborough and Melton). Collection service contracts typically last between 7 and 10 years.

Bulky waste

Across the County, residents can arrange for the collection of larger items - this is known as a bulky waste collection. Each District and Borough Council has its own service in place for its residents. This service is chargeable (price varies per Council), often with a minimum collection fee. The types of items that can be collected include domestic furniture, appliances (televisions, fridges, freezers, washing machines), beds etc.

Trade waste

Some District and Borough Councils also offer a collection service from businesses in their area, this is known as a trade waste collection. An overview of the trade waste services is provided below.

Council	Waste types collected	Other characteristics
Blaby District Council	General Waste Mixed Recycling Glass Only	Customers can choose from a range of options for both the frequency of collection and the size of containers provided.
Charnwood Borough Council	General Waste	Weekly (or multiples of weekly) collections of residual waste. Intention to start mixed recycling collections soon.
Harborough District Council	General Waste Mixed Recycling	Customers can choose from a range of options for both the frequency of collection and the size of containers provided.
Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council	General Waste Mixed Recycling	Customers can choose from a range of options for both the frequency of collection and the size of containers provided.
Leicestershire County Council	N/A	LCC run a trade service at Whetstone Waste Transfer Station (WTS) which includes an outlet for general waste and also source separated waste such as cardboard, green waste, wood and inert waste.
North West Leicestershire District Council	General Waste Mixed Recycling	Customers can choose from a range of options for both the frequency of collection and the size of containers provided.

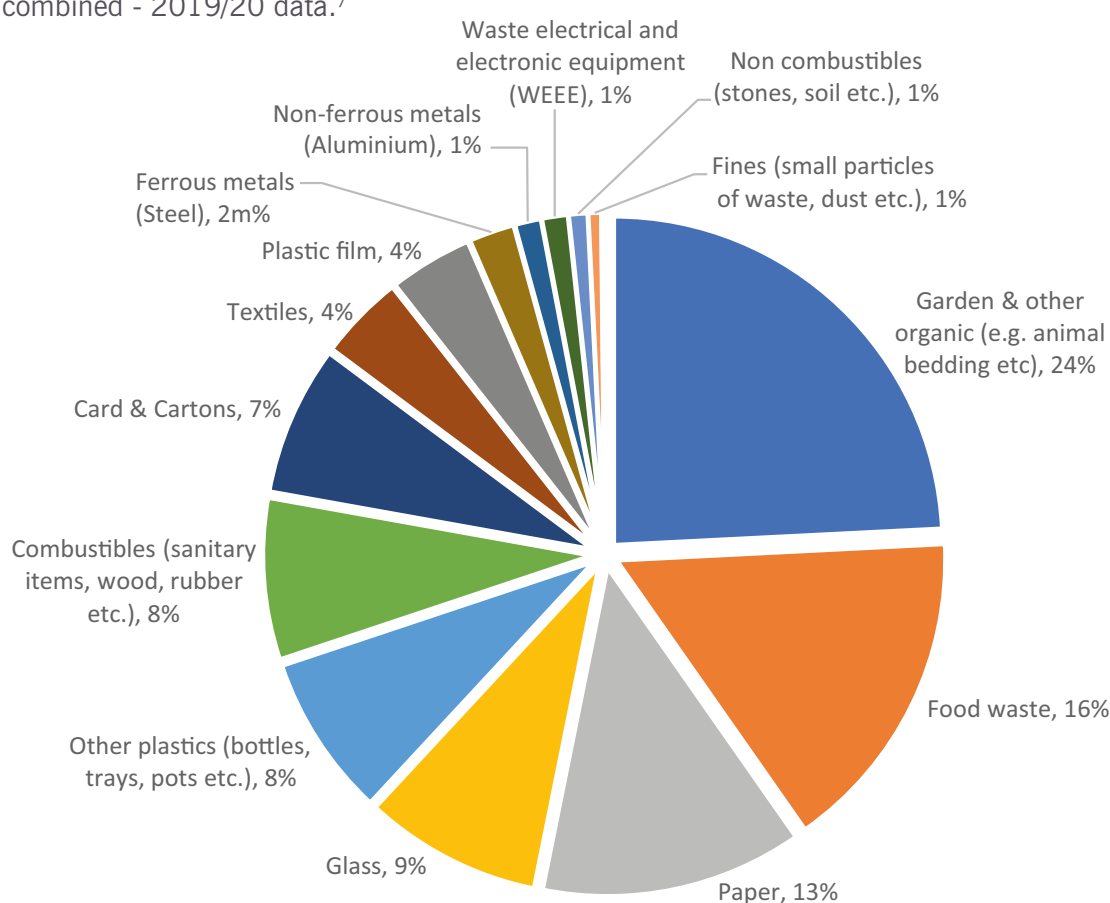
What is in your bins?

The average composition of what a Leicestershire resident puts in their bins each year is shown in the pie chart below. What this illustrates is that the vast majority of items that are disposed of can be prevented, reduced, reused or recycled in some way. This isn't just the materials that we are familiar with recycling like paper, card, metals, glass and plastic, but also other materials like food waste and waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE), which can be collected separately and have their resource value recovered.

Separating these additional materials for recycling can help contribute towards achieving 65% recycling, the national recycling target for 2035, set by Government⁶.

Furthermore, other items may be reused to prevent them becoming waste at all. This is preferable to recycling, and options such as using washable nappies, reusable water bottles for drinks and refilling containers with goods from a refill shop or station to avoid new packaging all help conserve resources and avoid packaging and other wastes. There is more on this in sections 3 and 4 of this Strategy.

Figure 3: Waste composition of all bins (residual, recycling and garden) combined - 2019/20 data.⁷



⁶ This is included in the 2020 Circular Economy Package (CEP).

⁷ Data may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

2. What is the proposed strategy for Leicestershire?

This section explains the direction envisaged for the LRWS and includes a summary of influences (both national and local) that have shaped its development.

The Strategy focuses on municipal waste that is waste generated by households and similar wastes from businesses and commerce. It explores different options to reduce the amount of waste arising in the first place (see ‘the waste hierarchy’ described later in this section), and then to manage the remaining material in a way that gives benefit from its resource value.

The management of the residual waste (the remaining waste left for disposal) is managed by long term contracts. Whilst there are different ways to manage this waste, the Strategy takes the position that the prime aim is to avoid waste going to landfill. When new contracts are to be let for managing residual waste, they should review the latest options available and adhere to the principles of this Strategy for subsequent decision making on residual waste management technologies.

The vision and objectives of the LRWS are explained below.

Our strategic vision

The overarching vision of the LRWS is:

To work towards a circular economy and contribute to achieving net zero carbon by 2050 in Leicestershire. This means fully embracing the waste hierarchy by preventing waste and keeping resources in circulation for as long as possible, through reuse, repair and recycling, to realise their maximum value whilst minimising environmental impacts.

Key aspects of this vision, like what we mean by a circular economy and the waste hierarchy are explained in more detail later in this section of the Strategy.

Our objectives to deliver the vision

To achieve the vision outlined above, the following objectives have been developed, and grouped into themes. These are all important guiding principles for the service as a whole and are not in order of priority.

Deliver services in accordance with circular economy principles

Objective 1: Manage materials in accordance with circular economy principles, except where costs are prohibitive, or where the environmental consequences can be demonstrated to be negative.

Objective 2: As local authorities, set an example by preventing, reducing, reusing, recycling and composting our own waste and use our buying power to positively encourage sustainable resource use.

Reduce the climate change / carbon / air quality impact of waste services in Leicestershire

Objective 3: Reduce carbon emissions from Leicestershire's waste management services.

Deliver services that are financially sustainable and equitable across the Partnership

Objective 4: Consider the whole life financial, social and environmental impact, and deliver quality services designed to allow flexibility, innovation and improvement.

Objective 5: Promote the economic and employment opportunities of sustainable waste management where this is consistent with circular economy principles. Consider local / regional supply chain and markets for recycle and other secondary raw materials.

Delivery of high quality waste services for the residents of Leicestershire

Objective 6: Work together to adapt and deliver coordinated services and infrastructure for waste services with lower environmental impacts.

Objective 7: Aim to reduce and manage residual waste within the County where this is consistent with the proximity principle and to manage all other waste at the nearest appropriate facility by the most appropriate method or technology.

Work in partnership with local communities across Leicestershire

Objective 8: Work with the community and businesses to raise awareness about environmental matters (including climate change, energy and resource management) and increase participation in waste prevention, reuse and recycling initiatives and link to national campaigns.

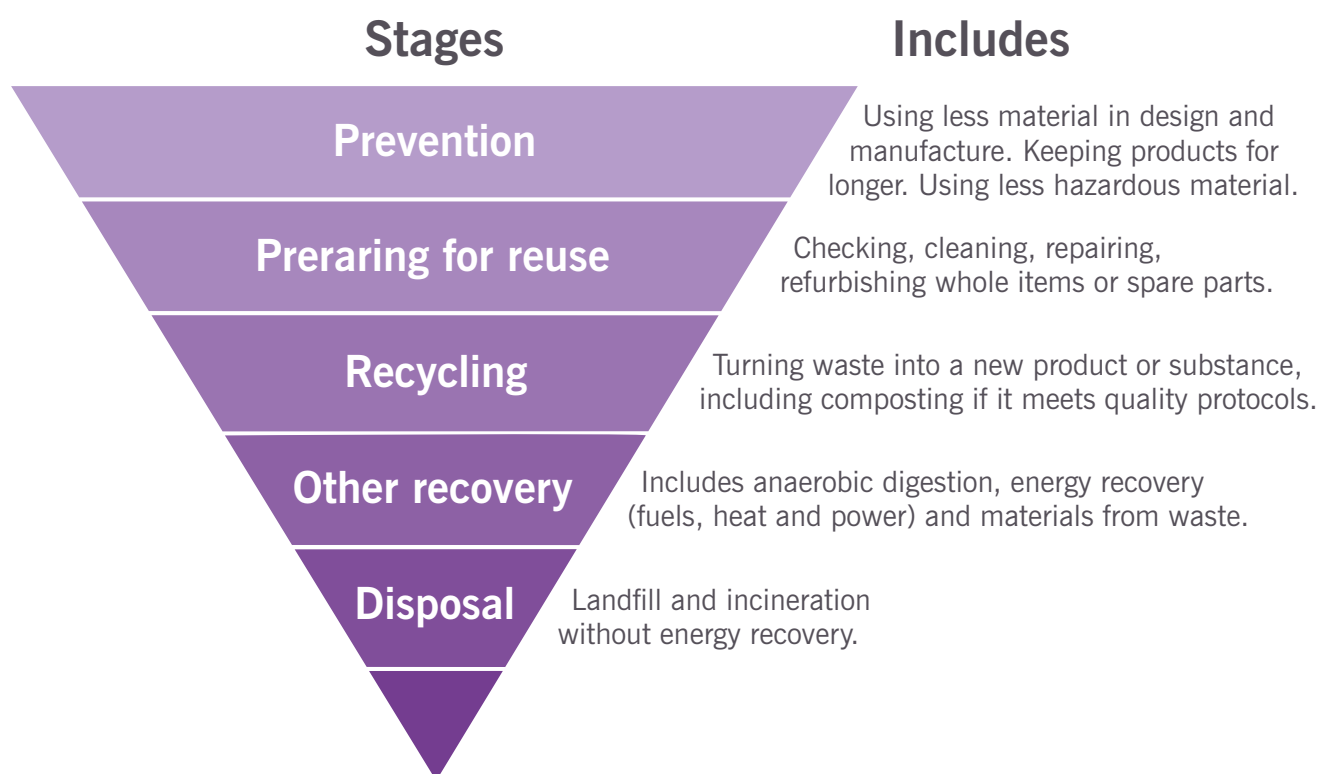
Objective 9: Lobby and work with others, in pursuit of the Partnership's vision of sustainable waste and resource management.

The Strategy also includes a number of pledges setting out specific actions to support and achieve these objectives, these are presented in section 3.

National policy and influences

A guiding principle of managing waste and resources is the 'waste hierarchy', this is shown below with definitions as to the meaning of each level. The most beneficial method is 'prevention' of waste and the least beneficial 'disposal'. This Strategy sets out Leicestershire's intentions on each level.

Figure 4: The Waste Hierarchy (2011).



Resources and waste strategy for England

“Our Waste, Our Resources: A Strategy for England” (2018), is focussed on improving recycling quality and increasing recycling rates from households and businesses. It includes substantial reforms to municipal waste collection and management services, including requiring the separate collection of food waste from households. It also puts a greater responsibility on producers of goods and packaging to play their part in dealing with the products at the end of their life. New measures proposed include Extended Producer Responsibility for packaging materials (EPR)⁸ and the introduction of a deposit return scheme (DRS) for single use drinks containers. This is explained in more detail in section 3. These measures are likely to have a significant impact on the services delivered in Leicestershire and who pays for them. The direction of the national Strategy has had a major influence on the LRWS.

Waste prevention programme for England

Waste prevention activity reduces the amount of waste which is generated, and the Government’s view on how this can be achieved is set out in the Waste Prevention Programme for England, “Prevention is better than cure: the role of waste prevention in moving to a more resource efficient economy” (2013). Key actions for Central Government include setting a clear direction, leading by doing, driving innovation, and ensuring that information regarding waste prevention is available to all. In March 2021, a consultation on a revised Waste Prevention Programme for England was held. The consultation document outlines how waste prevention could be achieved through transforming product design, making it easier for consumers to make sustainable choices or purchases and aligning policy with a circular economy approach (see below).

⁸ The National Strategy also raises the potential for further producer responsibility measures including for textile wastes (e.g. to help tackle ‘fast fashion’ impacts), bulky waste (e.g. mattresses, carpets) and other waste streams.

Net zero carbon

Climate change is the greatest environmental challenge facing the world and is driven by rising levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere (which include gases such as carbon dioxide and methane). This results in global heating, rising sea levels and changing patterns of rainfall. These changes can increase the risk of flooding, heatwaves, droughts, and wildfires. To overcome this, the Government has committed the UK to achieving net zero by 2050. This means that there will be an equal balance between the amount of greenhouse gas emissions produced and the amount removed from the atmosphere, through planting trees or using technology such as carbon capture. The waste management sector is estimated to have contributed around 4% of greenhouse gas emissions in the UK in 2019⁹. These emissions can be addressed through minimising the quantity of waste sent to landfill (which is a large contributor of methane emissions), and by applying the waste hierarchy (prioritising prevention, reuse, recycling and recovery).

Circular economy

In a Circular Economy, we see a transition away from a take-make-dispose ideology to a more circular system in which we keep resources in use for as long as possible. This is achieved through maintaining the maximum value when in use, and then recovering and repurposing material at the end of its life. The EU Circular Economy Package (CEP) introduces a revised legislative framework, identifying steps for the reduction of waste and establishing an ambitious and credible long-term path for waste management and recycling. This has been largely incorporated into UK Government strategy and policy and key elements within “Our Waste, Our Resources: A Strategy for England” (2018).

Clean growth strategy

The Clean Growth Strategy was published in 2017 by HM Government, which aims to increase national income while reducing greenhouse gas emissions in order to meet the UK’s 2050 net zero goal. The Strategy highlights that the UK waste sector has contributed to significant falls in carbon, with the large reduction in waste being sent to landfill resulting in lower greenhouse gas emissions. 12.5% of the UK’s energy was generated from ‘renewable sources and waste’ in 2019. The incineration of waste (Energy from Waste or ‘EfW’) made up 13.3%¹⁰ of the renewable energy generated.

⁹ Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (2021). 2019 UK Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Final Figures.

¹⁰ [Energy use: renewable and waste sources](#)

Air quality

Air quality is used to describe the condition of our air, it can be negatively impacted by a number of pollutants including sulphur dioxide and nitrogen oxide. Road transport is a contributor to poorer air quality, demonstrated by the fact that it accounted for 33% of nitrogen oxide emissions across the UK in 2019. The impact of waste management activity on air quality is most likely to arise through transport impacts, for example, when collecting household waste and recycling and the transport of this to transfer, recycling, treatment and disposal facilities. However, alternative fuels for Refuse Collection Vehicles (RCVs, or 'bin lorries') are coming into the market which will help to reduce the impact that the waste management sector has on air quality, this is because these fuels are cleaner and have a lower environmental impact in comparison to diesel. A pledge on alternative (low emission) vehicle fuels is included in section 3.

Local policies and influences

The LRWS will be implemented in the context of local policies, which both shape and affect it. The proposals in this Strategy have been developed in consideration of these policies, in order to check that the Strategy can be practically implemented and that it either complements or does not diverge from the wider aims of the LWP member authorities, as set out in other relevant policies.

The types of policies influencing the Strategy include the Leicestershire Minerals and Waste Local Plan (the Local Plan). For waste, the Local Plan aims to provide adequate facilities for waste management and mineral extraction/processing facilities within Leicestershire to meet identified needs. The current plan runs from 2019 to 2031. The Local Plan includes Leicester City; Leicester City Council is not within the LWP, but both parties cooperate to deliver plans which affect a wide geographic area.

Further policies and plans considered during the Strategy update cover a wide range of environmental and social issues, such as carbon management, climate emergency declarations and net zero ambitions, community strategies, air quality management, biodiversity and transport. It is important that, to the extent possible, the LRWS is aligned with these other documents. This is specifically addressed by an Environmental Report (see below) which gives more consideration to the local policy influences.

Supporting documents

This LRWS is not developed in isolation; it is supported by research, analysis and consultation. This has been undertaken through the following processes.

Firstly, an Options Appraisal was prepared. This is an assessment of alternative resource and waste service delivery options, analysing combinations of factors such as waste collection methods, recycling options, or treatment approaches. The outcome was a selection of possible approaches to meet the Strategy aims and objectives.

Secondly, a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) was undertaken. SEA considers wider policy influences and assesses the Strategy options against important environmental effects and proposed mitigation. An Environmental Report is the outcome of the SEA; the assessment and mitigation measures in the Environmental Report have influenced the final selected strategy option(s).

Thirdly, an Equalities and Human Rights Impact Assessment (EHRIA) was conducted. This considers, at a strategic level, if the proposed resource and waste services are accessible to the entire community, regardless of characteristics such as age, gender, health, disability, race, or socio-economic status. The EHRIA also includes a public consultation which helps identify any additional unknown barriers the community may have in accessing services in the Strategy. The EHRIA influences the Strategy, identifying if any proposed options need adjusting in order for everyone to have access to the services.

Lastly, there has been a public consultation on key elements within the Strategy to gain feedback from the residents and communities of Leicestershire. The results from the consultation have been reflected within the Strategy.

3. How can the strategy be delivered?

This section identifies LWP's commitments required to deliver the Strategy. These are divided into the topic areas needed to meet the overall vision.

Working in partnership

The LRWS has been developed jointly by LWP members, and it will be implemented by the LWP members working together. The Strategy update has included consultation with officers and elected members from all the LWP authorities. The LWP also recognise that waste issues cross administrative boundaries, and therefore it works with Leicester City Council. Leicester City Council is a Unitary Authority, which makes its own independent waste collection and disposal arrangements, but it co-operates with the LWP on strategic waste issues.

The LWP also works in partnership with residents and communities as they are central to the Strategy. The Strategy objectives are to deliver resource and waste services in which residents and communities can participate effectively. This requires clear and effective communication between the LWP and its residents. Residents are encouraged to maximise resource recovery by using the wide range of recycling services provided by the LWP; in turn, the LWP is required to provide accessible services for the residents, responding to their needs and aspirations.

In the near future, the LWP will also be working with private sector 'Producers' of waste under new Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) legislation. EPR is intended to promote packaging¹¹ design which considers resource inputs and easier end of life recovery (e.g. reuse or recycling) of the resources within the products. Once finalised, EPR regulations will require the LWP members to participate in its implementation with possible service changes.

¹¹ Government has indicated that EPR may be expanded beyond packaging into other goods and products.

The Partnership is also aware of its role in managing wastes and conserving resources from materials generated in Council buildings and activities and makes the following pledge:

Strategy Pledge no. 1:

All Councils within the partnership will review their purchasing activities and internal waste management services to seek to promote waste prevention, reuse and recycling to support the objectives of this Strategy and lead by example.

The environment in which we live has a significant impact on our quality of life. Residents care about their environment and LWP want Leicestershire to be a great place to live, free from litter and fly-tipping. Tackling environmental crime requires joint working. The Partnership therefore makes the following pledge:

Strategy Pledge no. 2:

Environmental crime, particularly fly-tipping does not recognise council boundaries. The Partnership will work together to reduce fly-tipping and litter across Leicestershire and educate residents, businesses, or anyone disposing of rubbish, about their legal duty of care to dispose of their rubbish responsibly.

Preventing waste and preparing items for reuse

Waste prevention is the highest priority of the waste management hierarchy and is an integral part of any Resources and Waste Strategy. Waste prevention measures ensure that the quantity of waste is reduced (either through the avoidance of waste creation in the first place, reuse of products and services, or the extension of its useful life). It therefore reduces the adverse impacts on the environment of waste generation and management, and subsequently prevents impact on human health.

It also eases our demand on finite natural resources and as such, reduces the carbon emissions associated with waste management activity.

The most effective waste prevention activities are often focused on particular waste streams or products. Over recent years, LWP members have implemented a number of initiatives in support of waste prevention and reuse. These projects have included food waste reduction training through Adult Learning Services, supporting the use of reusable nappies by offering free trials of reusable nappies, encouraging home composting via compost bin subsidies and training, and providing guidance on reducing unnecessary waste such as contamination or junk mail.

As part of the Options Appraisal supporting this Strategy, we have explored the impact of waste prevention measures and make the following pledge:

Strategy Pledge no. 3:

The Partnership pledge to support and encourage waste prevention activity across LWP. This will include working with stakeholders, residents and communities to prevent unnecessary waste arising, for example through food waste reduction campaigns such as Love Food Hate Waste.

The second highest priority of the waste hierarchy is 'preparing items for reuse'. The aim of repair and reuse is to extend the useful life of a product or service. This has wide ranging benefits which include saving money, conserving the Earth's limited resources and lowering carbon emissions. Reuse activities often support social and economic development, through skills training, employment and community volunteering.

Recent examples of reuse activity across Leicestershire include:

- **Adult Learning Service** - Furniture reuse workshops are available to all Leicestershire residents. These workshops take place regularly and teach individuals how to fix and upcycle items of furniture.
- **Textiles repair** - An online guide is available on the Less Waste website, which aims to reduce clothing waste. It encourages more sustainable purchasing habits, gives advice about how to care for and repair clothes, how items can be upcycled and where clothing can be donated/sold. Classes are also available for residents to learn sewing skills, such as how to make new items out of existing fabric at home.
- **Give or Take Day toolkit** - A Give or Take Day is an event where people can exchange unwanted goods for items which they may need. A toolkit is available on the Less Waste website to help individuals set up their own event.

Leicestershire residents are also able to engage in reuse activities at the HWRCs across the County. Leicestershire County Council have been investing in developing its provision for reuse at its HWRCs, creating signage and designated deposit areas called 'ReHome Zones', for items which residents deem eligible for reuse or repair. This currently includes bric-a-brac and bicycles however Leicestershire County Council have a vision to expand and enhance the range of materials which can be saved from going into the 'waste' stream, retaining the definition as a 'product' thereby extending its useful life.

LWP also run the 'Less Waste' website which serves as an online platform for the Partnership to provide information on recycling and waste management to its residents, focusing on themes of 'reduce', 'reuse' and 'recycle'. The website also includes links and information on many of the initiatives quoted above¹².

¹² www.lesswaste.org.uk

As part of the Options Appraisal supporting this Strategy, we have explored the role of reuse in developing a waste strategy and as such make the following pledge:

Strategy Pledge no. 4:

The Partnership pledge to continue delivering reuse services and expand activities where practicable, working in partnership with other stakeholders and to signpost to places that advocate for waste prevention and reuse, in support of developing a circular economy. This includes a pledge to continue to improve the collection of items for reuse at Household Waste Recycling Centres and explore the development of reuse shops at suitable sites.

Collecting food waste and garden waste

After preventing food waste occurring (see Love Food Hate Waste example referred to previously), the next most important method of reducing carbon emissions from food waste is to separately collect and treat it. The most effective way of doing this is to collect food waste from households and businesses on a weekly basis, as a separate material stream, and to process the food waste in Anaerobic Digestion (AD) facilities.

The Government has recognised that a key method of avoiding damaging methane emissions from landfill (methane is a powerful greenhouse gas 28 times more potent than CO₂), is to remove food waste from the residual waste stream, through a dedicated collection service. The Government is requiring (through the Environment Act) all households to have a separate collection of food waste, on a weekly basis, from the mid 2020's.



Figure 5: Food waste collection trial taking place in North West Leicestershire District Council.

Food waste collections have been trialled in parts of the County and there are increasing numbers of councils implementing them across the UK. They tend to use small, dedicated collection vehicles and the carbon benefits from separating and effectively managing the food waste far outweigh the carbon emissions of the collection fleet. An image of the collection trial in North West Leicestershire is shown in Figure 5. More separation of waste for recycling can mean additional mileage to operate the collection service and this can add to local air pollution if not appropriately managed. Electric Refuse Collection vehicles, and some fuelled by hydrogen have been trialled and implemented in the UK, and these have the potential to dramatically reduce local air emissions and save significant amounts of carbon emissions. Vehicles running on alternative fuels are currently much more expensive and require new infrastructure around refuelling / charging, however this is an important area to be evaluated by the Partnership as new vehicles are procured and the cost of technology falls. Some districts within the Partnership are using HVO (hydrotreated vegetable oil) fuel as a substitute for diesel, including North West Leicestershire District Council and Blaby District Council.

The separately collected food waste is usually sent to an AD process. Anaerobic digestion is a process that takes place in sealed vessels in the absence of oxygen. Food waste is fed into the vessels which act like a digestion process, breaking down the food waste using bacteria (in a similar way and a slightly higher temperature than your stomach digesting food). The waste degrades and releases a flammable biogas (which is roughly half methane and half carbon dioxide), this gas is then usually combusted in a gas engine to generate electricity, which can be fed back into the national grid as renewable electricity. The gas can alternatively be used to fuel vehicles with 'biomethane' or, after further processing, as an input into the gas grid. The remaining residue from the food waste is reduced to a slurry and can be, after some further 'maturation' (like a composting process), applied to land as a soil conditioner or fertiliser. As part of the Options Appraisal supporting this Strategy, we have modelled the introduction of separate food waste collections across the County and make the following pledges:

Strategy Pledge no. 5:

The Partnership will implement and promote separate food waste collections to all households, subject to confirmation of national policy, legislation and the provision of total ongoing Government funding. This will be as soon as required and when contracts and circumstances dictate. The County Council will procure Anaerobic Digestion capacity to treat the collected food waste in a manner that contributes to effective carbon emissions reduction across the County and improves soil quality.

Strategy Pledge no. 6:

The Partnership will explore the use of alternative fuels for collection vehicles and the transportation of waste and resources to further reduce carbon emissions of the service and improve air quality.

A garden waste collection is offered to all residents in Leicestershire on a fortnightly basis, as described in section 2. There is currently no duty on WCAs (the Districts / Borough Councils) to collect garden waste, however the Government is considering making a free garden waste collection a mandatory requirement (or introducing a maximum charge), through the National Resources and Waste Strategy for England, this is subject to separate consultation.

The collected garden waste from the County is sent to composting facilities and the resulting compost applied to land to improve soil quality and add nutrient value.

As part of the Options Appraisal supporting this Strategy, we have modelled both free of charge and subscription based garden waste collection systems and make the following pledge:

Strategy Pledge no. 7:

The Partnership will continue to offer a garden waste collection service to Leicestershire residents. This will follow national guidelines as to the form of the collection and will be subject to legislation and total ongoing Government funding. The Partnership will continue to procure composting capacity to treat the collected garden waste in a manner that supports carbon reduction and improves soil quality.

Expanding recycling for homes and businesses

The residents and communities of Leicestershire already have a wide range of materials collected for recycling. This mirrors the Government intention to have a standardised set of materials collected for recycling from each house and business across the Country. This will include food waste (as described previously) and each of the following:

- Metals (cans, foil trays, foil, aerosols)
- Plastics (plastic film, bottles, trays, pots, tubs)
- Cartons (e.g. Tetra Pak)
- Card
- Paper
- Glass

The aim is that all of England has the same range of materials collected (by 2023) and that this will enable more targeted nationwide messages and standardised product labelling for recyclability to be established. Furthermore, residents moving from one area to another will know what materials can be separated for recycling (although there might be different colours or types of containers in which to separate them).

In addition to these changes, Government are seeking to introduce a deposit return scheme (DRS) for all single use drinks containers (excluding bottles made of High-Density Polyethylene plastic, primarily milk bottles and glass bottles). This is likely to place an additional 20p charge (the deposit) onto bottles and cans containing drinks, which then may be redeemed (returned) when the bottle / can is placed in an authorised collection point. The collection points are likely to be at shops / supermarkets and are known as reverse vending machines, although alternative methods of redeeming deposits are also being investigated. The DRS scheme is still undergoing consultation but is due to be implemented in 2024. This could have the effect of changing consumer behaviour to an extent, also potentially reducing the amount of littering of containers (covered by the DRS) and may reduce the amount of recyclables and waste handled by the local authorities.

As part of the wide-ranging national changes and to encourage greater resource recovery from waste, the Government are also intending to implement Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for all producers of packaging. EPR means that all packaging producers will need to pay for the costs of dealing with their packaging at the end of its life (e.g. when it is recycled or thrown away). In future (and this is intended to be implemented from 2024), packaging producers will be responsible for the net costs of collecting, handling, recycling, treating and disposing of packaging waste, by providing monies to local government equivalent to that cost. This, together with the DRS scheme, will also provide an incentive to product and packaging producers to consider how their products can be designed better for their resource recovery, for example by making them easier to recycle. Packaging that is hard to recycle will cost more for disposal which will ultimately cost the producer of that packaging. This approach helps the role of the Councils and should assist in improving resource recovery and recycling over the medium and long term.

The appraisal of different collection systems (see supporting Options Appraisal document) demonstrated a preference for maximising recycling through the establishment of a food waste collection. This would be alongside maintaining similar recycling collection systems as at present but increasing participation and use of the recycling service by restricting the residual waste. The preferred method of restricting residual waste was by providing smaller wheeled bins whilst still allowing for plenty of space in the recycling containers. The addition of a weekly food waste collection should also reduce the need for the current levels of residual waste capacity. The Options Appraisal also demonstrated the benefit of providing collection services for other materials like batteries and textiles from households. As part of the modelling for this Strategy we have considered EPR and DRS in addition to different recycling collection systems across the County and make the following pledges:

Strategy Pledge no. 8:

The Partnership shall ensure that the full range of recyclables (as specified by Government and subject to funding) are collected from residents (and businesses where applicable) across Leicestershire by 2025, or as soon as possible when contracts and circumstances allow.

Strategy Pledge no. 9:

The Partnership shall continue to explore the viability of adding extra materials to recycling collections (e.g. for batteries, small electric goods or clothing) striving to continually improve Leicestershire's recycling performance.

Strategy Pledge no. 10:

The Partnership will put in place collection systems to contribute towards the achievement of the national 65% recycling target by 2035, this may include restricting residual waste capacity to encourage greater materials separation, carbon savings and resource recovery. Improvements in materials recovery at Household Waste Recycling Centres will also contribute towards the national target.

Strategy Pledge no. 11:

The Partnership will continue to allocate a communications budget sufficient to help promote good recycling behaviour and support resource recovery to progress the circular economy and low carbon objectives of this Strategy.

Avoiding landfill as much as possible

During 2020/21, Leicestershire landfilled more waste than the national average. This is explained in section 1 of this Strategy and is a situation that the County Council aims to address. An example of this is a recently procured residual waste treatment contract that should enable Leicestershire to exceed national targets for landfill, i.e. no more than 10% of municipal waste should be sent to landfill by 2035.

The County Council, over the period of this Strategy (to 2050), are likely to procure further contracts for residual waste treatment capacity. The technologies and options available for waste treatment may change over time, but they will be assessed in accordance with the vision and objectives of this Strategy, to ensure that they are consistent with the direction expressed in this document, and local and national objectives.

Leicestershire County Council makes the following pledge:

Strategy Pledge no. 12:

The County Council will reduce waste sent to landfill to less than 5% by 2025, well in advance of the 10% national target by 2035. The County Council will undertake future procurement processes for residual waste treatment (alternatives to landfill) in line with the vision and objectives of this Strategy.

Contributing to net zero carbon in Leicestershire

The measures throughout this Strategy will make significant reductions to carbon emissions from the municipal waste management service. Modelling undertaken for the Options Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment process indicates that by implementing all of the measures within this Strategy, carbon savings of the range of 5,000 - 10,000 tonnes of CO2 equivalent would be delivered each year, compared against the current situation. This is the equivalent (in carbon emissions terms) of taking approximately 1,800 - 3,600 cars off the road.

4. Where will the strategy take us?

Projecting ahead to 2050

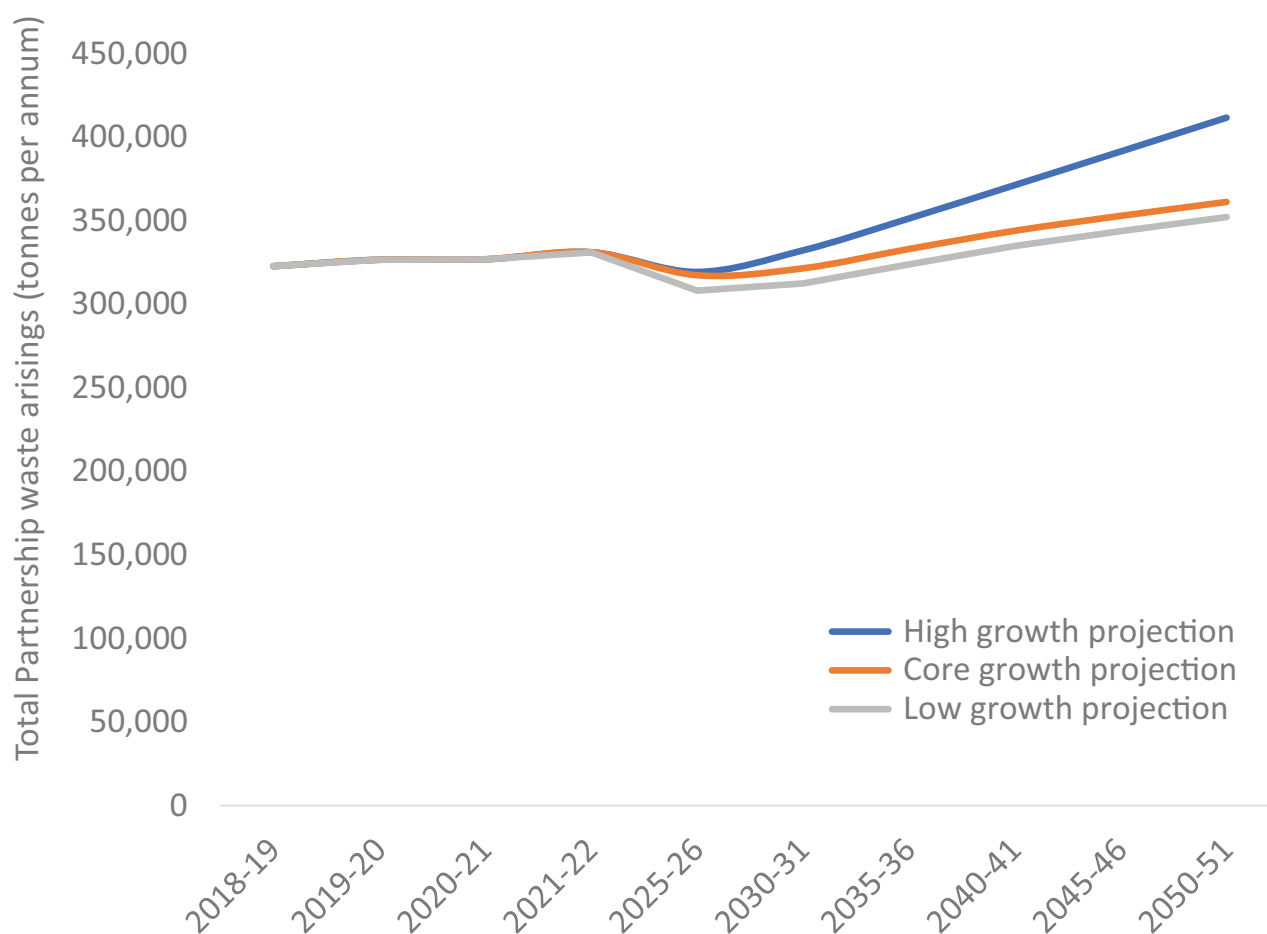
Although it is impossible to predict the future for resource and waste management, we can be sure that 2050 will be very different from today; consider how we manage waste in our households now, compared with 20 years ago. The need to reduce carbon emissions to achieve net zero will require many changes to our current lifestyles and to our environmental impacts. This lifestyle change is part of the global movement towards a circular economy model, essential to reduce our demands on limited resources and to dramatically decrease our carbon impacts. These influences will affect the future amount and type of resources and waste in Leicestershire.

Already, Leicestershire has seen major changes in its resources and waste. Recently, increasing digitisation means residents and communities produce less paper. By contrast, more on-line shopping has increased quantities of household cardboard; this was exacerbated by the lifestyle changes resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. Also, over the last 20 years, although each person is now producing less waste because of lighter weight packaging, the waste they do produce includes far more plastic. Because plastic is usually oil based (fossil carbon), this conflicts with the aims of a low carbon future, unless we can recycle that material multiple times.

Dealing with these uncertainties and changes to resource and waste arisings needs a responsive and flexible LRWS, which tackles new challenges with a broad range of solutions. We have set out a range of pledges and measures to support national changes and set a direction for long term resource recovery for the benefit of residents and communities of Leicestershire. We recognise however that there will be many substantial changes impacting on materials and wastes over the next five years, as the national Strategy takes effect. There is likely to be a need to review or update this Strategy before the end of the 2020's.

Consideration of future waste growth rates is shown in Figure 6, with High, Low and Core projections. These projections are informed by housing forecasts and future policy and legislation that may impact on waste arisings, discussed in section 2¹³. This includes local and national changes driven by packaging producers affected by the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) measures, austerity impacts, consistency of collections, single use plastics ban and other resource management drivers.

Figure 6: Waste growth projections for wastes collected by Local Authorities, 2019 - 2050.

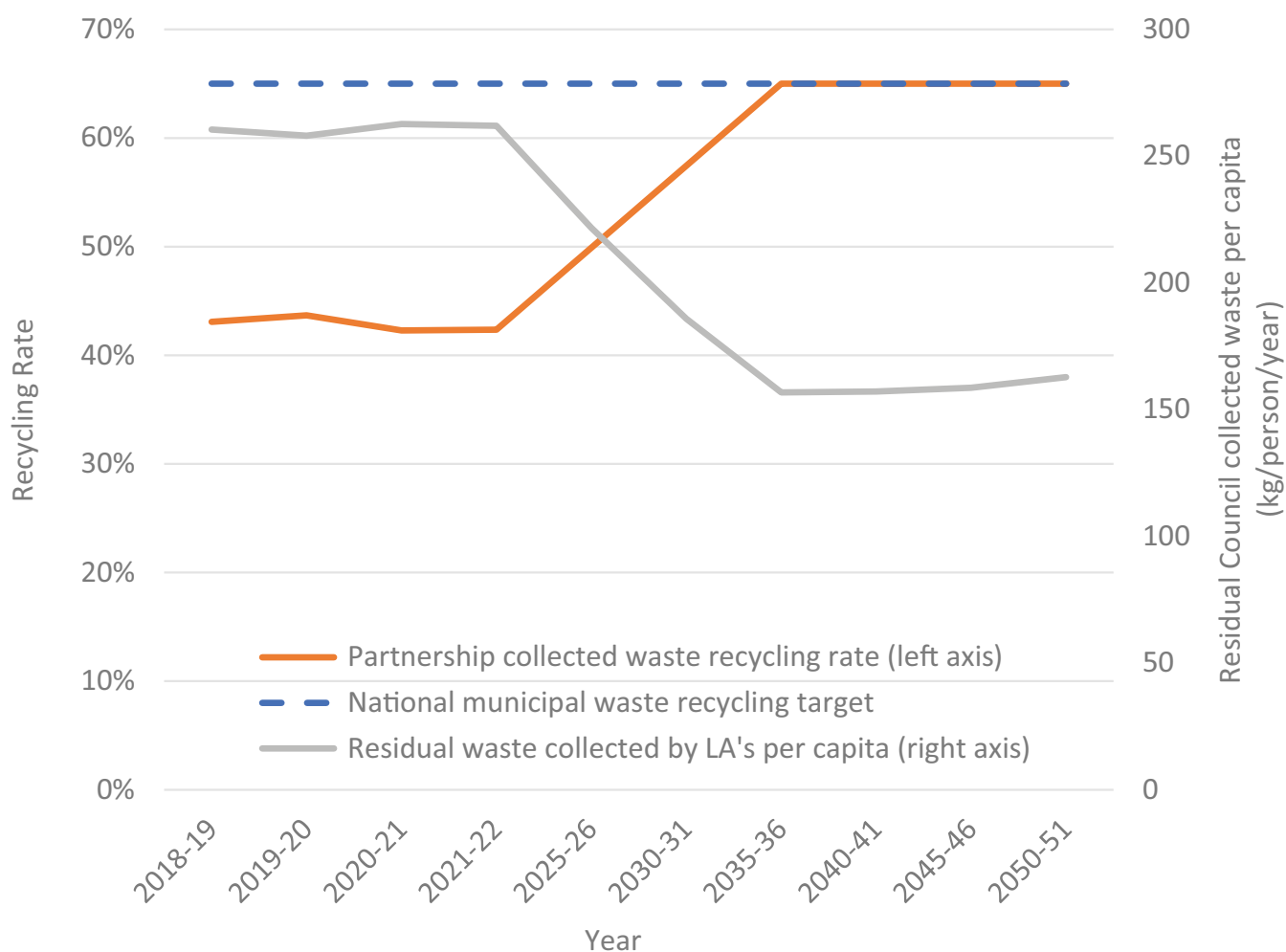


¹³ The variations across the projections is the extent to which different policy interventions are implemented.

The increase in waste shown around 2020 and 2021 is the extra arisings generated by the Covid-19 pandemic (and associated behavioural changes such as home working, use of Personal Protective Equipment and internet shopping), this is assumed to revert back to 2019 levels in the following years, albeit influenced by rising numbers of households and other factors. The subsequent dip in waste arisings is the estimated result of the implementation of a national Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) and Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) in the period 2023 – 2025 (this is described in section 3).

Figure 7 shows delivery in Leicestershire of the national target for 65% of municipal waste to be recycled and prepared for reuse by 2035.

Figure 7: Recycling rate & residual waste per person projections for wastes collected by Local Authorities, 2019 - 2050.



The modelling which informs this Strategy shows that c.62% recycling can be achieved through combinations of the options described in section 3, such as expanding recycling and food waste collections (Pledges 5, 7, 8, 9 & 10)¹⁴. In addition to these options, recycling and reuse will be further enhanced to reach the 2035 target by:

- The LWP continuing to promote and develop systems for reuse of usable goods and packaging (Pledge 4).
- The LWP promoting ongoing education and awareness raising for its residents and communities (Pledge 11).
- The County Council aiming to increase recovery from the Household Waste Recycling Centres (Pledge 10).
- The national changes around product labelling, and extended producer responsibility (making products and packaging easier to recycle).
- Residual waste treatment procurement, which may also deliver additional recycling (Pledge 12)¹⁵.

Figure 7 also shows that the actions set out within this Strategy, supported by national policy, should also reduce the amount of Council collected residual waste (general rubbish not separated for recycling). If the national 65% recycling rate is to be met the amount of residual waste (all general mixed 'rubbish') managed by Councils will need to fall from around 260kg per person per year to around 160kg per person by 2035. Furthermore, the management of residual waste in Leicestershire is also set to change with a pledge to reduce the amount of waste landfilled from current levels (of around 30%) to less than 5% by 2025. This is substantially ahead of the new national target of 10% landfilled waste by 2035.

¹⁴ In March 2022, Defra announced that the DRS for England will exclude glass bottles. It is anticipated that the kerbside recycling rate could increase by between 1.5% and 2% above the recycling rate modelled in the Options Appraisal.

¹⁵ Subject to clarifications on how recycling performance is calculated in the future.

5. Action plan

Introduction and background

This Action Plan provides a route map for delivering the vision and objectives set out in the Leicestershire Resources and Waste Strategy (LRWS) / the 'Strategy'. It provides a clear direction of travel to ensure that resources and waste are managed efficiently.

Context

The Action Plan will guide the implementation of the Strategy and will be subject to regular monitoring and review. Changes may be made to the Action Plan in response to (for example):

- Accelerated or delayed implementation of actions
- Variance from predicted performance of actions
- Changes in Government policy, legislation or regulation
- Other changes in circumstances

The Action Plan is intended to be a living document and will be monitored and updated on an on-going basis. Significant changes that render the Action Plan inconsistent with the LRWS may necessitate revision of the Strategy or Action Plan.

The actions have been categorised in line with themes set out within the Strategy document. Each action has been allocated the responsibility of either the Leicestershire Waste Partnership (LWP) as a collective, or Partners within LWP (i.e. the Districts / Boroughs or County Council).

The Action Plan associated with a resource and waste strategy is usually quite high level but builds on the pledges and objectives of the Strategy. There may be further (more detailed) actions that fall out of the actions within the plan for example: a procurement plan; District Council action plans; business cases, or; communications plans.

Key challenges for the action plan

The Partnership is committed to delivering the objectives and policies set out in the Strategy in a way that represents good value for the Partnership and the residents of Leicestershire as a whole. This approach requires coordination of effort between seven local authorities and between the two tiers of local government that in the case of waste management, have very different roles and responsibilities.

At a national level, Government is currently consulting on a suite of potential policy changes which are intended to reform the resources and waste industry (see Resources and Waste Strategy for England 2018). The legislative basis for implementation of these reforms is included in the Environment Act (2021). Outcomes from the national consultation could require substantive changes from the LWP. Where changes are anticipated (e.g. separate food waste collections) these have been acknowledged within the Action Plan with defined actions. However, where there is more ambiguity (e.g. relating to the charging for garden waste collections), these have been excluded from the Action Plan until further clarity is provided from Government.

Action plan headings

The Action Plan has been divided into the following themes:

- Reuse/Circular Economy
- Recycling (performance and collections)
- Residual Waste Reduction
- Partnership Working
- Leading by example
- Communication
- Carbon

Some of these themes contain overlapping elements. Each action details what action is to be taken, how this relates to either an objective or pledge of the LRWS, by whom and when.

Table 1 provides an overview of the key actions by the Leicestershire Waste Partnership. Links to the Strategy Objectives and Pledges are also summarised.

Overview of actions

Action	Objective	Pledge
Reuse / circular economy		
Reuse service - Evaluate and explore further reuse options at household waste and recycling centres (HWRCs)	1	3, 4
Facilitate or support the delivery of repair workshops (e.g. for Waste Electronic and Electrical Equipment (WEEE))	2	3, 4
Circular Economy principles promotion - Liaise and engage with stakeholders	1, 5	
Waste prevention / reuse focused campaign - run at least once a year across the Partnership	1	3, 4, 14
Explore development of reuse shops at suitable sites	1	4
Promote reuse - provide opportunities for or signpost householders (including those that cannot access HWRCs)	1	4
Recycling (performance and collections)		
Food Waste - Implementation of weekly food waste collections (all districts from 2025 or as contracts allow) with consideration of alleviating concerns raised in consultation (pests, containers, previous trial etc)	6	5
Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) – Explore any collection and treatment options associated with the introduction of DRS	1, 6	
Review garden waste collection service with consideration given to Government response to national waste consultation		7
Implement dry collection systems to achieve high quality recycling with consideration given to Government response to national Resources and Waste Strategy for England consultation		8

Action	Objective	Pledge
Kerbside collections - contribute towards the achievement of the national 65% recycling target by 2035	1	10
Kerbside recycling collections - Review materials collected within core recycling service (e.g. plastic film) and explore additional collections (absorbent hygiene products (AHP), small waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE), textiles, batteries, bulky waste)	1	8, 9
Food waste treatment - procure Anaerobic Digestion capacity to treat the collected food waste (and promote the positives of this acquisition)		5
Residual waste management		
Consider options for reducing kerbside residual waste including reduced average residual waste capacity and implementation of no side waste policy where not in existence (alongside educating residents on the rationale of waste prevention, recycling, etc). Closely monitor where in existence	6	
Evaluate options to enhance separation at HWRCs to maximise recycling / reuse and recovery performance	7	4
Align with national residual waste reduction targets (kg/person/yr)	1, 7	
Landfill reduction - Reduce waste sent to landfill to less than 5% by 2025		12
Review options and approach to residual waste treatment to support greater resilience and align with the long-term aim to reduce waste arisings	7	12
Review / Adoption of resource efficiency metric as per data and Government policy ¹⁶	1, 4	

¹⁶ Subject to consultation.

Action	Objective	Pledge
Partnership working		
Quarterly meetings - to discuss and action strategic and operational resource and waste issues and engagement with existing and new parties or bodies (e.g. producer responsibility organisations)	6, 8	3
Adopt and promote the Leicestershire Resources and Waste Strategy	6	
Action Plan review (annual)	4	
Strategy review (5 yearly) or when there are significant changes in waste/environmental policy	4	
Explore efficiencies of joint procurement (e.g. containers and food waste vehicles and collections) at strategic points (dates TBC)	6	
Lead by example		
Lobby both Government and businesses to reduce the amount of waste generated and increase reuse, recycling, composting and recovery in line with the waste hierarchy	1, 9	
Each Partner to review / audit their purchasing activities and internal waste management services regularly to promote waste prevention with a view to reducing, reusing and recycling / developing a Circular Economy		1
Update EHRIA during review of LRWS	4	
Coordinated publicity campaigns - Maintain high profile of green / sustainable activities / events and initiatives in Leicestershire (e.g. through Less Waste / signposting enquiries to relevant contacts)	5, 8, 9	
Develop district level action plans for LRWS implementation	1, 4	

Action	Objective	Pledge
Communication actions		
Engage with businesses and local communities to increase participation in waste prevention, reuse and recycling initiatives to reduce climate change impacts and improve other beneficial outcomes	5, 8, 9	3
Work together to reduce fly-tipping and litter by educating residents and businesses about their duty of care to dispose of waste responsibly		2
Consider opportunities to improve communications to residents regarding operation and safe use of HWRCs		10
Continue allocation of communications budget		11
Communication Plan - Develop for LRWS implementation for LWP (working in partnership with local communities and businesses, promoting lead by example etc)	8, 9	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12
Carbon		
Explore the use of alternatives to fossil fuels for the waste collection services (and promote leading by example)	3	6
Monitor LWP waste management services carbon emissions in order to reduce environmental impacts	3	
Contribute to the County wide Net Zero targets and engagement with all partners to support this aspiration	3	11

Monitoring

Monitoring the progress and performance of each action will be crucial to the success of the Strategy. The Partnership will continue to work together and will meet regularly to monitor progress. It will also provide an update on joint working as part of regular reporting against the Strategy Action Plan. This should form a regular agenda item for LWP meetings.

Where the Action Plan monitoring identifies that insufficient progress is being made in a particular area, then additional actions / corrective measures may be introduced to rectify any shortfall.

If you require this information in a printed or alternative format please telephone 0116 305 7005.

ਜੇ ਆਪ ਆ ਮਾਭਿਤੀ ਆਪਨੀ ਆਖਾਮਾਂ ਸਮਝਵਾਮਾਂ ਥੋੜੀ ਮਦਦ
ਓਘਣਾਂ ਭੋ ਤੋ 0116 305 7005 ਨੰਬਰ ਪਰ ਫ਼ੋਨ ਕਰਸ਼ੋ ਅਨੇ
ਅਮੇ ਆਪਨੇ ਮਦਦ ਕਰਵਾ ਆਵਸਥਾ ਕਰੀਸ਼ੁੰ.

ਜੇਕਰ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਸ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਨੂੰ ਸਮਝਣ ਵਿਚ ਕੁਝ ਮਦਦ ਚਾਹੀਦੀ
ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ 0116 305 7005 ਨੰਬਰ ਤੇ ਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ ਅਤੇ
ਅਸੀਂ ਤੁਹਾਡੀ ਮਦਦ ਲਈ ਕਿਸੇ ਦਾ ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧ ਕਰ ਦਵਾਂਗੇ।

এই তথ্য নিজের ভাষায় বুঝার জন্য আপনার যদি কোন
সাহায্যের প্রয়োজন হয়, তবে 0116 305 7005 এই নম্বরে
ফোন করলে আমরা উপযুক্ত ব্যক্তির ব্যবস্থা করবো।

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات سمجھنے میں کچھ مدد درکار ہے تو براہ مہربانی اس نمبر پر کال کریں
0116 305 7005 اور ہم آپ کی مدد کے لئے کسی کا انتظام کر دیں گے۔

假如閣下需要幫助，用你的語言去明白這些資訊，
請致電 0116 305 7005，我們會安排有關人員為你
提供幫助。

Jeżeli potrzebujesz pomocy w zrozumieniu tej informacji
w Twoim języku, zadzwoń pod numer 0116 305 7005,
a my Ci pomożemy.

Equality & Human Rights Impact Assessment (EHRIA)

This Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment (EHRIA) will enable you to assess the **new, proposed or significantly changed** policy/ practice/ procedure/ function/ service** for equality and human rights implications.

Undertaking this assessment will help you to identify whether or not this policy/ practice/ procedure/ function/ service** may have an adverse impact on a particular community or group of people. It will ultimately ensure that as an Authority we do not discriminate and we are able to promote equality, diversity and human rights.

Before completing this form please refer to the EHRIA [guidance](#), for further information about undertaking and completing the assessment. For further advice and guidance, please contact your [Departmental Equalities Group](#) or equality@leics.gov.uk

***Please note: The term 'policy' will be used throughout this assessment as shorthand for policy, practice, procedure, function or service.*

Key Details	
Name of policy being assessed:	Leicestershire Resources and Waste Strategy
Department and section:	Environment & Transport, Environment and Waste Commissioning
Name of lead officer/ job title and others completing this assessment:	Anna Low, Team Manager Kerry Skeer, Senior Strategic Waste Officer Frith Resource Management consultants
Contact telephone numbers:	0116 305 8127 0116 305 7234
Name of officer/s responsible for implementing this policy:	Anna Low, Kerry Skeer
Date EHRIA assessment started:	September 2021

Date EHRIA assessment completed:	<u>TBC</u>
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Section 1: Defining the policy

Section 1: Defining the policy

You should begin this assessment by defining and outlining the scope of this policy. You should consider the impact or likely impact of the policy in relation to all areas of equality, diversity and human rights, as outlined in Leicestershire County Council's Equality Strategy.

1	<p>What is new or changed in this policy? <i>What has changed and why?</i></p> <p>This EHRIA refers to the Leicestershire Resources and Waste Strategy (LR&WS). This was previously known as the Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy (LMWMS). The first LMWMS was adopted by the Leicestershire Waste Partnership (LWP) authorities in 2002. The LMWMS was reviewed and revised in 2006 and 2011. An Equality Impact Assessment was conducted in 2006 and again in 2012 on the revised LMWMSs.</p> <p>An updated LWMWS has been developed (2021/2022) following a scheduled review in line with Defra guidance which recommends that a municipal waste management strategy “<i>should be completely reviewed at least every five years to ensure it remains current</i>”. The requirement for a Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy falls under the Waste Emissions Trading Act (2003) section 32 (1) to (7).</p> <p>The previous and revised LMWMS sets out the core strategy for how the LWP intends to manage municipal waste including statutory responsibilities for waste management for the partnership and provides a policy framework for sustainable and co-ordinated waste management. The revised strategy covers the period up to 2050.</p> <p>The EHRIA informs the LR&WS to ensure the Strategy is fit for purpose, including all subsequent plans and policies that sit below the LR&WS in order to implement its aims and objectives.</p> <p>The revised LR&WS, as for the previous versions, is not a planning document and does not relate to sites or where infrastructure is developed. This is reflected in the EHRIA scope.</p>
2	<p>Does this relate to any other policy within your department, the Council or with other partner organisations? <i>If yes, please reference the relevant policy or EHRIA. If unknown, further investigation may be required.</i></p> <p>Leicestershire County Council and the seven district and borough councils of Leicestershire work together as the Leicestershire Waste Partnership (LWP). All eight partner authorities in LWP have adopted the previous LMWMS and will refer to the new and updated LR&WS in the design of their services.</p>

	<p>The LR&WS supports the Leicestershire County Council's Strategic Plan 2022-26 Working together for the benefit of everyone. It also supports, influences or is influenced by a range of other policies and plans applying to the LWP partners, covering a wide remit:</p> <p>Climate Change:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leicestershire Environment Strategy (2018-2030) • District level carbon reduction commitments (specific to each district) <p>Waste and Recycling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste Disposal Authority Plan (2018-2030) • Leicester and Leicestershire Waste Development Framework (up to 2021) • Leicestershire Minerals & Waste Local Plan (up to 2031) <p>Air Quality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air Quality Management Areas • District level Air Quality Strategies <p>Biodiversity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity Action Plan for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland • District Biodiversity and Habitat Plans <p>Population / Communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Growth Plan for Leicester & Leicestershire (to up 2050) • Communities Strategy (2017 – 2021) <p>Economics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leicestershire County Councils Strategic Plan (2022-2026) 										
3	<p>Who are the people/ groups (target groups) affected and what is the intended change or outcome for them?</p> <p>The target people/groups are all residents within the Leicestershire Waste Partnership area.</p> <p>The intended outcome for the target population is continued effective and sustainable waste management service delivery. Delivery of waste and recycling services to Leicestershire's residents includes kerbside collections, provision of Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs), and initiatives designed around the principle of the waste hierarchy, which, in order of preference, aim to prevent waste, reuse materials, recycle and compost, treat waste and dispose of residual waste.</p> <p>The Vision of the strategy applies to all residents as follows:</p> <p><i>To work towards a circular economy and contribute to achieving net zero carbon by 2050 in Leicestershire. This means fully embracing the waste hierarchy by preventing waste and keeping resources in circulation for as long as possible, through reuse, repair and recycling, to realise their maximum value whilst minimising environmental impacts.</i></p>										
4	<p>Will this policy meet the Equality Act 2010 requirements to have due regard to the need to meet any of the following aspects? (Please tick and explain how)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th><th>Yes</th><th>No</th><th>How?</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation</td><td>✓</td><td></td><td>The LR&WS has a vision, objectives and pledges which are broad and <i>aspirational</i> in nature. It is relevant to all of Leicestershire's residents equally within</td></tr> </tbody> </table>				Yes	No	How?	Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation	✓		The LR&WS has a vision, objectives and pledges which are broad and <i>aspirational</i> in nature. It is relevant to all of Leicestershire's residents equally within
	Yes	No	How?								
Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation	✓		The LR&WS has a vision, objectives and pledges which are broad and <i>aspirational</i> in nature. It is relevant to all of Leicestershire's residents equally within								

				the LWP jurisdictions. It does not seek to introduce specific changes to services that would have a unique impact on the protected characteristics as defined in the Equalities Act 2010
	Advance equality of opportunity between different groups	✓		<p>Equalities advancement is mainstreamed within the LWP and therefore within the implementation of the LR&WS. Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Translated communication materials and accessibility to ensure no single group is favoured. -Engagement of Equalities Officers to ensure appropriate service delivery -Equalities Impact Assessments are conducted at the district level before major service changes are implemented.
	Foster good relations between different groups	✓		All services and events delivered under the LR&WS will be open to all different groups and as currently applies; all events and activities undertaken under the LR&WS implementation will encourage a wide breadth of engagement from the community groups.

Section 2: Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment (EHRIA) Screening

Section 2: Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment Screening

The purpose of this section of the assessment is to help you decide if a full EHRIA is required. **[Completed pre-consultation of the LR&WS strategy]**

If you have already identified that a full EHRIA is needed for this policy/ practice/ procedure/ function/ service, either via service planning processes or other means, then please go straight to [Section 3](#) on Page 7 of this document.

Section 2

A: Research and Consultation

5.	Have the target groups been consulted about the following?	Yes	No*
	a) their current needs and aspirations and what is important to them;		✓
	b) any potential impact of this change on them (positive and negative, intended and unintended);		✓
	c) potential barriers they may face		✓

6.	If the target groups have not been consulted directly, have representatives been consulted or research explored (e.g. Equality Mapping)?		✓
7.	Have other stakeholder groups/ secondary groups (e.g. carers of service users) been explored in terms of potential unintended impacts?		✓
8.	<p>*If you answered 'no' to the question above, please use the space below to outline what consultation you are planning to undertake, or why you do not consider it to be necessary.</p> <p>LR&WS Consultation</p> <p>The LR&WS is an over-arching strategy, as such when specific parts of it are implemented at the district or county level, service change consultations are generally undertaken, leading to a substantial amount of evidence from engagement around current waste practices that is actively utilised to enhance implementation. Examples of this include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Consultation and research on barriers to using waste services, which has led to understanding communication issues on waste and using multi-language waste hangers; -Feedback on a new pilot scheme including the impact of disabilities on the service using a recycling trolley; -Engagement with minority groups for Equalities Impact Assessments; and -Full public consultation for the 2006 strategy which obtained views and opinions on the appropriateness of waste services from residents. <p>Before the LR&WS is finalised, a public consultation will be held between 31st January and the 25th April 2022 on the LR&WS to offer residents the opportunity to identify any barriers or needs which are not currently identified or anticipated. The consultation will be as accessible as possible to all, noting at the time the country was managing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>It is suggested that Mental Health, Age and Dementia charities are included in the consultation of the LR&WS so their feedback in respect to any barriers they feel they may have to engaging with the waste services can inform the final LR&WS.</p>		

Section 2

B: Monitoring Impact

9.	Are there systems set up to:	Yes	No
	a) monitor impact (positive and negative, intended and unintended) for different groups;	✓	
	b) enable open feedback and suggestions from different communities	✓	

Note: If no to Question 8, you will need to ensure that monitoring systems are established to check for impact on the protected characteristics.

Section 2

C: Potential Impact

10.

Use the table below to specify if any individuals or community groups who identify with any of the '[protected characteristics](#)' may potentially be affected by this policy and describe any positive and negative impacts, including any barriers.

	Yes	No	Comments
Age	✓		Implementing the LR&WS pledges requires households to present bins for collection and sort recyclables. Incidences of disability increase with age and older residents with increased frailty or reduced mental capacity, for example, as a result of dementia, may find bin presentation or sorting of recyclables more difficult. HWRCs do not allow unsupervised access to children under 16 meaning children are prevented from entering the sites alone.
Disability	✓		As above, both physical and mental health conditions including neurological conditions and dementia may prevent people from presenting waste, sorting recyclables in the household for kerbside collection or taking waste to a HWRC.
Gender Reassignment		✓	No barriers are identified
Marriage and Civil Partnership		✓	No barriers are identified
Pregnancy and Maternity	✓		The physical requirements of waste presentation may become a barrier for women particularly in third trimester pregnancy, this would include wheeled bins, boxes or other containers. Also at HWRCs, the current temporary policy is that no physical assistance can be provided at the sites, a resident should not set off on the understanding or intent that they can request assistance. A resident that feels a reasonable adjustment to this policy should apply can contact customer

				services in advance so it can be considered.
	Race	✓		There are no barriers associated with race, but the language diversity associated with racial diversity may be a barrier to communications on waste issues and waste services.
	Religion or Belief		✓	No barriers are identified
	Sex		✓	No barriers are identified
	Sexual Orientation		✓	No barriers are identified
	Other groups e.g. rural isolation, deprivation, health inequality, carers, asylum seeker and refugee communities, looked after children, deprived or disadvantaged communities	✓		<p>Rural isolation and poverty means distances from HWRC services as well as no access to a private vehicle may be a barrier to access.</p> <p>Areas with more multiple occupancy houses, or shared waste facilities, or no outdoor space may have challenges with waste segregation and physical space for multiple containers.</p> <p>People new to the country or area such as recent asylum seekers or refugees may need specific guidance on waste services if they have not used kerbside collections before, and specific communications in their own language.</p> <p>Residents experiencing deprivation may need support from housing officers to ensure they are aware of waste services.</p> <p>As shown by evidence collected through the 2021 LLEP Digital Poverty Call for Evidence Analysis Report (May 2021), deprivation and poverty can result in lower levels of computer access and therefore potentially less ability to find out about specific waste services unless materials are printed.</p> <p>Deprivation and poverty may also mean no car ownership</p>

				restricting those without a car to travel to and access the HWRCs. Health and safety policy dictates no pedestrians are allowed onto sites except at the Barwell and Mountsorrel sites where this permitted.
	Community Cohesion		✓	No barriers are identified.
11.	<p>Are the human rights of individuals <u>potentially</u> affected by this proposal? Could there be an impact on human rights for any of the protected characteristics? (Please tick)</p> <p>Explain why you consider that any particular <u>article in the Human Rights Act</u> may apply to your policy/ practice/ function or procedure and how the human rights of individuals are likely to be affected below: [NB. Include positive and negative impacts as well as barriers in benefiting from the above proposal]</p>			
		Yes	No	Comments
	Part 1: The Convention- Rights and Freedoms			
	Article 2: Right to life		✓	No impact
	Article 3: Right not to be tortured or treated in an inhuman or degrading way		✓	No impact
	Article 4: Right not to be subjected to slavery/ forced labour	✓		LR&WS implementation requires the engagement of contractors by LWP members who offer employment terms, conditions and contracts which are not under direct control of LWP members. As a result, contractors are monitored closely, only accredited agencies used and anti-slavery clauses integrated into contracts.
	Article 5: Right to liberty and security		✓	No impact
	Article 6: Right to a fair trial		✓	No impact
	Article 7: No punishment without law		✓	No impact
	Article 8: Right to respect for private and family life		✓	No impact
	Article 9: Right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion		✓	No impact
	Article 10: Right to freedom of expression		✓	No impact

	Article 11: Right to freedom of assembly and association		✓	No impact
	Article 12: Right to marry		✓	No impact
	Article 14: Right not to be discriminated against		✓	No impact
Part 2: The First Protocol				
	Article 1: Protection of property/ peaceful enjoyment		✓	No impact
	Article 2: Right to education		✓	No impact
	Article 3: Right to free elections		✓	No impact
Section 2				
D: Decision				
12.	Is there evidence or any other reason to suggest that:		No	Unknown
	a) this policy could have a different affect or adverse impact on any section of the community;			✓
	b) any section of the community may face barriers in benefiting from the proposal			✓
13.	Based on the answers to the questions above, what is the likely impact of this policy			
	No Impact <input type="checkbox"/>	Positive Impact <input type="checkbox"/>	Neutral Impact <input type="checkbox"/>	Negative Impact or Impact Unknown <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Note: If the decision is 'Negative Impact' or 'Impact Not Known' an EHRIA Report is required.				
14.	Is an EHRIA report required?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	

Section 2: Completion of EHRIA Screening

Upon completion of the screening section of this assessment, you should have identified whether an EHRIA Report is required for further investigation of the impacts of this policy.

Option 1: If you identified that an EHRIA Report is required, continue to [Section 3](#) on Page 7 of this document to complete.

Option 2: If there are no equality, diversity or human rights impacts identified and an EHRIA report is not required, continue to [Section 4](#) on Page 14 of this document to complete.

Section 3: Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment (EHRIA) Report

Section 3: Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment Report

This part of the assessment will help you to think thoroughly about the impact of this policy and to critically examine whether it is likely to have a positive or negative impact on different groups within our diverse community. It is also to identify any barriers that may detrimentally affect under-represented communities or groups, who may be disadvantaged by the way in which we carry out our business.

Using the information gathered either within the EHRIA Screening or independently of this process, this EHRIA Report should be used to consider the impact or likely impact of the policy in relation to all areas of equality, diversity and human rights as outlined in Leicestershire County Council's Equality Strategy.

Section 3

A: Research and Consultation

When considering the target groups it is important to think about whether new data needs to be collected or whether there is any existing research that can be utilised.

- 15.** Based on the gaps identified either in the EHRIA Screening or independently of this process, how have you now explored the following and what does this information/data tell you about each of the diverse groups?
- a) current needs and aspirations and what is important to individuals and community groups (including human rights);
 - b) likely impacts (positive and negative, intended and unintended) to individuals and community groups (including human rights);
 - c) likely barriers that individuals and community groups may face (including human rights)

How this has been explored

The LWP recognise that for the majority of the Partners, barriers in the community are associated with: Age, Disabilities (particularly physical, mental and neurological health conditions), Race (language diversity), Pregnancy, Other (rural/urban poor, deprivation, rural isolation).

The public consultation survey for the LR&WS took place between 31st January and 25th April 2022. The survey included sections on "Keeping Communities Informed" and "Making Sure Everyone Is Included" to understand potential barriers. The survey was available electronically and in hard copy and in various languages if requested.

Public consultation findings:

- Age and Disabilities (physical, mental and neurological) - concern about understanding recycling requirements, getting bins / recycling containers to and from the kerbside.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consideration of how to access HWRCs (as no pedestrian access allowed at all but two sites) or offer alternative recycling / re-use facilities where no access to car / private transport - Consideration to space for storage for multiple waste containers, particularly where limited space is available such as areas with more multiple occupancy houses, or shared waste facilities, or no outdoor space - Clear and simple instructions on recycling procedures - Printed materials as well as on-line communications (deprivation, poverty and age may mean lower levels of computer access/digital discrimination) - Information in various languages to accommodate language diversity associated with racial diversity
	<p>When the actions within the LR&WS are implemented, further exploration of barriers and impacts will take place potentially as pilots, trials and feedback (see Q16).</p>
16.	<p>Is any further research, data collection or evidence required to fill any gaps in your understanding of the potential or known affects of the policy on target groups?</p>
	<p>The LR&WS is high level and as such will be implemented appropriately within the partner jurisdictions. At the implementation level, further exploration of barriers and impacts will take place (for example through doing trials or pilots with varied community groups to understand the practicalities of the target activity).</p> <p>In response to the findings identified in Q15 above, engagement with specific groups would be beneficial prior to full LR&WS implementation, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Mental Health, Neurological Disorders and Dementia The impacts of mental health, neurological conditions and dementia on waste service access have not explicitly been explored, whereas the issues of physical health and disability are better known. Therefore, engagement with mental health charities or experts will be promoted prior to the implementation of actions within the LR&WS. b) Age Given the UK-wide aging population, further engagement with elderly care charities will be promoted prior to the implementation of the LR&WS. c) Deprivation On-going feedback, either formal or informal, would be collated from LWP officers with access to representatives of or communities from deprived areas. d) Language Diversity On-going feedback, either formal or informal, would be collated from LWP officers with access to representatives of or communities with high language diversity.
	<p>When considering who is affected by this proposed policy, it is important to think about consulting with and involving a range of service users, staff or other stakeholders who may be affected as part of the proposal.</p>
17.	<p>Based on the gaps identified either in the EHRIA Screening or independently of this process, <u>how</u> have you further consulted with those affected on the likely impact and <u>what</u> does this consultation tell you about each of the diverse groups?</p>
	<p>N/A – see response to Q15 and Q16.</p>
18.	<p>Is any further consultation required to fill any gaps in your understanding of the potential or known effects of the policy on target groups?</p>

	On-going consultation and feedback will take place during implementation of the LR&WS actions and initiatives.
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Section 3

B: Recognised Impact

19.	Based on any evidence and findings, use the table below to specify if any individuals or community groups who identify with any 'protected characteristics' are <u>likely</u> be affected by this policy. Describe any positive and negative impacts, including what barriers these individuals or groups may face.	
		Comments
	Age	Implementing the LR&WS requires households to present bins for collection and sort their recyclables. Incidences of disability increase with age and older residents with increased frailty or reduced mental capacity, for example, as a result of dementia, may find bin presentation or sorting of recyclables more difficult. HWRCs do not allow children under 16 meaning children are prevented from entering the sites alone.
	Disability	As above, both physical and mental health conditions including neurological conditions and dementia may prevent people from presenting waste, sorting recyclables or taking waste to a HWRC.
	Gender Reassignment	No barriers are identified
	Marriage and Civil Partnership	No barriers are identified
	Pregnancy and Maternity	The physical requirements of waste presentation may become a barrier for women, particularly in third trimester pregnancy, this would include wheeled bins, boxes or other containers.
	Race	There are no barriers associated with race per se, but the language diversity associated with racial diversity may be a barrier to communications on waste issues and waste services.
	Religion or Belief	No barriers are identified
	Sex	No barriers are identified

	Sexual Orientation	No barriers are identified
	Other groups e.g. rural isolation, deprivation, health inequality, carers, asylum seeker and refugee communities, looked after children, deprived or disadvantaged communities	<p>Rural isolation and poverty means distances from HWRC services may be a barrier to access.</p> <p>Areas with more multiple occupancy houses, or shared waste facilities, or no outdoor space may have challenges with waste segregation and physical space for multiple containers</p> <p>People new to the country or area such as recent asylum seekers or refugees may need specific guidance on waste services if they have not used kerbside collections before, and specific communications in their own language.</p> <p>Residents experiencing deprivation may need support from housing officers to ensure they are aware of waste services.</p> <p>As shown by evidence collected through the 2021 LLEP Digital Poverty Call for Evidence Analysis Report (May 2021), deprivation and poverty can result in lower levels of computer access and therefore potentially less ability to find out about specific waste services unless materials are printed.</p> <p>Deprivation and poverty may also mean no car ownership/access restricting those without a car to travel to and access the HWRCs. Health and safety policy dictates no pedestrians are allowed onto sites apart from at the Barwell and Mountsorrel sites where this is permitted.</p>
	Community Cohesion	No barriers are identified

20.	<p>Based on any evidence and findings, use the table below to specify if any particular Articles in the Human Rights Act are <u>likely</u> to apply to your policy. Are the human rights of any individuals or community groups affected by this proposal? Is there an impact on human rights for any of the protected characteristics?</p>	
		Comments

Part 1: The Convention- Rights and Freedoms	
Article 2: Right to life	No impact
Article 3: Right not to be tortured or treated in an inhuman or degrading way	No impact
Article 4: Right not to be subjected to slavery/ forced labour	LR&WS implementation requires the engagement of contractors who offer employment terms, conditions and contracts which are not under direct control of LWP. As a result, contractors are monitored closely, only accredited agencies used and anti-slavery clauses integrated into contracts.
Article 5: Right to liberty and security	No impact
Article 6: Right to a fair trial	No impact
Article 7: No punishment without law	No impact
Article 8: Right to respect for private and family life	No impact
Article 9: Right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion	No impact
Article 10: Right to freedom of expression	No impact
Article 11: Right to freedom of assembly and association	No impact
Article 12: Right to marry	No impact
Article 14: Right not to be discriminated against	No impact
Part 2: The First Protocol	
Article 1: Protection of property/ peaceful enjoyment	No impact
Article 2: Right to education	No impact
Article 3: Right to free elections	No impact
Section 3	
C: Mitigating and Assessing the Impact	
Taking into account the research, data, consultation and information you have reviewed and/or carried out as part of this EHRIA, it is now essential to assess the impact of the policy.	
21.	If you consider there to be actual or potential adverse impact or discrimination, please outline this below. State whether it is justifiable or legitimate and give reasons.

No actual or potential adverse impact or discrimination is anticipated from the LR&WS.	
N.B.	
<p>i) If you have identified adverse impact or discrimination that is <u>illegal</u>, you are required to take action to remedy this immediately.</p> <p>ii) If you have identified adverse impact or discrimination that is <u>justifiable or legitimate</u>, you will need to consider what actions can be taken to mitigate its effect on those groups of people.</p>	
22.	<p>Where there are potential barriers, negative impacts identified and/or barriers or impacts are unknown, please outline how you propose to minimise all negative impact or discrimination.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) include any relevant research and consultations findings which highlight the best way in which to minimise negative impact or discrimination b) consider what barriers you can remove, whether reasonable adjustments may be necessary, and how any unmet needs that you have identified can be addressed c) if you are not addressing any negative impacts (including human rights) or potential barriers identified for a particular group, please explain why
<p>Potential barriers have been identified for the following:</p> <p>Age, Disabilities (physical, mental and neurological), Race (language diversity), Pregnancy, Other (rural/urban poor, deprivation, rural isolation).</p> <p>The mitigation measures taken to reduce or remove the barriers are discussed below, and also identify where barriers cannot be mitigated.</p> <p>Age:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Provide an assisted collection service for those who are unable to present waste and recycling containers. Waste and recycling operatives collect and return containers from an agreed location on the property. b) For visual and hearing impairment which can be associated with aging, see below. <p>Disabilities (physical, mental and neurological health conditions):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Provide an assisted collection service for those who are unable to present waste and recycling containers. Waste and recycling operatives collect and return containers from an agreed location on the property. b) All partners within the LWP provide website accessibility links which give details on interpretation and translation services c) Residents can request information in accessible PDF, audio recording, braille, large print and easy read. d) The AbilityNet link provides advice on making a user's device easier to use if they have a disability. e) At HWRCs where a customer feels they may be unable to effectively communicate with site staff, they can contact the customer service centre so the County Council can consider whether any reasonable adjustments are appropriate. 	

- f) Accessible standard material is sent generically to managers at the HWRC
- g) Updated materials from the Equalities representatives are distributed to HWRC managers.

Race (language diversity):

- a) Communications are available in relevant languages to explain waste services and how they can be accessed.
- b) Housing officers collaborate with waste teams to ensure refugees and asylum seekers in the area who may not speak English are supported and are aware of waste services.

Pregnancy and maternity:

- a) Assisted collection services for those who are pregnant or who have had a recent C-section and live alone or in a household where no-one else is able to present the waste. Waste and recycling operatives collect and return containers from an agreed location on the property.

Other (rural/urban poor, deprivation, rural isolation):

- a) Collaboration with housing teams to ensure refugees new to the area and residents experiencing deprivation are aware of waste services.
- b) Doorstepping with Housing Officers, to ensure awareness of waste services in more deprived areas.
- c) Working with Housing Associations to ensure residents have access to waste services.
- d) For rural isolation or those without cars, the issue of requiring private transport for HWRC attendance cannot be overcome by the LWP however the partners offer bulky waste collections which can support management of waste that is not suitable for kerbside containers.
- e) For those without a car, Barwell and Mountsorrel HWRCs allow pedestrian access.

Training (LWP):

In order to raise awareness of issues associated with protected characteristic groups:

- a) Operational and office based staff are required to undertake mandatory diversity and equalities training. Note that the application of training to operational staff varies across the LWP, and in some cases agency staff will be delivering services. This is mitigated by ensuring the most direct customer facing roles (staff at HWRCs or recycling officers) will be subject to appropriate mandatory diversity and equalities training.
- b) Managers have options for more advanced training which includes specific unconscious bias training.
- c) New starters receive mandatory equalities training and updates as appropriate.

Section 3

D: Making a decision

- | | |
|------------|---|
| 23. | Summarise your findings and give an overview as to whether the policy will meet Leicestershire Waste Partnerships responsibilities in relation to equality, diversity, community cohesion and human rights. |
|------------|---|

The EHRIA demonstrates that the LR&WS will meet Leicestershire Waste Partnership's responsibilities in relation to equality, diversity, community cohesion and human rights. Consideration needs to be given to further engagement during the implementation and operational phase of the LW&RS strategy to ensure the LWPs responsibilities are met.

Section 3

E: Monitoring, evaluation & review of your policy

24.	<p>Are there processes in place to review the findings of this EHRIA and make appropriate changes? In particular, how will you monitor potential barriers and any positive/ negative impact?</p> <p>Barriers and impacts will be monitored through the existing mechanisms in place which are applicable to waste services, noting that translation services are subscribed to, ensuring that feedback is captured in a variety of languages. These mechanisms include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Periodic feedback and surveysb) Website e.g. 'speak up services' on website and via emailc) Councillor or other face to face meetingsd) Social media monitoring including corporate social media forums
25.	<p>How will the recommendations of this assessment be built into wider planning and review processes? <i>e.g. policy reviews, annual plans and use of performance management systems</i></p> <p>The recommendations and assessment of impacts will be considered within the final draft of the LR&WS. Also this EHRIA will be considered during implementation of the LR&WS within the partner jurisdictions and shared with partners to inform delivery and added to team plans if appropriate</p>

Section 3:
F: Equality and human rights improvement plan

Please list all the equality objectives, actions and targets that result from the Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment (EHRIA) (continue on separate sheets as necessary). These now need to be included in the relevant service plan for mainstreaming and performance management purposes.

The following forms the basis for plans for the LWP that will need to be developed into Equality and Human Rights Improvement Plans at a local level with specific responsibilities and targets.

Equality Objective	Action	Target	Officer Responsible	By when
Accessible Services	Waste collection authorities to ensure Assisted Collections are available to all those who need them	All requests for Assisted Collections are followed up as required	WCA officers	Ongoing and throughout implementation of the LR&WS
	HWRC staff to direct members of the public who feel unable to effectively communicate with site staff to the customer service centre	HWRC staff ensure all queries of this type are handled as required	Site managers/team supervisors	Ongoing and throughout implementation of the LR&WS
	LCC to ensure service details of the HWRCs (including those accessible on foot) are listed on the LCC website and through their social media platforms	HWRC information published on LCC website and social media platforms	Comms team/waste operations	Ongoing and throughout implementation of the LR&WS
	WCAs to ensure details of collections including bulky collections are available through district websites and printed council information	Bulky waste collection information published on district websites and printed on council information	WCA district collection managers	Ongoing and throughout implementation of the LR&WS

Accessible Information	Staff to ensure interpretation and translation services (for language translations) and type talk services (for people hard of hearing) and the AbilityNet link are clearly identified on the LWP websites and within the LR&WS itself	Accessible information details are identified on LWP website and in the LR&WS	Comms team/waste policy team	Ongoing and throughout implementation of the LR&WS
	Accessible standard material and equalities material is sent to managers at the HWRC	All HWRC managers receive accessible service information for dissemination to staff	Waste Operations	Ongoing and throughout implementation of the LR&WS
	Consult with key bodies e.g. housing officers to ensure hard to reach groups are engaged	Collaborative partnerships are fostered to deliver accessible service information	WCA district officers	Ongoing and throughout implementation of the LR&WS
Equality training	Operational and customer service staff, new starters and managers to receive appropriate equalities and diversity training and unconscious bias training	100% for all mandatory training	LCC Customer Services Manager / LCC Waste Team Managers / WCA Customer Service Teams and collection managers	Ongoing and throughout implementation of the LR&WS

Report to the Cabinet Meeting of 06 February 2023

Report Number:	3
Title:	Additions to the Local List of Non-Designated Heritage Assets
Status:	Public
Key Decision:	No.
Report Author:	Sally Hartshorne, Heritage & Conservation Officer s.hartshorne@harborough.gov.uk 07935502967
Portfolio Holder:	CLlr Bateman – Planning, Environment and Waste
Appendices:	Appendix A – Proposed additions to the Local List of Non-Designated Heritage Assets

Executive Summary

- i. In February 2022 Council adopted the nomination process, selection criteria and initial 16 entries for the HDC Local List of Non-Designated Heritage Assets. This report details 11 new proposed additions to the Local List.

Recommendations

1. It is recommended that Cabinet supports the inclusion of the following on the Local List of Non-Designated Heritage Assets:
- The Tower House, Main Street, Gumley;
 - Claybrooke School, Main Road, Claybrooke Parva;
 - Former Station, Great Glen;
 - Railway Bridge, Broughton Lane, Leire;
 - Railway Bridge, Leire Road/Frolesworth Road, Leire;
 - 24-34 Lutterworth Road, Walcote;
 - Park House, Park Drive, Market Harborough;
 - Former Magistrates Court, Doddridge Road, Market Harborough;
 - Cemetery Chapels, Northampton Road Cemetery, Northampton Road, Market Harborough;
 - Cemetery Lodge, Northampton Road Cemetery, Northampton Road, Market Harborough;
 - Gate Piers to Former Bitteswell Hall, Bitteswell;

Reasons for Recommendations

- ii. To increase the number of entries on the Local List and recognise the contribution of local heritage to the making of place and the value it has within the lives of people living, working and visiting the district.

Purpose of Report

1. To seek the recommendation of Cabinet to Council to adopt 11 new entries proposed for inclusion on the Local List of Non-Designated Heritage Assets (“the local heritage list”).

Background

2. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), para 189, states that heritage assets range from sites and buildings of local historic value to those of highest significance. These assets are an irreplaceable resource to be conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance for the enjoyment of existing and future generations.
3. A local heritage list is a way for local councils and communities to identify and celebrate historic buildings, archaeological sites and designed landscapes which enrich and enliven their area. (English Heritage, 2016). The historic environment provides a sense of authenticity, beauty and distinctiveness. This attracts people, businesses and investment. The local heritage list is for premises that do not fall within the statutory protection afforded to designated heritage assets such as listed buildings, historic parks and gardens, scheduled monuments or conservation areas.
4. Local Heritage Lists play an essential role in building and reinforcing a sense of local character and distinctiveness in the historic environment. They enable the significance of any building or site on the list to be better taken into account in planning applications affecting the building or site or its setting. A local heritage list can thus support the Local Plan and inform a proactive strategy for the historic environment.
5. In February 2022 the Council adopted a nomination process and selection criteria for the local heritage list, along with 16 initial entries to the list. The list will develop over time as sites are proposed and considered appropriate for inclusion.
6. There are 11 entries recommended for addition to the Local Heritage List in accordance with the selection criteria.

Details

7. The initial entries to the local heritage list in 2022 reflected a district-wide geographic spread and a range of style and dates to provide the widest reflection of the varied heritage of the district. However, the lack of access to historic information as a consequence of the Covid 2019 pandemic meant it was not possible to determine all of the potential sites which may be suitable for inclusion on the list.

8. The Council receives nominations to the local heritage list, which are assessed and scored in accordance with the adopted assessment criteria and then presented to an independent panel. Having assessed the potential entries against the scoring framework, they were then presented to an independent selection panel for review. This is a useful stage in the assessment and provides independent expert consideration and advice on the relative merits of the potential local list entries, providing greater weight to the proposed list.
9. The proposed sites are then subject to public consultation to inform the decision as to whether to include them on the local heritage lists.
10. The sites referred for public consultation in autumn 2022 comprise nominations of assets received in 2021 from the public which could not be determined and included within the 2022 report, as well as subsequent nominations from the public. In total, the following 11 sites underwent public consultation from 24 October 2022 to 5 December 2022:

The Tower House, Main Street	Gumley
Claybrooke School, Main Road	Claybrooke Parva
Former Station, Great Glen	Great Glen
Railway Bridge, Broughton Lane	Leire
Railway Bridge, Leire Road/Frolesworth Road	Leire
24-34 Lutterworth Road	Walcote
Park House, Park Drive	Market Harborough
Former Magistrates Court, Doddridge Road	Market Harborough
Cemetery Chapels, Northampton Road Cemetery, Northampton Road	Market Harborough
Cemetery Lodge, Northampton Road Cemetery, Northampton Road	Market Harborough
Gate Piers to Former Bitteswell Hall	Bitteswell

11. Further details of the above assets are provided at Appendix A, including the following where available:
 - a. Photograph
 - b. Construction Date
 - c. Architect
 - d. Original Use
 - e. Current Use
 - f. Condition
 - g. Occupancy
 - h. Parish
 - i. Ward
 - j. Reason for Inclusion:

- i. Historic Interest
- ii. Architectural Interest
- iii. Associative Interest

Implications of Decisions

Corporate Priorities

12. HDC's 'Corporate Plan 2022-2031' sets out the Council's priorities and ambitions for the next decade. The protection of local heritage assets contributes to the following two priorities:

Place and Community – 1: Community leadership to create a sense of pride and belonging CO3, CO4.

Economy – 4: Supporting business and residents to deliver a prosperous local economy CO21.

Financial

13. Beyond staff time, there are no financial implications to the Council as a result of this report.

Legal

14. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) para 189 defines the nature of heritage assets while the Planning Policy Guidance (PPG) encourages plan making bodies to make clear and accurate information on non-designated heritage assets available to the public. Inclusion of assets on a Local List does not bring any additional form of statutory protection or grant aid but it enables their significance to be better taken into account in planning applications affecting the asset or its setting. Properties included within the list will not incur any additional charges for planning applications.

Policy

15. A Local List of Non-Designated Heritage Assets supports delivery of the Council's Local Plan by contributing to the following policies:

- a. Tourism and Leisure RT4 -1.c;
- b. Heritage and Community Assets HC1

Environmental Implications including contributions to achieving a net zero carbon Council by 2030

16. This document relates to the historic environment of the Harborough District so has implications for the environment. However, it does not impact upon the net zero carbon commitment as it relates to assets already in existence within the district.

Risk Management

17. Failing to include the identified assets on the Local List would reduce the protection afforded to the assets, reduce the recognition afforded to them and hinder the Council's

ability to retain a heritage asset which is valued by residents and is part of the unique historic environment of the district.

Equalities Impact

18. This document relates to the historic environment which benefits all residents, businesses and visitors but does not impact adversely on any group with protected characteristics.

Data Protection

19. This report deals with properties and not personal data therefore there are no data protection implications for the report.

Summary of Consultation and Outcome

20. The proposed entries were subject to a public consultation from 24 October to 5 December 2022 and the entries were displayed at the Annual Parish Liaison Event on 24 November 2022.
21. The consultation resulted in responses from Natural England, Severn Trent Water and Oadby & Wigston Borough Council, who all indicated that they had no comment to make.
22. An additional benefit of undertaking public consultation is the increased awareness of the process, and nominations for future entries to the list have been received for heritage assets in Lutterworth, Husbands Bosworth and Fleckney.

Alternative Options Considered

23. The Council could decide to scrap its Local List of Non-Designated Heritage Assets, or not to make any additions to it. However, neither of these courses of action are recommended given they would leave parts of the local heritage of the district unsafeguarded and, thereby, at greater potential risk. Further, the failure to recognise non-designated heritage assets would undermine the Local Plan and therefore the planning protection for the district.

Background papers

- Council report of 21 February 2022¹ adopting a Local List of Non-Designated Heritage Assets
- The nomination process, selection criteria and existing entries adopted in February 2022 can all be found on the following web page:

[Local List of Non-Designated Heritage Assets, 2022 | Harborough District Council](#)

1

<https://cmis.harborough.gov.uk/cm5/Document.ashx?czJKcaeAi5tUFL1DTL2UE4zNRBcoShgo=EqtPkj1G%2fEG0hxe70amSLCpV3iO8IBJK3WQ2IkTkj%2f9kCQ3L69vVWQ%3d%3d&rUzwRPf%2bZ3zd4E7lkn8Lyw%3d%3d=pwRE6AGJFLDNIh225F5QMaQWCtPHwdhUfCZ%2fLUQzgA2uL5jNRG4jdQ%3d%3d&mCTIbCubSFfXsDGW9IXnlq%3d%3d=hFfIUdN3100%3d&kCx1AnS9%2fpWZQ40DXFvdEw%3d%3d=hFfIUdN3100%3d&uJovDxwdjMPoYv%2bAJvYtyA%3d%3d=ctNJFf55vVA%3d&FgPIIEJYlotS%2bYGoBi5oIA%3d%3d=NHdURQburHA%3d&d9Qjj0ag1Pd993jsyOJqFvmyB7X0CSQK=ctNJFf55vVA%3d&WGewmoAfeNR9xqBux0r1Q8Za60lavYmz=ctNJFf55vVA%3d&WGewmoAfeNQ16B2MHuCPMRKZMwaG1PaO=ctNJFf55vVA%3d>

Proposed additions to the Harborough District Council Local List of Non-Designated Heritage Assets – February 2023

The Tower House, Main Street	Gumley
Claybrooke School, Main Road	Claybrooke Parva
Former Station, Great Glen	Great Glen
Railway Bridge, Broughton Lane	Leire
Railway Bridge, Leire Road/Frolesworth Road	Leire
24-34 Lutterworth Road	Walcote
Park House, Park Drive	Market Harborough
Former Magistrates Court, Doddridge Road	Market Harborough
Cemetery Chapels, Northampton Road Cemetery, Northampton Road	Market Harborough
Cemetery Lodge, Northampton Road Cemetery, Northampton Road	Market Harborough
Gate Piers to Former Bitteswell Hall	Bitteswell

The Tower House, Main Street, Gumley

Ref: Gum/001



Construction Date: 1870

Architect: Unknown

Original Use: Stable block and kennels to Gumley Hall

Current Use: Residential

Condition: Good

Occupancy: Occupied

Parish: Gumley

Ward: Lubbenham

Reason for Inclusion

Historic Interest

The Tower House was originally the stables and kennels to Gumley Hall. The hall was a significant local employer and was part of the Leicestershire hunting scene.

Gumley Hall was built in 1764 for Joseph Craddock (d.1826). Unlike most of the owners and tenants, Craddock was not interested in hunting. He moved in the literary society of Goldsmith, Johnson, and Burke, and built a theatre at Gumley which was used for amateur productions.

Craddock laid out the gardens and plantations of Gumley Hall in imitation of the Parc de St. Cloud. In the summer months they became a fashionable resort for the gentry of Leicester, particularly those who came to take the mineral waters of its 'spa', a chalybeate spring found in 1789.

In 1869-70, the new owner, Capt. Whitmore, built the stable block which is now the Tower House.

The 1892 sales particulars for the Hall state that 'The Tower, which is surmounted by a handsome Weather Vane, forms and attractive feature in the general appearance of the Residence and its surroundings'.

Gumley Hall was demolished in 1964 but the stables and tower have been converted to residential use.

Architectural Interest

South of the Hall and opening upon the village street the red-brick stables were built round a courtyard. The clock-tower in the style of an Italian campanile bears the inscription *Incorrupta Fides* (Incorruptable Faith) and a weathercock dated 1870. The tower held a water tank to supply water for the horses. The tower still contains the original bell which was rung to alert workers to their various activities during the day.

Rare local example of the use of Italianate style.

Associative Interest

In the 1860s the Craddock-Hartopp family rented the hall to Lt.-Col Dottin Maycock before he moved to Foxton Lodge.

In the 1890s other tenants included Thomas Keay Tapling, MP for South Leicestershire and James Coates of J & P Coates Ltd the world's largest manufacturer of sewing thread.

During the Second World War Gumley Hall was used to train resistance fighters and members of the Special Operations Executive. It was known as SOE Training School 41. From 1946 to 1948 it was rented to Group Capt. Leonard Cheshire who converted it into flats as an experiment in community living for ex-servicemen and their families.

The water tower and stable block have a strong association with the Fernie Hunt, an important part of Leicestershire's hunting history.

Located in an elevated position, the Tower House is a local landmark.

Claybrooke School, Main Road, Claybrooke Parva

Ref: CLP/002



Construction Date: 1813-14 (extended 1873, 1911, 1925, 1936 & 1955)

Architect: Unknown

Original Use: School

Current Use: School

Condition: Good

Occupancy: Occupied

Parish: Claybrooke Parva

Ward: Ullesthorpe

Reason for Inclusion

Historic Interest

Built in 1813-14 upon land given by T E Dicey in exchange for the site of a former school at a cost of £150 by the Marc Smith charitable trust. Extended in 1873 (at a cost of £210), 1911, 1925, 1936 and 1955. This is an early charity endowed school which has been at the heart of the village for over 200 years.

Originally boys only, with additional facilities added in 1873 to allow girls to attend - including a high wall across the playground (demolished in 1953).

The uniform in 1837 consisted of green coats with red collars, green waistcoats and cord trousers – the children being known as “greencoats”.

Former Station, Great Glen

Ref: GG/002



Construction Date: 1857

Architect: C. H. Driver

Original Use: Railway Station

Current Use: Commercial

Condition: Good

Occupancy: Occupied

Parish: Great Glen

Ward: Glen

Reason for Inclusion

Historic Interest

Small station, originally called Glen, built as part of the Midland Railway London extension from Leicester to Hitchin which opened in May 1857. The *Illustrated London News* of 23 May 1857 described stations on this line as 'ornamental and picturesque' which highlights the level of investment and pride in the extension. Great Glen station (renamed in 1897) closed in 1964. The station shows the transformative impact of the expansion of the railways.

Architectural Interest

Yellow brick with polychrome brick dressings. Slate roofs. T-plan. Decorative barge boards and cast iron windows. Evidence of original platforms can still be seen. Good example of a small station with highly decorative detailing within the district.

Railway Bridge, Broughton Lane, Leire

Ref: Leire/001



Construction Date: 1840

Architect: Unknown

Original Use: Railway Bridge

Current Use: Bridge over road.

Condition: Good

Parish: Leire

Ward: Broughton Astley South & Leire

Reason for Inclusion

Historic Interest

The bridge was on the Midland Counties railway line from Leicester to Rugby. Opened in 1840, this was the earliest railway line in the Harborough district and was part of the 'pioneering phase' of railway development (up to 1841). It was absorbed into the Midland Railway in 1844. The line closed in 1962. The small Leire Halt station was located south of the bridge from 1926-1962.

Architectural Interest

A skewed, arched brick bridge over the road. Blue brick with some red brick repairs. Stone parapets, quoined stone-built abutments/retaining walls.

Associative Interest

An example of the early part of the railway history in the district and the C19th developments that the railways brought to places.

Midland Counties Railway was absorbed into the Midland Railway in 1844. Mr George Murray-Smith, Chairman of the Midland Railway Company, purchased Gumley Hall in 1897 and lived there until his death in 1919.

The bridge has a landmark quality as it provides a physical gateway to the village from the north.

Railway Bridge, Leire Road/Frolesworth Road

Ref: Leire/002



Construction Date: 1840

Architect: Unknown

Original Use: Railway Bridge

Current Use: Bridge over disused railway cutting, now part of Jubilee Walk

Condition: Good

Parish: Leire

Ward: Broughton Astley South & Leire

Reason for Inclusion

Historic Interest

The bridge was on the Midland Counties railway line from Leicester to Rugby. Opened in 1840, this was the earliest railway line in the Harborough district and was part of the 'pioneering phase' of railway development (up to 1841). It was absorbed into the Midland Railway in 1844. The line closed in 1962.

Architectural Interest

A slightly skewed, shallow-arched brick bridge (over 2-track railway), blue brick with sandstone parapets.

Associative Interest

An example of the early part of the railway history in the district and the C19th developments that the railways brought to places.

Midland Counties Railway was absorbed into the Midland Railway in 1844. Mr George Murray-Smith, Chairman of the Midland Railway Company, purchased Gumley Hall in 1897 and lived there until his death in 1919.

24-34 Lutterworth Road, Walcote

Ref: Mis/002



Construction Date: 1855

Architect: Unknown

Original Use: Estate workers cottages

Current Use: Residential

Condition: Good

Occupancy: Occupied

Parish: Misterton with Walcote

Ward: Misterton

Reason for Inclusion

Historic Interest

Cottages built for those working on the surrounding agricultural land.

Architectural Interest

A row of traditional terraced cottages of comparable scale and form. Their highly decorative red brickwork with striking diaper work and decorative porches, chimneys and dormer windows provide a uniform architectural character to the row. The end terrace properties have a small brick porch and dormers on the side elevation and a distinctive front projecting gable that creates an attractive book-end feature to the row of terraced properties.

Located prominently on the old Harborough to Lutterworth turnpike, these cottages are a local landmark.

Park House, Park Drive, Market Harborough

Ref: MH/004



Construction Date: 1880s

Architect: Unknown

Original Use: House

Current Use: Residential Apartment Block

Condition: Good

Occupancy: Occupied

Ward: Market Harborough Logan

Reason for Inclusion

Historic Interest

Park House was built in Elms Park as the home of William Henry Symington. William Henry and his brother, Robert were partners in the corset making business R and W H Symington & Co Ltd. By the 1880s their Market Harborough factory employed 1600 people and exported corsets to Australia, Africa, Canada and the United States.

In 1944 the house and grounds were home to the 456th Parachute Artillery Battalion and 82nd Airborne Division of the United States Army. Inside the building is a plaque from veterans of the 456th Battalion which states that 'it was from this lovely English town that our Battalion invaded Normandy and Holland'.

In 1958 Park House was occupied by government offices and in 1980 it was converted into apartments.

Architectural Interest

Built in the 1880s, in the style of the French Second Empire, Park House is a large mansion which was originally set in landscaped grounds

Associative Interest

- Economic and employment history of Market Harborough
- Other WWII sites within the district – notably airfields.

Former Magistrates' Court, Doddridge Road, Market Harborough

Ref: MH/005



Construction Date: 1911

Architect: Unknown

Original Use: Magistrates' Court

Current Use: Offices

Condition: Good

Occupancy: Occupied

Parish:

Ward: Market Harborough - Great Bowden & Arden

Reason for Inclusion

Historic Interest

A purpose-built Magistrates' Court reflects the nineteenth century expansion of the town. With the close association between the police and the prosecution process, Magistrates Courts of this period were frequently adjacent to a police station

Architectural Interest

The building consists of a single storey and is made up of brick with stone dressings. The interior of the building features a hall decorated with glazed tiles with Art Nouveau motifs. In 1994 a single-storey extension was added to the building. There

is also a single storey brick building to the left of the court that is also part of it; this was possibly a Police Station originally.

Cemetery Chapels, Northampton Road, Market Harborough

Ref: MH/007



Construction Date: 1877

Architect: Mumford & Townsend

Original Use: Cemetery Chapels

Current Use: Cemetery Chapels

Condition: Good

Occupancy: Occupied

Parish:

Ward: Market Harborough - Welland

Reason for Inclusion

Historic Interest

The Church of England and non-conformist chapels of the municipal cemetery. The cemetery was laid out to accommodate the needs of the town as it expanded in the 19th Century. The Burial Board was established in 1875 and purchased 4 acres of land for a cemetery. Two foundation stones were laid on 23 May 1877 – one by Rev. Stocks, Vicar of Market Harborough, and one by Rev. Hale, Wesleyan Minister.

The site represents the expanded role of local government in the late 19th century as rapid industrial expansion left historic infrastructure unable to cope.

Architectural Interest

The designed layout of the cemetery contains a central pathway leading to the pair of chapels in the centre of the site in a circular island.

The Board selected the designs of Peterborough-based architects Mumford and Townsend. Walter Lindley of Leicester was awarded the tender for the construction of the chapels, which were originally due to be built in stone. Lindley was unable to source sufficient stone to complete the work by the November 1877 deadline so it was agreed that they would be built in brick with stone bands.

Associative interest

Forms a group with the associated surviving lodge and designed landscape of the cemetery (see entries MH/006 and MH/008).

Cemetery Lodge, Northampton Road, Market Harborough

Ref: MH/008



Construction Date: 1877

Architect: Mumford & Townsend

Original Use: Cemetery Lodge

Current Use: Residential

Condition: Good

Occupancy: Occupied

Parish:

Ward: Market Harborough - Welland

Reason for Inclusion

Historic Interest

The lodge sits at the gates to the municipal cemetery which was laid out to accommodate the needs of the town as it expanded in the 19th Century. The Burial Board was established in 1875 and purchased 4 acres of land for a cemetery which was completed in 1877.

The site represents the expanded role of local government in the late 19th century as rapid industrial expansion left historic infrastructure unable to cope.

Architectural Interest

The Board selected the designs of the Peterborough-based architects Mumford and Townsend. Walter Lindley of Leicester was awarded the tender for the construction of the cemetery lodge and chapels, which were originally due to be built in stone. Lindley was unable to source sufficient stone to complete the work by the November 1877 deadline so it was agreed that they would all be built in brick with stone bands.

Associative interest

Forms a group with the associated surviving chapels and designed landscape of the cemetery (see entries MH/006 and MH/007).

Gate Piers to Former Bitteswell Hall, Hall Lane, Bitteswell

Ref: Bit/001



Construction Date: 1838

Architect: TBC

Original Use: Gate Piers

Current Use: Gate Piers

Condition: Good

Occupancy: Occupied

Parish: Bitteswell with Bittesby

Ward: Ullesthorpe

Reason for Inclusion

Historic Interest

Two sets of gate piers located either side of Hall Lane at the entrance to the former Bitteswell Hall. The hall was built in 1838. It was situated in a timbered park with gardens and pleasure grounds with ornamental water, fox covert, plantations and farmland in the parishes of Bitteswell and Lutterworth. The October 1876 sales particulars for the estate marketed the mansion as 'a hunting seat or residence for a nobleman or gentleman'. The gates provided access to the mansion via a carriage drive through the timbered parkland. Following the sale of the estate in 1926 the hall was demolished in 1928.

Associative interest

Links to the farming history of Bitteswell and Lutterworth and to the hunting history of Leicestershire.

Harborough District Council

Report to the Cabinet Meeting of 6 February 2023



Report Number:	4
Title:	Bitteswell Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan
Status:	Public
Key Decision:	No
Report Author:	Sally Hartshorne, Heritage and Conservation Officer s.hartshorne@harborough.gov.uk 07935502967
Portfolio Holder:	Cllr Bateman
Appendices:	Appendix A - Bitteswell Conservation Area Appraisal & Management Plan Appendix B – Consultation Responses

Executive Summary

- i. The statutory definition of a conservation area is an area of 'special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance'. Although conservation areas are protected by national legislation, they are designated at a local level to ensure that they reflect and protect the cherished local scene.
- ii. The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 requires local planning authorities, from time to time, to review existing conservation areas and to formulate and publish proposals for the preservation and enhancement of conservation areas and consult the public in the area in question, taking account of views expressed.
- iii. The purpose of this appraisal is to review, update and record the factors that give Bitteswell conservation area its special interest and justify its designation. This will help improve understanding of the historic importance of the area and how this has shaped its unique character. The management plan informs its future development.
- iv. No changes are proposed to the boundary of the conservation area. It is proposed that the management plan reflect concerns such as:
 - a. management of the public realm (e.g. unsympathetic street furniture)
 - b. choice of materials used in maintenance (e.g. double glazing and highway maintenance / repair);
 - c. loss of features of value.

Recommendations
<p>That Cabinet recommends to Council the adoption of the Bitteswell Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan attached as Appendix A.</p>
Reasons for Recommendations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Bitteswell is one of 63 designated conservation areas within the Harborough District. It was designated in 1972 and amended in 2005 due to boundary changes. ii. The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 requires local planning authorities, from time to time, to review existing conservation areas and to formulate and publish proposals for the preservation and enhancement of conservation areas and consult the public in the area in question, taking account of views expressed. iii. The conservation areas were last appraised between 2005 and 2007. The Council is therefore now reviewing all existing conservation areas to ensure the designation remains appropriate and that the management plan is effective.

Purpose of Report

1. To seek Cabinet approval of the Bitteswell Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan being proposed to Council for adoption.

Background

2. The concept of 'conservation areas' was first introduced by the Civic Amenities Act 1967 which defined a conservation area as 'an area of special architectural or historic interest the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance.' Conservation area designation is not intended to prevent change but to manage change in ways that maintain and strengthen an area's special qualities. The definition remains unchanged in current legislation, set out in the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. The Act places duties on local planning authorities to:
 - a. Identify those parts of their area that are of special architectural or historic interest and to designate them as conservation areas;
 - b. Review past designations from time to time;
 - c. Prepare proposals for the preservation and enhancement of conservation areas; and
 - d. Pay special attention to the desirability of preserving and enhancing the character and appearance of conservation areas when determining planning applications for sites within areas.

3. Conservation area status must be justified on the grounds of the special architectural or historic interest of the area. The purpose of this appraisal is to define and record the factors that give Bitteswell conservation area its special interest and justify its designation. This will help improve understanding of the historic importance of the area, how this has shaped its unique character and how it can guide its future development. The appraisal will help inform the consideration of relevant planning applications, conservation area and listed building consents as appropriate.
4. Bitteswell is one of 63 designated conservation areas within the Harborough District. These conservation areas were last appraised between 2005 and 2007. As such, a programme of appraisal has been put in place to ensure the conservation areas remain up-to-date and supported by appropriate appraisals. Due to the high number of conservation areas this is an on-going programme of work. The methodology was tested on Shearsby conservation area, and the resulting Shearsby Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan was adopted by Council in February 2022.
5. Bitteswell was awarded conservation area designation in 1972 and was re-appraised in 2005 when a boundary amendment was made. The reasons and evidence to support the boundary remain valid. There are no proposals to amend the existing conservation area boundary.

Details

6. The purpose of this appraisal is to define and record the factors that give Bitteswell conservation area its special interest and justify its designation. This will help improve understanding of the historic importance of the area, how this has shaped its unique character and how it can guide its future development. The document (Appendix A) presents this information using the following format:
 - a. Map of Bitteswell Conservation Area
 - b. Summary of Special Interest
 - c. Introduction
 - d. Policy and Legislation
 - e. Living and Working in a Conservation Area
 - f. Character, Location and Uses
 - g. Definition of Special Interest
 - h. Historical Development
 - i. Assessment of Special Interest
 - j. Opportunities for Enhancement
 - k. Management Plan
7. The appraisal included undertaking a review of the existing Bitteswell Conservation Area boundary. It has confirmed the appropriateness of the existing boundary.
8. Bitteswell is a traditional farming village. Much of its historic character comes from the relationship of farms and fields to the traditional housing and other buildings which form the settlement. The draft Bitteswell Conservation Area Appraisal (set out at Appendix A)

sets out a summary of the special interest of the conservation area which is derived from the following key characteristics:

- a. The medieval settlement pattern
 - b. The strong agricultural character of the village and the relationship of the fields and farms to the traditional housing and other buildings
 - c. The open spaciousness of the village
 - d. The role of the village greens in the character and daily life of Bitteswell
 - e. The variety of building styles and the use of thatch, brick and slate for buildings, especially for traditional housing and farm buildings
 - f. The relationship between the built environment of the settlement and the natural environment both within it and surrounding it
 - g. The public footpaths which relate the village to its hinterland.
9. The Bitteswell Conservation Area Appraisal provides a detailed description of the historical development and the unique character of the conservation area. It highlights the continued importance of Bitteswell's agricultural heritage to the character of the conservation area. It describes the contribution certain buildings have made to the development of the settlement over time. Bitteswell conforms to Natural England's description of rural villages in south Leicestershire whose settlement patterns formed in medieval times remain evident with 'separate villages clustered around a tall church spire' and having a long history of agricultural land use. The development of Bitteswell is intertwined with the farmland that surrounds it. This is evident in the relationship between the farms, fields and traditional housing and farm buildings and is reflected in the names of properties in the village (e.g. West End Farm, Green Farm). The relationship between the built environment of the settlement and the natural environment both within it and surrounding it are integral to its rural character which it is desirable to preserve or enhance.
10. The appraisal provides descriptions of both the setting of the conservation area and the buildings and natural environment within it which are of particular significance to the special interest of Bitteswell and its historic character. These are supported by photographic and historical sources of evidence to provide greater understanding of the historic development of the settlement and to guide the determination of relevant planning applications. Such detail will help those submitting and those assessing planning applications to understand the historic importance of the area, how this has shaped its unique character and how it can guide its future development. The appraisal will also inform the consideration of planning applications, conservation area and listed building consents in the conservation area as appropriate.

Implications of Decisions

Corporate Priorities

11. HDC's 'Corporate Plan 2022-2031' sets out the Council's priorities and ambitions for the next decade. This contributes to the following two priorities:

Place and Community – 1.Community leadership to create a sense of pride and belonging (CO3, CO4).

Economy – 4: Supporting business and residents to deliver a prosperous local economy CO21.

Financial

12. Beyond staff time, there are no financial implications.

Legal

13. The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 requires local planning authorities, from time to time, to review existing conservation areas (section 69) and to formulate and publish proposals for the preservation and enhancement of conservation areas and consult the public in the area in question, taking account of views expressed (section 71).

Policy

14. Supports delivery of the Local Plan by contributing to the following policies:

Tourism and Leisure RT4 -1.c

Heritage and Community Assets HC1.

Environmental Implications including contributions to achieving a net zero carbon Council by 2030

15. This document relates to the historic environment of the Harborough District so has implications for the built environment but will have no impact on the carbon footprint of the Council.

Risk Management

16. The risk of not undertaking Conservation Area Appraisals would be the lack of recognition and potential loss of a heritage asset which is valued by residents and is part of the unique historic environment of the district.

Equalities Impact

17. This document relates to the historic environment which benefits all residents, businesses and visitors.

Data Protection

18. None as far as this report is concerned.

Summary of Consultation and Outcome

19. The Bitteswell Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan was subject to public consultation from 24 October to 5 December 2022. A drop-in event was held in Bitteswell Village Hall on 2 November 2022. A summary of the consultation responses is attached at Appendix B. Each consultation response has been considered, noted, any resulting actions taken and outlined at Appendix B.

Alternative Options Considered

20. If the Council chose not to accept the appraisal, or adopt the proposed amendments to the Management Plan, the Bitteswell Conservation Area would remain as designated in 1972 and amended in 2005 but not reflect the evolution of the area since then. This would risk undermining the value and effectiveness of the designation, to the detriment of the local heritage.

Background papers

- a. Original 1972 designation
- b. 2005 review of the designation



Bitteswell Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan

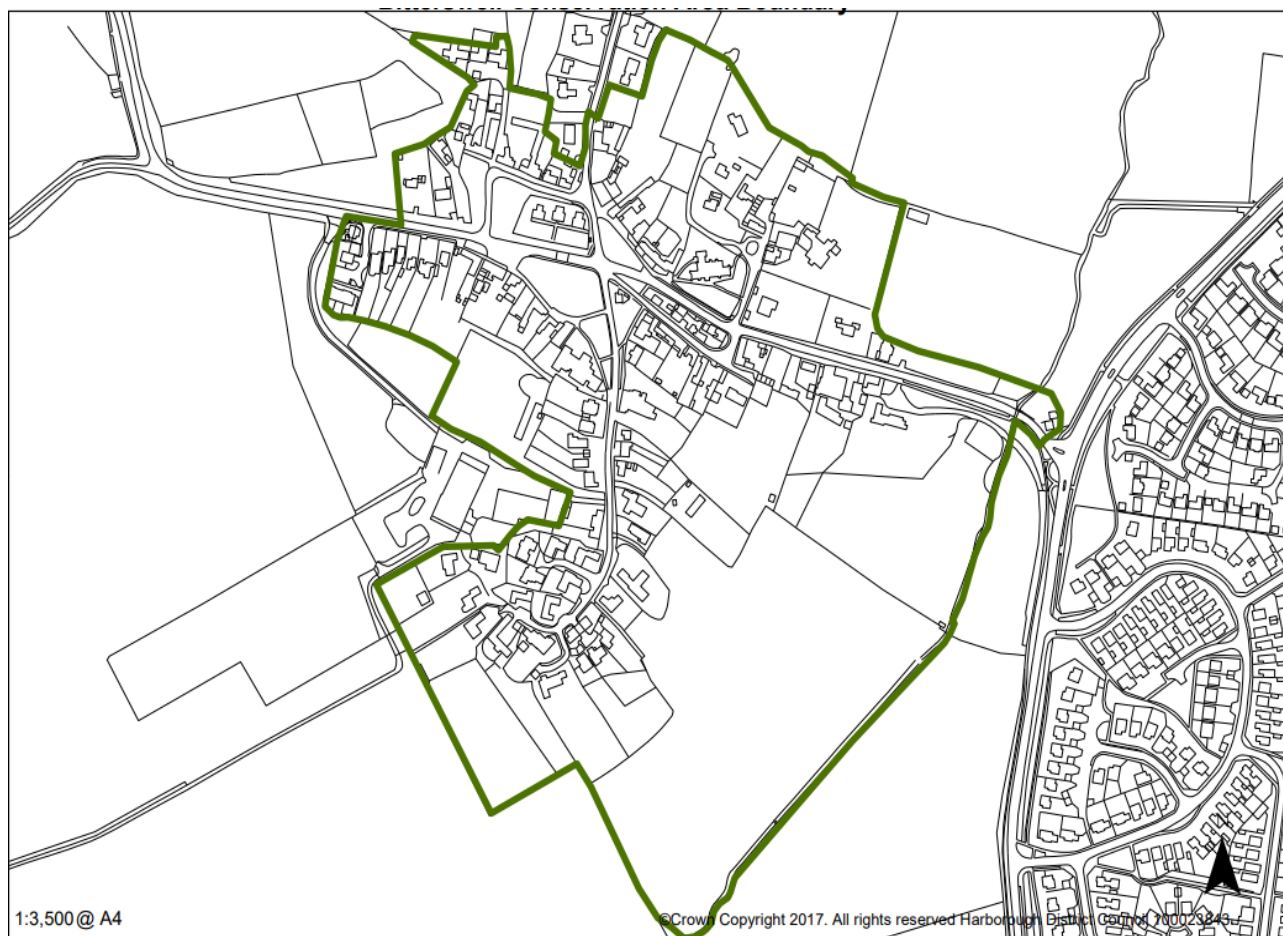


February 2023

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Map of Bitteswell Conservation Area



1.0 Summary of Special Interest

1.1 The settlement pattern of Bitteswell was formed in medieval times. There is a long history of agricultural land use and the development of Bitteswell is intertwined with the farmland that surrounds it.

1.2 The special interest of the Bitteswell Conservation Area is derived from the following key characteristics:

- The medieval settlement pattern.
- The strong agricultural character of the village and the relationship of the fields and farms to the traditional housing and other buildings.
- The role of the village greens in the character and daily life of Bitteswell.
- The variety of building styles and the use of thatch, brick and slate for buildings, especially for traditional housing and farm buildings.
- The open spaciousness of the village.
- The relationship between the built environment of the settlement and the natural environment both within it and surrounding it which contributes to the rural tranquillity of Bitteswell.
- The public footpaths which relate the village to its hinterland.

2.0 Introduction

2.1 Bitteswell was awarded Conservation Area designation in 1972. A boundary amendment was made when the conservation area was re-appraised in 2005. This appraisal has been undertaken from the autumn of 2021 to summer 2022.

2.2 Conservation area status must be justified on the grounds of the special architectural or historic interest of the area. The purpose of this appraisal is to define and record the factors that give Bitteswell conservation area its special interest and justify its designation. This will help improve understanding of the historic importance of the area, how this has shaped its unique character and how it can guide its future development.

2.3 There are no proposals to make any changes to the current boundary of the Bitteswell conservation area.

3.0 Policy and Legislation

3.1 Conservation areas contain features and characteristics that make them unique, locally distinctive, historic places. Protection of the historic environment is widely recognised for the contribution it makes to the country's quality of life, cultural and economic well-being. Public support for conservation areas as distinctive places that give

identity to people and communities is well established. Conservation areas protect the nation's unique, local heritage. Legislation and policy guidance reflect this.

3.2 The concept of 'conservation areas' was first introduced by the Civic Amenities Act 1967 which defined a conservation area as 'an area of special architectural or historic interest the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance.' Conservation area designation is not intended to prevent change but to manage change in ways that maintain and strengthen an area's special qualities. The definition remains unchanged in current legislation, set out in the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. The Act places duties on local planning authorities to:

- Identify those parts of their area that are of special architectural or historic interest and to designate them as conservation areas;
- Review past designations from time to time;
- Prepare proposals for the preservation and enhancement of conservation areas;
- Pay special attention to the desirability of preserving and enhancing the character and appearance of conservation areas when determining planning applications for sites within such areas.

3.3 Designation of a conservation area recognises the character of an area worthy of preservation and enhancement and ensures the safeguarding of the best of our local heritage as represented by both the buildings and the ambient environment, ie: the spaces between and around buildings when viewed as a whole. Each area contains a number and variety of elements which combine to create its significance. Within the District of Harborough Bitteswell is one of 63 conservation areas. Details of all the conservation areas can be found at

https://www.harborough.gov.uk/directory/20/conservation_areas_in_harborough_district

3.4 Government policy is provided in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). It requires the significance of heritage assets – both its historic buildings and historic areas – to be understood by local authorities and by those who propose change. Changes that cause harm to significance will only be permitted where the harm is outweighed by wider public benefits. Further guidance on the use of the NPPF is provided in the National Planning Practice Guidance and in guidance published by Historic England.

4.0 Living and Working in a Conservation Area

4.1 Living and working in a conservation area does mean some extra planning considerations but it does not mean that everything must stay the same. The protections given to conservation areas help to manage change in such a way that it conserves and enhances their special character and significance. The effect of designation means that planning permission is required for the demolition of buildings, with some minor exceptions; there are also stricter controls on changes that can be made to buildings and land, and there is automatic protection for trees. These controls are most likely to affect owners who wish to undertake works to the outside of their building or trees on their property.

4.2 For more detailed information on the alterations that require planning permission in a conservation area please see <https://www.harborough.gov.uk/conservation-areas>

5.0 Character Location and Uses

5.1 Bitteswell lies in the southwestern corner of Leicestershire, approximately 14 miles from Market Harborough, 13 miles from Leicester and one mile from Lutterworth. The Conservation Area embraces the compact village core located around the crossroads in the centre of the village greens and includes The Nook, Manor Road and Valley Lane. It also extends into Ashby Lane, along Ullesthorpe Road to the western edge of the settlement and east along Lutterworth Road to include the Tollgate Cottage and the pastures to the east which are seen from the east and form a foreground to the village core (see map on page 3).

5.2 The medieval settlement pattern is evident with the village clustered around the medieval church of St Mary. Bitteswell is a traditional farming village which consists of mainly residential properties in a rural setting, reflecting the history of agricultural land use in the village. Much of its historic character comes from the relationship of farms and fields to the housing and other buildings which form the settlement. It is located amid attractive countryside in south Leicestershire. Although only a mile from Lutterworth, Bitteswell retains a 'more rural feel' attributed to the southern part of the Leicestershire Vales in Natural England's National Character Area 94.¹ The trees and hedges leading into the village, as well as those within it, contribute to the feeling for rural tranquillity and close proximity to nature.

¹ Natural England, *National Character Area Profile 94: Leicestershire Vales*, (2014), p. 3.

- 5.3 The eastern boundary of the conservation area includes the Tollgate Cottage on the Lutterworth Road and the pastures to the east which mark the foreground to the village core. Although Tollgate Cottage is in the Parish of Lutterworth it relates to Bitteswell and has historic links to Turnpike Cottage at the western end of conservation area. Turning from the urban road of Bill Crane Way to enter the conservation area at the eastern boundary on Lutterworth Road highlights the sharp contrast between neighbouring Lutterworth and the rural conservation area of Bitteswell. This is enhanced in the spring by the daffodils planted in the grass verges along the side of Lutterworth Road.
- 5.4 Just before Lutterworth Road reaches the main crossroads at the heart of the village, two small roads lead off it – The Nook and Manor Road. The Nook is a short, narrow, cul-de-sac which winds around the east of the church and contains a small grouping of eighteenth and nineteenth-century properties, including the Grade II-listed Russett Cottage. Manor Road is a short road running parallel to Lutterworth Road which includes a terrace of Victorian artisan cottages. Manor Road also contains a Grade II listed K6 telephone kiosk at one end and a George V pillar box in the wall of Clifton House at the other end of the road, both of which contribute to the character of the conservation area.
- 5.5 The spacious, picturesque village green is central to village life in Bitteswell. The green comprises of four open spaces which surround the main crossroads at the centre of the village. Buildings, a number of which are listed, are grouped around the large central green and extend along the Lutterworth Road and the cul-de-sac Valley Lane. There are several mature trees on the green and a number of wooden benches dotted around this green space to provide the opportunity to quietly reflect and take in different views of the village.
- 5.6 The mature trees on the greens are a prominent feature of the conservation area and provide a visual reminder of the changing seasons. The character of the village greens also changes during the day. This is particularly noticeable around the timings of the school day as the village school sits in the south eastern corner of The Green. Parents congregate on the village greens to collect children from the school or pupils alighting from the school bus which stops near to the crossroads and children play in small groups or seek shelter under the mature trees.
- 5.7 In addition to the central role of The Green in everyday life it has always been a place for village celebration, with events such as ‘The Bitteswell Mop’ or Whitsuntide dancing and it is also the focal point for local celebration of national events such as royal coronations and jubilees from the Golden Jubilee of Queen Victoria in 1887 to the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II in 2022. Although the greens are well used they are all also well maintained and respected by its

users as there was no evidence of litter problems or damage as a result of irresponsible parking.

- 5.8 Location at the centre of a crossroads can result in periodic interruptions to the rural tranquillity of the space, especially by traffic on the old turnpike road between Ullesthorpe and Lutterworth, although the loudest noise tends to be from agricultural vehicles which pass through from time to time.
- 5.9 From The Green the conservation area extends north down Ashby Lane to incorporate Corner Cottage to the west and Newstead House and Ashby House to the eastern side of the road. Another George V pillar box is situated in one of the gate piers of Ashby House. There are a few further dwellings along Ashby Road before open countryside is reached but they are outside the conservation area.
- 5.10 Heading west from the central crossroads the conservation area extends along Ullesthorpe Road where buildings range in date from the Grade II listed Almshouses of Powell Row (1847) to twentieth-century buildings including the 1930s Man at Arms Pub and the 2013 properties of Deacon Close.
- 5.11 Valley Lane is the remaining road to lead off the central crossroads on The Green. This is a long, narrow, attractive cul-de-sac which includes the village school, the early nineteenth-century Grade II listed Royal Oak pub and Dowell House (formerly Valley Farmhouse). It also includes Bitteswell House (1800) and properties from throughout the twentieth century. There has been considerable development in Valley Lane over the last forty years, some of which is of higher density and more suburban in character, however, the quality of the lane remains. There are two footpaths leading directly from Valley Lane into surrounding open countryside within and outside the conservation area boundary, both of which are well used.

6.0 Definition of Special Interest

- 6.1 In April 1971 an exhibition entitled 'Bitteswell – Our Village a Local History Exhibition' took place in St Mary's Church. Residents (and former residents) of 1970s Bitteswell lent material to illustrate the past history of Bitteswell, its daily life and its people.² This demonstrated the level of interest residents had in the value of their local environment. In 1848 Bitteswell was described as having, 'no pretensions to celebrity' and being a 'pleasant and social place of residence' and such a description is equally fitting in 2022.³

² Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland, DE3519/255 Papers for Leicestershire Local History Council.

³ E. Bottrill and Son, *A Reply to the Question (if it should ever be asked) 'Where and What is Bitteswell?'* 1848, pp. 3 & 12.

- 6.2 In 1972 Bitteswell was designated as a conservation area. Such designation would help to preserve and enhance the qualities residents recognised and celebrated in the exhibition the previous year.
- 6.3 The development of Bitteswell is intertwined with the farmland that surrounds it. This is evident in the relationship between the farms, fields and traditional housing and farm buildings and is reflected in property names within the village. The development of the settlement has resulted in a diversity of building styles and materials which contribute to the character of the conservation area. It is an open spacious village where the relationship between the built environment of the settlement and the natural environment both within it and surrounding it are integral to its rural character.
- 6.4 Bitteswell conforms to Natural England's description of rural villages in south Leicestershire whose settlement patterns formed in medieval times remain evident with 'separate villages clustered around a tall church spire' and having a long history of agricultural land use.

7.0 Historic Development of the Area

- 7.1 Excavations within the Parish of Bitteswell with Bittesby have revealed pieces of flint, sherds of Iron Age, Roman and Medieval pottery which all point to long history of the area. With Bitteswell's close proximity to the High Cross, the point where the Roman roads of Watling Street and the Fosse Way crossed, it is not surprising that excavations at West End Farm in 2019 discovered several Roman ditches and gullies. The 4th Century Roman pottery, animal bones and Roman brick discovered, all provide evidence of Roman activity within the conservation area and demonstrate Bitteswell's long history.
- 7.2 In the 8th Century Bitteswell was recorded as being within the Saxon Kingdom of Mercia and was part of the Guthlaxton Wapentake. Cultivation has taken place around Bitteswell since Saxon times, when the greens at the centre of the village would have provided secure grazing for sheep and cattle.
- 7.3 There is reference to Bitteswell, as 'Betmeswelle', (broad valley spring) in the Domesday Book of 1086. It has been a continuously occupied settlement since this entry.
- 7.4 The 12th Century church has been at the heart of the settlement throughout its development. The first vicar of 'Betmeswelle' was Jordan in 1220 and subsequent vicars are listed in the church until 1989. The north transept was added to the church in 1852 by W Parsons and further alterations were made by Walter F. Lyon in 1881-2. Lord Denbigh was the titular Lord of the Manor, but residency was never established.

- 7.5 In 1630 the parish of Bitteswell recorded 38 families. The Grade II listed Dunlis House, located towards the western end of the village greens, is a half-timbered property which, in places, dates from circa 1540, although the majority is seventeenth century which was extended in the early nineteenth century.
- 7.6 By 1760 the Lutterworth to Ullesthorpe road was part of the national road network of turnpikes initiated by George III. With extensive grazing and fresh spring water the village provided facilities for changing and resting horses. Tollgate Cottage at the eastern boundary of the conservation area and the Grade II listed Turnpike Lodge at the western end of the village greens both link Bitteswell to its heyday when stage coaches and the mail coach all passed through the village on the way to and from London and Chester or Holyhead. Published in 1848, the image below shows Tollgate Cottage where coaches stopped to pay the levy and pass through the turnpike gate to enter Bitteswell.



Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland DE3736 – image copied from 'Bitteswell' (1848).

- 7.7 Following the Enclosure Act passed in 1773, the open and common fields and pastures of Bitteswell were enclosed in 1787. Enclosure brought to an end the open field farming system and divided the open fields into the patchwork of fields and hedges we recognise today. Evidence of the medieval open field arable farming system used prior to enclosure can still be seen in the ridge and furrow earthworks in fields within the locality, including those behind Valley Lane which lied within the conservation area boundary.
- 7.8 By 1801 the Return to Parliament showed that the population of Bitteswell had risen to 69 families dwelling in 68 properties, giving a total population of 398 (192 males, 206 females). Within a decade this had risen to 88 properties occupied by 94 families. The agricultural history of Bitteswell is evident in that

61 of the 94 families residing in Bitteswell in 1811 were chiefly employed in agriculture. Both the growth of the settlement and its agricultural heritage are reflected in a number of late eighteenth and early nineteenth century buildings (now Grade II listed) such as the farmhouses of West End Farm and Green Farm on The Green and Valley Farm on Valley Lane. Valley Farmhouse is now known as Dowell House as it was the home of the Dowell family until 1936. A century on from the 1811 census, the image below from circa 1910 shows the continued role of agriculture with hay making in Bitteswell.



Hay making in Bitteswell circa 1910 (Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland: DE 3736).

- 7.9 In 1789 Reverend James Powell became vicar of St Mary's Church. He served in this role until his death in 1844. Reverend Powell was married to the daughter of the tea merchant Richard Twinning (1749-1824). The impact of Reverend Powell and his relatives on the historic built environment of Bitteswell can still be evidenced today. This is most prominent in the Grade II listed Almshouses of Powell Row, built in the centre of the village greens in 1847 and in the lychgate to St Mary's Church which was erected by Richard Twinning in 1888 in memory of Reverend Powell. Just outside the conservation area boundary on Ullesthorpe Road is a cemetery which is an extension of the churchyard of St Mary's Church. This is recognised as an important open space within the Bitteswell Neighbourhood Plan (Pre-submission version, February 2021). The land was a gift from Richard Twinning and was consecrated in 1902.
- 7.10 The 1800s was a period of change for Bitteswell. *Pigot's* Directory of 1822 lists a boarding school for boys in Bitteswell. The advert for which mentioned daily coaches to London. However, the frequency of stage coaches passing through Bitteswell declined with the construction of the Midland Railway in

Ullesthorne in 1840. Before his death Reverend Powell founded The Boys Free School which opened in 1844 and was funded by the late vicar and his sister. This was replaced by a mixed Public Elementary School in 1871 and the Old School House became a private residence. In 1838 Bitteswell Hall was built approximately a mile from the village. This was a mansion set in extensive landscaped parklands with an ornamental lake and fox covert as well as its own farms and kitchen garden. The construction of such a large estate may have accounted for the population increasing to 495 in 1841. Two other large houses with wooded gardens had been built within the village in the first half of the nineteenth century – the Manor House on Lutterworth Road (re-built in 1938 in a French-villa style) and Bitteswell House on Valley Lane. With the building of The Lodge and two cottages (now Russett Cottage) on The Nook and the location of the Almshouses in the centre of the village green, the street plan and significant heritage assets of the conservation area can be identified in the Bitteswell map of 1887 (below). The open spacious nature of the conservation area and the relationship to the open countryside surrounding it is also evident.



Map of Bitteswell 1887 (Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland).

- 7.11 By 1931 the population of Bitteswell had fallen to 293. The demolition of Bitteswell Hall in 1928 and the increasing use of modern farming methods may have been responsible for this reduction. In 1940 RAF Bitteswell was constructed close to the village in the south of the parish. From 1943 to 1987 the area was also home to a Hawker Siddeley factory which assembled and tested aircraft. In the 1980s this became the Magna Park distribution centre. By 1951 the population of Bitteswell had increased to 346. From the 1962 map below it is clear to see that Bitteswell is developing with housing extending west on the Ullesthorpe Road and away from the village core down Ashby Lane. It also shows twentieth century development commencing down Valley Lane.



1962 Map of Bitteswell (Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland)

- 7.12 In the 60 years since the 1962 map development has continued down Ashby Lane and Ullesthorpe Road, new properties have been built behind Green Farmhouse and the Old School House at the western end of the village, and considerable development has taken place in Valley Lane. The 2011 census recorded 554 residents living in 199 households.

8.0 Assessment of Special Interest

- 8.1 Much of the special architectural interest in Bitteswell has been recognised through the Grade II* listing of the Church of St Mary and the Grade II listing awarded to 13 other heritage assets within the conservation area boundary (see Appendix A for full details).
- 8.2 Special interest in a conservation area is not only formed by the buildings but also the spaces between them and other features of interest. These can include the settlement layout, green infrastructure, open spaces, views and public realm. Bitteswell is a spacious open village where traditionally houses were built on spacious plots which included trees and hedging all of which contribute to the natural environment and rural character of the conservation area.
- 8.3 Entering the conservation area at the eastern boundary into Lutterworth Road follows the route the route of turnpike road and passes Tollgate Cottage (seen in the historic image on P.10).



Tollgate Cottage on the corner Lutterworth Road at the Conservation Area Boundary.

Enclosure of the farmed landscape in 1787 transformed this route into the village. Not only did the road get ‘the luxury of a well-kept raised footpath’ but it was noted in 1848 that, ‘since the village has become well wooded with hedge-row timber and plantations, - intermixed with roofs and gables of houses, barns and cottages scattered amongst them, - the spire in the midst peering over all, the approach is extremely pleasing.’⁴ Leaving the urban environment of Bill Crane Way, passing Tollgate Cottage and heading into

⁴ E. Bottrill and Son, *A Reply to the Question (if it should ever be asked) ‘Where and What is Bitteswell?’* 1848, p.9.

Bitteswell along Lutterworth Road, it is still possible to experience the mix of natural and built environment of the village described in 1848. To the east are the pastures which form a foreground to the village core and contribute to the tranquil rural character of the conservation area. Glimpses of the church spire can be still seen at points throughout the conservation area.

- 8.4 The road to the right is The Nook. This contains development around the east of St Mary's church which links to Reverend Powell and the Twinning family. On the corner is Deanston House. This was originally built as the vicarage in 1720. Offices were added in 1789 and Reverend Powell enlarged and laid out the garden and erected brick boundary walls. This property remained in use as the vicarage until the mid-twentieth century when a new vicarage was built at the end of the garden.



Deanston House

- 8.5 Next to Deanston House Reverend Powell built The Lodge in 1834 as a home for his daughter. The property was occupied by various members of the Twinning family until 1906. The 1919 sales particulars for the stuccoed brick Lodge described it as a desirable freehold residential property or hunting lodge with a stone-built entrance lodge. Today these properties are the separate dwellings of the Gate House and the Hunting Box in the Nook.
- 8.6 These sales particulars included an image looking down the Nook towards two cottages which today form the Grade II listed Russett Cottage.



1919 Image showing the Gate House to the Lodge and two cottages in the Nook.

The sale also included 4 cottages on Manor Road (now 2, 3 and 4) and three cottages overlooking the church (1-2 and 3 Church View Cottage). Next to 4 Manor Road is the Village Hall, this was built in the late nineteenth century as The Church Reading Room. It became the Village Hall in 1976.

8.7 Manor Road contains a number of buildings that historically link to the small enterprises of the village. On the corner of Manor Road is the white rendered Cedar Cottage, which has a decorative chimney. Until 1862 this was the Plough Inn but has been a private residence since then. Opposite Cedar Cottage is red brick Clifton House which was originally a slaughter house and butchers shop. Until 1997 it was also the village post office and the George V pillar box in the wall is an attractive feature of the conservation area. Also located in Manor Road is Tithe Cottage which was originally a stable with sluices used by stage coach horses during the eighteenth century. Next to this is the old bakery although there have been millers and bakers in the village since the 1600s the house dates from the early 1900s when the original was burnt down.



View into Manor Road with Cedar Cottage on the right and The Old Bakery in the distance.

- 8.8 From the crossroads at the centre of the village greens the mixture of building styles and materials is evident as is the open spaciousness of the village. With no dominant architectural style, it is possible to see the historic development of the settlement. There is an attractive grouping of buildings around The Green's edge, 9 of which are nationally listed at Grade II (see Appendix A).
- 8.9 Next to St Mary's Church is a terrace of simpler eighteenth-century buildings comprising the original 4 messuages of 'The Chestnuts'. The horse chestnut tree and St Mary's Church with its lychgate make a fine closure to the eastern end of the greens.



Further along the row and into Ashby Road are Tilt House which was originally built in 1721 but has been altered over the years. It is reported that bricks from the old Bitteswell Hall, demolished in 1928, were used in the construction of the garage and outbuildings in the 1930s. Next to this is the Georgian brick-built Newstead House which is a prominent feature on the bend as Ashby Road reaches The Green.



Newstead House

- 8.10 The Grade II listed Almshouses of Powel Row form a striking centre piece to the village. The three sets of semi-detached cottages are set in spacious gardens on The Green. This allows for views through from the village greens to the properties behind and provides a good example of the relationship between the built and natural environment of the conservation area.



Cottages of Powell Row with glimpses of properties in the West End seen between the cottages.

- 8.11 Across the Green from the Almshouses is the Man at Arms public house. Designed in the 1930s with a mansard roof and located between two of the oldest buildings on The Green (Dunlis House and Turnpike Lodge) this building makes a positive contribution to the conservation area. The 1887 map of Bitteswell (see p.13) shows a public house on this site. It had previously been known as the Fleur-de-Lis and the New Royal Oak. When the building remodelled in the twentieth century it was re-named the Man at Arms. The choice of name links to a charitable donation to the parish from Robert Dowse in 1534. One third of the monies was allocated to supplying one armoured man when the King was at war and the payment was still made during the First World War.



The Man at Arms located between Dunlis House and Turnpike Lodge – decorated to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II in 2022.

8.12 Westfield is another early twentieth century addition to the conservation area that makes a positive contribution to it and shows the development of the settlement. Set in a mature garden this property marks the western end of the conservation area on Ullesthorpe Road. There are late twentieth and early twenty-first century buildings on the other side of Ullesthorpe Road opposite Westfield. These properties are more suburban in character and are in closer proximity to each other, unlike the space surrounding Westfield or the Powell Row cottages however, they do not detract from the quality of the conservation area.



The suburban character of properties on the south of Ullesthorpe Road



The more spacious setting of Westfield on the other side of Ullesthorpe Road.

8.13 Valley Lane is the remaining road to lead off the central crossroads on The Green. This long cul-de-sac which includes the village school, the early nineteenth-century Grade II listed Royal Oak pub and Dowell House (formerly Valley Farmhouse). The 1887 map (see p.13) shows Bitteswell House (1800) to be the last property in the cul-de-sac before it peters into a footpath leading to open countryside. For over a century Bitteswell House sat at the far end of Valley Lane overlooking open countryside.



Bitteswell House

In the last decades of the twentieth century new properties were built in Valley Lane. The additions to Valley Lane in the last forty years have generally been of higher density and more suburban in character, however, the quality of the lane remains. There are two footpaths leading directly from Valley Lane into surrounding open countryside within and outside the conservation area boundary. The image below is from the footpath just before Bitteswell House

which demonstrates that although housing density in Valley Lane has increased its rural setting within the conservation area has remained.



View from the footpath on Valley Lane looking east over the open countryside of the conservation area.

9.0 Opportunities for Enhancement

9.1 Bitteswell conservation area is generally well cared for. The village greens are all well maintained. They provide pleasant environments in which to sit, and they contribute to the rural tranquillity and proximity to nature that is characteristic of Bitteswell. A similar level of respect for the conservation area is evident in the individual properties which are generally in good order. Boundary treatments, the planting of trees, shrubs and flowers in gardens, or in tubs and hanging baskets all contribute to quality of the conservation area.

9.2 Within the conservation area boundary there is opportunity to further enhance the conservation area. The K6 telephone kiosk is nationally listed at Grade II, however, the area immediately around it does not reflect the general care and attention that is generally evident within the conservation area.



Area around the Grade II listed K6 telephone kiosk

9.3 The fingerpost sign is located at the heart of the conservation area and makes a positive contribution to it. Given such a prominent position on the well tended Green seems to highlight the state of the paintwork on the main post. Repainting the post would bring it in line with the current quality of its setting.



Image showing peeling paint on fingerpost

10. Management Plan

- 10.1 Local planning authorities have a duty placed on them under Section 71 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 to draw up and publish proposals for the preservation and enhancement of conservation areas. Conservation area appraisals help to identify threats to the character of the conservation area and opportunities for enhancement. Potential threats to the character and appearance of the conservation area arise from the loss of traditional features of value. Such threats can range from the loss of historic fabric to unsympathetic public realm and the impact of highway works.
- 10.2 The character and appearance of both the conservation area and of individual buildings and structures are at risk from the loss of historic fabric and traditional features. Regular ongoing maintenance limits deterioration to buildings of any age or materials. Efforts should be made to repair or replace historic fabric with appropriate materials. Generally, UPVC is not an appropriate replacement for historic timber windows and doors. It is difficult to achieve the necessary standards in design and the use of UPVC can lead to environmental problems due to reduced breathability in materials. More information of materials for historic building repairs can be found on the Historic England website <https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/technical-advice/buildings/building-materials-for-historic-buildings/>
- 10.3 The treatment of the public realm impacts on the character and appearance of a conservation area. The loss of features of value or the introduction of unsympathetic street furniture poses a threat to the character and appearance of a conservation area. Bitteswell Conservation Area generally has an uncluttered public realm with features such as the finger post, the K6 telephone kiosk and the historic post boxes making a positive contribution to the conservation area. These features should be maintained and retained wherever possible. Applications for development should ensure that any alterations to the public realm preserve or enhance the character and appearance of the conservation area.
- 10.4 The character and appearance of a conservation area can also be threatened by unsympathetic highway works and by traffic and car parking. The pavements and pathways are generally neutral in colour and character. The example below shows that even differing shades of tarmac used after works can impact negatively on the conservation area.



Image showing the negative impact of differing shades of tarmac.

- 10.5 Site visits to Bitteswell in 2021/22 indicated that the demand for parking is high at points in the day and in the evening when people return from work. Parents on the school run tend to make use of the parking facilities at the two local pubs for those short periods in the day. However, this is not an option at evenings and weekends when patrons need to use the car parks.
- 10.6 The roads within Bitteswell conservation area are often lined with hedgerows and verges. Works to highways and footways risk the loss of historic traditional materials such as kerbstones, setts and pavements or the introduction of modern surfacing and boundary treatments and signage, all of which pose a threat to the character and appearance of the conservation area. Loss of such historic fabric should be discouraged. The Highways Authority should, as far as possible, seek to ensure that works to highways and footways makes good any historic surfaces and that completed work does not detract from the character and appearance of the conservation area.
- 10.7 Any proposals for new development should consider the impact of alterations to highways and footways. With the existing high demand for on-street parking careful consideration should be given to the effect of increased traffic and parking provision on the character and appearance of the Bitteswell conservation area.
- 10.8 As a result of the historical development of the settlement there is a diverse mix of buildings and building materials with no common architectural theme. However, boundary treatments of hedges and red brick garden walls (often with blue brick or ceramic copings) are a feature of the conservation area. Any proposals for development should consider the impact on these existing

features and how such features can be incorporated in order to preserve and enhance the rural character of the conservation area.

11.0 Council Contact Details

11.1 If you need to discuss this document please contact the Conservation Team.

By Email: planningpolicy@Harborough.gov.uk

Sources

This document was produced with reference to:

Anon, *A Reply to the Question (if it should ever be asked) "Where and What is Bitteswell?"* (1848).

Barker & Co Directory 1875.

Bitteswell Parish Council, *Bitteswell in the 21st Century: The Parish Plan* (2004)

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K. Bray, *A History of Bitteswell*.

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Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record.

Natural England, *National Character Area Profile 94: Leicestershire Vales* (2014).

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Pigot's Directory Of Leicestershire (1822, 1835)

N. Pevsner, *The Buildings of England – Leicestershire and Rutland* (2nd edition 1984).

Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland.

J. Throsby, *The supplementary Volume to the Leicestershire Views: Containing a series of excursions in the year 1790, to the villages and places of note in the county* (1790).

Websites:

www.british-history.ac.uk

www.historicengland.org.uk

Appendix A: Listed Buildings and Scheduled Monuments

Church of St Mary – Grade II*

List Entry Number: 1292319 [CHURCH OF ST MARY, Bitteswell with Bittesby - 1292319 | Historic England](#)

Bitteswell War Memorial, St Mary's Churchyard - Grade II

List Entry Number: 1464644 [Bitteswell War Memorial, Bitteswell with Bittesby - 1464644 | Historic England](#)

Vine House, The Green - Grade II

List Entry Number: 1210166 [VINE HOUSE, Bitteswell with Bittesby - 1210166 | Historic England](#)

Green Farmhouse, The Green - Grade II

List Entry Number: 1292799 [GREEN FARMHOUSE, Bitteswell with Bittesby - 1292799 | Historic England](#)

Russet Cottage, The Nook – Grade II

List Entry Number: 1210172 [RUSSET COTTAGE, Bitteswell with Bittesby - 1210172 | Historic England](#)

West End Farmhouse, The Green – Grade II

List Entry Number: 1209150 [WEST END FARMHOUSE, Bitteswell with Bittesby - 1209150 | Historic England](#)

Turnpike Lodge, The Green – Grade II

List Entry Number: 1209149 [TURNPIKE LODGE, Bitteswell with Bittesby - 1209149 | Historic England](#)

The Royal Oak Public House, The Green – Grade II

List Entry Number: 1210158 [THE OLDE ROYAL OAK PUBLIC HOUSE, Bitteswell with Bittesby - 1210158 | Historic England](#)

Dunlis House, The Green – Grade II

List Entry Number: 1210152 [DUNLIS HOUSE, Bitteswell with Bittesby - 1210152 | Historic England](#)

Valley Farmhouse – Grade II

List Entry Number: 1209147 [VALLEY FARMHOUSE, Bitteswell with Bittesby - 1209147 | Historic England](#)

1 and 2 Powell Row – Grade II

List Entry Number: 1292798 [1 AND 2, POWELL ROW, Bitteswell with Bittesby - 1292798 | Historic England](#)

3 and 4 Powell Row – Grade II

List Entry Number: 1210146 [3 AND 4, POWELL ROW, Bitteswell with Bittesby - 1210146 | Historic England](#)

5 and 6 Powell Row – Grade II

List Entry Number: 1209148 [5 AND 6, POWELL ROW, Bitteswell with Bittesby - 1209148 | Historic England](#)

K6 Telephone Kiosk, Manor Road - Grade II

List Entry Number: 1391414 [K6 TELEPHONE KIOSK, Bitteswell with Bittesby - 1391414 | Historic England](#)

Question 1 - Do you have any additional architectural or historical information that could support the Bitteswell Conservation Area Appraisal?

Support

Summary of representations:

No

Response:

Thank you for considering the document and confirming that you have no information to add. HDC has no further comment.

8576

Support

Agent: Grangers Land & New Homes Ltd

Attachments: None

Question 2 - Do you think the document identifies the special architectural and historic interest of the Bitteswell Conservation Area?

Support

Summary of representations:

Yes

Response:

Thank you for considering the document and confirming that you think it identifies the special architectural and historic interest of the Bitteswell Conservation Area.

8577

Support

Agent: Grangers Land & New Homes Ltd

Attachments: None

Question 3 - Do you have any further comments?

Support

Summary of representations:

I can confirm that Oadby and Wigston Borough Council have no comments.

Response:

Thank you for considering the document and confirming that Oadby and Wigston Borough Council have no comments. HDC has no further comment.

8572

Support

Attachments: None

Support

Summary of representations:

Natural England has no comments to make on the Bitteswell Conservation Area Appraisal.

Response:

Thank you for considering the document. HDC has no further comment.

8573

Support

Attachments: None

Support

Summary of representations:

Thank you for giving Severn Trent the opportunity to comment on the Bitteswell Conservation Area Appraisal. We do not have any comment to make regarding this consultation.

Response:

Thank you for considering the document. HDC has no further comment.

8574

Support

Attachments: None

Object

Summary of representations:

I discovered over the last two years that a third of my property had been moved into the conservation area.

I refer you to Area 12 suggested Conservation Area Changes of Consultation in 2005 which states 'a small part of a garden next to the last of the older properties etc

Reason given to include states it is an extension of the open garden land on the edge of the area of older properties within the village .

I was not aware of the Consultation document of 2005 or would have raised the matter then.

It seems rather incongruous that my property has been divided.

I did query this when I discovered it and was advised to leave it until this kind of opportunity arose.

Response:

Thank you for your comments in respect of the boundary. The boundary change to include this area in 2005 was made on the following grounds:

Area 12: Garden on Ashby Road.

This is a small part of a garden next to the last of the older properties in the village on the Ashby Road. It forms an open area between the last traditional building in the village and the newer frontage development further out. There are very good views across this garden land towards the church.

The 2022/3 review did not find any evidence to justify the removal of this area from within the boundary. It found there had been little change since 2005 and that the evidence supporting the inclusion of Area 12 in 2005 was still valid and justified its inclusion within the conservation area boundary.

8575

Object

Attachments: None

Support

Summary of representations:

(a) The following comments are made in connection with reference to national policy considerations contained in the current National Planning Policy Guidance, adding to the points made in the BCAA document to adopting a positive approach to development in the BCA:

1. Plans should set out a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment (HE Conservation Area Advice Note 2019)

2. This is considered in the NPPF (para 206) Local planning authorities should look for opportunities for new development within Conservation Areas to enhance or better reveal their significance. Proposals that preserve those elements of the setting that make a positive contribution to the asset (or which better reveal its significance) should be treated favourably.

(b) Given the BCAA document also acknowledges in paragraph 10.8 that "As a result of historical development of the settlement there is a diverse mix of buildings and building materials with no common architectural theme" within the settlement, the comments below suggest additional guidance to add into the Management Plan (Section 10) in the BCAA document, particularly to reflect the statutory duties and policy considerations identified in Section 3 of the BCAA document, which provides sustaining and enhancing the character of the conservation area into the future will depend on proper management of the existing heritage assets, on care in the design of new development, including alterations and additions to existing buildings, and on taking opportunities for enhancement:

1. Consideration should be given to the following objectives relating to future development within the settlement with the aim of supplementing development plan policies on Conservation Areas

The scale, form, massing and detailed design of new buildings should respect and harmonise with the key characteristics and appearance of the area. All building proposals (extensions and new) should meet the requirements of the relevant local plan policies concerning alterations, heritage assets and new development affecting heritage assets; New buildings should respect the character, constraints and opportunities of the site and surrounding area, whilst not discouraging innovative designs in appropriate locations; Proposals for alterations to traditional buildings should respect the character and appearance of the building, neighbouring properties and the conservation area;

All proposals for new development (including alterations and extensions) should reflect the use of consistent materials in the area. Consideration will be given to the imposition of Article 4 directions to secure preservation of original features;

The proper repair of traditional buildings will be encouraged by providing specialist advice and support.

2. It is important that the detailed design and the selection of materials in new development proposals should take the opportunity to contribute to or enhance the character and appearance of the area, given that sections 1.2 and 10.8 in the BCAA document notes the development of the settlement has resulted in a diversity of building styles and materials and as such there is no clear template for new development in terms of architectural style, materials or massing;

3. Careful use of material palettes for new buildings and the use of high-quality materials and high-level craft in their application will also help to enhance the character and appearance of the conservation area.

Response:

Thank you for considering the document and providing comments. HDC is not resourced to provide specialist advice and support on the level suggested to encourage the repair of traditional buildings. All other comments have been noted.

8578

Support

Agent: Grangers Land & New Homes Ltd

Attachments: None

CABINET – 6th FEBRUARY 2023

Section 100A (4) Local Government Act 1972

The following item is suggested to be dealt with under the above legislation.

To comply with the Act the following resolution needs to be passed.

“That the public and press be excluded from the remainder of the meeting on the grounds that the matters yet to be discussed involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972”.

- **Report 5: Exempt: Interim Update of Harborough District Commercial Services Limited to the Shareholder**

