

Central
Bedfordshire

“Your
voice
matters”

Waste Strategy

3 September 2025 – 14 October 2025

Consultation Results



Find out more at www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/consultations

Contents

Purpose of consultation.....	3
The consultation process.....	3
Feedback on the proposals.....	3
The findings.....	4
Summary	7
Full Consultation results	11
1. To reduce the amount of non-recyclable waste produced, collected and treated	16
2. To maximise reuse, repurposing, recycling and composting	27
3. To deliver effective, cost-efficient and compliant services that are robust, reliable and resilient to change.....	40
In the community	44
Further comments.....	44
Demographics	49
Postcode and Acorn analysis	54
Appendix	57

Purpose of consultation

All Central Bedfordshire's residents are key partners to help successfully reduce waste, and to reuse and recycle more. Indeed, every household, business, and community in Central Bedfordshire plays a vital role in how we manage waste. The choices we all make shape our environment, and local finances. Increasing costs of waste management and new government legislation are driving changes to how waste services are being delivered to Central Bedfordshire residents. Our first-ever Waste Strategy is a 25-year plan, to be reviewed every five years, which sets out how we'll manage waste and recycling more sustainably from 2026 to 2051 in line with national legislation and environmental targets. Residents, Town and Parish Councils, stakeholders and Local businesses and organisations were asked for their feedback and suggestions for the strategy.

The consultation process

The survey ran from 3 September 2025 to 14 October 2025. Local residents, town and parish councils and stakeholders were encouraged to comment on the proposed strategy by completing a short online survey. Paper response forms were available on request. The consultation ran for a period of 6 weeks.

Activities included:

- Press release, which was picked up by Bedford Today, Bee Local Magazine, Biggleswade Today.
- E-bulletin
 - E-mail 1 – sent to 22,756, with an 54.82% open rate
 - E-mail 2 – sent to 35,422, with an 54.08% open rate
- Social media
 - Facebook – 4 posts with 22,516 impressions and 5.56% average engagement rate
 - Twitter/X - 1 post with 4.37% engagement 389 impressions
 - Instagram 2 posts with 909 impressions with 1.09% engagement

*engagement is the number of interactions your content received from users - likes, comments, shares, saves, etc.

Feedback on the proposals

In total, 749 responses were received for this survey.

How they accessed the questionnaire:

- 387 (52%) respondents accessed the questionnaire through a pc/laptop
- 303 (41%) respondents accessed the questionnaire through the mobile version
- 59 (7%) respondents accessed the questionnaire through the tablet version

Waste Strategy Consultation Report 2025

We received consultation responses within the questionnaire from Meppershall Parish Council, Green Party, Totally Leighton Buzzard (Repair Cafe Leighton Buzzard) and South Bedfordshire Friends of the Earth

To make sense of the feedback received, we have employed two types of analysis. We have looked at the headline quantitative measures, followed by coding of the free text comments to help understand the sentiment behind respondents' agreement or disagreement with the order. The codes we generated identified frequently mentioned comments and concerns. The findings of the survey are set out in the next section of this report.

When summarising these survey findings in other reports please ensure that the findings of this report are quoted accurately, and that a link to this report is provided.

Please note, all quotes are shown as received, so may contain spelling mistakes, and percentages shown in the charts may not total 100% due to rounding.

The findings

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Do you think we have identified the correct objectives? 745 responses	46% (343)	43% (317)	6% (48)	4% (29)	1% (8)
1. To reduce the amount of non-recyclable waste produced, collected and treated - actions					
Using the Council's resources, to inform, educate, signpost and connect individuals, groups or organisations	33% (243)	43% (310)	17% (125)	5% (34)	2% (17)
Engaging with individuals, groups or organisations to identify self-sustaining partnership opportunities	31% (221)	41% (300)	22% (159)	4% (29)	2% (16)
Encouraging advocacy and practice of sustainable waste management and circular economy* behaviour by engaging with members of the public and volunteers within the community etc.)	35% (258)	42% (305)	16% (118)	5% (34)	2% (15)
Improve Household Waste and Recycling Centre (HWRC) operations and manage demand by: (Enhancing the customer	44% (320)	39% (290)	11% (84)	4% (26)	2% (16)

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
experience, reducing queues and providing better support for residents)					
Diverting as much waste from HWRCs for reuse, recycling or composting to avoid Energy from Waste treatment or landfill	51% (378)	36% (262)	8% (56)	3% (25)	2% (15)
Continuing to ensure only Central Bedfordshire residents (who pay for the service through their council tax) use our HWRCs	45% (329)	28% (209)	13% (97)	7% (52)	7% (49)
Preventing commercial / trade waste from being deposited and managed at the expense of residents	50% (368)	26% (190)	13% (96)	7% (48)	4% (30)
Considering how different waste types are accepted and managed to minimise the amount of waste that needs disposal	37% (272)	42% (306)	14% (104)	5% (34)	2% (13)
Continuing to support initiatives that prevent unnecessary waste such as home composting and reusable nappies	37% (269)	38% (279)	19% (138)	4% (31)	2% (15)

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
2. To maximise reuse, repurposing, recycling and composting - actions					
Seek to optimise the amount of litter and street sweepings that are recycled or composted, rather than being treated by Energy from Waste or landfilled	43% (315)	41% (302)	13% (95)	2% (15)	1% (6)

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Consider a review of the reuse offering at HWRCs	36% (255)	41% (293)	21% (152)	2% (11)	1% (8)
Consider further reuse and recycling opportunities at HWRCs (such as electrical equipment, plastic toys, furniture and mattresses)	51% (369)	42% (304)	6% (44)	1% (9)	1% (4)
Continue to support initiatives that increase reuse, repair, recycling and composting	50% (360)	41% (296)	8% (58)	1% (7)	1% (4)
Facilitate and, where appropriate, enable reuse, repurposing, recycling and composting initiatives with others - who are in the best place to provide sustainable community initiatives	40% (293)	44% (318)	14% (99)	2% (12)	1% (5)
Explore commercial waste recycling and composting opportunities such as providing waste collections from schools and / or other non-domestic premises	44% (320)	39% (282)	14% (101)	3% (18)	1% (10)

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
3. To deliver effective, cost-efficient and compliant services that are robust, reliable and resilient to change - actions					

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Carrying out robust, timely and competitive procurement processes, to secure best value for residents.	51% (372)	38% (276)	9% (67)	2% (11)	1% (5)
Considering how services are provided, including investment in infrastructure within Central Bedfordshire to improve service resilience and performance, provide longer-term budget certainty and enhance flexibility to adapt to market and legislative changes.	38% (277)	45% (324)	15% (110)	2% (12)	0% (3)
Working with the Government, other Councils, representative bodies and stakeholders to ensure risks and opportunities are identified, managed and realised.	37% (271)	43% (316)	17% (122)	2% (14)	1% (5)

Summary

The respondents to the consultation were mostly supportive of Central Bedfordshire Council's first Waste Strategy's objectives and the actions we had identified to achieve these, with a very small proportion that were in disagreement. 89% of respondents believed that we had identified the correct objectives with just 5% in disagreement. The consultation was focused on the overall proposed strategy, it didn't ask respondents to comment on specific waste services.

When asked to comment overall on the proposed objectives, the respondents highlighted topics that were repeated throughout the rest of the consultation as respondents looked at the objectives and proposed actions in more detail.

Theme	No. of comments
Reduce flytipping	49
Make recycling/disposing of waste easier for all	35
Encourage use of non plastic packaging	30

Waste Strategy Consultation Report 2025

Theme	No. of comments
Propose changes to garden waste collection	25
Better communication on what can/can't be recycled/virtues of recycling/repurposing	22
Propose changes to HWRC booking system	20

Objectives and Actions

1. To reduce the amount of non-recyclable waste produced, collected and treated

The free comment responses for this set of actions were consistent with the points raised initially and were around the following themes:

Theme	No. of comments
Yes / Supportive	142
Need to reduce/prevent fly tipping	91
Propose changes to HWRC tip booking system	64
Make recycling/disposing of waste easier for all	41
Encourage supermarkets/manufacturers/couriers etc use of non plastic packaging	37
Allow trade waste/ for a fee	35

2. To maximise reuse, repurposing, recycling and composting

The main responses and sentiments for the statutory changes were consistent with the points raised initially and were around the following themes:

Theme	No. of comments
No more bins/ no room/too many	162
Positive	109

Theme	No. of comments
Free kerbside glass collection	74
Reinstate compostable food bags	35
Make recycling/disposing of waste easier for all	34
Better communication on what can/can't be recycled/virtues of recycling/repurposing	31

When asked if we had identified the right actions the main themes were as below:

Theme	No. of comments
Yes	184
Encourage use of repair cafes, swap shops, reuse	21
Better communication on what can/can't be recycled/virtues of recycling/repurposing	19
Recycling centres for devices you can use again (help first time buyers etc)	13
No	13
Make recycling/disposing of waste easier for all	12

3. To deliver effective, cost-efficient and compliant services that are robust, reliable and resilient to change

When asked about the actions to achieve the objective, the most responded themes were as below:

Theme	No. of comments
Yes	152
More information needed	20

Theme	No. of comments
Not at additional cost to Council Tax	17
Should be doing already	16
Share HWRC sites/initiatives with neighbouring councils	13
No	12

In the community

The respondents gave an extensive list of local recycling initiatives and ways that they personally are helping to recycle. There were also many suggestions for future recycling.

Further comments

The respondents had an opportunity to add any further comments, the most responded themes have been included below:

Theme	No. of comments
No	46
Supportive comment	42
Need to reduce/prevent fly tipping	29
Make recycling/disposing of waste easier for all	28
Propose changes to HWRC tip booking system	28
Better communication on what can/can't be recycled/virtues of recycling/repurposing	27
Propose changes to garden waste collection	25

About the respondents

The respondents were nearly equally split in responses from both Females and Males, they had the same percentage of 47% each (the population percentage for Females is 51% and Male 49% in Central Bedfordshire)

Waste Strategy Consultation Report 2025

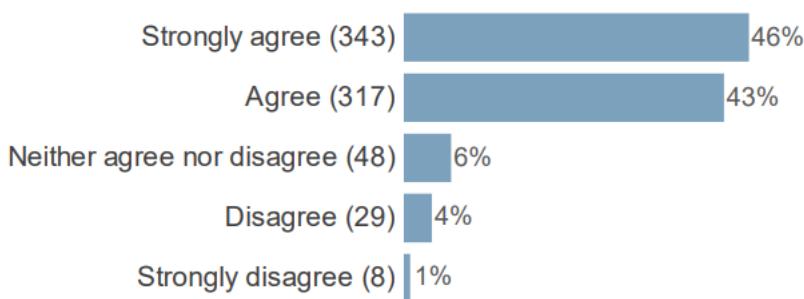
The highest represented age groups were 65-74 with 31% (221) and 50-64 30% (214) with 75+ at 18% (133).

There was only 1 respondent below age 24 to the consultation.

People who answered the consultation that said that they had a disability were 12% (89) compared to a Central Bedfordshire population average of 15%

Full Consultation results

How far do you agree or disagree that these are the correct objectives?



The above graph shows that of the 745 respondents that answered this question, when asked how far they agreed or disagreed that we had identified the correct objectives, 89% (660) were supportive, with 46% (343) strongly agreeing and 43% (317) agreeing.

5% (37) did not agree that these were the correct objectives, with 4% (29) disagree and 1% (8) strongly disagree.

6% (48) neither agreed nor disagreed.

Are there any other objectives that you feel should be included?



63% (445) of respondents did not think that any other objectives needed to be included. 37% (266) believed that there were other objectives to include.

Waste Strategy Consultation Report 2025

Respondents were asked what these other objectives were. 246 comments were received. The main themes have been listed below.

Theme	No. of comments
Reduce flytipping	49
Make recycling/disposing of waste easier for all	35
Encourage use of non plastic packaging	30
Propose changes to garden waste collection	25
Better communication on what can/can't be recycled/virtues of recycling/repurposing	22
Propose changes to HWRC booking system	20
No extra bins	19
No limit on HWRC visits	18
Need to show value for money for the Council Tax paid	18
Kerbside glass collection	16
Reduce littering	10
Be clear what happens with recycled waste	10
Campaign govt/minimise environmental impacts	10
Fewer trips/shorter distances/journeys to HWRC	8
Recycling centres for devices you can use again (help first time buyers etc)	8
Stronger fine enforcement	7
Free kerbside collection furniture/electricals	6
Encourage use of repair cafes, swap shops, libraries of things	6
Other	36

Some examples of the comments have been included below:

Reduce flytipping

Reduce fly tipping which has recently been increasing exponentially

To carry out actions that do not result in an increase in fly-tipping

To make it easier for people to be able to recycle To prevent fly tipping and ensure offenders are prosecuted

Have a focus that ensures less dumping in our lanes, streets and the countryside in general.

Make recycling/disposing of waste easier for all

To make it as easy as possible for residents to recycle and dispose of their waste.

Making it easy for householders to recycle - including those without computers and smart phones!

To give householders simple and easy access to free waste disposal sites as well as keeping home collections simple

A service that makes it as easy as possible for residents to recycle (therefore breaking down barriers to recycling).

Encourage use of non plastic packaging

Get manufacturers and sellers to reduce packaging. In particular why on earth do garden centres use polystyrene and plastic pots when compostable alternatives are available. Also when I leave cardboard boxes out to prevent any cross contamination they are not collected.

To work with supermarkets and food suppliers to reduce unnecessary packaging of products, and especially the use of plastic packaging.

Reduce packaging waste by working to ensure products are supplied by manufacturers and retailers without excessive packaging.

Propose changes to garden waste collection

Reinstate free garden waste collection

Better communication on what can/can't be recycled/virtues of recycling/repurposing

To provide more education to residents on the ways to reduce, reuse and recycle

I think the public generally try to comply with waste disposal. The difficulty for many people is that suppliers and manufacturers do not always make disposing of their products and packing too clear, and as a result, the public sometimes put waste into the wrong bin.

There is too much ambiguity as to what can be recycled, how it is to be collected, how the separate products are recycled, where they are recycled and what benefit is derived by the Council and to what purposes will it be put.

Propose changes to HWRC tip booking system

All residents I have spoken to do not feel it is appropriate or convenient to have to make an appointment to visit the tip and be restricted to a limited times per yr.

Remove need to register with Tidy Tip when disposing of articles/waste. It discourages people from bothering, especially if the items to be discarded are varied and don't fit the various descriptions listed by the council.

No extra bins

I don't want any more bins

Fewer bins, not more. Streets are an eyesore as people can't store several bins in backyards

No more bins or containers for (small) houses that have nowhere to put them, people will leave them on the pavements and that will be a trip hazard especially for our growing elderly population. (Health and safety). This waste should be collected as usual and sorted at a depot that will need to be built.

No limit on HWRC visits

Ensure that the tidy tip takes waste generated by households without restriction on volume such that householders Council Tax is demonstrably value for money.

Restore freedom to turn up at waste disposal sites - without the need to pre-book.

You should make it as easy as possible for people to dispose of any waste properly without imposing unnecessary restrictions on visiting waste recycling centres.

Need to show value for money for the Council Tax paid

To provide value for money in the waste services residents are charged for through council tax.

Keeping tax payers happy and feeling like they are getting value for their taxes

You forgot to add how much extra this will cost residents. We are already expected to pay increases every year but have no collection of garden waste unless we pay even more and now you are no longer supplying food waste bags. How much more are we going to be expected to pay for less services.

Kerbside glass collection

Make collection of glass and priority by collecting from homes

Removal of glass on the kerbside. It is ridiculous that we have to take glass to the tip and pay for grass to be taken away.

Collecting glass from home as many aren't able to bring the glass to the communal glass bins and are throwing the glass in the normal general waste.

Reduce littering

Collaborate with local businesses, supermarkets and fast food outlets- these places should also be in line. Perhaps a fine for litter outside their premises.

Cleaning streets, especially rubbish dumped in hedges. Alleyways on estates should be checked and cleaned regularly, encouraging residents to participate in cleanups.

Be clear what happens with recycled waste

Be clear as to what happens to items being recycled including clarity on where items go to - are they shipped abroad, are they incinerated, etc..

Be more transparent and clear about performance. How much material is actually recycled? Your tidy tips display some performance figures. Explain further how these figures are achieved.

Campaign govt/minimise environmental impacts

Advocate with government to make manufacturers accountable financially for the cost of disposing of the packaging waste they produce

Lobby central government to restrict the production of single use plastics. It's not really a problem local government can deal with.

Fewer trips/shorter distances/journeys to HWRC

To aim for shorter travelling distances wherever possible for any waste produced and collected

To reduce the amount of trips people need to make to a waste centre purely for the purpose of recycling,

Recycling centres for devices you can use again (help first time buyers etc)

To maximise reuse it would be useful to establish equipment repair centres where household electrical and mechanical equipment can be examined and repaired where possible. Too many items with minor fault have to be thrown away because of the difficulty and cost of repair.

To make it easier to dispose of all rubbish to stop fly-tipping. To make it easier for residents to have large items like Sofa's and Fridge/Freezers to be collected and reassigned to other residents who would like to have these items.

Stronger fine enforcement

By capturing the offenders, they could be made to remove the waste and pay costs that would cover some of the waste management monies needed. Not just a small fine, but something like £10,000 per offence

Get CCTV on prime fly tipping sites & impose heavy fines on culprits.

Free kerbside collection furniture/electricals

Perhaps an opportunity to recycle old furniture, 3 piece suites and the like, from the kerbside. Obviously this would need a charge to be levied. Although these could be recycled at the tidy tips, many people have no transport to do this.

Add large item waste ie beds into the strategy to avoid fly tipping. Add reasonable charge for this service.

Encourage use of repair cafes, swap shops, libraries of things

To actively support and invest in community-led initiatives (e.g. repair cafés, swap shops, libraries of things

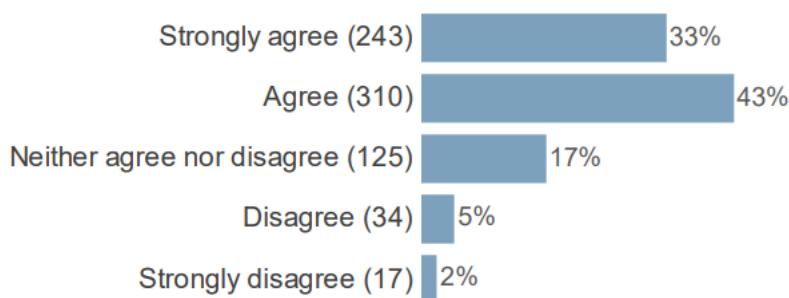
1. To reduce the amount of non-recyclable waste produced, collected and treated

We propose to deliver this objective with the following actions. How far do you agree or disagree with these actions?

Central Bedfordshire Council will:

Facilitate community leadership of waste hierarchy and circular economy activities and behaviours by:

- Using the Council's resources, to inform, educate, signpost and connect individuals, groups or organisations.

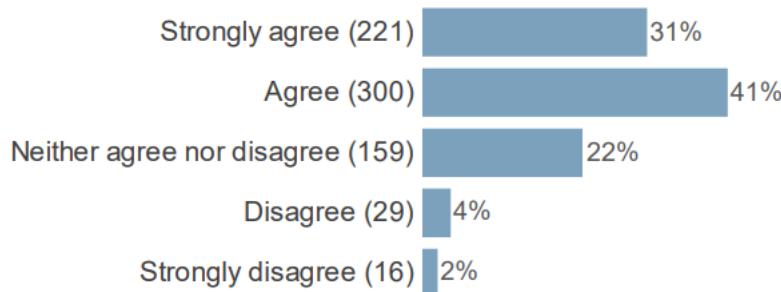


The above graph shows that of the 729 respondents that answered this question, when asked how far they agreed or disagreed with the actions to achieve the objective of using the Council's resources, to inform, educate, signpost and connect individuals, groups or organisations. 76% (553) were supportive, with 43% (310) agreeing and 33% (243) strongly agreeing.

7% (51) did not agree with 5% (34) disagree and 2% (17) strongly disagree.

17% (125) neither agreed nor disagreed.

- Engaging with individuals, groups or organisations to identify self- sustaining partnership opportunities



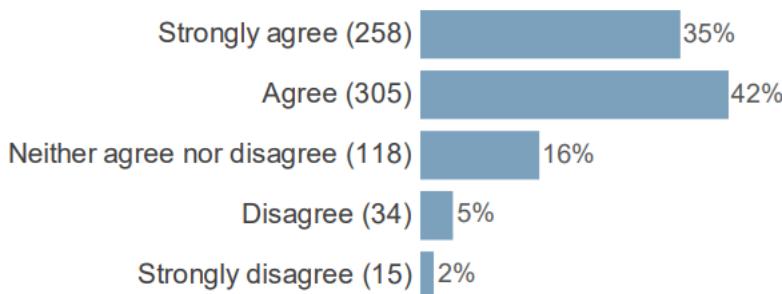
The above graph shows that of the 725 respondents that answered this question, when asked how far they agreed or disagreed with the the actions to achieve objective of Engaging with individuals, groups or organisations to identify self- sustaining partnership opportunities, 72% (521) were supportive, with 41% (300) agreeing and 31% (221) strongly agreeing.

6% (45) did not agree with 4% (29) disagree and 2% (16) strongly disagree.

22% (159) neither agreed nor disagreed.

- Encouraging advocacy and practice of sustainable waste management and circular economy* behaviour by engaging with members of the public and volunteers within the community etc.

*The circular economy is an economic model that focuses on reducing waste and pollution by keeping products and materials in use for as long as possible through reuse, repair, recycling, and regeneration.



The above graph shows that of the 730 respondents that answered this question, when asked how far they agreed or disagreed with the actions to achieve the objective of Encouraging advocacy and practice of sustainable waste management and circular economy* behaviour by engaging with

members of the public and volunteers within the community etc. 77% (563) were supportive, with 42% (305) agreeing and 35% (258) strongly agreeing.

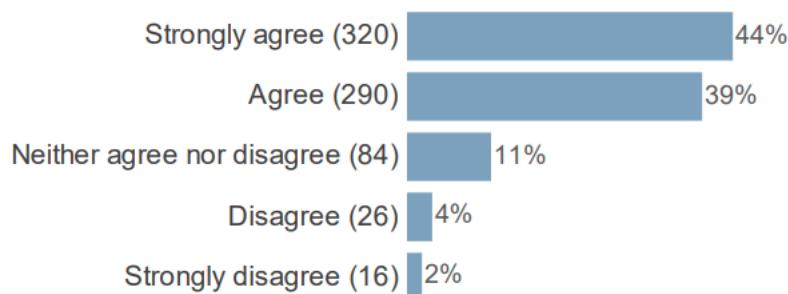
7% (49) did not agree with 5% (34) disagree and 2% (15) strongly disagree.

16% (118) neither agreed nor disagreed.

*The circular economy is an economic model that focuses on reducing waste and pollution by keeping products and materials in use for as long as possible through reuse, repair, recycling, and regeneration.

Improve Household Waste and Recycling Centre (HWRC) operations and manage demand by:

- Enhancing the customer experience, reducing queues and providing better support for residents

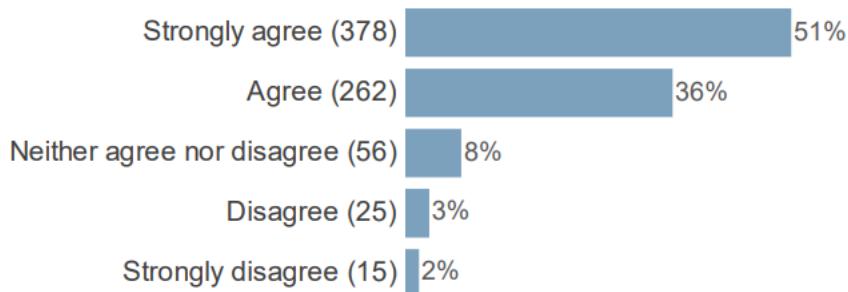


The above graph shows that of the 736 respondents that answered this question, when asked how far they agreed or disagreed with the actions to achieve the objective of Improve Household Waste and Recycling Centre (HWRC) operations and manage demand by: (Enhancing the customer experience, reducing queues and providing better support for residents) 83% (610) were supportive, with 44% (320) strongly agreeing and 39% (290) agreeing.

6% (42) did not agree with 4% (26) disagree and 2% (16) strongly disagree.

11% (84) neither agreed nor disagreed.

- Diverting as much waste from HWRCs for reuse, recycling or composting to avoid Energy from Waste treatment or landfill

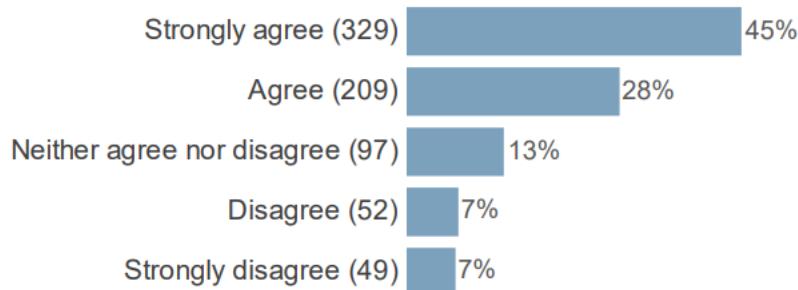


The above graph shows that of the 736 respondents that answered this question, when asked how far they agreed or disagreed with the actions to achieve the objective of Diverting as much waste from HWRCs for reuse, recycling or composting to avoid Energy from Waste treatment or landfill, 87% (640) were supportive, with 51% (378) strongly agreeing and 36% (262) agreeing.

5% (40) did not agree with 3% (25) disagree and 2% (15) strongly disagree.

8% (56) neither agreed nor disagreed.

- Continuing to ensure only Central Bedfordshire residents (who pay for the service through their council tax) use our HWRCs

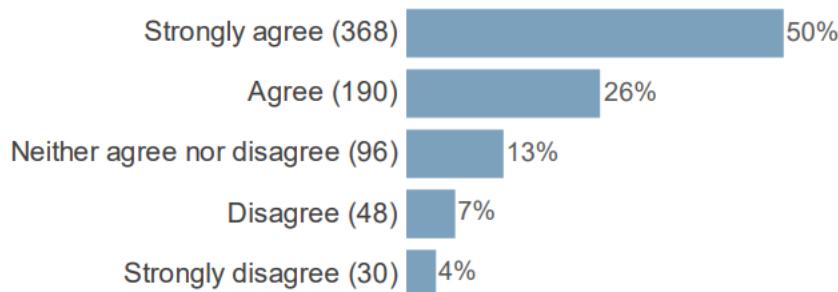


The above graph shows that of the 736 respondents that answered this question, when asked how far they agreed or disagreed with the actions to achieve the objective of Continuing to ensure only Central Bedfordshire residents (who pay for the service through their council tax) use our HWRCs, 73% (538) were supportive, with 45% (329) strongly agreeing and 28% (209) agreeing.

14% (101) did not agree with 7% (52) disagree and 7% (49) strongly disagree.

13% (97) neither agreed nor disagreed.

- Preventing commercial / trade waste from being deposited and managed at the expense of residents

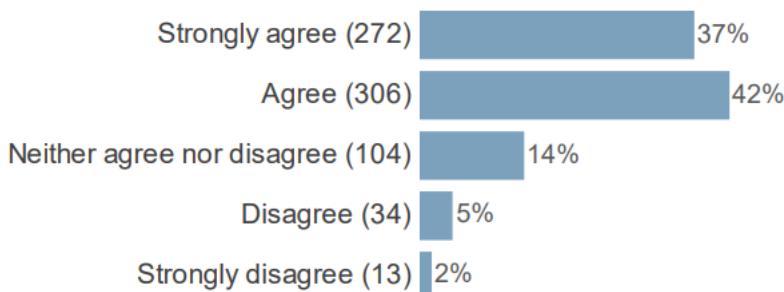


The above graph shows that of the 732 respondents that answered this question, when asked how far they agreed or disagreed with the actions to achieve the objective of Preventing commercial / trade waste from being deposited and managed at the expense of residents, 76% (558) were supportive, with 50% (368) strongly agreeing and 26% (190) agreeing.

11% (78) did not agree with 7% (48) disagree and 4% (30) strongly disagree.

13% (96) neither agreed nor disagreed.

- Considering how different waste types are accepted and managed to minimise the amount of waste that needs disposal

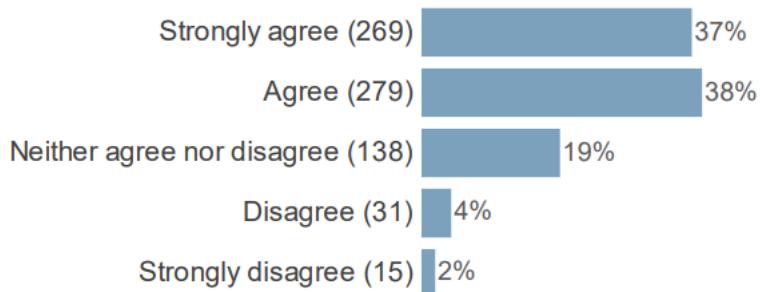


The above graph shows that of the 729 respondents that answered this question, when asked how far they agreed or disagreed with the actions to achieve the objective of Considering how different waste types are accepted and managed to minimise the amount of waste that needs disposal, 79% (578) were supportive, with 42% (306) agreeing and 37% (272) strongly agreeing.

7% (47) did not agree with 5% (34) disagree and 2% (13) strongly disagree.

14% (104) neither agreed nor disagreed.

- Continuing to support initiatives that prevent unnecessary waste such as home composting and reusable nappies

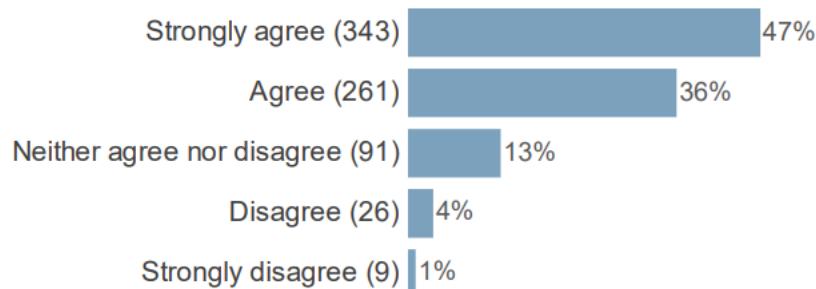


The above graph shows that of the 732 respondents that answered this question, when asked how far they agreed or disagreed with the actions to achieve the objective of Continuing to support initiatives that prevent unnecessary waste such as home composting and reusable nappies, 75% (548) were supportive, with 38% (279) agreeing and 37% (269) strongly agreeing.

6% (46) did not agree with 4% (31) disagree and 2% (15) strongly disagree.

19% (138) neither agreed nor disagreed.

- Considering opportunities to support activities that reduce waste, such as repair cafes and libraries of things



The above graph shows that of the 730 respondents that answered this question, when asked how far they agreed or disagreed with the actions to achieve the objective of Considering opportunities to support activities that reduce waste, such as repair cafes and libraries of things, 83% (604) were supportive, with 47% (343) strongly agreeing and 36% (261) agreeing.

5% (35) did not agree with 4% (26) disagree and 1% (9) strongly disagree.

13% (91) neither agreed nor disagreed.

Respondents were asked if they thought that we had identified the right actions to achieve the objective To reduce the amount of residual waste produced, collected and treated.

441 comments were received. The main themes have been listed below.

Theme	No. of comments
Yes / Supportive	142
Need to reduce/prevent fly tipping	91
Propose changes to HWRC tip booking system	64
Make recycling/disposing of waste easier for all	41
Encourage supermarkets/manufacturers/couriers etc use of non plastic packaging	37
Allow trade waste/ for a fee	35
No limit on HWRC visits	34
Share HWRC sites with neighbouring councils	30
No	26
Encourage use of repair cafes, swap shops, libraries of things	22
Fewer trips/shorter distances/journeys to HWRC	13
Recognise non-digital residents/can't use booking system etc/get to HWRC so use commercial	13
No extra bins	13
Better communication on what can/can't be recycled/virtues of recycling/repurposing	12
Stronger fine enforcement	12
Don't spend money on ANPR (Automatic Number Plate Recognition)/barriers	11
Propose changes to garden waste collection	11
Need to show value for money for the Council Tax paid	9
Kerbside glass collection	9

Theme	No. of comments
Be clear what happens with recycled waste	7
Campaign govt/minimise environmental impacts	6
Recycling centres for devices you can use again (help first time buyers etc)	5
Free kerbside collection furniture/electricals/paint	5
Other	24

Some examples of the comments have been included below:

Yes (respondents just left a comment of Yes, any accompanying comments are captured in the themes)

Need to reduce/prevent fly tipping

For local residents you need to make it easy to go to the tidy tip otherwise you will see stuff dumped on the roadside

I think that by making access to HWRC harder it increases the amount of fly tipping, and waste being put into non-recyclable bins at home.

My concern is that if you make it too difficult for people to use the centres or for businesses that this increase fly tipping which is then very expensive for Central Beds to clear up

Propose changes to HWRC tip booking system

I think anything that makes it harder to take things to the tip - such as a booking system - will reduce how often people use it - I certainly use the hwrc less because of it.

There is a problem to a certain extent that you have to book a slot to attend a HWRC. This can mean that you do not always make the most of a journey which may pass the centre. If you could show ID at the time that may be more effective.

Make recycling/disposing of waste easier for all

People are going to use recycling centres if they don't have to go through hoops and a minefield of restrictions. Most people want to do the right thing

Make it easy for people and provide clear info on how to do things, consider those in the community who do not have car transport

Waste Strategy Consultation Report 2025

Yes - for community led strands what are the incentives for the wider community to develop these initiatives? Beyond people who already care about the environment and see that as the initiative in and of itself it might be tricky to incentivise people

No - the objective of creating obstacles to stop people throwing things away is wrong, as a service provider the objective should be to make sure you can handle what people choose to throw away economically and effectively.

The 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th point seem to suggest restrictions will be put in place to reduce the opportunities of households to dispose of waste products.

Encourage supermarkets/manufacturers/couriers etc use of non plastic packaging

Much needs to be done with on line delivering companies over packaging and with supermarkets. Eg why put so much fruit and veg in packaging?

To reduce the amount of waste needs to be part of a program which includes the point of packaging and sale, the onus should not be solely on the residents.

Lobby manufacturers of plastic covered products. Make sure supermarkets and shops stop selling fruit and veg in plastic.

Also need to tackle source of waste (e.g. supermarket packaging).

Allow trade waste/ for a fee

To reduce commercial and trade waste being fly tipped there should be realistic alternatives particularly for small businesses.

Commercial / trade waste fee levels need to not encourage fly tipping.

Every effort should be made to encourage builders, odd-job men, Garden Service suppliers etc to use Council Waste facilities rather than dumping by the road side. This could include reasonable charges, dedicated hours to drop off and so on.

No limit on HWRC visits

No residents should be encouraged to recycle but tidy tips should be accessible and convenient to all council tax payers any time they need them without having to make an appointment, to prevent fly tipping.

Yes. You need to allow access to HWRCs other than by car, to allow those of us without cars to dispose of waste

Have recently had to do a house clearance in Doncaster which is now a city, they took absolutely every thing except asbestosno appointment no cameras no limit on how many you could take.....if they can do it why cant YOU, so much red tape.

Share HWRC sites with neighbouring councils

Waste Strategy Consultation Report 2025

I don't understand why we have to use the tidy tips related to our local authority. Surely if anyone could use any facility over time it evens out. Why be so parochial about protecting residents and who pays

You should agree reciprocal agreements with neighbouring "counties" to use each others waste centres so if on normal car routes will minimise extra car journeys and emissions.

I see absolutely no reason why residents of Bedford, Luton, North Herts ect should not use CBC HWRCs and us theirs, provided the objective of recycling is met.

No (respondents just left a comment of No, any accompanying comments are captured in the themes)

Encourage use of repair cafes, swap shops, libraries of things

Yes, being encouraged to think about reusing or repairing things is a significant step.towards sustainability!

Yes. Repair centres are crucial.

Encourage people to buy more things second hand. Purchasing of new things all the time is just not necessary

Fewer trips/shorter distances/journeys to HWRC

Why can't residents use their closest recycling centre, regardless of council catchment - How ironic that we have to drive 4 times the distance to a central beds tip, when a Tip under Milton Keynes council is much closer - How is that Environmentally friendly ? Extra CO2, congestion, emissions - it is just crazy !

Surely everyone, regardless of where they live should be encouraged to recycle so if a HWRC is too far away as the resident lives on the border, then they won't recycle.

Recognise non-digital residents/can't use booking system etc/get to HWRC so use commercial

I can't get to HWRC. Ampthill as I don't drive.

Redesign the booking system for the tidy tips as not all people use the Internet!.

No extra bins

No. There should be a stated action not to issue additional bins to households.

Yes, but I don't want even more bins as I haven't the space for more than the 4 I already have.,

Better communication on what can/can't be recycled/virtues of recycling/repurposing

Make it easy for the resident to identify items that can be reused when they are taken to the HWRC.

Be clearer on what can be recycled. Make, encourage everyone to recycle.

Stronger fine enforcement

Consider impact on fly tipping and deal with this in a stronger way. Let's see some max fines and prison sentences where possible for added deterrence.

Yes need to have more sanctions for fly tipping which has increased of late since more difficult to visit tidy tip. It's a terrible scar on the countryside

Don't spend money on ANPR(Automatic Number Plate Recognition)/barriers

Better not to spend money on ANPR recognition etc but welcome all waste so the countryside is not littered with waste.

It is absurd to have ANPR and automatic barriers enforcing mandatory online appointments to make as many barriers to resident waste disposal as possible. Clearly this is to facilitate charging residents making 'too many' visits in future.

Propose changes to garden waste collection

We should not have to pay extra to get rid of garden waste Composting is not viable for a lot of residents

Removing the green bin charge would also be another step. Why recycle my green waste when I can just throw it away for free?

Need to show value for money for the Council Tax paid

The use of a booking system does work however limiting households on the number of times they can visit a Tip is self defeating and means householders don't believe they are getting value for money.

In my opinion it is impossible to reduce the amount of waste produced because everything comes packaged. Collection is essential. I do not agree in paying for it to be treated too. Our council tax is already very expensive and adding treatment will make it worse

Kerbside glass collection

More recycling like glass bins

Glass recycling would be very useful

Be clear what happens with recycled waste

there is no clear communication strategy or evaluation proposed that measures the effectiveness of these objectives

Unfortunately, the people who will engage are the people who already care. You need to find ways to reach those who don't currently care. e.g. it's not clear why you are trying to eliminate biodegradable waste from landfill since it biodegrades anyway. The reasoning needs more

explanation. People should be able to recycle at any recycling centre not just the one in their own council - this is generally a good thing. Trade waste needs to be disposed of somewhere. Don't these businesses pay for the services too?

Campaign govt/minimise environmental impacts

Local government can only do so much. The real change can only come from Government legislation. Food companies need to completely re-think how our food is packaged. So much of the packaging has on it "Do not recycle at home" packaging that can't be recycled in an environmental way, therefore going to landfill. There is still too much plastic being used unnecessarily for food packaging.

Recycling centres for devices you can use again (help first time buyers etc)

There is an opportunity to approach people at HWRC especially for electrical and other items that could be assessed for repair.

Free kerbside collection furniture/electricals/paint

I would like to see the paint collection expanded to the east side of the council area either at Biggleswade HWRC or the Sandy Depot at accessible time.g. A weekend not during working weekday hours.

2. To maximise reuse, repurposing, recycling and composting

Respondents were asked if they have any comments about these statutory changes. 504 comments were received. The main themes have been listed below.

Theme	No. of comments
No more bins/ no room/too many	162
Positive	109
Free kerbside glass collection	74
Reinstate compostable food bags	35
Make recycling/disposing of waste easier for all	34
Better communication on what can/can't be recycled/virtues of recycling/repurposing	31

Theme	No. of comments
Soft plastic/films	28
No to glass collection use bottlebanks	26
No need for separate paper/card	25
No comment	24
Be clear what happens with recycled waste	15
Not at additional cost to Council Tax	15
Propose changes to garden waste collection	15
No need for plastic/films separation	15
Make sure bins are adequate size	15
Paper/card	15
No need for plastic/films separation	15
Waste bags tear/vermin/foxes/animals get into	10
Stronger fine enforcement	7
No plastic bags	5
Other	37

Some examples of the comments have been included below:

No more bins/ no room/ too many

Why is plastic needed for recycling when we have a green bin. I do not want any more bins standing outside my house; there are already 4 including garden and food waste bins. We take glass to local bottle banks.

Where do people store all the extra collection boxes?

All good as long as it involves no extra bins

No more plastic bins - no room to store them and they just attract vermin as it is

Waste Strategy Consultation Report 2025

Agree with these but concern at the number of bins per household and the problems and untidyness caused by people leaving them on the street and front gardens because they may not places for them

Positive

Excellent initiatives

All are superb if implemented, especially glass.

All sound great

The easier you make it for people to recycle, the more they will do it. I agree with the above objectives.

These are all good initiatives and should be introduced as soon as possible.

Free kerbside glass collection

I think the glass and soft plastic kerbside recycling will be very useful

Totally agree with kerbside glass collection

Glass collection is essential

Kerbside glass recycling service would be very welcome.

Reinstate compostable food bags

A reintroduction of food waste bags

Providing compostable bags to encourage more people to use the brown food bins

Bring back food waste bags. Down our road there are far less food bins out nowadays

Re the plastic bags especially to do with food collection, you have already stopped delivering these which means we have to buy from supermarkets etc, which is extra cost when we already pay enough council tax (these should never have been stopped)

Make recycling/disposing of waste easier for all

How can it be done to make it easy for busy households to manage?

Long-term, I think the drive to encourage recycling needs to start at school (so schools have recycling facilities and a zero-waste strategy too) so that it becomes embedded in lifestyles. I also think that there should be penalties for not recycling waste or recycling correctly. As a society, we are very lazy at this. It's non-negotiable in Germany and Switzerland.

Please don't make it too complicated to separate and prepare waste for collection.

Waste Strategy Consultation Report 2025

Don't over-complicate the separate collections as some households will not be willing or able to follow them.

Better communication on what can/can't be recycled/virtues of recycling/repurposing

I know of people who do not bother to use their recycling bin- because they don't believe the waste is actually recycled. The information showing how and what is recycled would help. Also - not clear what can go in recycling bin regarding plastics especially. More info on this would be helpful.

A lot of residents do not recycle anything. They need educating. Perhaps deliver a message showing the necessity of recycling?

Ensure the maximum types of materials can be taken kerbside and provide more information to residents about specific contents permitted.

Education for households on what can be recycled. If it needs cleaning etc. Educate / confirm how these will be recycled. People hear horror stories of recycling being sent abroad, we need assurances that our recycling is done with limited impact on the environment or it might as well end in landfill!

Soft plastic/films

You must bring forward plastic bag/film recycling to 2026.

Soft plastics to be collected is great, the plastic that is also supermarket only recycling should be collected from the door as this is forever increasing.

I recycle soft plastics at supermarkets but often my bin gets full and then I chuck them away. Kerbside collection would sort this

No to glass collection use bottlebanks

Concern about kerbside glass collection due to possible vandalism plus extension of bins etc outside dwellings

Not concerned about the glass recycling service.

Glass is primarily drinking bottles, which varies by person on consumption. I don't want to pay for a service to supplement other's use.

No need for separate paper/card

I agree with most of the above but not sure about separating paper and card as that could possibly mean another bin.

No separate paper and card collections.

Don't agree with separate paper and card collections. I don't think I would bother doing this different recycling at home. The recycling I do already is enough.

No comment

Be clear what happens with recycled waste

*All good, but do you really know what happens to the plastic you think you are recycling?
Nationally less than 50% is. How much plastic from CBC really makes it back into use?*

Sound good. The public need to be convinced that what they recycle truly will go on to be recycled as there seems to be a lot of information showing that's not the case. The public should be shown exactly what happens when they recycle different items, and guarantees made

Not at additional cost to Council Tax

This should be free to the householder: we pay Council Tax for this service.

*Do not add extra charges. We pay enough for Council Tax. People will NOT pay as prev comment.
They will either put in black bin or flytip costing more money to clear.*

Propose changes to garden waste collection

Make garden waste collection free

Everything needs to be as easy as possible otherwise it won't happen, the green garden waste bins need to be free again

No need for plastic/films separation

plastic films/bags - not really a priority.

Plastic bags recycling is well covered by the majority of the larger supermarkets, it would be more cost effective to support encourage more shops to collect the soft plastic

Make sure bins are adequate size

The size / nature of any receptacles into which materials are collected at home may be an issue for some households. Not everyone has large enough kitchens or gardens to store the receptacles.

I don't want more bins as I have no spare space for more. Perhaps a smaller bin the fit inside the existing bin to separate paper/card and soft plastic for other recyclables.

Paper/card

I would be really happy to see kerbside glass and paper collection

I do like the idea of having a separate cardboard and paper kerbside collection, as cardboard can take up a lot of room in the general recycling bin.

Waste bags tear/vermin/foxes/animals get into

Soft plastic bags not so good as can get blown away in strong winds, bitten by foxes thus allowing plastics to blow about or scavenge by wild animals

Bags for recycling sound good, but might not be practical in stormy weather.

Stronger fine enforcement

Fine those who break the rules !!!!

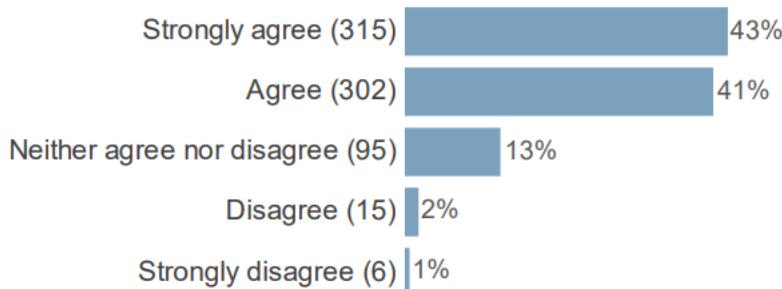
Have sanctions in place so it's not just the law abiding that follow the rules. penalties must be in place for those who don't comply.

No plastic bags

Why use bags when we have bins?

The following are actions we, as a Council propose to deliver the objective of maximising reuse, repurposing, recycling and composting How far do you agree or disagree with these actions? Central Bedfordshire Council will:

- Seek to optimise the amount of litter and street sweepings that are recycled or composted, rather than being treated by Energy from Waste or landfilled

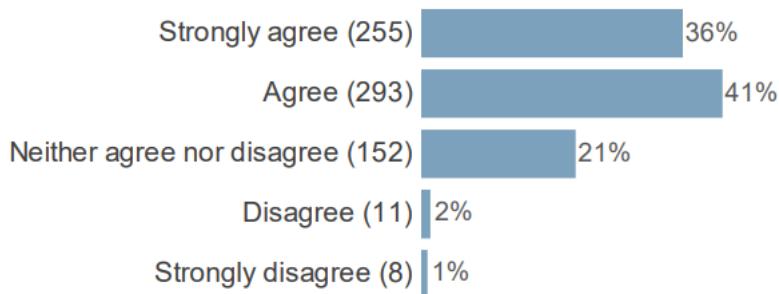


The above graph shows that of the 733 respondents that answered this question, when asked how far they agreed or disagreed with the actions to achieve the objective of seeking to optimise the amount of litter and street sweepings that are recycled or composted, rather than being treated by Energy from Waste or landfill, 84% (617) were supportive, with 43% (315) strongly agreeing and 41% (302) agreeing.

3% (21) did not agree with 2% (15) disagree and 1% (6) strongly disagree.

13% (95) neither agreed nor disagreed.

- Consider a review of the reuse offering at HWRCs

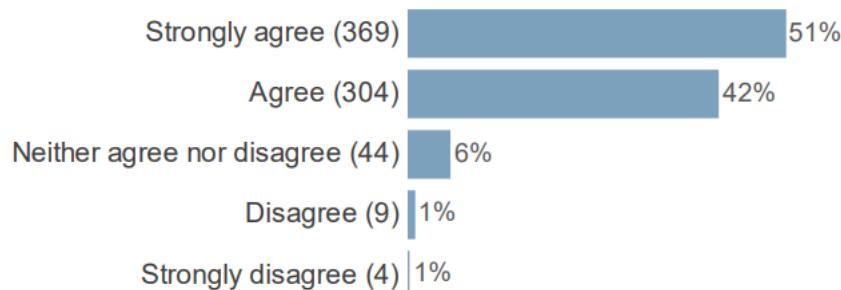


The above graph shows that of the 719 respondents that answered this question, when asked how far they agreed or disagreed with the actions to achieve the objective of considering a review of the reuse offering at HWRCs, 77% (548) were supportive, with 41% (293) agreeing and 36% (255) strongly agreeing.

3% (19) did not agree with 2% (11) disagree and 1% (8) strongly disagree.

21% (152) neither agreed nor disagreed.

- Consider further reuse and recycling opportunities at HWRCs (such as electrical equipment, plastic toys, furniture and mattresses)

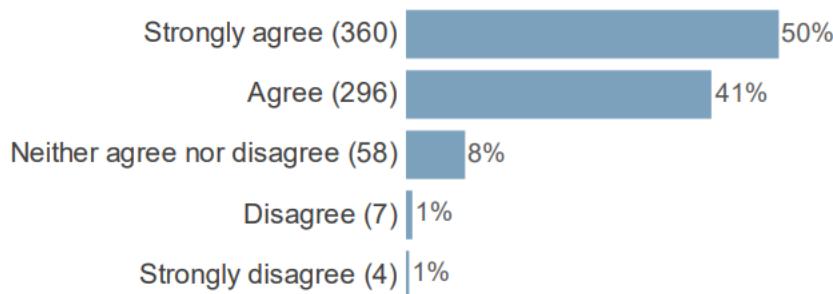


The above graph shows that of the 730 respondents that answered this question, when asked how far they agreed or disagreed with the actions to achieve the objective of considering further reuse and recycling opportunities at HWRCs (such as electrical equipment, plastic toys, furniture and mattresses, 93% (673) were supportive, with 51% (369) strongly agreeing and 42% (304) agreeing.

2% (13) did not agree with 1% (9) disagree and 1% (4) strongly disagree.

6% (44) neither agreed nor disagreed.

- Continue to support initiatives that increase reuse, repair, recycling and composting

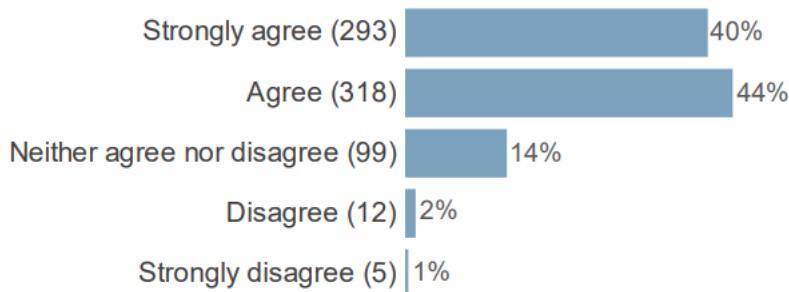


The above graph shows that of the 725 respondents that answered this question, when asked how far they agreed or disagreed with the actions to achieve the objective of continuing to support initiatives that increase reuse, repair, recycling and composting, 91% (656) were supportive, with 50% (360) strongly agreeing and 41% (296) agreeing.

2% (11) did not agree that with 1% (7) disagree and 1% (4) strongly disagree.

8% (58) neither agreed nor disagreed.

- Facilitate and, where appropriate, enable reuse, repurposing, recycling and composting initiatives with others - who are in the best place to provide sustainable community initiatives



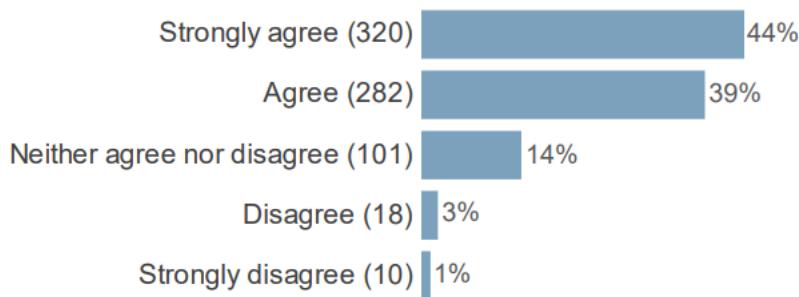
The above graph shows that of the 727 respondents that answered this question, when asked how far they agreed or disagreed with the actions to achieve the objective of facilitating and, where appropriate, enabling reuse, repurposing, recycling and composting initiatives with others - who are in the best place to provide sustainable community initiatives, 84% (611) were supportive, with 44% (318) agreeing and 40% (293) strongly agreeing.

3% (17) did not agree with 2% (12) disagree and 1% (5) strongly disagree.

14% (99) neither agreed nor disagreed.

- Explore commercial waste recycling and composting opportunities such as providing waste collections from schools and / or other non-domestic premises

Waste Strategy Consultation Report 2025



The above graph shows that of the 731 respondents that answered this question, when asked how far they agreed or disagreed with the actions to achieve the objective of exploring commercial waste recycling and composting opportunities such as providing waste collections from schools and / or other non-domestic premises, 83% (602) were supportive, with 44% (320) strongly agreeing and 39% (282) agreeing.

4% (28) did not agree with 3% (18) disagree and 1% (10) strongly disagree.

14% (101) neither agreed nor disagreed.

Respondents were asked if they thought that we had identified the right actions to achieve the objective to maximise reuse, repurposing, recycling and composting.

325 comments were received. The main themes have been listed below.

Theme	No. of comments
Yes	184
Encourage use of repair cafes, swap shops, reuse	21
Better communication on what can/can't be recycled/virtues of recycling/repurposing	19
Recycling centres for devices you can use again (help first time buyers etc)	13
No	13
Make recycling/disposing of waste easier for all	12
Need to reduce/prevent fly tipping	12
More info needed to make an informed response	12

Theme	No. of comments
Educating children/schools on recycling is good	8
Not at additional cost to Council Tax	8
Propose changes to garden waste collection	8
No limit on HWRC visits	7
Not sure	6
More/recycle bins/points in towns/villages	6
What is the cost implication?	6
Why aren't we doing this already? Why do we have to wait?	6
Allow trade waste/ for a fee	6
No extra bins	6
Free kerbside glass collection	5
Encourage supermarkets/manufacturers/couriers etc use of non plastic packaging	5
Wider remit, composting etc	4
Free kerbside collection furniture/electricals/paint	4
Reduce littering	4
Other	41

Some examples of the comments have been included below:

Yes (respondents just left a comment of Yes, any accompanying comments are captured in the themes)

Encourage use of repair cafes, swap shops, reuse

Only one HWRC has a reuse facility. It is ridiculous that bicycles, outgrown toys, unwanted appliances etc that residents would love to take away are forbidden from reuse at the others. 'Consider a review' is mealy-mouthed nonsense, just make it happen NOW.

Reusable items should be sold or given away for free at a shop area at every HWRC to enable reuse, thus stopping decent items going into landfill sites or being wastefully destroyed.

Yes. I think the reuse offering at HWRCs is ingenious and should continue. We have seen people throwing things away there that we could use but you are not allowed to rescue them. Maybe have a free section where things like toys, bikes and paint could be rescued by someone who could use them.

The HWRC is set up to deposit things so if there is a reuse part then that needs to be explored and made clear. Maybe a separate section for decent clean pieces of equipment, furniture or whatever else, but taken at the residents risk, maybe for a nominal contribution?

Better communication on what can/can't be recycled/virtues of recycling/repurposing

More needs to be done as most people don't know about these opportunities

The most important will be expanding HWRC reuse opportunities, supporting community-led initiatives, and ensuring clear communication so residents know how to participate.

I feel you also need to staff this recycling drive, with at least 1 Officer who can meet with community groups to encourage education, recycling and reuse. Not everyone will look at your website, you need to reach out with REAL staff, to get the message across.

*A major point missed here, and in all earlier attempts at recycling, is to communicate what can and connect be recycled / repurposed / reused. TV documentaries, council leaflets showing what *really* happens to our recycled waste should help significantly here.*

Recycling centres for devices you can use again (help first time buyers etc)

Yes more innovative partnerships. More reuse opportunities. More opportunities to recycle furniture. Videos cds etc

Access to cheap repair of electrical items would save a great deal from going to landfill. council run repair for resale through reuse shops?

Yes. In particular reuse/recycling of electrical items

No (respondents just left a comment of No, any accompanying comments are captured in the themes)

Make recycling/disposing of waste easier for all

If you make this all to complicated you won't get buy in.

Just keep it simple and accessible.

Make things easy will directly benefit and help achieve objectives

The less friction there is to recycle the more likely new changes will be adopted.

Need to reduce/prevent fly tipping

More focus on disposal of commercial waste maybe even subsidised by central government is required to reduce flytipping.

More info needed to make an informed response

The two options marked "neither agree nor disagree" are so marked because there is insufficient information to form an opinion

"Consider" and "explore" are too vague, and require a lot more substance about these initiatives could be developed.

Nothing above says how, so difficult to comment.

Educating children/schools on recycling is good

It would appear that you have I am aware that younger children, when informed, are more aware of the need to recycle. More so than some parents. Teaching in schools is an excellent strategy

In schools: food collection in canteens, possibility to give food leftovers to homeless shelters, battery recycling, pen recycling, coffee machines pods recycling. Making it easier by collecting directly from schools.

Yes, feel that a lot more could be done with schools from a recycling and education point of view.

Not at additional cost to Council Tax

Yes but at no extra cost to council tax payers

Provided there is no further costs to rate payers

All are 'no brainer's' but there has to be a way of making them self sufficient rather than asking the council tax payer to cough up each time. Home owners are being clobbered enough already!

Propose changes to garden waste collection

Charging extra for a green bin has made us compost less and encourages us and our neighbours to just use other waste streams for garden waste.

No limit on HWRC visits

It depends what you mean by 'Consider' whether this means to allow more items to be taken to HWRC's or to restrict these items either by type or by number.

Will any of this mean more items are rejected at recycling centres or will further unjust charges be introduced for certain items? Will this lead to further fly tipping ?

Not sure

Remains to be seen

Not sure

More/recycle bins/points in towns/villages

You need to review provision of community recycling facilities in the villages. There are multiple locations I can find to recycle bottles, clothing, etc in Biggleswade. Zero in Broom, Southill, etc.

You need to provide the recycling options inside the town. Not everyone can drive out to a hwrc and they aren't going to pay someone to come and collect two light bulbs and a tin of paint, they will just throw it in a normal bin. You need to provide these facilities for small items elsewhere like bottle banks are now.

What is the cost implication?

Always provided that these are simple and cost-effective both financially and in use of energy.

All sounds very laudable but expensive. Burning some waste to produce energy must be better for the environment.

Why aren't we doing this already? Why do we have to wait?

Need to offer more kerbside collections sooner

Cannot understand why we do not already explore commercial opportunities with private sector organisations to a greater extent e g private waste collection

Allow trade waste/ for a fee

Should trade waste not be included? This would stop fly tipping.

Commercial premises should pay to dispose of their own waste. As it is generally a lot more than individual households.

No extra bins

Keep it simple for residents - without the need for yet more bins.

Do not give us more bins especially in houses that do not have space to store them.

Free kerbside glass collection

Yes, particularly introduction of glass and soft plastic kerbside collection

All plastic glass metal and paper should be done as much as possible at kerb if it fits in the bin it's goes.

Encourage supermarkets/manufacturers/couriers etc use of non plastic packaging

Yes but sometimes the onus should be on the companies who make and package the items to see that packaging is recyclable.

Work in conjunction with supermarkets to reduce packaging materials.

Wider remit, composting etc

Yes but the remit could be wider, especially with regards to composting opportunities

The council could provide composting bins as standard in all its relet social housing

Free kerbside collection furniture/electricals/paint

how can a domestic car get a mattress or sofa to a HWRC tip? Some things need home collection, for a small fee.

Yes. If curb side "tip" runs are enabled this makes sure that all recycling is controlled by CBC. Many occasions we have had good items rejected at thorn hill reuse shop because they had too many or the shop keeper felt it wouldn't sell. This resulted in it being disposed of in the skips

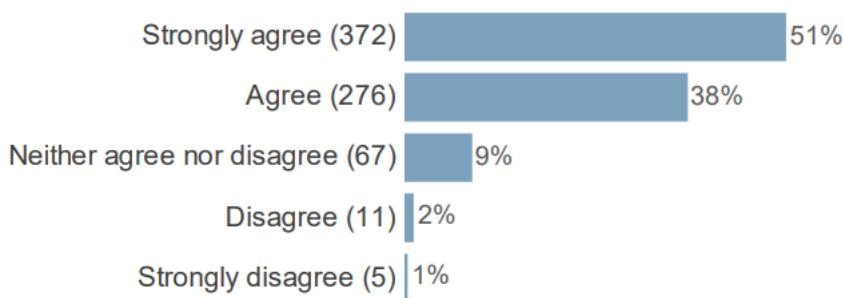
Reduce littering

There is also a need for education of the general public about dropping litter and the benefits of recycling,

3. To deliver effective, cost-efficient and compliant services that are robust, reliable and resilient to change

We propose to deliver this objective with the following actions How far do you agree or disagree with these actions? **Central Bedfordshire Council will provide a service that works well, keeps costs down, complies with legislation and can handle change by::**

- Carrying out robust, timely and competitive procurement processes, to secure best value for residents

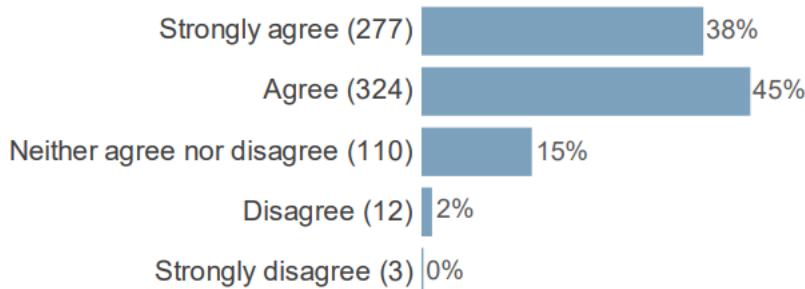


The above graph shows that of the 731 respondents that answered this question, when asked how far they agreed or disagreed with the actions to achieve the objective of carrying out robust, timely and competitive procurement processes, to secure best value for residents, 89% (648) were supportive, with 51% (372) strongly agreeing and 38% (276) agreeing.

3% (16) did not agree with 2% (11) disagree and 1% (5) strongly disagree.

9% (67) neither agreed nor disagreed.

- Considering how services are provided, including investment in infrastructure within Central Bedfordshire to improve service resilience and performance, provide longer-term budget certainty and enhance flexibility to adapt to market and legislative changes.

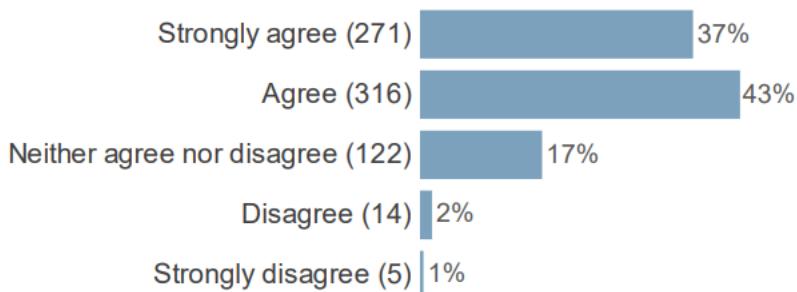


The above graph shows that of the 726 respondents that answered this question, when asked how far they agreed or disagreed with the actions to achieve the objective of considering how services are provided, including investment in infrastructure within Central Bedfordshire to improve service resilience and performance, provide longer-term budget certainty and enhance flexibility to adapt to market and legislative changes, 83% (601) were supportive, with 45% (324) agreeing and 38% (277) strongly agreeing.

2% (15) did not agree with 2% (12) disagree and (3) strongly disagree.

15% (110) neither agreed nor disagreed.

- Working with the Government, other Councils, representative bodies and stakeholders to ensure risks and opportunities are identified, managed and realised.



The above graph shows that of the 728 respondents that answered this question, when asked how far they agreed or disagreed with the actions to achieve the objective of working with the Government, other Councils, representative bodies and stakeholders to ensure risks and opportunities are identified, managed and realised, 80% (587) were supportive, with 43% (316) agreeing and 37% (271) strongly agreeing.

3% (19) did not agree with 2% (14) disagree and 1% (5) strongly disagree.

17% (122) neither agreed nor disagreed.

Respondents were asked if they thought that we had identified the right actions to achieve the objective to deliver effective, cost-efficient and compliant services that are robust, reliable and resilient to change. 292 comments were received. The main themes have been listed below.

Theme	No. of comments
Yes	152
More information needed	20
Not at additional cost to Council Tax	17
Should be doing already	16
Share HWRC sites/initiatives with neighbouring councils	13
No	12
What is the cost implication?	11
Collaboration	9
Efficiencies/procurement evaluation of contractors	9
don't know	8
less jargon	7
Other	36

Some examples of the comments have been included below:

Yes (respondents just left a comment of Yes, any accompanying comments are captured in the themes)

More information needed

What is the bottom line in this? How much more Money do you think you can demand from us without any additional benefits

Only address efficiency. Needs more on effectiveness and measuring outcomes not just cost

Not enough knowledge to answer

Difficult to comment on this without understanding what the current procurement process is

Not at additional cost to Council Tax

As long as it doesn't involve more bins or further charges on top of Council Tax

Provided that this does not produce an additional cost burden on residents.

Obviously, all objectives need to be financially accepted by the residents.

Should be doing already

All of this should be happening already

Surely central beds should already be doing this?

I mean I hope you're doing all this already, this is minimum viable product stuff

Share HWRC sites/initiatives with neighbouring councils

Definitely work with neighbouring councils, share resources and tip facilities

Collaborate with other councils to optimise costs and services

You should be negotiating the best price. If working with neighbouring councils can lower costs I would agree.

No (respondents just left a comment of No, any accompanying comments are captured in the themes)

What is the cost implication?

Yes subject to cost monitoring

Can you justify all these proposals economically?

Open and fair procurement - be clear about the tender process to the public. Also be clear what is being sought in the procurement process ie is costs being valued higher than other elements as residents will value cost highly

Collaboration

Standardisation of recycling measures across different councils would be helpful.

Currently it is cheaper to get a freezer recycled through AO than with the council. so why not collaborate with them or other companies who already do this rather than inhouse.

Efficiencies/procurement evaluation of contractors

Make sure that the waste contractors are held to account if they don't deliver.

The problems of poor procurement processes in government are a massive challenge and need to be addressed.

Don't know

Again this remains to be seen.

unsure

Less jargon

Most of these "actions" have no tangible outcomes. I am not even sure what the last item actually means

these are all high level. There needs to be the practical HOW, WHAT, WHERE and WHEN to underpin these as we know that the only ways the services are going is reducing for more cost to us.

In the community

Respondents were asked if they know of any local initiatives that are encouraging the sustainable management of waste and recycling and/or supporting the circular economy.

These can be found in the Appendix at the back of this report

Further comments

Respondents were asked if they have any further comments on the proposed Waste Strategy 326 comments were received. The main themes have been listed below.

Theme	No. of comments
No	46
Supportive comment	42
Need to reduce/prevent fly tipping	29
Make recycling/disposing of waste easier for all	28
Propose changes to HWRC tip booking system	28
Better communication on what can/can't be recycled/virtues of recycling/repurposing	27

Waste Strategy Consultation Report 2025

Theme	No. of comments
Propose changes to garden waste collection	25
No extra bins	19
No further cost though	17
Kerbside glass collection	14
Stronger fine enforcement	13
Need to show value for money for the Council Tax paid	11
Encourage use of repair cafes, swap shops, libraries of things	11
Kerbside plastic	8
Keep two weekly alternating collections for black/green bins	8
Encourage supermarkets/manufacturers/couriers etc use of non plastic packaging	8
Reduce littering	6
No limit on HWRC visits	6
Share HWRC sites with neighbouring councils	5
Be clear what happens with recycled waste	5
Need more care taken/ by bin collectors, currently broken bins/bags/ respect properties/ courtesy	5
Free kerbside collection furniture/electricals/paint	5
Less jargon	5
Other	38

Some examples of the comments have been included below:

No (respondents just left a comment of No, any accompanying comments are captured in the themes)

Supportive comment

Looks thorough.

It seems really well thought out and positive, hope to see it happen

I welcome the Waste Strategy and strongly support its objectives. It sets the right direction for Central Bedfordshire, but its success will depend on consistent and practical delivery.

You have covered, very well, actions to meet the needs of most households. Thanks.

Need to reduce/prevent fly tipping

Make changes that reduce fly tipping

Yes, make the tidy tips more accessible to businesses as well as domestic users

Make recycling/disposing of waste easier for all

Help us to help implement a good and robust waste system, don't restrict us as many of the recent initiatives have and are doing.

Make it consistent and easy to remember

It is a step in the positive direction, but there needs to be a way to step forward to ensure that residents do use their recycling bins,

Propose changes to HWRC tip booking system

I do not see the point of making appointments at the Recycling Tips during the week. It is rarely busy. This encourages people to put their rubbish elsewhere.

Better communication on what can/can't be recycled/virtues of recycling/repurposing

I think for these changes to work you do need to employ a small team to publicise these changes and encourage community uptake, you can't stick something on a website and say your work is done.

It's got to be as easy as possible so everyone knows which items go in which bin.

Make people aware of it. Like schools letting children know who can then tell adults what they should be doing

Propose changes to garden waste collection

Ideally the green waste collections free of charge would come back but some more subsidies on compost bins would be good.

No extra bins

Waste Strategy Consultation Report 2025

Yes, I am worried that households are going to be swamped with differing bins, containers and not having space for them.

Too many bins would be an eyesore. We are lucky and have a garage for storage, many do not.

No more bins! Let the waste companies separate it.

No further cost though

Absolutely there should be no introduction of additional fees for residents to use tidy tips.

Great as long we do not have to pay more

I hope this will not cost us more money eg. garden waste charges!

Kerbside glass collection

Kerbside collection of glass is urgently needed.

About time glass was collected although we do go to glass bank - others don't.

Please collect bottles from kerbsides with no further cost ASAP

Stronger fine enforcement

Prosecute more people for fly tipping & littering.

It is a step in the positive direction, but there needs to be a way to step forward to ensure that residents do use their recycling bins, and penalties for not doing so.

Need to show value for money for the Council Tax paid

Our rates are already too high without the additional charge of £65 added meaning more into landfill and less compost to sell

No but increasingly concerned that our council taxes represent poor value for money

Encourage use of repair cafes, swap shops, libraries of things

It all seems great, I'd love to see repair shops/cafes becoming a regular thing, and intercepting good things from simply being thrown in skips at the recycling centre would benefit in many ways.

I think encouraging or setting up a system whereby electrical can be fixed instead of having to be disposed of. There is probably an easy fix for a lot of electrical that stop working.

Kerbside plastic

Soft plastics need to be on kerbside collections.

It would be good if you are able to bring forward the plastics kerbside collection date...

Keep two weekly alternating collections for black/green bins

Please don't move us to 3 weekly collections or a vast number of different containers/bins for collection

would oppose any reduction in frequency of general household waste. every other week is long enough. Consider health hazards

Encourage supermarkets/manufacturers/couriers etc use of non plastic packaging

To persuade the supermarkets to use more recyclable items

Also need to tackle source of waste (e.g. supermarket packaging).

Reduce littering

There needs to be strict regulation of businesses who generate litter

Anti littering campaigns/ talks in schools/ schools collections for cans and/ or glass as well as food waste and paper.

No limit on HWRC visits

Importance of making things easy rather than hard. Accessible rather than inaccessible and take away barriers to doing the right thing.

current rules around only being able to take 2 mattresses to the tip per year should be removed. you are encouraging people to dump mattresses. had 3 toddler size mattress which would be smaller than a king size but told could only dump 2.

Share HWRC sites with neighbouring councils

Also it shouldnt matter where you live if you want to use a tip. The closest tip should be the one to use, wherever you live

Only to reiterate - allow cross council use of tips for local residents

Be clear what happens with recycled waste

Suggest it needs to be supported with ongoing education and encouragement for participation. Starting in schools to explain the need for sustainability but also to the wider populace.

Communication about what happens to our waste after we hand it over to you has not been done well up to now, and should help a lot.

Need more care taken/ by bin collectors, currently broken bins/bags/ respect properties/ courtesy

Waste Strategy Consultation Report 2025

I was horrified to recycle these and then watch the dustbin men - throw my green bag containing coffee pods in the recycling green bin! I could have put them in the green bin all along!!

You could have an objective to cut costs by not damaging the waste bins so frequently, especially the food waste bins which seem to thrown about regularly. Both our recycling bin and waste bin have been damaged by the mechanism at the back of the lorry.

Free kerbside collection furniture/electricals/paint

The more that can be recycled kerbside the better.

Please would it be possible to have a reusable container for kerbside recycling of electrical items and batteries? You tell people to use a plastic carrier bag. Most shops no longer sell disposable carrier bags. It will s only because I have a small, hoarded supply of carrier bags that I am still able to put small electricals and batteries out for recycling occasionally.

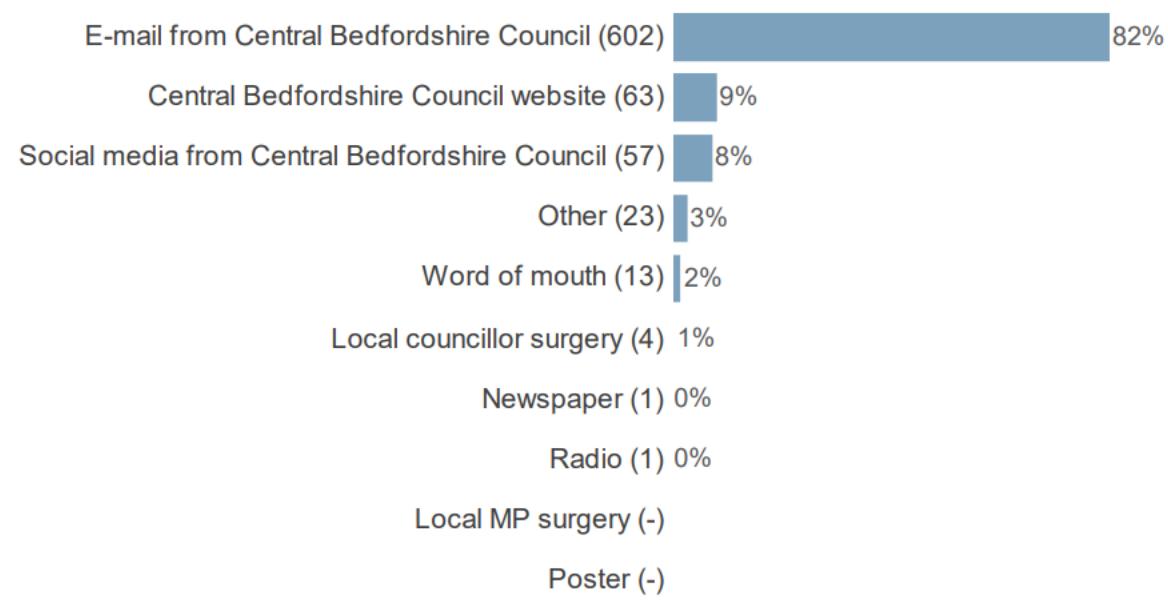
Less jargon

You have to stop using your council jargon especially on such a long and involved survey,

The language used is too deep. We want to save the planet. Yes to separate different waste. With clear instructions of what goes where on each bin. Including washing containers before putting in recycling bin. What the difference between plastics are.

Demographics

How did you hear about this consultation?



Waste Strategy Consultation Report 2025

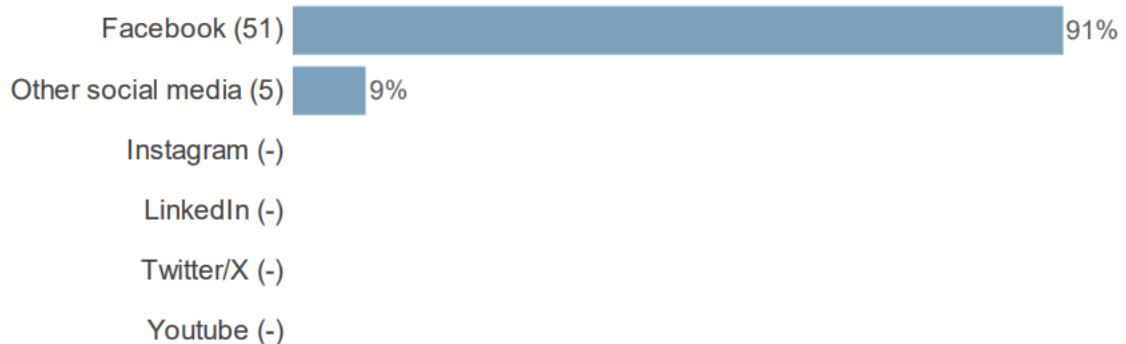
E-mail from Central Bedfordshire Council 82% (602), Central Bedfordshire Council website 6% (63), Social media from Central Bedfordshire Council 8% (57), Other 3% (23), Word of mouth 2% (13), Local councillor surgery 1% (4), Newspaper (1), Radio (1)

If other, please tell us:

Facebook (6), Social media not from Council (5), Nextdoor app (2), Facebook via local councillor (1), Social media from a LB group - not council (1), About Dunstable Facebook page (1), Email from CBC (1), Parish Council Chair (1), via the Parish council in Toddington (1), Consultation at local library (1)

town council (1)

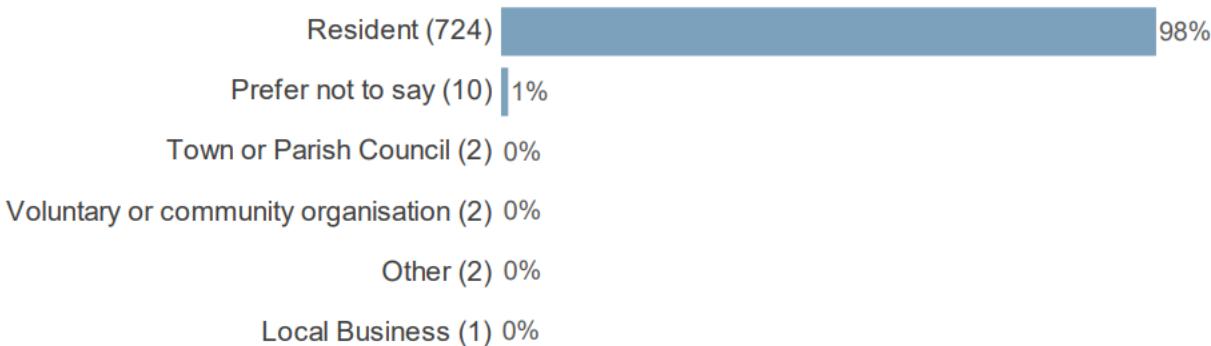
If social media, please tell us which one:



Facebook 91% (51), Other social media 9% (5)

If other social media, please specify: Nextdoor (2), email (1)

Are you responding as: (please select one)



Waste Strategy Consultation Report 2025

Resident 98% (724), Prefer not to say 1% (10), Town or Parish Council (2). Voluntary or community organization (2), Other (2), Local Business (1)

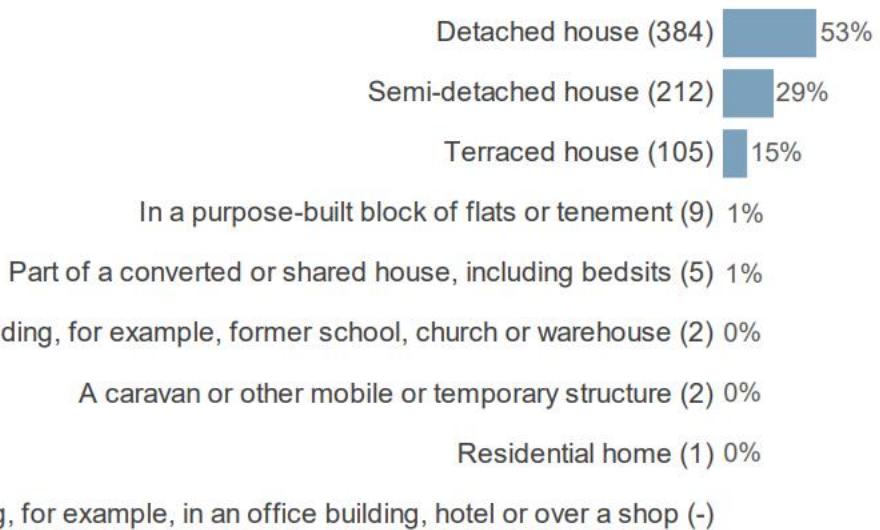
If Town or Parish Council, please specify: Meppershall Parish Council (1)

If voluntary or community organisation, please specify:

Totally Leighton Buzzard (Repair Cafe Leighton Buzzard) (1), South Bedfordshire Friends of the Earth (1)

If other, please specify: Resident of Bucks but living one mile from. CBC tip and 10 miles from Bucks ones (1), Ward Councillor - Cllr Susan Clinch, Ampthill Ward, Green Party (1)

In which type of accommodation do you live?



Detached house 53% (384), Semi-Detached house 29% (212), Terraced house 15% (105), In a purpose-built block of flats 1% (9), Part of a converted or shared house, including bedsits 1% (5), Part of another converted building, for example, former school, church or warehouse (2), A caravan or other mobile or temporary structure (2), Residential home (1)

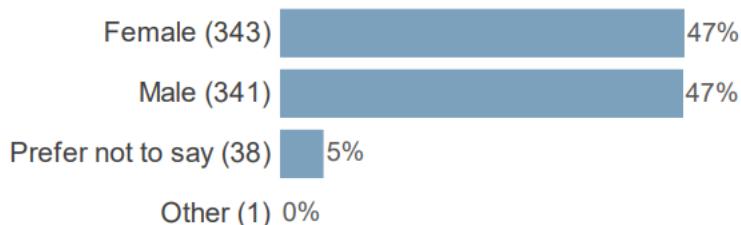
Do you have access to a car or van?



Yes 94% (665), No 6% (42)

Are you: (please select one)

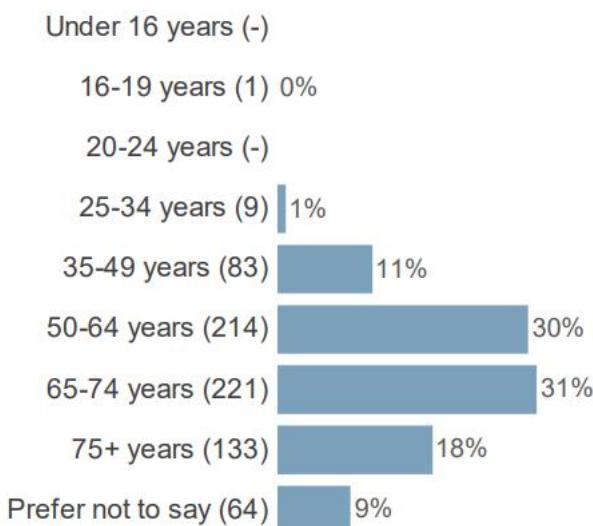
Waste Strategy Consultation Report 2025



Female 47% (343), Male 47% (341), Prefer not to say 5% (38), Other (1)

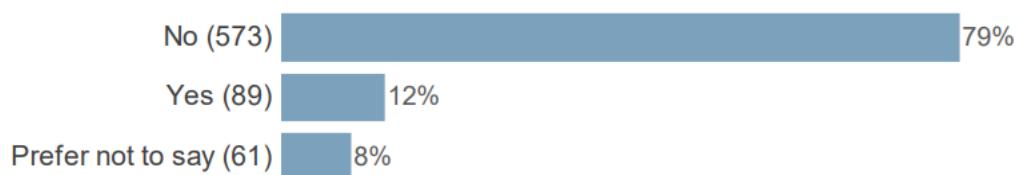
If other, please specify: Contemtor pattern Dreadnought (1)

What is your age? (please select one)



65-74 31% (221), 50-64 30% (214), 75+ 18% (133), 35-49 11% (83), Prefer not to say 9% (64), 25-34 1% (9), 16-19 (1)

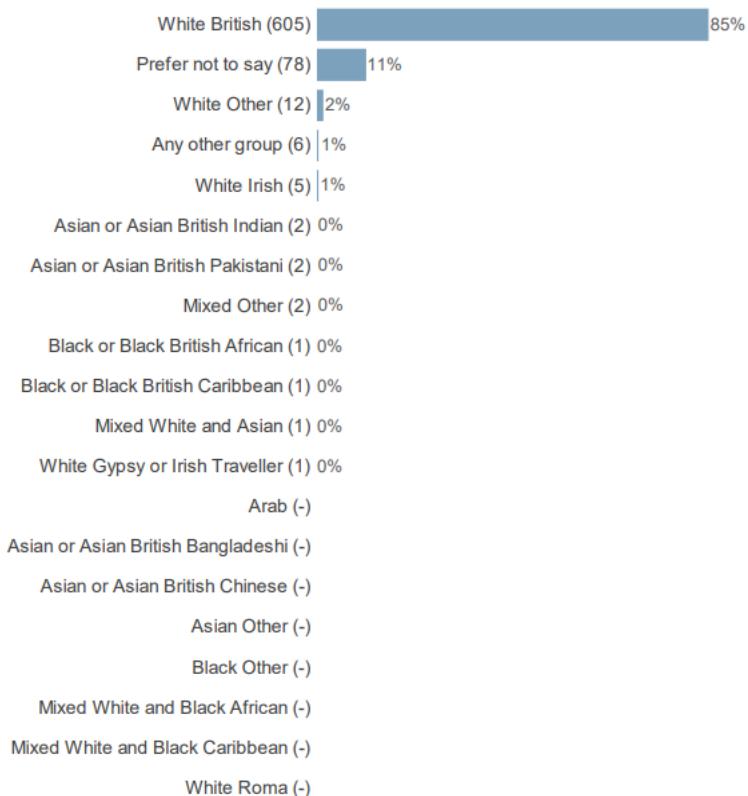
Do you consider yourself disabled? (please select one) Under the Equality Act 2010 a person is considered to have a disability if they have a physical or mental impairment which has a sustained and long-term adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day to day activities.



No 79% (573), Yes 12% (89), Prefer not to say 8% (61)

To which of these groups do you consider you belong? (please select one)

Waste Strategy Consultation Report 2025



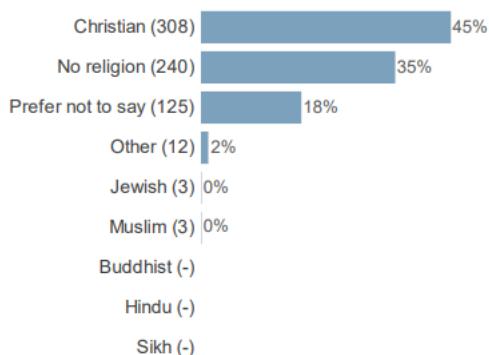
White British 85% (605), Prefer not to say 11% (78), White other 2% (12), Any other group 1% (6), White Irish 1% (5), Asian or Asian British Indian (2), Asian or Asian British Pakistani (2), Mixed Other (2), Black or Black British African (1), Black or Black British Caribbean (1), Mixed White and Asian (1), White Gypsy or Irish Traveller (1)

If other, please specify:

Italian

English (3), White English (3), Mixed White English (1), White European (1), Eastern European (1), English German (1), Human Being (1), gdpr (1), An actual walking tank (1)

What is your religion or belief? (please select one)



Waste Strategy Consultation Report 2025

Christian 45% (308), No religion 35% (240), Prefer not to say 18% (125), Other 2% (12), Jewish (3), Muslim (3)

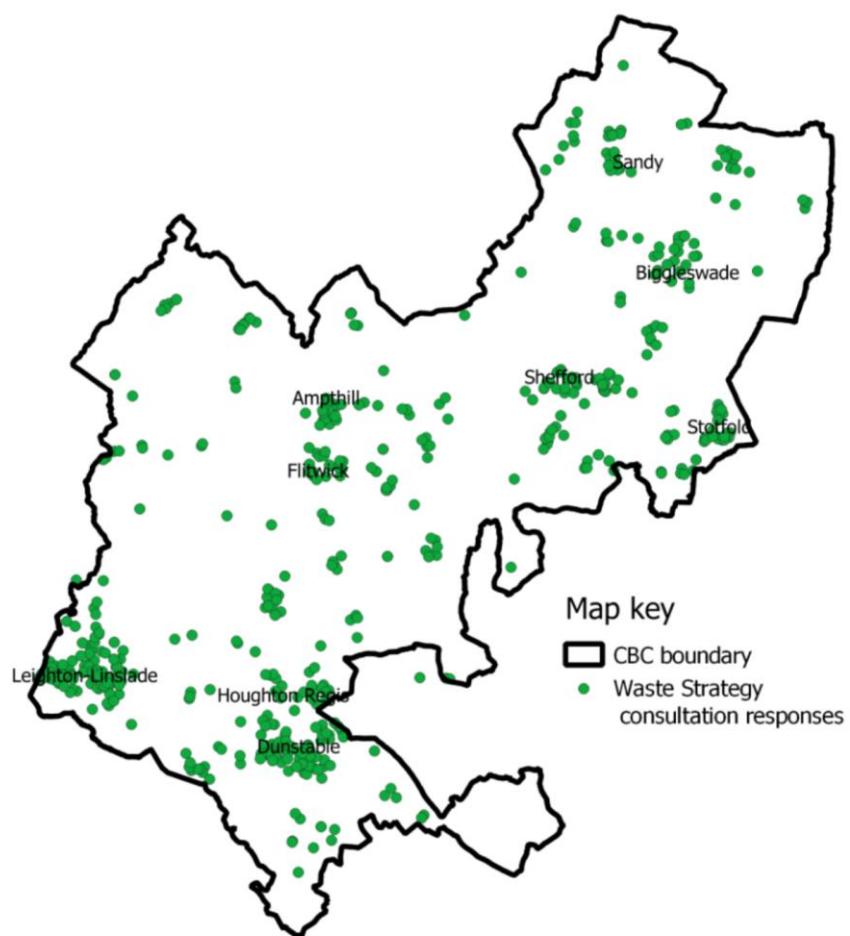
If other:

Humanist (3), Pagan (3), Spiritualist (1), FOR THE EMPEROR! (1), RAMALAM (1), C of E (1), Agnostic (1)

Postcode and Acorn analysis

A review of postcodes indicates that respondents were from all across Central Bedfordshire, with clusters of responses around towns.

Waste Strategy consultation responses



© Crown copyright and database right 2025. Ordnance Survey AC0000851074. Central Bedfordshire Council. Prepared by the Communications and Consultations team.

Waste Strategy consultation responses

Middle Super Output Areas (MSOAs) are a statistical geography created by the office for National Statistics. They divide the whole country into areas with roughly equal populations so they can be compared. Central Bedfordshire is divided into 33 MSOAs, each containing around 7,800 people.



© Crown copyright and database right 2025. Ordnance Survey AC0000851074. Central Bedfordshire Council. Prepared by the Communications and Consultations team.

Responses were received from a wide range of households. Higher income households were more likely to respond, and lower income households were much less likely to respond.

Broad divisions (based on groups)	Respondents with usable postcode	% of respondents with usable postcode	% of all CBC households
Higher income	208	34%	19%
Middle income	382	62%	63%
Lower income	24	4%	17%
Total with usable postcode	614	100%	100%

Appendix

Current and future recycling initiatives

The following are comments received from respondents regarding any current and/or future recycling initiatives they are aware of in Central Bedfordshire

Currently do

- We recycle old bras and also used pill packets.
- Tesco for cosmetics, brassieres & printer cartridges.
- Coop for plastics that we can not recycle at home, glass bins and also bins for shoes/clothes in the car park. Fantastic I can recycle these items...
- Local supermarket has soft plastic recycling collections (3) Some supermarkets have extended this to include re-cycling points for old make-up, batteries, water filters and printer cartridges. this needs to be extended and made available at all main supermarkets.
- Boots recycles blister packs. The Refil used to recycle bras but sadly have given it up, also candles. Natures Harvest no longer recycles shoes but I think you can do it at Tesco.
- Local library of things seems to work well from all reports.
- Yes the local recycling centre in Biggleswade Preen (13)
- We have a local village chat Whatsapp group and items are regularly offered to others to give them a new home. Somebody usually wants what some one else doesn't. This local model is a light and efficient way to recycle as people pop around the village dropping off and picking up stuff.i.e. recently a large amount of items used during a themed wedding has been redistributed around the village, to much joy..
- You have volunteer groups doing your jobs already.
- coffee shops (eg Costa) are giving away coffee grinds to any gardener who wants them
- The shop in Leighton Buzzard near Friday Street where customers take their own containers to buy dried fruit like currants. The shop on Waterborne Walk where food or items that are only slightly out of date can be purchased cheaply or are given away. (3)
- Flitwick repair library.
- Repair café (34) Leighton Buzzard Repair Café, Bedpop cafe which runs a repair shop, free cycle, freegle, olio, st albans wood recycling, dunstable men in sheds
- Repair shops (1) There are repair shops and a library of things in Flitwick (1)
- Dr.Bike Leighton Buzzard
- Charity shops (15) . The Red Cross Shop in Dunstable also recycles bulky items such as furniture. Free collection of furniture by the Heart foundation shop (2) Charity shops recycle unwanted household items and should be encouraged. (1)
- Charity shops and those that take electrical goods and the repair shop including the Willen Hospice shop that takes electrical goods
- hubbub.org.uk work with local communities to do this. <https://www.compostclub.online/> - people need to get something back to be incentivised to pay for garden waste collection otherwise it goes to landfill.
- Library of things (11) in Ampthill, Flitwick and Leighton Buzzard
- Sustainable Shefford and Plastic Free Shefford - both groups are trying to educate and inform people of ways to reduce waste eg craft swaps. Repair Cafe

- We have an elderly gentleman in Broom (89 I think) who ones around the hamlet collecting rubbish nearly on a weekly basis.
- Community garden in Barton composting leaves and garden waste as much as possible with a volunteer group and parish council support. We need to collect water too so help/support to get water butts etc for groups like this would help.
- Fb in caddington often have items to upcycle or give away so they are reused
- There are clothes banks around but two in Shefford are inaccessible. One is at the fire station behind a gated area and the other in the car park of the swan which is a pay as you go car park. If you enter and don't pay you get a ticket!!
- Recycling point through town council in Potton
- Bidwell has community litter picking and opportunity to learn about the wildlife. Working with the fire service will help in teaching people not to put lithium batteries in their bins - lots of waste fires occur each year
- Olio, people leaving items out for others to take.
- Terracycle collection points for various items, details and maps available on their website. Miniml refils are available locally (cleaning and shower products in closed loop system)
- Community glass recycling and recycling at supermarkets.
- Flitwick Repair Cafe Multiple online groups to swap and sell things Used book libraries- one near Flitton Church Hall and the other in The Jolly Coopers at Wardhedges
- Social media sites for giving unwanted useful items (2)
- Freecycle (7)
- Dunstable Wombles litter picking initiative. There should be more promotion of these initiatives and provision of equipment by CBC. (2)
- Letsbuzz
- local Facebook groups
- Local reuse/recycle pages on facebook etc seem to work well as do second hand sales These encourage people to consider the needs of others rather than dumping items if they are still working.
- Marketplace
- Home composting groups – Some residents are already composting garden and food waste at home. Access to affordable compost bins and community composting hubs would strengthen this further.
- Schools initiatives – Some schools encourage recycling and waste awareness through eco-clubs and competitions. Supporting these could embed long-term behaviour change among younger generations
- I visit Thorn re-use shop often.
- Toogoodtogo
- Paid for glass returns Tesco used to give clubcard points for recyclable material
- St Barnabas has a jumble sale on the 4th October.
- Litter picking groups
- NHS Green Initiative.
- Charity clothes banks
- retail shops who offer recycling such as Dunhelms
- Whilst this may not be local I have two boxes, with lids, one for cardboard and paper the other for glass. I have a plastic woven bag with a Velcro strip fastening for tins, foil, plastics. These along with the food waste is collected weekly.

- Glass bottle banks in the village, easily accessible at the village hall, often nearly full, a great local facility.
- Community fridge in Leighton Buzzard
- Brogborough has an existing waste to energy facility, this should be utilised for local waste, reduces carbon emissions from transporting waste from afar.
- Various loans of equipment based at Flitwick library and Rufus centre
- Rushmere Alpacas recycle the alpaca dung on their gardens and also reuse old feed bags to bag up surplus and make available to other local residents
- Supermarkets take a lot of water for recycling.
- some charities (not all) accept electrical goods and have access to repair facilities Repair cafes are very good too
- Tesco and other supermarkets accept certain wrappers for recycling, but there is no assurance as to what they do with them. Are they recycled or just dumped?
- Glass exchange services - reuse or get a deposit back them returning/recycling
- Organisations like 'Men in Sheds' help to recycle.
- Ampthill Climate Change (2) equipment loan and repair cafes
- Local groups keeping streets tidy
- There are one or two repair initiatives nearby. We are such a wasteful society.
- Personally I have passed soft toys to a local business in Leighton Buzzard who give soft toys a second life to be sold on which also helps charitable causes
- SHARE: at both Flitwick & Ampthill (5)
- The charity "WORK AID", although based in Chesham, collects unwanted tools and other equipment such as sewing machines.
- Local Leighton Buzzard churches, including my own Trinity Methodist has collected such items which are used for poor communities overseas.
- Community Facebook groups allowing selling of children's items
- Plastic Free Shefford Plastic Free Ampthill
- Early years settings are being encouraged to be mindful of environmental sustainability issues - lots of reuse, repurpose, recycle initiatives are being promoted by Climate Ambassadors and the Early Years Alliance.

Other LA's or initiatives outside of Central Bedfordshire

- Histon and Impington, Cambs) there is an excellent volunteer litter picking service with volunteer resident litter pickers for each street etc.
- Reuse cafes in Cambridge but not in my area Biggleswade.
- Not locally, but I have attended craft workshops in Bletchley where glass jars and tetra cartons are reused. This maybe something that needs to be looked into more.
- believe somewhere in bedford tries to mend broken electrical appliances - what about seeing if someone in CBC area can do that as well
- Letchworth use items tools etc
- In Leeds they have a container for items that are just no longer wanted vs broken which is sent to local charities to repurpose
- No but when I was in Germany recently I saw they operate a tariff charge for plastic and glass on all purchases in shops, but if you take back to store and put thru their recycle

machines you get a voucher back against the surcharge that can be used to pay towards your shopping. This could be implemented by the supermarkets and larger local convenience stores and would hopefully encourage more people to recycle and less for the council to have to collect from residential customers.

- believe somewhere in bedford tries to mend broken electrical appliances - what about seeing if someone in CBC area can do that as well
- the charity in Milton Keynes that accepts donations of baby clothes and equipment (sorry can't remember name)
- Not entirely local but the company I work for is a huge advocate of circular economy, Crown Workspace, they do operate around the UK and deal with refurbishing office furniture and IT equipment so maybe worth looking into.

Suggestions for future

- Have a local recycle whatsapp and advertise what you want to recycle
- I am aware, via social media, of individuals that clear and tidy areas that have become littered. Maybe a 'shout out' or an award could encourage more residents to take part
- Amazon packaging collected in many households could be better recycled
- Maybe "deposit" for bottles should be adopted in the supermarkets. Look at what is done in Germany especially and when you return your bottles, cans etc., you get your deposit back.!
- We tried recycling tablet dispensers - the ones with foil - at church but no one would take the many that were collected. They were taken into Superdrug and Boots in Bedford.
- I would like to say needing an appointment for our Biggleswade recycling is off putting
- Local collections of milk bottle tops and medicine blister packs
- There is no reference to moving to electric fleet vehicles. Some additional investment is needed but there is a long term payback. A diesel refuse truck may cost £250000 as against a similar electric at £450,000. CBC could generate electricity from burning the waste collected without incinerators by using a cleaner and green gasification plant. The excess energy could be used to a heat network. A fortuitous circle is created by using the energy created from burning waste in the gasification to power the vehicles that collect the curbside waste with no landfill.
- Town council encouraging litter picking in the park
- Recycling of plant waste by putting tree cut offs through a machine and giving the output sawdust to equestrian use, possibly for children play areas as well
- Would like to see local composting bins in community areas so contractors can use them rather than take stuff off site. But needs management to work effectively
- Recycling of plant waste by putting tree cut offs through a machine and giving the output sawdust to equestrian use, possibly for children play areas as well
- Free GREEN BIN collection for all (2)
- Light plastic recycling from homes, more frequent collection of recycling bins, free garden waste collection
- Reusable nappy incentive
- I would like to see village garage sales too
- Village programme of responsible litter-pickers.

- collecting recycled materials from commercial concerns and schools is a good idea. In Hitchin the town rangers collect cardboard and coffee grains etc.
- Get supermarkets to accept used glass bottles, with a cash incentive - as they do in Germany.
- All supermarkets should offer recycling facilities of as many things as possible.
- centralise sorting at waste recycle centres
- One or two local reuse/repair sessions in villages e.g. Flitton/Greenfield
- we don't have a second hand furniture facility or scrap store in Leighton Buzzard.
- Shops encourage recycling of batteries. Some (but nowhere in Dunstable) chemists recycle tablet
- The Flitwick Share should be expanded on so they can add to their library of things.
- Food waste cafes and supermarkets. There really should not be so much food waste to be collected! Food is for eating not composting!
- Privately run repair cafes and libraries of things manned by volunteers. You need to support these more by providing space for free, and marketing them
- Repair Cafes are a good example encouraging re-use. For example Leighton Buzzard has one, including bicycle repairs. Maybe they could be financially supported by CBC (for example by providing free room hire).
- A library of things would be really good but cannot find a venue. (2)
- Same with the repair shop and library of things - staff could 'rescue' working items to donate to the library of things or at least encourage site users to put them into a dedicated 'still works, just don't want it' area. In Leeds they have a container for items that are just no longer wanted vs broken which is sent to local charities to repurpose
- Broxborough has an existing waste to energy facility, this should be utilised for local waste, reduces carbon emissions from transporting waste from afar.
- Schools are often looking for materials to upcycle for play areas or use in practical lessons, there should be some way to match up available items with schools that need them!
- Somewhere to take items that could be given for free. A bit like free cycle but for people to donate if they don't want people calling at their home
- Kerb side glass collections. Especially when the green waste bins are not being used in certain months
- Ebay /Vinted/ Facebook free adverts / Sunday markets
- on reupholstery , sewing and needlecraft woodwork and furniture renovation/ recycling could run alongside these using resources from the household waste centres would be amazing
- Websites to donate/reuse items are becoming quite effective, could this be looked at for Council support or links to Council website? Also more on garden waste recycling, composting, maybe wormeries but general outdoor seasonal initiatives I think would go down very well with residents.
- Some towns and villages offer shops which will refill existing containers rather than using new ones. I think there should be more support for these initiatives, maybe by funding and advertising. There is still far too much packaging waste.
- I don't know about repair and reuse cafes etc. I think there isn't enough simple and accessible information for people to understand how to dispose of the multiple different sorts of waste so they just give up. They might be able to get more info on your website

but lots of people won't have time or inclination to look. You have got to find ways of making recycling second nature to all

Not known

96 respondents said that they did not know of any local initiatives regarding recycling.

Central Bedfordshire in contact

Find us online: www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Call: 0300 300 8000

Email: customers@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Write to: Central Bedfordshire Council, Priory House,
Monks Walk, Chicksands, Shefford, Bedfordshire SG17 5TQ