

VALE OF GLAMORGAN
REPLACEMENT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN
2021 - 2036

WASTE

November 2025



BACKGROUND PAPER - BP41



Executive Summary

The Vale of Glamorgan Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP) sets out a strategic framework for sustainable waste management in line with Welsh Government legislation and national targets.

The RLDP retains existing waste policies and identifies preferred locations for new facilities, including Atlantic Trading Estate, Barry Docks, and Llandow Trading Estate, as well as suitable B2 and B8 industrial sites. Policy SP17 promote sustainable waste management aligned with the waste hierarchy and circular economy principles. Policy WA1 sets criteria for assessing proposals, requiring Waste Planning Assessments and ensuring environmental and health safeguards.

The RLDP includes a monitoring framework to track progress in delivering these policies, using local data to inform decision-making.

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1 Introduction

- 1.1 A key element of the Vale of Glamorgan's Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP) is to set the framework for the provision of sustainable management solutions for tackling waste that is generated within the authority in line with legislation and national and regional targets for waste management and reduction.
- 1.2 This background paper considers the requirements for the Vale of Glamorgan RLDP in respect of the provision of suitable sites for Waste Management Facilities in accordance with the requirements of national planning policy. It firstly considers the Council's responsibilities for waste management in relation to legislation, and national and regional planning policy, then examines the current situation in the Vale and gives an indication of expected future demand. It then considers matters relating to the suitable location of future waste management sites as part of the Deposit RLDP.

2 Policy Context

Planning Policy Wales

- 2.1 Since the LDP was adopted, national policy in respect of waste management has evolved in relation to the role of the planning system. Planning Policy Wales (PPW) has been revised several times with significant changes to waste policy, removing the requirement to produce Regional Waste Plans.
- 2.2 The latest iteration of PPW (Edition 12) maintains the importance of ensuring the efficient use of resources and sets out the national waste hierarchy which should inform the decision making process when managing waste (Figure 1).

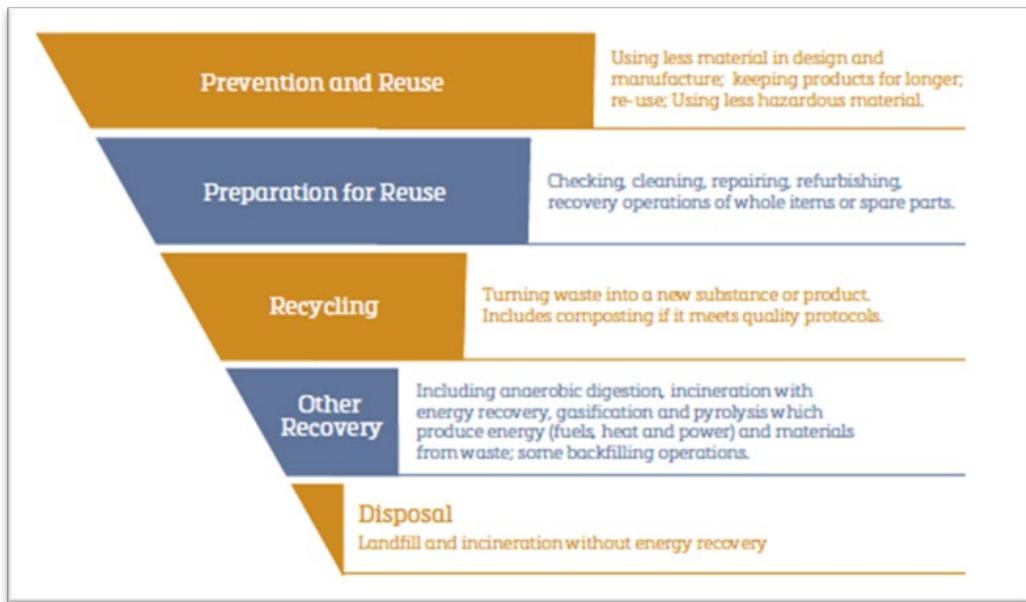


Figure 1: Waste Hierarchy (PPW edition 12, page 108)

- 2.3 The waste hierarchy provides the key starting point for all types of waste management proposals. Preventing and avoiding the creation of waste forms the highest tier of the waste management hierarchy, followed by reuse and recycling, with recovery and disposal at the lowest tiers of the hierarchy.
- 2.4 Section 5.13 sets out the national policy position for sustainable waste management facilities. This outlines the facilitative role of the planning system in sustainable waste management. Key aspects of this include minimising adverse environmental impacts and risks to human health; protecting designated areas of the natural environment from inappropriate development; and protecting residential amenity, other land uses and users.
- 2.5 Planning authorities must also support the provision and location of a range of waste management facilities, which include recycling and recovery of materials, and disposal facilities for any residual waste which cannot be dealt with higher up the waste hierarchy. In this regard PPW states that:

"For all wastes, suitable locations for sustainable waste management development should be identified in development plans as well as criteria by which applications for such developments will be determined, recognising that the most appropriate locations will be those with the least adverse impact on the local population and the environment and with the best potential to contribute to a broad infrastructure framework. Collaboration and joint working may be necessary to respond strategically to the requirement identified as part of waste monitoring. Individual authorities should not, however, exclude provision for waste or other potentially polluting projects or prohibit all applications to set them up. They should make realistic provision for certain

types of industry or facility that may be detrimental to amenity or conservation interests, or a potential source of pollution. Effective engagement with the waste management industry and local authority waste managers and consortia will be a necessary component of waste planning”.

Technical Advice Note 21: Waste (TAN 21)

- 2.6 TAN 21 was updated in 2017 through the publication of practice guidance. The supplementary guidance aims to provide planning officers and local authority members with an understanding of the different types of waste infrastructure which may come forward as a development proposal.
- 2.7 TAN 21 (paragraph 3.21) states that LDPs should indicate where suitable and appropriate sites exist for the provision of all types of waste management facilities in order to provide some certainty for waste operators interested in fulfilling demand in an area. In this regard paragraph 3.19 states that:

“Advances in technology and the introduction of new legislation, policies and practices mean that many modern in-building facilities externally appear similar to any other industrial building and internally contain industrial processes or energy generation that may be no different to other modern industrial activities in terms of their operation or impact. For this reason, many general employment sites and major industrial areas are likely to be suitable locations for waste facilities but this will depend on a variety of local factors, including the nature of existing users and the strategy adopted for particular employment sites.”

- 2.8 In this respect paragraph 3.27 indicates that new sites and facilities maybe accommodated in or adjacent to:
 - industrial areas, especially those containing heavy or specialised industrial uses;
 - active or worked out quarries;
 - degraded, contaminated or derelict land;
 - existing or redundant sites or buildings;
 - sites previously or currently occupied by other types of waste management facilities;
 - sites where the nature of existing and proposed neighbouring land uses facilitates the location of waste management infrastructure; and
 - on farms where the output will be used on the farm.

Collections, Infrastructure and Markets Sector Plan (2012)

- 2.9 The Collections, Infrastructure and Markets (CIM) Sector Plan describes the waste management framework to provide the best solutions to meet social, economic, and environmental needs to 2050. It indicates a move towards the reduction of disposal and recovery options for treating waste in favour of high-volume source segregated collection followed by reprocessing as well as preparation for re-use and prevention.
- 2.10 The CIMS cautions against the overprovision of facility types and TAN 21 advises that overprovision will only be justified on the basis that the facility would be sustainably located. There is therefore a balance to be made between ensuring provision is sufficient whilst avoiding excessive provision.

Towards Zero Waste, the National Waste Strategy

- 2.11 Through “Towards Zero Waste” the National Waste Strategy, the Welsh Government has set ambitious targets for all Welsh Local Authorities to work towards. The National Waste Strategy sets out the long-term framework for resource efficiency and waste management between now and 2050. By 2025, the National Waste Strategy identifies that there will be a 27% reduction in the amount of waste produced across all sectors and that 70% of waste produced will be recycled. Of the remaining 30% a maximum of 5% can go to landfill with the remaining fraction to Energy from Waste.

Beyond Recycling, A strategy to make the circular economy in Wales a reality (2021)

- 2.12 In 2021 Welsh Government published its strategy Beyond Recycling the next steps in Wales’s pathway towards a circular economy. The aim is to become a zero waste, net zero emissions nation that uses a fair share of the earth’s resources whilst realising the economic potential this transition brings.

3 Local Context

Waste Planning Monitoring Report South East Wales 2016

- 3.1 The requirement for waste monitoring is established in Technical Advice Note 21 and is intended to enable both Welsh Government and local planning authorities to take a strategic overview of issues and trends in the waste sector to help inform local development plans and decisions on planning applications for waste. In 2020, the third full Annual Monitoring Report was prepared.

3.2 Chapter 8 covers Local Development Plan policies and monitoring, outlining a need for all waste management policies in the region to reflect changes to the national context, including the most up to date editions of Technical Advice Note 21 and PPW. With regards to monitoring, it adds: *“The monitoring frameworks need to be updated to reflect these changes to policy and guidance, in particular the requirement contained within TAN 21 to monitor the take up of land by waste management uses.”*

3.3 The report concludes that there is no further need for landfill capacity within the South East region. Any proposals for further residual waste treatment should be carefully assessed to ensure that the facility would not result in overprovision.

The Vale of Glamorgan Recycling and Waste Management Business Plan and Strategy (2022 - 2032)

3.4 The Vale of Glamorgan Waste Management strategy sets out the Council's 10-year plan (2022-2032) that aligns with WG priorities for recycling and waste. Its vision is to *“Provide effective recycling and waste management services working with our communities to respect, enhance and enjoy our environment and ensure a bright future”*, and is guided the following by 4 objectives:

- **1. Ambitious Targets** – Minimise waste, maximise recycling and to develop a service that supports the Vale of Glamorgan to be a net zero carbon service by 2030.
- **2. Innovative and Resourceful** – Use our assets and resources to transform our services so they are sustainable for the future.
- **3. Strong Communities** – Work in collaboration with our communities, businesses, and partners to involve them in decisions that affect them.
- **4. Education and Engagement** – Encourage our residents, visitors and businesses to minimise waste, reduce carbon emissions and to consider how their actions may impact on the environment.

3.5 The strategy contains an action plan for delivering each of the objectives. This included the provision of new infrastructure, which includes a new Household Waste Recycling Centre to replace the existing site at Llandow and the development of recycling and waste fleet parking adjacent to the new Resource Recovery Facility (RRF) at Atlantic Trading Estate, Barry.

3.6 An update report was presented to Scrutiny Committee in February 2025. This report contained an infrastructure update in respect of Waste Management Facilities. This confirmed that the RRF at Atlantic Trading Estate was operational and a reuse shop had opened within it.

3.7 In Llandow, the road to the existing HWRC was upgraded in 2024, which has improved access and CCTV installed to reduce fly tipping. The service area will continue to consider alternative land options and should there be availability and alternative options, a capital bid will be submitted for consideration.

Current Performance

3.8 The latest data on the percentage of waste reused, recycled or composted indicates that the Vale of Glamorgan has one of the highest recycling rates in Wales at 70.36%, which is higher than the Welsh average of 66.59%.

	Percentage of Waste Reused/Recycled/Composted
Wales	66.59
Bridgend	72.78
Pembrokeshire	72.00
Monmouthshire	71.78
Ceredigion	71.29
Swansea	70.45
Carmarthenshire	70.39
Vale of Glamorgan	70.36
Conwy	69.61
Powys	68.48
Newport	67.89
Neath Port Talbot	67.72
Denbighshire	67.59
Rhondda Cynon Taf	67.23
Blaenau Gwent	66.18
Isle of Anglesey	64.67
Merthyr Tydfil	64.28
Gwynedd	64.19
Torfaen	64.14
Wrexham	63.81
Flintshire	62.77
Caerphilly	60.20
Cardiff	60.07

Table 1: Annual reuse/recycling/composting rates by local authority 23/24
Source: Statswales

4 Vale of Glamorgan Replacement Deposit Plan 2021-2036

4.1 In view of the above policy context, the latest monitoring data, and the Council's 10-year waste strategy, the Council has determined it is appropriate to carry forward the existing adopted LDP waste policies into the RLDP. Policy SP17 Sustainable Waste Management sets the strategic framework for how future

waste management proposals will be assessed and identifies the Council's preferred locations for additional waste management.

- 4.2 This policy maintains that Atlantic and Llandow Trading Estates and the operational port of Barry Docks as the most appropriate locations within the Vale of Glamorgan for in-building waste management facilities. Indeed, Atlantic Trading Estate has seen the recent development of the authority's resource recovery facility, as well as a reuse shop on land adjacent to the existing HWRC. Similarly, the Council's Waste Management Strategy (2022-2032) indicates its intention to replace the existing HWRC at Llandow with a new modern facility.
- 4.3 To provide further flexibility, the policy also identifies existing Class B2 'general industrial' and B8 'storage and distribution' employment sites, as being potentially suitable locations for additional in-building waste management facilities.

SP17: SUSTAINABLE WASTE MANAGEMENT

The sustainable management of waste will be facilitated by:

- 1 Promoting and supporting additional sustainable waste management facilities, measures, and strategies in accordance with the waste hierarchy and the principles of nearest appropriate installation and self-sufficiency.
- 2 Supporting the circular economy by encouraging the minimisation of the production of waste and the use of reused and recycled materials in the design, construction, and demolition stages of development.
- 3 Ensuring that provision is made for the sustainable management, sorting, storage, and collection of waste in all new developments.

The following locations are considered suitable for the development of in-building waste management solutions:

- Atlantic Trading Estate.
- The Operational Port of Barry Docks.
- Llandow Trading Estate.
- On suitable existing and allocated B2 and B8 industrial sites.

The provision of open-air sustainable waste management facilities on appropriate Class B2 or B8 industrial sites, operational mineral working sites, derelict land or buildings or within or adjoining existing farm complexes will also be acceptable where they do not conflict with existing or proposed neighbouring uses.

- 4.4 Criteria for determining the suitability of waste management proposals is provided with Policy WA1, and which the Council shall apply to all applications for the treatment, processing, storage, and distribution of waste will be assessed,

including those relating to new waste management facilities and extensions to existing operations.

POLICY WA1 - ASSESSMENT OF WASTE MANAGEMENT PROPOSALS

Development proposals for waste management facilities will be permitted where:

- 1 The proposal is supported by an appropriate waste planning assessment,
- 2 The proposal has regard to the waste hierarchy and proximity principle,
- 3 It is demonstrated that the development would not result in unacceptable harm to health, the environment or to the amenity of neighbouring land uses; and
- 4 Where the principal road network has adequate capacity, or improvements to ensure adequate capacity can be readily and economically provided, to accommodate the transport movements associated with the proposal.

Proposals for waste management facilities that accord with the locations set out in Policy SP17 will be favoured.

4.5 In accordance with national policy, Policy WA1 shall require all applications for waste management to be accompanied by a Waste Planning Assessment (WPA). The information contained within the WPA should be both appropriate and proportionate to the nature and scale of the development proposed and contain all relevant information. Further details regarding Waste Planning Assessments are contained in Annex B of TAN 21 (2014).

Waste Monitoring

4.6 PPW places a requirement of LPAs to monitor annually the performs of it LDP to ensure plan delivery. The Welsh Government Development Plan Manual (2020) requires all adopted LDPs to contain a monitoring framework covering key topic areas contained within LDPs. With regard to monitoring waste PPW (Edition 12) suggest that LPAs should utilise information contained with CIM reports and updated waste monitoring reports relevant to its area.

4.7 It is stated that "*Planning authorities at the very least monitor progress towards the provision of an integrated and adequate network of waste disposal installations and of installations for the recovery of mixed municipal waste and similar wastes from commercial and industrial sectors as well as private households. For this reason, regional monitoring arrangements are in place to ensure an up-to-date position is available to inform decision making*" (PPW 12 para-5.13.9)

4.8 Accordingly, it is proposed that the RLDP monitoring framework of waste shall utilise latest published data contained within the South East Wales Regional

Monitoring Report as well as local monitoring data published by the Council as part of its Municipal Waste Monitoring reporting.

5 Conclusion

- 5.1 This background paper demonstrates that that the policies within the RLDP to support the sustainable waste management facilities, including the identification of suitable locations facilities, and the monitoring of such provision accords with national planning guidance.



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