Appendix 2: Current and Future Government and Mayoral Waste Policy and Targets

- 1. The national Resources and Waste Strategy (RWS) was published in 2018, and notably include proposed policies for setting up of a Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) for drinks containers, Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for packaging waste, and establishing more consistent household and business recycling services across the country (Consistency).
- 2. The RWS sets out two recycling targets that 50% of household waste will be recycled or composted by 2025 and that 65% of municipal waste (which includes commercial waste that is similar in composition to household waste, including that collected by the private waste sector) recycled or composted by 2035.
- 3. The Government launched a second round of consultations on the three proposed policies in March 2021, with a view to the introduction of the policies from 2023. Notwithstanding that residual uncertainties around the three proposed future policies they will lead to significant changes to both collection and disposal activities in the Partner Authority area.
- 4. The DRS proposals are likely to mean that the recycling rate of drinks containers will increase and littering of these products will reduce. However, the amount of drinks containers in constituent Borough waste collections (both recycling and residual waste) will reduce, and it is not clear if the items diverted into the DRS will be able to be counted in local authority recycling rates.
- 5. The EPR proposals, aside from making the packaging industry responsible for the costs of packaging waste, are likely to drive consistent recyclability labelling on packaging and the use of more recyclable packaging.
- 6. Broadly in line with the Government's Consistency proposals, the Mayor of London's Minimum Service Standards set out in the LES include six main dry recycling materials collected from all properties and separate food waste collections, including from flats where practical and cost-effective.
- 7. The LES contains recycling rate targets for London of 50% of Local Authority Collected Waste (LACW) by 2025 and 65% of Municipal Waste recycled by 2030. LACW is all waste collected by local authorities, which is mainly household waste but also includes other wastes such as commercial waste collected by local authorities, street cleansing and fly-tipped waste.