

Initial Equality Impact Assessment and Analysis (EqIA)

This document provides an initial analysis of equalities impacts in relation to the draft Joint Strategy for East London's Resources and Waste 2027 – 2057 (the 'Joint Strategy').

The draft Joint Strategy sets out how the five Partner Authorities, namely the East London Waste Authority (ELWA) and the London Boroughs of Barking and Dagenham, Havering, Newham and Redbridge, will preserve resources by minimising waste, promoting resource efficiency and moving towards a circular economy, all of which will help to protect the natural environment and reduce carbon emissions.

As public bodies, the Partner Authorities must comply with the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED). This part of the Equality Act 2010 requires public bodies and organisations to consider any needs of or the impact on people with protected characteristics, which include:

- Age
- Disability
- Gender Reassignment
- Marriage and Civil Partnership
- Pregnancy and Maternity
- Race
- Religion or Belief
- Sex
- Sexual Orientation

An EqIA is a tool used to demonstrate that PSED duties have been met within the Equality Act 2010. The EqIA process helps organisations to make more inclusive decisions and to ensure that programmes, policies, projects and services work well for residents, businesses and staff.

Therefore, the Partner Authorities wish to hear and proactively consider any comments in relation to how any aspect of the issues presented may impact on any sections of the community as listed above. Any feedback in relation to equalities and any point raised within this document will inform a full Equality Impact Assessment and Analysis of the Joint Strategy.

It should be noted that although the Joint Strategy sets out that there will need to be service improvement and changes these will need to be designed according to local needs and will be subject to individual EqIA conducted by the relevant Partner Authority.

You can find out more and tell us your views by visiting the link below and completing the online survey:

Online: www.eastlondon.gov.uk/jointstrategy

Email: consultation@eastlondon.co.uk

Telephone: 020 8724 5803

Paper copies of the consultation will also be available from local libraries.

Address: **Address to be confirmed**

Introduction

This EqlA discusses the draft Joint Strategy for Resources and Waste Management in East London 2027 – 2057

Summary of the aims and objectives

The draft Joint Strategy sets out the strategic aims and aspirations for resources and waste management of the five Partner Authorities, and outlines how the Partner Authorities will work together to manage resources and waste within their boundaries between 2027 and 2057, after the end of the long-term contract for waste treatment services.

Working with residents and businesses, the Partner Authorities want to make it as easy as possible to produce less waste, and to reuse, repair, and recycle more items and materials. Within the Joint Strategy a series of priorities are outlined that will help facilitate this, including how the Partner Authorities will support future improvements with infrastructure. These priorities will form the basis of how the Partner Authorities will manage waste in the future, contribute to London-wide and national targets, and meet the aspirations for future performance. The Partner Authorities will need to work together to achieve these goals. The priorities outlined are the subject of this Equalities Impact Assessment.

The draft Joint Strategy also outlines the journey required to deliver improvement and respond to future changes. The Joint Strategy starts in 2027 once the current long-term contract for waste and recycling treatment comes to an end, but it is recognised that action to deliver improvements needs to start as soon as possible to achieve future performance aspirations.

Joint Strategy Aims

The aims of the Joint Strategy are:

- A1. to promote and implement sustainable municipal resources and wastes management policies in East London as part of our contribution to transitioning to a more Circular Economy;**
- A2. to minimise the overall environmental impacts of resources and wastes management;**
- A3. to engage residents, community groups, local business and any other interested parties in the development and implementation of the above resources and wastes management policies; and**
- A4. to provide customer-focused, cost-effective, best value services.**

Joint Strategy Objectives

The objectives of the Joint Strategy are:

- O1. to minimise the amount of municipal wastes arising;**
- O2. to maximise reuse, recycling and composting rates;**
- O3. to maximise the diversion of resources and wastes from landfill, particularly organic materials that would produce greenhouse gases;**
- O4. to co-ordinate and continuously improve municipal wastes minimisation and management policies in East London;**
- O5. to manage municipal wastes in the most environmentally benign and economically efficient ways possible, including reducing greenhouse gas emissions, through the provision and co-ordination of appropriate resources and wastes management facilities and services;**
- O6. to ensure that services and information are fully accessible to all members of the community;**
- O7. to maximise all opportunities for local regeneration and increased social value benefits from waste and resource management, including employment, skills and wellbeing; and**
- O8. to ensure an equitable distribution of costs, so that those who produce or manage the waste pay for it.**

Who is affected by the Joint Strategy?

The Joint Strategy will affect all residents within the Partner Authorities' area, any businesses that use the waste and recycling services of the Partner Authorities and any staff involved in the delivery of services.

Consultation

A fully compliant consultation will be undertaken in Summer/Autumn 2021. Equalities impacts and monitoring are included in the consultation as shown within this document. Following the consultation feedback received will be included within a consultation report.

The Partner Authorities have considered equalities for the development of the draft Joint Strategy and delivery of the consultation in a number of ways including:

- Provision of paper copies of the draft Joint Strategy and consultation for those without access to the internet. Paper copies will be available from local libraries or on request from East London Waste Authority (contact details provided)
- A general drop-in session will be provided for Q&A on the Draft Strategy and to provide support with the consultation survey. The drop-in session is likely to be virtual due to ongoing Covid restrictions and concerns
- A focus group which will be designed to be representative of the diverse communities in East London and will take into consideration protected characteristics will be run on the draft Joint Strategy to gather views and answer questions
- Individuals requiring a different form of support in order to participate in the consultation will be encouraged to email / telephone or write to East London Waste Authority

Identification of equalities issues and impacts

Analysis of impacts

The priorities that will form the basis for how the Partner Authorities will manage waste in the future, along with the initial consideration of equalities impacts are set out within the following tables below. The priorities align with the aims and objectives for the draft Joint Strategy.

Each table represents a different theme:

- The Partner Authorities' waste prevention priorities
- The Partner Authorities' reuse and repair priorities
- The Partner Authorities' recycling priorities
- The Partner Authorities' infrastructure priorities

Table 1: The Partner Authorities' waste prevention priorities

Waste Prevention Priority	Equalities Impact
Continue to work with residents and businesses to reduce waste growth and contribute to the London wide aspiration of becoming a 'zero waste city'	It is anticipated that this activity would result in a positive impact for all in supporting awareness of waste and environmental issues and specifically in helping to reduce waste
Support the London wide target of reducing food waste by 50% by 2030 and will work with the Greater London Authority, ReLondon and other authorities to do this	It is anticipated that this activity would result in a positive impact for all in supporting awareness of waste and environmental issues and specifically in helping to reduce food waste
Work to raise awareness of the individual, community and environmental benefits of reducing waste	It is anticipated that this activity would result in a positive impact for all residents and especially residents with lower incomes
Develop waste prevention plans, Reduction and Recycling Plans, or other appropriate tools that outline the actions that will be taken to provide communications, engagement and access to services that help residents reduce waste and save money	It is anticipated that this activity would result in a positive impact for all residents and especially residents with lower incomes
Support national and regional campaigns on waste prevention, and develop local campaigns to support projects and services	It is anticipated that this activity would result in a positive impact for all in supporting awareness of waste and environmental issues and specifically in helping to reduce waste
Develop partnership arrangements with community organisations, housing associations local authorities, and other key stakeholders to enhance work on waste prevention	It is anticipated that this activity would result in a positive impact for all in supporting awareness of waste and environmental issues and specifically in helping to reduce waste and strengthen community ties
Work with the Government, other local authorities and key stakeholders to promote higher standards of product design and manufacture, to prolong product lifecycles and reduce avoidable waste	It is anticipated that this activity would result in a positive impact for all in supporting awareness of waste and environmental issues and specifically in helping to reduce waste by keeping products in circulation for longer

Table 2: The Partner Authorities' reuse and repair priorities

Reuse and Repair Priority	Equalities Impact
Work to increase the amount of products that are kept in local circulation through reuse and repair services	It is anticipated that this activity would result in a positive impact for all in supporting awareness of waste and environmental issues and specifically in helping to reduce waste by keeping goods in circulation for longer
Seek to normalise reuse within our communities as a means of disposing of unwanted items	It is anticipated that this activity would result in a positive impact for all in supporting awareness of waste and environmental issues and specifically in helping to reduce waste by encouraging reuse
Seek to promote the purchase of reused, refurbished and repaired products as a beneficial alternative to buying new	It is anticipated that this activity would result in a positive impact for all in supporting awareness of waste and environmental issues and specifically in helping to reduce waste by encouraging reuse
Seek to advance local green economy job and training opportunities through supporting the development of reuse and repair services	It is anticipated that this activity would result in a positive impact for all in supporting awareness of waste and environmental issues and specifically in helping to reduce waste by encouraging reuse, and support local jobs and training
Explore options for providing or supporting existing and new reuse collection services from homes and businesses	It is anticipated that this activity would result in a positive impact for all in supporting awareness of waste and environmental issues and specifically in helping to reduce waste by encouraging reuse
Investigate opportunities for increasing reuse provision at the Reuse and Recycling Centres, including on-site retail outlets where viable	It is anticipated that this activity would result in a positive impact for all in supporting awareness of waste and environmental issues and specifically in helping to reduce waste by encouraging reuse
Work with reuse organisations to develop / expand existing valued partnerships, strengthen local offerings, and support increases in scope and capacity to enhance the services available to residents	It is anticipated that this activity would result in a positive impact for all in supporting awareness of waste and environmental issues and specifically in helping to reduce waste and strengthen community ties
Raise awareness of repair options available within the Partner Authorities' area	It is anticipated that this activity would result in a positive impact for all in supporting awareness of waste and environmental issues and specifically in helping to reduce waste and encourage reuse and repair
Participate in national, regional and sub-regional campaigns promoting reuse and repair, and undertake local promotion of the benefits and range of available services	It is anticipated that this activity would result in a positive impact for all in supporting awareness of waste and environmental issues and specifically in helping to reduce waste and promote local services

Reuse and Repair Priority	Equalities Impact
Work with the Government, other local authorities and key stakeholders to promote higher standards of product design and manufacture, to enhance opportunities for cost-effective reuse	It is anticipated that this activity would result in a positive impact for all in supporting awareness of waste and environmental issues and specifically in helping to reduce waste by keeping goods in circulation for longer

Table 3: The Partner Authorities' recycling priorities

Recycling Priority	Equalities Impact
We aspire to reach 50% recycling, and will work with local communities in this regard	It is anticipated that this activity would result in a positive impact for all in supporting awareness of waste and environmental issues and specifically in helping to increase reuse, recycling and composting
We aim to achieve a minimum joint reuse, recycling and composting performance of 35% of LACW (Local Authority Collected Waste) by 2030	It is anticipated that this activity would result in a positive impact for all in supporting awareness of waste and environmental issues and specifically in helping to increase reuse, recycling and composting
We will work together to offer the Mayor's minimum level of household recycling service provision, providing residents with straightforward and easy-to-use recycling collection services	Improvement in service offering positive benefits for residents and the environment. No specific equalities issues. An EqIA would be conducted (where required) by the relevant Partner Authority prior to service change to understand any potential local impacts
We will improve the quality of recycling collected and reduce contamination	It is anticipated that this activity would result in a positive impact for all in supporting awareness of waste and environmental issues and specifically in helping to increase quality recycling and decrease contamination
We will improve recycling performance in houses and blocks of flats	It is anticipated that this activity would result in a positive impact for all in supporting awareness of waste and environmental issues and specifically in helping to increase reuse, recycling and composting
We will work alongside new policy commitments including Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) and the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) regime for household packaging to maximise opportunities for increasing recycling	It is anticipated that this activity would result in a positive impact for all in supporting awareness of waste and environmental issues and specifically in helping to increase reuse, recycling and composting
Introduce separate food waste collections for street level properties and blocks of flats, in line with anticipated regulations and Government guidance	Improvement in service offering positive benefits for residents and the environment. No specific equalities issues. An EqIA would be conducted (where required) by the relevant Partner Authority prior to service change to understand any potential local impacts
Expand household collection services to allow residents to recycle a wider range of packaging and containers where relevant markets exist	Improvement in service offering positive benefits for residents and the environment. No specific equalities issues. An EqIA would be conducted

Recycling Priority	Equalities Impact
	(where required) by the relevant Partner Authority prior to service change to understand any potential local impacts
Continue to investigate opportunities to recycle even more materials, through collection services, public recycling facilities and the Reuse and Recycling Centres	It is anticipated that this activity would result in a positive impact for all in supporting awareness of waste and environmental issues and specifically in helping to increase reuse, recycling and composting
Work with In-house commercial waste services and private waste companies to ensure that businesses in East London are able to access cost-effective recycling services	It is anticipated that this activity would result in a positive impact for all in supporting awareness of waste and environmental issues and specifically in helping to increase reuse, recycling and composting
Work with our residents and businesses to increase awareness of recycling	It is anticipated that this activity would result in a positive impact for all in supporting awareness of waste and environmental issues and specifically in helping to increase reuse, recycling and composting
Provide feedback to residents and businesses on contamination, and highlight the need for material quality	It is anticipated that this activity would result in a positive impact for all in supporting awareness of waste and environmental issues and specifically in helping to increase reuse, recycling and composting
Identify opportunities to use the ReLondon 'Making Recycling Work for People in Flats' toolkit or other suitable approaches to improve recycling performance in blocks of flats	It is anticipated that this activity would result in a positive impact for all those living in blocks of flats in supporting awareness of waste and environmental issues and specifically in helping to increase reuse, recycling and composting
Work with the Government, other local authorities, producers and key stakeholders to develop better approaches to the planning and design of new developments to ensure residents are able to recycle easily	It is anticipated that this activity would result in a positive impact for all in supporting awareness of waste and environmental issues and making it easy to recycle
Work together to identify opportunities to extract more recyclable material from bulky waste, street cleansing waste and fly tipped materials	It is anticipated that this activity would result in a positive impact for all in supporting awareness of waste and environmental issues and specifically in helping to increase reuse, recycling and composting
Explore opportunities to increase recycling through recovery of materials from other waste streams	It is anticipated that this activity would result in a positive impact for all in supporting awareness of waste and environmental issues and specifically in helping to increase reuse, recycling and composting
Support London Recycles messaging and campaigning to ensure that a consistent reduce, reuse, recycle message is delivered across London	It is anticipated that this activity would result in a positive impact for all in supporting awareness of waste and environmental issues and specifically in helping to increase reuse, recycling and composting

Recycling Priority	Equalities Impact
Work with the Government, other local authorities, producers and key stakeholders to promote standards of product design that enhance opportunities for cost-effective recycling	It is anticipated that this activity would result in a positive impact for all in supporting awareness of waste and environmental issues and specifically in helping to increase opportunities for cost-effective recycling

Table 4: The Partner Authorities' infrastructure priorities

Infrastructure Priority	Equalities Impact
We will contribute to national and regional targets on reducing waste sent to landfill	It is anticipated that this activity would result in a positive impact for all in supporting awareness of waste and environmental issues and specifically in helping to reduce waste
We will secure access to waste treatment capacity in ways that support the Partner Authorities' priorities around reuse, repair and recycling	It is anticipated that this activity would result in a positive impact for all in supporting awareness of waste and environmental issues and specifically in helping to increase reuse, repair, recycling and composting
We will establish resilient, responsive and flexible arrangements for future waste treatment, so that the Partner Authorities can continue to improve local services while remaining responsive to changes in global material markets and international policy	Improvement in service offering positive benefits for residents and the environment. No specific equalities issues. An EqIA would be conducted (where required) by the relevant Partner Authority prior to service change to understand any potential local impacts
We will seek to procure waste treatment services that provide local economic, environmental and social benefits	Improvement in service offering positive benefits for residents and the environment. No specific equalities issues. An EqIA would be conducted (where required) by the relevant Partner Authority prior to service change to understand any potential local impacts
We aim to support the Mayor's target of managing the equivalent of 100% of London's waste within the capital	Improvement in service offering positive benefits for residents and the environment. No specific equalities issues. An EqIA would be conducted (where required) by the relevant Partner Authority prior to service change to understand any potential local impacts
Maximise the use of, and value from, ELWA's existing waste treatment contract	Improvement in service offering positive benefits for residents and the environment. No specific equalities issues. An EqIA would be conducted (where required) by the relevant Partner Authority prior to service change to understand any potential local impacts
Develop a procurement plan for future waste treatment capacity, to support the aims and objectives of this Joint Strategy. A Strategic Environmental Assessment screening will form part of the procurement plan process	Improvement in service offering positive benefits for residents and the environment. No specific equalities issues. An EqIA would be conducted (where required) by the relevant Partner Authority prior to service change to understand any potential local impacts

Infrastructure Priority	Equalities Impact
Ensure effective and responsible future commissioning, considering issues such as flexibility, resilience, value for money, service quality, social value, and environmental impacts including greenhouse gas emissions	Improvement in service offering positive benefits for residents and the environment. No specific equalities issues. An EqIA would be conducted (where required) by the relevant Partner Authority prior to service change to understand any potential local impacts
Ensure that any future contracts commissioned will not impede the Partner Authorities' ability to improve recycling in line with aspirations to reach 50%	Improvement in service offering positive benefits for residents and the environment. No specific equalities issues. An EqIA would be conducted (where required) by the relevant Partner Authority prior to service change to understand any potential local impacts
Investigate options for supporting the development of appropriate new local infrastructure for reuse, repair and remanufacture, which provide opportunities for local regeneration	Improvement in service offering positive benefits for residents and the environment. No specific equalities issues. An EqIA would be conducted (where required) by the relevant Partner Authority prior to service change to understand any potential local impacts
Work with the Greater London Authority to deliver future infrastructure and waste treatment capacity solutions that align with the policies set out in the London Environment Strategy, and ensure compliance with the Mayor of London's Carbon Intensity Floor requirements ¹ for any technology solutions considered that may include energy recovery (note: technologies will be considered as part of a procurement plan)	Improvement in service offering positive benefits for residents and the environment. No specific equalities issues. An EqIA would be conducted (where required) by the relevant Partner Authority prior to service change to understand any potential local impacts
Work with the Government, other local authorities and key stakeholders to encourage the development of local materials reprocessing capacity	It is anticipated that this activity would result in a positive impact for all in supporting awareness of waste and environmental issues and specifically in helping to increase reuse, recycling and composting

¹ [London Environment Strategy - Policy 7.3.2.b](#)

Impact review

Protected Characteristic	Negative Impact	Positive Impact	No Impact	Unsure of Impact	Comments
Age			X		It is not anticipated that there would be a likelihood of people being proportionately more or less impacted as a result of their age
Disability			X		It is not anticipated that there would be a likelihood of people being proportionately more or less impacted as a result of their disability
Gender reassignment			X		It is not anticipated that there would be a likelihood of people being proportionately more or less impacted as a result of their gender identity
Marriage and civil partnership			X		It is not anticipated that there would be a likelihood of people being proportionately more or less impacted as a result of their marriage or civil partnership
Pregnancy and maternity			X		It is not anticipated that there would be a likelihood of people being proportionately more or less impacted as a result of their pregnancy or maternity
Race			X		It is not anticipated that there would be a likelihood of people being proportionately more or less impacted as a result of their race
Religion or belief			X		It is not anticipated that there would be a likelihood of people being proportionately more or less impacted as a result of their religion or belief
Sex			X		It is not anticipated that there would be a likelihood of people being proportionately more or less impacted as a result of their sex
Sexual orientation			X		It is not anticipated that there would be a likelihood of people being proportionately more or less impacted as a result of their sexual orientation

What are the arrangements for monitoring / reviewing the actual impact of the Joint Strategy?

The Joint Strategy is due to commence in 2027. Governance arrangements for Joint Strategy monitoring and review are yet to be determined, but it is expected that monitoring of the actual impact of the Joint Strategy will take place formally on an annual basis.