

SERVICE UPDATE

<u>Name of Function:</u>	Operations, Waste & Recycling Service
<u>Date:</u>	16/01/2024
<u>Title of Update:</u>	Update on waste performance numbers
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Purpose:

The Waste and Recycling Service has been asked to provide more detailed waste data in the regular performance report to committee. This service update provides Members with more detail about the performance figures in the January performance report, specifically how much of the waste diverted from landfill is recycled and how much is incinerated. It is intended that the future performance reports will include this level of detail, provided it meets Members expectations.

1.0 Background

The performance report for the Waste and Recycling Service includes the following performance indicators:

% Waste diverted from landfill; target 85%

% Household waste recycled/composted; target 50%

The information provided in the report is for a rolling 12 month period. The reason for this is that waste tonnages are seasonal and a 12 month snapshot evens out the variability and makes it easier to see genuine trends.

The information in the January report covers the period Oct 2022 to Sept 2023.

2.0 Performance

Table 1. Waste performance Oct 2022 – Sept 2023

Description	Tonnage (T)	Percentage	Target
Recycled	35126	42.06%	50%
EfW	28133	33.69%	
Total Waste diverted from landfill (= Recycled + EfW)	63259	75.75%	85%
Landfilled	20249	24.25%	
Total household waste	83508	100%	

Please note that the percentages in the table above differ slightly from those in the main performance report. This is because the numbers have been amended since they were submitted. It is normal for there to be some amendments as the numbers are complex and constantly being reviewed and improved. In addition, there are periodic and year end reconciliations, which can later the numbers.

3. Factors affecting performance

A number of factors that limited ACC's recycling performance during the reporting period:

- The coronavirus pandemic changed consumer behaviour, which had a knock-on impact and continuing impact on waste tonnages and content.
- The devastating fire in 2022, which resulted in the destruction of ACC's Material Recovery Facility. We continue to operate contingency tipping and treatment arrangements for the city's recyclables, which limit the opportunities to maximise recycling.
- Some recycling collections were dropped during the 2022 festive period due to the unavailability of our recycling contingency outlets.
- At the same time, the delay to the NESS Energy from Waste (EfW) plant, meant that non-recyclable waste had to be tipped at Sclattie transfer station. With limited space at Sclattie, this had the knock impact of reducing our ability to separate other wastes (e.g. bulky waste) for reuse or recycling.
- The reporting period covers the tail end of the impact of the strikes in 2022, which had a knock-on negative impact on recycling.

The recycling rate is rising again but progress will continue to be limited until the new MRF is built.

During the reporting period, the diversion rate was impacted by the above but also the late delivery of the NESS EfW. The NESS contract started before the plant was ready and the contingency disposal was to landfill. The plant is now operational and it is anticipated that the target will be achieved.