The Circular Economy and the Future of Waste Management: Delivering Innovative and Effective Strategies in Every Local Area

A Public Policy Exchange Symposium

Tuesday 8th May 2018
10:15am – 4:30pm

Park Plaza Westminster Bridge Hotel

Public Policy Exchange holds regular interactive seminars which provide an invaluable interface for policy discussion, debate and networking. These special events offer local practitioners, civil servants and other stakeholders not only an insight into current policy thinking, but also the opportunity to feed into future development across all areas of public policy.
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Overview

Waste management is a ubiquitous and essential service nationwide, constituting a significant proportion of local government expenditure. Since the turn of the century, councils in England have more than doubled their spending on waste and recycling, with £3.6bn budgeted to pay for waste collection in 2017/18 (DCCLG, 2017). In 2016, local authorities collected 3.7 million tonnes of waste, enough to fill more than 1500 Olympic sized swimming pools (London Assembly, 2017). However, the percentage of this waste consigned to landfill has decreased to 19.6% from 79% in 2015/16 (DEFRA, 2017).

In December 2015, the European Commission published the Circular Economy Package, introducing common EU targets for recycling municipal and packaging waste, and turning waste into valuable resources. In response, local authorities have sought to transform services, with the LGA’s Waste and Recycling Programme subsequently funding replicable projects delivering efficiencies in waste collection and use. According to latest figures, the 12 month waste from households recycling rate to end March 2017 was 45.1 per cent. This is an increase of 0.7 percentage points compared with the previous 12 month period to March 2016 (DEFRA, 2017). HM Government used the Litter Strategy for England (April 2017) to outline ambitions to increase the efficiency and productivity of resource use move towards a circular economy, whilst the 2017 Spring budget announced a consultation on extending the scope of landfill tax. The London Assembly has also published a Circular Economy Report (Sept, 2017), acknowledging increased pressure on waste infrastructure and considering methods of action higher up the waste hierarchy.

However significant progress is required to meaningfully address waste prevention, and extract greater value from waste material. Total collected waste by local authorities has remained stubbornly consistent over recent years, standing at 25,816,000 tonnes in 2014/15 (DEFRA, 2017). Furthermore, the UK has failed to develop large scale Energy-From-Waste (EFW) infrastructure, exporting 3 million tonnes of non-recyclable waste to Europe in 2016. Indeed, a recent analysis of UK waste management identified a serious deficit of domestic EFW capacity, resulting in a shortfall of 14m tonnes of waste requiring treatment (Suez, 2017).

With Britain’s impending exit from the European Union, this symposium will provide: local authorities, environment policy advisors, sustainability leads, private contractors, third sector groups and environmental planning officers, with a timely and invaluable opportunity to identify priorities for future UK waste policy and discuss feasible strategies to support circular economy objectives. It will also enable all stakeholders to share best practice in improving resource efficiency, maximising recycling and minimising waste.

**The way we create, handle and dispose of waste must change. An alternative model would require us to address the lifecycle of waste, not just at the point of disposal, but at the start with the design of products. The concept of a circular economy gives us this alternative model and an opportunity to move away from our traditional linear approach.**

- Environment Committee, London Assembly, 2017

Why Attend?

- Identify priorities supporting a transition towards a circular economy model in the way we create, handle and dispose of waste
- Explore procurement strategies that develop the market for circular goods and services
- Formulate strategies for minimising waste through concerted action higher up the waste hierarchy
- Determine how councils can develop infrastructure to extract greater value from waste
- Examine challenges posed by the UK’s withdrawal from the European Union, and how these can be overcome
- Assess how to improve efficiency and utilise waste management techniques to reduce costs and generate income
- Analyse innovative projects driving technical, organisational and behavioural change
- Learn of successful and replicable partnership approaches supporting waste management ambitions
- Develop methods of improving the customer experience and enhancing service quality
- Share best practice in changing behaviours through community engagement, educational interventions, or new equipment

Who Should Attend?

- Local Authorities
- Local Housing Authorities
- Waste Partnership Sector Professionals
- Waste Collection Organisations
- Waste Companies
- Waste Contractors
- Waste Services Professionals
- Waste Managers Associations
- Reuse Organisations
- Reuse Groups
- Reuse Partners
- Recycle Organisations
- Retail Consortiums
- Household Waste and Recycling Centres
- Furniture Reuse Sector Professionals
- Furniture Restoration and Domestic Appliance Repairs Organisations
- Environmental Sector Professionals
- Online Re-use Networks
- Community Recycling Professionals
- Relevant Trade Associations
- Universities
- Scrapstores
- Central Government

Accommodation

Through our partnership with HotelMap, we are able to offer our delegates heavily discounted hotel rates at a wide range of London hotels. To view hotel availability and rates and to book online, visit www.HotelMap.com/MSNUZ/
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Programme

09:30  Registration and Morning Refreshments
10:15  Chair’s Welcome and Introduction
10:30  Morning Panel: Closing the Loop: Transitioning towards a Circular-Economy Model
      • Shifting from a Linear Approach: Assessing the economic, social and environmental benefits
      • Addressing the Lifecycle of Waste: Driving transformation in production and design
      • Creating a Domestic Framework: Analysing the potential impact of Brexit
      • Developing the Market for Circular Goods and Services: Exploring the role for procurement strategies
      • Increasing Public Awareness of the Circular Economy: Realising technical, organisational and behavioural change
11:15  Morning Refreshments
11:30  Open Floor Discussion and Debate with Panel One
12:30  Networking Lunch
      • Developing Local Infrastructure: Extracting greater value from waste
      • Increasing Efficiency and the Effectiveness of Services: Reducing collection costs and maximising compliance
      • Enhancing Service Quality: Improving the customer experience at the kerbside
      • The Role for Technology: Boosting innovation to increase recycling and reuse
      • Sharing Best Practice: Changing behaviours through community engagement, educational interventions or new equipment
14:15  Afternoon Refreshments
14:30  Open Floor Discussion and Debate with Panel Two
15:30  Chair’s Summary and Closing Comments
15:40  Networking Reception
16:30  Close

* Please note that the programme is subject to change without notice *

Event Details

Date: Tuesday 8th May 2018
Time: 10:15am – 4:30pm
Venue: Park Plaza Westminster Bridge

Forthcoming Events

Transforming Early Years Provision: Developing High Quality Settings to Enhance Life Chances
1st May 2018

The Future of Local Government and Public Sector Communications: Driving Innovation, Public Engagement and Efficiency
2nd May 2018

Enriching the UK’s Biodiversity: Preventing Wildlife Degradation and Assessing Future Policy for Ecological Conservation
3rd May 2018

Reforming Public Sector Commissioning after Brexit: Enhancing Innovation and Driving Efficiency
9th May 2018

Reinforcing Cyber Security: Building Security, Confidence and Capability in the Cyber Domain
10th May 2018

Better Skills, Better Careers: The Future of Apprenticeships in England
15th May 2018

Increasing Diversity and Equality in Policing: Reflecting and Representing the Community You Serve
16th May 2018

Protecting Wildlife on Local Highways: Safeguarding Wildlife Habitats alongside the Strategic Road Network
17th May 2018

Strengthening the Suicide Prevention Strategy: Building Partnerships and Supporting Localised and Tailored Prevention Programmes
22nd May 2018

The Future of Gambling in the UK: Promoting Social Responsibility, Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups and Responding to Emerging Challenges
23rd May 2018

Positive for Youth, Positive for Society: The Future of Youth Services
24th May 2018

Marketing and Exhibition Opportunities

We offer a range of opportunities to enable your organisation to raise its profile and communicate with key decision makers in the public sector.

For further information please contact us on 020 3137 8630 or email info@publicpolicyexchange.co.uk

Enquiries: 020 3137 8630  www.publicpolicyexchange.co.uk

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