



environmental
services
association



NET ZERO POLICY SCORECARD

RECYCLING AND WASTE SECTOR

POLICY	COMMITMENT	DETAILS	DELIVERY
Promote waste prevention and reuse	Green	Orange	Orange
Separate collections for key waste streams	Green	Yellow	Orange
Deliver wider Resources and Waste strategy reforms	Green	Yellow	Orange
Implement a comprehensive organics to landfill ban	Green	Yellow	Orange
Support increase in Landfill Gas Capture rates	Green	Orange	Orange
Facilitate initial deployment of CCS at EfW facilities	Green	Yellow	Orange
Develop heat networks from EfW where feasible	Green	Yellow	Yellow
Support investment in and delivery of a net-zero fleet	Green	Yellow	Yellow
Support industrial use of zero-emission fuels	Green	Yellow	Yellow

HOW CAN UK GOVERNMENT SUPPORT CIRCULAR ECONOMY INVESTMENT?

1. **Urgently deliver consistent kerbside collections for homes and businesses alongside clear binary recycling labelling.**
2. **Introduce stronger measures to support demand for recycled materials, including a long-term escalator on the plastic packaging tax.**
3. **Ensure critical safeguards are in place to prevent landfilling or export of waste prior to EfW introduction to the Emissions Trading Scheme in 2028.**
4. Deliver a comprehensive biodegradable waste to landfill ban by 2028, as well as clear supporting measures for collection of organic waste.
5. Urgent delivery of collections and packaging reforms.
6. Provide support for landfill gas capture following the Renewable Obligation.
7. Continue to deliver essential secondary legislation to enable the deployment of Heat Networks and Carbon Capture from Energy from Waste facilities.
8. Work with industry and Local Government to develop a Decarbonisation Plan for Waste Vehicles.

ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES ASSOCIATION (ESA)

The ESA is the voice of the private sector recycling and waste management sector in the United Kingdom. Our members have a combined annual turnover of more than £8bn and employ over 40,000 people – more than a third of the entire sector. Our members collect, handle and process tens of millions of tonnes of recyclable and waste material

each year and serve millions of households every day.

Our industry has the ambition to invest a further **£10 billion** in circular economy infrastructure over the next decade but we need sufficient **clarity and consistency** in policy, and **urgent delivery** on key reforms across Government.

With a clear and supportive policy outlook, we will not only decarbonise our own sector by 2040, but also play a significant role in meeting the UK's 2050 net-zero target while delivering greater resource efficiency across the UK economy.

If you would like to find out more about the Environmental Services Association, please visit www.esauk.org

To speak to the ESA about this scorecard, or to find out more about our sectoral net-zero strategy, please contact the ESA's Climate and Energy Advisor, Charlotte Rule at c-rule@esauk.org

A full copy of the report behind this scorecard is available via the QR code



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THE POLICY SCORECARD EXPLAINED

STATUS	COMMITMENT	DETAILS	DELIVERY
	A clear commitment has been announced by Government that is included within Primary Legislation.	Policy has been developed and is included within secondary legislation.	Industry has been able to invest in key infrastructure at the scale required as a result of supportive and clear regulations.
	A clear commitment has been announced by Government, but it is not yet in Primary Legislation.	Policy is under development. Either in the Call for Evidence or Consultation Phase. It is not yet included within secondary legislation.	Some operators within the sector have been able to invest, but regulatory uncertainty prevents widespread investment.
	No commitment has been made.	No detail or consultation on the detail has been released.	The sector has been unable to invest due to a lack of policy clarity and certainty.

In 2021, the ESA released its *Net Zero Strategy* which outlines how the sector can reach Net Zero Emissions by 2040. The policies examined in this scorecard are the key regulatory drivers to achieve this.

This “scorecard” provides a visualisation of where regulatory progress has been made and where uncertainty remains.

This scorecard is accompanied by a full report detailing the relevant policy and legislation. This is available to download from www.esauk.org