

**To:** Council  
**Date:** 27 January 2025  
**Report of:** Head of Corporate Strategy  
**Title of Report:** The Oxfordshire Resources and Waste Partnership

Summary and recommendations	
<b>Purpose of report:</b>	To note the annual update on the Oxfordshire Resources and Waste Partnership, 2023 to 2024
<b>Key decision:</b>	No
<b>Cabinet Member:</b>	Councillor Nigel Chapman, Cabinet Member for Citizen Focused Services and Council Companies
<b>Corporate Priority:</b>	Thriving Communities, Zero carbon Oxford, Well-run Council
<b>Policy Framework:</b>	None

<b>Recommendation(s):</b> That Cabinet resolves to:
1. <b>NOTE</b> the annual report on the work of the Oxfordshire Resources and Waste Partnership, 2023 to 2024

Appendices	
Appendix One	Oxfordshire Resources and Waste Partnership Report, 2023 to 2024
Appendix Two	Oxford City Council waste performance, 2023 to 2024

## Introduction and background

1. This paper and two supporting appendices provide an update on the Oxfordshire Resources and Waste Partnership (ORWP), which was established in 2019, and which Oxford City Council is a member of, along with the other countywide waste collection and disposal authorities.
2. The ORWP receives £10k funding per annum from each of the City and Districts, with further contribution of £50k from Oxfordshire County Council.
3. [The Oxfordshire Resources and Waste Strategy](#) was developed across all Oxfordshire authorities. It ran from 2018 to 2023, and has been extended to 2025 and focuses on local authority recycling and waste services.

4. The strategy was extended following delays in the new national recycling and waste framework being developed by DEFRA (see paras 9 and 10 below)
5. The Strategy sets out an ambitious objective of reaching the following targets:
  - a. Recycle or compost at least **65%** of household waste by 31 March 2025.
  - b. Recycle or compost at least **70%** of household waste by 31 March 2030.
6. Waste and recycling are an important part of Oxford City Council's response to the Climate Emergency, in close alignment with our neighbouring councils. Waste and recycling issues are central to the circular economy.

### **ORWP Annual Report**

7. An annual report on the work of the ORWP has been prepared by the Resources and Waste Partnership Manager (Appendix One). The ORWP Partnership Manager is a role jointly funded by all the ORWP Partners.
8. Over the past few years Oxford City Council and the other Oxfordshire councils have been working collaboratively through the ORWP to help influence - and prepare responses to - the significant changes in the national regime for waste and recycling that are being prepared by DEFRA. These are expected to be far-reaching and lead to significant changes in both the funding streams and systems for recycling and waste collection and disposal.

Following announcements from DEFRA late in 2024, Oxford City Council are beginning to gain a clearer understanding of the proposed changes in relation to Simpler Recycling as outlined in the Environment Act 2021. However further clarity is still required from DEFRA of all the proposed policies and implications.

### **Oxford City Council waste performance 2023 to 2024**

9. A briefing paper (Appendix Two) describes the performance and various initiatives being delivered by Oxford City Council and its partners. Key headings include:
  - a. Performance
  - b. ORWP Engagement
  - c. Education and communication
  - d. Key Projects and Initiatives
  - e. Operational Updates.

### **Financial implications**

10. There are no financial implications for Oxford City Council arising from this report.

### **Legal issues**

11. There are no legal implications for Oxford City Council arising from this report. The ORWP is governed by a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and a Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS) called the "Oxfordshire Resources and Waste Strategy 2018-2023".

**Level of risk**

12. There are no risk implications for Oxford City Council arising from this report.

**Equalities impact**

13. There are no equality implications for Oxford City Council arising from this report.

**Carbon and Environmental Considerations**

14. There are no carbon and environmental implications for Oxford City Council arising from this report.

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<b>Background Papers:</b> None
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