



Be kind



Byddwch yn garedig

COWBRIDGE (ANCIENT BOROUGH)
with LLANBLETHIAN TOWN COUNCIL
CYNGOR TREF Y BONT FAEN
(Bwrdeistref Hynafol)
gyda LLANFLEIDDAN

REPORT ON NEW WELSH LEGISLATION FOR RECYCLING

COWBRIDGE WITH LLANBLETHIAN TOWN COUNCIL

To: The Full Council

From: Town Clerk, Cathy Kennedy

Date: 20th February 2024

Reason for Report

This report provides an overview of the new Welsh legislation on recycling, which is set to be implemented from the 1st April 2024. The purpose of this legislation is to enhance recycling efforts, reduce environmental impact, and promote sustainable waste management practices in our community.

Background:

The Welsh government has introduced comprehensive legislation to address the growing concerns regarding waste management and environmental sustainability. The new regulations emphasise a shift towards a circular economy, where resources are kept in use for as long as possible, and the maximum value is extracted from them.

Key Provisions of the Legislation:

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR): The legislation introduces an extended producer responsibility framework, making manufacturers and producers responsible for the entire lifecycle of their products. This includes the collection, recycling, and disposal of their products at the end of their life.

Waste Separation and Recycling Targets: Households and businesses will be required to separate waste into specific categories, such as paper, glass, plastic, and organic waste. The legislation sets ambitious recycling targets to increase the overall recycling rate in the town.

Single-Use Plastics Ban: A ban on certain single-use plastics will be implemented to reduce plastic pollution. Businesses are encouraged to adopt alternative, environmentally friendly packaging solutions.

Deposit Return Scheme (DRS): To promote recycling of beverage containers, a deposit return scheme will be established. Consumers will receive a refund for returning empty containers to designated collection points.

Responsibilities: The town council will play a crucial role in ensuring effective implementation. This includes providing clear guidelines to employees, councillors, residents and local businesses by organising awareness campaigns and training.

Financial Implications:

Infrastructure Investment: The town council may need to invest in additional recycling facilities in the Town Hall, Twt Park, the Limes Cemetery, Southgate Park and Llanblethian playing Fields.

Awareness and Education: Comprehensive awareness training should be initiated to inform employees, councillors, residents and local businesses about the changes, the importance of recycling, and how to comply with the new regulations.

Monitoring and Reporting: Implement a monitoring system to track the town's progress in meeting recycling targets. Regular updates should be included as part of the town councils annual report.

Conclusion:

The new Welsh legislation on recycling presents both challenges and opportunities for the town. While it requires significant adjustments, it also provides a chance to enhance the town council's commitment to environmental sustainability. The town council's proactive approach in implementing and supporting these measures will contribute to a cleaner and more sustainable community.

Recommendations:

1. Appoint a recycling Champion and a initiate a working group to oversee the town council's responsibilities.
2. Research alternative waste collectors with a more flexible approach to waste and recycling collection.
3. Evaluate the town council's existing infrastructure for waste collection and disposal.