

Environment and Climate Scrutiny

14 March 2023

Waste & Recycling Performance

www.enfield.gov.uk

Striving for excellence



Overview

- Where we want to get to
- Why we need to get there
- Where we are now
- How we plan to get there
- Next steps

Where we want to get to

Ambition

- Our target is 49%
- Mayor target is 65% by 2030

Cost neutrality options

- Every tonne of refuse costs c.£85-95* more than recycling
- Every 1% of refuse diverted to recycling saves money - £85-95k per year*
- Potential Government funding – New Burdens

* Depends on fluctuating market waste and recycling costs – disposal cost only and doesn't include operational costs

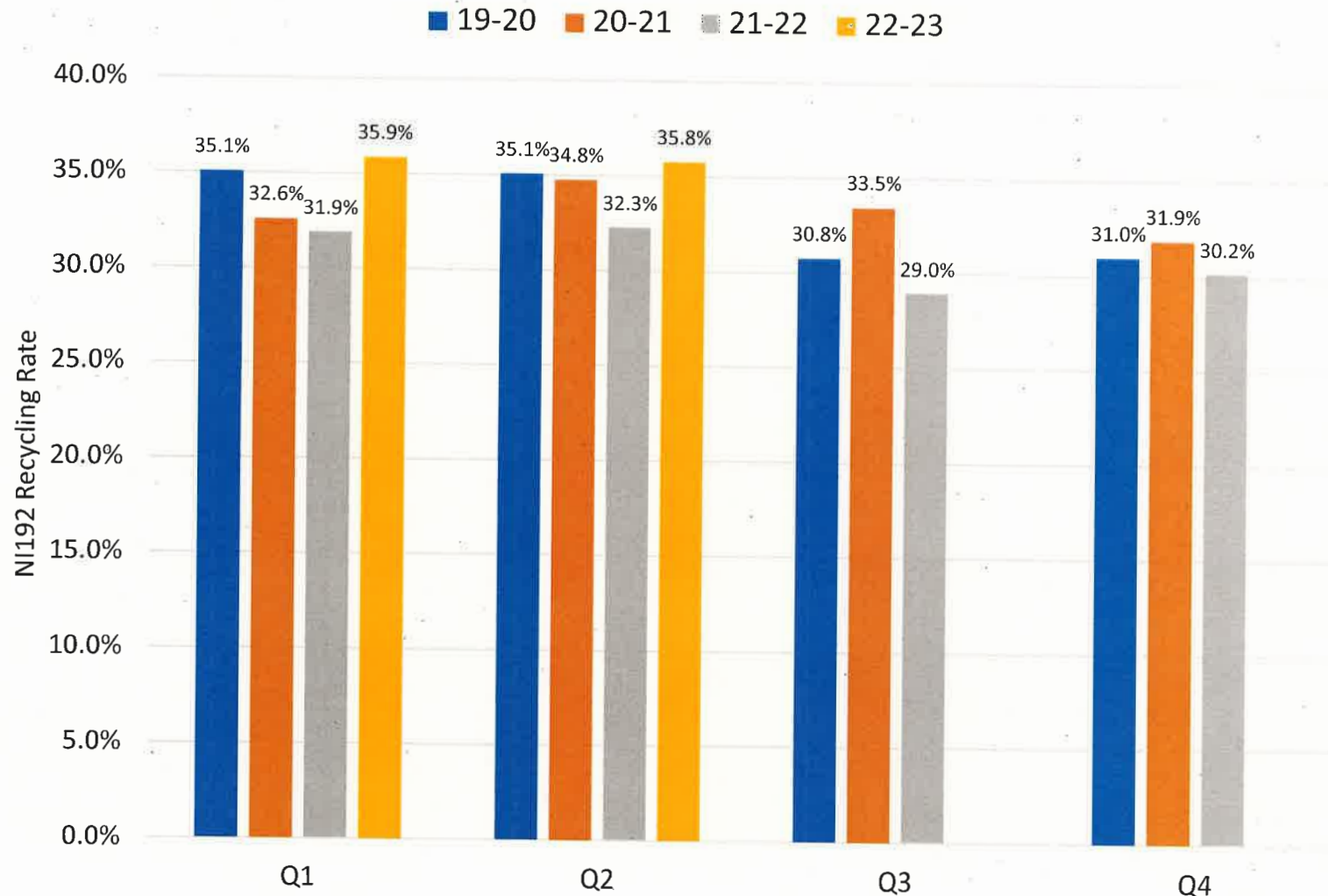
Why we need to get there

- Environment Act / Resources and Waste Strategy - National targets
 - Recycling at least 65% of municipal waste by 2035
 - Eliminating all avoidable waste by 2050
 - New Metric - Reduce residual waste kg per capita by 50% by 2042 from 2019 levels
- London Environment Strategy - Regional targets
 - Making London a zero waste city – by 2026, no biodegradable or recyclable waste to landfill
 - By 2030 65% municipal waste recycled (all waste); including a 50% local authority collected waste

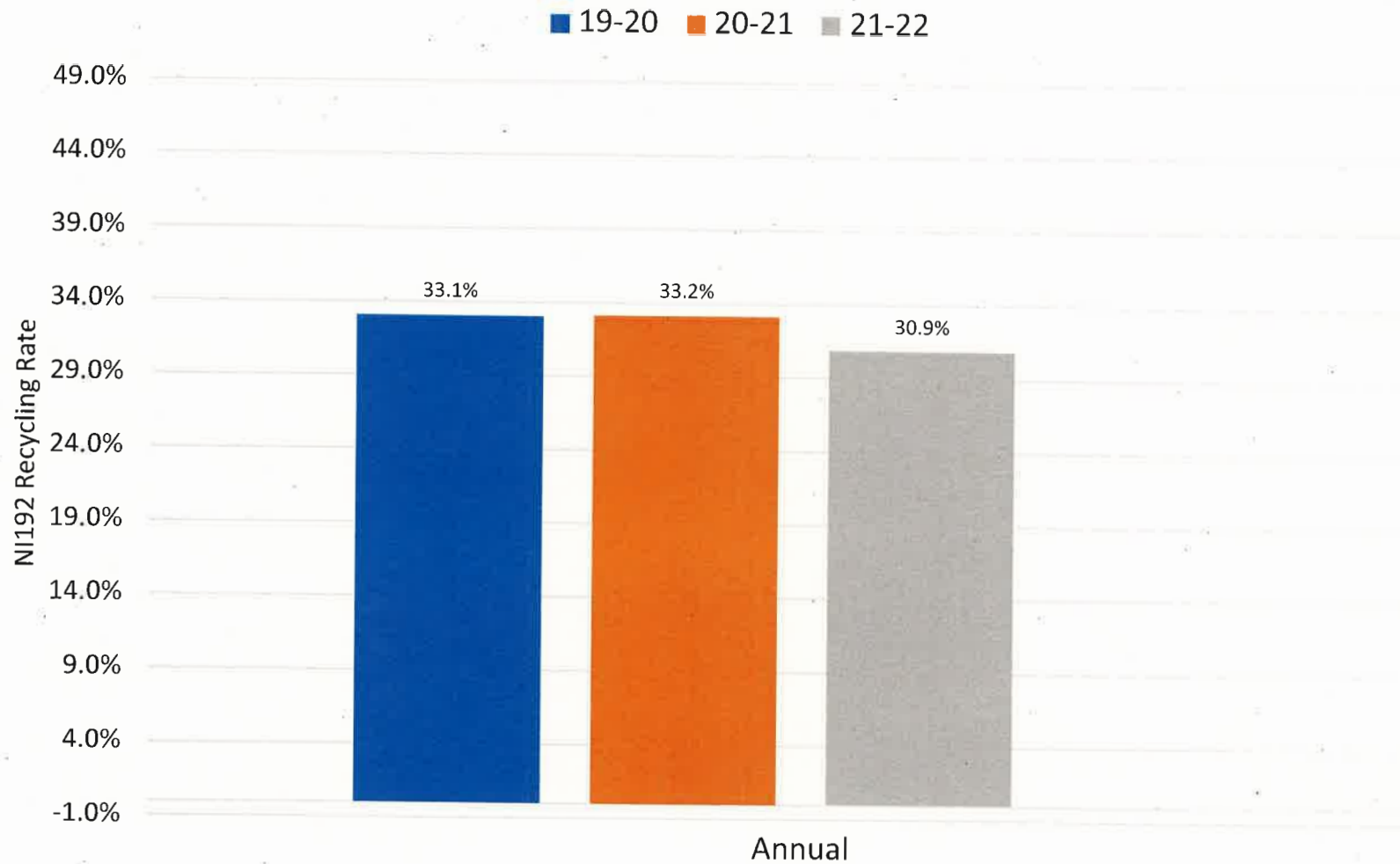
Why we need to get there

- **Under the new Environment Act 2021** (implementation still being developed and awaiting guidance from central government)
 - Collection consistency from households
 - Extended producer responsibility
 - Deposit return scheme
- **Financial impacts**
 - Funding unknown but New Burdens Funding expected for food but not dry recycling (this may be offset by Extender Producer Responsibility payments)
 - Extender Producer Responsibility payments for the recycling of packaging
 - May result in reduction in good quality material due to Deposit Return Scheme, which may impact to MRF contracts and commodity share arrangements

Where we are now with recycling performance - Quarterly



Where we are now with recycling performance - Annual



How we now get to our target

16% increase needed to achieve target

- 7% comes from proposed 'Category 1' initiatives:
 - Reducing contamination in wheeled bins
 - Increasing recycling from wheeled bins
 - Better communal recycling bins for Enfield Housing
- 9% comes from a range of other proposed 'Category 2' initiatives:
 - Communal recycling bins on private estates
 - Textiles Recycling
 - Food recycling bins

How we plan to get there

Reducing contamination in wheeled bins

- **The problem**

- Households often mix their recyclable with non-recyclable waste which means its classed as contaminated and it all goes to incineration.
- In 19/20 around 1,000 tonnes per year were rejected loads, approx. 167 vehicle loads of recycling
- In 20/21 a total of 4,860 tonnes were rejected loads, approx. 810 vehicle loads of recycling
- That's about 25% of what was collected in wheeled bins, or 13 full weeks of the year
- In 2021/22 rejected tonnage was 7,527 tonnes

How we plan to get there

- **The project**

- To increase recycling by significantly reducing the number of rejected loads at kerbside.
- Target 3-4% increase in recycling
- Two phases. Started in June 2022 and finished in Nov 22
- Targeted 3 collection rounds (out of 8)
- 32,000 hh were monitored and more than 11,000 letters sent to residents
- 98% reduction in incorrect items logged
- 180 enquiries from residents

How we plan to get there

- **Outcome**

- 2022/23 rejected tonnage YTD is 1,449 tonnes – projected to be 1,638 tonnes full year

	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Contamination (t)	c.1,000	4,860	7,527	1,638 (est.)

- Quarters 1 & 2 for 2022/23 showed an improved recycling rate by 3.5% - 4%
- Continue to monitor rejected loads and undertake monitoring if tonnage rejected starts to increase again

How we plan to get there

Increasing recycling from wheeled bins

- **The problem**
 - Original modelling shows that households can recycle more
- **The project**
 - Behaviour nudging by targeted communications, engagement and outreach.
 - First phase to understand if the waste composition has changed and what materials should be targeted
- **Progress**
 - NLWA is undertaking the analysis. Started January 2023 and will be completed by 3rd March 2023.
 - Develop targeted communications and outreach work

How we now get to our target

- Preparation to support Govt. reforms around recycling from flats
- Undertook a pilot at flats
- Next steps
- Review once Govt. has clarified what the requirements will be and what funding will be available

Communal Bins

- Around 22 of Enfield's waste is made-up of Communal bins
- Best practice suggests around 30 percent of this waste could be recycled

Background

- 1500 sites
- 44 percent of sites have recycling
- Around 7 percent of communal bin waste is collected for recycling; but the majority of this is contaminated
- Site areas are abused and not fit for purpose

Communal Bins

- **Current improvements**
 - 50+ sites already improved as part of the pilot and phase 1
 - Reverse lidded bins used, improved signage and outreach
 - MetroStor installed as part of capital works project
 - ReLondon Best Practice used
 - Significant reduction in contamination
- **Phase 2 and 3**
 - Preparation in readiness for govt funding/requirements
 - Dry recycling and food recycling to be offered to all communal properties by 2024/25 in line with Government reforms

Category 2 initiatives

- Communal recycling bins on private estates
- Textiles Recycling
- Food recycling bins
- Updated development guidance to reach 50% recycling in new flats
- Review Reuse and Recycling Centre arrangements – mobile?
- Reuse and recycling bulky waste service
- Street Cleansing/Parks recycling
- Small Electrical recycling
- Library of things / fixit factories
- Single use plastics/Low Plastic Zones
- Coffee Pod Recycling
- Incentives / green rewards / League tables for estates
- Deposit and return schemes
- Responding to extended product responsibility

Conclusion and Next Steps

- **Next steps**
- The finer details of the financials/savings need to be reviewed once Govt. has provided details
- Volatile/dynamic market around recycling regarding the 1% / £85-95k calculation
- Flats recycling can be scaled up or down, but provision for recycling and food is statutory requirement
- Category 2 initiatives to be scoped out
- Short, medium and long term detailed plans being drafted
- Review kgs of waste and recycling, not just %