



Subject:	2019 Waste Prevention Programme Consultation Response
Date:	12 th May 2020
Reporting Officer:	Siobhan Toland, Director of City Services
Contact Officer:	Jennifer Stephens

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	To provide the Committee with an update on DAERA's recent consultation on the 2019 Waste Prevention Programme for NI, "Stopping Waste in its Tracks" and to provide a copy of our draft response to the consultation, taking into account its potential impact on the Council's service delivery.
1.2	The Waste Framework Directive (WFD) required member states to produce a Waste Prevention Programme, by December 2013, which were to be reviewed and revised every six years.

1.3	This WFD requirement was transposed into the Waste Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2011.
1.4	The Waste Prevention Programme (WPP) was originally published by the Department Of Environment in December 2013, as “The Road to Zero Waste”. This is now due to be reviewed and revised.
1.5	The 2013 WPP, “The Road to Zero Waste” outlined thirteen waste prevention actions. These actions have either been implemented or are ongoing.
1.6	The new WPP sets out 20 separate actions for comment, some of which are new from the previous iteration and some relate to existing commitments.
1.7	The Consultation opened on 22 January 2020, with a closing date for responses by 18 March 2020. In response to a written request from Belfast City Council (seeking DAERA to consider an extension to the consultation period), DAERA extended the deadline for Belfast City Council to provide a response, to 15 th April 2020.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • note the consultation responses from Belfast City Council (Attached as Appendix 2 to this report).
	<u>Main report</u>
3.1	Building on ‘The Road to Zero Waste’ 2013 programme it is proposed to continue to support waste prevention measures through this updated 2019 programme, ‘Stopping Waste in its Tracks’.
	<u>Background</u>
3.2	The Department of Environment prepared the first Waste Prevention Programme for Northern Ireland – ‘The Road to Zero Waste’ in December 2013. This was required by Article 29 of the Waste Framework Directive [2008/98/EC]. Thirteen waste prevention actions were proposed in the 2013 Programme. These have been implemented or are ongoing.

3.3	<p>There is a requirement to review and, if necessary, revise the Programme every six years. This programme is an interim measure designed to meet the legal requirements set out in the Waste Framework Directive and the Waste Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2011. It provides information on the actions that DAERA is currently undertaking and planning to implement, which will address waste prevention in Northern Ireland but does not seek to introduce any new waste prevention policies.</p>
3.4	<p>In line with the Programme for Government, “Stopping Waste in its Tracks” aims to set out a plan to enable a more sustainable approach to the use of resources, deliver environmental benefits and support economic growth in Northern Ireland.</p>
3.5	<p>The new Circular Economy Package (CEP) is due to come into effect later in 2020. DAERA may consider undertaking a further update to the review of the NI WPP following transposition of the CEP, as well as clarity on the situation following exit from the EU. This programme, therefore does not intend to introduce new strategic policy departures or to change the landscape of how waste is managed in Northern Ireland at this time. Its core aim is to comply with the requirements of the Waste Framework Directive.</p>
3.6	<p>Due to the interim nature of this programme, there are no specific consultation questions. Instead, DAERA is welcoming broad views and comments on the actions.</p>
3.7	<p>Key objectives include; stimulating a culture of resource efficiency in all organisations, encouraging re-use and repair of products, developing and supporting information and awareness campaigns; in particular in relation to food waste, improving producer responsibility schemes and encouraging less waste generation.</p> <p>Responses will be used to inform waste prevention policy following the transition to a post EU Exit environment and the introduction of the CEP.</p>
3.8	<p>Within the draft response, Belfast City Council notes that the measures within the Programme are positive. However, they generally appear quite broad and unfocused with little rationale and coherence behind them.</p>
3.9	<p>Belfast City Council recommends a more strategic approach, linking in with regional planning, national and cross border contexts, SOLACE, The Environment Strategy, the Green New Deal and the Industrial Strategies (both UK and NI). Reference could also be given to the Stern report around the economics of climate change. The Circular Economy</p>

	<p>also needs to be considered as part of the programme as this would provide many opportunities for councils, government, the third sector and industry to work together in their approach to waste management and to support economic growth, innovation and job creation across the province.</p>
3.10	<p>Belfast City Council stresses within the response paper that the Waste Prevention Programme needs to be integrated, collaborative and underpinned by an NI wide resourced strategy. Centrally, DAERA and other departments have a significant role to play in this.</p>
3.11	<p>Within the response document, Belfast City Council outlines these main issues and concerns and then sets out specific responses to each of the twenty action points contained within the Consultation document.</p>
	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p>
3.12	<p>There are no financial or resource implications in responding to the consultation.</p>
	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p>
3.13	<p>There are no Equality or Good Relations implications in responding to the consultation.</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	<p>Appendix 1: Belfast City Council Draft Response to DAERA Waste Prevention Programme Consultation</p> <p>Appendix 2: DAERA Waste Prevention Programme 2019 Consultation, “Stopping Waste in its Tracks”</p> <p>Appendix 3: Waste Prevention Programme for Northern Ireland – The Road to Zero Waste (2013)</p>