

How to work with the Citizens' Resource Recovery Strategy template

Every effort has been made to make customising the strategy for your area as easy as possible. Each place you need to make an insertion or choose between alternatives is marked with square brackets, i.e. []. You can identify them all on your computer using the Find feature in the Edit section.

Most of the material is applicable to any area in the UK and all you need to do is insert the name of your local authority in the marked areas. Each paragraph in which you need to insert your local authority's name is marked with ***.

For example, in Section 3:

Separate, separate, separate

*** To achieve the first milestone of 60% diversion collection, [NAME LOCAL AUTHORITY] needs to establish a three stream system for dustbin and trade waste, comprising:

You will need to alter this paragraph to read:

Separate, separate, separate

To achieve the first milestone of 60% diversion collection, Anyshire County Council needs to establish a three stream system for dustbin and trade waste, comprising:

In the Overview section, you will need to insert not only the local authority name, but also some of the information you have been gathering.

For example:

*** [NAME LOCAL AUTHORITY] has a population of [,], in [xxx -- number of] households, of which []% live in high density urban areas.

*** Currently []% of our municipal waste is incinerated, []% is landfilled and []% is recycled. [*Note: insert appropriate figures*]

*** Our recycling rate compares [badly/favourably] with the national average of 11%. A great deal more can and must be done, given that many UK communities are now achieving rates of 50% or more (West Mersea in Essex, Uckfield and Polegate in East Sussex, and Wye in Kent) and whole counties are now up to 25%–35%, with Essex aiming for 60% by 2007.

You will need to tailor this appropriately to read something like:

Anyshire County Council has a population of 500,000, in 145,000 households, of which 15% live in high density urban areas.

Currently 89% of our municipal waste is landfilled and 11% is recycled.

Our recycling rate reflects the UK's poor national average. A great deal more can and must be done, given that many UK communities are now achieving rates of 50% or more (West Mersea in Essex, Uckfield and Polegate in East Sussex, and Wye in Kent) and whole counties are now up to 25%–35%.

There are a few places where you will need to insert information or make a calculation to reflect the situation in your area. These are marked with [Note: ...]

For example, in Section 4:

Collection and recycling

Experience in other communities has shown that there are four jobs in collection for every recycling service provided to 10,000 households (allowing for one collector to pass 2,500 households per week) and at least one further job in sorting, bulking and transporting. Organics collection and local composting are similar. Introducing a three-stream service for organics, dry recyclables and residuals would create an additional 10 jobs, minus two saved on the normal refuse round, or a net creation of eight jobs in all. For a town or borough of 100,000 this will mean 80 extra jobs. For a county of 500,000 households it will mean expanding employment by 400. The employment potential is borne out by the community recyclers ECT which now have more than 200 employees providing a dry recycling service to half a million households in London, a figure which would double if they added a separated organics collection.

[Note: The above paragraph must be rewritten to reflect population of your area -- e.g. a town or borough of 50,000 = 40 extra jobs, a county of 250,000 households = 200 extra jobs.]

Should read something like:

Collection and recycling

Experience in other communities has shown that there are four jobs in collection for every recycling service provided to 10,000 households (allowing for one collector to pass 2,500 households per week) and at least one further job in sorting, bulking and transporting. Organics collection and local composting are similar. Introducing a three-stream service for organics, dry recyclables and residuals would create an additional 10 jobs, minus two

saved on the normal refuse round, or a net creation of eight jobs in all. For a county of 145,000 households will mean 116 extra jobs. The employment potential is borne out by the community recyclers ECT which now have more than 200 employees providing a dry recycling service to half a million households in London.

WHEN YOU HAVE MADE ALL THE NECESSARY INSERTIONS:

1. Make sure all ***, [] and [Notes:...] have been removed.
2. Fill in the appropriate numbers on the table of contents.
3. Use the other materials in the Greenpeace Zero Waste tool kit to help gain public support for the Zero Waste vision. Make sure your local media knows alternatives to incineration exist. Use the strategy and the public support for it to challenge your local authority to do the right thing.