

<b>Report on</b>	Local Authority Recycling Carbon Index Report
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> October 2019
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Mark McAdoo, Head of Environmental Services
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Mark McAdoo, Head of Environmental Services

<b>Is this report restricted for confidential business?</b>	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To inform members on the findings of the Recycling Carbon Index Report 2017/18
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	The Local Authority Recycling Carbon Index Report for 2017/18 was published by Eunomia Research and Consulting on 16 <sup>th</sup> September. This report, the seventh edition, gives Councils an alternative measure of the environmental performance of their waste and recycling services rather than a purely weight-based measure. It shows which Councils recycling activities are delivering the most carbon benefits.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	<p>Local authorities' recycling performance data for 2017/18 was taken from the WasteDataFlow system and multiplied by carbon "factors". This process converted tonnage data for each recyclable material into carbon dioxide equivalents which showed the total embodied carbon in the material that authorities are diverting from disposal to recycling</p> <p>Local authorities that collect more of the materials with a higher embodied carbon for recycling will show greater benefits (in terms of kgs CO2 saved per person). Rating authorities in this way demonstrates that a high recycling rate does not necessarily result in the greatest carbon savings.</p> <p>Looking at each country's overall performance, Northern Ireland has improved by 3.2 points (4.2 per cent), reflecting a 3.8 percentage point (8.4 per cent) increase in the recycling rate. Wales remains by some distance the country which achieves the greatest carbon saving per capita from local authority recycling. However, its Carbon Index performance suffered a small decrease (of 0.2 points, or 0.2%).</p> <p>Welsh and Northern Irish authorities collected very similar amounts of recycling per capita - 200kg and 197kg respectively. However, in Wales, a greater share of this</p>

	<p>material is dry recycling rather than organics, resulting in considerably greater emissions savings.</p> <p>In Northern Ireland, most local authorities improved their overall performance in with all but three Councils showing an increase. Mid Ulster District Council was the second highest performer (with an index score of 85 – up two percentage points from the previous year) ranking it a “good performer” in a UK wide context.</p>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b>
	Financial: None
	Human: None
	Risk Management: None
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b>
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: None
	Rural Needs Implications: None
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	Members are asked to note the contents of this report.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
6.1	Recycling Carbon Index Report 2017/18