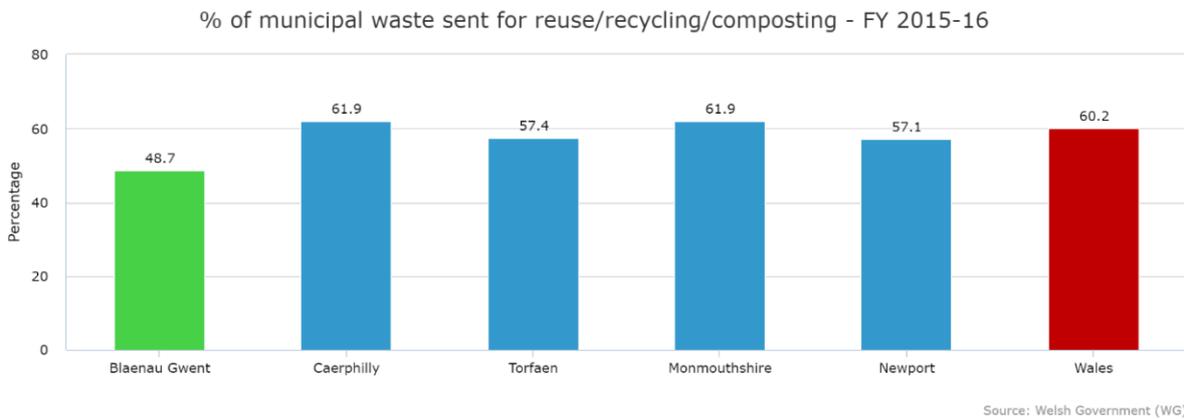


# Section 7.6a

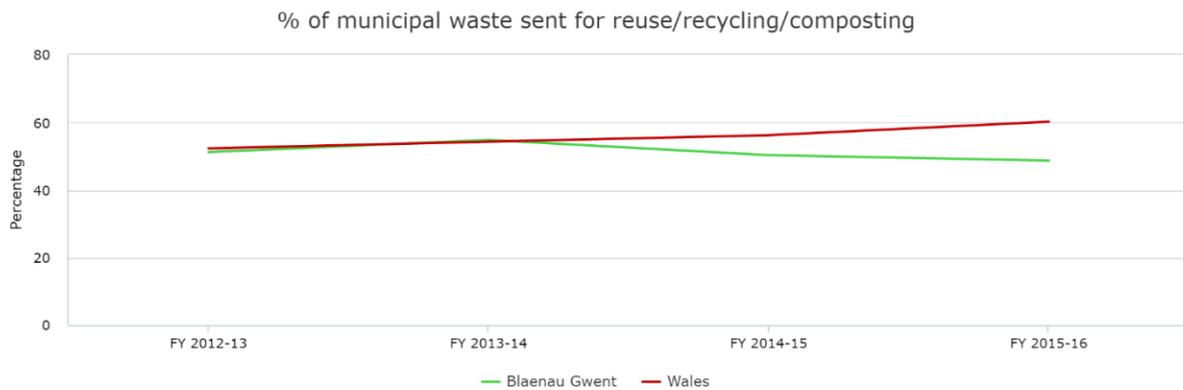
## Title: Draft 1 Waste & Recycling

### 1. Overview

**Error! Reference source not found.** shows the percentage of municipal waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting across the Gwent region in 2015-16. This ranged from 48.7% of municipal waste in Blaenau Gwent to 61.9% of municipal waste in Monmouthshire and Caerphilly. This compares with 60.2% for Wales.



**Error! Reference source not found.** shows the change in the percentage of municipal waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting over the period 2012-13 to 2015-16. While the percentage has increased by 7.7 percentage points for Wales over the period, in Blaenau Gwent it decreased by 2.5 percentage points.



	Blaenau Gwent	Wales
FY 2012-13	51.2	52.3
FY 2013-14	54.8	54.3
FY 2014-15	50.3	56.2
FY 2015-16	48.7	60.2

Source: Welsh Government (WG)

## ‘Towards Zero Waste One Wales: One Planet, The Overarching Waste Strategy Document for Wales’ (2010)

‘Towards Zero Waste’ (TZW) is the overarching waste strategy document for Wales. It was published in 2010. TZW sets out at a high level strategy for how we are to manage waste in Wales to produce benefits not only for the environment, but also for our economy and social wellbeing. Delivery actions have been developed in a series of sector plans.

The strategy outlines the actions we must take if we are to realise the ambition of becoming a high recycling nation by 2025 and a zero waste nation by 2050.

Municipal waste is waste, recycling, and bulky items collected by local authorities from homes and businesses.

### Targets

The overarching waste strategy Towards Zero Waste sets the following targets for municipal waste collected by local authorities:

- a minimum of 70% of waste being reused, recycled or composted by 2024/25
- a maximum of 30% energy being created from waste by 2024/25

- a maximum of 5% of waste being landfilled by 2024/25
- Wales to achieve zero waste by 2050.
- 

The recycling targets became law from April 2012 under the Waste (Wales) Measure 2010. The first statutory target was to reuse, recycle or compost 52% of municipal waste collected by local authorities in 2012-13. The next target is 64% in 2019/20.

Target for:	2015/16	2019/20	2024/25	2050
Minimum levels of preparing for reuse and recycling/composting (or Anaerobic Digestion)	58%	64%	70%	Zero Waste Nation
Minimum proportion of preparing for reuse/recycling/composting that must come from source separation (kerbside, bring and/ or CA site) for municipal waste	80%	80%	80%	

## Landfill

Landfill is not a sustainable option. The act of disposing our waste directly into landfill is a waste of all the raw material and energy that went into making the products that we use. Landfilling our waste also creates methane, a powerful greenhouse gas that is 23 times more damaging to the environment than carbon dioxide.

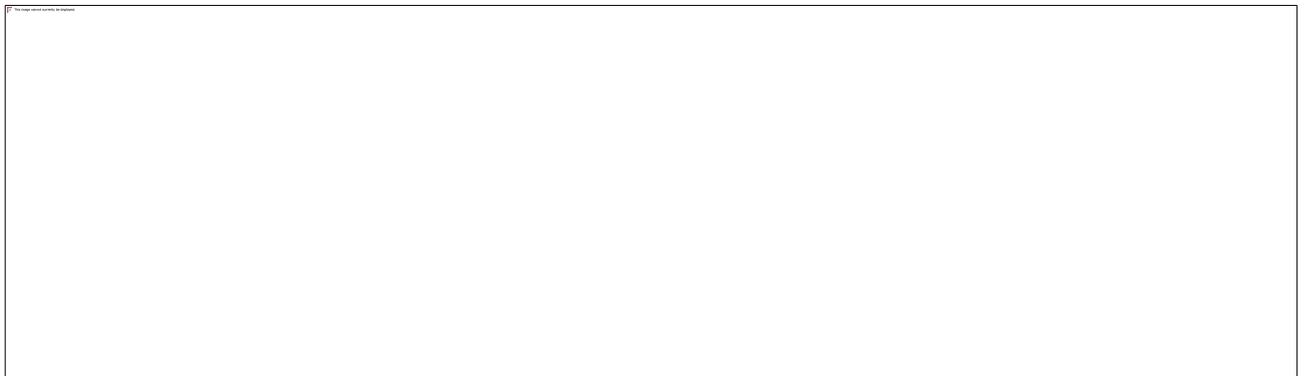
The Landfill Allowances Scheme (Wales) Regulations 2004 (The LAS regulations) came into force in Wales on 1 October 2004, to reduce the amount of biodegradable municipal waste (BMW) going to landfill sites.

**% of municipal wastes collected by Local Authorities sent to landfill  
- FY 15/16**



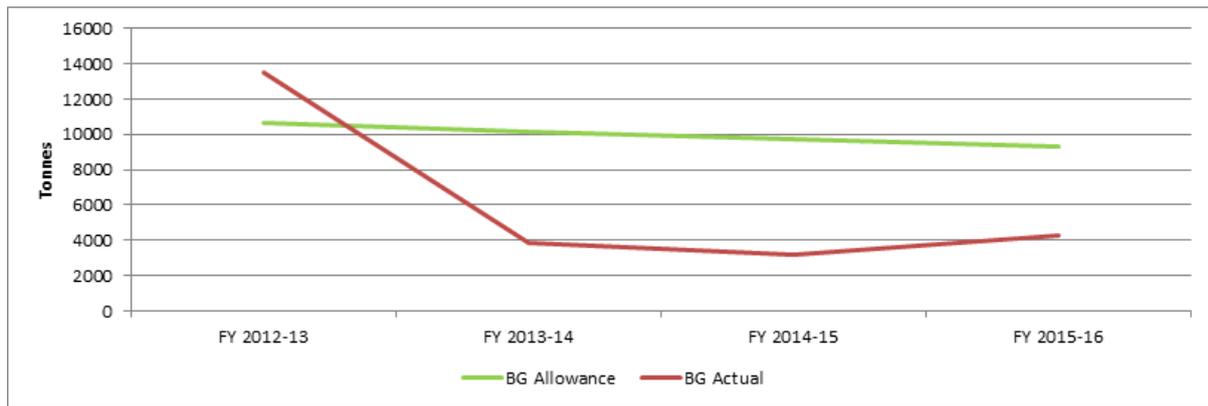
**Annual Comparison**

	Blaenau Gwent	Wales
FY 2012-13	40.98%	41.13%
FY 2013-14	11.96%	35.69%
FY 2014-15	10.32%	27.40%
FY 2015-16	13.77%	18.09%



**Landfill Allowance Scheme – Annual Comparison**

	BG Allowance	BG Actual
FY 2012-13	10631	13487.89
FY 2013-14	10179	3817.74
FY 2014-15	9726	3160.75
FY 2015-16	9274	4249.46



## 2. Story behind the data

The management of waste is affected by many policies and legislative requirements which drive policy development within the local authority.

The municipal sector plan supports 'Towards Zero Waste' by detailing outcomes, policies and delivery actions for this sector.

This sector plan covers the waste collected by Local Authorities and contains a number of proposals about how we manage and treat our waste to achieve more sustainable and affordable outcomes.

It focuses on the key role that Local Authorities play through working with their citizens and communities to achieve the twin goals of one planet living and zero waste.

The Collections Blueprint which forms part of the Sector Plan describes the Welsh Government's recommended service profile for the collection of waste from households.

Since 2012, Blaenau Gwent has been working with Welsh Government through the Collaborative Change Programme to deliver the recommended service profile for the collection of waste from households. This has included the introduction in 2015 of:

- Three weekly refuse collections
- Weekly collection of dry recyclables mixed together in a box
- Use of modern, lightweight, multi compartment vehicles for a single pass collection of dry recyclables and food waste

### 3. What we know from engagement



During the Blaenau Gwent We Want Engagement exercise, the partnership undertook and attended numerous engagement activities and events throughout the borough to gather people's views.

Residents also took part via the Blaenau Gwent We Want Facebook page and partnership websites. Links to an online questionnaire were also distributed to many residents known to the partnership, such as members of the Blaenau Gwent Citizen Panel.

Residents were encouraged via the methods above to answer a range of questions that sought to capture:

- Citizen values, aspirations and priorities;
- Citizen needs – insight into the needs they and their communities encounter within daily life and what the best solutions may be and
- Citizen assets – what people can and already contribute themselves such as self-care, citizen and community action and volunteering.

Q1. What do you think is special about BG?

Q2. What things are important to you to live well and enjoy life?

Q3. What would make BG a better place?

Q4. What can you do to help make BG a better place?

Approximately 1,000 residents were engaged with (across all groups) during the engagement phase.

During the Blaenau Gwent We Want programme, Waste & Recycling was not identified by any respondents as something that is special about Blaenau Gwent, and just one respondent said that the service was important to them to live well and enjoy life. However, when asked what can be improved about Blaenau Gwent, Waste & Recycling ranked 5<sup>th</sup>

amongst the topics identified with 3.6% of all comments (56 in total) falling into this category. The key themes emerging were the need for more local communal skips/civic amenity sites, free or cheaper collection of bulky items, improved design of recycling bins and more dog bins. There was also some negativity around the recent introduction of the 'Trolibocs' recycling boxes with comments such as "bring back recycling bags" and "should not have wasted money changing to recycling bins" proving popular. When asked how they can help to improve Blaenau Gwent 3 respondents mentioned Waste & Recycling stating that they could recycle more. A small number also said that they could support their less abled family, friends and neighbours with their recycling and encourage others to recycle more.

#### **4. What we know from existing research**

Research completed by WRAP has been undertaken to generate an in-depth understanding of what may prevent some householders from recycling.

#### **5. What this tells us about Well-being in Blaenau Gwent**

In order for Blaenau Gwent to achieve the recycling targets, this can only be achieved by working in partnership with our citizens and communities. For householders this means having to adapt their understanding and behaviour.

It is important for us to learn from the evidence presented and work with communities to deliver more effective recycling services in the future.

We welcome your views on what more can be done to reduce waste and improve recycling within Blaenau Gwent.