



Local Authority Recycling
Advisory Committee

Andrew Bird – Chair LARAC

Waste Collection

What Does The Future Look Like?





Local Authority Recycling
Advisory Committee

What is LARAC?

- Formed in 1985 to represent the emerging voice of local government recycling officers
- Full membership open to any local authority in the UK
- Represents local authority views in waste and recycling issues
- Run by an Executive of 20 waste management officers employed by local authorities

Future Collection Services

- Where we are now
- Current pressures
- Future pressures
- Impact on services
- What services could look like
- Final thoughts

Where we are now

- Wales – 58% - and increasing
- England – 45% - Stalled
- Scotland – 41% and increasing
- Northern Ireland – 43.6% and increasing
- Different approaches between England and the Devolved Governments

Current Pressures

- Budget Cuts
 - 5 years, 40% reduction, similar to come
- End markets
 - Global trading, oil prices, Assian market
- Public Perception
 - Engaged but not active, unhelpful press
- National policy
 - Lack of direction, unhelpful messages

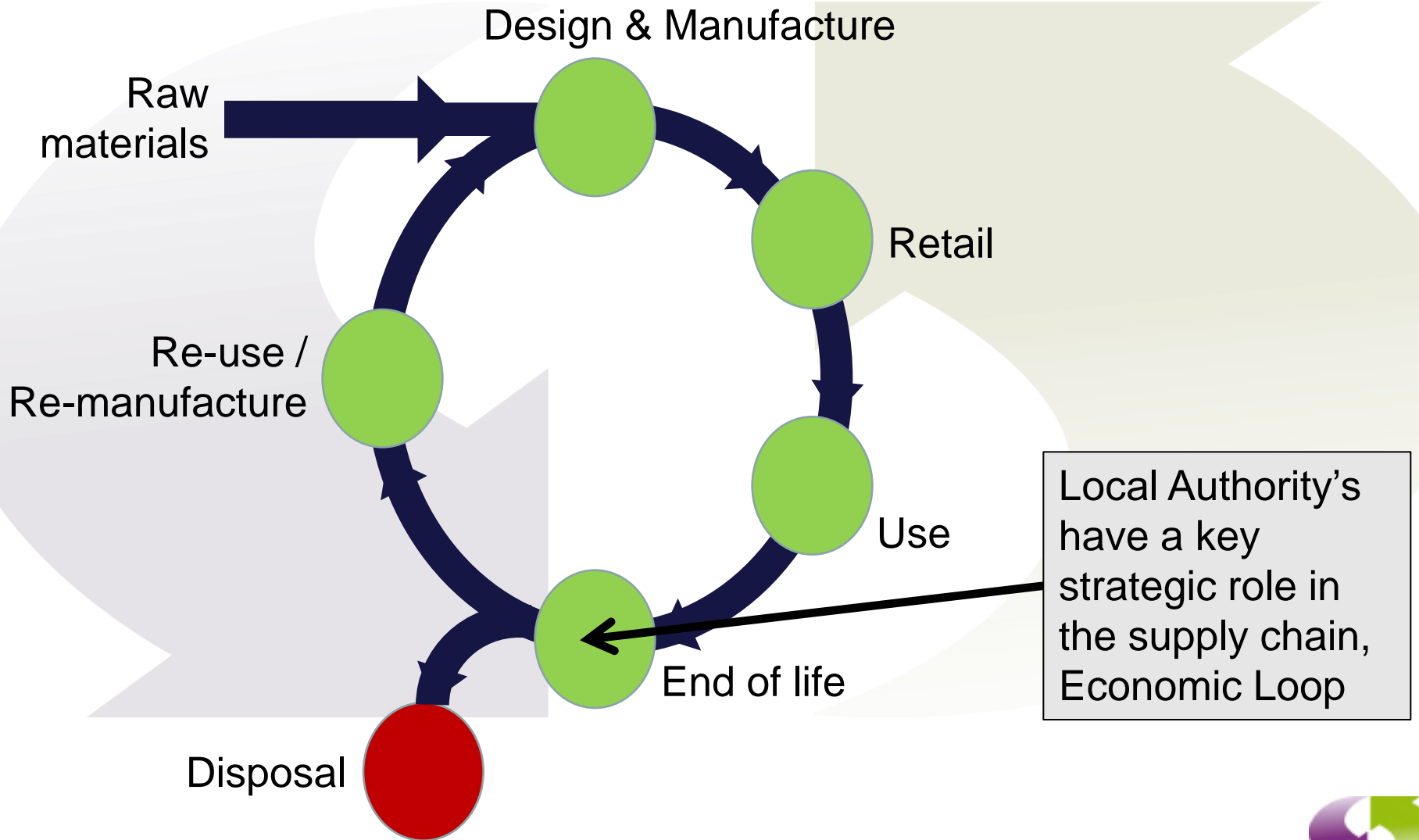
Future Pressures

- 50% Target – Does it now matter?
 - Consistency including food?
- 65% Target
 - UK not in favour? Will it become law?
- Producer Responsibility
 - Burden or opportunity
- Material design
 - Technology moving faster than treatment

Impact on Services

- Do more with less
- More charging – green waste
- More value from end materials
- More partnership working
- TECKAL options
- Pay as you throw
- Extended producer responsibility

The Economic Loop



Future Services

- Future already here
- Short Medium term focus appears to be to reduce residual waste
- Three weekly or slim bins
- Over ten authorities already doing it

Future Services

- Bury
 - First in England to go three weekly
 - Savings of £860,000
 - Recycling increased to 54%
- Tameside
 - Swapped bins
 - 140 litre residual 240 litre recycling
 - 25% drop in residual waste

The Cost of Waste Collection

- Is pay to throw an option?
- Average weekly cost of household collection is between 40p & 60p per household.(not including disposal)
- Charging for garden waste
- Administration – what's the cost ??

Future Services

- Frequency likely to change
- Delivered in partnership across boundaries
- Different operating models
- More charging
- More income from material sales

Final Thoughts - 1

- How do we get public ownership of waste problem?
- Doubtful UK will meet 50% target and what about a 65% target?
- New ways of funding waste services
- Pay as you Throw
- Save as you Throw

Final Thoughts - 2

- There is now a need to fundamentally change the way collect waste – Should it be thought about as a Utility Service?
- Extended, Effective & Transparent Producer Responsibility
- Create Demand in the Market for Recyclable Materials
- Standardise what we Collect & Ensure we have the right Infrastructure in the Right Place



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