Waste and Resource Use Category Group Meeting
Tuesday 11ᵗʰ February, online

Date: Tuesday 11ᵗʰ February 2025

Attendees: Mark Turner (Supply Chain Sustainability School), Lucy Picken (School), Matt Nichols (Reconomy), Bernadette Anderson (VolkerLaser), Charlie Law (Pallet Loop), Steven Barton (Amco Giffen), Linda Wilkinson (VolkerStevin), Nick Jones (Recycling Lives), Emma-Jane Clarke (Cadent Gas), Monika Wojda (McLaughlin & Harvey), Zach Pears (Octavius), Jim Wilkinson (Environment Agency), Julie Brooks (Higgins Partnerships), Diana Dzhambazova (Knauf Insulation), Olivia Hack (Sir Robert McAlpine), Daniel Camm (BU-UK), Laura Smythe (Pallet Loop), Piers Moore (Emcor), Ben Mallett (National Grid), Katie Patullo (SGN), Tom O'Reilly (Wates), Samuel Baines (Severn Trent), Scott Porter (Savills), Jack Mason (Binnies), Sarah Partridge (NG Bailey), Andrew Hope (Kier), Adrian Hill (Bellway), Jonathan Ayton (Willmott Dixon), Aneta Szypula (VP Plc), Sam Endsor (Homes England), Nick Ribbons (Zero Waste Scotland), Martina Silickis (Balfour Beatty), Oliver Cripps (Etex), Dawn Boulton (National Gas), Michael St Louis (School), Oana Caltia (Kilnbridge), David Emery (School), Olivia Parry (Barratt Redrow)

Apologies: Julie Swanepoel (Suez), Amanda Porritt (Colas Rail), Amanda Wright (Wates), Jane Whittingham (EMCOR)

Summary of Actions and Notes from the Waste and Resource Use Category Group Meeting

No	Notes	Actions	Owners
1	**Welcome and introductions** • Apologies noted and new group attendees welcomed from BU-UK, Sir Robert McAlpine, SGN, Recycling Lives, Pallet Loop, NG Bailey and Binnies.		
2	**Details of the work of our group** • Work of our group and intervention points was outlined. Outline of how everyone can be involved in achieving the circular economy. • Digital waste tracking – DEFRA have pushed date back a year. We had a Virtual Conference scheduled for 27ᵗʰ March (AM) but due to the delay this needs to be amended to include the likes of the Simpler Recycling Agenda and EPR. We want to make this worthwhile for everyone. • **Postscript** – following the meeting and correspondence with DEFRA a revised Virtual Conference title and agenda has been agreed with an expected running time of 1 hour 15 minutes. The event will be shorter and focus on; - Simpler Recycling and other UK equivalents - An update on industry progress and challenges on digital waste tracking - A summary of progress on Deposit Return Scheme **Continued development by the group:** • Overview of the work programme and priorities discussed **Work programme and resource updates** Waste and Resource group page can be viewed here Subtopic webpage can be viewed here. New resources on the school website – these can all be viewed here – filtering by Waste and resource efficiency in subtopic.	Reconomy have kindly agreed to headline this session. If any other partners would like to contribute please contact Mark without delay. Please think about relevant resources and case studies to submit, send to LP and MT.	All All

A number of new resources have been added to the School recently including some being updated.

We have edited the resource library to reduce a number of old resources and add some new ones.

MEP map
- A means for identifying organisations that will accept items and resources fit for waste that can be reused – reused for intended purpose.
- Directory of organisations we are aware of where materials can be donated rather than them going to waste or being disposed of.
- Currently seeing a modest upsurge in use but we would like to see it used more and to receive more examples of reuse via MEPs.
- Industry sub-group (Tom O'Reilly) – Wates and other Tier 1/Tier 2 contractors came together as they were trying to use various MEPs and were encountering the same problems, so nothing was being exchanged at scale. Considering if there is a better way to facilitate exchange of materials.
- As an industry, we consistently over-order and we want these to have a practical use.

Learning Pathways
We have two waste Learning Pathways. Members and partners of the school can create bespoke learning pathways using these as base content and, if they wish, add content of their own to complement that provided via the School. There is a gap between assignments and completions – can we PLEASE improve uptake and completion?

Looking to develop a circular economy learning pathway this financial year.

OR - If these LPs do not work for you, please do let us know so we can improve them. Do they include the right content? Could they be shorter or longer?

E-learnings and shorts
E-learnings and shorts seeing a lot more uptake – both the introduction to waste and circular modules have recently been upgraded so that they have been refreshed and include more interactivity.

If there are any e learnings that you would like to see – for instance a more advance circular economy e learning? Please do let us know and we can look into this.

Construction lifecycle waste

Please submit new MEPs you encounter through this form or contact Lucy directly.	All
If you have any further ideas to help benefit this work contact Mark and Lucy or Tom (tom.oreilly@wates.co.uk).	All
Please let us know if you have any recommendations on how learning pathways can be improved to increase uptake.	All
Consider the list of e-learnings and shorts we have and get in touch if you have any new ideas.	All

	• The web feature can be found here - please use and suggest additional resources for consideration. **Webinar sessions** • Outline of sessions that are supported by Zero Waste Scotland and the benefits of these sessions, including the upcoming Designing out Waste session on 13th March. • Digital Waste Tracking – due to be run on 27th March 2025. As mentioned earlier in the session, DEFRA has deferred the date of mandatory digital waste tracking. Now need to amend the theme for the day – can still talk about progress organisations are making.	If your organisation would like to get involved in presenting within one of our waste and resource use themed webinars or run one using your workshop allocation from the School, please contact Mark or Lucy.	All
3	**KPIs report update** • It has been a long-term task within the group to collate and publish an improved list of KPIs that partners, suppliers and clients can use to record and improve waste and resource efficiency performance including on circular economy • Current organisational reporting tends to be voluntary and ad hoc • After considerable discussion with industry experts we have decided to revisit and improve upon the **ENCORD Waste Management Protocol**, which was originally produced around 2010 and revised later that decade (copy attached with notes) • The ENCORD document was developed from the combined partnership efforts of a group of larger European contractors, building on an earlier document published via WRAP • A lot of collective effort went into this work, but it is no longer available online • The ENCORD Protocol covers and number of significant issues including scope of reporting, suggested breakdown and categorisation of waste, conversion ratios for volume to tonnage etc • The source document only concentrates on Construction and Infrastructure. Given that the School encompasses the full built environment, consideration will be given to the extent to which the needs of the existing built environment (FM, Property, Asset Management etc) can be integrated • Only a small section of the source document was devoted to KPIs, an area which has received much more attention in recent years • The intention is therefore to revamp the original text and to agree and present an updated and expanded menu of KPIs suitable for use in the various parts of the built environment • So far, we have taken the original document and are beginning to replicate this and amend based on what is now current and relevant. Mark ran quickly through the current working document during the session and a rough working draft is shared with these notes • We have already included additional information and themes, such as introducing the circular economy and zero waste to landfill agendas	We will share a working copy of the document. If you are willing to help and input/review please do get in touch with MT and LP. N.B. Those who have already volunteered to be in the sub-group have been noted and MT will be in contact. The intention is to initially work by correspondence with the consultation	All MT / Sub-group

	• We are extremely grateful to those who offered to help with drafting and review!
	• Additional thoughts added during group:
	    ○ *Would be great if things like main framework requirements (such as from National Highways) and framework requirements such as BREAAM are considered in terms of their requirements to see if we can align?*
	    ○ *Insights into end destinations is also useful - even as a general assumption to factor into the dataset*
	    ○ *We use BEIS conversion factors to convert into GHG emissions associated with the waste/end destinations*
	    ○ *The future homes hub are currently undertaking a parallel exercise – for housebuilding only*
	    ○ *It would be interesting to hear how partners are getting on with the zero waste to landfill targets - current target for us is 95% avoidance.*
		project group, then host at least one call to agree progress and next steps.
		A target date to aim for is July, when the School will host a Circular Economy themed Virtual Conference and launch the revised protocol and KPIs.	

4	**Charlie Law: Pallet Loop** • Charlie delivered a very well received presentation on the Pallet Loop service offer • Delivering circularity in the UK construction industry (*See accompanying presentation for more information.*) • 905 of construction pallets are disposed of as waste, equating to approximately 300k tonnes • 20.1 million pallets were manufactured for construction in 2022. If disposed of in skips this equals £161 million in disposal costs and 65,727 tonnes of CO_2e • Pallet Loop allow for recovery, repair and reuse of pallets • Also have digital tracking of pallets – allows for traceability of where the pallets have been issued • Pallet Loop always maintain ownership of the Pallets. When finished with, pallets can go either be reused and go back out to another site or they can be refurbished • Pallets are manufactured to be stronger, sometimes 1.5 – 2 times stronger than average pallets • Loop back system – network of return centres in UK and Ireland. This includes a central call centre to book in collections and returns. **Questions and discussion**: • Ownership of pallets and claim of money – what's the legal entity of who claims the money e.g. contractor, subcontractor, supplier? *Pallet Loop requires one point of contact for any collection location – attributed to who does the return and who returns the pallet. Requirement is for the contact to be principal contractor or nominated third party logistics coordinator* • Minimum requirement for collections – *two service offerings. Standard 10 day collection service, free of charge, but £2 per white*	If you would like any more information re. implementing Pallet Loop contact Laura Smythe. Any further questions or clarifications, please contact Charlie Law.	All All

	pallet collected. Minimum of 50 pallets to use this service (green or white pallets). For smaller projects – no minimum collection but there is a £100 fixed collection charge, and £2 per white pallet collected. (See accompanying presentation for more information) • Pallet Loop pallets are not considered a waste but instead a material – you will receive a waste collection note, not a waste transfer note • EPR – manufacturer will be responsible for the fees. Pallet Loop will pay PRN, but every time it is reissued that fee will become diluted and this can then be reflected to clients. Under new legislation it would cost more to throw away pallets rather than reuse them. Estimated to be £8 per pallet that goes into a skip • Responsibility to seek waste exemption? *It is not classed as waste, due to waste framework directive under definitions of waste and reuse. This has been clarified by Environment Agency but Pallet Loop would also talk to SEPA to confirm in writing that this is the same case in Scotland* • Do you have any carbon saving metric included in your reports? i.e. CO_2e saved by diverting x tonnes from the waste stream? *This is included in reports from Pallet Loop.*		

5	**Waste and Resource Use Group Business Planning FY25/26**
	 • Outline of what the School is aiming to do.
	 • Starting in April, we will be focusing our attention on:
	 - basic reporting and legislative requirements
	 - circularity (developing practical reliable approaches) and
	 - metrics and data.
	 • As partners, you have your own workshop allocation – you can use this to talk about topics that interest you or what you want to tell others about
	 • Any clear and obvious topics the group thinks we should consider?
	      o DEFRA consultations on exemptions – discussions on implications
	      o Influence with CLAIRE on working on current code of practice.
	
	 Question: Would including 'circularity' or 'circular economy' in the group name be worth considering? This may resonate better with client and designers?
		Bernadette Anderson to email on DEFRA consultations to MT/LP and we will look into it.
		
		 CLAIRE contact – MT to ask to present at May meeting.
		
		 MT / LP to consider with the School team.
			BA
			
			 MT
			
			 MT / LP

6	**Estimating waste / tonnages in mixed waste skips** • Moved from volume reporting to weight reporting, keen to know how others are getting data from waste providers • If provider take waste away and they weigh it – are they then reporting weight of materials. Currently seeing data is varied in reporting • Looking to see if anyone has a standard or way of working • Total weight is correct but looking to go towards zero avoidable waste • Bellway - A lot will be packaging and odds and ends as everything else is segregated out. Mixed waste skips are usually lightweight compactable waste, and someone then has to make an estimate		

	• ZWS - *Have developed an onsite waste calculator that does exactly that.* • SRM – *Some waste providers are very good at giving breakdown of waste per product description, EWC codes, weight and tonnage.* It would be good to clarify exactly how the waste reports define the tonnage.	Any further thoughts or suggestions, please get in touch.	All
7	**Simpler recycling agenda** • Final reminder that we will be running session on 27th March. We would welcome presenters to support Reconomy's headline presentation to discuss how you are progressing on this and the push to digitisation etc.	Please get in touch with Mark if you would like to be involved.	All
4	**AOB** • Next meeting date – 13th May 2025, 1pm-3pm.	Circulate invites.	LP