Progress on Action Plan
(SEPA)

Ingrid Baber
(Dataflows Unit Manager, SEPA)
Cindy Lee
(Waste Data Strategy Manager, SEPA)
Julie Laing
(Senior Scientist, SEPA)

Track waste from point of production to final destination

Deliver an electronic UK waste tracking system

Provide technical, financial and administrative support to the UK waste tracking project

- SEPA is a member of the core team and project board, and provides subject matter experts and a relationship manager for one of the suppliers

- Scottish Government is a member of the project board

- Defra laid the UK Environment Bill before parliament which sets out high level provisions for waste tracking

Track waste from point of production to final destination

Preparation for a waste tracking system in Scotland

- Developing a Target Operating Model for SEPA and considering options for a roll out plan

- Considering development of a new charging scheme

- Scottish stakeholders involved in user panel research activities

- Scottish stakeholders informed of progress via monthly newsletter

Provide data to support the circular economy

Waste composition

Understand the composition of non-target materials in MRF inputs and communicate findings

- We have tested our own method of recording non-target materials during SEPA audits. We will move to embed this into the regular audit process and communicate the findings through our annual MRF report.

Provide data to support the circular economy

New metrics/measurement

Investigate how the UK waste tracking service can be expanded to incorporate non-waste materials
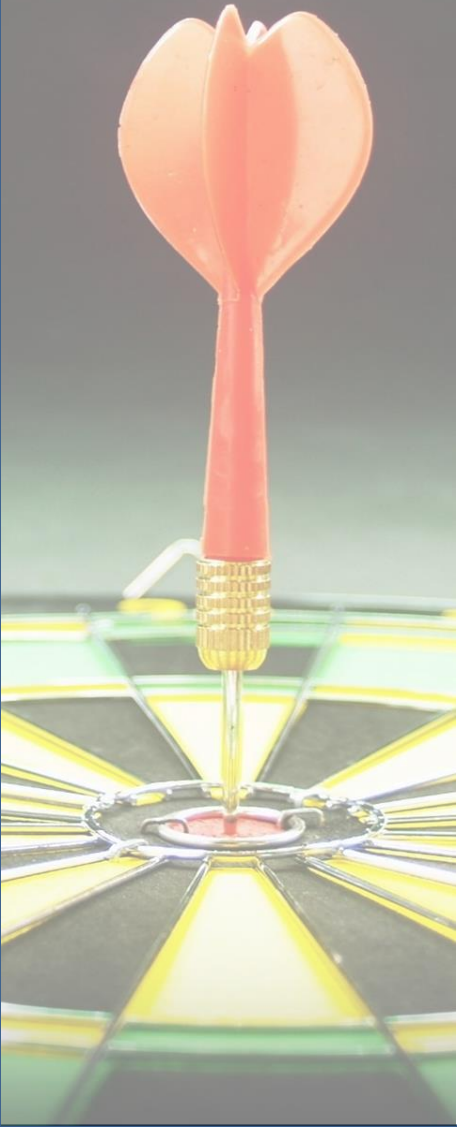
- The Circular Economy Bill contains powers to require data on non-waste materials (possible early focus on food and textiles). We need to ensure the tracking service infrastructure has the potential to expand into this area in time.

Monitor progress against SGov and EU targets

Scottish Targets

Continue to monitor and publish progress towards Scottish waste targets

- The Waste From All Sources data (2017) - published March 2019.

- The household waste data (2018), the waste landfilled data (2018), and the waste incinerated data (2018) – all published in Sept 2019.

- We are looking to develop a user friendly 'dashboard' of progress against targets.

Monitor progress against SGov and EU targets

Scottish Targets

Improve information on flaring and gas capture at landfill sites to monitor climate change targets

- SEPA is planning to capture landfill gas monitoring data and groundwater monitoring data consistently in an electronic format - a trial with one operator over three sites is in progress.

- A non-hazardous landfill permit template is out for public consultation, there is reference made therein to the provision of flare information.

Improve the way we interact with data customers
- enhanced data

Action	Progress
Improve metadata	Metadata for all SEPA's waste publications collected; awaiting software to publish.
Publish more raw data	We undertook a waste data consultation in 2019 (closed 14th Oct 2019) on publishing more content from operator waste data returns. Following this consultation more information from data returns will be published in Summer 2020.
Visualising WDF data better	Complete for local authorities; ongoing for public users.

Improve the way we interact with data customers

Publications

- Easier to know *when* data are published: existing and next publication dates added to SEPA's waste data reporting pages.

- Easier to know *how* data are used: more links to published data from our guidance pages.

- Aligning data: now routinely publishing the household waste and carbon metric data together.

- Timely data: reduced the lag between submission and publication for household and WFAS data.

Improve the way we interact with data customers

Publications

- The UK Office for Statistics Regulations is currently undertaking a compliance check of SEPA's household waste statistics. Provisional findings are expected in March/April 2020.

- SEPA is liaising with Defra about the municipal waste reporting requirements under Article 11(2) of the revised WFD.

- Data for planning: SEPA publishes a map of permitted waste incineration capacity in Scotland.

Improve the way we interact with data customers

To do

- Update the waste data quality report to include the EWC codes that fall into the SEPA reporting categories.

- Notify data providers in March 2020 when the Waste From All Sources 2018 data will be published.

- Publish more case studies! Any volunteers? We will interview you and write them up…

Improve the quality of data reported by businesses and local authorities

Engagement, training and guidance

- Last year, SEPA consulted local authorities about their provision of household waste data.

- We publish most of our waste data as Official Statistics.

- We published a corrections policy (April 2019) and a user engagement policy (July 2019).

- We are reviewing our site returns guidance for operators and are incorporating findings from our initial sector work.

- We are tackling non compliance by issuing fixed monetary penalties (w.r.t. landfill returns and SWCNs).

Special Waste Consignment Note campaign – started March 2019

- ✓ Aim is to improve the quality of SWCNs (~25% are unusable due to quality issues) and to engage with companies before waste tracking;

- ✓ Contacted site managers and company directors of ~30 companies – these are the worst-performing companies in terms of incomplete notes received by SEPA;

- ✓ Set up a dedicated mailbox to receive enquiries and deliver advice;

- ✓ Revised our guidance on consigning waste;

- ✓ Promoted the campaign in trade press and across social media;

- ✓ Ran three half-day workshops in January 2020 for over 100 people;

- ✓ Now developing PDF template forms for people to download and use;

- ✓ Ultimately, we will issue Fixed Monetary Penalties (up to £600 fine) to companies if data quality does not improve.

SWCNenquiries@sepa.org.uk

Scottish Government gov.scot

SEPA
Scottish Environment Protection Agency
Buidheann Dìon Àrainneachd na h-Alba

ZERO WASTE SCOTLAND

Improve the quality of data reported by businesses and local authorities

Engagement, training and guidance (this year)

- Continue the SWCN campaign;

- Publish revised site returns operator guidance;

- Update our EWC guidance.

- Consult with more waste data providers about data provision and also about guidance format.

- Work towards voluntarily applying the Code of Practice to all non-official waste statistics we produce.

Any questions, comments or suggestions?

Progress on Action Plan
(ZWS)

Phil Williams

(Research Analyst, ZWS)

Provide data to support the circular economy

- Action 1 - Complete options appraisal on future waste composition study approach for Scotland covering both household and C&I wastes (**Complete**)

- Action 2 - Develop methodology for testing composition of residual/mixed waste at the final disposal point (landfill, incineration etc.) (**In Progress**)

- Action 3 - Investigate a range of metrics to measure progress towards a circular economy in Scotland and develop a suitable national measure (**Complete**)
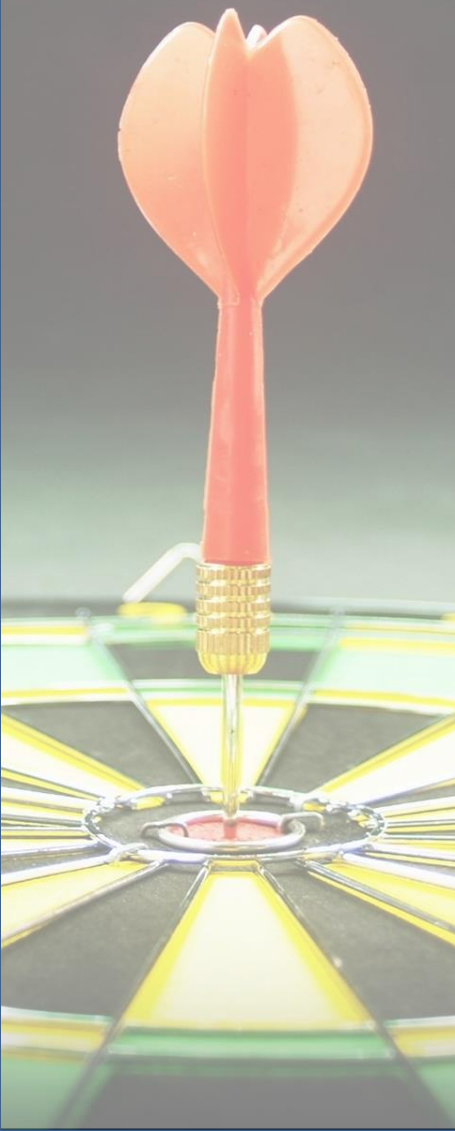
Provide data to support the circular economy

- Action 4 - Develop 'materials flow' approach to track materials moving through the economy and into the waste stream (**Complete**)

- Action 5 - Identify and prioritise materials for trialing the 'materials flow' approach (**In progress**)

- Action 6 - Develop a business level indicator tool for businesses to benchmark their circular economy performance against a sector/industry/national standard (**Not progressed further**)

Monitor progress against SGov and EU targets

- Action 7 - Develop a methodology for the baseline and on-going monitoring of the 33% food waste target (**In Progress**)

Improve the way we interact with data customers

- Action 8 - Investigate how waste data could be linked to economic, financial or geographical data to provide more meaningful information (**In progress**)

Any questions, comments or suggestions?