



Town Clerk: Caroline Leet

EDENBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Waste Management – policy

Updates:

September 2025 – Open Spaces Committee: A review of vegetation management and controls included the adoption of:

- Vegetation Management and Bonfire Policy
- A Weed Control Policy, aligned with the latest DEFRA Code of Practice

March 2021 - Review the Council's Waste Management Policy: There is currently no legal requirement for local authorities to comply with environmental saving initiatives. However, Edenbridge Town Council has had a recycling policy since 2006 and this has been reviewed annually (Policy below). For information, the Town Council does already operate an environmentally awareness programme in line with its policy.

Edenbridge Town Council has already:

- Solar panels installed on two buildings, cemetery depot and sports pavilion (these are on non-conservation buildings)
- Recently banned bonfires on both of the allotment sites
- Have a recycling policy in the Town Council policy book (attached)
- The office and grounds team adhere to the policy where humanly possible
- Use only weed control that is amenity approved for the sports pitches
- Have supported the community planting scheme;
- In 2000 planted new Millennium Wood (2000 whips) at Mowshurst
- Maintain and replant the Town Council wealth of trees (approx. 550); review planting programmes (to go to Open Spaces in March)
- Mulch mow with the exception of the cemetery
- Considered an electric vehicle when replacing the grounds staff van, but there was not sufficient commercial range of vehicles yet for this Council's purposes
- When the High Street was revamped in 2008, parking cycle hoops were included as part of the street furniture where there was space (hoops already in Market Yard previously)
- Added cycle hoops to the rear of skate ramps
- Wood-chip where we can and reuse
- To reduce strimming and the use of fuel, amenity approved weed-killer is used sparingly at around posts
- In the process of swapping lights in buildings to LED
- Streetlights replacement programme with LED
- Part night lighting where appropriate
- Use water butts where we can
- Buy locally where possible (but mindful of obtaining best value and procurement procedures)

Aim and Purpose of policy and reviews

This policy expands the Policy Statement on Green Issues adopted by Council in 2006

The policy aim and purpose is to prevent waste and apply the “waste hierarchy” when transferring any waste generated by Council activity. The “waste hierarchy” is defined under Article 4 of the revised EU Waste Framework Directive (2008/98/EC) setting out five steps for dealing with waste, ranked according to environmental impact: prevention is the top priority (the best outcome for the environment), followed by re-use, recycling, other recovery, and disposal, in descending order of preference.

Policy

Purchase of equipment and consumables will be made with consideration for avoiding waste and also the options for end-use disposal.

Where appropriate all items which can be re-used/recycled, will be – materials including plastics, paper, card, metals, to be “banked” accordingly.

Any items which cannot be re-used/recycled will be transferred to an authorised responsible waste carrier for appropriate disposal – including District Council which incinerates waste with energy-capture.

Implementation

This policy to be implemented immediately after adoption by Council – adopted 5th December 2011.

Review

The policy will be reviewed by the Open Spaces committee annually in January from 2013 in line with developing options for waste management.