

"Circe - European regions toward Circular Economy"

INTERREG Europe Project



Action Plan

Project Partner 5

London Waste and Recycling Board

1. Executive summary.....	1
2. Current Policy Instrument	2
3. Actions.....	4

1. Executive summary

This action plan identifies three key actions which will be undertaken from July 2019 – June 2021 to improve and accelerate circular economy within key London Policy instruments. It details the nature of the actions, timeframes, stakeholders, costs and funding sources (if any).

The action plan is a result of work undertaken through the Circe project from 2017 -2019. Through the project LWARB has worked with London stakeholders and EU partners to identify and priorities opportunities for improving these policies, and in some cases has already initiated work to make improvements.

The key policy instruments which are the focus of this activity are the London Environment Strategy (LES) and the London Plan (LP). Supporting these two key policy instruments are the Responsible Procurement Policy (RPP) and the London Circular Economy Route Map (RM).

Three key actions have been identified which LWARB will focus on over the next two years in order to further improve the two policy instruments. These are:

- 1, Creation of circular economy procurement guidance to improve the governance of the LES and RPP
- 2, Update of the RM to improve the governance of the LES and allow learning from the Circe project to be embedded in one of London’s key policy supporting documents
- 3, Creation of Circular Economy Statement technical guidance to improve the governance of the LP.

Project: Circe

Partner organisation: London Waste and Recycling Board

Other partner organisations involved (if relevant): _____

Country: UK

NUTS2 region: London

Contact person: Andrea Crump
email address: andrea.crump@lwarb.gov.uk

This document reflects the author's views. The programme authorities are not liable for any use that may be made of the information contained therein

2. Current Policy instrument

2.1 General information

The London Waste and Recycling Board (LWARB) is a statutory Board established by the GLA Act 2007 to help reduce waste and improve its management in London. The Board is chaired by the Mayor of London (or his representative). The Board also includes four councillors and two independents appointed by London's councils and one independent member appointed by the Mayor of London.

The Greater London Authority (GLA) is a devolved regional body lead by the Mayor of London. Through the GLA the Mayor is responsible for creating and delivering policies and strategies for transport, housing and land, planning, economic development, the environment, policing and crime, fire and rescue services, arts and culture, sport, young people and public health.

Through the Circe project LWARB have work closely with the GLA to advise and advocate for policies which accelerate London's transition to a circular economy. LWARB will work with the GLA and a variety of other stakeholders to deliver the actions detailed within this document.

2.2 Policy context

The Action Plan aims to impact:

Investment for Growth and Jobs programme
European Territorial Cooperation programme
Other regional development policy instrument

NOT APPLICABLE

Name of the policy instruments addressed: 1, London Environment Strategy, and 2, London Plan

2.3 Tools and instruments of the Policy instrument to foster CE

2.4 London Environment Strategy

- 2.4.1 The LES is the key policy instrument for London which sets out the Mayor's ambitions and targets for the environment in London. The latest LES was published by the Greater London Authority on behalf of the Mayor of London on 31st May 2018. It. Through the CircE project LWARB worked to influence the earlier draft version of the LES, and this work is detailed in the Policy Advocacy Overview paper submitted to all CircE partners by LWARB. This work is evident in the final published version of the LES, illustrating how LWARB has influenced the policies and strategy to readdress measures contained within the LES in line with circular economy principles as part of the CircE project. This work will now continue through the actions outlined in the action plan. The LES set the objectives of enabling the transition to a low-carbon circular economy and driving resource efficiency to significantly reduce waste, maximise recycling rates, reduce the environmental impact of waste activities, maximise local waste sites and ensure London has sufficient infrastructure to manage all the waste it produces.
- 2.4.2 The LES includes recognition of the work undertaken by LWARB to produce the London CE RM, and a commitment by the Mayor to work with LWARB and other partners to implement the actions set out in the RM.
- 2.4.3 The LES and the GLA Group Responsible Procurement Policy (RPP) does include a commitment to CE in public procurement, but neither documents contain specific targets or guidance on how to apply circular economy principles to public procurement.

2.5 The London Plan

- 2.5.1 The London Plan is the policy instrument which sets out the strategic economic, environmental, and social framework for development in London. The draft London Plan was published for consultation in December 2017. The final version is expected to be published in Spring 2020.
- 2.5.2 LWARB worked with the GLA through the CircE project to shape the Draft Plan before it was published, submitted a formal detailed response to the Draft London Plan consultation (which has been shared with all PPs), and has continued to work with the GLA to shape the final version of the LP. This includes contributing the independent examination in public (The draft London Plan must be considered by a formal Examination in Public. This is led by independent inspectors appointed by the Secretary of State).

2.6 ACTIONS (for addressing opportunities identified)

ACTION 1: Integrating CE into Public Procurement

1. The background (please describe the lessons learnt from the project that constitute the basis for the development of the present Action Plan)

Within London, the Greater London Authority Group is responsible for almost £11bn spending a year, and London municipalities are responsible for £20bn of procurement each year meaning there is a huge opportunity to integrate circular economy into the London supply chain through public purchasing power.

The opportunity to utilise public procurement to accelerate action towards a circular economy was identified as an issue in other project partner opportunity reports and through the project ITIA analysis for LWARB, Lombardy and Gelderland with a focus on the built environment. Procurement was identified as an enabling sector for London's CE within LWARB's CircE opportunities report in July 2017. Within the CircE tool produced by the Lombardy region during the project, the GPPinfoNET was identified as a cross cutting project with valuable information on CE in public procurement. LWARB will use the GPPinfoNET as a useful source of information to feed into the work.

The action to focus on public procurement in the built environment was first discussed with stakeholders at the London stakeholder group meeting on 18th June 2018. The stakeholder group agreed it was a priority however the group identified that the opportunity should be across all sectors of public procurement and not just the built environment. A new London Environment Directors CE group has been created to identify how municipalities can embed CE. The group also identified public procurement as a key priority.

The LES includes the following commitment to CE in public procurement "The Mayor will lead by example to cut waste and encourage reuse through the GLA group's operations and procurement activities". The LES also states the Mayor expects municipalities to "show leadership to reduce waste and increase resource efficiency locally through their own procurement activities, using the Mayor's Responsible Procurement Policy as a best practice standard". Delivery of this action aims to help deliver both of these policies.

Currently the RPP states that the GLA will give preference to circular procurement options but contains no specific targets or guidance in relation to how to embed circular economy in public procurement.

Discussions with officers from municipalities across London have illustrated that there is a lack of understanding across London on how or what to include in relation to CE in public procurement. One London municipality has committed to trial CE in public procurement. Through this action, guidance to support the policy instrument will be developed and disseminated across London municipalities. This will help to improve the governance of the policy instrument, and will be used to feed into the next version of the LES and RPP.

2. Action (please list and describe the actions to be implemented)

- Work with stakeholders to analyse and identify how CE can be included in public procurement utilising available examples of good practice
- Work with one London municipality to examine their current procurement processes and how CE principles can be embedded
- Utilise learning from this review to create a CE tool for public procurement by municipalities with technical input from stakeholders
- Create CE case study for public procurement
- Work with GLA group and municipalities to distribute learning and assist in capacity building
- Work with GLA to incorporate refined guidance for CE in public procurement into next version of LES and RPP.

3. Players involved (please indicate the organisations in the region who are involved in the development and implementation of the action and explain their role)

- GLA group
- Local Authorities (sustainability teams, procurement teams, Environmental Directors)
- LWARB
- London Environmental Directors Network (LEDNET)

4. Timeframe

- Tool development and piloting - 2019 -2021
- Identification of recommendations to next version of LES - 2021
- Continued refinement of guidance - 2022
- Improvements to next LES version - 2023

5. Costs (if relevant)

This will require staff time from involved organisations. An estimated staff time cost is not available. Staff resources to coordinate this action will be provided by LWARB.

6. Funding sources (if relevant):

Not applicable.

ACTION 2 : Update London Circular Economy Route Map and Improve Delivery

7. The background (please describe the lessons learnt from the project that constitute the basis for the development of the present Action Plan)

The RM is a document which sets out key actions for London to deliver to transition to a circular economy. It was published in June 2017 by LWARB and is recognised within the LES as a key document helping to govern the delivery of the Mayor's policies in relation to the CE. In this way the RM acts as a policy document supporting the LES to deliver CE.

The LES states "The Mayor will work with LWARB, Ellen MacArthur Foundation and other partners to implement LWARB's Circular Economy Route Map".

Circe partners noted the importance of an overarching document that sets out the pathway to CE during workshops and discussions in Ljubljana and Barcelona.

Through the CircE project the key sectors identified within the RM were tested and verified as the most relevant for London. Many of the opportunities identified during the CircE project helped to verify actions already included in the RM, but also revealed the opportunity for the good practices shared by other project partners to be used (e.g. the Dutch Circular Textile Roadmap shared by Gelderland). Other potential gaps in delivery of the RM were revealed during the project (e.g. the project value analysis identified the need for better collection sorting and redistribution of second hand textiles for Lombardy, Catalonia and LWARB). It will therefore be important to update the RM to reflect learnings from the CircE project and improve the strategic approach to delivering the RM as committed to in the LES. The action to update the RM document was discussed with the London stakeholders group at a meeting held on 18th June 2018 meeting. At the meeting stakeholders agreed the updating of the RM should be a key priority for action.

During the project it became apparent that in London less was known about current good practices in the electronics sector, both in London and in Europe. To ensure all 5 sectors of the RM could be updated as part of the action plan delivery during phase 2 of the CircE Project, more needed to be understood about good practice in Europe and current action in the electronics sector in London. Therefore, a study was undertaken to review good practice. One of the good practices identified was Millor Que Nou in Barcelona, Spain – a good practice suggested to LWARB by the Catalonia project partners during the London visit. This information from the electronics study will be used during the delivery of the action plan.

A strategic review of all 5 sectors will be undertaken utilizing the information gained during the CircE project. The information gained through the RM strategic review, and the updated RM itself will provide improved governance of the LES. The updated RM actions will also help clarify policy recommendations on how the LES can be improved and will be used as a key document to shape wording and effectiveness of the next version of the LES (including the examination of specific policies and targets) which is expected to be published in 4 years' time.

8. Action (please list and describe the actions to be implemented)

- Work with stakeholders across London to review current progress within the sectors covered by the RM, and relevant good practices taking learnings from the CircE phase 1 work. Workshops and discussions will be held with stakeholders from each of the sectors within the RM. Current progress, gaps and future opportunities will be discussed. Best practice case studies, gaps identified and examples from CircE will be shared to help shape the updated RM.
- Draft and refine an updated RM strategy
- Actions within the updated RM will be discussed with all stakeholders and where possible commitment to deliver will be obtained
- Publish the updated RM strategy on the LWARB website
- Begin delivery of updated RM with key stakeholders
- Work with the GLA to incorporate specific policy recommendations identified through the updated Route Map strategy into the next version of the LES

9. Players involved (please indicate the organisations in the region who are involved in the development and implementation of the action and explain their role)

- GLA
- LWARB
- Stakeholders across the 5 sectors (Built environment, textiles, food, electricals and plastics)

10. Timeframe

- Undertake review of route map with LWARB staff utilizing CircE learnings- July 2020
- Work with stakeholders to compose updated route map July 2020 – Dec 2020
- Work with stakeholders to begin delivery of RM strategy Jan 2021 onwards
- Identify key policies to feed into subsequent versions of LES and undertake advocacy work with GLA - 2021 - 2023

11. Costs (if relevant)

Hosting of workshops, and redesign of RM will have minimal costs but will require staff time.

12. Funding sources (if relevant):

The review of the RM and production of the new RM will be funded by LWARB.

ACTION 3: Integrating CE into the Built Environment

13. The background (please describe the lessons learnt from the project that constitute the basis for the development of the present Action Plan)

London's population was 8.78 million in 2016 and is expected to grow to 10 million by 2029. This means London faces pressure to build new infrastructure and housing rapidly. The 2015 London Plan (London's spatial planning strategy) identifies that over 40,000 units of housing will need to be built per year over the next 10 years, and London's office space will increase by 5 million m² by 2030. In 2011, the GLA identified that 48% of all waste in London is from construction, excavation and demolition.

This provides a huge opportunity to integrate circular economy within construction and development. The London Plan and associated guidance documents could be used to ensure planning and development within London follows the principles of circular economy. LWARB's report – Towards a Circular Economy for London identified that the built environment offered the opportunity for GDP growth of between £3bn and £5bn annually by 2036.

Through the CircE project, LWARB has already worked with the GLA to shape the Draft LP before it was published, submitted a formal detailed response to the Draft LP consultation (which has been shared with all PPs), and has continued to work with the GLA to shape the final version of the LP.

Within the Lombardy lead partner's CircE tool and opportunities report, one of the opportunities identified for the built environment was the need for standardization of policies to help ensure circular economy within the sector. This opportunity is listed as "standardization of urban regeneration policies". This highlighted to LWARB the importance of a standardized approach to policies, and how they are interpreted and delivered. Clear guidelines and a standardized approach will be important to ensure new policy requirements can be met. The draft London Plan contains a requirement for large developments to create a Circular Economy Statement (CES) but does not provide details on what the CES should contain or guidance on the process for completing a CES.

At the London stakeholder meeting held on 18th June 2018, the stakeholders agreed that working with the GLA to create the guidance which will detail how to implement the CES was a key priority for action as it would allow the policy to be delivered. The importance of such a technical guidance document to

allow delivery of the policy was also observed by project partners during the CircE project study visit to London in November 2018 where the plans to develop the technical guidance were shared with project partners. During phase 1 of the CircE project, CircE funding was used to help identify the technical approach and process needed to enable delivery of the CES policy with stakeholders across the built environment. This was matched by funding from the GLA. This work included interviews, workshops and reviews by developers, architects, academics, planners, and other organisations.

This action is aimed at ensuring the approach and the process identified during phase 1 of the CircE project is turned into a policy technical guidance to standardize how the policy is delivered, and then helping ensure the guidance is disseminated and implemented.

14. Action (please list and describe the actions to be implemented)

- Work with GLA and built environment sector in London to turn the process identified through phase 1 of CircE into CES policy technical guidance, identify how the policy will be monitored and create good practice examples (already in progress)
- Work with GLA, Local authorities, and industry to disseminate the technical guidance, provide training and encourage uptake and implementation of CES policy through the technical guidance created
- monitoring use of CE Statement (to allow GLA to further refine the policy) ,
- analysis of impact of CE statements, ID positives and negatives for the next iteration of London Plan /revised guidance

15. Players involved (please indicate the organisations in the region who are involved in the development and implementation of the action and explain their role)

- LWARB
- GLA
- Useful Projects
- UK Green Building Council
- Building companies
- Architects
- Planners

16. Timeframe


- Create CES policy technical guidance Jul 19 – Spring 2020
- Identify method for monitoring CES policy July 19 – Spring 2020
- Publish CES policy technical guidance - Spring 2020
- Disseminate guidance and provide training to ensure implementation of CES policy Spring 2020 – Dec 2020
- Monitor CES completions for new developments Spring 2020 onwards
- Analysis of impact of CE statement guidance - 2022-2023

17. Costs (if relevant)

See below

18. Funding sources (if relevant):
Work to turn the recommendations from the phase 1 study into technical guidance will be continued through staff time from LWARB and GLA from June 2019 onwards. The GLA will also contribute funding to the design and publication of the technical guidance and monitor and review completion of CE Statements.

Date: _____

Signature: 

Stamp of the organisation (if available): _____

I confirm the above mentioned Action Plan is in accordance with the Mayor's London Environment Strategy. Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the proposed Plan and look forward to continuing to work with LWARB to accelerate London's progress towards a circular economy.

Date: 12/02/2020

Signature: 