

# Food Waste Collection Service

Cabinet 8 December 2025



PLYMOUTH  
CITY COUNCIL



# Food Waste Project Overview



- **Statutory Driven City Wide Weekly Food Waste Collection:** integrates with existing waste services for seamless operation. i.e same day as existing. Delivered across 9 rounds.
- **Infrastructure:** New food waste internal and caddies, communal bins, bespoke food waste vehicles. Depot and transfer site preparations.
- **Anaerobic Digestion Processing:** Collected food waste is processed at an anaerobic digestion facility to produce renewable energy
- **Operational Readiness:** Route design. Distribution to households. Resourcing: 2 Team Leaders, 10 drivers, 20 collectors ensure efficiency and safety in waste management operations
- **Public Engagement, Communications & Behavioural Change**

# Benefits

- Reduction of the total cost of treatment of Residual waste (per annum)
- Enhances recycling rates (circa 5-8% uplift)
- Meeting Government requirements
- Redirects green house gases and converts waste into renewable energy via anaerobic digestion
- Community awareness of recycling in general



# Business Case Financial Overview – Defra Funding



- Capital case £2,996,779 approved November 2024, funded by:
  - Stage 1 Capital Defra Grant of £1,941,574 for vehicles and containers.
  - Service borrowing of £355,205
- Defra Transitional Funding - mobilisation
  - £570,159 allocated for project management, distribution, procurement fees and communications.
- 4 year total revenue cost £4,256,333
- Defra New Burdens Funding – Ongoing
  - TBC – estimated for Business Case as a balancing line
    - 2026/27 – £600,000
    - 2027/28 - £800,000
    - 2028/29 onwards - £800,000

# Business Case Financial Overview

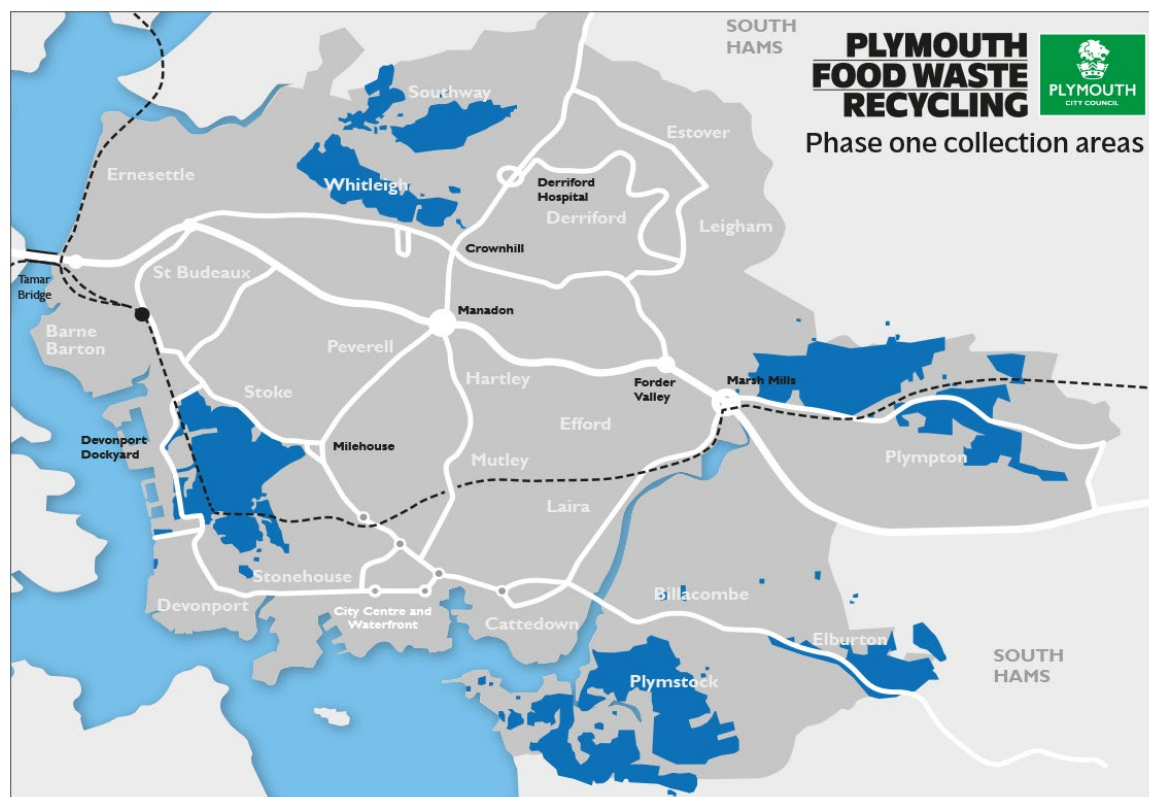


	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
<b>(A) Total Cost:</b> Distribution, Comms, Project Management, Staff, Vehicle, Haulage, Disposal and Service borrowing	276,759	1,812,165	1,872,674
<b>(B) Total Savings:</b> Removal of EfW disposal costs	4,895	381,778	600,990
<b>Net cost (A – B)</b>	<b>271,864</b>	<b>1,430,387</b>	<b>1,271,684</b>
Funding: Defra Transitional Grant	187,603	382,556	0
Funding: Defra New Burdens	0	600,000	800,000
Funding: Existing Budget	250,000	500,000	500,000
<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>437,603</b>	<b>1,482,556</b>	<b>1,300,000</b>
<b>Overall Net (benefit) cost</b>	<b>(165,739)</b>	<b>(52,169)</b>	<b>(28,316)</b>

# First phase



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- Devonport (inc Keyham)
  - Plympton
  - Plymstock
  - Stoke
  - Southway
  - Tamerton Foliot
  - Whitleigh
- [Address tool](#)

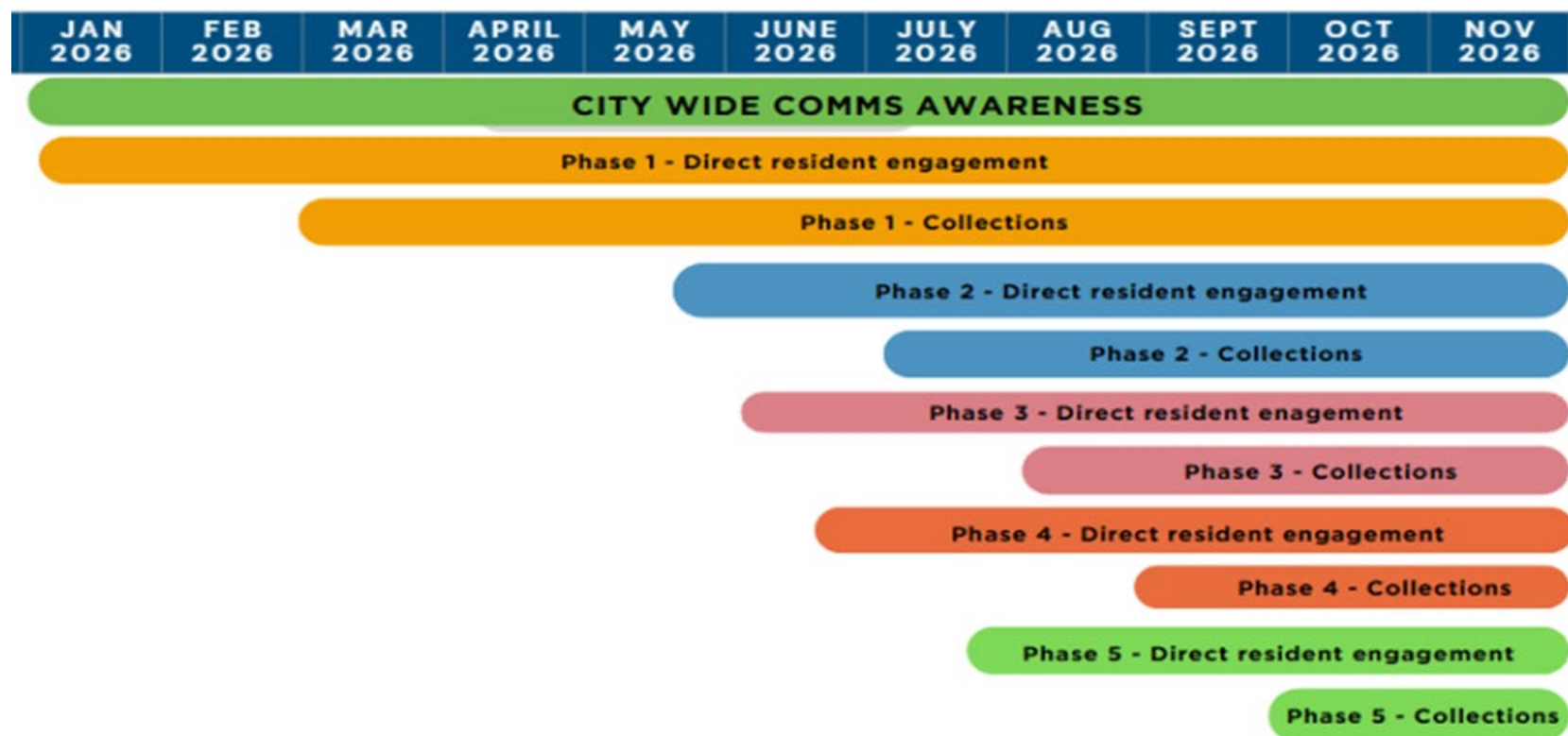


# Phased Roll out



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## FOOD WASTE PHASED ROLL OUT



# Public Engagement & Behavioural Change Strategy



## GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND BEHAVIOURAL CHANGE STRATEGY



### Collaborative

Working with stakeholders, partners, and the community



### Evidence-Based

Grounded in research and data



### Innovative

Seeking creative and new approaches



### Communicative

Ensuring clear and open communication



### Responsive

Adapting to feedback and changing needs



# Questions

