



NAWDO press statement – Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) decision to review LGR programme

8th September 2026

[Start]

The Government's announcement yesterday brings significant uncertainty for councils who have been working hard on transition plans. NAWDO calls on the Government to acknowledge that Waste Disposal Officers have dedicated time and money to enact the Government's LGR programme, at the same time as implementing Government's legislation reforms.

The future is now extremely uncertainty. If we do not know the formation and number of councils that will exist in impacted areas we cannot plan for the future, and opportunities for optimising waste and recycling services will continue to be pushed back.

However, an extended timetable might give time for the Government to reinstate legislation for establishing Joint Waste Authorities, which would protect waste services from LGR fragmentation. Similarly, the Government will have more time to develop its devolution offer – which should enable waste service delivery at the Strategic Authority level, like in Greater Manchester.

Government must work in partnership with councils to reshape their reform programme with input from those who understand what will work best for local residents. A clear plan is needed soon, to give councils and the industry enough confidence to invest in the future.

[End]



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WASTE DISPOSAL OFFICERS

About us:

NAWDO, the National Association of Waste Disposal Officers, is the primary network and voice for local authorities with statutory responsibility for waste treatment and disposal. NAWDO was formed in 1992 and its members include London Boroughs, Metropolitan, Unitary, Joint Waste Disposal Authorities, Waste Partnerships and County Councils from all UK regions (except Scotland) to keep up to date with the fast-changing waste and resources industry. Through NAWDO local authorities are provided with presentation on regional, national, international and strategic forums and groups to inform, influence and collaborate with key stakeholders and policy makers. NAWDO is entirely run by volunteers and through its Policy and Advisory (P&A) Committee it sets the direction of the organisation with member engagement. With over 80 members NAWDO represents around 80% of all local authorities with waste disposal duties in the UK. NAWDO holds quarterly meetings where its members, central government, regulators, waste industry and other affiliated groups discuss and debate challenges and current developments in the waste and resources industry, helping shape and influence (future) decisions and policy. It also provides an online forum where members can openly discuss and debate current and relevant issues facing senior officers with waste treatment and disposal portfolios.

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