

# National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy

## Progress Update March 2022

### the background

Section 22 of the Waste Management Act requires that Local Authorities make a Waste Management Plan either individually or collectively. Following the publication of the national waste policy document “A Resource Opportunity” in 2015 three regional waste management planning lead authorities were designated and subsequently three regional waste management plans were published. In 2020 a new national waste policy “A Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy” was published which called for a single “**National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy**”.

The evaluation of the existing Regional Waste Management Plans also recommended the replacement of the existing plans with a national plan while retaining **the regional focus for the implementation** of policies and actions. The lead authority structures will therefore be retained together with the established regional waste management planning offices.

The evaluation process also identified key learnings from the implementation of the existing plans including the inter dependencies that exist within the waste sector, the importance of realistic targets, flexibility, and constructive collaboration.

### the approach

Recognising the importance of collaboration for the achievement of objectives the regional waste planning offices embarked on a series of collaborative workshops that commenced in Q4 2021. The workshops were structured around the three thematic drivers for the new plan namely consumption, the capture of resources and compliance. Key stake holders were invited to participate in two workshops under each theme and the outcomes provide a basis for policy measures to be included in the new plan.

Co Ownership has been a guiding principle in the delivery of the collaborative workshops with an emphasis on the potential for key stakeholders to take ownership of elements of the plan together with responsibility for delivery.

The workshop process culminated with a national briefing sessions for local authority directors, operational and front-line staff. The regional waste management offices have also presented to the CCMA WVEEP Committee where it was agreed that a National Oversight Group be established to review draft plan and set out a protocol for the collective adoption of the National Plan by the Local Authority Sector.

### the process

The regional waste management planning offices work closely with the respective regional waste steering groups who meet in the regions on a quarterly basis. The steering groups have been engaged at each stage of the process to date and will continue to be central to the process as the new plan is formulated. The steering groups have been provided with material to keep strategic policy groups informed and also a CCMA National Waste Management Plan Oversight Group will peer review the draft plan on behalf of the sector prior to publication.

Following the publication of the draft plan there will again be a statutory period for public consultation prior to the final adoption of the completed plan. The regional waste management planning offices will be available during this period to meet with the sector to ensure that the final plan is the best possible plan for the sector. -

### THE PROCESS

#### Q4 2019

CONSULTATIONS BEGIN ON THE EVALUATION PROCESS FOR THE EXISTING REGIONAL PLANS

#### Q1 2020

COORDINATED CCMA SUBMISSION ON NATIONAL WASTE POLICY

#### Q3 2020

PUBLICATION OF NATIONAL WASTE POLICY “WASTE ACTION PLAN FOR A CIRCULAR ECONOMY” INCLUDING THE PROVISION FOR A SINGLE NATIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN.

#### Q1 2021

PRE-DRAFT CONSULTATION PROCESS COMMENCES

#### Q2 2021

PUBLICATION OF THE EVALUATION REPORT RECOMMENDING REPLACEMENT NATIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

#### Q3 2021

PREPARATION OF THE DRAFT PLAN COMMENCES INCLUDING

#### Q4 2021

STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS COMMENCE

#### Q1 2022

LOCAL AUTHORITY BRIEFING SESSIONS FOR MANAGEMENT OPERATIONAL AND FRONTLINE STAFF

#### Q2 2022

CCMA OVERSIGHT GROUP - PEER REVIEW PROCESS OF DRAFT PLAN

#### Q3 2022

LOCAL AUTHORITY SECTOR APPROVAL TO PROCEED TO STATUTORY PUBLIC CONSULTATION

#### Q4 2022

EXECUTIVE ADOPTION / PUBLICATION