

# Waste Challenges Facing Scottish Local Authorities

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# Zero Waste – Key Issues

- All waste recycling target – 70% by 2025 Source segregation and separate collection of key recyclables.
- Maximum 5% of waste to landfill by 2025
- A ban on mixing separately collected recyclable materials.
- A ban on incinerating or landfilling the separately collected recyclable materials.
- A restriction on the inputs to energy from waste facilities.
- A limit on the biodegradable content of waste to landfill

# Key Implications

- More recyclate and more shipments of recyclate abroad until Scotland develops domestic reprocessing capability.
- More focus on recyclate quality and material flows from producer through Material Recycling Facilities (MRF) to exporter.
- More treatment technologies – MRF, AD, MBT, EfW – with associated permitting and inspection.
- Significant reduction in waste to landfill.
- Completion, closure and aftercare implications as waste available for landfill decreases to a minimum by 2020.

# Implications Now

- SEPA & Local Authorities have joint enforcement responsibilities
- Communications campaign to raise awareness of new duties:
  - Assess whether premises comply with requirements to sort dry recycle/food waste
  - Provide clarification on the Requirements
  - Signpost Support
  - Address persistent high impact non compliance

# Regulatory Timeline

## Requirement for separate collection of dry recyclates

LA required to begin  
transition to separate  
food/bio-waste  
collection

Separate collection  
of food waste  
(medium to large  
businesses)

Ban on separately  
collected materials  
going to landfill land  
and incineration

LA required to have  
completed transition to  
separate food/bio-waste  
collection

Separate collection of  
food waste from small  
businesses

Requirement to remove  
dense plastics and metals  
from residual waste prior  
to incineration

Ban on  
biodegradable  
municipal waste to  
landfill

Jan 2014

Jan 2016

Jan 2021

# How will infrastructure change?

- A greater number of sophisticated MRFs.
- More exports of recyclate & RDF
- More AD and IVC.
- More EfW.
- Fewer landfills.

# Consequences for Landfill

- Step change reduction in waste to landfill
- Increased lifespan
- Increased leachate generation
- Changes to waste composition; changes to gas generation rates
- Smaller cell sizes desirable
- Review of restoration profiles necessary
- Fewer sites required

# The Threat of Waste Crime

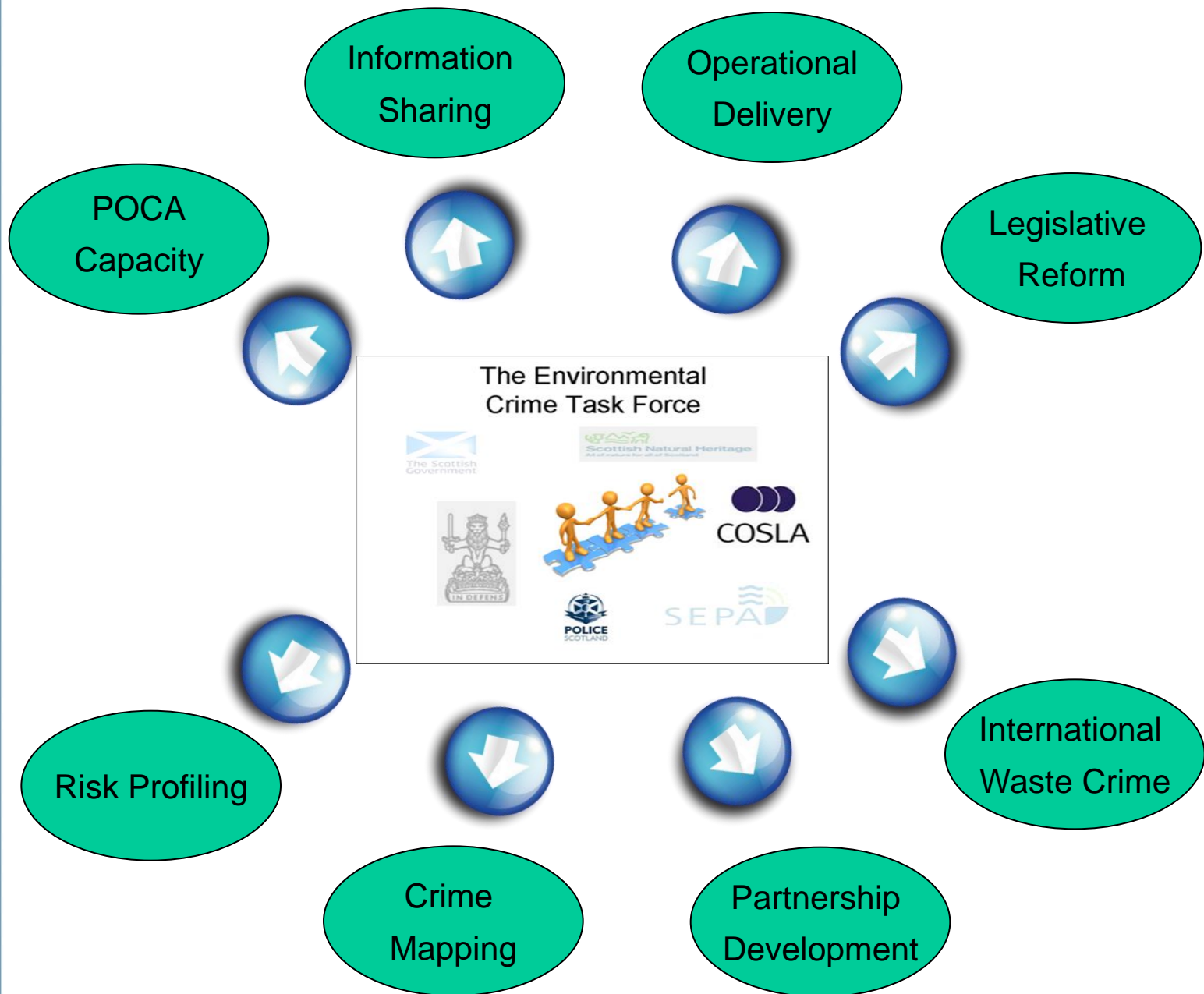
- Undermines and disrupts legitimate enterprise in Scotland
- Infiltration by Serious Organised Crime Groups within industry
- Costs of legitimate disposal provide low risk high profit opportunities for criminals to flourish
- Environmental Impact now and in the Future
- Economic Impact





# Indicators of Waste Crime

- Illegal Waste Disposal disguised behind 'legal fronts'
- Takeover of insolvent waste disposal companies
- Low tendering
- Out of hours activity
- Deliberate misclassification of waste, e.g.
  - Blending/crushing/covering/dressing material
  - Falsification of documents



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