The Waste Hierarchy

Stages

Avoid
Changing our behaviour to prevent waste
Asking ‘Do I really need it?’

Reduce
Minimising the amount of waste we produce
Selecting items with less packaging, buying recycled

Reuse
Does it need to be disposed of?
Could I or someone else use it?

Recycle
Recycling more, checking schemes available and segregating items appropriately; composting food waste

Recover
Capturing energy and materials from discarded products (e.g. waste sent for incineration with energy recovery)

Dispose
Last resort option - landfill and incineration without energy recovery