



Supporting Document – Background Information

June 2008



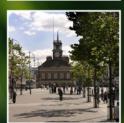


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Stockton-on-Tees















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Tees Valley Joint Waste Management Strategy

Supporting Document - Background Information

June 2008

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1. Introduction

In January 2007, the Tees Valley Joint Strategy Unit commissioned Entec to provide technical assistance in the development of its Joint Waste Management Strategy (JWMS), using funding awarded by Defra. To support the Headline Strategy, Entec has produced a series of supplementary reports which provide technical waste management information and discuss in further detail the considerations used in developing the Strategy.

This report deals with background information not included within the other supporting documents.

The other Supporting Documents include:

- Supporting Document Waste Awareness and Minimisation;
- Supporting Document Waste Collection;
- Supporting Document Waste Treatment;
- Supporting Document Options Appraisal.

This supplementary report provides detailed information on the current level of waste arisings within the Tees Valley and the most recent information on the composition of this waste stream. More detailed information is provided on the current drivers and targets for change. Drivers include legislative drivers, environmental and sustainability concerns and the demand from the public for the Authorities to provide improved Waste Services.





2. Baseline

2.1 Current Levels of Waste Generated

In 2006/07 a total of 394,000 tonnes of municipal waste was generated in the Tees Valley. 317,000 tonnes of this material was household waste, with the remainder collected from Local Authority owned premises or commercial customers. Full details of the amount of Municipal Waste and the methods of collection and treatment of these waste streams are provided in Table 2.1 below.

		Darlington	Hartlepool	Middlesbrough	Redcar & Cleveland	Stockton on Tees	Tees Valley Total
	Population	99200	90000	137600	138600	186700	652100
Household Waste	Kerbside Recycling	4750	4490	4210	8760	7340	29550
	Recycling from HWRCs	2630	1600	3040	3220	3720	14210
	Recycling from Bring Sites	850	720	710	880	1800	4960
	Kerbside Composting	0	1960	10	8080	2670	12720
	Composting from HWRCs	3350	2120	1760	2980	2160	12370
	Other Recycling	180	1970	0	390	1130	3670
	Kerbside Collection to Energy from Waste (EfW)	0	18370	40870	33110	56170	148520

Table 2.1 Municipal Waste Arisings 2006/07



	Kerbside Collection to						44840
	Landfill	29780	1860	4770	2120	6310	
	HWRC waste to EfW	0	6200	3510	2740	4290	16740
	HWRC waste to landfill	6650	490	190	1540	230	9100
	Other Household Waste to EfW	0	1250	1040	0	1810	4100
	Other Household waste to landfill	1820	1800	3320	7730	1180	15850
	TOTAL HOUSEHOLD WASTE	50010	42830	63430	71550	88810	316630
		Darlington	Hartlepool	Middlesbrough	Redcar & Cleveland	Stockton on Tees	Tees Valley
							Total
	Commercial Waste Recovery/ Recycling	0	9830	6290	5900	6530	Total 28550
r Waste	Waste Recovery/	0 8340	9830 460	6290 3210	5900 2290	6530 7510	
Other Waste	Waste Recovery/ Recycling Commercial Waste to						28550

* Kerbside Composting Collection introduced in March 2007



2.2 Municipal Waste Composition

Understanding the types of waste that make up the municipal waste stream is important as it allows us to accurately identify what waste streams can be targeted for reuse, reduction and recycling. The Tees Valley Authorities identified the types and relative amounts of waste within the Household Waste stream in October 2005 through a compositional study. The results of this study are illustrated in Figure 2.1 below.

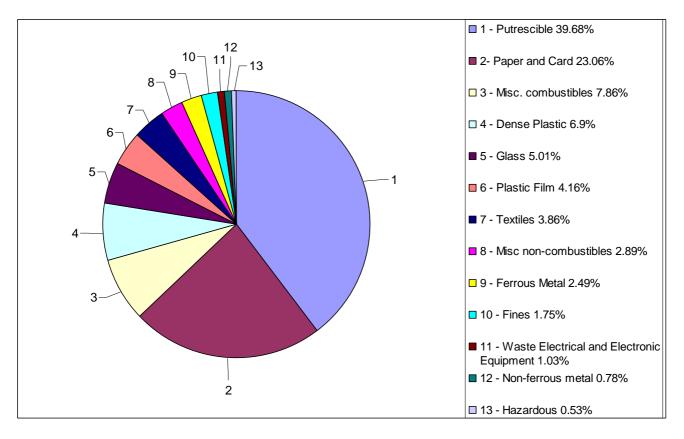


Figure 2.1 Average Household Waste Composition within the Tees Valley

Analysis was carried out on waste streams from a range of different types of households and socio-economic groups, using the ACORN classification system.



Material	Percentage (%)	Kilograms per household per week
Waste Electric and Electronic Equipment	1.03	0.12
Hazardous	0.53	0.06
Fine material	1.75	0.21
Putrescible	39.68	4.79
Non-ferrous metal	0.78	0.09
Ferrous metal	2.49	0.30
Glass	5.01	0.60
Miscellaneous non- combustibles	2.89	0.35
Miscellaneous combustibles	7.86	0.95
Textiles	3.86	0.47
Dense Plastic	6.90	0.83
Plastic Film	4.16	0.50
Paper and Card	23.06	2.78

Table 2.2 Tees Valley Average Household Waste Composition (October 2005)

Some of the terms used in the waste compositional analysis are explained below:

- Miscellaneous Combustibles this category includes disposable nappies, sanitary products, wood and carpet materials. These materials do not easily fit into other categories but are grouped together as they share characteristics that mean that they combust;
- Miscellaneous non-combustibles this includes ceramics and hardcore material. Again, these materials do not fit easily into other categories but are grouped together as they share characteristics that they will not burn easily;
- Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) this category includes a range of household electrical and electronic appliances, including items such as toasters, hairdryers, electric toothbrushes and video, computer and audio equipment;



- Putrescible this is a broad category that includes organic materials that have an ability to rot. It includes both food waste, typically from kitchens, and garden waste, such as grass cuttings and hedge clippings. It also includes some other materials including hair, soil and animal bedding;
- Fine material this refers to any materials less than 1cm in diameter which can not be otherwise categorised. This can include both organic and inorganic materials.





3. The Challenge Ahead

Waste Management in the UK has undergone significant change in the past few years driven by increased awareness of climate change and resource use. Those relevant to a sustainable waste strategy are shown in Figure 3.1 below along with the targets that are set to ensure aspirations are met.

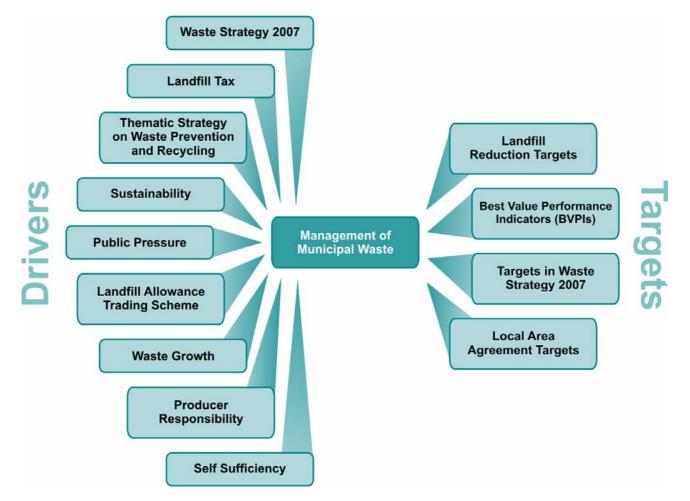


Figure 3.1 Drivers and Targets for Change



3.1 The Drivers for Change

3.1.1 European Waste Framework Directive

The European Commission and European Parliament are currently revising the European Waste Framework Directive. This follows a review of existing European waste policy through the Thematic Strategy on the Prevention and Recycling of Waste which identified a number of areas in which existing policy could be strengthened and improved. The three key areas are:

- Improvements to a number of definitions (particularly around waste classifications and the end of 'waste' and efficiency criteria for 'recovery');
- Adoption of an environmental objective which seeks to reduce the environmental impacts from waste generation and management, taking into account the whole life-cycle;
- Simplification of the existing legal framework through the incorporation of other directives.

The full revised legislation received its first reading by the European Parliament in February 2007 and the final legislation is likely to take several years to finalise. The requirements of the revised directive must be viewed in relation to the UK's waste strategy, but this strategy has sought to align itself with the proposed changes by viewing waste as a resource.



The European Waste Directive was fundamental in introducing the waste hierarchy, indicating preferences for sustainable waste management. The Waste Hierarchy is illustrated in Figure 3.2 below.

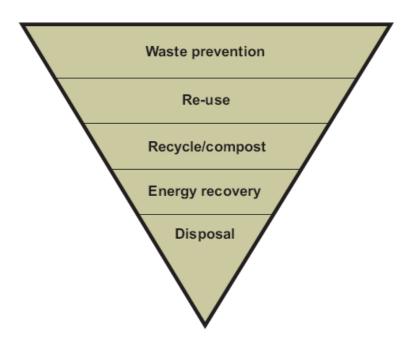


Figure 3.2 The Waste Hierarchy

3.1.2 The Landfill Directive

The European Union (EU) implemented this Directive to minimise the environmental impacts associated with landfill sites. The central aim of the directive is to minimise the environmental impacts associated within landfill. It introduced a series of minimum standards for landfills in terms of engineering and infrastructure and required improved monitoring. Significantly the Landfill Directive introduced targets in regards to the amount of Biodegradable Municipal Waste (BMW) that may be disposed of to landfill which are provided in Table 3.1.



Table 3.1 National Diversion Target	s for Biodegradable Municipal Waste
-------------------------------------	-------------------------------------

Year	Target
2010	By 2010 to reduce the amount of BMW to landfill to 75% of that produced in 1995.
2013	By 2013 to reduce the amount of BMW to landfill to 50% of that produced in 1995.
2020	By 2020 to reduce the amount of BMW to landfill to 35% of that produced in 1995.

3.1.3 National Waste Strategy

Waste Strategy for England 2007 was published by Defra in May 2007. It builds upon the previous Waste Strategy 2000 but aims for greater ambition by addressing the key challenges for the future through additional steps. It provides new Government objectives which are to:

- Decouple waste growth (in all sectors) from economic growth and put more emphasis on waste prevention and re-use;
- Meet and exceed the Landfill Directive diversion targets for biodegradable municipal waste in 2010, 2013 and 2020;
- Increase diversion from landfill of non municipal waste and secure better integration of treatment for municipal and non municipal waste;
- Secure the investment in infrastructure needed to divert waste from landfill and for the management of hazardous waste;
- Get the most environmental benefit from that investment, through increased recycling of resources and recovery of energy from residual waste using a mix of technologies.

In addition to the Waste Strategy identified 'Key Waste Materials' where diversion from landfill could realise significant environmental and economic benefit. These key materials include; Paper, Food and Green wastes, and Plastics and Aluminium.

The Strategy intends to deliver additional support for Anaerobic Digestion through the new technologies programme, the Renewable Obligations system, the Private Finance Initiative



(PFI) and by the introduction of a compost standard that will establish the use of this technology.

The Strategy also identifies that there is some potential to increase diversion of household hazardous waste from landfill. As the amount of residual waste is reduced the concentration of hazardous waste in the residual waste stream will increase. In particular the Strategy recommends that all Local Authorities provide and publicise a separate collection service for household hazardous waste and adopt recommendations within the 'The Haz Guide', guidance issues from the National Household Hazardous Waste Forum.

The Waste Strategy 2007 marks a strategic shift in the introduction of whole life cycle impacts of products, and on the life cycle analysis of waste materials with end- of-life options. The Tees Valley Strategy evaluates different options for collection systems using the Waste Resources Assessment Tool for the Environment (WRATE) modelling software, further details of this process are included in 'Supporting Document - Options Appraisal'. In particular the 2007 strategy is concerned with the potential impact in regards to potential greenhouse gas emissions, otherwise known as the 'Carbon Footprint'.

The Life Cycle Analysis approach has identified the following different key materials and potential initiatives:

- Paper and Card both recycling and energy recovery show significant greenhouse gas and energy benefits compared to landfill;
- Food and Garden wastes Anaerobic digestion offers benefits over landfilling and in addition the use of the compost has the ability to sequester carbon in soils and thereby reduce flooding;
- Aluminium recycling allows for significant savings in greenhouse gases in association with the extraction process;
- Glass Closed loop recycling offers the greatest environmental benefits, where containers are recycled as containers. The Strategy identifies potential actions in developing and trialling collection services for glass from small businesses;
- Plastics Recycling plastics provides significant carbon and energy savings, whereas burning plastics releases fossil carbon having a net, adverse effect where this material is converted to energy less efficiently than a conventional power station;



- Wood Some kinds of wood waste reuse or recycling are the best options, however, for the majority of the waste stream use of this material as a fuel generally conveys a greater greenhouse gas benefit;
- Textiles Reuse and recycling of textiles is highly beneficial, however rates are currently identified as low and there is a potential to increase the amount of work done in this area.

The Waste Strategy does not identify how Authorities should implement future waste collections. Rather it uses the Strategy to identify areas of best practice which may be incorporated at individual authority level. In particular, the Strategy identifies the potential success of Alternate Weekly Schemes, but equally notes that Authorities may attain high levels of recycling without relying on these types of system. Department for the Environment Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) has not found any evidence of increased risks associated with Alternate Weekly Collections. The Strategy states that there are clear advantages in providing weekly food waste collection systems, including using Anaerobic Digestion to provide energy.

Alongside the publication of the Waste Strategy for England 2007 Defra carried out a consultation on the use of incentives to encourage householders to reduce and recycle their waste. As part of this exercise Defra has carried out research to identify the potential impact of introducing waste charging in England. The results of this research have been published in a report 'Modelling the Impact of Household Charging for Waste in England'. ¹

3.1.4 The Household Waste Recycling Act

The Household Waste Recycling Act 2003 amends the Environmental Protection Act and places a general duty on Local Authorities to ensure that by December 2010 they collect at least two recyclable wastes together or individually separated from the rest of the household waste stream. Authorities are not required to comply with this Act were the cost of doing so is found to be unreasonably high. The aim of this Act is to support Local Authorities in achieving their statutory recycling targets.

3.1.5 The Waste and Emissions Trading Act

The UK has introduced the Waste and Emissions Trading (WET) Act to ensure that the UK meets its national targets as required by the Landfill Directive. This Act has been implemented

¹ http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/waste-incentives/index.htm



in the UK through the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme (LATS). This regulation has allocated allowances to each Authority to specify how many tonnes of BMW that may be disposed of to landfill each year by that Authority.

If an Authority expects to landfill more than their prescribed limit they may purchase additional allowances. Where an Authority landfills less waste than their allowance the Authority may decide to sell the surplus allowance to another Authority, or they may decide to 'bank' their unused allowance to use in future years. However, an Authority is unable to use banked allowances during a Target Year. The Target Years are 2010, 2013 and 2020 as set out in the Landfill Directive. In these years the whole of the UK must comply with the directive targets. Where an individual Authority is unable to meet their allowance either directly or through trading they may be fined £150 per tonne for each tonne of BMW landfilled in excess of the allowed tonnage. If the UK as a whole fails to meet its target the EU may impose a fine that the UK Government may decide to split between the Authorities that have missed their targets.

3.1.6 Producer Responsibility

Whilst UK and Tees Valley residents are helping to reduce the amount of waste generated, the government is ensuring that the organisations who sell the products and packaging are also obliged to take responsibility for waste.

Producer responsibility in the UK is aimed at ensuring that businesses who place products on the market take responsibility for those products once they have reached the end of their life. Examples of the "producer responsibility" policy include the implementation of the EC Directive on Packaging and Packaging Waste in the UK, the EC Directive on Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) and the End of Life Vehicles (ELV) Directives. All these producer responsibility directives, as well as the forthcoming directive on Batteries and Accumulators were identified in the European Union's fifth Environment Action Programme as "priority waste streams" because of growing concern about their impact on the environment. In these Directives responsibility is clearly placed on producers to bear the costs of collection, sorting or treatment and recycling or recovery.

Although this legislation does not directly apply to Local Authorities, as they are not classed as 'producers', this legislation may impact on Local Authorities and the services they provide. In particular, Local Authorities may assume a co-ordinating role for the collection of relevant waste streams to aide the commercial sector in meeting their targets.



3.1.7 The Proximity Principle and Self Sufficiency

The Proximity Principle determines that wastes should be treated and disposed of as close as possible to their place of origin. This aims to reduce the overall environmental impact of waste management through a reduction in the transportation of waste materials. The provision of sub-regional facilities will also benefit the Tees Valley by providing local jobs and enhancing the local economy.

However, it must also be acknowledged that in some instances the proximity principle may be at odds with the practicalities of treating and recycling waste. It may be more efficient and sustainable to utilise stable regional, national or international markets for material. The ideal scenario is to attain self-sufficiency in waste management whereby the Tees Valley has sufficient waste management capacity through recycling, composting, other treatment methods and landfill to handle all the waste produced within the Region. The concept of self sufficiency at a regional level forms part of Planning Policy Statement 10; Planning for Sustainable Waste Management (PPS10), published by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister in July 2005.

3.1.8 Waste Growth

In common with most other areas of the UK, the Tees Valley had until recently seen the tonnage of waste it directly handles increase year by year. Housing and population growth, increased visitor numbers, increased product packaging and a general trend towards 'disposable' living all contributed to this increase. Total waste arisings within the Tees Valley Authorities have been variable over the last few years with some of the Authorities reporting growth and others decline. The Tees Valley Authorities have predicted the future growth in the Municipal Waste Stream by assuming that future waste growth will continue at similar levels to those that have happened historically. However, they also predict that year on year, growth will gradually reduce as householders begin to work more towards reducing their waste stream. The predicted growth in waste is also attributed to a predicted increase in the number of households within the Tees Valley sub-region, although it is recognised that the overall population in the Tees Valley is likely to decline over the same time period.



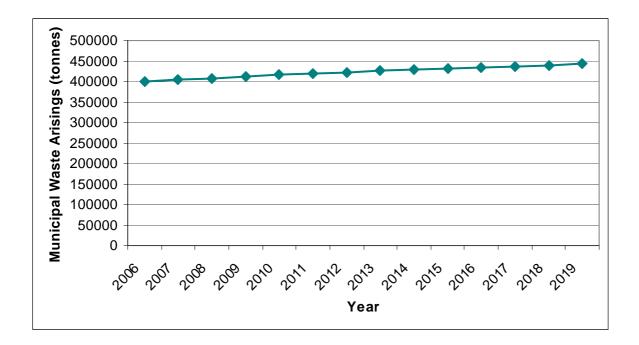


Figure 3.3 Predicted Municipal Waste Growth Profile

3.1.9 Climate Change

The evidence is now clear that greenhouse gas emissions from human activity are affecting the world's climate and that a failure to act to reduce emissions and to adapt to both current and predicted climate change will eventually damage economic growth².

Recycling, composting and recovery have an important role to play in the protection of the environment in relation to Climate Change. Emissions of greenhouse gases, including carbon dioxide and methane, are responsible for enhancing the greenhouse effect and therefore contribute to climate change. Recycling saves energy in the extraction and processing of raw materials. Recycling 1kg of aluminium avoids 11kg of carbon dioxide emissions, and 75% less energy is needed to make items from recycled steel than from new steel. Recovering energy from waste replaces the need for energy generation from other sources and therefore reduces the overall carbon footprint.

² Review of Sub National Economic Development and Regeneration. HM Treasury July 2007



Landfills are a significant source of methane, a powerful greenhouse gas. Recycling, composting and recovery can divert materials from landfills, reducing this effect and contributing to the fight against climate change.

The recent 'Review of Sub National Economic Development and Regeneration', published by the Treasury, seeks to align Climate Change principles with Economic Development at a sub-regional level. The Tees Valley Authorities are developing a Multi Area Agreement facilitated by the Joint Strategy Unit, linking resource management with environmental stewardship and economic development in the sub-region.

In 2005, the Tees Valley Climate Change Partnership (TVCCP) was developed in response to the threat of climate change to the Tees Valley sub-region. The TVCCP funding partners, including the Council, allocated £110,000 of funding for the joint initiative to support a full time Climate Change Officer. As a result of this initiative the Tees Valley Climate Change Strategy is in the process of receiving approval from the partnership organisations. The TVCCP has agreed in principle to locate the Climate Change officer in the Tees Valley Joint Strategy Unit (JSU) in the future, linking the strategy with other sub-regional strategies for economic development, transport and housing under the banner of Tees Valley Unlimited.

3.1.10 Sustainability

Sustainability is summed up by the phrase 'meeting the needs of today without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs'. This phrase in a waste context encourages us to find ways of managing our waste as a resource rather than simply discarding it. This reduces reliance on raw materials and seeks to minimise the environmental impacts associated with waste treatment and disposal. Sustainability may be measured by using a Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) approach to ensure the protection of the environment from the collection of waste materials until the point of reuse or final disposal, or from 'cradle to grave'. Details of the LCA undertaken as part of this strategy are included in the 'Supporting Document - Options Appraisal'.

Sustainability also requires consideration of social and economic factors. This may include consideration of utilising local facilities to provide local jobs, or encouraging the provision of services by the community sector.



3.1.11 Public Demand

The Tees Valley Authorities monitor customer satisfaction with current waste services through the Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPIs) 90 a, b and c. These indicators measure customer satisfaction in terms of the waste collection service provided, the recycling service provided and the waste disposal service provided. These surveys have found a high level of satisfaction with the waste services provided demonstrating the commitment of householders within the Tees Valley to use recycling and composting collections. The results of recent satisfaction surveys are shown in Table 2.2 below. These indicators will be replaced by a new single set of 198 national indicators from April 2008.

Table 2.2 Beat Value	Derfermence	Indiantara	Deleting to	Customer	Satisfaction
Table 3.2 Best Value	Fenomance	mulcalors	Relating to	Customer	Salisiacliun

Authority	Year	BVPI 90a Customer Satisfaction with Waste Collection Service(% satisfied with current service)	BVPI 90b Customer Satisfaction with Waste Recycling Service (% satisfied with current service)	BVPI 90c Customer Satisfaction with Civic Amenity Sites (% satisfied with current service)
Darlington	2000	80%	59%	77%
	2003	81%	63%	81%
	2006	83%	71%	86%
Hartlepool	2000	85%	67%	74%
	2003	89%	80%	84%
	2006	72%	73%	89%
Middlesbrough	2000	79%	50%	58%
	2003	86%	52%	77%
	2006	83%	65%	80%
Redcar and	2000	89%	49%	68%
Cleveland	2003	88%	62%	72%
	2006	65%	68%	79%
Stockton on	2000	80%	46%	57%



Authority	Year	BVPI 90a Customer Satisfaction with Waste Collection Service(% satisfied with current service)	BVPI 90b Customer Satisfaction with Waste Recycling Service (% satisfied with current service)	BVPI 90c Customer Satisfaction with Civic Amenity Sites (% satisfied with current service)
Tees	2003	93%	72%	84%
	2006	93%	75%	84%

3.2 The Targets

3.2.1 National Waste Strategy Targets

The National Waste Strategy provides a greater focus on waste prevention with a new target to reduce the amount of household waste not re-used, recycled or composted by 29% from 2000 levels by 2010 and by 45% by 2020. This is equivalent to a fall of 50% per person since 2000 by 2020.

Higher national targets have also been set for recycling and composting of household waste:

- At least 40% by 2010;
- 45% by 2015;
- 50% by 2020.

Also for recovery of municipal waste:

- 53% by 2010;
- 67% by 2015 and 75% by 2020.

The government will review the targets for 2015 and 2020 in light of progress to 2010.

It is also setting up a new target for the reduction of commercial and industrial waste going to landfill of a 20% reduction by 2010 from 2004 levels, and also a target to halve the amount of



construction, demolition and excavation wastes going to landfill by 2012 as a result of waste reduction, re-use and recycling.

3.2.2 LATS Targets

Allowances were allocated by the government based on individual Authorities 2001/02 waste data. The combined allocations for the Tees Valley Authorities are shown in Figure 3.4 below.

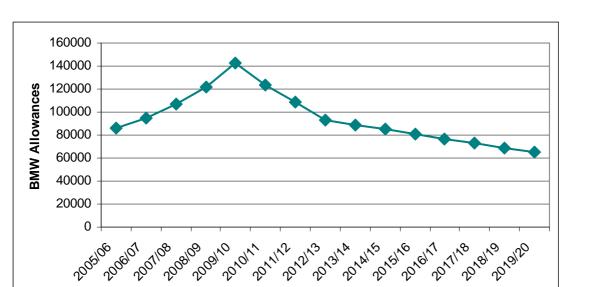


Figure 3.4 Combined Biodegradable Municipal Waste Allowances for the Tees Valley Authorities

3.2.3 Regional Targets for Recycling and Composting

The North East Regional Waste Strategy 'Towards a Waste Strategy for the North East' issued by the Regional Technical Advisory Board (RTAB) in February 2003 also set targets for the household, municipal, commercial and industrial and construction and demolition waste streams as shown below.

Year



Maximise Waste Minimisation and Re-use Meet household waste recycling targets of 33% by 2015 through Recycling and Composting Meet municipal waste recovery target of 72% and a recovery target for commercial and industrial waste of 73% through recycling, composting, anaerobic digestion with a minimum to landfill

Increase the percentage of construction and demolition waste recycling to 80%

3.2.4 Local Area Agreement Targets

A Local Area Agreement (LAA) is a three year statutory agreement between Local Authorities, their partners and the Government. The key aims of which are:

- To improve co-ordination between central government and Local Authorities and their partners;
- To improve service delivery;
- To improve efficiency;
- To improve partnership working;
- To enable Local Authorities to provide better leadership.

Targets are set to encourage Authorities to meet their agreed obligations. These are non statutory targets designed to encourage the Authorities to continuously improve the services they provide, and ultimately meet their requirements under the statutory targets described above.

Darlington Local Area Agreement

Darlington Borough Council published their Local Area Agreement in February 2006 which included targets for 2009:

- To achieve 18% recycling, 6% composting, 0% recovery of heat, power and other energy sources with landfill minimised to 76% for the household waste stream;
- To restrict growth in kilograms of household waste collected per head to 613kg by 2009.



Hartlepool Local Area Agreement

To meet the outcome to reduce the waste to landfill and maximise recycling Hartlepool has set the following targets:

- Increase in the percentage of municipal waste recycled or composted from 22% for 2006/07, to 23% in 2007/08, and 24% in 2008/09;
- Reduction in the percentage of municipal waste landfilled from 18% in 2005/06 to 17% in 2007/08 and 16% in 2008/09.

Middlesbrough Local Area Agreement

Middlesbrough Borough Council has developed a series of indicators to increase recycling, composting and home composting. These are as follows:

- Increase the percentage of the total tonnage of household waste that has been recycled from 18% in 2007/08, to 19% in 2008/09 and 20% in 2009/10;
- Increase the percentage of the total tonnage of household waste that has been sent for composting from 3% in 2007/08 to 4% in 2008/09 and 4.5% in 2009/10;
- Reduce the percentage of the total tonnage of household waste that has been used to recover heat, power and other energy sources from 72% in 2007/08, 70% in 2008/09 and 68.5% in 2009/10;
- No increase in the proportion of the waste stream sent to landfill, remaining at a level of 7% until 2009/10;
- Increase the number of new households that participate in home composting from 400 in 2007/08 to 420 in 2008/09 and 450 in 2009/10;
- Increase the tonnage of home composting not entering the waste stream from 114 tonnes in 2007/08, 162 in 2008/09 and 180 in 2009/10.

Redcar and Cleveland Local Area Agreement

Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council has committed to the reduction in waste the proportion of the waste stream sent to landfill and an increase in the amount of recycling through the LAA process. The following targets have been set by the Authority:

• A reduction in the percentage of municipal waste landfilled, with targets set of 9% for 2007/08, 8.5% in 2008/09 and 8% in 2009/10;



• Targets of 41% recycling of the municipal waste stream by 2007/08, 42% by 2008/09 and 43% by 2009/10.

Stockton on Tees Local Area Agreement

Stockton on Tees Borough Council has developed the following targets in regards to the total tonnage of household waste arisings:

- % recycled from 8.83% in 2004 to 16% in 2007, including a 7% increase in Neighbourhood Renewal Areas;
- % composted from 2.03% in 2004 to 6% in 2007;
- % used to recover heat, power and other energy sources from 74% in 2004 to 68% in 2007;
- % landfilled from 13.3% in 2004 to 10% in 2007.

It is of particular interest that the Stockton on Tees LAA includes a commitment to an increase in the recycling rate achieved within Neighbourhood Renewal areas. Neighbourhood Renewal focuses on improving services within neighbourhoods experiencing disadvantage, in order to narrow the gap between these areas and the rest of the Borough. There are 11 areas within Stockton on Tees that are eligible for Neighbourhood Renewal 2006/08.

