

# **Wirral Council**

## **District Council Action Plan for Recycling and Waste Minimisation performance**

Latest version, last updated **June 2008**

(Produced by Technical Services)



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## **1.0 Introduction**

Wirral Council serves a population of approximately 313,000 within 143,000 households. It is the third largest metropolitan authority in the North West.

This is the latest version of Wirral Councils District Action Plan and it is intended to advise the general public and Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority on the waste management activities in Wirral for the present time and the future up until 2020.

Wirral Council has agreed targets to divert waste from landfill through the Merseyside Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS), these targets are detailed in this Action Plan.

Recently updated targets for household waste recycling and composting performance (NI 192) have been agreed through negotiations with Government Office. Wirral has included (NI 192) as a priority indicator in our Local Area Agreement.

## **2.0 Strategic Aims**

The key strategic aims of the Council, in relation to waste management, are as follows:

- Achievement of statutory recycling targets and JMWMS targets;
- The development of co-mingled dry recyclable collections to all households aiming for 100 % participation of all households in the co-mingled recycling service by 2010.
- To offer a garden waste collection service to all gardened households on Wirral, where it is economically viable to do so;
- Actively work with partners on waste minimisation activities – including home composting junk mail reduction and promotion of real nappies and through promotion of 'sensible shopping'.
- To recycle or re-use waste streams collected by the Council, including bulky waste, leaf fall and street cleansing arisings.
- To increase the recycling of commercial waste in the Municipality.
- To comply with legislations and EU Directives in the responsible handling of clinical waste, hazardous waste, and waste identified as WEEE.
- Through the application of Equality Impact Assessments, offer waste collection services that are accessible to all.

### **2.1 Integration with the Merseyside Partnership and JMWMS**

The Council has ratified the JMWMS and associated documents and the associated objectives and pooled targets.

### 3.0 Current and Future Performance

The Council's most recent waste recycling performance data, are shown in the table below:

National Indicator	Description	06/07 Actual	07/08 Actual	08/09 Target	09/10 Target	10/11 Target
NI 192 dry recycling	% of household waste Recycled	9.10%	21.10%	22%	23.5%	25%
NI 192 Composting	% of household waste Composted	5.05%	10.79%	12%	12%	12%
NI 192 (combined)	% of household waste Recycled and Composted	14.15 %	31.89 %	34%	35.5 %	37%
NI 191	Household waste sent to landfill (kg/ household)	--	641	638	636	630
NI 193	% of municipal waste sent to landfill	72%	62%	60%	58%	56%

### 3.1 Current Waste Management Services

The Council's core waste collection services, as considered in this action plan, are as follows:

- Household residual waste collections
- Kerbside dry recyclable collections
- Kerbside garden waste collections
- Bring sites
- Household Bulky Waste Collections
- School waste and recycling collections
- Street Cleansing
- Fly tipping removal
- Council office and complex recycling

### 3.2 Household Residual Waste Collections

All properties in the Borough receive a collection of residual waste. The majority of the properties have their waste collected from a 240 litre green wheeled bin on alternate weeks.

Approximately 10% of the Borough's properties receive a weekly collection of residual waste; these are mainly multi occupancy properties as well as some out lying rural properties that are on a sack collection.

### 3.3 Household Recycling Collections

Approximately 90% of the properties in the Borough receive a recycling service, recycled materials are collected from a 240 litre grey wheeled bin, collected alternately to the green general rubbish bin. The materials that are recycled are paper, plastic bottles, cardboard, steel and aluminium cans and glass bottles and jars.

### 3.4 Household Garden Waste Collections

The Council provides a fortnightly green waste collection service for 108,000 properties. The garden waste is collected fortnightly from a brown 240 litre wheeled bin.

The collections are suspended for 3 weeks over the Christmas period due to very low demand for the service and to divert the resource to other waste collection activities due to peaks in service such as residual waste collection and recycling collections.

### 3.5 Bring Sites

Details of the Council's bring sites are provided in the Table below:

<b>Material Types</b>	<b>No of Sites</b>	<b>Collection Company</b>	<b>Expiry Dates</b>
Glass (Colour Separated)	21 (large igloo sites)	Glass UK (Berrymans)	N/A
Cans	21	Biffa Waste Services Ltd	August 2020
Paper	21	Biffa Waste Services Ltd	August 2020
Books	5	Oxfam	N/A
Textiles & Shoes	16	Salvation Army / Oxfam / J Williams	N/A
Mixed Glass	42	Biffa Waste Services Ltd	August 2020
Tetrapak	7	Darlington's	N/A

### 3.6 Performance and Statistics latest figures

In March 2008 an independent participation survey conducted in partnership with WRAP (Waste Resources and Action Programme) was undertaken looking into the percentage of residents that were regularly using the

kerbside recycling collection service. It concluded that 94% of residents that have the service use it on a regular basis. The kerbside recycling service has doubled the amount of waste that Wirral recycles promoting Wirral in the national league tables regulated by the Department of the Environment and Rural Affairs.

Wirral now recycles 32% of the household waste that it collects and this is set to continue rising as residents gain greater confidence in the new collection regime. Wirral is meeting its statutory recycling targets and the targets set by Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority. Nationally this is a very positive achievement and Wirral residents can be proud of this stepped change in performance.

We collected 9150 tonnes less waste in 2007/8 compared to the year before. This takes account of all municipal waste collected by Wirral Council, including fly tipping and office complex waste, as well as waste taken to Wirral's 3 household waste recycling centers. This decrease occurred despite a 7600 tonnes increase in garden waste collected through expanding our scheme. This indicates that Wirral residents are adopting waste minimisation practices at the same time as embracing the new kerbside recycling scheme.

The Council is continuing to build upon the successful service and has future plans to shape and change the way waste is managed in Wirral through minimising wastage and maximising product re- use and recycling.

## **4.0 Future Plans**

### **4.1 Procurement Exercise Garden Waste**

The Council intends to tender for a local garden waste delivery point by the end of 2008/9. Leaf fall will also be delivered, unsorted to this point for composting. By securing a local delivery point, collection rounds will be more efficient and planned collections are more likely to be completed on time during peak periods.

### **4.2 Kerbside Recycling**

Properties on a bulk bin collection, or sack collection for residual waste will be offered a co-mingled collection of recyclables that will be in place by the end of 2008/9. A range of "container" solutions will be rolled out, including sacks, wheeled bins and Eurobins to best fit the geography of each site. The roll out will be gradual across the district as properties are assessed on a rolling programme.

### **4.3 Street Cleansing Recycling**

The Council intends to recycle between 60% and 80% of the mechanical street sweeping waste that is collected. The Council are going to trial the recycling of this type of waste with a view to having this recycling method fully implemented by 2010/11.

During the summer of 2008 we are going to place specially designed recycling bins on the street for the public to use instead of throwing their rubbish into a rubbish bin. These bins will be for paper and drinks containers.

### **4.4 Bring Sites**

A trial in partnership with the company Tetrapak is currently underway at seven bring sites looking at the potential to recycle waxed cartons commonly referred to as Tetrapak. The Council have stated to Tetrapak that we want Tetrapak recycling containers on every bring site in the Borough, this is subject to a funding being provided by Tetrapak as part of their commitment to recycle the product that they produce.

The Council are currently in talks with a Textile Recycling company and have plans to form a partnership with the company to form an enhanced bring site textile recycling service for residents.

### **4.5 Schools**

Schools are to be offered an upgraded recycling service by September 2008. All schools will receive improved collection and storage infrastructure, including mini grey bins for classrooms and bespoke bulk bins for their centralised collection points. The new scheme will be supported by a communications package for teachers and pupils, including an educational DVD developed by Wirral pupils in conjunction with the Liverpool film academy.

## **5.0 Communication**

### **5.1 Waste Composition, Participation and Capture (recognition rates)**

The Council intends to build upon the participation survey data by carrying out periodic surveys. The Council are also going to undertake a full waste composition and capture rate analysis of the household waste produced in Wirral. The results of the survey will be added to the District Action Plan once available.

It is important for the Council to not just know general tonnage information relating to waste but to know detailed information, for example, the tonnages of individual types of material that we collect, such as plastic

bottles, paper and cardboard. This is determined by a waste composition analysis study.

The Council also need to know how much material we collect for recycling as well as how much we could have collected if every resident fully participated in recycling. This is called Capture rate and generally involves a detailed look at the general rubbish bin waste (green bin) and the recycling bin materials (grey bin). As an example, if we looked at one property and we found 90 kilograms of paper in the recycling bin (grey bin) and we found 10 kilograms of paper in the general rubbish bin (green bin) then we would have a capture rate of 90% for paper. This means that 90% of the paper would be recycled and 10% of the paper would go to landfill. Of course the Council ideally would like to have a 100% capture rate of all the materials that go into the grey recycling bin.

The Council will apply this methodology on a representative scale to establish figures showing the Borough wide capture rate for every material the we currently offer for recycling.

The Council will then focus heavily on communicating to residents to recycle the materials that are identified as low capture.

It is important to the Council that we have as many residents as possible recognising what materials can go into the grey bin for the purposes of recycling.

## **5.2 Plastic Bags and Waste Minimisation**

The Council in a recent 'Notice of Motion' have set the priority both internally and across the Borough to establish a reduction in the amount of plastic bag usage. The ultimate aim is for Wirral to be as far as possible plastic bag free.

This means working with businesses across the Borough as well as working throughout Council departments.

The Council have recently appointed a trade waste officer to promote recycling and better waste management to small to medium sized business across Borough.

The Council intend to trial a compost bin giveaway. Residents that receive a free home compost bin will receive one questionnaire per year to fill in so that the Council improve the service through feedback. The trial area will be monitored to determine how much waste is diverted from landfill as a result of the scheme. The Council may consider future giveaways if enough waste is diverted in this way.

The Council are supporting Wirral's Real Nappy Laundry Company called Happy Bums. The first 50 customers annually who sign up to the service will receive financial incentives towards the purchase of Real Nappies.

The Council also promote the mail preference service in reducing addressed junk mail.

Through joint working with Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority the Council will promote regional waste minimisation campaigns.



### **5.3 Enforcement and Education**

Having recently introduced an enforcement policy for Section 46 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990, the Council now have a procedure to enable the local environment to be improved where residents persistently disregard it.

If there is a case whereby someone is persistently causing a nuisance with regards to their rubbish then the Council will issue a fixed penalty warning notice to the person warning them that if they do it again they will be fined.

Of course the Council will always educate and try to speak to the person before any such warnings are issued.

## 6.0 ACTION PLAN

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### 6.1 Introduction

This section outlines the assumed developments in waste management services in Wirral for each year of the JMWMS from 2006/07 until 2020/21.

The following key elements are considered for each year:

- Service levels (e.g. types of service, number of households served);
- JMWMS MSW recycling targets;
- Estimated performance levels (MSW recycling and composting rates);
- Procurement issues (e.g. procurement processes, potential co-operation with neighbouring authorities).

### 6.2 Service Levels and Performance

The following tables identify service issues and assumptions for each year:

- JMWMS MSW recycling targets and assumed interim targets, showing progression towards key target years;
- Estimated performance levels (MSW recycling and composting rates);
- Key service level details for kerbside dry recyclable, garden waste collections (e.g. major changes to services, number of households served). Assumptions are based on the data in the waste flow diagrams and the levels of diversion required to achieve the JMWMS targets;
- Other relevant issues, for example the commencement of new contracts, changes to residual collections; including the introduction of alternate week collections or the introduction of new residual waste containers.

<b>Year</b>	<b>2006/07</b>	<b>2007/08</b>	<b>2008/09</b>	<b>2009/10</b>	<b>2010/11</b>
<b>JMWMS Combined Target (LAA Target)</b>	20.4%	22.8%	25.2% (34%)	27.6% (35.5%)	30.0% (37%)
<b>Estimated Combined Performance</b>			32.87%	33.1%	34.2%
<b>Actual</b>	14.15%	31.52%			
<b>With mechanical street sweepings</b>			36.52%	36.7%	37.9%
<b>Kerbside Dry Recyclable Collections</b>	128,000 households on kerbside paper; 15,000 households on kerbside glass & cans; 80% participation rate for all materials	130,000 households on kerbside multi-material 94% participation rate for all materials.	130,000 households on kerbside multi-material 94% participation rate for all materials.	144, 046households on kerbside multi-material 94% participation rate for all materials.	144,046 households on kerbside multi-material 94% participation rate for all materials.
<b>Garden Waste Collections Only</b>	71,500 households; 60% participation rate.	105,000 properties from June 2008 60% participation rate.	108,000 households; 65% participation rate.	108,000 households; 75% participation rate.	108,000 households; 82% participation rate.
<b>Co-mingled kitchen and garden waste collections</b>	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Bring Sites</b>	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included
<b>Other (including changes to residual collections)</b>	New combined refuse and recycling contract introduced	New contract roll out completed in June 2007.	Multi Occupancy Properties provided with a recycling service. Garden waste extension to 5700 properties	Waste Minimisation promotion/ increased capture. Street Cleansing waste recycled.	Increased Capture-

<b>Year</b>	<b>2011/12</b>	<b>2012/13</b>	<b>2013/14</b>	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>2015/16</b>
JMWMS Combined Target	32.0%	34.0%	36.0%	38.0%	40%
Estimated Combined Performance	37.9%	39%	39%	39%	39%
Actual					
With mechanical street sweepings	37.9%	39%	39%	39%	40%
Kerbside Dry Recyclable Collections	144,046 households 94% participation	144046 households 94% participation	144046 households 94% participation	144046 households 94% participation	144046 households 94% participation
Garden Waste Collections Only	108,000 households;	108,000 households;	108,000 households;	108,000households;	108,000 households;
Co-mingled kitchen and garden waste collections	0	0	0	0	0
Bring Sites	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included
Other (including changes to residual collections)	Increased capture	Increased capture	Increased capture	Increased capture	Increased capture

<b>Year</b>	<b>2016/17</b>	<b>2017/18</b>	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>
JMWMS Combined Target	40+%	40+%	40+%	40+%	40+%
Estimated Combined Performance	40+%	40+%	40+%	40+%	40+%
Kerbside Dry Recyclable Collections	144046 households 94% participation	144046 households 94% participation	144046 households 94% participation	144046 households 94% participation	144046 households 94% participation
Kerbside Garden Waste Collections	108,000 households;	108,000 households; 92% participation rate.	108,000 households; 92% participation rate.	108,000 households; 92% participation rate.	108,000 households; 92% participation rate.
Kerbside Kitchen Waste Collections	0	0	0	0	0
Bring Sites	Included	Included	Included	Included	Included
Other (including changes to residual collections)	Increased capture	Increased capture	Increased capture	Increased capture	Increased capture

