

Lewes District Council Draft Sustainable Waste Management Strategy 2005 - 2010



Lewes District Council
www.lewes.gov.uk



EMAS

Foreword

Taking proper care of our waste and managing it in a sustainable way is fast becoming one of the most important environmental issues of our time. Europe and UK Governments are making new legislation constantly and there is an increasing pressure to act, as landfill space is running out. Lewes District Council is at the forefront of this work as the authority that collects waste and recycles it. We work with East Sussex County Council and its contractors Onyx, as well as residents, local organisations, community groups and charities to achieve our goals. We have won funding from DEFRA (the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) to set up some of our kerbside recycling schemes and we are very proud to be one of the authorities whose residents produce one of the lowest amounts of waste across the country.



We recognise that there is still a lot more that can be done and we have aspirational targets of achieving zero waste. Our aims are to do this as cost effectively as we can as it is all of us as Council Taxpayers that foot the bill. We can not do it alone and we need the good will and co-operation of all residents and businesses to make sure that this is a success. We have

started well, with your help we can achieve much more. This document is the abbreviated version of our full Waste Strategy (which can be found on the Council's website at www.Lewes.gov.uk). Please take a little time to read it and let us know your thoughts on its contents.

Councillor Sarah Osbourne
Lead Councillor - Environment

Contents

THE KEY POLICIES OF LEWES'S WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY	4
1. INTRODUCTION	8
2. THE PROCESS SO FAR	11
3. FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES	13
4. WASTE MANAGEMENT LEGISLATION	15
5. WASTE PREVENTION AND MINIMISATION	20
6. RECYCLING AND COMPOSTING	28
7. DOMESTIC WASTE COLLECTION ARRANGEMENTS	34
8. WASTE PROMOTION AND EDUCATION INITIATIVES	40
9. CHANGES TO RECYCLING AND WASTE COLLECTION THROUGH THE LIFE OF THIS STRATEGY	47
10 FUTURE PLANS	47
Appendix 1 Action Plans	59

The key policies of Lewes's Waste Management Strategy

The key policies of Lewes District Council's (LDC) Waste Strategy are summarised below. The numbers in brackets following each policy relates to the section providing more information about that policy.

- A. The Waste Management Strategy is based on eight key principles ():
- ❖ The waste hierarchy
 - ❖ The best practical environmental option
 - ❖ The proximity principle
 - ❖ The self-sufficiency principle
 - ❖ The sustainable principle
 - ❖ The principle of Best Value
 - ❖ Environmental Management
 - ❖ A Precautionary Principle
- B. The Waste Strategy aims to ensure that Lewes District complies with waste management legislation and meets its statutory targets and exceeds them where practical considerations and resources allow.
- C. Waste prevention and minimisation is the first priority of the Waste Strategy ().
- D. Waste prevention and minimisation initiatives will be sustained, strengthened and further developed, with the objective of decreasing municipal waste growth in the short/medium term. *The current prediction (at April 2004) for waste growth in the southeast region (based on the last 6 years of data) is an average of 2.3%. For the past three years in Lewes District the average increase in household waste collected by Lewes District Council has been 1.66%.*
- E. The Council will work to achieve progressive targets for the recycling of waste, which will enable 50% of Lewes District Council's household waste to be recycled by 2015. *The intermediate statutory targets are 18% in 2003/04, 27% in 2005/06, while the non-statutory targets set by Lewes District Council of 36% in 2010/11, 45% in 2015/16. Note the % proportion is of absolute weight, this will*

Lewes District Council's Sustainable Waste Management Strategy

be affected by the increase/decrease in the amount of waste per household over time.

- F. Lewes District Council will continue to develop and implement a plan to increase the amount of waste that is recycled or diverted from disposal, which is the immediate focus of this waste strategy.
- G. As part of the implementation of the Waste Strategy, work to exploit markets for recyclable materials will continue and further develop, with the objective of maintaining reliable outlets for the recycle collected in Lewes District.
- H. To aid this process the Council has the Eco Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) also and has implemented a “green purchasing policy” as part of our Environmental Policy.
This includes, where possible, the purchase of products made from recyclable materials or from sustainable sources under our Environmental Management System (closing the loop).
- I. In implementing this Waste Strategy, all of the options for managing residual waste (the waste remaining after recycling and diversion), including for example landfill, will be considered equally against environmental, social and economic criteria, taking into account, where possible, the whole lifecycle of waste ().
- J. We will support the county council in making use of emerging and innovative technologies, and international best practice for the treatment and disposal of waste.
However the Council has a policy to oppose incineration with energy recovery and would prefer to see more sustainable options such as the development of alternatives such as in vessel composting, anaerobic digestion, and mechanical biological treatment for true residuals (i.e. not from mixed waste¹).
- K. The Council has signed up to an aspirational target of ‘zero waste’ disposed of direct to landfill.

- L. The Council recognises the dangers of Climate Change and Global Warming with respect to waste and has signed up to the 'Nottingham Declaration' (Cabinet 28th April – minute 267).

The sustainable management of waste, by prioritising the waste hierarchy (3.1 - 1) will have a major impact on the climate change by diminishing the release of methane from landfill and of Carbon Dioxide and Nitrogen and sulphur oxides CHECK from incineration. A model used by the US Environmental Protection Agencyⁱⁱ showed for the UK that a 70% reuse and recycling target would lead to a saving of 14.8 million metric tonnes of Carbon Equivalent (MTCE), a similar impact to removing 5.4 million cars off the roadⁱⁱⁱ. One quarter of greenhouse gas (GHG) (a major cause of man made climate change) stem from the life cycle of materials, any substitution of the raw materials with recycled material will make a significant impact on the amount of GHG's.

- M. The Council will continue to develop the opportunities and benefits of managing waste by working in partnership with neighbouring authorities.
- N. With the aim of efficient and sustainable transfer and recycling of waste, the Council will consider alternatives to road transport (and where road transport has to be used will aim to reduce the 'tonne mileage' of waste operations), seeking to maximise the use of local facilities.
- O. The Council will be actively involved in partnership on the development of the East Sussex Waste Management Strategy,
- P. By formally agreeing and adopting this Waste Management Strategy, this council is committing to working together in partnership to deliver it ().

Progress will be reviewed annually by key stakeholders (users of the services), with a full review of the Waste Strategy every five years.

Lewes District Council's Sustainable Waste Management Strategy

R. The Council will promote benefits of recycling through education using a variety of facts and figures that illustrate the need to recycle. Example **Table 1**

Aluminium	42 per cent of cans are recycled in the UK and 12 per cent of foil. There is a 95 per cent energy saving in recycling compared to virgin production of aluminium.
Glass	About 35 per cent of all glass and 85 per cent of green glass is produced from recycled glass. Every tonne of glass recycled saves 1.2 tonnes of raw materials. There is a 33 per cent energy saving on recycled compared to virgin production of glass. 80 per cent of collected glass is recycled back into bottles,
Paper	Collected paper is taken to paper mills where it is pulped, de-inked where necessary, and the resulting fibres reformed into paper once again. Recycled paper is also used for applications such as pet bedding (which can be composted once used), house insulation, pens and pencils, cat litter and compost bins.
Compostables	On average about 37 per cent of household waste is compostable comprising kitchen and garden waste - about 10.5 million tonnes annually in the UK. At present, only 10 per cent of this is recovered through home composting, collection and amenity sites. Composting creates various soil improvers for agriculture and gardens.
Plastics	Only 3-4 per cent of all plastic bottles sold are recycled. In 2001, almost 300 million (14,770 tonnes) plastic bottles were recycled in the UK. There is an 80 per cent energy saving compared to virgin production. The most common types of plastic to be recycled from households are HOPE and PET (representing the majority of bottles used in the home).
Steel	Up to 25 per cent of all steel cans are made from recycled steel. There is 75 per cent energy saving compared to virgin production. Steel is collected through the bring banks, kerbside schemes, and through magnetic extraction from un-separated refuse.
Textiles	Textiles are collected through clothing collection banks run by groups such as Oxfam or kerbside collections. Un-wearable material can be reused in the production of recycled fabrics, or shredded and used as a filler in products such as car door padding, speaker cones, felt and furniture padding.

Introduction

1.1 Why is the Waste Management Strategy necessary?

The majority of waste, or “rubbish”, produced in Lewes District is disposed of into landfill sites. In the operational year 200/05 our recycling rate was 17.7% (5,497 tonnes) of the household waste produced in Lewes District. A further 9.71% is diverted from landfill (home composting etc). The remaining waste is landfilled, which means we disposed of approximately 25,500 tonnes of household waste in 2004/05 by burying it in the ground (excluding waste in Household Waste Recycling Sites –HWRS).

Definition: Household or Domestic waste is calculated from the total amount of refuse collection + recycling + street sweepings + bulky refuse elements, this was 31,066 tonnes in the operational year 2004/05

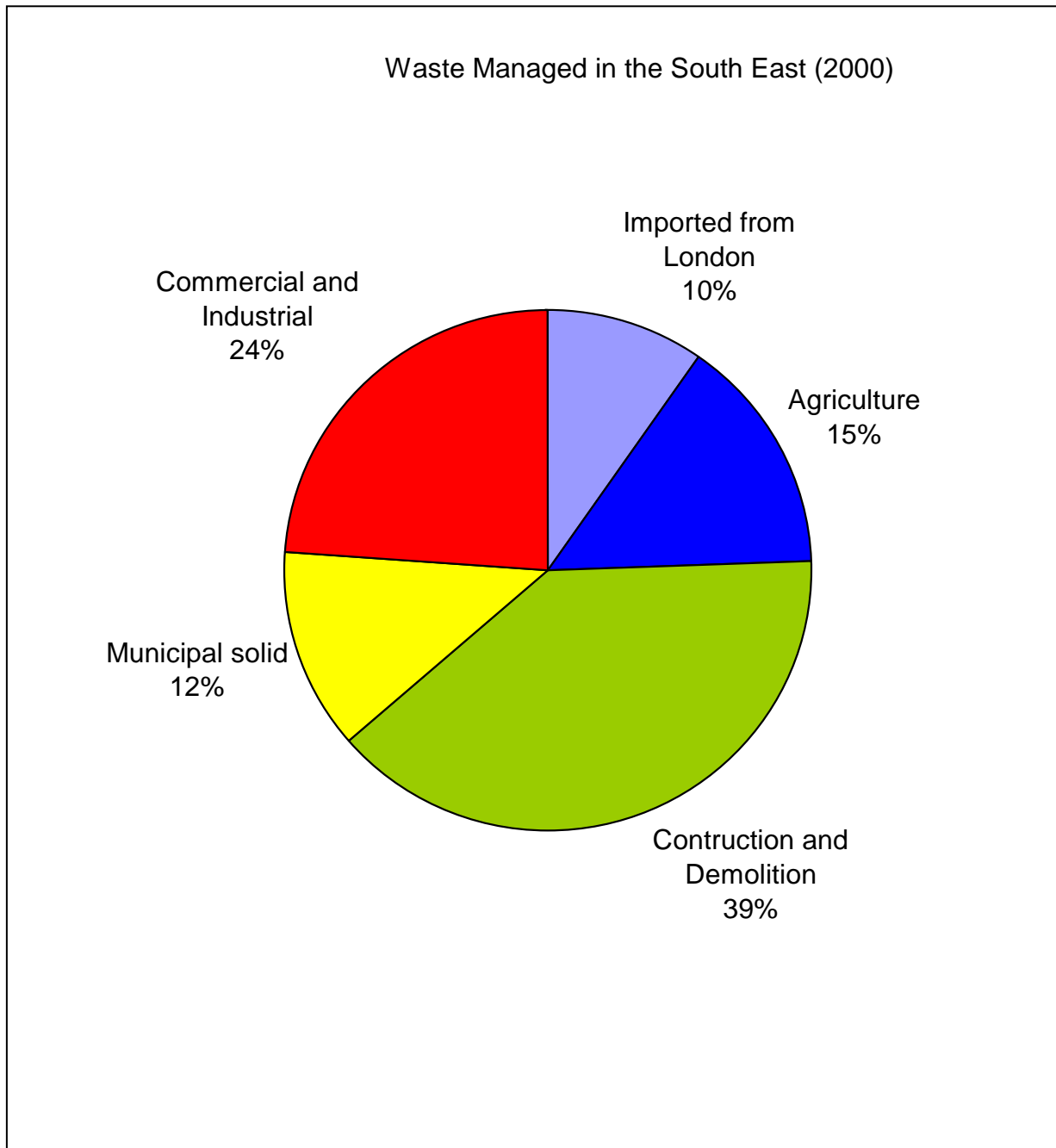
We cannot continue to landfill the majority of our waste as we have in the past. Landfilling rubbish is not sustainable because by disposing of waste to landfill, the opportunity to utilise large proportions of the waste as a secondary resource is missed. Landfill sites use up land which is valuable, not infinitely available and full of natural resources and wildlife. Eventually we will run out of suitable landfill sites.

The Council is aware of the need to address the composition of waste particularly in relation to the amount of green waste as from 2005 the cost of Landfill tax has increased by £3.00 per tonne per annum (Landfill escalator) and will continue to rise

In addition, the European Commission's Landfill Directive places limits on the amount of biodegradable municipal waste that can be landfilled in the future.

Therefore, a strategy to manage the rubbish produced by the residents of Lewes District is necessary to ensure the impacts of waste on the environment and human health are minimised.

Fig 1



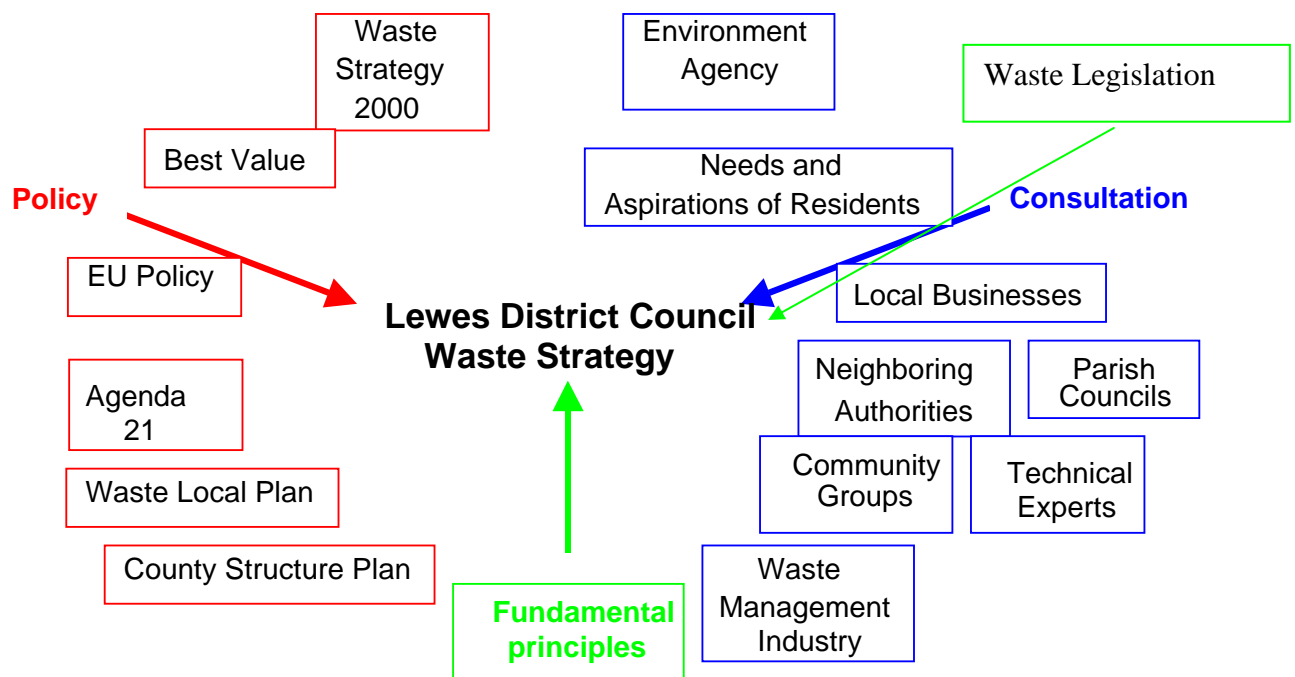
“Municipal” waste, which includes household rubbish, is only approximately 12% of the total waste produced annually in Lewes District. The remaining waste is commercial and industrial, special and inert / construction and demolition waste. This waste document is focused on municipal waste, because this waste is in the direct control of the council and it is the waste that the UK Government has set statutory targets for. However, Lewes District Council will continue to work to assist companies in the district to reduce their waste.

This “Draft Sustainable Waste Management Strategy” will guide the development of municipal waste collection in the District for the next 5 years. It identifies the types of technologies and services that will be needed in the future to manage the collection of waste in Lewes District Council.

1.2 Who deals with your waste?

The five Borough and District Councils in East Sussex are known as “waste collection authorities” (WCAs) (Brighton and Hove deals with both collection (WCA) and disposal (WDA)) collecting from households, street sweeping recycling and bulky refuse collection within their area. Once they have collected the household waste, it becomes the responsibility of the County Council to dispose of it safely. East Sussex County Council is a “waste disposal authority” (WDA). It also has responsibility for the collection of waste at the County’s Household Waste Recycling Sites.

Figure 2: The influence of policy, consultation groups, and fundamental waste management principles on Lewes District Council’s Waste strategy



2. The Process so Far

2.1 How was the current position of Waste in Lewes District established?

In the past ash and waste have been taken to a number of smaller landfill sites across the District. Local sites are to be found in Newhaven and Lewes and elsewhere. The environmental effects of some of these sites are still being managed some 50 years later.

Historically refuse collection has operated on a weekly collection system with the waste going directly to the landfill site at Beddingham. In 1992 Lewes District Council introduced a recycling plan to its waste management of domestic waste, this plan was updated every two years to take account of a changing legislative climate. For ten years the 'bed rock' of recycling has been a bring system (there are now 130 recycling centres) but since 2003 there has been a rapid expansion of Kerbside recycling available to residents in Lewes District.

The initial step developing this Draft Sustainable Waste Management Strategy is to establish the performance of the Council and plot changes in the future that will reduce the waste we produce. This will be achieved through seeking sustainable waste management working practices and the options for managing waste, from waste prevention, through the waste hierarchy to the disposal of waste to landfill or elsewhere. These are reviewed in this document.

2.2 How have the waste management options currently used been assessed?

The potential social, financial and environmental implications of different combinations of waste management activities are kept constantly under review. Criteria such as the number and type of waste management facilities required to manage waste, the costs of the options, success of various projects, the effect on residents, and the potential environmental impacts of the options are monitored. The assessment enables the councils to see the effect of different options, and therefore, provide important information to allow the Waste Strategy to develop.

2.3 Who will be consulted in developing the Waste Strategy?

It is recognised that the opinions of Lewes District Council's residents, and key stakeholders are critical in developing the best Waste Strategy for the District. Therefore, public consultations dedicated to the Waste Strategy will be undertaken.

Although many residents and groups within the district have a good knowledge of waste issues, there are many that do not. Therefore there is a need to engage people in a variety of measures to ensure that everyone gets the opportunity to understand the issues and the solutions to sustainable waste management.

There are well-established forms of consultation, participation and information, which in the main are ongoing, District Link, Citizen panel, presentations to all sectors, and the press in general. In addition there is a lot of useful data that is gathered and disseminated through Town and Parish Action Plans. The Council also regularly undertakes an education programme and disseminates information on e.g., composting, nappies, Buy Recycled Campaign etc.

3. Fundamental Principles

3.1 What principles form the foundation of the Waste Strategy?

The ultimate aim of this Waste Management Strategy is to ensure that waste has a minimum negative effect on the environment and on human health.

A The Waste Strategy is based on seven key principles:

1. The **waste hierarchy**: Preventing waste is the first priority, then re-using it, then recycling or composting it, and then only then considering disposal as the final option. Thinking of rubbish as a resource will ensure that the waste hierarchy is successfully implemented.



Source: in Murray R. *Creating Wealth from Waste*
from work by Merrill Lynch

Fig 3

2. The **best practical environmental option** (BPEO) will be used to try to achieve the most benefits and least damage to the environment in both the long and short term, at an acceptable cost.
3. Where possible waste will be managed as close as possible to its place of origin to minimise the impacts of transporting waste, and ensure that local solutions are used. This is the **proximity principle**.

4. The **self-sufficiency principle** builds on the proximity principle: our facilities for managing domestic waste will have sufficient capacity to manage the quantity of waste expected to be dealt with in our area over the life of this strategy

5. We aim to ensure that we are able to meet the needs of the present, without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. This is the **sustainability principle**.

6. The principle of **Best Value**: household waste is collected, treated and disposed of using public money. Employing the Best Value principles will ensure waste will be managed economically, efficiently, and effectively.

7. Our waste management services will be monitored under our **Environmental Management System** (Eco Management and Audit System – EMAS) to ensure that high environmental standards are achieved

8. **Precautionary Principle** – People have a duty to take anticipatory action to prevent harm. "If you have a reasonable suspicion that something bad might be going to happen, you have an obligation to try to stop it.") The burden of proof of harmlessness of a new technology, process, activity, or chemical lies with the proponents, not with the general public. Before using a new technology, process, or chemical, or starting a new activity, people have an obligation to examine "a full range of alternatives" including the alternative of doing nothing. Decisions applying the precautionary principle must be "open, informed, and democratic" and "must include affected parties."

These key principles complement the Government's sustainable development strategy, which has the objectives of the effective protection of natural resources, the prudent use of natural materials, stable economic growth and employment and social progress.

4. Waste Management Legislation

4.1 How does legislation affect the way waste is managed in the UK?

The European Union and the UK Government have recognised that we must reduce the amount of rubbish that is disposed of in landfills. Fundamental changes to the way waste is managed across Europe are being driven forward by new legislation for waste management.

Recent and forthcoming European legislation related to waste aims to manage waste safely, effectively and sustainably. European “Directives” must be implemented into UK legislation, which has already resulted in wide ranging implications on waste management in the UK. For example the EC directive on packaging and packaging waste requires producers, distributors, and retailers of packaged products to recycle and recover a proportion of the packaging from those products.

One of the most significant pieces of European Legislation relating to waste management is the Landfill Directive (adopted April 1999), which has set targets for the control and reduction of waste disposed of in landfills (Table 1). The targets for the reduction of waste relate specifically to biodegradable municipal waste and are based on 1995 Landfilling rates:

- Reduce to 75% of the 1995 level by 2010
- Reduce to 50% of the 1995 level by 2013
- Reduce to 35% of the 1995 level by 2020

Table 2: Main Requirements of the Landfill Directive

- Targets for the reduction of biodegradable municipal waste to landfill
- Banning co-disposal of hazardous and non-hazardous wastes and requiring separate landfills for hazardous, non-hazardous and inert wastes.
- Banning landfill of tyres (by 2003 for whole tyres, by 2006 for shredded tyres).
- Banning landfill of liquid wastes, infectious clinical waste and certain types of hazardous waste (e.g. explosive, flammable)
- Provisions on the control, monitoring, reporting and closure of landfill sites.
- Only waste that has been subject to “treatment” can be landfilled.

4.2 What are the targets for waste management in Lewes District Council?

In response to the European Landfill Directive, the UK Government has set targets for recycling and composting household waste that will be applied to each local authority in England through the Best Value system. The Government's targets for Lewes District Council are detailed in Table 2, beside recent, actual recycling rates.

Table 3: Waste Management Targets for Lewes District Council

	Target					
	*00/01	01/02	02/03	03/04	03/04	05/06
Lewes District Council (actual recycling performance)	9.36 %	10.31%	11.5%	15.5%	18%	
Government Targets		9 %			17.72 %	27 %

The Government has also indicated its intention to achieve National recycling and recovery targets:

- To recycle and compost at least 33% of household waste by 2015
- To recover value from 67% of municipal waste by 2015

Lewes District Council has set the following targets for the future:

- To recycle 40% of domestic waste by 2010
- To recycle 50% of domestic waste by 2015

In addition to the targets for recycling and composting and waste recovery, it is expected that the Government will introduce legislation that will limit the amount of municipal waste that each local authority can landfill (DETR, 2001. Tradable Landfill Permits Consultation Paper).

The tradable landfill permits scheme is yet to be finalised. However, it is expected that each waste disposal authority (WDA) will only be able to landfill a certain percentage of the municipal waste arising in its area, and the amount of waste that can be landfilled will be reduced annually in line with the targets in the Landfill Directive.

Current indications are that with the Act in place 'The Tradable Landfill Permits Scheme' will be implemented from 2005 onwards. If a WDA is unable to meet its targets, then it may purchase permits from another WDA which has surplus permits. Therefore, whilst a WDA is in the process of implementing a waste management strategy it may be necessary for it to purchase permits.

There are likely to be financial penalties if a WDA does not hold sufficient permits for the amount of waste it has landfilled, which will impact on Council Tax payers.

However, it should also be noted that the cost of improving waste management systems to meet the targets will probably be greater than the existing systems, which is also likely to impact on Council Tax payers.

4.3 How does this Draft Waste Management Strategy take waste management legislation into account?

B This Waste Strategy aims to ensure that Lewes District Council complies with waste management legislation, and meets statutory targets.

Regular reviews of the Waste Strategy will allow changes in legislation to be anticipated and accommodated (Section 9).

Anticipated forthcoming and recent legislation that will affect the management of household waste is summarised in Figure 4 and includes:

- The Tradable Landfill Permits Scheme
- Amendments to the special waste regulations to accommodate the EC's waste catalogue
- The EU Directive for End of Life Vehicles
- The EU Directive for Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment
- Revisions to the EU Directive for Packaging and Packaging Waste
- EU Directive for the Biological Treatment of Biowaste
- EU Directive for Batteries
- Household Waste Recycling Act

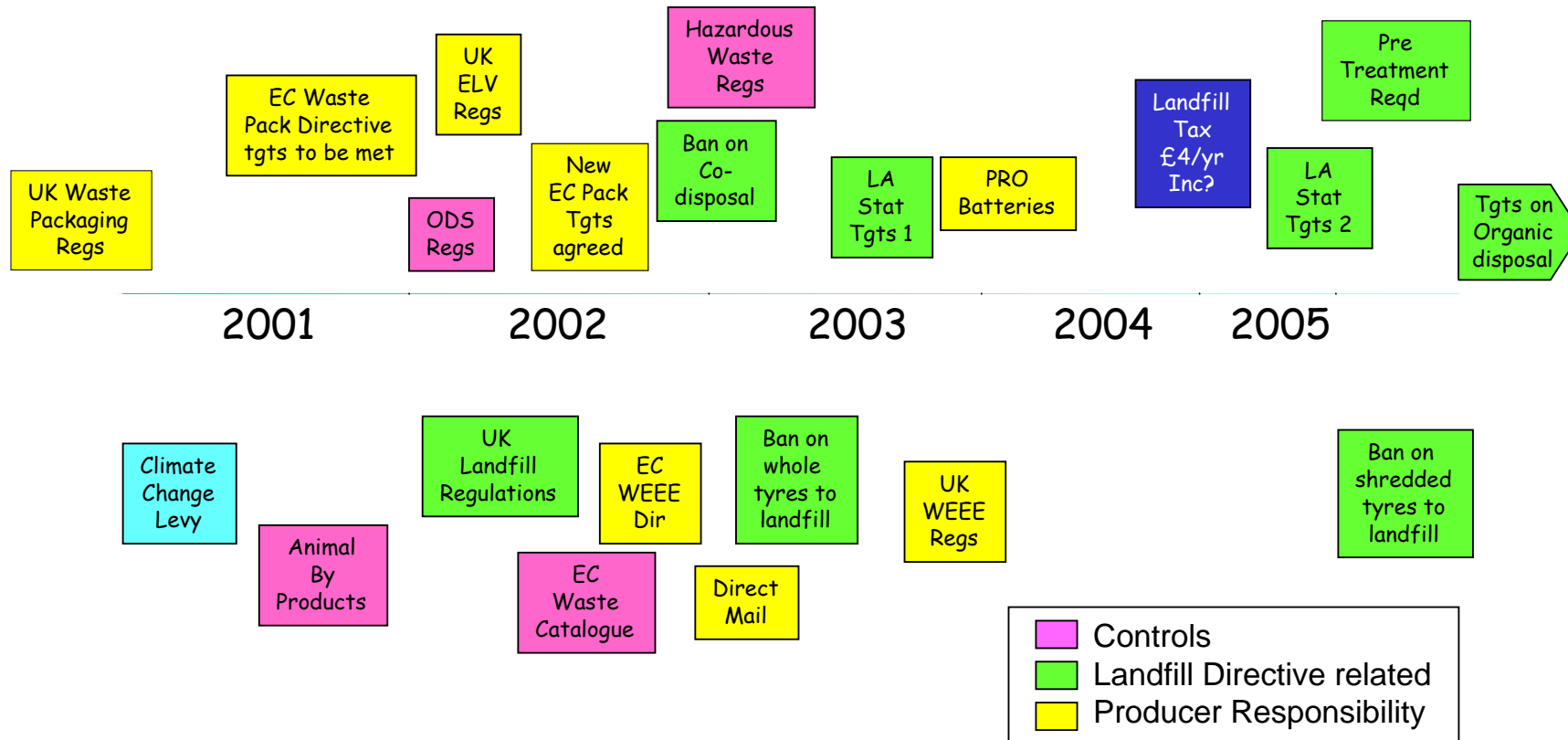
4.4 Other Legislation that may affect waste

This document has placed an emphasis on 'sustainable' waste management. It is therefore essential that when dealing with waste consideration be given to a range of legislation that may impact on waste and how waste may influence other legislation or activities. For example, the Kyoto protocol climate change has already been mentioned and its relationship to the use of resources from recycled sources and its impact on energy use. There is also the forthcoming EC soil protection directive which includes the return of biowaste to land to improve soil structure.

4.5 Changes in planning legislation (Planning Policy Guidance 10 on waste management) will have an impact on the siting of the many waste management process and it is also clear that definitions of the types of waste are constantly changing and that what counts as recycling now may be different in the future. All this leads to the conclusion that to achieve sustainable waste management flexibility is crucial in the choice of method used to deal with waste for example

- Environmental reasons – it may be prudent to wait for less damaging alternative processes than for example incineration, e.g. emerging technologies like small units with 'in vessel' composting and the Biological Mechanical Treatment etc.
- Economic reasons – energy savings through extending the use of recycled material and reducing waste through over packaging
- Social reasons – the creation of new jobs through the development of new industries that can use recycled materials

Figure 4: Recent and anticipated forthcoming waste management legislation



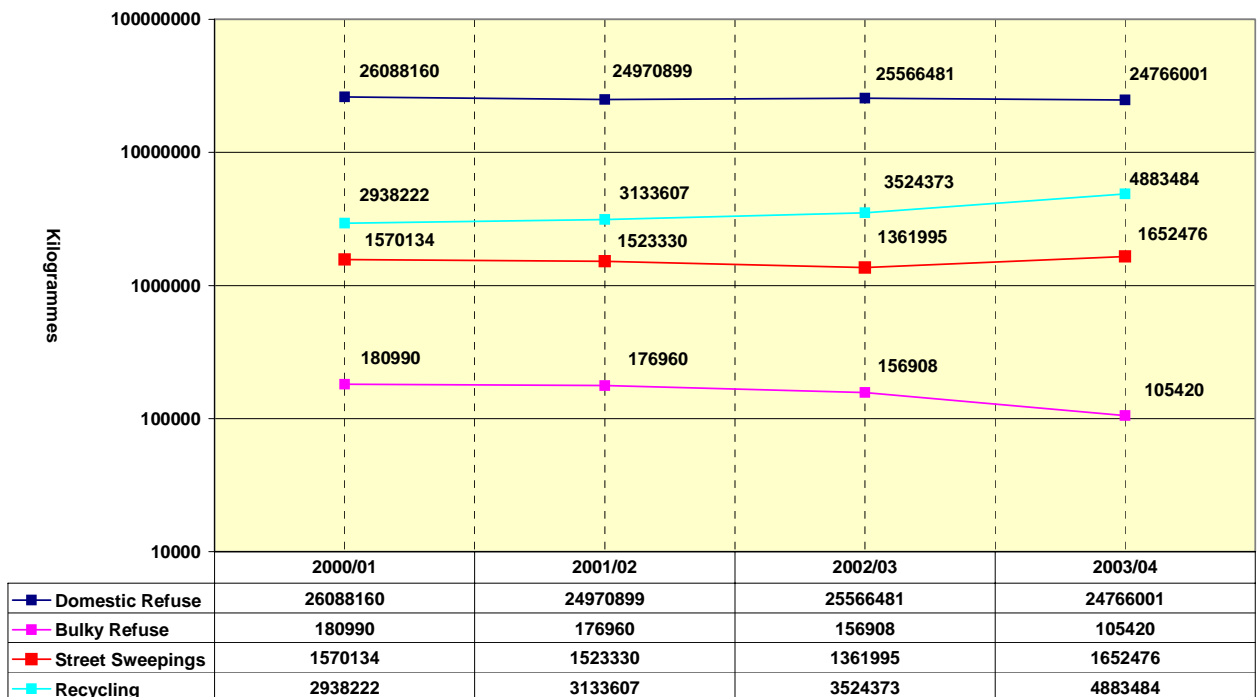
5. Waste Prevention and Minimisation

5.1 Why is reducing waste important?

The amount of household waste produced in Lewes District is growing annually. Growth in waste makes it more difficult to meet the Government's statutory targets for recycling and composting and puts increasing pressure on the financial resources and waste management infrastructure of the Council. It is also at the top of the waste hierarchy and the single most sustainable waste management method. It is quite simply the best waste management technique for the environment and public health.

Figure 5 below shows the amounts of the four components of waste that go towards the Audit Commission's domestic waste management statistics from which we calculate our recycling rate.

Changes in Different Components of Domestic Waste over four years in Lewes District



By totalling the four elements it is possible to calculate the growth in domestic waste over the past three years. The Southeast regional average growth rate in domestic waste is 2.3% each year (over the last

six years from 2005), and over the past three years (from 2005) the Lewes District waste component has increased on average 1.7% a year. This is encouraging particularly as the proportion of waste we recycle is steadily increasing but it will still mean that we are producing more waste in the future.

“Preventing”, or minimising household waste is a key priority to ensure that we make efficient use of our resources: fewer raw materials and less energy are required to make unnecessary products and less waste requires treatment or disposal, which means we save money and require fewer waste management facilities and protect the environment and public health.

C Waste prevention and minimisation is the first priority of the Waste Strategy.

5.2 What can be done to help prevent and minimise waste?

There are some basic principles to help reduce the amount of waste we produce:

- Not using the raw material or product in the first place
- Using raw materials, or products that have been produced, packaged and transported in the most resource and energy efficient way.
- Using products that can be re-used or repaired, rather than disposable products.
- Recycling materials within the home e.g. home composting

Excess packaging waste is often criticised for causing the growth in waste. However, product manufacturers and retailers are governed by legislation regarding the design of product packaging and have to meet targets for the recycling and recovery of packaging. The Environment Agency and Trading Standards enforce these regulations, and there

have been relatively few prosecutions for excess packaging. In addition, the retailers argue that packaging actually reduces wastage, by protecting products from damage in transit.

Lewes District Council, already works in partnership with other organisations on initiatives that aim to prevent and minimise waste in industry and from the home. These include waste education, waste awareness campaigns and consumer campaigns. In addition the council works with the Environment Agency and local and national retailers specifically to address the issue of packaging waste. Raising waste awareness through education and campaigns is a necessity in order for householders to adopt the lifestyle changes required to reduce household waste.

Lewes District Council is also very pro-active in working with local industry and businesses and in partnership with organisations such as Global Action Plan and Betre with the aim of reducing commercial and industrial waste. Working with local and national organisations can help to “design out” waste, and lobbying Government is important to ensure relevant and effective legislation to limit waste growth.

D As part of the Waste Management Strategy, waste prevention and minimisation initiatives will be sustained, strengthened and further developed. The objective is to decrease domestic waste growth, from an average of 1.77% per annum per head of population: to a zero growth in waste per annum per head of population through the life of this strategy.

It should be recognised that a number of factors contribute to waste growth, including an increase in disposable products, changes in waste collection systems, increases in the number of people living in Lewes District. This is combined with decreases in the average number of people living in one household and local economic growth. Councils are not in direct control of all of the issues that create waste growth. Stemming waste growth requires all of these issues to be addressed.

5.3 Waste Prevention Initiatives & Key Actions

- **Real Nappies.** The Council will work in partnership with the health authorities and local real nappy manufacturers and laundering services to promote the use of real nappies as an alternative to disposable nappies, which account for 4% of household waste at 2005.
- **Home Composting.** The Council will continue to work in partnership with home composter suppliers to promote home composting of organic wastes. Composting at source i.e., in residents' own gardens means that the taxpayer does not have to pay for collection transport and centralised composting facilities which produce environmental damage themselves.
- **Waste Education.** The Council will work in partnership with schools, colleges, community groups and industry to provide information about waste prevention, re-use, recycling, composting, treatment and disposal, with the aim of promoting sustainable waste management.
- **Waste Campaigns.** The Council recognises that regional and national campaigns are more effective, efficient and consistent and therefore, will work in partnership with neighbouring authorities, and other organisations to promote sustainable waste management, via 'themed' campaigns.
- **Re-Use Campaigns.** The Council will work in partnership with local charitable and not-for-profit organisations to promote the re-use and recycling of products such as textiles, furniture and mobile phones.

- **“Sustainable” Housing Developments.** The Council will work in partnership with local developers and other organisations to promote the design and provision of sustainable waste management facilities, such as home composters, and recycling containers in new homes.
- **Container Size.** The Council will research and consider the implications of waste container sizes and the frequency of collection, with respect to the amount of waste generated per head.
- **Waste Survey.** The Council will aim to secure funding to enable regular (every three years) surveys of public attitudes to waste, and sustainable waste management practice, with the aim of monitoring and informing future waste prevention initiatives.
- **Lobbying Government.** The Council will where appropriate lobby government to adopt policies and legislation that will facilitate the reduction of waste.
- **Resource Management through Design.** The Council will work in partnership with local industry, trade and business organisations to promote the design and manufacture of products using less resources and energy and easier to recycle.
- **Scrap Store** - Flotsam & Jetsam Scrap Store was set up in 1994 and has made links with local businesses to donate clean and safe waste materials to the store on a regular basis. These materials would otherwise have been sent to landfill but instead are used by



various community groups and schools for a range of arts and craft projects etc.

- **Mobile phone recycling:** Due to our need to comply with our Environmental Management System mobile phones are no longer collected by council but we do give advice and support to local people willing to generate income through the collection of this product

- **Postage Stamps:** Stamps are collected and distributed to different charities such as Cancer Research.



- **Vision Aid: spectacles:** Old pairs of glasses are collected and passed to the international charity 'Vision Aid' who distribute them through opticians to people in developing countries.

- **Tools for Self reliance:** a tool refurbishment project where unwanted tools workshop and gardening tools are distributed to developing countries through this international organisation.



- **Toner Cartridges:** This project collects empty toner cartridge for refilling, these are then passed to the charity SCOPE.

- **Ink Cartridges:** Internally produced ink cartridges are passed to the local voluntary group 'Campaign Whale', whom we have helped to promote the collection scheme to wider sources.

5.4 How much waste can be prevented?

Whilst waste prevention is the most important part of the Draft Waste Management Strategy, it is extremely hard to achieve quantifiable reductions to the household waste stream. The big challenge for the 21st century is to encourage people to change their lifestyles in an equitable way. One way is to ensure that services are provided to make it easier for people to recycle, this is happening with our rapid expansion of kerbside recycling. Another way is to encourage people to look at what they consume. It is consumption that is the generator of waste and the more wealth we have the more we spend on consumer goods. This is addressed in several ways, this Draft Waste Management Strategy will be one mechanism, and another is through the Council's Climate Change Strategy.

Therefore, not withstanding the need for waste prevention and minimisation, we need on the one hand to plan on the basis of continued waste growth and on the other to tailor services to adapt rapidly to reduced levels of waste. This will rely on all residents actively seeking ways of reducing the amount of waste they produce.

5.4 What actions help prevent waste?

It is important that we all reduce waste whenever possible; otherwise the gains made from composting and recycling more will be lost.

Waste enters the home in "disguise" as excess packaging, junk mail and disposable products. It quickly becomes waste, without offering the consumer very much benefit. The table below is an indication of some of the action we can all take to reduce our waste.

Table 4

The amount of waste from the home can be reduced by:

- ✓ Using re-usable shopping bags, rather than plastic carrier bags
- ✓ Buying products that are not over packaged, and choosing refillable products.
- ✓ Registering with the mailing preference service to reduce the amount of junk mail you receive (Mailing Preference Service telephone 08457 034 599)
- ✓ Buying durable rather than disposable products and repairing rather than replacing household goods.
- ✓ Taking your old and unwanted clothes, furniture, books and shoes to charity shops so that they can be re-used.
- ✓ Composting your garden waste and vegetable peelings at home – then you have the benefit of free compost. For a reduced price home composter please call 0845 130 60 90.
- ✓ Only buying pre-packed convenience foods when you really need them
- ✓ Considering growing your own vegetables —many varieties can be grown in small garden

People working in Lewes District Council can help reduce the amount of waste their employer produces, and help them to save money by:

- ✓ Encouraging them to consider the whole cost of waste, in terms of the cost of the raw materials, processing costs and the cost of disposing of waste. On average 1% of turnover can be saved by reducing waste.
- ✓ Adopting a “green” purchasing policy, which includes the purchase of recycled materials and products that aren’t over-packaged.
- ✓ Telling your employer about the free, professional advice they can receive from organisations such as Envirowise (0800 585 794) and Business Link (01604 671 200)

More extensive information on waste prevention is available in appendix 1 and in forthcoming leaflets for households and various company sectors. For further information contact the Community Recycling Centre on 01273 488937.

6. Recycling and Composting

6.1 General Information

Lewes District Council is a waste collection authority and is therefore responsible for the collection of waste produced in its area. It has a population of around 92,177 (2001 census) and comprises 113 square miles of Downland, weald countryside and coastline. There are four main urban centres - Lewes Seaford, Newhaven and Peacehaven through to East Saltdean along the coast.

The council has been successful in securing funding for waste prevention initiatives and has recently submitted successful bids to the Government's waste prevention and recycling fund in 2002, 2003 and 2004, generating one million pounds. The council will continue to be pro-active in developing waste prevention and minimisation projects with partners that are eligible for external funding, and securing funding to enable the projects to go ahead.

6.2 Current Recycling Activities

6.2.1. Bring Sites – The council has operated a 'Bring Site' recycling scheme for 12 years at 2005. Sites have been placed in public places, car parks and former waste ground etc, and in places where large numbers of people visit such as schools, hospitals etc. The Schools mini recycling centres have been the cornerstone of the council's



education campaign with regard to recycling and have proved extremely popular. The council has 130 mini recycling centres at 2006 throughout the district, collecting a range of materials such as glass, paper, cans, plastic bottles, textiles and foil. The council services these sites with its own four vehicles. About **2500** tonnes of materials are collected and recycled via

the 'bring' banks in 1998/99 and the tonnage collected has remained around this figure despite the expansion of Kerbside recycling.

6.2.2. Kerbside Scheme – Lewes District

Council operates a Kerbside recycling scheme, which is a fortnightly collection of plastic, paper, cans, textiles and foil. Currently, (April 2006) the scheme operates in all our urban areas and most of the rural areas. The scheme will be offered to all houses in the district, the only



exception being isolated homes where alternative arrangements will be made. The scheme is also offered to flats up to two stories, this may be extended to other flats in the future, in the meantime these residents are encouraged to use our extensive network of mini recycling centres. The current participation rate on the kerbside scheme varies between 60% and 76% (depending on the round) and climbing and we have a **minimum** target of **72%** of eligible homes. When economical and/or practical, the range of materials collected on the kerbside scheme will be extended. For example during 2006 glass will be added to the collection rounds and possibly batteries and tetra packs will be added to the list at a later date. It was decided that the collection of the material would be carried out using bespoke electric recycling vehicles designed to do the job we wanted. They are quiet, use very little electricity and produces zero local pollution thus complying with our desire to be as sustainable as possible.

6.2.3. Materials Reclamation Facility (MRF)–

The council has its own depot know as the 'Community Recycling Centre', where plastic bottles, steel and aluminium cans are sorted, baled and then sold to various re-processors. A purpose-built classroom and Sustainability



Resource Centre has been incorporated at the centre providing a useful

venue for schools, community groups, presentations and other meetings. With investment from DEFRA we have been able to improve production at the MRF by purchasing new equipment. We currently have the capacity to recycle over 600 tonnes of cans and plastic a year (Working a normal eight-hour day). In terms of landfill space that is massive 5000 cubic metres a year. The Community Recycling Centre also manages the collection and distribution of a broad range of other material as listed in Table 3 above.

6.2.4. Council Office Recycling - The Community

Recycling Centre takes delivery of office paper from all the council's offices. In addition other materials are collected from offices such as printer cartridges, toner cartridges while most staff buildings have mini recycling centres for glass,



cans, plastic bottles. Waste audits have been carried out to assess the amount of waste produced and to look at ways to recycle, this is being carried out in partnership with an environmental awareness charity 'Global Action Plan' (GAP).

6.2.5. Community Recycling – The Community Recycling Centre receives

garden tools as part of its Tools For Self-Reliance project which are then lent out to a range of projects including school wildlife gardens. Stamps are collected and passed on to various charities, and spectacles are collected for Vision Aid Overseas and mobile phones for various charities. The Council also supports the local furniture re-use project Furniture Now!

6.2.6. Composting – Green waste (Garden Waste), unlike kitchen waste is

not picked up by our refuse service. To help homeowners the Council has promoted home composting as the most sustainable way of dealing with this material. We have also made arrangements with a project partner, 'Blackwell Products', to make compost bins available for householders to

purchase at a discounted price through garden centres and by direct mail order. A total of 9800 composters have been sold from 1995 to March 2004, according to the organisation 'Henry Doubleday' this equates to about 1000 tonnes of waste a year being diverted from landfill.

In addition we have extended the compost supply to a broader range of bins and outlets in partnership with other local authorities in East Sussex, for details see appendix 1. During 2004 three developments to improve performance have been formulated. The first is a campaign to encourage people to place their



kitchen waste and cardboard in their garden compost bin, if successful this will have a significant impact on reducing the amount of waste being collected. For example it is estimated that these two elements of the domestic waste stream account for around 20% of the refuse collected, that is a staggering 5000 tonnes a year.

The second development is that we are currently (2006) seeking funding for a kitchen waste-composting scheme for flats, which will incorporate the recycling of cardboard. Flats have no use for compost bins but they will still produce Kitchen waste and cardboard. The project partners are **East London Recycling Project (ELRP)**, **Henry Doubleday Association (HDA)** and **South Downs CVS**. **ELRP** has just completed successful tests on a compost accelerator (produced by Accelerated Compost Ltd). This is a machine that converts kitchen waste into compost within fourteen days. **ELRP** will be the southern distributors of the compost accelerator and would like to work with Lewes DC on tackling kitchen waste

The third development is a partnership with Common Cause who have acquired funding for a position called the 'compost doctor', someone who can visit individuals and sort out problems and give advice on making good compost.

6.2.7. Local Businesses - In 1993 the council set up a recycling project with a local dairy. The company purchased two lorry bodies of which one is filled with cardboard and the other with HDPE plastic milk containers. The council empties these on a regular basis for recycling. In addition the council distributes guide sheets for a range of trades on waste minimisation and recycling and has worked with individual companies to help reduce their waste (e.g. Former Boehringer Mannheim and Harvey's Brewery). Harvey's Brewery (pictured right) have managed to reduce the quantity of their waste disposal by 48%.



6.2.8. Voluntary Sector - The Volunteer Bureau and Lewes District Council have made links so as to assist those looking for voluntary work. This also includes an agreement for aid to be provided for elderly or disabled residents to help them with bulky waste refuse collections. The Flotsam & Jetsam Scrap Store, although run by Lewes District Council, is dependent on volunteers for its success. The Council for Volunteer Services (CVS) has also worked closely with the Community Recycling Centre and the various projects that volunteers have become involved in.

6.2.9. Colleges and Universities - Lewes District Council regularly takes on students as part of their coursework experience. Volunteers from the local colleges and universities have also come forward either to help out with general recycling activities or to set up their own individual projects in exchange for work experience and/or research.

6.2.10. Purchase Waste. Within the Environmental Protection Act there is provision for waste collection authorities (WCA's), in this case Lewes DC, to pay a discretionary credit to third parties for collecting waste. The aim is:

- ❖ To support small scale recycling by groups or individuals in the community.
- ❖ To support the council's collection methods.
- ❖ To facilitate the efficient movement/ processing of recyclables in Lewes District's waste stream

Under certain conditions the council does purchase recyclables direct from groups or individuals (at market prices) providing certain criteria are met.

These criteria are:

- ❖ that the materials can be weighed.
- ❖ that the materials are of a type that can be processed by the council under licensing conditions
- ❖ that the quantities supplied by the third party do not jeopardise the smooth running of the council's recycling operation.
- ❖ that the third party has checked on the need for having a collection and transfer licence with the waste disposal authority (East Sussex County Council).

The primary target group from whom to purchase of recyclables will be charities, schools or local societies. Individuals will be paid the current market rate less handling charge, which may vary from time to time.

7. Domestic Waste Collection Arrangements

Domestic refuse collection is one Council activity that has a very high profile in the minds of residents and is a fundamental service that is operated by all local authorities that have a 'collection' function. The collection of refuse from homes is a statutory activity that helps to maintain a healthy environment and has been a major contributor to protecting the health of residents.



In the operational year 2003/04 Lewes DC waste division collected 31,000 tonnes of household waste. Of this, 24,766 tonnes of refuse collected via 'back door' collection from homes in the district (see graph 1, page 20), a drop of 4.6% on the previous operational year 2002/03. This is mainly due to the increase in the recycling rate (up 4% over the same period). Currently this is a weekly service but in other authorities around the country, when the recycling and minimisation rates have climbed it has been found more efficient to move to a two weekly collection. The Council is moving away from back door collection and has made other efficiencies in its collection methods and infrastructure to offset some of the very high levels of investment put into the new kerbside recycling schemes.



For efficiency the Council has carried out joint procurement with the neighbouring authority Wealden District Council for the purchase of its vehicles. In 2005, for example, the two authorities entered into a five year contract for the supply of new Refuse Collection Vehicles with Dennis Eagle Ltd.

The Council has a Capital Replacement programme for its vehicle fleet reaching to 2016 / 17. The new refuse collection vehicles that have been purchased have much greater capacity than the previous ageing fleet.

Recycling what we can.

Where practical when we can recycle waste that comes through refuse collection it is done. In recent years schemes have been set up so that refrigerators and freezers, tyres and scrap metal are all taken out of the waste stream and sent away for recycling. When we have finished with our wheeled bins because they have been broken, these too are sent away for recycling after any spare parts are stripped from them e.g., lids or wheels.

The other major areas of responsibility are for street sweeping, bulky household refuse and special / hazardous wastes (clinical waste, dog-fouling etc.) see **table 5** below. Like refuse collection from houses, bulky refuse collection in 2002 / 03 dropped in comparison to the operational year 2002/03. However, street sweeping went from contributing 4.4% to 5.3% in that time period. Items that make up 'Street Sweepings' amounted to 1652 tonnes in 2003/04.

Table 5

Class of material	Weight in tonnes 2003/04
Street Sweeping	1652
Garden waste collections	Individual weight unrecorded
Household clinical waste	111.53
Hazardous Household waste	Individual weight unrecorded
Litter bin collection	Individual weight unrecorded

In addition to the above, **table 6** below lists other waste that is collected by the Council but which does not contribute towards the Audit Commission's Recycling rate calculations:

Table 6

Class of material	2003/04
Beach Cleaning waste	30 tonnes/year
Rubble	Individual weight unrecorded
Clearance from Fly Tipping	104.78 tonnes
Abandoned Vehicles	296 cars
Dog waste	100.57 tonnes

7.1 Garden waste Collection

The Council's normal domestic refuse collection is not used for green garden waste, however for a charge this waste will be collected. Where possible we would encourage householders to compost their own waste at home, it's the most sustainable solution (see 6.2.6).

7.2 Household Clinical Waste

This service is to ensure the safe disposal of waste generated by householders that has a clinical origin and can range from catheters and disposable gloves (low grade clinical waste) to dialysis, dressings etc (high grade clinical waste). The low-grade waste goes to landfill and the high-grade waste is incinerated at a plant via Eastbourne. The householder has to notify our collection service of the contents of the special yellow sack provided, based on this information the council officers decide on the grade of waste.

Promotion of the service is through the various arms of the Health service as well as council information (web site, District Link etc.). However, alert collection staff also keep a check on properties changing hands and will report back to allow the Council to pass information with the details of this free service to new residents. This service includes the collection of special 'sharps' boxes for the collection of needles

7.3 Hazardous Waste

Hazardous waste as defined under the Special Waste Regulations 1996 (as amended), is waste that is listed on the EC hazardous waste list and displays one of fourteen listed hazardous properties. It can include such items as oil drums washed up on the beach or quantities of 'blue' asbestos. The Environmental Health department has a response procedure for this type of waste and this may include the calling out of specialist organizations and on rare occasions cause a local emergency

7.4 Beach Cleaning Waste

Waste collected from our beaches may not have been generated on the beach where it is found. Research has shown (Tidy Britain) that a sizable proportion of the waste comes from well outside a given area and some even from passing ships.

7.5 Rubble

Where possible the council avoids the collection of rubble and the source of this waste usually occurs through fly tipping. Residents and building companies that generate this type of waste are obliged to provide suitable skips for its transfer (under commercial arrangements) to landfill or land reclamation.

7.6 Clearance from Fly Tipping

The incidence of fly tipping will be closely and accurately monitored. The Council, through the Environmental Health Department has recently taken a tougher line with fly tipping and is vigorously pursuing offenders through the courts and using monitoring equipment on known sites.



Enforcement will become more evident in the near future through legal action against people fly tipping, and it is hoped that this will further reduce the incidence of this activity.

7.7 Abandoned Vehicles

The 'End of Life Vehicles Regulations 2003' (SI 2003 No. 2635) come into force at different times. Parts I to VI came into force in Great Britain on 3 November 2003. Part VII only applies in England and Wales and came into force on the same date. The Regulations



partially implement the End of Life Vehicles Directive (2000/53/EC), which, aims to reduce the amount of waste from vehicles when they are finally scrapped.

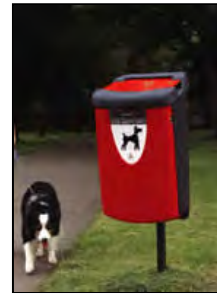
- ❖ Part I covers general issues.
- ❖ Part II deals with the application of the Regulations.
- ❖ Part III deals with the design requirements for materials and components of vehicles put on the market after the Regulations come into effect, as well as the responsibilities of producers in this regard and provisions for enforcement and penalties.
- ❖ Part IV introduces the information requirements, in relation to the responsibilities of producers. Enforcement is by a compliance notice procedure and the Regulations introduce offences and the penalties to be applied for breach of the requirements in Part IV.
- ❖ Part V introduces the certificate of destruction (CoD) which an authorised treatment facility may issue to the last holder or owner of the end of life vehicle when it is transferred for treatment.
- ❖ Part VI deals with collection and delivery of end of life vehicles and sets out the provisions for treatment of end of life vehicles put on the market on or after 1 July 2002. Producers are responsible for meeting the costs of treatment of an end of life vehicle, which has no market value when, delivered to an authorised treatment facility for treatment.
- ❖ Part VII of the Regulations covers the keeping and treatment of waste motor vehicles and provisions for site licences, recovery operations and exemptions.

Prior to the operational year 2003/04 the number of abandoned vehicles collected by the Council grew but as the table below indicates in 2003 / 04 the numbers began to fall. **Table 7 – Abandoned Vehicles**

Year	Number of vehicles
2001/02	382
2002/03	442
2003/04	296

7.8 Dog Waste

Since the introduction of the 'Dog Fouling Bye –laws in the 1980' (and the subsequent 'Dog Fouling of Land Act) a growing number of dog owners have taken the responsibility for removing dog faeces. As a consequence of this some 100 tonnes of dog faeces are collected each year. It should be noted that this one hundred tonnes of waste would have likely ended up on our streets if the dog bins did not exist!



7.9 Street Sweeping.

This service is a vital service to maintain our local environment and contributes significantly to our perception of the quality of our lives. In 2005 the Council purchased a new mechanical sweeper to assist in the extremely heavy workload that is faced every year at leaf falling season in autumn. Every year also, the Council has a major clean of Lewes after Bonfire Night celebrations.

Moves have been made internally within the Council to take street sweepers away from the creeping refuse collection role that they have taken on and started to redirect the resources back into street sweeping. Front door collection has aided this considerably.

The Council now runs three mechanical sweepers in the District of 113 square miles and employs 13 street sweeping staff, one of whom has special responsibility for the District's beaches through the summer.

The Environmental Crime Action Group (a multi agency group led by the District Council) has targeted environmental crime in certain areas. The first project commenced in 2005 with the Town Centre of Newhaven as the target area. Environmental Health have also taken their first successful prosecution of a fly tipping offence in 2005 and purchased cctv cameras to detect such activities. Further work in this area is ongoing.

8. Waste Promotion and Education Initiatives

Introduction and Background

8.1 Communicating the message of **preventing waste** and **recycling waste** successfully is an integral part of sustainable waste management especially with the introduction of Statutory Performance Standards for Household Waste Recycling and Composting.

8.2 We can not rely on recycling alone, sustainable waste management needs to be meaningful and thorough and to recognise its effects within the wider picture of the environment for example **climate change, resource depletion** and **energy use**. We need to consider new approaches to waste prevention and recycling such as **'sustainable consumption'**, **'smart shopping'** and elements of the **'Zero Waste'** policy, which the Council signed up to the support of in October 2003 if we are to create a positive impact on our environment. Over the next five years the Council has set target to increase the recycling rate by 3% to 7% through waste reduction.

8.3 The Council has engaged in the process of promoting and educating the public of the importance of the '3 Rs'- Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. This was stated in the 1992 Recycling Plan and the Joint Recycling Plan (Oct 2003). The '3 Rs' is the accepted hierarchy for waste management both nationally and internationally, and this has now been adopted by the government's Waste Strategy 2000.

Significant strides can now be taken with new and exciting approaches. We have been involved in various educational and promotional campaigns to date both independently and in various partnerships. Lewes District Council realises the benefits of partnership working to assist with its education and promotional activities.



8.4 Waste Management is a major issue that crosses boundaries both socially and geographically therefore, to benefit both economically and from shared experiences, partnership working is crucial. This is carried out with the Government Department DEFRA, WRAP, the individuals, community groups, schools and other local authorities through the Recycling Consortium (Lewes DC, Wealden DC, Eastbourne BC, Rother DC, Hastings BC, East Sussex County Council and Brighton & Hove City Council.



“Information does not necessarily lead to increased awareness, and increased awareness does not necessarily lead to action.

Information provision, whether through advertisements, leaflets or labelling, must be backed up by other approaches.”

Demos & Green Alliance, 2003

8.5 In order to achieve the Council’s waste prevention and recycling targets residents of the district need to be aware of the services being provided and why these services are in place. This strategy aims to address both these important issues using different promotional and educational methods. Effective waste prevention and recycling requires clear messages to many different groups of society and this strategy aims to achieve this with a multi-campaign approach set within a four level system framework.

The five level campaign system comprises of:

1. A district wide awareness raising campaign.
2. A targeted communication strategy in designated areas for specific waste reduction and recycling schemes.
3. A schools programme.
4. A Lewes District Council corporate and Businesses Waste Minimisation Campaign.
5. Continual supply of information through out the year.

Level 1 campaign system

General campaigns and theme weeks are followed throughout the year and plotted on an annual calendar (see Table 2). LDC promotes these either independently or in partnership with others. A combination of display boards and staffed events are organised and press releases are produced for local press, radio and District Link - the Council's own quarterly newsletter. Where appropriate local and national logos will be used on promotional work to keep continuity of messages.

Level 2 campaign system

Targeted promotional campaigns to increase recycling through specific recycling facilities i.e. bring sites and / or kerbside collection schemes. A combination of specifically tailored display boards and staffed events similar to Level 1 will be used. Where appropriate local and national logos will be used on promotional work to keep continuity of messages.

Level 3 campaign system

A schools programme to introduce the issues around waste and recycling using the waste hierarchy reduce, reuse, recycle. Talks and a tour of the Community Recycling Centre are available to all schools, colleges and other education establishments including home tutored children, on a request basis. A number of schools have already been provided with a mini recycling centre for use by parents, guardians and staff to bring their recycling in from their homes as part of the education process. New mini recycling centres will be provided where practical.

Level 4 campaign system

A Lewes District Council corporate awareness raising campaign using the waste hierarchy reduce, reuse, recycle to encourage staff and elected members to use the recycling facilities available at work and to recognise the issues around waste outside of work. Local businesses will be encouraged to

engage in the waste hierarchy and information on waste minimisation will be provided.

Level 5 campaign system

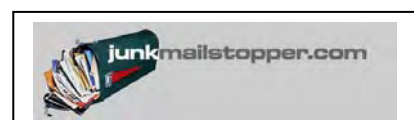
A continual supply of information will be provided through out the year. The following locations will be utilised; will be available using the Council's web site, leisure Centres, Tourist Information Centres and other Council Receptions, Community group information points and establishments where there is a public information point.

For details of the campaigns see the Waste Minimisation Communications Strategy

8.6 Preventing Waste (National Waste Prevention Tool Kit)

During 2005/6 Lewes District Council are launching a series of initiatives aimed at avoiding waste. These initiatives will be linked to the international issue of Climate change and the impact of consumption and waste, the main themes covered will be:

1. **Smart Shopping** – e.g. Direct Consumer action, avoiding disposable nappies, disposable Cameras, plastic bag, BBQ's, re-fills and loose/non packaged items etc.
2. **Reuse in Home and Community**: re-using containers, reusable shopping bags, use of charity shops and car boot sales, repair and refurbish etc.
3. **Community and Home Composting/Digesters**: expand existing schemes to encourage increased use and expansion to other homes, community composting/digesters for people without gardens or groups of dwellings
4. **Converting retail purchase into services**: Use of library like services (e.g. book, DVD and toy library), use of equipment hire shops (e.g. DIY tools) and setting up neighbour libraries/swap shops.
5. **Mailing Preference**: Wider distribution of information on the mailing preference service.



8.7 The Challenge

The Prudential has recently run a survey on how we waste money on goods and services. Britons waste around £80bn in total - that's enough to pay the council tax for everyone 4 times over! That's £1,725 each on average, easily covering the average credit card debt of £1,140!

The number one waste item is the humble lettuce, with 61 % of households throwing a soggy one away each week! Over a third of people admitted to regularly throwing food away, letting food go out of date or stale and over-ordering takeaways. The overall breakdown includes

- £420 on food (salad, bread, fruit, spreads/dips, meat/fish, ready meals etc.)
- £400 on unused luxury items such as toiletries, clothes, accessories and gadgets (mainly electronic and computer items).
- £250 on entertainment - including books that are never read and CDs
- £380 on hobbies that we don't see through and new equipment we hardly use and DVD's that are never played

Perhaps most worrying are attitudes to waste

Young single males are the worst offenders while older females squander the least

- 9% are resentful or stressed about it
- 16% admitted to a pang of guilt
- 29% are untroubled
- 4% feel powerless to do anything about it;
- 4% said they could afford it anyway
- 13% positively enjoyed being a little wasteful!

Source: *Soggy lettuce Report 2004, Prudential. See www.pru.co.uk/content/news/soggy_lettuce*

8.8 General Recycling Promotion

- Promote Recycling through the 'Bring System' and the Kerbside Collection Service

- **On Kerbside:** Promote expansion in the range of materials collected (currently glass, textiles, plastic, paper, foil and cans) by adding small WEEE, Batteries, Cardboard and Tetra Pak. The Kerbside Recycling Vehicles (EV's) will use the boxes to deliver:



- 1. information about new materials to be collected
 2. the recycling newspaper
 3. to explain why certain materials have been returned to the customer ('oop's' leaflet)



- **On the Bring System:** promote bring sites to flats that are unable to participate in the Kerbside scheme. Residents on this scheme will be in receipt of the same information as those residents on the 'box it' scheme and will be able to have a box and or bag for storage.
- **Commercial Businesses:** Develop a Commercial waste information/collection scheme for Micro Enterprises. In partnership with Sussex Enterprise, SEEDA, East Sussex CC and research organisation CENTRIM. The main aim is to reduce the waste (and therefore the cost of disposal) produced by Micro Enterprises (businesses employing less than 10 people). The project would form a pilot for a regional interreg and/or

regional project (subject to funding). The project will also look at purchasing (Commercial 'Smart' shopping) and give an opportunity for the enterprise to appraise energy and water. The pilot will enrol 125 businesses, 75 from high streets (25 in three high streets) and a further five 'clusters' of businesses representing a trading group (e.g. 10 hairdresser, 10 newsagents etc) making a total of 50 in all.

9. Changes to Recycling and Waste Collection through the life of this strategy

The following changes are being considered by the Council as a way towards achieving our targets with regard to sustainable waste management.

9.0. Waste reduction

Some ideas have been covered in sections 5&6 and in section 8 of this strategy e.g. the promotion of home composting, and the composting of food waste and cardboard in flats. It is recognised that the Council, although relatively influential, cannot make progress on waste issues on its own. Therefore an important facet of its approach will be, education, lobbying government; promoting waste minimisation through contacts with commerce and supporting community based campaigns including responsible direct action by consumers (returning packaging to shops).

9.1. Waste reuse

Waste reuse is often overlooked but in reality many people already reuse materials for a range of different purposes. Perhaps the most common use is yoghurt pots for seedlings. There is little doubt that less waste reuse is evident possibly as a result of our general increased affluence. Certainly waste in developing countries is reused to a higher degree, but how do they utilise this waste? This leads to two objectives on waste reuse

- Research how people in developing countries reuse their waste
- Produce a catalogue on the Council's web site showing waste reuse ideas from the residents of Lewes District

9.2. Recycling

As of July 2004 the Council has 130 Bring Sites and Kerbside collection to over 70% of the population. This is being expanded both geographically and in the range of materials being collected or planned to be collected:

- Plastic bottles

- Paper
- Cans
- Foil
- Textiles

According to a recent FoE (Friends of the Earth) report there are 8 recyclables that can be collected at the kerbside. Additionally to those above they include:

- Cardboard
- Green waste (Kitchen waste)
- Glass

Trials will be undertaken to look at the feasibility of collecting glass with Furniture Now! And the Council's kerbside scheme. Glass collection has been introduced to rural areas in 2005 on the kerbside scheme. Plans to expand that through urban areas run through 2006.

9.3. We are also researching the feasibility of recycling batteries and small electrical items and 'tetra packs' via the kerbside scheme.

9.4. We intend to introduce of drop off points for residents in rural areas that are unable to participate on the kerbside collection scheme because their homes are in isolated areas

9.5. We will continue to extend our range of recycling materials to other products either directly or through enabling other organisations to benefit from recycling activity providing that it complies with the Council's Environmental Management System.

9.6. Over the life of the strategy we will, with the help of others, investigate ways in which to encourage the development of local industries within the district that utilise recycled material as a resource, for the benefits of the environment and local employment.

9.7. The Council will investigate partnership working with local farmers and Plumpton Agricultural College for the purpose of composting Kitchen waste. Figures from Brighton (May 2004), which has the same restriction

as Lewes District Council in regard to green waste (garden waste) i.e. neither collects green waste through the domestic collection round, suggest that about 20% of the total waste is compostable kitchen waste (this included 3% garden waste).

Table 8

PUTRESCIBLES GARDEN	3.32	25.83
PUTRESCIBLES EXCLUDING GARDEN WASTE	10.57	
COOKED FOODS AND U/C PUTRESCIBLE	11.95	
PAPER GENERAL	7.02	31.27
PAPER CARD EXC LIQUID CARTONS	2.14	
PAPER CARD LIQUID CARTONS	0.54	
PAPER (EX NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES)	5.25	
PAPER MAGAZINES	7.21	
PAPER NEWSPAPER	9.11	
NON FERROUS CANS	1.28	
FERROUS CANS	3.00	
PLASTIC DENSE	3.87	10.66
PLASTIC CLEAR BOTTLES	1.64	
PLASTIC COLOURED BOTTLES	.75	
PLASTIC FILM	4.39	
GLASS	11.41	11.41
TEXTILES	3.58	3.58
OTHER MISCELLANEOUS/FINES	13.57	13.57

**Waste contents
for Brighton
and Hove**

This would suggest that our total compostable waste (excluding paper and card) is less than that stated by the government Strategy unit paper 'Waste Not Want Not' which gave a national average of 37%. However, if 20% of our waste is kitchen waste and thus compostable, dealing with this

waste would certainly improve the Council Recycling rate. Table 9 gives an indication of the quantity of components found in the waste stream of Lewes residents.

Table 9

Material	% content¹	Material collected in Lewes² (tonnes)	Material recycled By LDC 2003/04³ (tonnes)
Putrescible garden waste ⁴	3.32	1043	
Putrescible excluding Garden waste	10.57	3320	
Cooked food and U/C Putrescible	11.95	3753	
Paper card excluding liquid cartons ⁵	2.14	672	67
Paper card liquid cartons	0.54	170	
Paper general	7.02	2205	2928
Paper excluding newspaper and magazines	5.25	1649	
Paper magazines	7.21	2265	
Paper newspaper	9.11	2861	
Non Ferrous cans	1.28	402	25
Ferrous Cans	3.00	942	139
Plastic dense ⁶	3.87	1216	
Plastic Clear bottles	1.64	515	285
Plastic Coloured bottles	0.75	236	
Plastic film	4.39	1379	17
Glass	11.41	3584	1383
Textiles	3.58	1124	52
Other miscellaneous/fines	13.57	4262	85 ⁷
			15.55%

It must be stressed that the Council's preferable and immediate action is to encourage householders to home compost as much kitchen waste as possible. However, when resources allow consideration will be given to green waste collection. For Lewes District, the Green Waste Hierarchy below is listed in order of importance in regard to its diversion from landfill.

¹ Based on a Brighton & Hove City study in 2004, the LDC waste stream is likely to be similar but not the same.

² The amount of recycling and refuse collected by LDC in the year 2003/04 was 31409 tonnes

³ This total is collected from 130 mini recycling centres and through a Kerbside scheme offered to about 30,000 of the districts 41,000 households with an average participation rate of 69%. Further

⁴ Like Brighton & Hove CC, Lewes DC has a police of rejecting garden waste if it is left for collection by the refuse teams. There is a separate green waste collection service. Currently green waste is dealt with through home composting and over 9000 bins have been sold for this purpose.

⁵ Cardboard is not collected but is delivered to the Community Recycling Centre by residents

⁶ This includes items such as margarine tubs, yoghurt pots etc.

⁷ This total includes shoes, aluminium foil and furniture (through the charity Furniture Now!), it does not cover other domestic items such as stamps, tools, spectacles, ink cartridges, fridge's etc, schemes which we either directly run or facilitate.

1. Home compost garden/kitchen waste
2. Collect Kitchen Waste
3. Collection of Green waste

The green waste hierarchy

9.8. For Lewes District Council to establish accurate data on the contents of our residents' waste bins, particularly in the light of the Landfill Directive the council would need to conduct a waste audit. This work is being conducted through 2005 / 06.

9.9 Domestic waste collection

1. Within resource limits, the domestic waste collection service is undergoing a much-needed review. The first stage has been the updating of the vehicle fleet, the first five vehicles have arrived by 2005, and two more vehicles will be replaced at the beginning of the 2006 / 07 financial year.
2. Efficiencies will be made through the rescheduling of refuse collection rounds. This however, is a major task, as it involves the scheduling of more than 41,000 properties for collection each week. It will have Personnel, financial and education implications.
3. Many authorities, especially those with successful kerbside collection schemes have opted for fortnightly collections of refuse e.g. Wealden DC. Once the kerbside scheme is rolled out to all homes the council will consider the fortnightly collection of refuse option. Resources saved from fortnightly collection could be diverted to recycling collection e.g., green waste and cardboard. It will also have a positive impact on the existing recycling programme, particularly in terms of participation.
4. The Council is aware of a variety of 'variable charging' schemes both in the UK and overseas. These schemes can be simply charging for additional sacks of rubbish over a certain quota (this quota would have to be set on the numbers of people per household). More sophisticated

schemes provide wheeled bins and refuse collection vehicles that weigh the waste collected from the bin and store the information using a house barcode on the bin to a computer. Such schemes produce a marked increase on recycling rates but can only operate if:

- there is a comprehensive recycling system
- there is comprehensive advice on waste minimisation
- there are financial resources available

Despite the barriers the Council will continue to monitor these schemes while working towards a comprehensive recycling and waste minimisation system for Lewes District.

5. The above schemes can also work as a positive financial incentive for householders, for example trials in Sudbury, Brent, Tulse Hill and Lambeth paid householders £10.00 if they placed their recycled box out at least half the collections over a six month period.

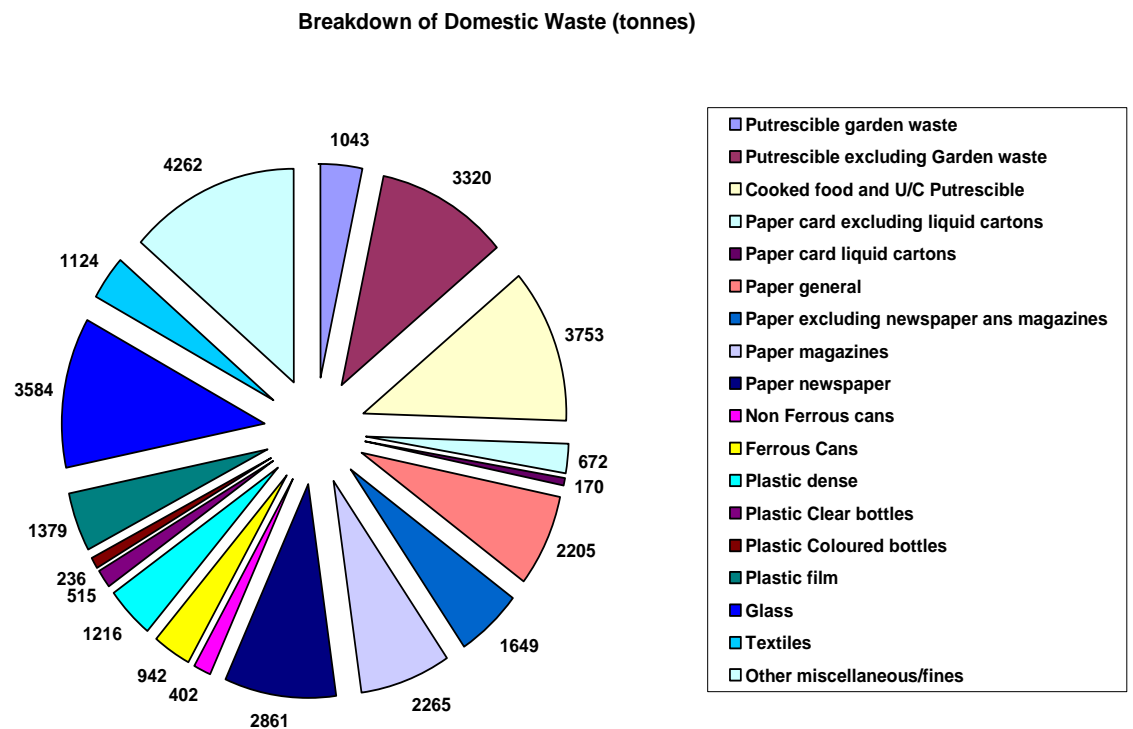
9.10. Other waste collection services/related issues

1. The Council should reconsider their policy on the provision of dog and litter bins and how sustainable the current policy is and what are its ramifications on street sweeping.
2. The Council will consider what other uses its internal resources such as land and property that could usefully be used for its priorities, and consider a corporate approach to such. E.g., a bulking depot for glass, amalgamating Waste and Recycling Service's under one roof, drop off points for kerbside.
3. East Sussex County Council operates three Household Waste Recycling Site's in the district, at Lewes, Newhaven and Seaford. There are a wide range of materials that can be recycled through Household Waste and Recycling Sites, for details contact East Sussex County Council.

4. The Council will encourage the development of industry and commerce that makes use of recycled material in its production process/end products. This would include the encouragement of businesses that utilise the waste generated by other companies in the immediate locality.

9.11 Impact of additional recycling activity on Recycling Rates

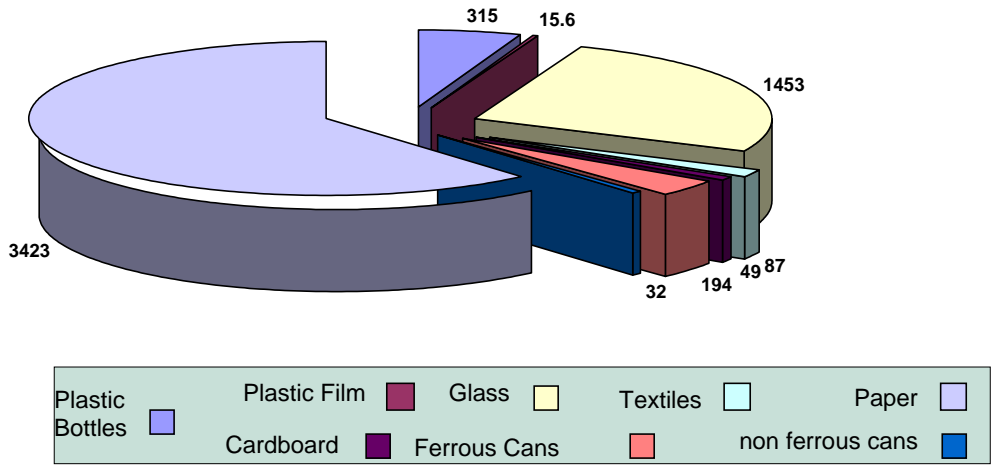
Fig 7



The above pie chart shows the variety of material by weight (tonnes), which was found in our domestic waste during 2003/04 and below, material recycled in 2003/04. This information is based on **table 11**

Fig 8: Proportion of material recycled in the year 2004/05.

Quantities of Material Collected for Recycling by Lewes District Council in 2004/05 in Tonnes



10. Future Developments for Consultation.

In order to achieve the recycling rate of over 18% with one of the lowest waste produced per head figures in the country, Lewes District Council staff and residents have had to work very hard. The Council recognizes that it can do more but cannot do it without the support of its residents.

This section deals with a possible path towards the Council's own goals and targets of eventually reaching zero waste, reaching 40% recycling by 2010 and 50% by 2015.

The estimates of recycling rate given are taken from actual experience of other local authorities. It is always very difficult to predict how performance will measure up even if two local authorities do identical things; that is why we are so reliant on what our residents do in response to these issues.

10.1 Future Plans

Below is a diagram that represents what the Council will try to achieve. There are a number of issues which may be considered contentious, which is why we are asking for feedback on the ways we move forward with Sustainable Waste Management. The Action Plans are to be found as Appendix 1.

The figures based on actual experience from other local authorities are taken from the document 'The Household Waste Prevention Toolkit', unpublished but found on the web site of the National Resource and Waste Forum (nrwf), at:

<http://www.nrwf.org.uk/Reportsandpublications.htm#toolkit>

As its starting point the Council uses 27% recycling. This is the level that has been calculated (again from the experience of other local authorities) as the rate we will achieve by putting glass onto the kerbside collection scheme during 2005 / 06.

What the Council Intends to do to achieve the targets set.



10.2 Consultation

For any comments on this document please contact us at:
recycling@lewes.gov.uk

or by writing to:

The Head of Waste & Recycling Services
Lewes District Council
Robinson Rd Depot
Robinson Rd
Newhaven
East Sussex
BN9 9BL.

Appendix 1 Draft Action Plans

Introduction - Action Plans for Meeting the Sustainable Waste Management Strategy Targets

The proposal is to implement five action plans over the five years following the introduction of glass recycling in 2005/2006. The action plans start in 2006/07 and finish in 2010/11.

The five action plans are:

- Waste Avoidance Campaign
- Increasing Kerbside participation
- Cardboard collection from selected Bring Sites
- Compulsory Kerbside Collection
- Introducing new materials to the Kerbside Collection scheme

The aim of the action plans is to increase the recycling rate to between 37.7% and 41.3% by 2010/11. This target will be subject to:

- change as a result legislation from Central Government and the EC
- Any growth in waste over the next five years that exceeds that predicted by Lewes District's past performance. The predicted growth in waste for the next five years is based on the changes in the total domestic waste figure between 2001/05, an average of 1% a year.
- The expansion of the housing stock

Action Plan 1

Waste Avoidance Campaign – Smart Living 2006/07 to 2010/11

1. What:

The Waste avoidance campaign is primarily aimed at reducing waste per head of population, as a consequence the target will be to increase the recycling rate between 3% and 7% over five years through reducing the total amount of waste.

Lewes District Council has a proven record of success with regard to waste avoidance, demonstrated by its waste per figure which is the one of the lowest in the U.K.. This has resulted from various programmes and promotions most notably the composting scheme which over the past seven years has distributed over 10,000 bins.

The recent DEFRA waste analysis of domestic waste conducted by Network Recycling on behalf of East Sussex Authorities has indicated that for compostable waste alone there is still over 8000 tonnes that could be recycled rather than landfilled in Lewes District. This is 25% of the total domestic waste in 2004/05 equivalent to increasing the recycling rate by about 10%.

The waste avoidance campaign is the panicle of sustainable waste management it has the most significant impact on the environment through resource conservation and pollution and on the economics of waste management in terms of disposal and collection costs.

This is not a leaflet distribution exercise although there will be leaflets it is a long term programme attempting to change hearts and minds. We are targeting year on year an increase in the recycling rate of 0.6% to 1.4% as a result of this campaign

Key elements of the Waste Avoidance campaign :

:

6. **Smart Shopping** – e.g. Direct Consumer action, avoiding disposable Cameras, plastic bag, BBQ's, re-fills and loose/non packaged items etc. seek retailer involvement. **Slogan 'Smart Shopping'**
7. **Reuse/Repair**: re-using containers, reusable shopping bags, use of charity shops and car boot sales, promoting repair (and skills) and refurbishment companies etc.
8. **Community and Home Composting/Digesters**: extend current home composting to include more kitchen waste & community composting/digesters for people without gardens etc.
9. **Converting retail purchase into services**: Promote the use and development of libraries(e.g. book, DVD and toy library), extend to other goods use of equipment (e.g. DIY tools) and set up neighbourhood libraries/ promote through directory swap & hire shops.

10. **Mailing Preference:** Wider distribution of information on the mailing preference service. **Slogan 'You keep it'**

How:

Although the information on all five elements of the campaign will be available throughout the district, one element will be targeted in each sector. This will then be changed around in subsequent years as indicated in the timetable below. This objective of this approach is two fold:

- to ensure that there are the 'human' resources available
- to increase the chances of exploiting publicity fully over the five year programme.

Activities:

- Waste avoidance Display's in high visibility venue
- Waste avoidance presentations throughout the district
- Waste Avoidance training
- Leaflets/ booklet, six in all one is generic and briefly describes the other five leaflet/booklets and made available through the Kerbside scheme and at receptions.

Smart Shopping

Reuse/Repair

Community and Home Composting/Digesters

Converting retail purchase into services

Mailing Preference

Generic

leaflet

directory

leaflet

leaflet

leaflet

leaflet

- Each of the five elements will be launched by a publicity event
- Waste avoidance film produced in house by SFU?
- Leaflets/directory on the council web site
- Distribution of material to all stakeholder groups
- Set up community compost scheme
- Recruit volunteers as for example compost advisors
- Promotion of kerbside recycling to support **Action Plan 2**

Partners:

- Retailers, in particular, local producers, retailers/producers of reusable item, hire and repair outlets
- Schools
- Sussex Enterprise
- Global Action Plan
- National Resource and Waste Forum
- Community and Voluntary Groups
- Individual Householders
- East Sussex County Council (partner in Compost/digester scheme)

Measuring of performance is achieved through:

- Impact on recycling rate
- Impact on waste per head
- Sale of composters and digesters
- Resident survey's (annual)
- Sale of reusable bags/disposable items
- Impact on local producers/retailers
- Contents of shopping list (shopping diary kept by volunteers)

Who

- Assistant Head Waste and Recycling (Recycling) (AHWRS-R)
- Recycling Officer Operations, (ROO)
- Recycling Officer Kerbside, (ROK)
- Press Officer (PO)
- Partners (see above), Volunteers, Members

Financial:

Expenditure/Income:

Expenditure	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Leaflets	£5,000	£3,000	£3,000	£3,000	£3,000
Trailer	£6500				
Promotional boards photo's etc	£3500				
Training volunteers & packs	£3000		£2000		
Total	£18,000	£3,000	£5,000	£3,000	£3,000
Income*					
Tonnes diverted					
Notional Value					

Additional funding will be sought from partners:

Income;*

Notional saving over landfill charges and collection charges still waiting for data but it is in the hundreds of thousands (NRWF study puts the combined saving at £80.00 a tonne diverted from landfill)

Timetable

September 2005 - Preparations for the campaign (PO, ROO, ROK, AHWRS-R)

April 2006 /2007/2008/2009/2010- Implementation of Campaign as in table below. (ROO, ROK, AHWRS-R)

Lewes District Council's Sustainable Waste Management Strategy

Sector	Year one	Year two	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Lewes, Kignston Barcombe & Hamsey	Reuse/Repair	Mailing Preference	Smart Shopping	Community and Home Composting /Digesters	Converting retail purchase into services
Newhaven Ouse Valley	Converting retail purchase into services	Smart Shopping	Reuse/Repair	Mailing Preference	Community and Home Composting /Digesters
Peacehaven Telscombe East Saltdean	Smart Shopping	Converting retail purchase into services	Community and Home Composting /Digesters	Reuse/Repair	Mailing Preference
Seaford	Community and Home Composting /Digesters	Reuse/Repair	Mailing Preference	Converting retail purchase into services	Smart Shopping
Chailey Wiversfield, Newick Plumpton Ditchling, Streat, E. Chiltington, St John Without	Mailing Preference	Community and Home Composting/ Digesters	Converting retail purchase into services	Smart Shopping	Reuse repair

April 2006 – Publicity launch on consecutive days (3rd to 7th April 2006)
 Repeated each year for five years (AHWRS-R)

July 2007 – Publish monitoring report – Repeated each year for five years

Action Plan 2

Targeted Campaign on those residents not participating in Kerbside Collection 2006/07

What:

On average 68% of residents are participating (signed up on the scheme) in Kerbside recycling (Jan/Mar 2005), in those areas where it has been made available (some areas have alternative measures like mini recycling centres). When the actual set out of boxes (set out rate) is measured this percentage drops to 77% of those residents who are signed up as participating. There are several points to consider:

- There are still kerbside rounds that have only just been incorporated on the scheme and it takes a year to 18 months to establish a stable figure of participation (these new rounds skew the participation rate and set out rate downwards)
- The set out rate is affected by holidays, forgetfulness etc. but the residents may still be recycling the same amount of material by waiting for the next collection
- The impact of the introduction of glass anecdotally will have the effect of increasing participation and set out rates. The degree to which this happens will become apparent towards the end of 2005/06 when the role out is complete
- The participation and set out rates are based on offers and do not include flats and isolated houses where alternatives to kerbside collection are being made available

Nationally, for a voluntary opt in scheme the current participation rate is above average, however, it still means that a third of residents have decided not to take part. The challenge is to recruit more of these people.

Initial target 75% participation equals approximately '2600' additional homes

Action Plan 2 includes the distribution of the 'put out your box' leaflet to try to ensure a better 'set out' rate,

How:

The only sure way to increase participation is to 'door knock'. This is time consuming but often brings positive results. The Kerbside Manager can produce lists of addresses on each street indicating those homes not yet signed up for the Kerbside Scheme.

Who:

- Recycling Officer Kerbside (**ROK**)

The three groups who will be carrying out this work are Members, recycling staff and recruits.

- Door Knocking has, is and will continue through the kerbside collectors.
- Some members have in the past helped with this process and some have volunteered to do some door knocking again.

Lewes District Council's Sustainable Waste Management Strategy

- A third source of personnel is to recruit people and pay them through an incentive scheme based on the number of people they 'sign up' (with perhaps a set hourly rate). The main advantage of this method is that these people could operate in the evenings as opposed to staff who will recruit during day.
- Volunteers prepared to do this work are difficult to find but there may be few highly committed people of local organisation (directly or through promotion/inserts in their respective publications) who would help.
- 'Sign up' forms are available in receptions and libraries throughout the district, they are distributed by the LA21 team and recycling team, estate and letting agents have quantities for placing in vacant properties.

Financial:

Income

Expenditure:	
Temporary staff*	£2,900
Leaflets	£3,000
Total	£5,900
Income	
Recycling sales	£12,900
Credits (@£36/tonne	£28,900 (see notes)
Total	£41,800

*Approx cost to reach 75% participation or 2600 homes budget for recruitment for 300 hours plus 2600 'sign ups'(8/9 per hour) = (Minimum wage £5.35 an hour (October 2006 for over 22 years of age) plus 50p per every sign up?)

Timetable

January 2006 start recruitment of temporary Staff (ROK/ROO)

April 1st 2006 Launch action plan

June 1st 2006 Complete programme

Notes:

- *Recycling tonnage 415 tonnes of paper, 29 tonnes of cans, 34 tonnes plastic , 325 tonnes of glass (803 tonnes)*
- *Credits are not currently available when we exceed 27% recycling rate*
- *Value of the material will change unpredictably over time*

Action Plan 3

Introduction of Cardboard Recycling through bring sites 2007/08

What:

According to the recently conducted Household Waste Analysis Survey in Lewes District there are approximately 1974 tonnes of cardboard produced in domestic premises each year. Through a 'bring site' system the average recycling participation rate is 20% this would give approximately 395 tonnes a year and increase the recycling rate of 1.2% based on the projected overall household waste collection tonnage.

How

- Use a minimum of two decommissioned Mini recycling Centres in each town and one in each of the major rural centres (e.g. Newick, Ringmer).
- Collect using second – hand RCV and take the collection direct to Maybank's in Newhaven (our current purchaser of cardboard) or Newport paper through M.J.Lights.
- Publicise the scheme throughout the district by Kerbside box, District Link etc.

Who

- Recycling Officer Operations (ROO)
- Press Officer (PO)
- Existing Recycling HGV driver(s)

Financial

Expenditure	
Second-hand RCV Vehicle	£20,000
Fuel Cost (recurring revenue)	£3,000
Capital Replacement Programme Annual Requirement	?
Total	
Income	
Cardboard @ 10/tonne	£3,950 (see notes)
Credits	£14,220 (see notes)
Total	£18,170

Timetable

October 2006 – publicity re site closures and change of use (PO) (ROO)

April 1st 2007– Cardboard site operational (ROO)

Notes:

- *Estimated tonnage through bring sites 395 tonnes*

Lewes District Council's Sustainable Waste Management Strategy

- *Currently negotiating with Newport Paper which will pay between £50.00 and £35.00 a tonne.*
- *Credits are not currently available when we exceed 27% recycling rate*
- *Value of the material will change unpredictably over time*

Action Plan 4

Compulsory Kerbside Collection Scheme 2007/08

What:

There is a growing realisation that in order to reach targets and to reduce the environmental impact of waste, recycling should be made a compulsory activity.

Some local authorities have begun this process by restricting the amount of waste that is collected from a given residence others have used the 'compulsory' tag as a threat to encourage high opt in participation rates.

This year Barnet became the first council to introduce a compulsory recycling scheme after trialling the scheme in four wards – Brunswick Park, East Barnet, Oakleigh and Totteridge. In addition, Barnet have also introduced a fine of £1000 for those residents that flaunt the scheme, Haringey a neighboring authority are also considering compulsory recycling.

In Barnet 90% of residents voted yes to compulsory recycling, however issues have been raised and range from 'freedom of choice', lack of space and/or facilities to 'why can't we recycle more' and 'the stick seems to work better than the carrot'.

A compulsory scheme would increase the recycling rate by approximately **2.5%**

How:

- Publicity Campaign
- Enforcement
- Pre action plan survey (use Barnet BC)
- Two additional kerbside vehicles
- Four additional crew

Who:

This Action Plan will need additional staff as an enforcement resource. Initially two staff should be recruited into the Environmental Health Department (to maintain the training and expertise in enforcement). These two staff will be solely responsible for enforcement of waste matters. They will be bale to serve fixed penalty notices for litter, should investigate flytipping and literally look through resident's bags and write warning letters or take legal proceedings against residents that are not complying.

Financial:

Expenditure	
Cost of two enforcement officers (with overheads)	£50,000
Training	£5,000
Setting up Administrative systems	£5,000
Two new crew and vehicles will be needed to take the additional material collected	£80,000
2 X SEV	£65,000
Vehicle running costs	£10,000
Total	
Capital (or one off payments)	£75,000
Capital Replacement Programme Annual Requirement	£13,000

Lewes District Council's Sustainable Waste Management Strategy

Recurring Revenue	£140,000
Income	
Sale of Materials (see notes)	
Credits (see notes)	
Total	

Timetable.

April 2007. Research other authorities, Job Descriptions, legislation, case law and procedure, documentation and authorisations. **(HEH)**. Organise rescheduling of rounds for extra capacity. **(AHWRS-R)**

May 2007. Carry out a focus group for consultation on the policy and system. Draft advertisements for wide information distribution. **(Press Officer & AHWRS –R)**

July 2007. Implement through Cabinet, Policy, Press campaign, authorisations and implementation programme. **(HEH)**

September 2007. Recruit staff. **(HEH & AHWRS-R)** Deliver Press Campaign. **(AHWRS-R, HEH & Press Officer)**

October 2007. Train Staff. **(HEH)** Deliver Boxes and notices / letters. **(AHWRS-R)**

November 2007. Commence Collections. **(AHWRS-R)**. Implement Enforcement Programme. **(HEH)**

AHWRS-R – Assistant Head of Waste and Recycling Services (Recycling)

HEH – Head of Environment and Health.

Notes:

- *This service may be provided for alternatively through Community Services or in combination with a Community Warden Scheme utilising a pool of officers some of whom may be already existing.*
- *There is a likelihood of a backlash from those that already participate in the scheme as the enforcement will apply to them too.*
- *Research will be needed and the experience of other authorities.*
- *This will need to be signed up to by Councillors and Legal and Environmental Health staff and managers.*
- *Credits are not currently available when we exceed 27% recycling rate*
- *Value of the material will change unpredictably over time*
- *Tonnes of material collected Paper 1480 tonnes, Plastic 120 tonnes, Cans 100 tonnes, Glass 1160 tonnes– the increase in the number of homes is based on that from the 75% targeted in Action Plan 2 e.g.25% max. or approximately 9,000 additional homes*

Action Plan 5

Include smaller items on kerbside e.g., Scrap metal, batteries and small WEE goods e.g., toasters, shavers, hairdryers etc. 2008/09

What

The Government has to set up collection facilities for Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) to minimise its disposal as unsorted municipal (household) waste.

The directive does not place obligations on local authorities, but on producers and retailers.

The Government is looking at the role that civic amenity and other sites (e.g transfer stations) might play in providing these collection facilities.

It has discussed with the British Retail Consortium (BRC) the possibility of establishing a retailer compliance scheme, which would give retailers an alternative to instore takeback. The BRC now proposes creating a retail compliance scheme and has announced its proposals to upgrade local authority civic amenity sites.

The WEEE Directive is an opportunity for local authorities to raise their levels of recycling. This will help them to meet their recycling targets under Waste Strategy 2000 in England and 'Wise about Waste' the National Waste Strategy for Wales. Some WEEE will be hazardous waste and subject to the new rules that came into force in July 2005.

The ten product categories are:

- 1) Large household appliances
- 2) Small household appliances
- 3) IT & telecommunications equipment
- 4) Consumer equipment
- 5) Lighting equipment (excluding lights using filaments)
- 6) Electrical and electronic tools
- 7) Toys leisure and sports equipment
- 8) Medical devices
- 9) Monitoring and control instruments
- 10) Automatic dispense

We have an agreement with ESCC to collect small WEEE items through the Kerbside Collection scheme and are undertaking further negotiation with regard to ESCC's contractor handling the 'take back' part of the process.

We intend to have a prescribed list of products for the kerbside participants related to size and level of hazard of the WEEE product. This relates to not wishing to place our Kerbside operatives at risk and the limited space on the electric collection vehicles.

With regard to batteries the major barrier is the cost of disposal and safe storage of the material. At present, and for the first time ever on a national scale in the UK, there is a company that will recycle all the household battery types but the cost is in excess of £1000 a tonne. The expected tonnage derived from the recent waste analysis in Lewes District would indicate that there is between 18 and 40 tonnes of batteries disposed of each year. There would also be a cost of several thousand pounds for the storage of this hazardous material.

Lewes District Council's Sustainable Waste Management Strategy

Scrap metal refers to pots and pans which households produce in limited amounts it would also include garden and workshop tools that could not be reused through the Council's Tools for Self Reliance project.

Impact on the overall recycling rate would be approximately %

How

This material will be collected through the kerbside collection teams and depending on the material returned to either

Who

Recycling Officer Operations (**ROO**)

Recycling Officer Kerbside (**ROK**)

Assistant Head of Waste Recycling (Recycling) (**AHWRS-R**)

This Using existing Kerbside crews

Finance

Expenditure	
Leaflets	£2,000
Battery Collection @ 15tonnes)(see notes)	£15,000 to £30,000
Licence for Hazardous waste	£3,000
Total	£20,000 to 40,000
Income	
Credits (see notes) (230 tonnes max for all materials)	£8,280
Total	£8,280

Notes.

- *Disposal of batteries cost between £1k and£ 2K a tonne, expected tonnage approximately 15 to 18 tonnes*
- *Scrap metal income is small and unpredictable, Max tonnage*
- *WEEE good would have no value Max tonnage*
- *Credits are not currently available when we exceed 27% recycling rate*

ⁱ Before biological treatment, recyclables should be removed from the waste so that only non recyclable material is left to process

ⁱⁱ US Environmental Protection Agency 'Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Municipal Waste Management' September 1998 ES-1. This is the final draft which was modified to take on board a number of contested arguments by proponents of incineration: even so the greenhouse gas savings from recycling exceeded those from 'energy from waste' incineration by a factor of four.

ⁱⁱⁱ US Environment Protection Agency 1998 op.cit.

Acknowledgements

Daventry District Council
 Northamptonshire County Council
 Lewes DC Recycling Team
 Tony Mouser, Friends of the Earth Lewes