

London Borough of Harrow

DRAFT Waste Management Strategy

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1. Introduction

Harrow has made good progress in recent years and we recycled and composted 39% of our household waste in 2007/8. However we still need to make further progress if we are to avoid high landfill costs and increase the environmental performance of our waste management service. We need to manage our waste in more sustainable ways, treating it as a resource from which as much value as possible should be extracted.

2006/7 was a year of significant change for the waste management service in Harrow, with the change in collection frequency for the Brown and residual waste bins, the introduction of compulsory recycling, and the introduction of the Blue Bin to replace the green box for our recycling service.

In June 2007 the new Waste Strategy for England was published. This sets new national targets and changed the emphasis of the government's strategy from waste management to resource management. This new strategy allows us to take this on board (as well as a number of other legislative and regulatory changes).

This is the London Borough of Harrow's strategy for managing the municipal waste that is produced in the borough. The strategy will enable us to plan our actions in reasonable time frames and allow long-term consideration of schemes.

The strategy covers the period commencing 2008 - 2016. It identifies how we will meet the aims of the new national waste strategy through an integrated set of policies, plans and a flexible mix of solutions to:-

- **Reduce waste growth** by raising awareness of waste issues and the importance of waste reduction.
- **Manage waste sustainably** – We will use the waste hierarchy of reduce, reuse, recycle to ensure that all Harrow's municipal wastes are dealt with in the best practicable and environmentally friendly way.
- **Divert waste from landfill**- We will aim to divert biodegradable waste from landfill by focusing on increasing the amount we recycle and compost.
- **Meet recycling targets** – We aim to recycle 50% of household waste from 2010/11.
- **Deliver Value for Money** – We aim to ensure that the service is run efficiently and effectively and provides a high service standard to the public.
- **Retain Flexibility**- We will make sure that it is ready to respond to change in regulatory and relevant market conditions and emerging technologies.

Once all options to reduce, reuse and recycling waste have been exhausted, Harrow will work closely with its partners in the West London Waste Authority to review and develop the joint Municipal Waste Strategy. A key challenge for the joint Strategy is to find solutions for treating residual waste and reducing the amount of biodegradable waste being sent to landfill.

2 Why change is needed.

As a society, we are consuming natural resources at an unsustainable rate. In England, only 27% of our waste was recycled or composted in 2005/06. European and national legislation is driving change to consume less; reuse and recycle more; and, recover value from the remaining waste stream rather than to simply landfill it. At the same time, the cost of sending waste is rising substantially due to tighter regulation, rising Landfill Tax, and higher environmental performance targets.

There is also an increasing focus on reducing the carbon footprint of waste management practices as part of the response to the climate change agenda.

The general principles and key policies that are shaping waste management in Harrow are discussed in the rest of this section.

2.1 Global policies

2.1.1. Sustainable Development- Agenda 21

The Rio Summit in June 1992, organised by the United Nations, adopted a Declaration on the Environment and Development that set out the need for sustainable development. Sustainable development recognises the need to create a better quality of life for everyone, now and in the future, and acknowledges the interrelationship between various activities and areas such as the environment, the economy and society. The global action plan for sustainable development that was adopted was called Agenda 21.

To achieve sustainable development at a local level, policies are developed and implemented in a local community through Local Agenda 21 (HA21 (in Harrow)).

The aim of HA21's Strategy is to provide a structure and means to change our attitudes and behaviour and to enable us to measure changes in the state of the environment and the quality of life. In essence it aims to make sustainability part of everything we do.

2.1.2 Climate change and reducing the Council's carbon footprint

The world's climate faces a critical threat from an increase in the release of greenhouse gases – such as CO₂ and methane. The natural 'greenhouse' effect of certain gases in the atmosphere is being intensified by the release of these gases due to human activities, resulting in what is termed the 'enhanced greenhouse effect'. This effect is driving major long-term changes to our global weather systems, resulting in climate change.

Harrow signed the Nottingham Declaration in July 2007 and is currently developing a local climate change strategy. The aim of any action on climate change is to reduce the carbon footprint of our activities thereby allowing people to *live well with less climate impact*, or in other words to separate quality of life from environmentally damaging forms of energy use.

Methane emissions from (biodegradable waste in) landfill account for 40% of all UK methane emissions and 3% of all UK greenhouse gas emissions. (Methane is 23 times as damaging a greenhouse gas as carbon dioxide).

By further reducing landfill and increasing the amount of waste that is recycled,

composted or has energy recovered, there is considerable scope for reducing greenhouse gas emissions from the waste that we produce.

DEFRA estimates that current UK recycling of paper, glass, plastics, aluminium and steel saves more than 18 million tonnes of carbon dioxide a year (through avoided primary material production). This is equivalent to the annual use of 5 million cars or 14% of the UK transport sector emissions.

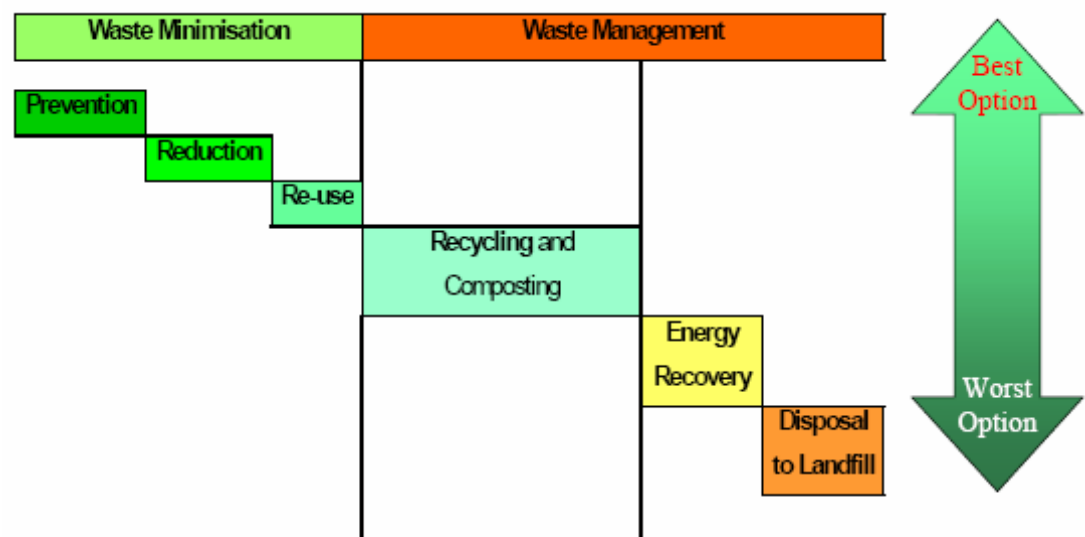
2.2 European Policy

2.2.1 The Framework Directive on Waste (75/442/EEC)

This Directive established the fundamental principles for waste management in Europe, which must be reflected in national, regional and local strategies. The key principles are:

1. The Waste Hierarchy

The Waste hierarchy is shown in Figure 1 and provides a framework of how waste management can be made more sustainable. The aim is to move up the waste hierarchy by moving away from a reliance on disposal to increased recovery, recycling, composting, reuse and ultimately waste reduction. It is recognised that a mix of options is generally needed to arrive at the most balanced environmental, social and economic solution.



* As adapted from the Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development working definition on waste minimisation agreed at the Berlin Workshop 1996.

Figure 1

2. Regional Self Sufficiency

This principle states that most waste should be treated or disposed of within the region it is produced. Each region is expected to provide sufficient facilities and services to manage the amount of waste it is expected to produce over the next 10 years. It is recognised that the best solution for some waste may be to transport it to another region where it can be dealt with more effectively. Not all regions have specialist recovery; recycling or treatment facilities and economies of scale therefore need to be used.

3. The Proximity Principle

Waste should generally be managed as close as possible to where it was produced. This will limit the environmental impact of transporting waste and create a more responsible approach to waste generation.

2.2.2 The Landfill Directive (1999/31/EC)

The EU Landfill Directive was adopted in July 1999 and transposed into English and Welsh legislation through the Landfill (England and Wales) Regulations 2002.

The Directive aims to deal with the full social, environmental and economic impacts of landfill as a disposal option while generally improving waste management practices. It also aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from landfill sites as it was originally conceived as a climate protection measure because of concern over the amount of methane that is generated by biodegradable wastes in landfills. Methane is generated in all biodegradable landfills and is many times more potent in its effects than carbon dioxide.

This Directive has caused new legislation on how we deal with hazardous waste to come into force, and more is still to come. Waste is hazardous when it contains substances or has properties that might make it harmful to human health or the environment.

To accomplish the above it requires:

- A reduction in the quantity of biodegradable municipal waste disposed to landfill. The mandatory targets are reduction to 75% of 1995 levels by 2010, 50% by 2013 and 35% by 2020. Approx. 69% of municipal waste is biodegradable.
- A complete ban on the landfill of certain hazardous waste. In January 2002 changes to the Hazardous Waste List were applied in the EU, this resulted in an additional 180 wastes classified as hazardous. Small businesses, and even some larger ones, now find themselves dealing with hazardous waste for the first time.
- On 16 July 2004 the full requirements of the Landfill Regulations 2002 came into force. In effect, this stops the practice of 'co-disposal' of hazardous and non-hazardous waste in the same landfill. It also requires that the hazardous wastes identified in the European Waste Catalogue must be pre-treated, according to a three-point test, to reduce their quantity and hazard before they are landfilled (unless this is of no practical environmental benefit). Landfill sites have been re-permitted to reflect these changes.

On 16 July 2005 the **Hazardous Waste (England and Wales) Regulations** and the **List of Wastes (England)** (Waste Acceptance Criteria WAC) Regulations came into force replacing the Special Waste Regulations. They apply controls on movements of hazardous waste to the revised Hazardous Waste List. The regulations will introduce revised and more streamlined procedures for monitoring movements of hazardous waste. Producers of hazardous waste will have to make sure that waste to landfill meets the WAC. It is therefore essential that businesses can describe exactly what their waste contains, this 'characterisation' will determine what can be done to minimise it, ease its recovery or ensure its safe disposal.

- From 30th October 2007, new requirements of the Landfill Regulations mean that waste producers are not able to send any liquid waste, or waste that has

not been pre-treated, to landfill.

- Waste is considered to have undergone pre-treatment if:
 - it has undergone a physical, thermal, chemical or biological process (including sorting); that also
 - changes the characteristics of the waste; and
 - it must do so in order to:
 1. reduce its volume;
 2. hazardous nature;
 3. facilitate its handling; or
 4. enhance its recovery.
- Separating a general waste stream for reuse and recycling is an acceptable form of pre-treatment. For waste streams where simple segregation for recycling is not possible, other forms of treatment will need to be undertaken.

2.2.3 Ozone Depleting Substances (Regulation 2037/2000)

This regulation became applicable in UK law in January 2002. It requires the extraction of CFC and HCFC foam and refrigerant from refrigerators and freezers prior to disposal or recovery.

2.2.4 Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Directive (2002/96/EC)

This Directive came into force on 13 February 2003 and was transposed into UK Law on 1st July 2007. It sets out the measures for the:

- Prevention of WEEE
- Reuse, recycling and other forms of recovery including the establishment of free take-back services for household WEEE
- Minimum targets for the recovery and recycling of household WEEE - At least 4kgs of WEEE must be collected per person each year, which equates to 236,000 tonnes. The majority of this is in the form of large household appliances (fridges, washing machines etc) and the recycling and reuse of other types of waste electronics lags significantly behind.
- Minimising the environmental impacts associated with the treatment and disposal of WEEE, e.g. reducing the use of dangerous substances

The key to implementing the WEEE Directive in the UK has been the establishment of a network of Designated Collection Facilities (DCFs). This is strongly centred on the existing Local Authority network of Civic Amenity Sites or Reuse and Recycling Centre's. Local Authorities are not obliged to register their sites as DCFs but if they choose to do so they will attract a one off payment of a minimum of £3000 per site in order to better equip their site to collect WEEE. Upon registering as a DCF the Local Authority can then select an approved Producer Compliance Scheme to work with who will collect all household WEEE from the DCF free of charge. This reflects a significant cost saving for the local authority.

Harrow's Reuse and Recycling Centre's at Forward Drive has been registered as a DCF. The change to the new regime was coordinated by WLWA and has been successfully introduced.

2.2.5 Directive on batteries and accumulators and waste batteries and accumulators (2006/66/EC)

The Directive prohibits the placing on the market of certain batteries and accumulators with a proportional mercury or cadmium content above a fixed

threshold. In addition, it promotes a high rate of collection and recycling of waste batteries and accumulators and improvement in the environmental performance of all involved in the life-cycle of batteries and accumulators, including their recycling and disposal.

The aim is to cut the amount of hazardous substances - in particular, mercury, cadmium and lead - dumped in the environment; this should be done by reducing the use of these substances in batteries and accumulators and by treating and re-using the amounts that are used.

The Directive applies to all types of batteries and accumulators, apart from those used in equipment to protect Member States' security or for military purposes, or in equipment designed to be sent into space. It therefore covers a wider range of products than Directive 91/157/EEC, which applied only to batteries containing mercury, lead or cadmium, and excluded "button cells".

To ensure that a high proportion of spent batteries and accumulators are recycled, Member States must take whatever measures are needed (including economic instruments) to promote and maximise separate waste collections and prevent batteries and accumulators being thrown away as unsorted municipal refuse. They have to make arrangements enabling end-users to discard spent batteries and accumulators at collection points in their vicinity and have them taken back at no charge by the producers. Collection rates of at least 25% and 45% have to be reached by 26 September 2012 and 26 September 2016 respectively.

Member states have 24 months to bring into force the laws, regulations and administrative provisions necessary to comply with this Directive.

2.2.6 Directive on Packaging and Packaging Waste (94/62/EC)

The Directive on Packaging and Packaging Waste seeks to reduce the impact of packaging and packaging waste on the environment by introducing recovery and recycling targets for packaging waste, and by encouraging minimisation and reuse of packaging.

On 16 March 2007 the new national Producer Responsibility Obligations (Packaging Waste) Regulations 2007 came into force. The 2007 Packaging Regulations consolidate the original 1997 Regulation. The objectives of the regulations are to increase the level of recovery and recycling rates of packaging waste by applying the polluter pays principle. Obligations are placed on certain businesses to recycle a proportion of the packaging waste that they handle. To provide proof of meeting these obligations, either individually or as part of compliance schemes, the government introduced Packaging Recovery Notes (PRN's). Companies are required to purchase or obtain PRN's as evidence that someone (officially known as a reprocessor) has carried out recycling or recovery. The reprocessor cannot keep all of the money and is required to invest some of it to encourage recycling which in turn Local Authorities can benefit from.

The EU Directive target is, for the UK to recycle at least 60% of packaging waste by 2008. To achieve this, national targets for recovery have been set at:

- 2008 - 72%
- 2009 - 73%
- 2010 - 74%

2.2.7 Revised Waste Framework Directive

The EU Council of Ministers adopted a revised Waste Framework Directive in October 2008. This sets out a number of important changes: -

- By 2020, Member states will be expected to recycle 50% by weight of household waste. This does not appear to include garden waste.
- There will need to be separate collections for specific materials (e.g. paper, glass, plastics etc.). Separate collections does NOT exclude co-mingled collections
- There are also targets for waste prevention- Eco-design etc.
- Incineration will qualify as a recovery operation provided it meets efficiency targets – 65% for new plants. In practice this will mean that plants will need to utilise the waste heat from the process. If a plant doesn't meet these standards it will be considered as a disposal method.

2.3 National Policy

2.3.1 Environmental Protection Act 1990 and Environment Act 1995

The requirements of the Framework Directive on Waste were implemented in the UK through the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (EPA). It defines the duties of waste collection, waste disposal and unitary authorities. It also sets out the duty of care that applies to all those handling, processing and disposing of waste.

The Environment Act 1995 is an amendment to the EPA and controls how waste is managed by defining the different categories of waste and how they should be controlled. This is therefore the enabling legislation for all producer responsibility legislation. It also created the UK's environment regulator – the Environment Agency (EA), who undertakes regular monitoring visits to Harrow's Waste Transfer Station and two Reuse and Recycling Centre's.

2.3.2 Recycling Credits (Section 52, EPA 1990)

On 1st April 1992, regulations came into effect, which set up a system of recycling credits under the Environmental Protection Act 1990. The purpose of the scheme is to make available to recyclers the savings in disposal and collection costs which result from the recycling of household waste. As a waste collection authority London Borough of Harrow can make discretionary payments to third parties (businesses or community groups) who recycle waste in the borough and therefore save the council collection costs. In practice, credits are not paid as third party activity is not significant enough to generate savings in collection costs.

Credits to third parties for waste disposal fall within the remit of WLWA.

Following changes to the way in which the levy is payable to WLWA, which were introduced in April 2006, WLWA no longer pays recycling credits to the constituent boroughs.

2.3.3 Landfill Tax Regulations 1996

Landfill tax was introduced for the explicit purpose of diverting waste from landfill into treatment methods higher up the hierarchy. The standard rate of landfill tax applying to active wastes (those that give off emissions), had been increasing by £3 per tonne. In his 2007 budget the Chancellor announced that the landfill tax would increase more quickly and to a higher level than previously planned. Increases of £8 per tonne per year for active wastes were announced from 2008-09 until at least 2010-11. For 2008/9 Landfill Tax is payable at £32 per tonne

Increasing the tax to a higher level makes investments in alternative non-landfill treatments such as recycling, composting etc. more economically viable.

2.3.4 The Waste Minimisation Act 1998

This Act became law in November 1998 and it gives discretionary powers to Local Authorities to introduce measures to promote waste minimisation. London Borough of Harrow has and will be increasing the use of these powers to implement measures to decrease the amount of waste produced in Harrow. The term that will be used from now on in this strategy is 'waste reduction' and Harrow's new objectives are detailed in section 6.1.

2.3.5 Local Government Act 1999 - Best Value

All authorities are required by the Local Government Act 1999 to provide "Best Value" services and to secure continuous improvement by regularly reviewing the economics, efficiency and effectiveness of their work.

To ensure that local authorities contributed to achieving the targets in Waste Strategy 2000, statutory performance standards for recycling and composting were introduced under the Best Value framework. The performance standards for the London Borough of Harrow based upon our 1998/9 recycling performance were set as follows:

Best Value Performance Indicators	1998/99	2002/03 (actual)	2003/04 target	2003/04 (actual)	2004/05 (actual)	2005/06 target
Recycling and composting standards for household waste	8.3%	9.4%	16.0%	13.8%	18.8%	25.2% * (LPSA)

Table 1

* The 2005/06 target was stretched to 25.2% due to a Local Public Service Agreement

2.3.6 New National Indicators

To enable central government to continue to measure the performance of local governments they have set a new performance framework from 2008 that is made up of 198 national indicators which cover all local authority services (this is a reduction from the 200 that they are currently reporting on). They will be reported on from 1st April 2008.

In each area, targets against the set of national indicators will be negotiated through new Local Area Agreements (LAAs). Each Agreement will include up to 35 targets from among the national indicators, complemented by 17 statutory targets on educational attainment and early years. Three of the new indicators will be used to monitor waste and recycling services. They are as follows:

NI 191: Residual household waste per head – Waste collected, minus material sent for recycling, composting or reuse.

NI 192: Household waste recycled and composted – Material sent for reuse, reprocessing or controlled biological decomposition.

NI 193: Municipal waste land-filled – Collected municipal waste sent to landfill, including recycling rejects. NI 103 will be reported separately by WLWA.

2.3.7 Waste and Emissions Trading Act 2003

To achieve the diversion of waste from landfill set out in the EU Landfill Directive, the government has introduced this bill to encourage waste disposal authorities to reduce the amount of biodegradable waste they send to landfill.

The Secretary of State has notified each waste disposal authority what set tonnage of biodegradable municipal waste it can landfill each year, i.e. its allowance. The Environment Agency & Defra decided that 68% of municipal waste is BMW and a “mass balance” assessment was used to calculate the number of allowances used by each authority.

Should diversion of waste away from landfill and other action mean that a waste disposal authority does not require all of its allowance for a particular year: the authority will be able to sell the excess of its allowances to other waste disposal authorities. If it does not cover the amount land filled then the authority would need to either increase its rate of diversion or purchase an increase in its allowance from another authority. This allows the burden of meeting targets to be shared, however banking and borrowing cannot take place in the landfill Directive target years 2009/10, 2012/13 & 2019/20.

If Waste Disposal Authorities are still short of allowances they will face a fine of £150 per tonne of BMW land-filled above their allocation. This system is known as LATS (Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme) and it is based upon a similar system that was effectively used in the United States to reduce emissions from the manufacturing industry.

The LATS scheme began on 1st April 2005 and it has had a huge influence on the objectives of this recycling strategy. The West London Waste Authority and the six constituent boroughs have produced a joint waste strategy for meeting its allowance under this scheme.

WLWA's allowances for the land-filling of biodegradable municipal waste (BMW) are as set out in **Table 2** below:

Year	Allocation	Year	Allocation
Base Year 2004/05		2012/13	220,415
2005/06	509,521	2013/14	210,960
2006/07	479,754	2014/15	201,505
2007/08	440,064	2015/16	192,050
2008/09	390,452	2016/17	182,596
2009/10	330,918	2017/18	173,141
2010/11	294,083	2018/19	163,686
2011/12	257,249	2019/20	154,231

2.3.8 Animal By-Products Order and Regulations 2003

As a result of the foot and mouth crisis in the UK, the Government amended the Animal By-Products Order in May 2001. It states that material that has possibly been contaminated by meat products cannot be composted in open windrows but must be treated in an in-vessel composting system. The regulations also place restrictions on the use of compost produced by such material, being put on land where animals, including wild birds, may have access.

Harrow's borough-wide expansion of its kerbside kitchen waste collection scheme was delayed until 2005 waiting for this regulation to be finalised. Without an In-Vessel Composting System built in time either, the scheme could not include all kitchen waste until April 2005 when a facility became available in Harefield. However these facilities have had limited capacity over the last three years and this has presented

Harrow with problems during the summer months when the volume of material being collected has exceeded the available processing capacity. Working in partnership with WLWA, this situation has been resolved this year and should mean that there should be no further capacity issues in future.

2.3.9 Household Waste Recycling Act 2004

This act states that where English waste collection authorities (WCA's) have a general duty to collect waste they shall ensure, except in some circumstances, that by 31 December 2010 they collect at least two types of recyclable waste separate from the rest of the household waste.

Harrow currently collects the following materials: paper, cardboard, glass, plastic bottles, cans, aerosols, rigid plastic containers, food waste, garden waste, and therefore comfortably meets this requirement.

2.3.10 PPS10 - Planning for Sustainable Waste Management

Planning Policy has recently undergone a fundamental change in the approach towards Waste Management. The most important change has been the change in emphasis with regard to Best Practicable Environmental Option (BPEO). As this element is now required in overall Waste Management Strategies, it is no longer required to be repeated under PPS10. In its place, a self-sufficiency principle has been established where communities should plan around dealing with their own waste rather than sending it elsewhere.

The concept of the waste hierarchy is strengthened in PPS10, with one of the key planning objectives being to drive waste management up the waste hierarchy.

The planning system is expected to support the government objectives for waste management by demonstrating how waste arisings in the local authority area will be catered for. Specific sites are to be identified in the Local Development Framework, in accordance with broad locations identified through the Regional Spatial Strategy (in London, this is the London Plan).

Harrow is currently developing a joint DPD for waste planning issues in partnership with the other five constituent boroughs within WLWA.

2.3.11 Waste Strategy 2007

WS2007 was published in June 2007. The main points are as follows:

Vision for Local Authorities

Local authorities will have to commission or provide convenient recycling services for their residents and commercial customers and advice and information on how to reduce waste. They will also have to work with their communities to plan and invest in new collection and reprocessing facilities.

Government's key objectives

- Decouple waste growth from economic growth and put more emphasis on waste prevention and reuse
- Meet and exceed the Landfill Directive diversion targets for biodegradable waste
- Increase diversion of non-municipal waste and secure better integration of treatment for municipal and non-municipal waste
- Secure the investment in infrastructure needed to divert waste from landfill
- Get the most environmental benefit from that investment, through increased recycling of resources and recovery of energy from residual waste.

Overall impact of the strategy is to produce an overall net reduction in global greenhouse gas

emissions from waste management of 9.3 million tonnes (equivalent CO₂) per year – compared to 2006.

Targets

- Reduce the amount of household waste not reused, recycled or composted from 22.2m tonnes in 2000 to: -
 - 15.8m tonnes in 2010 (29%)
 - 12.2m tonnes in 2020 (45%)This is equivalent to a reduction from 450 kg per person (in 2000) to 225 kg (2020).
- Recycling and composting of household waste: -
 - 40% in 2010
 - 45% in 2015
 - 50% in 2020
- Recovery of municipal waste: -
 - 53% in 2010
 - 67% in 2015
 - 75% in 2020
- Land-filling of commercial and industrial waste to fall by 20% by 2010 (cf 2004)
- Land-filling of construction, demolition and excavation wastes to fall by 50% by 2012.
- Greenhouse gas emissions performance indicator for local authority performance on waste?

Incentives

- Landfill Tax escalator - £8 per tonne per year
- Consultation on allowing local authorities to introduce financial incentives for waste reduction and recycling. Householders who do recycle would receive payments from householders who do not. Schemes would be revenue neutral. (5 material schemes).
- Other incentives include: reward schemes; AWC; no side waste; and, compulsory recycling

Regulation

- Consultation on whether to introduce further restrictions on the land-filling of biodegradable wastes or recyclable materials.
- Skilled Staff. Sector Skills Councils (SSCs) to lead training and skills development in the industry. The Waste Management Sector Plan (agreed between EA and ESA) contains specific objectives to ensure that:
 - There is an appropriate level of training and competence
 - Sufficient specialists in areas such as hydrogeology and new technologies
 - Enough graduates are entering the industry
 - The competence of individuals within the sector is maintained
 - Health and Safety. A competent workforce will help to ensure a safe and healthy industry to work in. DEFRA will work closely with HSE, including through the Waste Industry Safety and Health Forum. There will be a continuing focus on H&S. Support for the ESA's strategy to deliver the following targets:
 - By 2007, to reduce the incidence rate of RIDDOR reportable incidents by 10% a year and to eliminate fatalities;
 - By 2010, to reduce the incidence rate of cases of work-related ill health by 20%.DEFRA contributing funding to HSE research entitled "Collecting, transfer, treatment and processing of household waste and recyclables: Assessment of the occupational health and safety risks of systems to provide the HSE, local authorities, waste management companies and others with guidance that will assist in the selection of the most appropriate system while meeting environmental targets."

Resource Efficiency for key materials

- Paper and Card: increased recycling; increased procurement of recycled paper;
- Food and garden waste: development of anaerobic digestion; increased composting; reducing food industry's own waste
- Aluminium: higher packaging waste recycling targets

- Glass: more closed loop recycling; more light-weighting; collection services from small businesses; minimum recycled content for glass products
- Plastics: higher packaging waste recycling targets; increased recycling of plastics; increased recycled content of plastic containers
- Wood: develop energy markets for waste wood
- Textiles: higher levels of textile reuse and recycling; more added value for recycled textiles

Culture Change

- Providing more recycling bins in public places (or harvesting recyclables from litterbins)
- Greater emphasis on promoting the reduction of waste and increase recycling in schools. (Sustainable schools, Eco-schools)
- Reduction and recycling of government's own waste
 - 5% reduction in total waste arisings 2010
 - 25% reduction in total waste arisings by 25% by 2020 – relative to 2004/5.
 - 40% recycling rates by 2010
 - 75% recycling rate by 2020.

2.4 Regional Policy

2.4.1 London Mayor's Strategy

Waste authorities in London must act in accordance with the Mayor's Municipal Waste Management Strategy, which adopts as a minimum, the targets set out in the national strategy (WS2000) for the management of municipal waste in London: -

Target	2005	2010	2015
% Recycling	25	30	33
% Recovery	40	45	67

Table 3

The Mayor's Municipal Waste Strategy is due to be reviewed to bring it into line with WS2007.

2.4.2 The London Recycling Fund (2002-2006)

The London Recycling Fund was established in early 2002 and operated over the four financial years 2002/3 to 2005/06. In this time grants totalling £49.88 million were allocated to 135 projects covering a wide range of recycling and waste minimisation initiatives.

The strategy of the Fund has been to encourage additional investment by applicants and their partners. This has resulted in significant additional investment by waste authorities and their private sector partners – so that the grant funding of £49.88 million has enabled projects worth more than £100 million in total.

Harrow received substantial financial benefits from the programme and was able to start projects that it would not have been able to if it were not for the fund.

Project	Project Length	Funding Amount (£)
Civic amenity site improvements	Mar-Sep 2003	192,000
Brown Bin phase 1	June 2003	480,000
Brown Bin phase 2	Mar 2004	350,000
Brown Bin phase 3	Sep 2004	482,000
Brown Bin phase 4	Mar 2005	100,000

Table 4

2.4.3 London Waste and Recycling Board (2008–2011) - LWaRB

In the July 2006 announcement of its proposals for new powers for the Mayor, the Government decided against the creation of a Single Waste Disposal Authority run by the Mayor and instead proposed a London Waste and Recycling Forum. During the passage of the Greater London Authority Bill last year the Government accepted that the forum would be called a Board and would be placed on a statutory footing.

On 10 December 2007, the Government announced that the Board would be set up to start work in Spring 2008 and would manage a fund of £60m¹ over three years (£22.8m in 2008/09, £22.8m in 2009/10 and £14.4m in 2010/11) which would be used to improve London's waste infrastructure.

Following the London Mayoral elections in May 2008, The Mayor and London Councils have agreed details on the setting up of the LWaRB and the proposals have been laid before Parliament. The Board will consist of 4 borough and 3 non-borough representatives (one of whom will be appointed by the Mayor). The Mayor (or his representative) will chair the Board. In addition to the £60m from the government the Board will also administer £24m from the LDA over a four-year period.

As part of the preparation for the new Board, London Councils has commissioned research to determine the London waste authorities' priorities with regard to the new London Waste and Recycling Fund. The Board held its first meeting in September 2008.

2.5 Sub-regional policy

2.5.1 Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy

The West London Waste Authority and the six constituent boroughs produced a joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy in 2005. This set a number of targets for the recycling of municipal waste – starting with 40% in 2010. The Strategy is currently being reviewed and this strategy will feed in to the revised joint Strategy.

2.5.2 Joint Waste DPD

Harrow is working in partnership with the London Boroughs of Brent, Ealing, Hillingdon, Hounslow and Richmond to collectively develop a joint waste DPD that meets the boroughs' waste apportionment targets set by the London Plan. This is expected to be completed by 2010.

2.6 Local Policy

2.6.1 Green procurement

Unless we close the loop - the link between waste material reprocessing and purchasing new goods and products made from reprocessed materials - high rates of recycling will not be sustained. Developing markets and purchasing recycled goods is therefore the key to kick starting and expanding recycling in the UK.

Everyone, businesses and householders alike, must all play an active role in demanding and purchasing goods made from recycled materials, or that are remanufactured.

The Council spends approximately £93 million each year on the purchase of goods

and services. The main purchases are building materials, energy, food, vehicles, road materials, school and office supplies, uniforms and protective clothing, street furniture, cleaning materials, horticultural products and office furniture. Production of all these goods can involve negative environmental impacts and unnecessary use of non-renewable resources. Opportunities to reduce consumption by more efficient use, and alternatives that are less environmentally damaging often exist.

Harrow signed up to level B1 of the Mayor's Green Procurement Code for London in August 2002 and will work with WRAP and London ReMade to help establish reprocessing capacity for recyclable material in London and the South East of England. Through them we will explore opportunities for buying recycled products and achieving measurable targets.

2.6.2 Local Agenda 21

As discussed previously in section 2.1.1 Harrow's first environmental strategy was adopted in 1991 as a response to the Environmental Protection Act 1990. After 'Agenda 21' based on sustainable development was agreed at the Rio de Janeiro Earth Summit, 1992 Harrow produced a new 'Local Agenda 21 Strategy' in 1996 and has since produced two annual reports and held conferences.

The aim of HA21 (Harrow's Local Agenda 21) Strategy is to engage and empower local people to help deliver sustainable development. Working with the community the aim is to change attitudes and behaviour and measure changes in the state of the environment and the quality of life of people living in Harrow. It is administered through a series of 'Focus Groups' that are run by local residents and community groups. These focus groups meet regularly and act as a first point of contact for consultation of the Council's strategies, offering residents of the Borough the chance to get involved in and comment on the detail of particular schemes.

2.6.3 Waste Planning

As a London Borough, Harrow also has a responsibility for planning issues. Policies relating to waste planning within the Authority are set out both in the Mayor's London Plan, and Harrow's Unitary Development Plan (UDP). The Borough is currently developing its Local Development Framework (LDF), which will replace the UDP. This strategy will form part of the LDF's evidence base.

The Planning Department consult with Public Realm Services by sending all relevant Planning Applications to them for comments on waste storage and collection.

2.6.4 Harrow's Community Strategy

This strategy was developed on behalf of everyone living and working here and is about improving the quality of life for people in Harrow over the next ten years. Its aim is to co-ordinate the efforts of local public, private, community and voluntary organisations to achieve shared strategic objectives that address local needs.

The Community strategy has at its heart a strong, sustainable and cohesive community. There are three components to this:

Under the 'safe, secure and attractive environment' section the following aim includes the importance of reducing, reusing and recycling:

"We aim to protect and enhance our valuable local environment, to make sure Harrow is a clean and attractive place and to support the sustainable development of the borough"

2.6.5 Information Exchanges

In order to ensure that London Borough of Harrow communicates on a regular basis with representatives from the waste and recycling field, Council Officers regularly attend meetings and provide advice to the Local Government Association (LGA), London Councils (formerly the ALG), the Greater London Authority (GLA), the London Recycling Officers Group (LROG), the Association of London Cleansing Officers (ALCO), WLWA and Capital Standards. Harrow also attends conferences by the Chartered Institute of Waste Management. These groups provide a forum for effective exchanges of information on all aspects of waste management and allow joint projects to be implemented at an early stage.

2.6.6 Partnership Working

Harrow is committed to becoming involved with any initiative to reduce, reuse or recycle the waste that it produces. This strategy has been designed to be flexible to allow new initiatives to be taken up. To achieve this, could involve working in partnership with other local authorities (LA's), small- medium sized businesses, industry, the voluntary sector, the GLA and WRAP.

Harrow will approach the development of its waste strategies in co-ordination with neighbouring waste collection authorities, wherever it is feasible to do so.

Other organisations that that London Borough of Harrow has worked in partnership with to reduce, reuse and recycle are Waste Watch, London Remade, Women's Environmental Network, Recycle for London, WRAP, RECOUP, London Community Recycling Network (LCRN) and Recycle for London.

3. Predictions for Growth

3.1 Population

Harrow has a population of 214,600, which is predicted to rise to 223,000 by 2025.

2001 census showed that 50% of Harrow's resident population was from Black and Minority Ethnic Groups (BAME).

3.2 Housing

The no of households is 85,000 with plans to provide 4000 new households by 2016. It is anticipated that most of this growth will be flats as opposed to more traditional housing.

3.3 Waste arisings trends

Harrow is a Waste Collection Authority and therefore responsible for the collection of the municipal waste in its area (EPA 1990). Municipal waste includes household waste and garden waste (for disposal, composting and recycling), street litter, litter from municipal parks, and commercial waste from shops and offices, which the council has been requested to collect.

Figure 3 below shows the actual tonnage of Municipal Waste handled by Harrow since 1993 together with a prediction for future Municipal Waste arisings until 2016. It assumes that the rise in population is balanced by a reduction in waste per person – resulting in the total amount of household waste remaining constant from 2009/10 onwards.

Similar effects are also predicted for trade waste, non-household waste and trade waste at the CA Site. The council will continue its policy of including LATS costs in the disposal charges for commercial waste collections.

Figure 4 below shows the household waste produced per head of population in Harrow since 1993. Since 2005/6, the amount of waste per head has been decreasing steadily. More importantly the amount of waste not being reused, recycled or composted is showing a significant downward trend and Harrow should meet the 2020 national target of 225 kg/head by 2012.

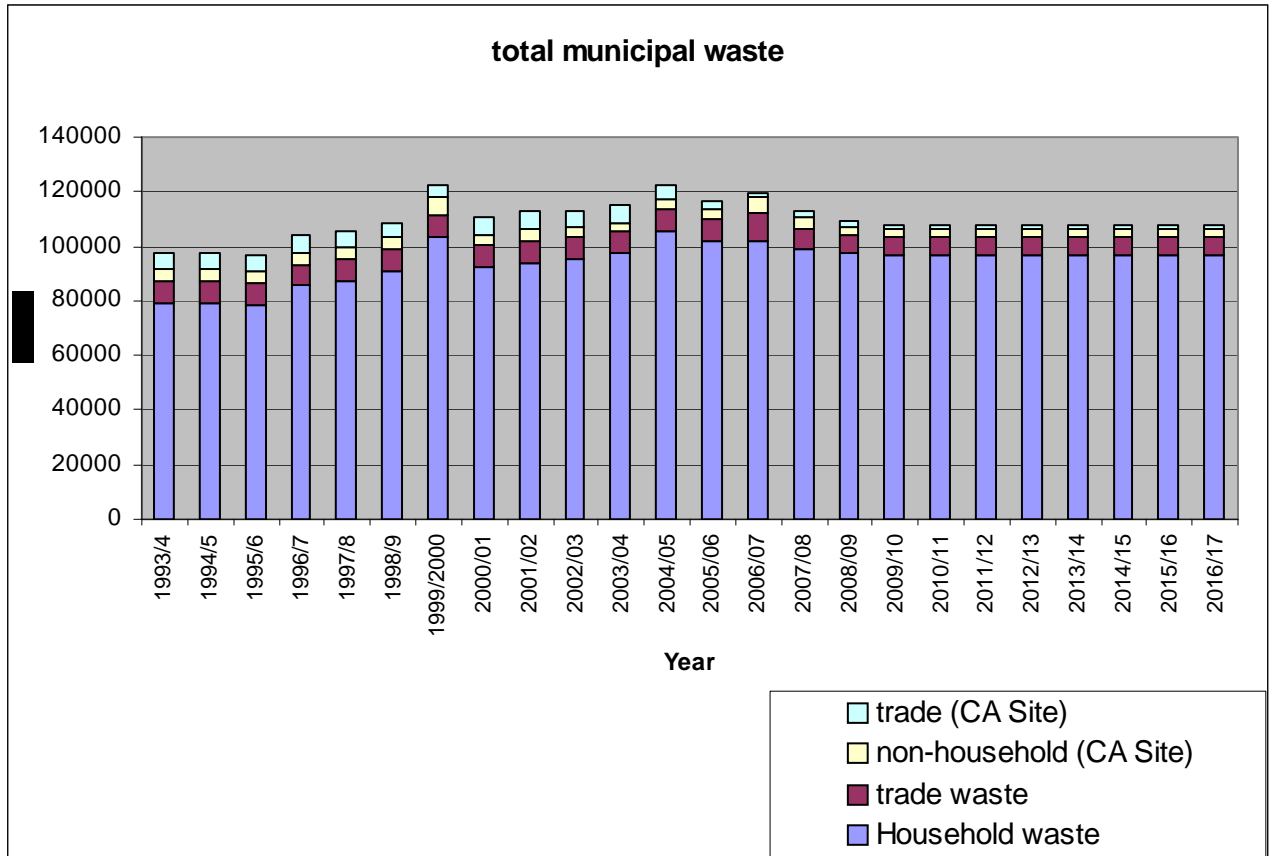


Figure 3

	Household waste	trade waste	non-household (CA Site)	trade (CA Site)	total
1993/4	79430	8000	4400	6000	97830
1994/5	79068	8000	4400	6000	97468
1995/6	78199	8000	4400	6000	96599
1996/7	85419	8000	4400	6000	103819
1997/8	87382	8000	3961	6119	105462
1998/9	90876	8000	4449	5332	108657
1999/2000	103619	8000	6667	4323	122609
2000/01	92462	8000	3951	6310	110723
2001/02	93964	8000	4370	6659	112993
2002/03	95140	8000	3726	6189	113055
2003/04	97346	8000	3413	6386	115145
2004/05	105368	8000	4198	4509	122075
2005/06	102147	8000	3156	3000	116303
2006/07	102077	10010	5571	2149	119807
2007/08	98607	7800	4539	1847	112793
2008/09	97450	6760	3000	1950	109160
2009/10	96400	6760	3000	1950	108110
2010/11	96400	6760	3000	1950	108110
2011/12	96400	6760	3000	1950	108110
2012/13	96400	6760	3000	1950	108110
2013/14	96400	6760	3000	1950	108110
2014/15	96400	6760	3000	1950	108110
2015/16	96400	6760	3000	1950	108110
2016/17	96400	6760	3000	1950	108110

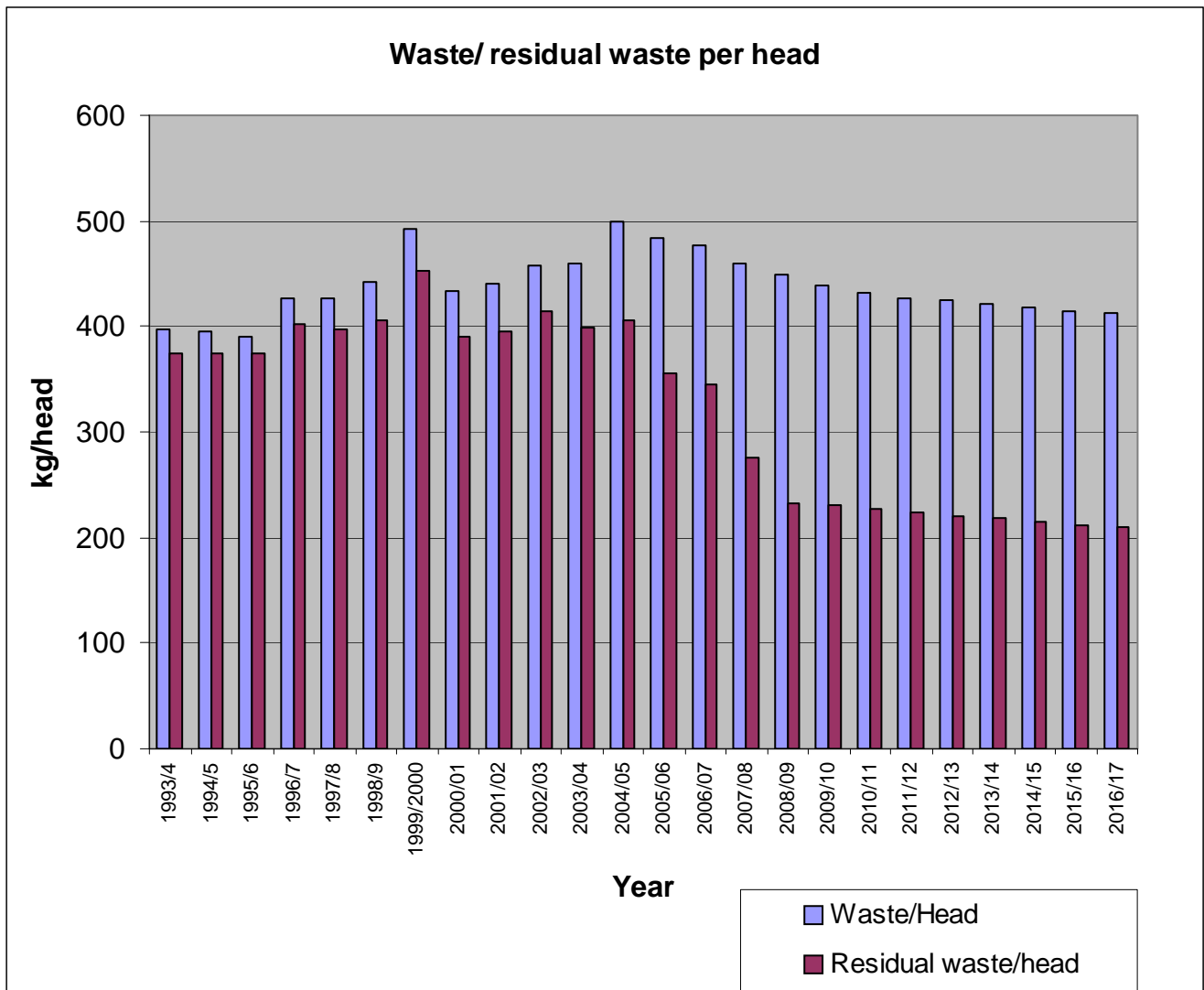


Figure 4

	Waste/Head	Residual waste/head
1993/4	397	374
1994/5	395	374
1995/6	391	374
1996/7	427	403
1997/8	426	397
1998/9	443	406
1999/2000	493	452
2000/01	434	390
2001/02	441	396
2002/03	457	414
2003/04	460	399
2004/05	500	406
2005/06	484	355
2006/07	477	345
2007/08	459	276
2008/09	449	233
2009/10	438	230
2010/11	432	227
2011/12	427	224
2013/14	421	218
2014/15	418	215
2015/16	415	212
2016/17	412	209

4 Current Practices and Performance

4.1 Service Aims (adopted October 2006):

- To achieve a recycling target of 40% by 2009/10
- To reduce the amount of biodegradable waste going to landfill. (Thereby reducing liabilities in relation to the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme - LATS)
- To improve public satisfaction in the service being delivered
- To deliver an easy to understand, high quality and reliable service to residents
- To deliver a cost-effective, VFM, service in partnership with the workforce.
- To ensure the Health and Safety of the workforce
- To work in partnership with the West London Waste Authority.

4.2 REDUCING waste

Waste Minimisation is the most environmentally desirable method of dealing with waste. Although waste growth is one of the most pressing problems we have to deal with, it is not easy to tackle the underlying problems. The increasing amount of waste that we generate is a product of our consumer society and a lifestyle that is driven by national and international forces. It will be a significant challenge to break the link between economic growth and waste production.

Waste production is partly about product specification and design, product labelling and marketing, mass marketing etc. Local Authorities are largely powerless to influence these. However it is also partly about excessive consumption, which Local Government can have an influence on through awareness raising and education.

Through the last Recycling Plan, Harrow has already implemented a number of initiatives to reduce the amount of waste sent for disposal from both householders and the commercial sector. They are as follows:

- Promotion of waste reduction at source through subsidised home-compost bin since 1994/1995. Since 2005 home composters have been provided to residents free of charge. Over 15,000 have been sold or distributed since this scheme began. This represents 20% of homes with gardens.
- Disposable nappies make up 4% of the rubbish that we collect in Harrow and cost £260,000 to dispose of every year. Harrow have therefore been promoting 'Real (washable) Nappies' since 2000 and provided an incentive scheme since April 2005.

4.3 REUSING items

In a consumer society, perfectly usable items are thrown away before the end of their useful life because a colour scheme has changed or a slightly "better" model has been brought out. However, reusing these items through new owners would be the second most preferred option for dealing with waste according to the waste hierarchy.

At present Harrow encourages people to reuse waste items if they have not reached the end of their life cycle yet by using charity shops etc to pass the items on to new users.

4.4 RECYCLING and COMPOSTING

Recycling is the processing of waste products to provide the raw material to make new and useful items. It reduces the demand for raw materials, lessening the impact of extraction and transportation created at the point where the raw material is extracted. Although some materials for recycling need to be transported around the UK or globally, the impact of this may be less than that of transporting raw materials from (often) more remote locations in the world. Recycling also uses less energy than producing goods from virgin material and results in fewer emissions. Burning fossil fuels for energy produces carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas that contributes to global warming.

Composting is the processing of waste biodegradable materials – usually food waste and garden waste – to produce compost or soil improvers. An important benefit of composting is that biodegradable waste is diverted from landfill where it produces methane gas, a significant greenhouse gas.

4.4.1 Kerbside Recycling

Harrow provides a comprehensive collection service for three waste streams – organic waste, recyclable waste and residual waste. Harrow's public realm services section is responsible for providing Harrow's waste management services.

The kerbside recycling services provided in Harrow, are briefly as follows:

Houses and Maisonettes –

1. The weekly collection of Food and Garden waste (including meat, fish and bones) from 70,000 residential properties using Brown 240 litre wheeled bins
2. The fortnightly collection of mixed recyclables from 70,000 residential properties - Blue 240 litre wheeled bins
3. The fortnightly collection of residual waste from 70,000 residential properties - Green (or grey) 240 litre bins

Containers are collected from the front curtilage of each property.

Recycling of paper, glass, cans and plastic bottles is compulsory (in the Blue Bin), and the recycling of garden waste is compulsory (in the Brown Bin).

An analysis of the contents of the residual waste bin was undertaken in the Autumn of 2008. This shows showed that approx. 6000 tonnes of food waste and 3000 tonnes of recyclable waste is still being put in the green residual waste bin. If all of this were to be put in the correct bin, Harrow's recycling and composting rate would increase by 9%

Flats

1. 1280 litre blue euro bin for the mixed recycling scheme
2. 1100 litre grey euro bin for the collection of residual waste

Recycling containers for flats are located at central points on each premise so that they can be easily accessed by all residents.

Recycling of paper, glass, cans and plastic bottles is compulsory (in the Blue Bin) where these are provided.

No provision is made for the collection of garden or food waste from flats.

Access to kerbside services

Currently 87.5% of household properties in Harrow have access to a recycling collection. This figure includes 100% coverage for houses and 25% coverage for

flats. The figure for flats is lower because it is harder and takes longer to install the schemes.

4.4.2 Bring Banks

Harrow currently provides 18 recycling sites across the borough that can be found in council car parks, supermarket car parks, in community shopping areas and on street corners. The sites currently provide facilities for paper; glass; and cans and plastic bottles. Some sites also provide facilities for recycling textiles.

4.4.3 Waste Reuse and Recycling Centre

Harrow currently provides one Waste Reuse and Recycling Centre, the civic amenity site in Forward Drive, Wealdstone, where residents of the borough can dispose of household waste. The site also provides facilities to recycle car batteries and small domestic batteries and Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE).

Traders may use the site to dispose of commercial waste subject to the payment of a tonnage-based gate fee.

The site also acts as the collection/bulking point for the materials collected by our dry recycling schemes.

Approx. 35% of the waste delivered to the site is recycled or composted.

The site is provided under section 1 of the Refuse Disposal Amenity Act.

4.4.4 Business Waste Recycling

Since April 2008 Harrow has offered a business waste recycling scheme for its trade customers. The collection charge is kept at a minimum as an incentive for them to sort their waste for recycling. Companies may also be able to reduce the number or size of their general waste containers through recycling – generating additional savings. The containers collect mixed recyclables (as per the Blue Bin scheme for households). Bin sizes range from 240 to 1280 litre wheeled bins. Bins are collected on a weekly basis.

4.4.5 Street Waste Recycling

The street cleaning service covers the collection of street waste.

- 1) All shopping centres and their hinterland are cleaned daily;
- 2) Main roads and high-footfall areas are cleaned weekly; and
- 3) The rest of the Borough's roads are cleaned on a three-weekly cycle.

This ensures that the highest sources of litter receive the highest frequency of cleaning. This is reviewed regularly to ensure the correct streets are being targeted.

Harrow collects approx. 4000 tonnes of street litter each year. To encourage the separating of street cleansing waste for recycling litter-bin style recycling bins have been provided in Harrow Town centre. In addition to providing our main shopping areas/train stations with specific recycling bins, we are also planning a significant change in the way in which our street cleansing is carried out. Our operatives will be supplied with barrows, which have specific compartments for different materials. The barrow itself is split into two compartments, one for mixed recyclate (plastic bottles/drink cans/glass bottles/paper and card) and the other compartment is designated for residual waste.

4.5 Waste Awareness

4.5.1 Promotion and Participation

Leading up to the change in frequency, three Recycling Officers were employed to lead on promotion and participation. The public's attitudes to waste and acceptance of the new collection arrangements has been a significant factor in the success of the council's recycling scheme. Provision of separate staff is no longer required. Promotion and education for council services is now handled centrally by the council's PR department. As a major front-line service, refuse collection and recycling is a major element in their workload.

Promotion and education will continue to be an important part of providing these services.

The council's work will support and supplement the work of the Recycle for London Campaign.

4.5.2 Education

The council has worked closely with schools to provide them with extensive recycling facilities and compost bins. Each school has also been provided with a curriculum-based book that can be used by teachers to promote recycling and other environmental initiatives as part of the national curriculum. This work will continue.

The service also has close links with HA21 and its schools education officer

4.6 Residual waste treatment and disposal

The responsibility to make arrangements for the treatment and disposal of residual waste collected by Harrow resides with the West London Waste Authority. The WLWA joint waste strategy has been agreed by WLWA and the six constituent authorities

4.7 Current Performance

4.7.1 Government targets

In part 2 of this document, European and national targets to increase recovery and recycling were set out. This section looks at the council's current performance against those targets.

The table below shows European, national and local targets and what has been achieved by the London Borough of Harrow:

	Landfill Directive – Target for reduction of biodegradable waste to landfill from 1995 levels	National Waste Strategy targets Recycling and composting	National Waste Strategy targets Recovery (incl. Recycling and composting)	LBH Statutory recycling and composting targets	LBH achieved recycling rate
2003/04				16%	13.8%
2004/05					18.8%
2005/06		25%	40%	25.2% (Stretched from 24% under LPSA)	26.7%
2007/8					39%
2010/11	75%	40%	53%	50% (LAA target)	
2013/14	50%				
2015/16		45%	67%		
2020/21	35%	50%	75%		

The national recycling/composting target of 40% in 2010/11 will be achieved by Harrow in 2008/09.

4.7.2 Previous Recycling Plan Objectives

The council's previous Waste Recycling Plan was adopted in 1999. At that point, 20,000 households had a Blue Bag scheme for recycling paper and 22,000 households had a Green Box for recycling paper, glass bottles and jars and cans. The council's recycling rate was just under 9%. Events and legislation have moved on significantly since then and the council's aims and objectives have evolved accordingly.

4.7.3 Fundamental Service Review (2007)

The council undertook a fundamental review of its Public Realm Services (including waste management) in 2007. The proposed actions in this strategy reflect the findings of that review.

5 Improving our Performance

The objectives that we propose for the future of waste management in Harrow are described in this part of the strategy with a rationale for their implementation. They have been split into the following sections in order of priority in accordance with the waste hierarchy.

- Reduction
- Reuse
- Recycling
- Recovery

5.1 Reduction

Harrow will do all that is practicable to ensure that the growth in municipal waste is kept at a minimum and not above the general trend of growth seen by London and nationally. Harrow will aim to reduce the amount of MSW produced through the following policies.

1. Home Composting Campaign

The best environment way to treat compostable waste is to compost it at home, as it then does not have to be transported and composted elsewhere with the resultant environmental impacts that this causes. Harrow will therefore continue to encourage residents to use their brown bin collection scheme wisely by home composting all that they can first.

Harrow will continue to provide free compost bins to residents as an incentive to home compost with the aim of reaching a total of 20,000 composters in the Borough by 2012.

2. REAL Nappies

Every child that uses reusable (or real) nappies saves a tonne of nappies going to landfill. This will save the Council the disposal cost for disposing of the same amount of disposable nappies.

The council will continue to support the use of reusable nappies

3. Communication and Information

Harrow will make sure that good communication and readily accessible information for all of its residents is the cornerstone of this strategy. The profile of waste reduction now needs to be raised if we are to meet our reduction targets. Practical reduction tips will be made widely available so that everyone can make small changes that will make a big difference.

Target	Policies	Target	Timescale
Reduce 1	Home Composting Campaign	Increase number of home composters provided to 20,000	2012
Reduce 2	REAL Nappies	The council will continue to support the use of reusable nappies	ongoing
Reduce 3	Communication and Information	Practical reduction actions to be made widely available	ongoing

5.2 Reuse

In the current throwaway society, perfectly usable items are being thrown away just because a room's colour scheme has changed or because a slightly better model has been brought out. However, an item may still be usable and could have a number of owners throughout its life cycle. Harrow will aim to encourage people to pass on items to new owners until they reach the end of their life cycle.

1. Promote Freecycle for waste exchange

We will promote web-based reuse schemes such as Freecycle through the council's website.

2. Communication and Information

Harrow will continue the promotion of reuse and subsequent options to our residents, to raise awareness that reuse is the preferred option and is easily accessible for them to use. Harrow will continue to promote local charities and groups that provide a reuse service in the borough and return items for use back into the local community.

3. Bulky Waste Reuse

Harrow provides a chargeable service for bulky waste collection but currently does not have arrangements for this waste to be reused. We will investigate with the voluntary sector, social services (and possibly in partnership with the other WLWA boroughs) whether a scheme can be established. The aim being to provide a source of good quality furniture and refurbished electrical goods, which is accessible to people on low incomes (and similar circumstances).

Target	Policies	Target	Timescale
Reuse 1	Waste Exchange	Promote Freecycle on the council's website	April 2010
Reuse 2	Communication and Information	Practical reuse actions to be made widely available	April 2010
Reuse 3	Bulky Waste Reuse	Investigate options for the reuse of good quality furniture and refurbished electrical goods	April 2010

5.3 Recycling and Composting

Harrow will achieve the National recycling target for 2010 of 40% in 2008/9 making it one of the top London Boroughs for recycling. For both financial and environmental reasons, as well as maintaining Harrow's excellent reputation it is important that Harrow continues to improve on its waste management performance. The following policies are proposed: -

1. Flats Recycling

Approx. 25% of (14,000) flats have serviced by the scheme. Harrow aims to reach 100% of all eligible premises by April 2010. Recycling from flats is a priority both in terms of achieving 100% access and improving our recycling percentage. Two additional collection vehicles are required as well as additional bins. Each block of flats will be provided with communal, 1280 litre, Blue Bins for the collection of paper/cardboard; plastic bottles/ cans and mixed glass. Harrow will look to the LWaRB for the funding of this scheme

2. Schools Recycling

By September 2008 all schools in the borough will have been offered mixed recycling bins together with bins for disposal to landfill. Where a school wishes to use the council's service the provision of recycling bins is compulsory. Materials covered by the scheme are paper, card, cans, plastic bottles and glass bottles. The exact mix of bins is agreed with each school.

The school is responsible for setting up and monitoring the internal collection system to ensure the success of the scheme and to make sure that the bins are used to their full potential.

The council will not empty contaminated bins. The school is responsible for sorting contaminated bins properly.

3. Street litter recycling

The government published 'Recycling on the Go' in 2007, which is designed to encourage behavioural change by the general public by providing them with constant opportunities to recycle while there are away from home. For local authorities there are two options in delivering this aim: the provision of recycling "litter" bins and the harvesting of recyclable materials from street cleaning litter.

Harrow currently provides recycling "litter" bins in its main shopping areas but these do suffer from contamination by the public. Greater publicity and improved signage may help to improve this position.

The harvesting of street cleaning waste – particularly in shopping areas – is currently being pursued in the Town Centre with the provision of two bin barrows for the cleaning crews. This allows the separation of the waste into non-recyclable and mixed recyclable waste streams.

Approx. 4000 tonnes of street litter is collected each year. We will aim to recycle 25% of street cleaning waste by 2012.

4. Waste Reuse and Recycling Centre – increased recycling

Harrow's Waste Reuse and Recycling Centre is well used by our residents. Since April 2008 we have installed improved signage and information boards at the site.

We plan to increase the recycling rate at the site to over 70% by 2012. As part of this we plan to introduce three additional staff from April 2010 to provide greater assistance and supervision to site-users.

5. Waste Reuse and Recycling Centre – Replacement/refurbishment

The site is now 20 years old and is handling approx. 40,000 tonnes a year including the waste collected by the Blue Bin scheme. This is double its design capacity. Much of the basic fabric of the site also needs a major refurbishment. The council will investigate the options available to it to refurbish or replace the facility.

6. Commercial Recycling Collections

Currently the amount of commercial waste that is collected for recycling is minimal and is not recorded separately. We collect approx 10,000 tonnes of commercial waste. WS2007 sets a target of 20% of commercial waste to be recycled by 2010. It should be possible to integrate the flats and trade recycling collections to ensure maximum use of resources. However there may still be a requirement for another collection vehicle.

7. Internal recycling

Ensure that the Council has an easy to use recycling system in place that reduces the waste that we dispose of as an organisation.

8. Shows/events recycling

Harrow will provide a stock of wheeled bins that can be used at all of the Council events / shows as well as community events. This will include the full range of Blue Brown and Grey bins that are used in the borough. They will be clearly labelled and lockable to discourage them being used as refuse bins.

Event organisers will be asked to provide supervision for the bins to ensure that contamination is prevented and thus ensure that the waste can be recycled or composted (as appropriate). Organisers will also be required to ensure that stallholders bin needs are identified and provided for. Stallholders should be required to segregate their material and to recycle as part of their applications.

After the event, the council will ensure that the segregated waste is collected and recycled as appropriate.

This service will be chargeable to cover the additional costs involved.

9. Composting Processing

Processing capacity for ABPR-compliant composting plants has, until recently, been restricted and this has caused problems for Harrow particularly over the summer months. The market for this type of facility has matured significantly over the last year and there appears to be sufficient capacity to cope with amounts that Harrow collect. We will work with WLWA and the other five councils to procure long-term arrangements.

10. Food waste collections from Schools, restaurants and other food outlets

Lack of ABPR-compliant capacity has meant that the provision of food waste collections from schools, restaurants and other food outlets has not been pursued by the council to date. Within the WLWA and nationally there is a growing recognition that food waste can be a useful source of renewable energy if processed via an Anaerobic Digestion (AD) plant. Harrow would support the development of such a plant in West London and would look to reorganise its schools and trade waste service to cater for the separate collection of food waste to feed such a plant.

11. Education and Enforcement

Improving participation and performance of the existing schemes would lead to a significant increase in our recycling performance. We will continue to provide education and advice to people to ensure that the amount of recyclable and compostable waste in the residual waste bin is minimised.

Where this approach proves ineffective the council will consider options such as making the recycling of food waste (in the Brown bin) compulsory; and, more formal methods of enforcement

12. Planning

Harrow has a Code of Practice to provide developers with advice on the amount and type of storage for the different waste streams that need to be provided.

Target	Policy	Target	Timescale
Recycle 1	Flats Recycling	100% of properties to have a full set of recycling facilities available	by April 2010
Recycle 2	Schools Recycling	100% of schools to have the full set of suitable recycling facilities available.	by September 2008
Recycle 3	Street litter recycling	Achieve 25% recycling rate for street litter	By 2012.
Recycle 4	Waste Reuse and Recycling Centre	Increase recycling rate at the civic amenity site to 70% of municipal waste	by 2012
Recycle 5	Waste Reuse and Recycling Centre	Investigate options for the provision of a new site or the upgrading of the existing site	By 2010
Recycle 6	Commercial Recycling Collections	Offer recycling facilities to all our customers and aim to recycle 20% of commercial waste	April 2010
Recycle 7	Internal recycling	Ensure all council offices are provided with recycling facilities	April 2010
Recycle 8	Shows/event recycling	Provide recycling bins at Under One Sky and other shows/events	April 2010
Recycle 9	Composting Capacity	Work with WLWA and the five other councils to procure ABPR-compliant capacity for organic waste	April 2010
Recycle 10	Food waste collections	In collaboration with WLWA to explore the possibilities for the development of an AD plant in West London and to provide separate collections of food waste for schools and trade customers	April 2010
Recycle 11	Education and Enforcement	Improving participation and performance of the existing schemes; and consider enforcement measures such as compulsory recycling of food etc.	2011
Recycle 12	Planning	To ensure that planning advice to developers is kept up to date and ensures that new developments provide sufficient storage capacity for the different types of waste stream	Ongoing

5.4 Recovery

WLWA is the statutory joint waste disposal authority for the West London area. The strategy was agreed by WLWA and the six constituent authorities in 2006. As the WDA, WLWA is responsible for the treatment of waste that has not been reused or recycled by the boroughs

Further information on the WLWA joint strategy and the procurement process they are using should be obtained directly from WLWA.

6. Monitoring Progress

Harrow's performance will be monitored through National Indicators (NI's) that are published each year in the Council's Performance Plan. From April 2008 this includes 2 waste specific indicators as follows:

- NI 191: Residual household waste per head – Waste collected, minus material sent for recycling, composting or reuse.
- NI 192: Household waste recycled and composted – Material sent for reuse, reprocessing or controlled biological decomposition.

NI 192 is one of the council's LAA indicators.

NI 193: Municipal waste land-filled – Collected municipal waste sent to landfill, including recycling rejects will be reported by WLWA.

During the period of the Strategy the policies outlined will be reported on annually to ensure that the targets are met and performance is improved.

7. Consultation Questions

- 1 Chapter 4 sets out Harrow's current practices and performance. On balance how satisfied are you with the current service?

Very dissatisfied

Dissatisfied

Neutral

Satisfied

Very satisfied

- 2 Chapter 5 sets out our proposals to improve and develop the service. Do you broadly agree with these proposals?

Yes

No

- 3 Please use the boxes below to comment on the current proposals or suggest other improvements that you think the council should consider.

3 Contact details

Name/Organisation:

Email:

Phone:

Address: