

Meeting:	Cabinet
Date:	17 September 2009
Subject:	London Borough of Harrow - Waste Management Collection Strategy - Adoption
Key decision?	Yes
Responsible Officer:	John Edwards Director Environment and Community
Portfolio Holder:	Cllr. Susan Hall Portfolio Holder for Environment
Exempt:	No
Enclosures:	Appendix A: List of respondents. Comments received and the Council's proposed response. Appendix B: proposed draft for adoption - Waste Management Collection Strategy. Appendix C: Consultation response from UNISON

## Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

The draft Waste Management Collection Strategy was considered by Cabinet at its meeting on 17 January 2009. The draft strategy has been subject to public consultation from 2 February to 15 May 2009.

### Recommendations:

1. The Cabinet is requested to adopt the (post consultation) Waste Management Collection Strategy

### Reason (For recommendation):

Public consultation on the draft Strategy has concluded and the key issues raised in consultation have been considered and, where necessary, the Strategy has been amended.

## Section 2 – Report

## **Background**

1. The draft Waste Management Collection Strategy was prepared last year and was presented to the Cabinet at its meeting on 17 January 2009 for consultation approval. The public consultation took place between 2 February and 15 May 2009.
2. This report sets out details of the consultation and the responses received. It then goes on to detail the Council's consideration of the responses and the proposed changes to the document in light of the comments received.
3. As part of its Local Area Agreement (LAA) the council has agreed a target to increase its recycling and composting rate to 50% by 2011/12.
4. The proposed Waste Management Collection Strategy will help the council deliver its corporate priorities: -
  - Cleaner and safer streets
  - Build stronger communities

## **Consultation overview**

5. The public consultation for the Waste Management Collection Strategy commenced on the 2 February 2009 with an original closing date of 29 March 2009. This was subsequently extended to 15 May 2009.
6. Copies of the draft Strategy were available for inspection for the duration of the consultation period at libraries and on the council's website.
7. Representations could be made via the council website address for the online consultation portal or by post.
8. Letters of notification were sent to statutory consultation bodies, organisations, planning consultants, developers, local groups and individuals in early March 2009, giving details of the consultation period, the arrangements for inspection of the document and an advisory note giving information on the Council's online consultation portal.
9. The draft Strategy was presented to Greener Harrow (a sub group of the Sustainable Development and Enterprise Management Group, one of five management groups within the Harrow Strategic Partnership) on the 22 January 2009.
10. A total of 36 responses were received.

## **Key Messages from the Consultation**

11. People and organisations responding to the consultation were generally supportive and recognised the Council's significant achievements, particularly in increasing the rate of recycling.
12. Appendix A sets out the key issues raised and the proposed response.
13. Refer also to the comments in the climate change strategy on waste management issues.

14. Unison have provided additional comments that they wish Cabinet to consider, provided at Appendix C.

### **Revised Strategy and Implementation Plan**

15. The revised strategy is set out in Appendix B.

## **Section 3**

### **16. Financial Implications**

The budget for waste management is set as part of the annual budget setting for the Council in line with the medium term financial strategy. The proposals contained within this report can be contained within the current budgets, except for the proposal to fully extend recycling to flats. Any associated Capital and Revenue costs of implementing this project will have to be considered, along with other priorities of the Council during the development of the budget for 2010-11 and beyond.

### **17. Legal Implications**

The Waste Management Collection Strategy takes account of the need to comply with UK and EU legislation, directions and regulations, including the targets set out in the government's national Waste Strategy 2007. Please see section 2 of the draft Strategy at appendix B for further details.

### **18. Equalities Impact**

It is not considered that these proposals require an Equalities Impact Assessment as they will not impact differentially on any group.

### **19. Environmental Impact**

The Waste Management Collection Strategy is a key element in driving the changes that are needed to meet international and national policy.

The strategy deals with the collection of waste and it is not considered that the strategy is likely to have a significant environmental effect that would justify a Strategic Environmental Assessment being carried out under the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.

### **20. Crime Reduction (Section 17)**

In designing the waste services the Council gives full consideration to the input on community safety and crime. Waste services work closely with the Police Safer Neighbourhood Teams to ensure community safety – for example, target hardening against burglary

### **21. Performance Issues**

<b>Achievement of Corporate Priorities</b>	
1. Deliver cleaner and safer	Priority 1: The proposed waste strategy will increase

streets	the amount of waste being recycled
2. Improve support for vulnerable people	Priority 2: Not applicable
3. Building stronger communities	Priority 3: Extension of recycling to flats will improve community access to recycling services

**Performance Check Key Questions**

**What is the current performance of this area of work against national indicators?**

Targets for the relevant National Indicators are set out in the revised Waste Management Strategy.

**What impact will the document have on national indicators and key lines of enquiry?**

**How much will the current performance be improved or mitigate effects?**

<b>NI 191</b>	<p><b>Residual household waste per household</b></p> <p><b>Targets</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>2008/9</th> <th>2009/10</th> <th>2010/11</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>233</td> <td>230</td> <td>227</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The government target is for residual waste to be reduced to 225 kg per person by 2020. We expect to achieve this in 2012.</p> <p>The strategy envisages a gradual reduction in the amount of residual waste per household that is sent to landfill.</p>	2008/9	2009/10	2010/11	233	230	227
2008/9	2009/10	2010/11					
233	230	227					
<b>NI 192</b>	<p><b>Household waste recycled and composted</b></p> <p>LAA Indicator</p> <p><b>Targets</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>2008/9</th> <th>2009/10</th> <th>2010/11</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>42%</td> <td>46%</td> <td>50%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The government's national target is to achieve 50% recycling by 2020.</p> <p>The strategy is designed to deliver the 50% recycling target in 2010/11. However this is dependent on the proposed extension of recycling to all flats.</p>	2008/9	2009/10	2010/11	42%	46%	50%
2008/9	2009/10	2010/11					
42%	46%	50%					

**What is the potential impact on the CAA position?**

The most significant impact this will have on the CAA is on its use of resources evaluation.

**Under key line of enquiry 3.1** 'The organisation is making effective use of natural resources' we are required to show that the organisation:

- understands and can quantify its use of natural resources and the main influencing factors
- manages performance to reduce its impact on the environment; and
- manages the environmental risks it faces, working effectively with partners

The Waste Management Strategy works towards meeting all of the above criteria and will be pivotal evidence for the council that we are making effective use of our natural resources by demonstrating aspirations, targets and our actions.

**What is the impact of not adopting the strategy?**

The strategy largely consolidates existing policy.

**22. Risk Management Implications**

Risk included on Directorate risk register? No

Separate risk register in place? No

**Section 4 - Statutory Officer Clearance**

Name: Sheela Thakrar	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Chief Financial Officer Myfanwy Barrett
Date: 7 September 2009.		
Name: Matthew Adams	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Monitoring Officer Hugh Peart
Date: 4 September 2009		
Name: Andrew Baker	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Divisional Director of Environment Services
Date: 4 September 2009		
Name: Martin Randall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Divisional Director of Strategy and Improvement
Date: 4 September 2009.		

**Section 5 - Contact Details and Background Papers**

Contact: Andrew Baker. Head of Climate Change,  
Tel. 020 8424 1779

Background Papers: Draft Waste Management Collection Strategy  
(Public Consultation 2 February 2009 – 15 May  
2009)

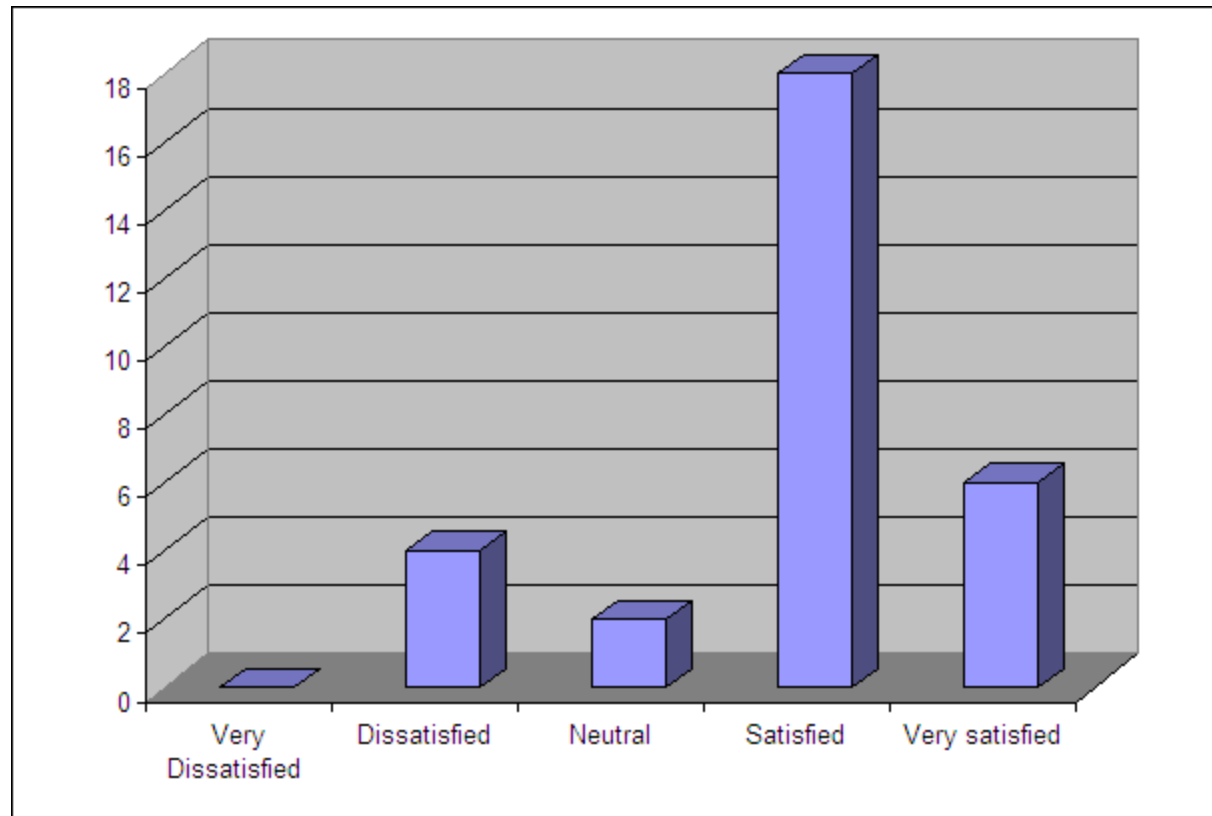


## Appendix A – Key issues raised during the consultation

Table 2: Detailed Comments and the Council's Proposed Response

Question 1: Para/chapter 4 sets out Harrow's current practices and performance. On balance how satisfied are you with the service?

Very Dissatisfied	0
Dissatisfied	4
Neutral	2
Satisfied	18
Very satisfied	6

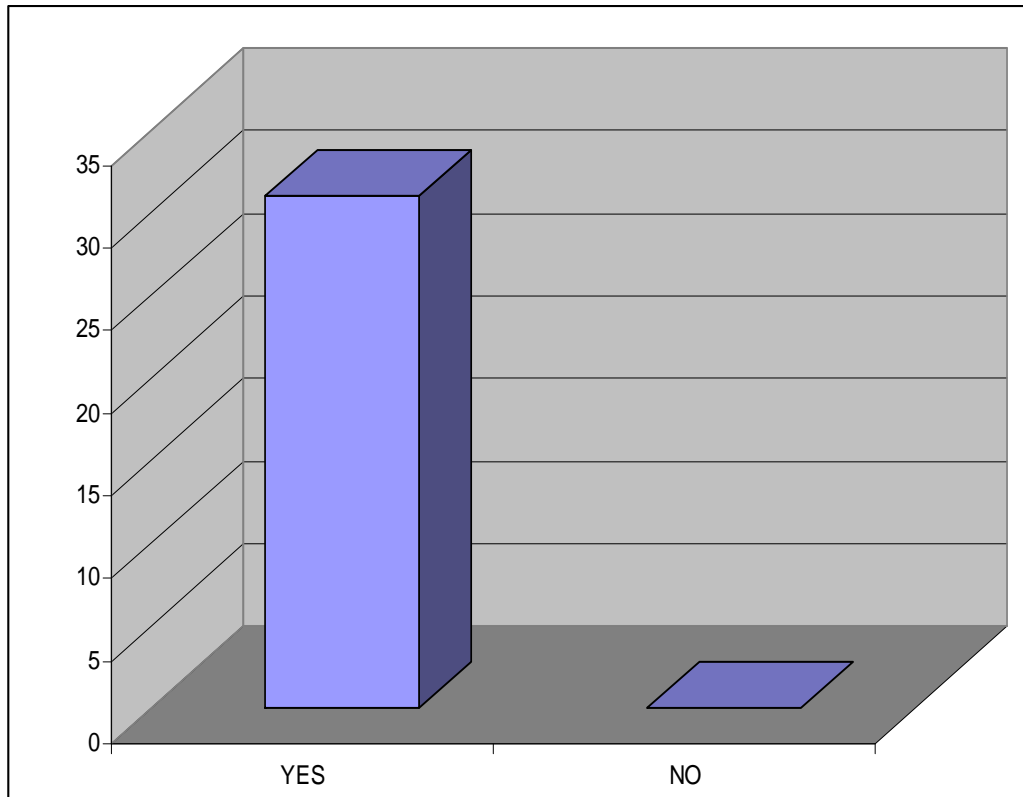


## Appendix A – Key issues raised during the consultation

**Question 2: Para/chapter 5 sets out Harrow's proposals to improve and develop the service. Do you broadly agree with these proposals?**

YES 31

NO 0





## Appendix A – Key issues raised during the consultation

	Comment	Response
Pinner Association	Re Paragraph 4 – “Current Practices and Performance” Recycling and Composting: Harrow Council should ensure that all recycled waste collected from whatever source (domestic, trade, street litter, etc) should either be sent directly to the contractors for recycling processing or, if that has reached capacity, be stored until it can be sent for processing. It should not under any circumstances be disposed of with the residual waste and go to landfill or other such disposal. Much effort will have been expended by residents, traders, and others, to sort and clean these materials and for these to then be put to landfill is a waste of all that effort and a reason for the compliance with recycling to diminish.	<p>The persistent rumours that the waste we collect for recycling is not recycled are NOT true.</p> <p>All the waste that we collect in the blue bin is sent to a large recycling facility where it is processed into the different waste streams. We get information back from the company every month which tells us how much of each type of material has been recycled.</p> <p>A small proportion of the material we collect (less than 3%) is not the correct type (e.g. polystyrene, plastic bags etc.). This is not recyclable under the Blue Bin scheme and is rejected at the facility and sent to landfill.</p>
Pinner Association	Can we have some assurance in the strategy that the blue bin contents do in fact go for recycling?	<p>Last year we collected and recycled 18, 750 tonnes of waste in the Blue Bin. In addition, 420 tonnes were rejected at the facility.</p> <p>Similarly, all the waste we collect in the Brown Bin is sent for composting. Sometimes people put the wrong type of waste in the bin. If we spot this we don't empty the bin. Last year we composted 19,300 tonnes of garden and food waste in this way. The company processing the waste rejected about 63 tonnes because it was contaminated.</p>
Pinner Association	Paragraph 5 – “Improving our Performance” Target – Reduce 3 and Reuse 2: Greatly improve the communication with Harrow residents on all aspects of waste and recycling, giving the reasons behind decisions and not threatening or “bullying” residents by the introduction of seemingly arbitrary prohibitions and compulsion.	Noted
Pinner Association	Paragraph 5 – “Improving our Performance” Target – Recycle 5: The Wealdstone Waste and Recycling Centre is not easily accessible for many people in the west of the borough, who invariably use the South Ruislip West Waste site for reasons of convenience and proximity. Full access to the South Ruislip site should continue to be ensured for all Harrow residents.	The current agreement within WLWA is that residents of the six boroughs are entitled to free access to any civic amenity site in the area. This comment refers to arrangements in Hillingdon where free access is restricted on one of their sites to people who present a “Hillingdon First” card. If this policy were to be extended to all their sites then there would be a potential problem with the existing policy. We have received no notification from Hillingdon of any proposals to change the current policy.

## Appendix A – Key issues raised during the consultation

<p>Pinner Association</p>	<p>Paragraph 5 – “Improving our Performance” Target Recycle 10: Before any compulsion for the disposal of food waste is considered the system for the identification of suitable biodegradable waste bags used to wrap messy waste must be sorted out (newspaper is not adequate, nor do all residents buy or receive sufficient newspaper for this use – c.f. “Reduce” targets above). It would not be acceptable to make it compulsory to use only those bags sold at a high cost to residents by Harrow Council via inconvenient sources for many residents (“Put your food waste in our approved biodegradable bags. These are on sale at libraries and the Civic Centre at £4.50 for a roll of 50”). It must be possible to agree to the use of the bags sold in supermarkets, etc. at a much lower cost, or if compulsion is introduced then a regular, adequate, supply of biodegradable bags must be provided delivered to the residents property (through the letterbox and not just dropped in the garden!) free of charge. Not all residents are physically able to either keep their brown bin out of a sunlit position nor are able to wash it out regularly, and therefore the potential maggot problems must also be addressed.</p>	<p>The council believes that collecting food waste weekly, in the Brown Bin means that it is not necessary to use compulsion for its collection.</p> <p>The current system for providing biodegradable bags is in place to ensure that only bags that meet the council’s specification are used. Unfortunately they are a large number of bags on the market which have claims to being compostable, biodegradable, degradable etc. The Borough currently has very low levels of contamination in the Brown Bin and this reflects the current policy on which bags can be used. A change to this policy would mean that collectors would no longer be able to readily distinguish which bags are suitable. This could lead to increased contamination and lower levels of composting.</p> <p>The current price represents a fair price for the bags, which are used in relatively low numbers.</p> <p>Provision of bags to all residents would be unnecessary and very expensive.</p> <p>Wrapping in newspaper is only necessary for meat, bones and cooked food. Provided it is well wrapped and the lid of the bin is securely closed, there should be no problems with maggots.</p>
<p>Pinner Association</p>	<p>Please can we have some emphasis and publicity on recycling of harmful substances e.g. batteries, garden chemicals, paints, oil-based substances. The public needs to be more aware not to put these in the green bin and to have an easy method of putting them out for recycling (without necessarily having to go to the Council dump).</p> <p>It would also be helpful if there could be publicity to the public on how to recycle things like furniture, mobile phones, print cartridges to avoid these going into landfill.</p>	<p>The responsibility for arranging for the collection of batteries resides with retailers, distributors and manufacturers. The council does not currently propose to provide separate battery recycling at the kerbside.</p> <p>The hazardous waste collection service does provide a service for garden chemicals etc. we will look to improve publicity about this service on our website.</p> <p>Similarly, we intend to improve the website to provide information to people on how to recycle furniture, mobile phones, print cartridges etc.</p>
<p>Pinner Association</p>	<p>It would be helpful to have more in the strategy about the economics of it all.</p>	<p>The council will keep the economics of the service under review to ensure that we deliver value for money. Inevitably as legislation changes and as landfill tax rises the economics of the whole system changes. However future changes are likely to concentrate on marginal issues rather than the type of fundamental changes that have been introduced</p>

## Appendix A – Key issues raised during the consultation

		over the last five years.
Pinner Association	It would be good if there could be a food recycling facility for flats. If the waste has to go into landfill this will produce harmful methane emissions.	The council has no plans to introduce food recycling for flats because of logistical difficulties.  We will be working with WLWA to develop a joint waste strategy which will ensure that waste from flats, containing food, is not sent to landfill before treatment
Pinner Association	The targets for commercial waste seem a bit un-ambitious when recycling at least of paper, cardboard, food, from companies, outlets ought to be fairly easy.	It is the responsibility of waste producers to make arrangements for the collection of commercial waste. This can be either from a local council or a private company. The council already provides a commercial recycling service at a considerable discount to its service for waste to land-fill.  It is likely that commercial recycling will develop as alternative facilities become available (such as anaerobic digestion for food waste). At present it is not envisaged that the council will make recycling from commercial outlets compulsory where it provides a service.  This position will be kept under review.
Harrow U3A Sustainability Group	We feel that regular (6 monthly) publicity leaflets about the use of the various wheelie bins and the availability of compost bins would keep people informed and aware of their responsibilities, especially in rented accommodation where information can easily be lost. If there is persistent misuse of the bin system after regular leafleting the council should consider visiting the property to educate the inhabitants about the system. Fining people could be a last resort option.	The strategy sets out that the council intends to provide education and publicity material. Rented accommodation - particularly short-term lets - do represent a problem in terms of getting the message across.
Harrow U3A Sustainability Group	We want Harrow to actively support re-use systems e.g. Free-cycle and would suggest regular features in Harrow People listing places where goods, furniture, electrical appliances and computer products can be taken for re-use or for re-cycling.	The Strategy proposes to promote Free-cycle.  Space in Harrow People is limited. It will be used as and when considered to be appropriate. It is intended that most information will be available via the council's website.
Harrow U3A Sustainability Group	We would like to see special collections for difficult items such as batteries, paint tins, cooking and engine oil so that everyone including the elderly, disabled and those without a car can dispose of these items appropriately and they can be recycled where possible. This could be a contracted out service every 3months and households could be leafleted	See above comments.  There are no immediate plans for this type of regular collection service.

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	the week before to remind them to put their rubbish out.	
Harrow U3A Sustainability Group	The problem of food waste from flats is a difficult one but we feel that bins could be placed near entrances to flats for waste food collection. These would need to be emptied very regularly (twice weekly) and cleaned out after collection.	The council has no plans to introduce food recycling for flats because of logistical difficulties.  We will be working with WLWA to develop a joint waste strategy which will ensure that waste from flats, containing food, is not sent to landfill before treatment
Harrow U3A Sustainability Group	We would also like to see a percentage increase in commercial and business recycling which seems particularly low at 20% and feel sure the council could put pressure, maybe financial, on businesses to increase this by 5% yearly.	It is the responsibility of waste producers to make arrangements for the collection of commercial waste. This can be either from a local council or a private company. The council already provides a commercial recycling service at a considerable discount to its service for waste to land-fill.  It is likely that commercial recycling will develop as alternative facilities become available (such as anaerobic digestion for food waste). At present it is not envisaged that the council will make recycling from commercial outlets compulsory where it provides a service.  This position will be kept under review.
Harrow U3A Sustainability Group	It isn't clear in the report if the 2007 Packaging Regulations Directive can be applied to small businesses and retail outlets but it sounds as if it would be a good idea if more firms could be persuaded to sign up to this perhaps with a small financial incentive.	The Packaging Regulations Directive is administered by the Environment Agency. Small firms are exempt from the regulations.
Harrow U3A Sustainability Group	We approve the council proposals to improve street cleaning barrows. We feel that to encourage street litter recycling the council should provide triple litter bins in town centres and near fast food outlets. These should be clearly labelled for bottles and cans, food waste, other rubbish etc and emptied morning and evening.	Noted.  The council has provided street recycling bins in a number of locations in recent years. Unfortunately these are not used properly and recycling materials are heavily contaminated.  We will continue to review options for recovering recyclable materials from street litter.
Sheridan Place Ltd	We are pleased to note that the target policy for flats is to have a full set of recycling facilities by April 2010 but would like to know how this is to be achieved. Can you now say which types of bin will be used for the various categories of recycling waste for flats, in particular for garden waste which is not catered for at all at present? We would also like to	The council aims to provide all suitable flats with (a) large Blue Bin(s) as soon as possible. The April 2010 deadline set out in the draft strategy is now unlikely to be met because the council has not been successful in bidding for funding from the London Waste and Recycling Board.  We will visit Sheridan Place with a view to rationalising the existing

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	<p>know if the present policy of one 1210 bin for plastics, glass and paper plus another type of bin for food and garden waste, in addition to the grey bins will be in use by April 2010. If so, can steps now be taken to reduce our present 3 recycling bins (for glass, plastics and paper) to one bin for these three categories thus providing us with the space to accommodate a food and garden waste bin when such becomes available.</p>	<p>provision</p>
<p>London Fire Brigade</p>	<p>As LFB have our own waste collection contract and achieve just slightly under 50% recycled rate, the draft waste management strategy from Harrow do not affect us a great deal. However we may be interested in your future food waste collections as from April 2010 as our current recycle contractor is not able to recycle food waste.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
	<p>I am unhappy about any type of enforcement. I do not believe councils take a fair and sensible approach to enforcement.</p>	<p>The council's current enforcement policy is based on persuasion and education.</p>
	<p>N.B. surely methane gas is given off whether in landfill or when composting. On a large scale this could be harnessed.</p>	<p>Land-filling of biodegradable material has to be substantially reduced to comply with the Landfill Directive.</p> <p>Methane from landfill sites is collected and used and this will continue to be the case. However collection rates are not 100% and some methane escapes into the atmosphere. Methane is a very active greenhouse gas and this is the reason why the Landfill Directive was introduced (to reduce the production of methane from land-fill sites).</p> <p>Methane is produced by the anaerobic decomposition of biodegradable waste. Composting is largely carried out aerobically and does not therefore give off methane</p>
<p>Roxborough Road Residents Association</p>	<p>Residents would like the return of kerbside collections of small electrical items and textiles/clothing that has worn out re-introduced. This was available when the green box scheme was used. This will reduce the amount of waste going to landfill.</p>	<p>The Blue Bin scheme is not appropriate for the collection of textiles or WEEE (Waste electrical and electronic equipment).</p> <p>Since the change in service the WEEE directive has been implemented and manufacturers, distributors and retailers of electrical goods are responsible for collecting this type of waste.</p> <p>The council advises residents to take textiles etc to charity shops or to use one of the charity bag collection schemes that operate in the borough.</p>

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<p>Roxborough Road Residents Association</p>	<p>Biodegradable food bags should be widely available to all, preferably by delivery to each property at regular intervals. This would help housebound residents and encourage wider use of the brown bins.</p>	<p>The council believes that collecting food waste weekly, in the Brown Bin means that it is not necessary to use compulsion for its collection.</p> <p>The current system for providing biodegradable bags is in place to ensure that only bags that meet the council's specification are used. Unfortunately they are a large number of bags on the market which have claims to being compostable, biodegradable, degradable etc. The Borough currently has very low levels of contamination in the Brown Bin and this reflects the current policy on which bags can be used. A change to this policy would mean that collectors would no longer be able to readily distinguish which bags are suitable. This could lead to increased contamination and lower levels of composting.</p> <p>The current price represents a fair price for the bags, which are used in relatively low numbers.</p> <p>Provision of bags to all residents would be unnecessary and very expensive.</p> <p>Wrapping in newspaper is only necessary for meat, bones and cooked food. Provided it is well wrapped and the lid of the bin is securely closed, there should be no problems with maggots.</p>
<p>Roxborough Road Residents Association</p>	<p>Why not have designated collection bags for disposable nappies only (bags labelled as such) and charge a nominal price per bag - i.e. 25p each as in Watford in 2006. Bags could be delivered or purchased at libraries or replaced at collection times with the same number of new bags as collected.</p>	<p>The current arrangements for collecting disposable nappies (in the residual waste bin) appear to work satisfactorily. Collecting nappies via a bag system would introduce problems about adequate containment, which could lead to nappies ending up as street litter.</p> <p>There are no plans to introduce a separate collection service for nappies.</p>
	<p>I strongly agree with recycling. I feel more could be done to persuade stores and manufacturers to use less packaging. I am not convinced, however, that my opinion on the service provided by the council will have any relevance, as in the past when our recycling or refuse was overlooked I could not get calls returned or any satisfaction on the given situation - leaving my family at risk festering rubbish and a real feeling that we just do not matter where our local authority is concerned</p>	<p>Noted</p>

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	Can you please advise on correct use of compost bin as my results have so far been unsatisfactory and I no longer use it.	The Strategy envisages the promotion of best practice for home composters.
	System working well at present. No tinkering for tinkering's sake. Further wheelie bins NOT required.	Noted
Harrow Association of Disabled People	Very happy to see Harrow becoming "greener". Please ensure that the way you handle it takes into account the needs of disabled people - people with learning disabilities or mental health needs, and some older people may find the systems confusing. Some people may find moving bins difficult and others can't read or take in information. Scare tactics like threats of fines to people who can't deal with the system cause real distress. People with visual or physical disabilities may find various parts of the scheme difficult - if someone seems not to be complying, please take the time to find out why. Are you going to collect residents' email addresses? Where changes are significant, remember to use proper communication - simple English, pictorial etc.. Use voluntary organisations to hold information so that if people approach them they know what is happening.	The council provides assisted collections for people who cannot move the bins because of disability or frailty. There are no plans to change this.  Although recycling of certain materials is compulsory, the council has not issued any fines etc over the three years that this policy has been operating. The emphasis has been on education and persuasion rather than enforcement and fines. This will continue to be the case. However the council reserves the right to carry out enforcement where residents flout the rules.
	Increase collection of blue recycling bin to weekly and/or double the number of blue bins available to households and businesses.	In practice the current collection frequencies are adequate for the vast majority of households in the Borough. Additional bins are available to all residents subject to a one-off charge and about 5% of homes have additional bins.  There are no plans to change this policy.
	In my area we have a serious problem with the accumulation of rubbish, anything from beds and furniture to bags of kitchen waste. Most appears to be in private alleyways - which I understand is not the council's responsibility. However I am sure that something could be done to stop this deplorable habit, which has got worse over recent years. It sickens me to see so much of it when I am out walking.	Fly-tipping is a criminal offence. However it lies largely outside the scope of this Strategy.
Harrow Baptist Church	Harrow Baptist Church has made serious attempts to have a recycling bin provided - but so far without success. We are dissatisfied in Para. 4 above, because no free collection for recycling/composting is currently available from churches. We say "Yes" in Para 5, provided such	Places of religious worship are entitled to free collections of recyclable, organic and residual waste up to a limit of 660 litre per week. However there are some constraints relating to logistical capacity. Harrow Baptist Church as a town centre church is not as easy to service as a church

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	collections from churches will be provided shortly. We applaud the efforts proposed, but are concerned that extensions of collections for recycling/composting from churches do not yet feature in any Target. We suggest "Recycle 6" should be expanded to include free collections from not-for-profit organisations such as churches.	located in a residential area. (N.b. We have visited the Church and provided them with a Blue Bin service.) The council charges for collection only from registered charities and places of religious worship in accordance with the controlled waste regulations 1992. Providing free collections would mean that the cost fall on to the council tax payer.
Harrow in Leaf	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provide recycling site in Rayners Lane/Alexandra Avenue (street-side bottle, paper and can banks), many flats so no recycling facilities</li> <li>2. Compostable waste should be returned free to allotment sites and residents, as there will be less of an issue about contamination..</li> <li>3. Non-biodegradable waste should be reduced at source - local authorities, through their purchasing power and their links with national political parties, can influence manufacturers to reduce packaging</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Our priority remains the provision of recycling facilities to all flats.</li> <li>2. We envisage selling compost back to residents at some point in the future when the company accepting our Brown Bin waste has the compost it produces accredited and is able to supply the compost in bags. Supplying it free would require a growth in the budget to cover the additional costs.</li> <li>3. We believe that this is largely an area for national policy to determine</li> </ol>
CPEA	I suggest that you have free compost available for collection say once or twice a year as a reward for recycling.	See above comments.
	I would like to see smaller bins routinely offered to smaller households to reduce the visual impact of bins standing in front gardens.	Smaller bins are already available on request.
Friends of Bentley Priory Nature Reserve	<p>3.3 - includes municipal parks, but not open spaces, like Bentley Priory Nature Reserve. Isn't waste from these included in "Municipal Waste"?</p> <p>It's good that a lot of mentions are made of Harrow Agenda 21 (perhaps the full name of the charity should be used - Harrow Agenda 21 Environmental Forum), but in 4.5.2 it talks about having close links with HA21 and its schools education officer. HA21 has not had a schools education officer for many years, so please take this out. You could replace it instead with HA21's Education Action Group, with which the council does have close links. Moreover, in 2.1.1 and 2.6.2, more could be made of the particular link with HA21's Waste and Recycling Action Group which, after all, is the closest and most relevant.</p> <p>The Draft Climate Change Strategy says we will "promote the use of</p>	<p>If waste from these areas enters the council waste stream it is classified as municipal waste. However this is very limited.</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p>



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	using re-useable bags when shopping, and encourage local business to cut down on the amount of carrier bags they use" (7.2j). Surely something about this should be covered in the Waste Management Strategy too, shouldn't it?	
	We need clearer guidelines as to what can be recycled and what cannot. For example, some supermarket packaging states whether it is recyclable or not, but a lot still doesn't. How are we to decide? Should we assume that all plastic (bottles, trays, etc) can go in the blue bin, and all plastic film cannot? Even though in some cases film will be labelled as recyclable and plastic trays will be labelled as not. This is before we get into different types of plastic (PET1, 2, 3 etc). It is confusing.	The council's guidelines on what to recycle in the Blue Bin are intended to be as simple, for residents, as possible. We collect ALL plastic bottles and rigid containers but do not collect plastic bags, film etc.. Sorting is carried out at the Materials Recycling Facility into the different grades. Inevitably some incorrect materials do get collected and pass through the facility as rejects. Last year this represented less than 3% of the total.
Wealdstone village TRA	When I moved to Harrow some of my furniture was too large so I had to give it away. But no charity would take self assemble furniture. In the end I gave some away and throw the rest away. Perhaps an alternative can be provided.	The alternative identified in the Strategy is the use of Free-cycle.
Wealdstone village TRA	For flats with gardens a shared brown bin could be provided rather than they use the green/blue/communal bin.	Garden waste from flats with communal areas are usually maintained by grounds maintenance contractors, who are responsible for the disposal of the waste.  Where the residents/tenants maintain the communal areas themselves the council could provide Brown Bins. For the collection of the garden waste.
Wealdstone village TRA	For mother with children. i have a chimney in the garden. Can nappies be burnt and the ash put in the green bin? I do realise this is a health and safety issue unless a van goes round to those mothers area/road and burns them for you.	Disposable nappies must NOT be burnt for disposal. They contain plastic film, chemicals and the contents provided by the child. Combustion could lead to the release of toxic gases and by-products as burning would be unlikely to reach the necessary temperatures.  Disposal of used disposable nappies in the residual waste bin, from babies and children, does not constitute a health hazard and no special collection arrangements are needed.
Weald village TRA	Some residents are still not using their bins properly. What with putting the wrong items in the wrong bins. They could easily crush some items to make more room. Persistent offenders should be fined and at the most	The council's current enforcement policy is based on persuasion and education.

## Appendix A – Key issues raised during the consultation

	<p>evicted.</p> <p>Could the half-yearly estate inspections note these offenders? Some householders have their bins permanently on the pavement outside their premises.</p>	
Hatch End Association	<p>Chapter 4. waste minimisation. "Excessive consumption" of what products (food, clothing, household goods, packaging?) which if these is local government trying to influence and how?</p>	<p>The strategy quotes the areas where the council believes that it can influence people's behaviour – home composting and reusable nappies.</p>
Hatch End Association	<p>Chapter 5. Target 2. Use of real nappies. How does the comparison fare with disposable v. real? i.e. use of cotton &amp; daily washing machine use. Need more information re incentives.</p>	<p>A comparison of the carbon footprint of reusable v. disposable nappies is complicated and depends on a range of factors such as the heat source for hot water and whether or not reusable nappies are tumble dried.</p> <p>In terms of waste management, it is clear that reusable nappies lead to a significant reduction in the amount of waste being produced.</p>
Hatch End Association	<p>Chapter 5. Target 1. we support system of "Freecycle" website.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
Hatch End Association	<p>Chapter 5. Target 4. Recycling of municipal waste from 35% now to 70% by 2012 sounds ambitious and it is not precisely clear whether the figure for recycling and composting includes or excludes kerbside vehicles.</p>	<p>This refers to the recycling of household and commercial waste at the civic amenity site. It excludes our kerbside operations.</p> <p>The 70% target represents Best Practice levels for this type of site.</p>
Labour Group	<p>The overall target of 50% we believe is not challenging enough. We believe Harrow can become the best performing Council in London and within the top quartile in England and Wales.</p>	<p>Achieving 50% would represent a significant achievement. Going beyond these levels whilst relying only on collections systems may not be realistic. Harrow and the other boroughs will look to WLWA to recycle materials from the residual waste stream as part of the joint waste strategy.</p> <p>See separate paper on the Vision for the joint waste strategy.</p>
Labour Group	<p>We believe there should be much better communication with users clearly encouraging them and provide best practice. There should be at least a quarterly newsletter to users.</p>	<p>The strategy sets out that the council intends to provide education and publicity material. There are no plans to provide a regular newsletter to residents</p>
Labour Group	<p>We believe more emphasis should be placed on re-using materials with better communication and the promotion of recycling shops etc.</p>	<p>We will try to incorporate this sort of advice on our website.</p>

## Appendix A – Key issues raised during the consultation

Labour Group	Schools should be offered a free recycling service in order to encourage them to recycle therefore passing on the recycling message to future users.	The council charges for collection only from registered charities and places of religious worship in accordance with the controlled waste regulations 1992. Providing free collections would mean that the cost fall on to the council tax payer.
Labour Group	The voluntary sector should also receive free recycling services to encourage best practice throughout our community.	The council charges for collection only from registered charities and places of religious worship in accordance with the controlled waste regulations 1992. Providing free collections would mean that the cost fall on to the council tax payer.
Labour Group	We are also concerned with the possibility of contamination within the Blue Bin scheme and therefore we believe the council should consider using a "Dirty MRF".	Contamination of the Blue Bin mainly arises from people putting the wrong materials into the bin. The sorting process in the Material Recycling Facility (MRF) that we use isolates these materials as rejects. Currently less than 3% of collected Blue bin waste is rejected.  A "Dirty MRF" would not be appropriate for processing Blue bin waste.
Labour Group	We believe greater capacity should be found to provide more recycling at flats and businesses.	The capacity of the service is constantly reviewed to ensure that it delivers Value for Money. Additional capacity would need to be funded by the council.
Labour Group	The document does not cover the costs of the service to users. This should be addressed by considering the delivery of the residual service. Any savings proposed could be reinvested back into the recycling service.	The council already considers the costs of the service and the savings that would be generated by additional recycling services. As landfill tax continues to increase, the financial viability of recycling schemes continue to improve and allow the introduction of new services.

# **Appendix B**

## **London Borough of Harrow**

### **Waste Management Collection Strategy**

**2010-2016**

## 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.

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.

**This strategy covers the period 2008 - 2016. It identifies how we will meet the aims of the new national waste strategy through an integrated set of policies.**

## 2. Why change is needed.

As a society, we are consuming natural resources at an unsustainable rate. 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. Reducing the carbon footprint of waste management practices is a central element of European and national waste management strategy. The assistance of the public in taking part in recycling schemes is recognised and will be developed further by the Council as part of the better together transformation work.

### Waste Strategy 2007

WS2007 was published, by the government, in June 2007 setting out the new national policy, with the following main targets:

Target	2010	2015	2020
% Recycling	40	45	50
% Recovery (includes recycling)	53	67	75
Kg of waste per household not reused, recycled or composted			225 (Reduced from 450kg in 2000)

### London Mayor's Strategy

Waste authorities in London must act in accordance with the Mayor's Municipal Waste Management Strategy, which adopts the targets set out in the previous national strategy (WS2000) :

Target	2005	2010	2015
% Recycling	25	30	33
% Recovery (includes recycling)	40	45	67

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

### 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 joint Strategy is currently being reviewed and this draft strategy will feed in to the revision of that document.

### 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.

### **3. Predictions for Growth**

Harrow's population of 214,600 is predicted to rise to 223,000 by 2025.

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.

The draft strategy 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.

Over the same period the amount of household waste produced per head of population in Harrow is expected to reduce. More importantly the amount of waste not being reused, recycled or composted is predicted to show a significant downward trend and Harrow should meet the 2020 national target of 225 kg/head by 2012.

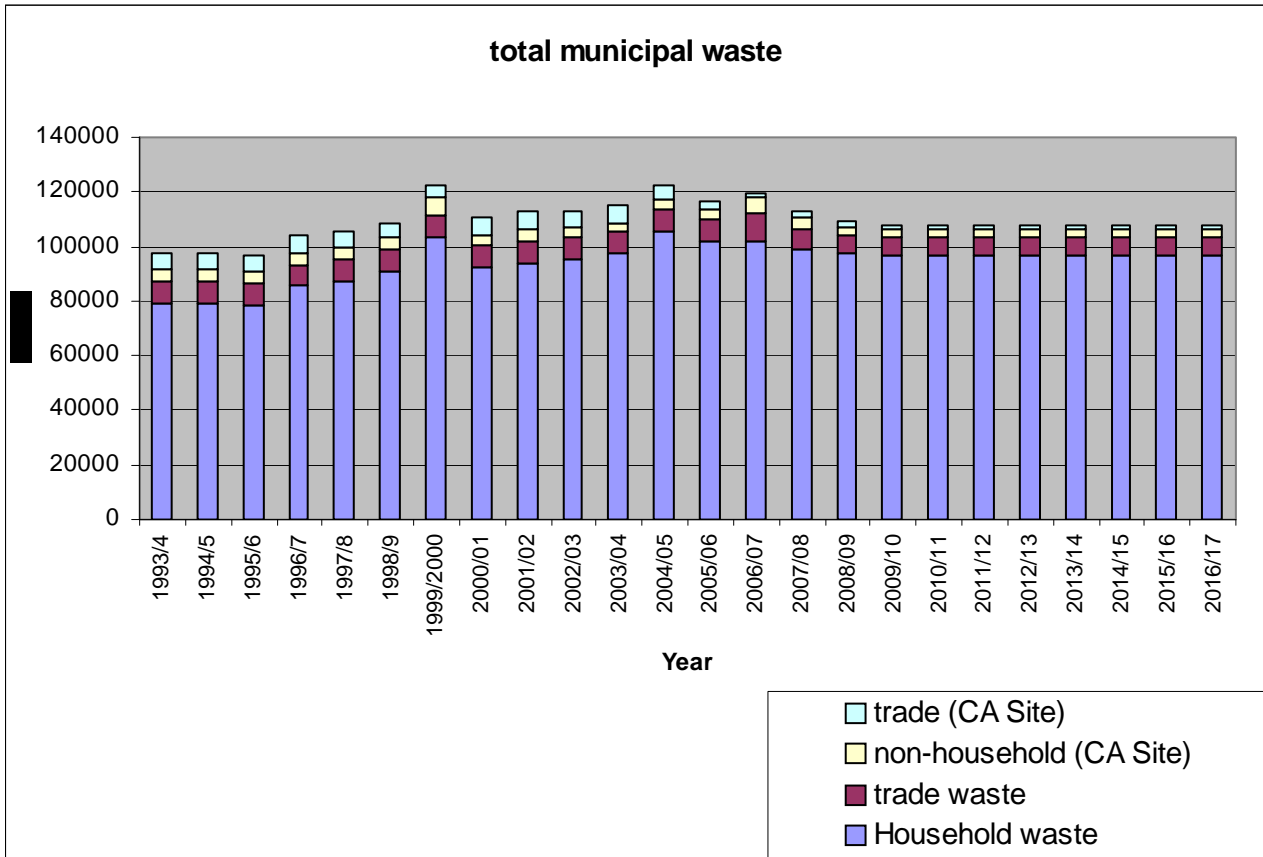
#### **Waste arisings trends**

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.

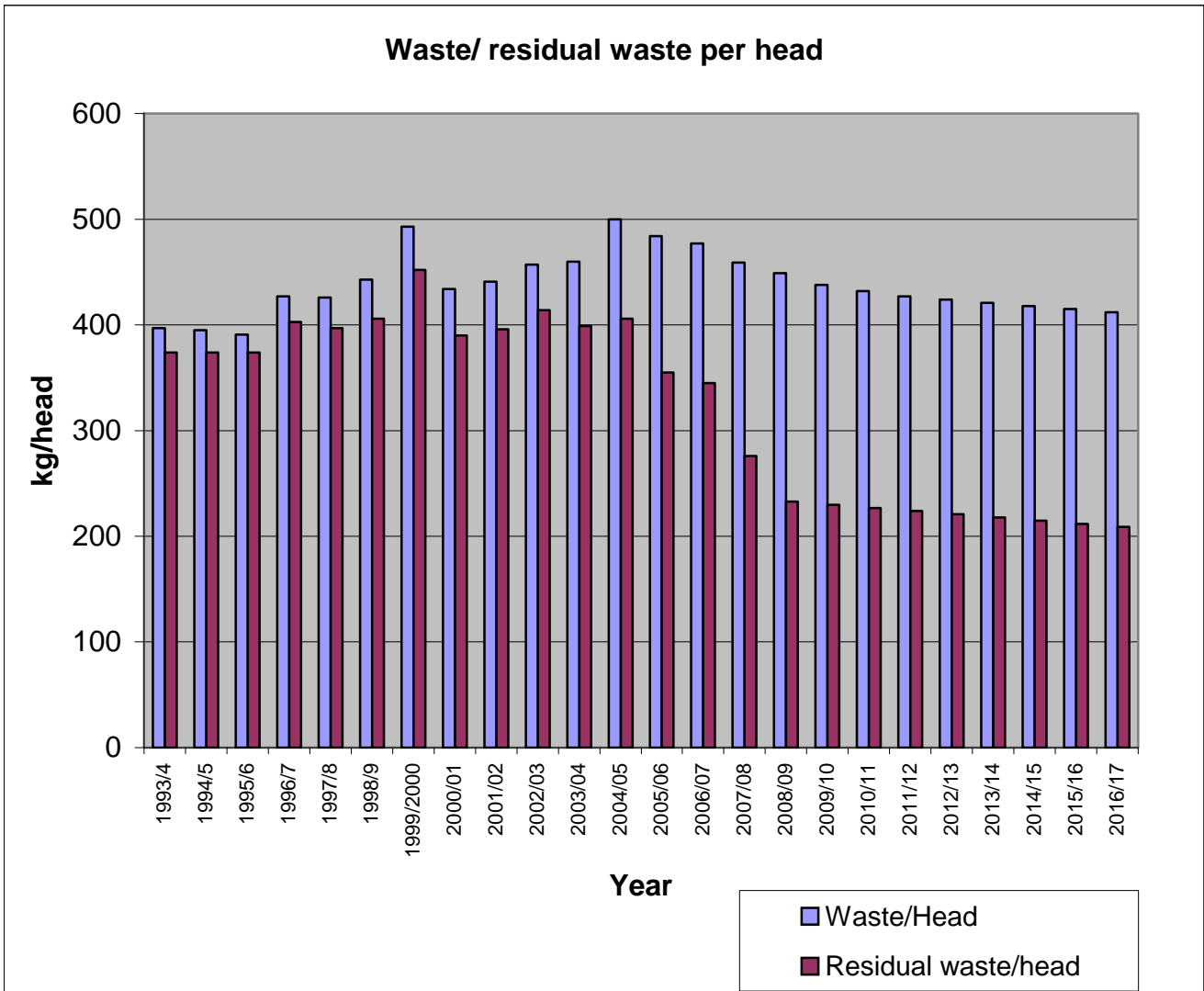
Similar effects are also predicted for trade waste, non-household waste and trade waste at the CA Site. The council will continue its policy of including LATS costs in the disposal charges for commercial waste collections.

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 (Revised September 2009):

- To achieve a recycling target of 50% by 2010/11
- 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 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 90% of household properties in Harrow have access to a recycling collection. This figure includes 100% coverage for houses and 36% coverage for flats. The figure for flats is lower because it is harder and takes longer to install the schemes.

##### **Places of Religious worship**

The council's current policy is to provide a 660litre bin free of charge to places of religious worship. Amounts in excess of this are charge for collection but not disposal costs. Blue Bin and Brown Bin are provided where requested subject to suitable logistical capacity being available.

#### **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 recycle (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 was 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 achieved 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

5000 flats (i.e. 36% of the total) are provided with a separate recycling service. Harrow aims to reach 100% of all eligible premises by April 2011. Recycling from flats is a priority both in terms of achieving 100% access and improving our recycling percentage. 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. Funding of £450,000 will be required to provide new bins where necessary.

Where recycling is not possible we will look to process this waste in a "dirty" MRF to recover some of the waste for recycling.

#### 2. Schools Recycling

All schools in the borough are provided with mixed recycling bins together with bins for disposal to landfill. 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 waste/recycling 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 2015. As part of this we plan to introduce three additional staff by 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**

As part of the climate change strategy, the council has set a target to recycle 50% of its own waste from April 2010.

#### **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 to encourage people to segregate their waste.

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 will cost £10,000 a year.

#### **9. 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.

#### **10. 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

Target	Policy	Target	Timescale
Recycle 1	Flats Recycling	100% of properties to have a full set of recycling facilities available	by April 2011
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 April 2011
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 to recycle 50% of its own waste (Part of climate change strategy)	April 2010
Recycle 8	Shows/event recycling	Provide recycling bins at Under One Sky and other shows/events	April 2010
Recycle 9	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 10	Education and Enforcement	Improving participation and performance of the existing schemes; and consider enforcement measures such as compulsory recycling of food etc.	2011

#### 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.



## Appendix C

### **UNISON comments for Cabinet consideration**

UNISON has concerns that Harrow will not achieve NI 192 Local Authority indicator of 50% target by 2010/11. The indicator measures percentage of household waste arisings which have been sent by the Authority for reuse, recycling, composting or anaerobic digestion. This is a key measure of local authorities' progress in moving management of household waste up the hierarchy, consistent with the Government's national strategy for waste management. The failure to reach the required indicator will directly impact on the collection staffs that have no direct control over the strategy that this Council adopts.

It is therefore imperative to provide a long term strategy to recycle from flats which is clearly a high priority. This would cost in the region of £450,000 (receptacle costs) to achieve 100% participation.

UNISON is well aware of the current economic climate but would request that the Council Cabinet members undertake a four year implementation programme to achieve this position. The four year programme would identify the high recycling areas on a roll out programme across the borough.

We hope the administration supports UNISON as they did with the introduction of the Blue Bin Collection System in this vital area of service provision to ensure Harrow remains the leading recycling authority of all six members within the West London Waste Authority.