

A Municipal Waste Management Statement for West Berkshire Council



“

*We must all reduce
the amount of waste
we produce, and
recycle as much as we
can, for the wellbeing
of everyone, today and
for the future.*

”

May 2004



West Berkshire
COUNCIL



Contents

1	Introduction	1
2	Setting the Scene	2
2.1	The Local Authority	2
2.2	West Berkshire's Waste	2
2.3	Current Waste Services	3
2.3.1	Waste Collection Services	4
2.3.2	Waste Disposal Services	4
2.4	Waste Minimisation and Recycling Programme	5
2.5	Waste Composition	6
3	The Need for Change	7
3.1	Potential Waste Growth	7
3.2	Drive Towards Sustainable Waste Management	7
3.2.1	West Berkshire Council Commitment	7
3.2.2	Central Government Commitment	8
3.3	Restrictions on the use of Landfill	10
4	The Strategy for Change	11
5	A Vision for the Future	12
5.1	Delivering the vision	12
List of Tables and Figures		
Tables		
2.2.1	Waste Arisings	3
Figures		
2.2.1	Source Generated Municipal Waste Arisings	3
2.5	Household Waste Composition in West Berkshire	6
3.2.2	The Waste Hierarchy	8
3.2.3	National Targets for the Recovery of Municipal Waste and the Recycling and Composting of Household Waste	9
Appendices		14
Appendix 1 Strategic Waste Management Policies		14
Glossary Of Terms		16



1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Waste or rubbish is what people throw away because they no longer need it or want it. In 2003/2004 residents in West Berkshire threw away over 77,000 tonnes of rubbish, 17% of which was recycled or composted. Over 60% of the waste thrown away could be recycled. Some of the waste which is thrown away, for example glass, paper or metal is a valuable resource that could be recycled.

The purpose of this Municipal Waste Management Statement for West Berkshire is to inform stakeholders, including the public, local businesses and organisations with an understanding of how West Berkshire Council will manage West Berkshire's municipal waste over the next 5 - 10 years.

The Council's Municipal Waste Management Strategy was developed from 2000 to 2002 and considered options for managing West Berkshire's municipal waste in the future. Following evaluation of the options and an extensive information sharing exercise the Council's preferred option was maximised composting and recycling coupled with the primary objective of waste minimisation. This option is to be delivered through a 25 - year integrated waste management contract.

In June 2003 West Berkshire Council secured financial support of £23.74 million through the Private Finance Initiative (PFI). The PFI funding has been awarded to West Berkshire for the development of facilities to maximise recycling and composting; this will be achieved through an integrated waste management contract.

This document aims to:

- explain how waste is currently managed in West Berkshire;
- explain the need for change in the way West Berkshire manages its waste;
- describe the strategy for change;

The Council is preparing a detailed communication plan which identifies key stakeholder groups, project milestones and communication mechanisms. As part of the communications process this document will be updated and re-issued when required.

Further information regarding West Berkshire's Waste Management Programme can be obtained through its website www.westberks.gov.uk

“ West Berkshire is committed to movement towards more sustainable waste management practices.”



2. Setting the Scene

2.1 The Local Authority

West Berkshire Council is a Unitary Authority which was created in April 1998. The Council has responsibilities for waste collection and waste disposal and as a principal litter authority. The service is managed within the Countryside and Environment Service Unit.

West Berkshire accounts for over half (56%) of the County of Berkshire, encompassing 70,484 hectares (272 square miles). 74% of the district lies within the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and borders the counties of Hampshire Oxfordshire and Wiltshire with Reading Borough Council and Wokingham District Council to the east.

The main centres of population are in Hungerford to the west, Newbury and Thatcham in the centre, and Tilehurst and Theale to the east. The district is predominantly rural with the population split approximately 2:1 between urban and rural. The 2001 census stated that West Berkshire had a population of 144,483 and included 59,583 domestic properties. Predictions are that West Berkshire's population will increase to 151,982 by 2006 and 155,587 by 2016, with the greatest growth being in the Newbury and Thatcham areas (9.6%). The east of the district is expected to experience a slight fall in population during the period to 2006.

2.2 West Berkshire's Waste

Municipal waste is waste that is produced by householders as well as waste that is collected by the Council such as municipal parks and gardens waste and any commercial and industrial waste for which the Council takes responsibility. As a Unitary Authority West Berkshire Council manages the following wastes:

- Household Waste - rubbish collected from residents wheelie bins
- Materials collected from the kerbside recycling service
- Materials collected at the recycling bring banks
- Waste collected at the Civic Amenity Site
- Materials collected at the Green Waste and recycling centre
- Bulky items including fridges and freezers collected
- Litter and street sweepings
- Some fly tipped waste
- Abandoned vehicles
- Clinical Waste collected from households
- Waste from commercial businesses on request (trade waste)



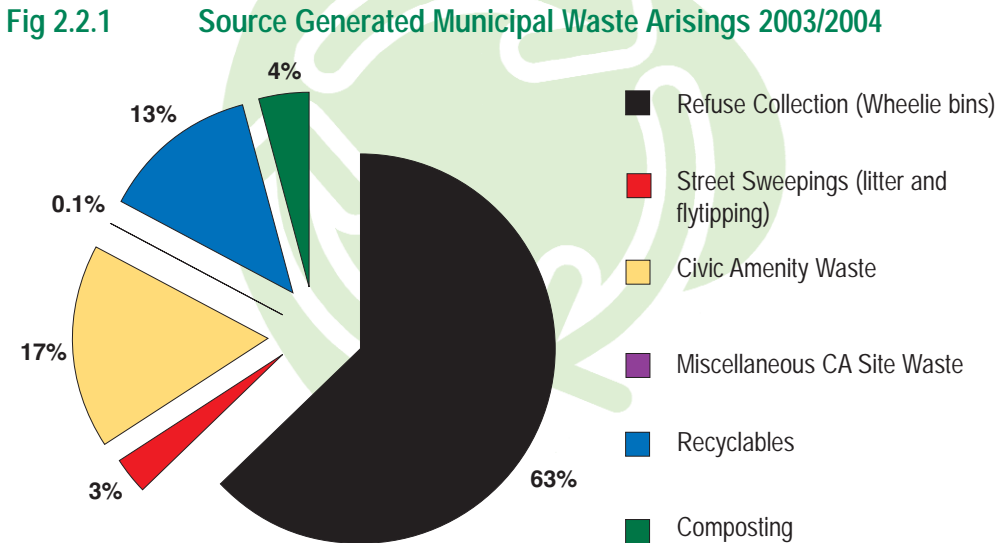
“ West Berkshire will seek to engage in a full and interactive dialogue with all members of the community on waste management issues within West Berkshire. ”

During 2003/04 West Berkshire threw away 78,759 tonnes of municipal waste. Of this amount 77,614 tonnes was household waste. Of the household waste generated 12.7% was recycled, 4.3% was composted and 83% was landfilled. These figures can be compared to the last 3 years of waste arisings

Table 2.2.1 Waste Arisings

	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04
Total Household Waste	78,924 tonnes	80,104 tonnes	81,210 tonnes	78,759 tonnes
% Composted	11.4%	1.3%	1.8%	4.3%
% Recycled	Combined	10.5%	10.8%	12.7%
% Disposed of to landfill	88.6%	88.2%	87.4%	83%
Trade Waste	1,012 tonnes	2,300 tonnes	1,705 tonnes	1,145 tonnes

The source of the waste generated in 2003/04 is outlined in the pie chart below.



2.3 Current Waste Services

A wide range of services are required to collect, recycle, re-use, compost and dispose of the District's municipal waste



West Berkshire will establish a challenging series of targets for minimising the municipal waste it collects from the community.



2.3.1 Collection Services

Refuse Collection

Domestic refuse is collected weekly from approximately 58,000 properties in wheeled bins (120, 240, 360, 1100 litre). Some 2,000 dwellings (flats, isolated properties and accommodation for the elderly) are provided with plastic sacks which are distributed twice a year.

Kerbside Recycling Collection

A Kerbside Recycling Collection Scheme has operated in West Berkshire since November 1996. Participation in the scheme is voluntary and is available to all households in the District. Recyclable material is collected on a fortnightly basis from two 35 litre boxes, one for glass, cans (ferrous and non-ferrous) and textiles, and one for paper and magazines. In 2003/4 over 6,800 tonnes of materials were recovered through this scheme. The sale of the recovered materials is arranged by the collection contractor. In 2003 a participation survey was conducted; it was found that 44% of households participated in the kerbside collection scheme.

Bring Banks

There are 14 bring bank recycling sites in West Berkshire, which cater for the collection of glass, cans, paper, textiles, plastics and books.

The banks are concentrated in the Newbury/Thatcham area and in the east of the district. There is an average of 1 recycling bank (site) per 12,000 head of population. Although there is full coverage of the kerbside recycling collection throughout the district, the number of recycling sites is low with some of the larger parishes being quite far away from the nearest bring bank sites.

Bulky Items

There is a collection service available to residents predominantly 'free of charge' for bulky household items. This includes items such as furniture, fridges, freezers, washing machines or other household appliances. This service does not accept garden waste, fixtures and fittings or DIY waste.

Clinical Waste

A separate weekly collection service is provided for household clinical waste.

2.3.2 Waste Disposal Services

Disposal Arrangements

All household waste collected in the district that is not recycled, re-used or composted is currently delivered directly to landfill.



Civic Amenity Sites

There is one Civic Amenity Site in West Berkshire at Pinchington Lane in Newbury. The Civic Amenity Site collects the following materials for recycling: paper, cardboard, green waste, electrical and electronic equipment, plastic, cans, glass, textiles, white goods, metal, engine oil, car batteries and tyres. The site also collects asbestos, bulky items, household waste, DIY waste, white goods and suitable trade waste. In 2003/ 2004 24% of waste collected on this site was recycled or composted.

West Berkshire Council has a joint agreement with its neighbouring Local Authority, Reading Borough Council, that enables West Berkshire residents to use the Island Road Civic Amenity Site in Reading. The materials collected at this site include: green waste, metal, wood, furniture and appliances, cardboard and paper, engine oil, chemicals and paint, textiles, glass, cans, plastic, asbestos and car batteries.

Green Waste and Recycling Centre

A dedicated Green Waste & Recycling Centre is provided at Paices Hill, Aldermaston. The materials collected at the site are: green garden waste, paper, cardboard, cans, plastics, textiles and glass. On average the site collects and recycles 1,000 tonnes of waste per year.

Abandoned Vehicles

West Berkshire has duties in relation to abandoned vehicles in the district. West Berkshire has a free of charge removal scheme for unwanted vehicles to discourage the abandonment of vehicles. Approximately 1,000 vehicles are disposed of per annum through West Berkshire's abandoned vehicle service.

2.4 Waste Minimisation and Recycling Programme

West Berkshire Council has a Waste Minimisation and Recycling Programme. This programme aims to increase recycling and composting and to maintain a high profile waste awareness campaign in West Berkshire.

The programme includes:

Waste awareness campaigns:

1. Compost Awareness Week
2. Real Nappy Campaign
3. Waste Awareness Talks
4. Rethink Rubbish In West Berkshire Newsletter distributed to all homes in the District

Waste initiatives:

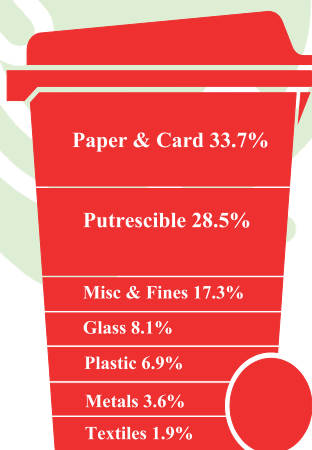
1. Maintenance, improvement and expansion of Bring Bank recycling centres

2. Maintenance and improvement of Civic Amenity Site and Green Waste and Recycling Centre including improved signage
3. Maintenance and improvement of kerbside recycling collection
4. Home Composter and Water Butt Scheme
5. Green Waste Trial for composting at the Civic Amenity Site
6. The Community Furniture Project
7. Introduction of Community Re>Paint Scheme

2.5 Waste Composition

A household waste characterisation study was undertaken in 1998 and more recently in February 2002. The content of paper and card, dense plastics and miscellaneous combustibles is significantly higher in West Berkshire in comparison to the national average, and the content of ferrous metals and fines is significantly less. Disposable nappies are classified as miscellaneous combustibles but on their own comprise 3.4% of the total household waste stream, which is in line with the national average of 4%. The putrescible category is made up of kitchen and green garden waste. Due to the nature of household waste, variations in waste composition are common - such variations can be seasonally, annually and geographically.

Fig 2.5 Household Waste Composition in West Berkshire



“West Berkshire believe the first and most meaningful target for waste minimisation in the short term, should be reducing waste growth to the national average.”



3. *The Need for Change*

The following factors have driven the need for change in the way that West Berkshire Council manages and thinks about municipal waste.

- Potential Waste Growth
- Drive towards Sustainable Waste Management
- Restriction on the use of Landfill

3.1 Potential Waste Growth

Historically waste generation has been subject to growth. Predictions of waste arising are usually calculated upon expected population change and housing developments.

Although West Berkshire has seen population growth of approximately 1.23% per annum since 1981, the growth in West Berkshire's population is predicted to slow to approximately 0.3% per annum. In the past waste arisings have been steadily increasing

3.2 Drive Towards Sustainable Waste Management

Sustainable waste management is a key objective of both local and central government.

3.2.1 West Berkshire Council Commitment

West Berkshire Council's Corporate Plan provides a vision and a set of priorities for the Council over a five year period. The vision for 2003 - 2008 is 'to facilitate a thriving local community and good quality of life in West Berkshire, now and for the future'. The sustainable management of waste, through 'Maximised Recycling and Composting, limited amount of waste confined to landfill' is outlined within the strategic priority of 'Improving Environmental Resource Management'.

West Berkshire Council's Sustainable Development Policy states that the Council will encourage and support a sustainable community through a range of social, economic and environmental measures including:

- reducing the consumption of raw materials and the production of waste
- promoting an awareness of sustainable development in West Berkshire and encouraging actions individually and with others in the future to encourage a better quality of life

For the Waste Management Strategy 20 Strategic Waste Management Policies were developed upon which the Strategy would be based. These can be found in Appendix I

3.2.2 Central Government Commitment

The National Waste Strategy for England and Wales 'Waste Strategy 2000' sets out the Government's policies and vision for the promotion of sustainable waste management over the next 20 years. It incorporates European policies and targets for waste and puts forward Best Practicable Environmental Option (BPEO) for waste management. The BPEO gives reference to the framework provided by the waste management hierarchy (see Fig 3.2.2), and the proximity principle when making strategic waste management decisions.

All Strategic Waste Management decisions in West Berkshire will adhere to the Waste Management hierarchy shown below and have regard for both the best Practicable Environmental Option (BPEO) and the Proximity Principal.



**“
West Berkshire in conjunction
with the Environment Agency,
other local authorities and other
parties will encourage the
reduction and re-use of waste.
”**

Fig 3.2.2 The Waste Hierarchy

Reduce Waste

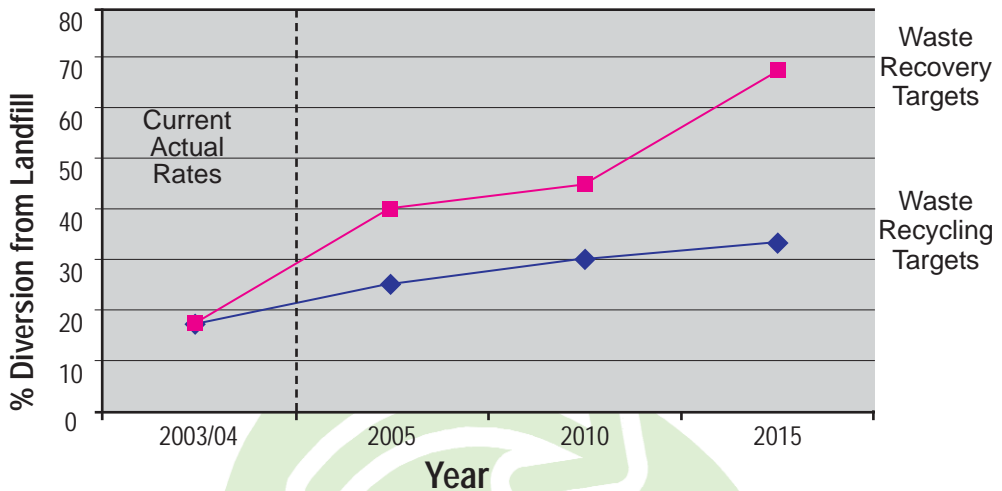
Re-Use Waste

Recycle

Final Disposal

In addition, national targets for the recycling and recovery of waste were also outlined within the Government's National Waste Strategy 2000.

Fig 3.2.3 National targets for the recovery of municipal waste and the recycling and composting of household waste



To ensure that all local authorities contribute to achieving the national recycling and composting targets set in Waste Strategy 2000, the Government set statutory performance standards for recycling and composting for each local authority. Indicators are used to monitor the performance of Council Services.

Other legislation has also been brought in to promote more sustainable waste management. These include:

- The Waste Minimisation Act 1988
- The Household Waste Recycling Bill (which received Royal Assent in 2003 to become an Act)
- The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Directive

The Waste Minimisation Act 1998 enables local authorities to make arrangements to minimise the generation of waste in their area. The Household Waste Recycling Bill (which has received Royal Assent), gives a duty to English waste collection authorities to ensure, except in some circumstances, that by the end of 2010 they collect at least two materials for recycling separate from the remainder of the waste.

The European Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive became European law in February 2003, setting collection, recycling and recovery targets for all types of electrical products. The Directives must be implemented in European Member states by August 2004. Collection, treatment and financing systems for WEEE must be in place by September 2005 and the first collection and treatment targets are to be attained by December 2006.

3.3 Restrictions on the use of Landfill

To date the majority of West Berkshire's waste that is not reused, composted or recycled is disposed of to landfill. In 2003/04 this amounted to 83% of household waste. However in the future, the Council will need to greatly reduce the amount of waste going to landfill for the following reasons:

- Reduced landfill capacity in the area
- Landfill Tax and penalties
- The Landfill Directive

Local landfill sites are nearing capacity and limited opportunities exist in Berkshire for the future development of suitable landfill sites. Transportation of waste to distant landfill sites is environmentally detrimental and is therefore not a long term preferred option for West Berkshire. By reducing the amount of waste that goes to landfill the amount of vehicle movements to distant landfill will be reduced with environmental benefits.

Landfill Tax is a tax paid on every tonne of waste disposed of to landfill. The government has committed to increasing Landfill Tax to £35 per tonne and other landfill control mechanisms to make alternative waste management options more cost effective. It is therefore financially beneficial to reduce, re-use recycle and compost as much waste as possible.

A significant driver that has an impact on the use of landfill is the EU Landfill Directive, which is aimed at reducing possible negative environmental effects from the landfilling of waste by introducing uniform standards throughout the EU. The Directive was brought into force in the UK on 15th June 2002 as the Landfill (England and Wales) Regulations 2002, and since then it has been introduced in stages to give the UK time to adapt.

One of the principles of the Directive requires the Government to reduce the amount of biodegradable municipal waste being landfilled by 25% in 2010, 50% in 2013 and 65% in 2020. The targets are made even more challenging by the fact that they are set against the amount of waste that was produced in 1995 (the baseline), and more waste has been produced every year since that date. These targets will be enforced through the Waste and Emissions Trading Act (WET Act). The WET Act will set progressively tighter restrictions on the amount of biodegradable municipal waste local authorities can landfill

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West Berkshire will seek to progressively reduce the amount of waste being disposed of to landfill. In so doing West Berkshire will seek to divert municipal waste towards more sustainable waste management practices.



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4. The Strategy for Change

The Municipal Waste Management Strategy for West Berkshire 2002-2022 was formally approved by the Government Office of the South East (GOSE) in August 2002. This Strategy sets out the strategic framework for the management of municipal waste in the district over the next 20 years based on maximised recycling and composting.

During the strategy development the Government made additional PFI (Private Finance Initiative) credits for waste management available to local authorities. These were targeted at recycling and composting initiatives in line with Waste Strategy 2000, and capped at £25 million per project and therefore appropriate to small and medium sized local authorities. The Government's emphasis on increasing levels of recycling and composting was very much in line with West Berkshire's Municipal Waste Management Strategy. Recognising the increasing financial demands that future waste management will bring, the Council decided to submit an application for government - PFI funding for an integrated contract.

In June 2003 the Council secured financial support of £23.74 million Private Finance Initiative (PFI) waste credits to deliver the long-term objectives of the Waste Strategy. The basis of the PFI funding is to deliver the service through an integrated waste management contract. The contract will be structured around achieving 54% recycling and composting by 2020 as well as having a high diversion of Biodegradable Municipal Waste (BMW) away from landfill.

It is anticipated that the Integrated Waste Management Strategy will be achieved through one contract that incorporates all the waste services that West Berkshire Council provides. This contract will be a partnership between one contractor and West Berkshire Council. This working partnership offers a number of potential benefits to West Berkshire which includes:

- Better value through economy of scale
- Improved co-ordination between all of the services including the use of waste management facilities
- A co-ordinated approach to street scene issues
- Maximised flexibility and partnership with the selected contractor will enable West Berkshire to respond to changing pressures on Local Authorities resulting from new EU and UK Legislation
- Scope to improve services

5. A Vision for the Future

West Berkshire Council's vision is for an integrated waste management contract that will enable Waste Minimisation with maximised recycling and composting. The Council will be looking to the private sector to propose their own innovative solutions to the authorities objectives.

One of the Council's key objectives is education and encouraging a higher recycling participation rate.

In line with West Berkshire's Strategic Waste Management Policies, the Council's vision is for:

- more sustainable waste management within West Berkshire
- fuller understanding of sustainable waste management issues and practices throughout the Community
- full and interactive dialogue with all members of the community on waste management issues
- the reduction and re-use of waste by residents
- the reduction and re-use of waste within the Waste Management Service
- development of practical initiatives to support waste segregation at source for both households and businesses
- reduction of waste to landfill
- management of waste in adherence to the proximity principle
- deliverance of Governmental performance standards for waste management
- continuous and demonstrable improvement in the quality, sustainability and efficiency of the waste management services
- increased recovery of value from waste

5.1 Delivering the Vision

The Integrated Waste Management Contract will need to be flexible to cater for likely changes if it is to deliver a continually improving waste management solution for West Berkshire. The Council envisages that this may include:

- public education programme, awareness raising and the promotion of sustainable waste practices
- development of the concept of an Ecology Village / Resource Park to promote public awareness of waste issues and participation in waste minimisation and recycling initiatives developed by the contractor
- maximising recycling and recovery of waste
- increasing composting services to local residents

- efficient collection, transport and haulage of waste
- management of waste close to source
- local use of recyclates
- a local depot
- a service that ensures the street environment is clean, well maintained and safe

The improvements in West Berkshire's waste services will be gradual, with each current service being phased into the new integrated waste management contract in stages. Each stage will be accompanied by a promotional campaign that will provide detailed information on the services as they are integrated.

“West Berkshire considers the progressive development of more sustainable waste management practices to be a legitimate strategic goal.”



Appendix I: Strategic Waste Management Policies

- SWMP 1** *West Berkshire in partnership with parish councils, community groups and other Agencies will seek to deliver a programme of awareness, promotion and publicity to encourage a fuller understanding of sustainable waste management issues and practices throughout the community.*
- SWMP 2** *West Berkshire will seek to engage in a full and interactive dialogue with all members of the community on waste management issues within West Berkshire. In doing so the Council will endeavour to ensure that all opinions are duly expressed and fully considered as part of any decision making process. The Council will ensure that the process of making such decisions is open and fully transparent to all in West Berkshire.*
- SWMP 3** *West Berkshire will enter in to and maintain meaningful dialogue with the Environment Agency, nearby local authorities and other Agencies on the development of future waste management solutions for West Berkshire to ensure that our strategy and plans are both consistent and pragmatic in a Regional context.*
- SWMP 4** *West Berkshire in conjunction with the Environment Agency, other local authorities and other parties will encourage the reduction and re-use of waste. This will form an objective of a promotional and awareness programme focused on waste.*
- SWMP 5** *West Berkshire shall establish a leading example within our community by examining how it purchases, uses and manages materials in the course of its normal activities. The objective of this work will be to identify ways of reducing consumption and preventing waste production, using where practicable, environmentally superior materials and employing more sustainable practices.*
- SWMP 6** *West Berkshire will establish a programme of waste minimisation, re-use, recycling of waste materials in respect of its own functions and the services it provides.*
- SWMP 7** *West Berkshire will establish a challenging series of targets for minimising the municipal waste it collects from the community. The Council will seek to forge partnerships with parish councils and community groups with a view to establishing common aims and goals in this respect.*
- SWMP 8** *West Berkshire believes the first and most meaningful target for waste minimisation in the short term, should be reducing waste growth in West Berkshire. Subsequent targets will be set following regular periodic review and should seek to achieve more significant reductions in waste generation.*
- SWMP 9** *In consultation with the Environment Agency, nearby local authorities and other Agencies and having regard to material planning considerations, West Berkshire will promote the development of new and existing facilities for waste transfer, recycling and composting provided that:*
- *these facilities are developed as part of an integrated network to deliver West Berkshire's needs and contribute to Regional self sufficiency ;*
 - *the facilities are consistent with the aims and objectives of the waste management strategy for West Berkshire;*
 - *there is demonstrable need for the facility.*

- SWMP 10** *West Berkshire will develop practical initiatives to support waste segregation at source in the household and encourage similar initiatives in business premises.*
- SWMP 11** *West Berkshire in partnership with the Environment Agency, community groups and others encourages recycling and composting at home and in the workplace.*
- SWMP 12** *West Berkshire is committed to movement towards more sustainable waste management practices. It will seek to influence such change wherever it can and particularly through the exercise of its statutory functions.*
- SWMP 13** *In respect of current Government guidance on sustainable development and waste management, West Berkshire considers the progressive development of more sustainable waste management practices to be a legitimate strategic goal to be achieved over the short, medium and long term.*
- SWMP 14** *Through the implementation of its waste management strategy and future contracts, West Berkshire will seek to reduce progressively the amount and proportion of West Berkshire's municipal waste being disposed of to landfill. In so doing West Berkshire will seek to divert municipal waste towards more sustainable waste management practices which lie higher in the waste management hierarchy.*
- SWMP 15** *West Berkshire supports the proximity principle and the concept of regional self-sufficiency in respect of waste management facilities. Wherever it is consistent with the best practicable environmental option available, West Berkshire will endeavour to ensure that the waste produced by our community is managed and dealt with within West Berkshire, or failing this the Region, wherever this is possible.*
- SWMP 16** *West Berkshire will not normally support the export or import of waste from the Region for treatment or disposal unless circumstances demonstrably show that this is the best practicable environmental option.*
- SWMP 17** *In working towards more sustainable waste management West Berkshire will seek through the implementation of its strategy, to deliver statutory Government performance standards for waste management.*
- SWMP 18** *West Berkshire will seek to deliver continuous and demonstrable improvement in the quality, sustainability and efficiency of the waste management services it delivers.*
- SWMP 19** *Through the implementation of future waste management contracts, West Berkshire will encourage its future contractors to be proactive and innovative in identifying areas for delivering service improvement and achieving its core policies and goals.*
- SWMP 20** *In line with Government targets for waste recovery, West Berkshire will look to recover more value from waste as part of its waste management strategy over the medium to long term. The Council will maintain a watching brief on the technologies available for this purpose and seek to engage in partnerships with others where this can deliver the best practicable environmental option in a way which is consistent with best value.*



GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Best Value	A regime which places an obligation on local authorities to deliver services (including waste collection and disposal) to clear standards by the most effective, economic and efficient means.
Biodegradable Waste	Waste that is organic in nature and is capable of decomposing through biological action.
Bio-Treatment	Any biological process that changes the properties of waste (e.g. <i>anaerobic digestion, composting</i>). Biological treatment includes <i>landspreading</i> activities that are <i>licensed</i> .
BPEO (Best Practicable Environmental Option)	The BPEO procedure establishes the waste management option, or mix of options, that provides the most benefits or the least damage to the environment as a whole, at acceptable cost, in the long-term as well as in the short-term.
Bulky Waste	This includes items such as furniture, a fridge, or a washing machine, or other household appliances that are too large to be placed in a wheeled bin.
CA Waste (Civic Amenity Waste)	A sub-group of <i>household and municipal solid waste</i> , normally delivered by the public direct to sites (civic amenity sites) provided by the local authority. It consists generally of bulky items such as beds, cookers and garden waste as well as recyclables and ordinary dustbin waste.
Civic Amenity Site	A facility provided by the Local Authority which is accessible to local residents for the deposit of household waste which cannot be collected by the normal household waste collection round.
Clinical Waste	<i>Healthcare waste</i> such as blood, tissue, needles, soiled dressings, drugs etc. which is infectious or could cause harm in some other way. It may be produced from hospitals, medical, nursing, dental, veterinary, pharmaceutical or similar practices or from home treatment, e.g. diabetes.
Community Furniture Project	The Community Furniture Project is a charity, which provides furniture, household or electrical goods and toys at low cost, to people in need in Newbury and the surrounding villages. They are able to do this by collecting items donated by local people.
Composting	A process where biodegradable material (such as garden and kitchen waste) is converted, in the presence of oxygen from the air, into a stable granular material which, applied to land, improves soil structure and enriches the nutrient content.
DEFRA	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

Energy Recovery	The recovery of useful energy in the form of heat and/or power from burning waste. Generally applied to incineration, but can also include the combustion of landfill gas and gas produced during anaerobic digestion.
EU Directive	A European Union (formerly EC-European Community) legal instruction, binding on all Member States but which must be implemented through national legislation within a prescribed time-scale.
Green Waste	Compostable garden waste such as grass and prunings.
Green Waste and Recycling Centre	A centre where recyclable material and green waste can be taken for recycling and composting.
Hazardous Waste	See Special Waste. Defined by EU legislation as the most harmful wastes to people and the environment.
Home Composting	The manufacture of compost material in the home (from the breakdown of garden and kitchen waste) using a compost heap, a purpose made container or wormery.
Household Waste	It includes domestic waste from household collection rounds, waste from services such as street sweepings, bulky waste collection, litter collection, hazardous household waste collection and garden waste collection, waste from civic amenity sites and wastes separately collected for recycling or composting through bring or drop-off schemes and kerbside schemes.
Integrated Waste Management Contract	A contract that consolidates different aspects of waste management into a single cohesive contract.
Kerbside Recycling	Collection of recyclable or compostable wastes usually from the pavement (hence the name) outside premises, including collections from commercial or industrial premises as well as from households.
Landfill (Sites)	An area of land in which waste is deposited into or onto.
MRF (Materials Reclamation Facility)	A factory capable of separating co-mingled or source separated wastes in order to recover recyclable materials.
Municipal Solid Waste (MSW)	Household waste and other wastes collected by a waste collection authority or its contractors, such as municipal parks and gardens waste, beach cleansing waste and any commercial and industrial waste for which the collection authority takes responsibility.
Private Finance Initiative	Launched by Government in 1992 to upgrade public services using private sector financial resources and innovation, without having to increase the public sector borrowing requirement or taxation.
Real Nappy	A nappy that can be re-used through washing.
Recyclable Material	Material that can be recycled.

Recycling	Involves the reprocessing of wastes, either into the same material (closed-loop) or a different material (open-loop recycling). Commonly applied to non-hazardous wastes such as paper, glass, cardboard, plastics and metals. However, hazardous wastes (e.g. solvents) can also be recycled by specialist companies, or by in-house equipment.
Recycling Bank / Bring Bank	Recycling schemes where the public bring material for recycling to centralised collection points (e.g. bottle and can banks) at civic amenity sites, supermarket car parks and similar locations.
Reduction	Reducing the quantity or the hazard of a waste produced from a process. It usually results in reduced raw material and energy demands - thus also reducing costs.
Residual Waste	Waste that has not been recycled, recovered or composted and therefore requires disposal.
Re-use	Using materials or products again, for the same or a different purpose, without material reprocessing (e.g. the use of returnable milk bottles).
Special Waste	Defined by the Environmental Protection (Special Waste) Regulations 1996 (as amended) and is broadly any waste on the European Hazardous Waste List that has one or more of fourteen hazardous properties.
Stakeholder	Is any person or organisation that holds an interest in a matter, for example a West Berkshire Waste Strategy Stakeholder holds an active interest in the Waste Strategy.
Sustainable Waste Management	Using material resources efficiently to cut down on the amount of waste produced. And, where waste is generated, dealing with it in a way that actively contributes to the economic, social and environmental goals of sustainable development.
Treatment	Involves the physical, chemical or biological processing of waste to reduce their volume or harmfulness.
Unitary Authority	A local authority that has the statutory responsibility of a Waste Collection and Waste Disposal Authority.
Waste Collection Authority	A local authority (a district, borough or unitary) responsible for the collection of household waste in its area.
Waste Disposal Authority	A local authority (generally a county or unitary) responsible for the management of the waste collected and delivered to it by constituent collection authorities. The processing and/or final disposal of the waste is usually contracted to the private sector waste management industry.
Waste Transfer Station	A waste management facility to which waste is delivered for separation or bulking up before being removed for recovery or disposal.
White Goods	Includes fridges and ovens.



A copy of the full version of the Municipal Waste Management Strategy (2002-2022) can be found at www.westberks.gov.uk

If you would like to be sent a free copy please contact:

Waste Management

Countryside and Environment

West Berkshire Council

Council Offices

Faraday Road

Newbury

Berkshire

RG14 2AF

Tel: (01635) 503205

Fax: (01635) 519453

E-Mail: wastepfiadmin@westberks.gov.uk

