

# **Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy**

# **CONTENTS**

	<b>Page</b>
SECTION 1: Strategy Summary	1
SECTION 2: Main Policies and Plan	6
1. Introduction	6
2. Developing a Strategy for Leicestershire	8
3: Evaluation of Current Arrangement	12
4: National Policies and Targets	17
5: Local Policies and Objectives	22
6: Plans for Achieving the Targets	24
7: Non-Household Municipal Waste	29
8: Specific Waste Streams	31
9: Strategy Implementation & Monitoring	35
SECTION 3: Recycling Plans	39
SECTION 4: Landfill Directive Strategic Plan	42
GLOSSARY	46
Appendix A – Planning Context	50
Appendix B – Waste Growth Projections	54
Appendix C – Recycling Plans	58

## SECTION 1: Strategy Summary

Key changes are required to the way that waste is managed in Leicestershire over the next 20 years. This is in response to a number of regulatory changes at both a national and European level that require waste to be handled in a more sustainable manner and which require local authorities to be much more than a facility for collecting and disposing of waste. The key drivers are:

- The introduction of statutory performance standards for the recycling and composting of household waste that must be met
- European and national legislation that requires the amount of waste disposed to landfill to be significantly reduced and alternative disposal routes developed.

Responses to legislative change must be carried out in conjunction with taking steps to reduce the amount of waste that we produce. The development of a Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Leicestershire provides a framework in which new collection, treatment and disposal infrastructure can be developed. It also enables the Leicestershire authorities to work together in partnership to achieve common goals and targets and gain benefit from joint working arrangements.

The Waste Management Partnership has guided the development of the Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy. It has been prepared on behalf of the following authorities:

- Blaby District Council
- Charnwood Borough Council
- Harborough District Council
- Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council
- Leicestershire County Council
- Melton Borough Council
- NW Leicestershire District Council
- Oadby & Wigston Borough Council

Leicester City Council has made its own arrangements for waste management but is a member of the Waste Management Partnership.

The Strategy covers the period from 2002 to 2020. During this period it will be monitored and reviewed, the first major review is scheduled for 2005 and then every five years thereafter.

### Headline Targets

The development of this Strategy is influenced by a number of key national policies as well as local priorities and objectives. The key national policies shaping waste management in Leicestershire are:

**Waste Strategy 2000**, which set out targets for recycling and composting of household waste plus non-statutory targets for recovery of municipal waste. The national targets are:

National Targets	2005	2010	2015
Recycling & composting of household waste	25%	30%	33%
Recovery of municipal waste	40%	45%	67%

To ensure that local authorities contribute to achieving these targets statutory performance standards were introduced under the Best Value framework. The performance targets for each of the Leicestershire authorities are:

**Table 1: Statutory Performance Standards for each WCA**

Authority	1998/99 Recycling Rate (%)	2000/01 Recycling Rate (%)	2003/04 Standard (%)	2005/06 Standard (%)
Blaby DC	10	15	20	30
Charnwood BC	17	17	33	36
Harborough DC	5	9	10	18
Hinckley & Bosworth BC	9	9	18	27
Melton BC	19	25	33	40
NWL DC	8	6	16	24
Oadby and Wigston BC	16	16	33	36
<b>Leicestershire County Council</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>33</b>

To meet these targets the authorities in Leicestershire must implement new collection systems and develop new treatment infrastructure. The quantities of materials collected for recycling and composting must double by 2003/04 and triple by 2005/06.

**The Landfill Directive** - The EU Landfill Directive aims to reduce the negative impact of landfill on the environment and human health. The Landfill Directive will significantly change the way in which biodegradable municipal waste is managed by local authorities.

The Directive contains three targets aimed at reducing the amount of biodegradable municipal waste disposed of to landfill. The UK national targets are:

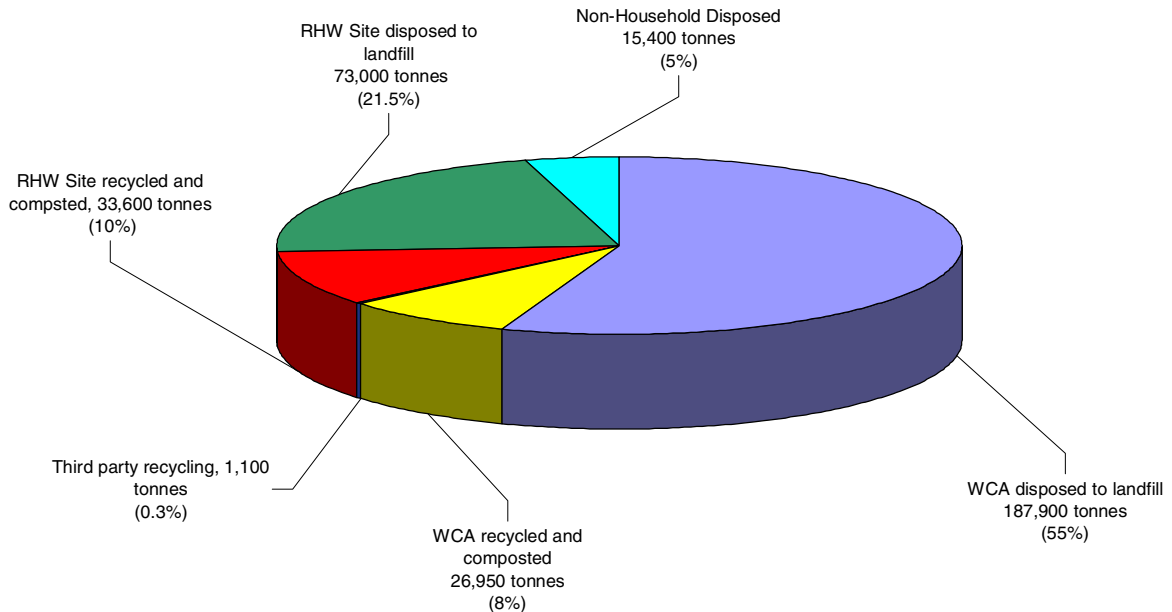
- By 2010 reduce the biodegradable municipal waste disposed to landfill to 75% of that produced in 1995
- By 2013 reduce biodegradable municipal waste disposed to landfill to 50% of that produced in 1995
- By 2020 reduce biodegradable municipal waste disposed to landfill to 35% of that produced in 1995.

## Current Arrangements

Just under 322,600 tonnes of household waste was collected in Leicestershire in 2000/01 of which the majority (81%) was disposed to landfill and 18.3% recycled or composted. A further 15,400 tonnes of non-household municipal waste was also disposed to landfill. The majority of this was commercial and industrial waste.

The majority of waste accepted at Recycling and Household Waste Sites (RHWS) is disposed to landfill, with approximately 31% recycled.

**Figure 1: Summary of Municipal Waste Management in 2000/01**



All collection authorities carry out some form of kerbside collection of dry recyclables, ranging from paper only collection to the co-mingled collection of plastic, cans and paper. A number of authorities also provide a seasonal green waste collection. Bring site coverage varies across the County, however average provision is 1 bring site per 860 households.

## Local Policy Objectives

The basis for the development of the new waste management infrastructure in Leicestershire is set out in the guiding principles and strategic objectives of the Waste Management Partnership. From these, specific local policies have been determined which are listed below although not in order of priority;

### Policy 1: Reduce waste growth:

Raise awareness of waste issues and the importance of waste reduction in order to slow the future growth in waste arisings.

### Policy 2: Meet the Statutory Recycling Targets:

All partner authorities to strive to meet their individual performance targets in 2003/04 and 2005/06.

### Policy 3: Meet the Landfill Directive Targets of diverting waste from landfill

By focusing initially on increasing recycling and composting whilst keeping under review alternative treatment technologies that will enable the longer term targets to be met.

### Policy 4: Deliver Best Value

Ensure the delivery of services to a high standard consistent with the principles of best value whilst considering the best practicable environmental solution.

### Policy 5 Local Sustainability

Local sustainability issues will be considered, including opportunities to enhance the local economy and employment and minimise environmental and traffic impacts.

### **Policy 6: Education and Awareness**

Develop a waste management awareness campaign to support the provision of new services and investment in new facilities and to ensure public involvement at all stages.

## **Proposed New Arrangements**

The authorities in Leicestershire are committed to working together to reduce the growth in waste arisings, to increase recycling and composting, and to increase the awareness of waste management issues and the involvement of the whole community. In order to achieve the local policy objectives and targets for waste management changes to the current arrangements are proposed. These actions are underpinned by the need to reduce the current growth in waste and the commitment of the partner authorities to develop an education and awareness campaign.

The solution is based on a short term and long term approach that recognises that widespread changes to the sorting, treatment and disposal infrastructure can not be implemented immediately and therefore must be a staged process.

### **Short Term Strategy (up to April 2006)**

New and enhanced kerbside collections for recyclable materials will be provided by all the collection authorities, although there will be some variation between authorities in the materials collected and the collection containers provided. All authorities intend to introduce a green garden waste kerbside collection service. Bring sites will continue to be provided to support the kerbside collections, and the number of banks will be increased where possible.

The increased diversion of materials at RHW sites can also make a significant contribution to the recovery and recycling targets, in particular through the separation of green waste for composting. The aim is to achieve a 50% diversion rate across all RHW sites by 2005/06.

To handle the increased quantities of materials collected for recycling and composting suitable treatment and processing capacity (bulking and sorting capacity of 70-80,000 tonnes and composting capacity of 50,000 tonnes) will need to be in place and operational by 2005.

In the short term all waste that is not collected for recycling or composting will be disposed in landfill sites. There is sufficient capacity within the county to meet disposal requirements up to 2005 and there is provision within the Waste Local Plan for the development of new capacity.

### **Long Term Strategy (April 2006 to 2020)**

Achievement of the short term recycling and recovery targets will mean that the national recycling and composting targets for 2010 and 2015 should also be achieved. However, depending on the performance in the short term it may be necessary to collect additional materials at the kerbside for recycling or composting such as glass and/or kitchen waste to increase performance levels further. It also is anticipated that further performance targets may be set on local authorities for the period beyond 2006, which will require higher levels of recycling and composting.

To achieve the national recovery and biodegradable waste diversion targets in 2010 then additional waste diversion may be required, e.g. through the collection of kitchen waste at the kerbside or increased diversion at RHW sites. Otherwise it may be necessary to acquire additional landfill permits or introduce alternative treatment methods. It is anticipated at this point in time that thermal treatment capacity will be required to meet the targets from 2013 onwards.

Although waste disposed to landfill must be significantly reduced in the future, landfill will continue to be an important requirement of the waste management Strategy as residues from treatment and processing options will continue to be disposed to landfill.

## Key Actions

Some key actions and the timescale for developing and implementing new collection systems are set out in Table 2. These will be carried out in line with the development of new processing capacity and the preparation and launch of an education and awareness campaign.

The first review of the Strategy in 2005 will consider progress against targets and assess the requirement for future processing capacity, in particular thermal treatment capacity in order that adequate time is allowed for the procurement and construction of these facilities.

**Table 2: – Summary of Key Actions**

Phase	Actions/Activities required
<p><b>Short Term (Up to 2006)</b></p> <p><b>Targets:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Achieve statutory recycling/composting targets for 2003/04 and 2005/06</li> <li>○ Aim to recycle/compost 50% of RHW site waste by 2005/06</li> <li>○ Recover 40% of municipal waste by 2005</li> </ul>	<p><b>Education and Awareness</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Prepare and launch an education and awareness campaign</li> <li>○ Actively promote waste reduction</li> </ul> <p><b>Collection and Recycling</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Introduce green waste collection schemes and</li> <li>○ Introduce/expand kerbside collections of dry recyclables</li> <li>○ Implement improvements recycling and green waste segregation facilities at the RHW sites</li> </ul> <p><b>Facilities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Have in place processing capacity for up to 50,000 tpa of green waste (around 35,000 tpa capacity exists at present)</li> <li>○ Develop up to 70-80,000 tpa of sorting/bulking capacity</li> </ul> <p><b>Research and Review</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Partnership Steering Group to monitor performance of Strategy against objectives and targets</li> <li>○ Undertake review of Strategy in 2005</li> </ul>
<p><b>Long Term (2006 to 2020)</b></p> <p><b>Targets:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Recover 45% of municipal waste by 2010 and 67% by 2015</li> <li>○ Reduce biodegradable waste to landfill to 75% of 1995 levels by 2010</li> <li>○ Reduce biodegradable waste to landfill to 50% of 1995 levels by 2013 and reduce further to 35% of 1995 levels by 2020</li> </ul>	<p><b>Education and Awareness</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Continue to actively promote waste issues, including the reduction of waste</li> </ul> <p><b>Collection and Recycling</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Expand range of dry recyclables materials collected at the kerbside as appropriate</li> <li>○ Consider need to introduce kerbside collection of kitchen wastes as appropriate</li> <li>○ Increase diversion performance of the RHW sites</li> </ul> <p><b>Facilities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Develop capability to treat greater quantities of residual waste</li> <li>○ Provide thermal treatment capacity by 2013 (approx 175,000 tonnes)</li> </ul> <p><b>Research and Review</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Continue to review the Strategy at 5 yearly intervals</li> <li>○ Continue to monitor progress on an annual basis</li> </ul>