

“London Waste Action would like to thank the following organisations for providing funding for “Towards a Sustainable Waste Management Plan for London”



RMC Environment Fund

and David Fitzsimons of Oakdene Hollins for assistance with drafting the report

This document is printed on 100% recycled paper stock Cyclus Print

Designed and produced by Carr Kamasa Design Tel: 020 7729 8100

ALCAN - Aluminium Can Recycling Alliance for Beverage Cartons & The Environment
Association of London Government Aylesford Newsprint Ltd Berryman & Sons Ltd Biffa
Waste Services Ltd. British Glass Building Research Establishment City of Westminster
Cleanaway Ltd Community Recycling in Southwark Project (CRISP) Community Recycling
Network (London) Composting Association Corporation of London Cory Environmental
East London Waste Authority ECT Recycling Energy from Waste Association Environment
Agency Environmental Services Association Essex County Council Friends of the Earth
Greater London Authority Greener World Ltd Grundon S (Waste) Ltd Hanson Waste
Management Recycling INCPEN Institute of Wastes Management (London) Kingston
University Lawrence M. Bary & Co. (Textile Recycling Association) London Borough of Barnet
London Borough of Bexley London Borough of Brent London Borough of Bromley London
Borough of Camden London Borough of Ealing London Borough of Greenwich London
Borough of Hackney London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham London Borough of
Harrow London Borough of Havering London Borough of Hillingdon London Borough of
Hounslow London Borough of Islington London Borough of Lambeth London Borough of
Merton London Borough of Newham London Borough of Richmond upon Thames London
Borough of Southwark London Borough of Sutton London Borough of Tower Hamlets
London Borough of Waltham Forest London Borough of Wandsworth London Chamber of
Commerce and Industry London Development Partnership London Environment Centre
LPAC London Research Centre London School of Economics Mitre Court (Belvedere)
Management Co. Ltd Mott MacDonald Ltd Next Step Consulting North London Waste
Authority Onyx Ltd Port of London Authority Public Interest Consultants RECOUP REPAC
(Regional Env. Protection Advisory Committee) Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea
S.I.T.A. (GB) Ltd Safeway Stores Plc (HQ) (British Retail Consortium) Sainsbury J Plc SELCHP
(South East London Combined Heat and Power) SERPLAN (London and South East Regional
Planning Conference) Severnside Recycling Ltd. Shanks Waste Solutions Ltd Thames Waste
Management Tidy Britain Group - Going For Green Valpak Ltd Waste Busters Ltd Waste
Watch West London Waste Authority Western Riverside Waste Authority Women's
Environmental Network

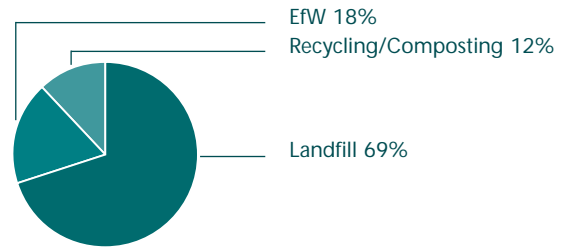


Towards a sustainable waste management strategy for London

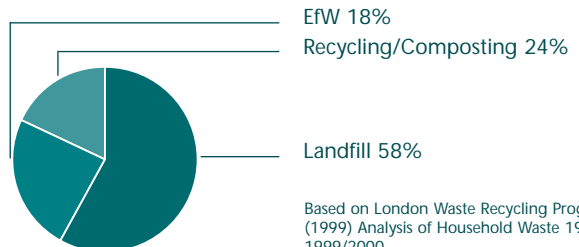
ALCAN - Aluminium Can Recycling Alliance for Beverage Cartons & The Environment
Association of London Government Aylesford Newsprint Ltd Berryman & Sons Ltd Biffa
Waste Services Ltd. British Glass Building Research Establishment City of Westminster
Cleanaway Ltd Community Recycling in Southwark Project (CRISP) Community Recycling
Network (London) Composting Association Corporation of London Cory Environmental
East London Waste Authority ECT Recycling Energy from Waste Association Environment
Agency Environmental Services Association Essex County Council Friends of the Earth
Greater London Authority Greener World Ltd Grundon S (Waste) Ltd Hanson Waste
Management Recycling INCPEN Institute of Wastes Management (London) Kingston
University Lawrence M. Bary & Co. (Textile Recycling Association) London Borough of Barnet
London Borough of Bexley London Borough of Brent London Borough of Bromley London
Borough of Camden London Borough of Ealing London Borough of Greenwich London
Borough of Hackney London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham London Borough of
Harrow London Borough of Havering London Borough of Hillingdon London Borough of
Hounslow London Borough of Islington London Borough of Lambeth London Borough of
Merton London Borough of Newham London Borough of Richmond upon Thames London
Borough of Southwark London Borough of Sutton London Borough of Tower Hamlets
London Borough of Waltham Forest London Borough of Wandsworth London Chamber of
Commerce and Industry London Development Partnership London Environment Centre
LPAC London Research Centre London School of Economics Mitre Court (Belvedere)
Management Co. Ltd Mott MacDonald Ltd Next Step Consulting North London Waste
Authority Onyx Ltd Port of London Authority Public Interest Consultants RECOUP REPAC
(Regional Env. Protection Advisory Committee) Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea
S.I.T.A. (GB) Ltd Safeway Stores Plc (HQ) (British Retail Consortium) Sainsbury J Plc SELCHP
(South East London Combined Heat and Power) SERPLAN (London and South East Regional
Planning Conference) Severnside Recycling Ltd. Shanks Waste Solutions Ltd Thames Waste
Management Tidy Britain Group - Going For Green Valpak Ltd Waste Busters Ltd Waste
Watch West London Waste Authority Western Riverside Waste Authority Women's
Environmental Network

- In 2000, London's three million households will generate over 3 million tonnes of waste. This grows year on year.
- 69% of London's household waste is landfilled, mostly in the South-East outside London.
- Only 12% of London's household waste is recycled or composted; 18% is directed through EfW (Energy from Waste) incineration plants in London at Edmonton and Lewisham.
- The EU Landfill Directive requires that the amount of household waste sent to landfill from London is reduced from the current 2.1 million tonnes pa to 0.63 million tonnes pa by 2020.
- The former SERPLAN adopted a policy requiring London to cease exporting non-inert waste to landfill in neighbouring counties by 2010. Inert wastes and residues from non-inert wastes are anticipated to be exported from London beyond this timescale.

London's household waste-year 2000



Proposed Statutory recycling target for London's household waste-year 2003



Based on London Waste Recycling Programme (1999) Analysis of Household Waste 1996/7 to 1999/2000

The challenge is great and the time is short

The Stakeholder Baseline Document prepared especially for the stakeholder dialogue is in the Appendix. It provides the latest data on London's waste problem and the Government policies requiring changes to how it is managed. There are targets for the recovery of value from municipal waste: 40% in 2005 and 67% by 2015; but new short term targets for recycling and composting household waste are now proposed by the Government's new Waste Strategy 2000.

Currently, 69% of household waste is disposed to landfill. 18% is sent to Energy from Waste (EfW) incineration plants located in London at Edmonton and Lewisham (SELCHP). 12% is recovered for recycling or composting. This includes home composting which will not count for the proposed targets.

The proposed statutory targets for household waste mean doubling the 1998/99 rates of recycling and composting in London by 2003 and tripling them by 2005.

By 2003

- Waste Disposal Authorities (WDAs) with a 1998/99 recycling rate of less than 5% must achieve 10%
- WDAs with a 1998/99 recycling rate of between 5% and 15% must double their rate
- The remaining WDAs must achieve at least 33%

2015 Targets for recovery, recycling and composting By 2015

- 67% of municipal waste must have value recovered from it through recycling, composting, other forms of material recovery or energy recovery;
- a minimum of 33% of household waste must be recycled or composted.

Municipal waste includes household waste and other waste collected on behalf of the waste collection authorities such as industrial and commercial waste from shops and offices

The Stakeholders' Report

- It brings a broad range of opinions to a focussed set of recommendations.
- There is agreement that urgent steps are necessary.
- It acknowledges that the Mayor and the London Boroughs must make difficult decisions which will arouse controversy.
- It lays the foundations for decisions by confirming the desire of stakeholders to work with the Mayor in this difficult task.
- It recommends steps which the Mayor should include among his early decisions.

The report is neither a draft waste strategy for London nor is it the view of any single stakeholder. Stakeholders continue to have their individual recipes for a waste strategy for London which reflect the aspirations they have as organisations and individuals. For some this report will be too cautious and insufficiently prescriptive. We believe that one of the severest challenges in creating a strategy is making it effective and crucially this requires the consent of stakeholders: the statutory authorities, waste management companies, recycling industries, commerce, the householder and the general public. We have sought, through stakeholder dialogue, to create the broad level of trust and common ground which will enable the Mayor to lead London towards sustainable waste management. This is the key to the report's contribution.

Finding a solution - Stakeholders working together

London Waste Action has brought waste stakeholders from a wide range of interests together to discuss the main planks of a waste strategy for London. *Stakeholder Dialogue* has been pioneered by *The Environment Council* as a new way to find solutions to environmental challenges based on discussion, sharing problems, respecting the views of others and identifying areas of agreement before tackling the disagreements. On this basis *stakeholder dialogue* was chosen as the means to agree the important early steps to reform London's waste management and to lay the foundations for a continuing dialogue on outstanding areas.

The Greater London Authority The Mayor and the Greater London Assembly

The GLA has considerable powers to improve the management of London's waste. It can make a swift start to its responsibilities by implementing the recommendations of the stakeholders.

The Mayor has a duty to prepare a Municipal Waste Management Strategy for London and to scrutinise London's municipal waste contracts. He must also prepare a range of associated strategies: transport, biodiversity, spatial development, economic development, noise, air quality, culture.

Through these statutory functions and by the status of his position the Mayor exercises considerable influence over waste management.

The Greater London Assembly keeps the Mayor and the purposes of the GLA under review and investigates and prepares reports on anything important to London.

Managing all waste

Whatever approach is adopted a significant volume of waste will not be recycled or composted both prior to as well as after 2015. The Mayor must sustain ongoing debate on how to manage the balance of waste now and in the future.

A number of waste disposal contracts are currently being renewed. These give us the opportunity, which has to be seized urgently, to take a fresh look at planning not only to achieve the targets but also to manage all the waste that is created in the most sustainable and effective manner.

Stakeholders' Recommendation

Collection: The way in which waste is collected must change.



"Lambeth's Contractors have been involved in the design of this purpose-built vehicle for collections of recyclables from housing estates and commercial premises".

- Double the number of doorstep recycling schemes within three years.
- Make home compost bins available to every home with a garden.
- Introduce large-scale separate collection of kitchen and garden wastes for composting.
- Review and improve household waste recycling sites to enable the separation of more recyclable wastes.

Transport: Transporting waste should observe the proximity principle of environmental protection



"Making full use of the Thames for waste Transport. Planning decisions can allow more to do likewise."

- Safeguard and enhance land and water infrastructure for the management of waste
- Make greater use of the river, rail and canal systems.
- Use contract terms to promote the use of cleaner fuels.
- Persuade the DETR to simplify and extend the eligibility of applications for the national Freight Facilities Grant Scheme so as to encourage greater investment in London's river, rail and canal systems.

Infrastructure: London needs new infrastructure in order to meet the proposed waste management targets



"A New State of the Art Material Sorting Facility recently opened in the London Borough of Sutton "

- Through the Spatial Development Strategy designate more sites for the management and reprocessing of waste materials.
- Ensure that proposals for new waste management and processing facilities integrate short, medium and long term planning.

Waste Strategy 2000

Subsequent to the second stakeholder workshop on 9 May 2000, the Government's Waste Strategy 2000 was published. The Core Group of stakeholders, met and agreed the following additional recommendations in response to the Strategy:

The Mayor should

- Take the initiative in supporting the Boroughs and Disposal Authorities in achieving the proposed 2003 and 2005 statutory recycling targets.
- Set an early date for the adoption of a municipal waste management strategy for London
- Integrate the municipal waste strategy with other Mayoral strategies in order to maximise early progress.

Contracts: Integrated waste management requires integrated contract arrangements.

- Support the development and application of best practice in contract management.
- Review contracts to ensure there is sufficient flexibility in the collection and disposal systems to enable the most sustainable options to be consistently taken.
- Require waste collection and disposal authorities to show evidence of seeking to minimise waste.

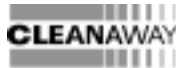
Structures: Changed waste management practices needs changed organisational structures

- Integrate waste policies with those of sustainable development, transport and economic development.
- Integration the operations of waste collection and waste disposal, including where they are the responsibility of different authorities.
- Encourage changes to planning processes to make them more accessible to public scrutiny and less costly to applicants.

Markets, Awareness, Data & Dialogue: The framework of waste management must be improved and the supply chain for materials strengthened.

- Insist that public authorities adopt purchasing policies that strengthen demand for products made from recycled materials.
- Support the work of the *London REMADE* programme in developing new markets for recyclable waste.
- Support the National Waste Awareness Initiative (NWA).
- Ensure there is annual publication of data on waste to enable progress toward objectives to be monitored.
- Support a co-ordinated programme of research on waste.
- Support *stakeholder dialogue* as a process to develop waste strategy and solutions.

Core Group of Stakeholders



Stakeholder Dialogue Process

A full list of stakeholders that are involved in the dialogue is in the Appendix and listed on the cover.

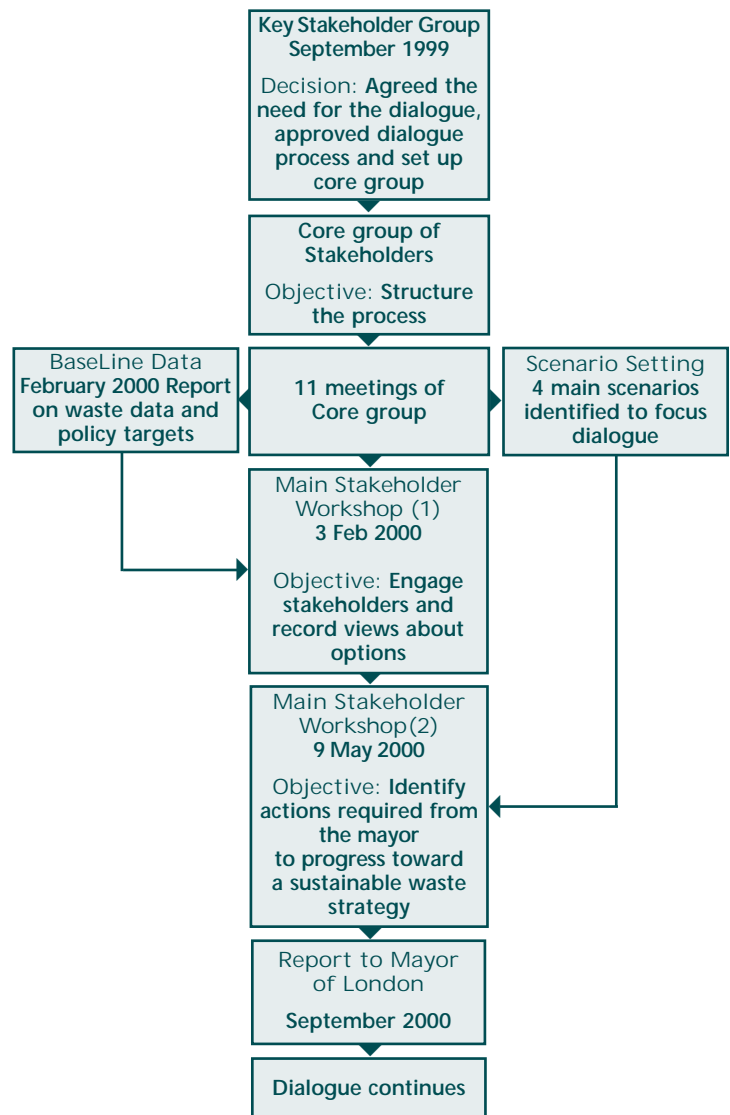
The main groups are:

- London Boroughs
- Waste Disposal Authorities
- Friends of the Earth, Women's Environmental Network, Waste Watch and other NGO's
- Recycling and Reprocessing Companies
- Composting Organisations
- Consumer-Focused Waste Policy Organisations
- Environment Agency
- Institute of Wastes Management
- Waste Management Companies
- Retailers

The Environment Council has facilitated the stakeholder dialogue. A record of the contributions made at each of the meetings has been used to inform the agenda of meeting of a Core Group of stakeholders.

The stakeholder dialogue has been undertaken over a period of 10 months, including two one-day workshops at which specific actions for the Mayor to take forward were identified. Around 100 stakeholders have taken part. The Core Group, broadly representative of stakeholders, met eleven times to prepare the workshops and consolidate the discussions. Most recently, the Core Group has summarised the actions for inclusion in this report, highlighting those most relevant to the Mayor.

A comprehensive record of all the recommended actions is contained in the photo record of the second workshop event in the Appendix.



The Environment Council is an independent charity dedicated to protecting & enhancing Britain's environment through building awareness and stakeholder dialogue that leads to effective solutions. www.the-environment-council.org.uk

Stakeholder Dialogue and the next stage

The Government's Waste Strategy 2000 has made more urgent the task of transforming existing waste management practices in London. For this to be done effectively, the municipal waste strategy for London and decisions on the outstanding waste disposal contracts are required without delay. The issues that the strategy must address will evoke strong opinions. *Stakeholder dialogue* can provide an effective forum in which these opinions can be expressed and consensus expanded.

Participants at the second workshop firmly endorsed the continuation of the dialogue as a means of giving a voice to the wide range of opinion about how best to manage waste in London.

London Waste Action

LWA aims to increase co-ordination between the producers of goods, retailers, manufacturers, the public and the statutory authorities and all concerned with the disposal, diversion and re-use of waste in London.

We are a working partnership between public and private sectors. We support the London Boroughs with their London Boroughs Recycling Programme, which has increased municipal recycling rates from 8% to 12% in the last three years. We support the London First Sustainability Unit which is raising the profile of the sustainable management of London's businesses including waste; air quality, London's footprint, an index of corporate sustainability and social sustainability.

London Waste Action's board has directors from the following organisations



Promoting sustainable waste management in London

1 Hobhouse Court Suffolk Street London SW1Y 4HH TEL 020 7665 1583 FAX 020 7665 1501 e-mail lwa@london-first.co.uk
Company Limited by Guarantee. Registration No. 3378046 Registered Address: 1 Hobhouse Court Suffolk Street London SW1Y 4HH

Enrolled with Entrust as Environmental Body No. 814198 Registered Charity No 1067460