

Waste Strategy Action Plan

Recycling

Background

Community consultation, public meetings and a MORI poll showed that recycling is regarded as one of the important priorities for Rutland. Focusing on improving recycling rates, through a kerbside collection achieves two goals for the Council firstly reducing the amount of waste sent to landfill, and secondly, fulfilling its statutory obligations. The Household Waste Recycling Act 2003 requires English waste collection authorities to provide kerbside collections to all households for a minimum of two materials by 2010.

Kerbside Recycling and Refuse Collection

From 31st March 2008 the majority of properties within Rutland will be provided with three 240-litre wheeled bins: one black bin for waste going to landfill, one grey bin for recyclables and one green coloured bin for green/garden waste. Bins will be presented on collection day at the edge of the property.

Some flat blocks will be issued with large communal wheeled bins; others will use blue bags for recycling. Individual residents will be issued with black sacks for the storage of their waste. Other systems will be in place to deal with individual household/flat block needs and/or requirements. Properties, without suitable storage space, will be issued with black sacks, which replace the wheeled bin and blue sacks for recyclables.

“Bring” Recycling Banks

The existing recycling bank system covers 22 sites. The materials accepted include:

Paper
Cans
Textiles
Waxed Cartons

Glass
Cardboard
Plastic Bottles
Books

Civic amenity site recycling

At each civic amenity (CA) site separate containers are provided for the segregation of waste for disposal and materials for recycling. Materials dealt with include:

Green waste, e.g. grass, tree pruning waste
Inert waste, e.g. soil, concrete, bricks
Glass bottles
Textiles
Scrap metals
Paper
Cardboard

Plastic Bottles
Car Batteries
Household Batteries
Florescent tubes
Wood
Waste oil
LPG gas bottles
Refrigerators and freezers
Electric and electronic equipment
Waxed cartons

Green waste is shredded to reduce its volume prior to its transport to a composting facility. This means that fewer vehicle movements are required to move the same tonnage of waste.

Two compactor units are used at the North Luffenham site to compress waste into closed containers. This increases the volume of waste in each load, reducing the frequency of haulage movements, lowering transport costs and reducing wear and tear on the roads. A further waste compactor will be introduced at the Cottesmore site in 2008.

Householders can take refrigerators and freezers to both CA sites. They are then transported by contractors to Grantham for recycling. Refuse collection contractors also take these items presented as bulky waste to the CA sites.

Home Composting

A scheme for selling subsidised home composters to householders in Rutland at discounted/reduced rates has been in operation since the 1st April 2003. It is intended that this project will continue through to the end of 2008.

Recycling Credits

Recycling Credits are paid to charity groups for the recycling of materials that otherwise would be taken to landfill sites. They are paid in accordance with The Environmental Protection (Waste Recycling Payments) (Amendments) Regulations 2002. Charity groups currently registered with the Council are Rutland Friends of the Earth, Ketton Guides and Scouts, St. Peters Church Belton, and Melton Furniture Project.

Waste Awareness and Education

Ongoing education and promotion of recycling is fundamental to achieving the Council's goals. Projects funded by grants such as the *WRAP* Communication Fund are key to our success. Competitions that involve schools will be developed in consultation with Children and Young Peoples' Services.

Recycling Performance

The table below shows the quantity of domestic waste collected by the Council, the quantity of material collected for recycling at the "bring" sites, and the overall recycling rate achieved (including the two civic amenity sites) between 2001 and 2007.

Year	Total Waste Collected (Tonnes)	Recycling & Composting (Tonnes)	Recycling %
2001/2002	18,815	3,504	18.62
2002/2003	18,556	3,507	18.9
2003/2004	18,831	3,525	18.72
2004/2005	18,925	4,067	21.49
2005/2006	19,481	4,849	24.89
2006/2007	19,451	4,716	24.17

Future Targets

Year	*Total Waste Collected (Tonnes)	Recycling & Composting (Tonnes)	Recycling %
2007/2008	19,645	5,108	26
2008/2009	19,842	5,923	30
2009/2010	20,140	8,016	40
2010/2011	20,240	8,501	42
2011/2012	20,430	9,194	45
2019/2020	22,137	11,069	50

Note:* assumes an annual growth of 1% waste in Rutland

Proposed Future Treatment of Recyclable Waste

Year	Material	Estimated volume in tonnes
2008/2009 (30%)	Recycling	3,495
	Composting	2,428
	Hardcore/Rubble	1,180
2009/2010 (40%)	Recycling	4,730
	Composting	3,286
	Hardcore/Rubble	1,191
2010/2011 (42%)	Recycling	5,016
	Composting	3,485
	Hardcore/Rubble	1,203
2011/2012 (45%)	Recycling	5,425
	Composting	3,769
	Hardcore/Rubble	1,215
2019/20 (50%)	Recycling	6,531
	Composting	4,538
	Hardcore/Rubble	1,227

Treatment methods - There are no planned changes to the processes identified in items 1 to 3 below.

1. Recycling materials

Kerbside Collections – all materials will be collected co-mingled and taken to a materials recycling facility for sorting before being taken for re-processing.

Bring and Civic Amenity sites – These materials are separated at source and will be taken to a materials recycling facility for bulking up before being taken for re-processing.

2. Composting materials

All materials will be taken to the nearest possible facility for shredding and composting. This is currently at a local farm.

3. Hardcore/rubble type materials

These materials are mainly collected at the Civic Amenity sites and are taken to a recycling site near Greetham.

Materials for recycling include:

Paper
Food and drink cans
Textiles
Cartons
Scrap metals
Waste Oils
Batteries – Car and Household
TV's and monitors

Glass
Cardboard
Plastic bottles
Wood
Fridges and Freezers
Books
Fluorescent tubes and low energy light bulbs

Materials for composting include:

Garden waste
Leaves and detritus from street cleaning activities

Hardcore and rubble includes:

Bricks
Building rubble
Gravel
Sand
Stone
Old Cement
Plaster
Soil

Estimated Waste Volumes and Costs Going Forward to 2020

It is difficult to predict completely accurately the volume of waste likely to be collected and received over the next 13 years. A number of assumptions have been made in predicting the tonnage until 2020. Using the previous four years data for the County, it is estimated that household waste levels will increase at an average rate of 1% per year. Nationally the rate of increase in municipal waste (this includes all waste collected by local authorities) has fallen from 3.5% per annum in 2000 to 0.5% per annum on average for the last five years (DEFRA, 2007). If the levels of waste arising in Rutland increase at a higher rate in the future, the costs of dealing with the waste would also rise.

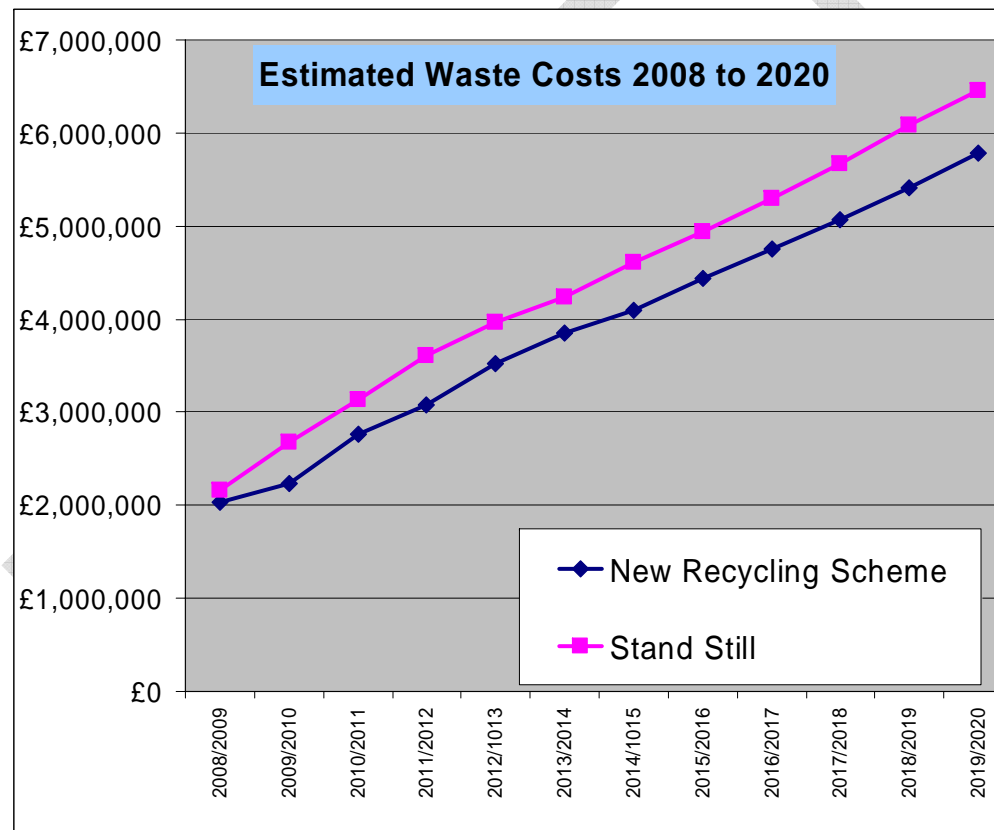
Graph 2 on page 8 of this Appendix shows the estimated effect on waste costs when the new recycling scheme is introduced on 31st March 2008 compared with the situation where no change in the waste collection service was made. Waste disposal and recycling scheme costs are expected to continue to increase over the period of the plan. Landfill allowance trading scheme (LATS) costs are expected to rise after 2010; the Council will continue to seek cost effective waste treatment solutions such as disposal through new waste to energy plants developed by neighbouring waste disposal authorities in order to minimise the risk of fines being imposed on it.

Factors likely to impact on waste predictions include:

- Landfill tax
- Future Contract Rates
- Markets for recycling materials
- Waste volumes increasing more than predicted.
- Waste volumes being less than predicted
- Landfill costs increasing more than predicted.
- Large rise or decrease in population
- Statutory Legislation (EU or National)
- Industry packaging initiative
- Retailer packaging initiative
- Recycling and collection systems

- Composting Options
- Alternatives to recycling and composting becoming available e.g. energy from waste, in-vessel composting

Graph 2 Showing the estimated waste costs for Rutland from 2008 to 2020



European Council Legislative Targets

Landfill Directive

The Landfill Directive became European law on 16th July 1999. The Directive was brought into force in the UK on June 15 2002 as the Landfill (England and Wales) Regulations 2002

This Directive seeks to prevent or reduce possible negative environmental effects from the disposal of waste to land fill by introducing uniform standards throughout the European Union.

The Landfill Directive focuses on reducing the impact of municipal waste. From the baseline of the total biodegradable municipal waste (BMW) (by weight) produced in 1995, the amount of BMW going to landfill must reduce to:

75% by 2006	(2010)
50% by 2009	(2013)
35% by 2016	(2020)

The Waste and Emissions Trading (WET) Act 2003

The WET Act 2003 was introduced to comply with the European Union Landfill Directive; it helps the British Government reach the reduction of Biodegradable Municipal Waste (BMW) going to landfill as prescribed in the Directive.

Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), have stated that the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme (LATS) is the Government's key measure to meet the demands of the European Landfill Directive in England.

The LATS was introduced on the 1st April 2005 for all waste disposal authorities in England. This scheme is a statutory requirement under the WET Act 2003 and adds progressively tighter restrictions on the amount of BMW waste disposal authorities (WDAs) can landfill over the next 13 years.

The scheme relates to annual BMW allowances between the years 2005 and 2020. If a WDA meets the required allowance level for that year then there are no cost implications. Where a local authority exceeds its allowances then it can trade the surplus with other WDAs or bank them to contribute to the next year's allowance. If a WDA does not reach its targets for that year, it can buy from other WDAs with surpluses. If a local authority cannot buy or chooses not to buy, then the penalty for each tonne over the allowance for that year will be £150 per tonne (at present rates).

In the short term the Council plans to continue to meet its targets by purchasing allowances from other waste disposal authorities with surpluses. The introduction of the kerbside recycling scheme and its associated improvements in the County's recycling rate will contribute to meeting the target. However, in the medium term the Council will have to consider alternative interventions, and therefore will continue to investigate the possibility of working with neighbouring waste disposal authorities. In addition the re-letting of the waste disposal contract in 2011 will provide an opportunity to address the issue. This may include for example, using any new waste to energy schemes that are developed nearby, while continuing to purchase low cost allowances from other local authorities with surpluses. Underpinning the continued promotion of the recycling service will be a campaign to educate local residents on the importance of waste minimisation and its key role in improving local sustainability. Looking towards 2020 the Council will continue to seek new partners to improve the sustainability of waste disposal to enable it to meet the Government's targets thus avoiding the high levels of fines likely to be imposed. However, much of this is dependent on the availability of technology locally to provide a cost effective solution.

The table overleaf sets out the targets imposed by Government which the Government expect the Council to meet. It also provides an indication with regard to how the Council intends to meet these.

Year	BMW reduction required to meet allowance in tonnes	Maximum BMW allowance (tonnes)	*Additional action to meet target
2005/2006	280	10,620	Target met through purchasing
2006/2007	312	10,138	Target met through purchasing
2007/2008	436	9,541	2007/8 & 2008/9 targets to be met through purchasing allowances in 2007/8. (Proposed)
2008/2009	1,722	8,771	
2009/2010	2,208	7,846	Increased recycling rate following introduction of kerbside collection, plus purchasing.
2010/2011	2,776	6,973	High profile waste minimisation campaign & option appraisal on waste disposal through new contract; increased recycling
2011/2012	4,259	6,099	Opportunities realised through re-letting of the disposal contract plus purchasing
2012/2013	4,827	5,226	Ongoing work with local WDAs to identify joint solutions; purchasing
2013/2014	4,812	5,002	Target met through contract provision/purchasing
2014/2015	5,286	4,778	Target met through contract provision/purchasing
2015/2016	5,510	4,554	Target met through contract provision/purchasing
2016/2017	5,734	4,349	New solution implemented with new disposal contract; purchasing

Year	BMW reduction required to meet allowance in tonnes	Maximum BMW allowance (tonnes)	*Additional action to meet target
2017/2018	5,958	4,105	Target met through contract provision/purchasing
2018/2019	6,365	3,881	Target met through contract provision/purchasing
2019/2020	6,394	3,657	Target met through contract provision/purchasing

Note – The BMW reduction is the total estimated bio-degradable municipal waste estimated for that year (allowing for 1% growth) less the BMW target set by Government. This assumes a 40% recycling rate.

*This assumes that the Council will continue to maximise its recycling rates, and purchase surplus LATS allowances when this provides a cost effective option

Non-compliance

Authorities failing to obtain sufficient landfill allowances for the amount of waste they landfill are likely to face stiff penalties. DEFRA have stated that the LATS will not operate without the threat of financial penalties, and that it will fine WDAs £150 for every tonne sent to landfill above their allowance level. This is equivalent to approximately four times the average cost of disposal to landfill.

The Government has also reserved the right to pass on any European fine imposed on the UK for missing the Landfill Directive targets onto the local authorities or devolved administrations deemed responsible for the missed targets.

This could mean that failing councils would be responsible for their share of fines reaching £180 million a year, or £500,000 a day, until the Directive's demands are met.

How will we achieve recycling targets?

To achieve a household waste recycling rate of 30% by the end of 2008/09 financial year and to achieve a 45% recycling rate by 2012, and a 50% rate by 2020 (in line with Government Waste Strategy).

Action	Date to be implemented	Comments
Countywide kerbside recycling service to be introduced	31 st March 2008	This will achieve an initial recycling rate of 30%, which will be tracked throughout the year 2008/9
Expand the number of “bring” sites within the County	From April 2008	Approaches will be made to Parishes, and local businesses in relation to new and existing sites
Improve accessibility and range of facilities provided at each individual bring sites.	April – September 2009	Audit report with recommendations for future development
To encourage the re-use and recycling of bulky waste items	In progress	A bid for Council funds for the Melton Furniture Project will be made, as part of service development for 2008
To adopt an environmentally friendly purchasing scheme which reduces packaging & waste	Jan 2010	This work is linked to the implementation of the Nottingham Declaration – for corporate implementation
Increase the number of organisations accessing recycling credits	September 2008	Posters developed for display at all Council offices, libraries, museums and distributed to all town and parish councils for display.

To reduce the quantity of municipal waste that is landfilled to 41% by the end of 2009/10 (in accordance with LAA targets)

Action	Date to be implemented	Comments
Run a litter awareness campaign	From April 2008	Rutland Spring Clean Week –May 2008 Autumn Clean Up Week - October 2008 Will investigate use of Probation service
Promote recycling credits to schools, parishes and local charities	August 2008 onwards	Contact will be made through <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Parish Forum • by letter to schools
To discourage fly-tipping of waste and general littering through promotional activities and prosecution where possible	From April 2008	Promotional campaign to educate the public about the consequences of fly tipping and the need to dispose of waste responsibly to be devised. Work with local media required.
To investigate buying composted green waste for resale to users of CA sites	September 2008	

To meet the annual landfill allowances required within the Waste and Emissions Trading Act 2003.

Action	Date to be implemented	Comments
Purchase allowances from other local authorities with excess	2008/9	Purchasing prices of approximately £x per tonne represent a cost effective method of avoiding potential fines of £150 per tonne of waste over the County's allowance
Slim your Bin campaign	2008/9	Promotional campaign to educate the public on the importance of reducing the amount of waste disposed of in their bin. To include information on both reducing and reusing waste. Work with the local media required.
Identify alternative disposal methods developed by neighbouring WDAs	ongoing	Need additional methods in place by 2011 when new contract let; also 2016 when renewed again

Awareness and Education

Action	Date to be implemented	Comments
Recycling and Environmental Guide distributed to every household in Rutland.	Recurr annually	Promotes recycling activity & details all the “bring” sites in the County.
Recycling Competitions with schools promoted each year.	Annual Event October	Previous themes have included a recycling poem, a recycling poster and a scarecrow made of recycling materials. Responses have been good; subsequent displays in the Rutland County Museum proved very popular
Issue press releases on the Council’s recycling activities	ongoing	

DRAFT

Civic Amenity Sites, Waste Minimisation, Flytipping & Litter, Commercial Waste and Street Cleaning

How will we achieve our targets?

The plans in the following pages show how the targets set within the main body of the Strategy will be achieved. Each table sets out how the Council intends to achieve improvements in its overall waste management.

Civic Amenity Sites

Action	Date to be implemented	Comments
Publicity campaigns to improve public awareness of the facilities. This will be linked to the new services available as part of the WEEE Directive.	July/August 2008 December 2008	Press campaign CA site information leaflet to go out with Permits Satisfaction survey
Working closely with the new service provider to ensure that high standards of service are achieved, health and safety requirements are met	From 31 st March 2008	New contract starts with monthly contract meetings & monthly performance reports
A review of the site facilities will take place to identify establish what improvements are necessary, and to prioritise these in light of resources available.	July - September 2008	Inspections followed by a proposed action plan

Waste Minimisation

Action	Date to be implemented	Comments
Introduction of alternative week residual waste collection	31 st March 2008	Householders will be able to use the recycling service to divert waste to landfill
Publicity campaign on ways to reduce waste	Oct 2008	Collaborate with local media to educate public & use "Multum in Parvo" newsletter with links to schools competition each year
Inclusion of advice in Rutland's Green Guide	December 2008 & reviewed annually	

Flytipping & Litter

Action	Date to be implemented	Comments
"Grot Spot Campaign"	August 2008	Partnership with local media – may need annual review/publication of results Link to Community Safety campaign
Publicity in "Multum in Parvo" newsletter	March 2009	Legal position and responsibilities etc
Identify hotspots in County & develop action plan	Monitor from April 2008 Identify recurrence after first & second quarter & develop action plan Action plan implemented by Nov 2008	May need publicity; support from other agencies – SKDC; EA
Business Waste Project relating to Duty of Care	After November 2008	

Commercial Waste

Action	Date to be implemented	Comments
Awareness raising campaign to business on recycling	February 2009	Local media campaign Investigate BREW programme

Street Cleaning

Action	Date to be implemented	Comments
New service to be introduced	31 st March 2008	Monthly contract meetings to discuss issues & review performance 80 inspections every 4 weeks to check on the quality of work completed
Complaints monitored for problem areas	31 st March 2008	Monthly checks for discussion with contractor; troubleshooting if necessary