



House of Commons
Committee of Public Accounts

**Department for
Environment, Food and
Rural Affairs: Reducing
the reliance on Landfill
in England**

**Fifty-seventh Report of Session
2006–07**

*Report, together with formal minutes, oral and
written evidence*

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The Committee of Public Accounts

The Committee of Public Accounts is appointed by the House of Commons to examine “the accounts showing the appropriation of the sums granted by Parliament to meet the public expenditure, and of such other accounts laid before Parliament as the committee may think fit” (Standing Order No 148).

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The Reports and evidence of the Committee are published by The Stationery Office by Order of the House. All publications of the Committee (including press notices) are on the Internet at <http://www.parliament.uk/pac>. A list of Reports of the Committee in the present Session is at the back of this volume.

Committee staff

The current staff of the Committee is Mark Etherton (Clerk), Philip Jones (Committee Assistant), Emma Sawyer (Committee Assistant), Pam Morris (Secretary), and Alex Paterson (Media Officer).

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Summary

Biodegradable materials in landfill sites, such as food, vegetation and paper, generate methane and other emissions to the soil and water which can be harmful to health. The European Union introduced a Directive in 1999 which set maximum allowances for the tonnage of biodegradable municipal waste that each Member State could send to landfill from 2006 onwards. As waste collection and disposal is a key responsibility of the 388 local authorities in England, the Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (the Department) has to work closely with them to enable the United Kingdom to comply with this Directive. The Prime Minister's Strategy Unit estimated that non compliance could result in a fine of up to £180 million a year.

Despite a four year extension to the European Union's timetable because of our historic reliance on landfill to dispose of waste, the Department has been slow to take action. Departmental officials would have known about the proposed Directive a long time before 1999, but no effective action was taken before 2003. As a result, there was a significant risk by summer 2006 that the United Kingdom government would not be able to comply with the Directive. Subsequent local authority data for 2005–06 indicated a reduction of 2.3 million tonnes since 2003–04 which led the Accounting Officer to be 'increasingly confident' of meeting the targets. A further reduction of 4.9 million tonnes a year will be required, however, to comply with 2013 maximum allowance set by the European Union.

Much of the progress made since 2003 in reducing biodegradable municipal waste sent to landfill has been from increased recycling, largely due to the enthusiasm and commitment of the public to play their part. The Department's modelling indicates that further increases in recycling may be necessary to meet the European Union Directive. 57% of the public are already committed recyclers, but householders can find it confusing to determine what items should be put in each bin. Manufacturers and retailers continue to use large amounts of packaging and it is not clear whether the public can return items, such as old electrical equipment, to the retailer for disposal.

An emphasis on recycling alone is unlikely to be sufficient to comply with the Landfill Directive and new infrastructure capable of processing up to 15 million tonnes of waste each year is currently the only other major alternative method of disposal. The development of this infrastructure tends to be unpopular, however, and by summer 2006 there was a significant risk that there would not be enough plants operational in time. There has been little collaboration between authorities and only six of the 25 largest waste disposal authorities were confident of meeting the 2010 target.

On the basis of a report by the Comptroller and Auditor General,¹ the Committee took evidence from the Department on the progress made in reducing the tonnage of biodegradable municipal waste sent to landfill sites in England.

¹ C&AG's Report, *The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs: Reducing the reliance on landfill in England*, HC (2005–06) 1177

Conclusions and recommendations

- 1. The amount of biodegradable municipal waste sent to landfill sites in England fell by 2.3 million tonnes between 2003–04 and 2005–06, but will need to fall by nearly another 5 million tonnes by 2013 to comply with the European Union’s Landfill Directive.** Failure to meet the targets could result in a considerable fine from the European Commission, estimated at up to £180 million a year.
- 2. The Department’s four consultation papers and strategies on waste management between 1995 and 2000 lacked sufficiently clear responsibilities or timetables, which led to considerable delays in taking action.** The Department’s revised waste strategy, published in May 2007, sets out the actions required to meet the European Landfill Directive, but several initiatives, such as the proposed removal of the ban on charging households for waste reduction and recycling, depend upon further consultation. The strategy established a Waste Strategy Board with officials from relevant government departments to take responsibility for implementation, but did not determine how it would be resourced. The Department should determine and clarify funding arrangements to enable the Board to progress the initiatives outlined in the strategy.
- 3. The Department had not yet compared the 2005–06 data from local authorities with its projections for the development of infrastructure, to determine the likelihood of meeting the European Union’s targets.** The Department should regularly update its model to reflect progress on the ground, and promptly notify any authorities that appear to be lagging behind.
- 4. Local authorities are moving from weekly to fortnightly collections and there are greater demands on the public to sort their rubbish more effectively, yet householders are facing increased costs of disposal.** 57% of the public state that they are committed to recycling, but the Department needs to promote collection arrangements which incentivise rather than frustrate this commitment.
- 5. Despite public willingness to recycle waste, householders can find it difficult to work out what items go in each bin.** National as well as local initiatives to encourage the public to recycle more, and to explain the action required, should be conducted through local authorities. Public information could then reflect the local recycling arrangements developed by each waste collection authority.
- 6. The introduction of the European Union Packaging Directive and the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Directive has led to some public confusion on how to dispose of such items.** The Department should clarify the public’s rights and responsibilities by providing guidance on the implications of both of these Directives.

7. **Some of the reduction in food waste collected by local authorities may have arisen because local authorities have increased charges for waste collection from small businesses, making it cost effective for restaurants and pubs to rely on private contractors instead.** Any such reduction in food waste collected by local authorities will contribute towards their Landfill Allowance targets, but the waste is still likely to end up in a landfill site. The Department should review the rules of the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme to encourage the diversion of this organic waste to suitable processing plants.
8. **Energy-from-waste plants, which incinerate, anaerobically digest, or compost waste to generate electricity, may be necessary to achieve the reductions in landfill required, but typically take nine years to become operational.** By summer 2006 the Department's modelling of forecast completion dates showed a significant risk that many of these plants would not be operational in time for the United Kingdom to comply with the European Landfill Directive. To help local authorities deliver these projects on time, the Department should:
 - (i) review the effectiveness of the simplified planning process developed in conjunction with the Department for Communities and Local Government and published in July 2005, so that any changes required can be implemented promptly;
 - (ii) develop a standard briefing pack on the health and environmental impacts of the main types of waste plant, so that planning officers and councillors can draw on well evidenced information when considering local proposed schemes;
 - (iii) prioritise support on financing and building new infrastructure for waste disposal authorities most likely to make the biggest impact on whether the United Kingdom will meet the European Union's targets.

1 Progress in reducing the tonnage of biodegradable municipal waste sent to landfill

1. The European Union introduced a Directive in 1999 requiring all Member States to reduce the amount of biodegradable municipal waste, such as food, vegetation and paper disposed by landfill. Such materials do not decompose naturally in landfill because of the lack of oxygen and instead generate methane, a greenhouse gas about 23 times more powerful than carbon dioxide. The methane produced by landfill typically accounts for 3% by potency of the United Kingdom's total production of climate changing gases. The Environment Agency can capture up to three-quarters of methane emissions at some landfill sites, but this is not typical across the whole country. Other environmental hazards from landfill sites can include odour, and the production of leachate, a mixture of different chemicals from the waste which can pollute neighbouring groundwater if it is not adequately collected.²

2. The European Union Directive set maximum allowances for the amount of biodegradable municipal waste that could be sent to landfill by each Member State from 2006 onwards. The United Kingdom government received a four year extension on this timetable as we have traditionally relied much more heavily on landfill than other Member States. **Figure 1** shows the actual tonnage of biodegradable municipal waste sent to landfill in 2003–04 by each home country and the maximum amounts specified by the European Union that can be sent to landfill in the three target years 2010, 2013 and 2020.³

Figure 1: The European Union's Biodegradable Municipal Waste targets for the United Kingdom and how they are apportioned between England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland

Country	Actual Amount in 2003–04 (million tonnes)	Maximum amount to be sent to landfill (million tonnes)		
		By 2010	By 2013	By 2020
England	14.7	11.2	7.5	5.2
Scotland	1.8	1.3	0.9	0.6
Wales	0.9	0.7	0.5	0.3
Northern Ireland	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.2
Total	18.1	13.7	9.2	6.3

Source: National Audit Office

2 C&AG's Report, paras 1.1, 1.4; Qq 32, 36–39, 88–90

3 C&AG's Report, paras 1.2, 1.4–1.5; Figure 2; Qq 7–8, 40–42

3. Despite officials being aware of the proposed European Directive for a long time before 1999, the Department was slow getting off the starting blocks and took little action to address the issue before 2003. Earlier strategies focussed on recycling, but failed to consider the total amount of waste sent to landfill, and the Department only accepted 13 of the 34 recommendations made in a report by the Prime Minister's Strategy Unit in 2002.⁴ At the time of the National Audit Office report in July 2006, therefore, there was a significant risk that local authorities in England would fail to reduce tonnages by enough for the United Kingdom government to meet its targets. Failure to comply with the European Directive could result in substantial fines, which the Prime Minister's Strategy Unit estimated could amount to £180 million a year.⁵

4. By the time of our hearing in January 2007, the Accounting Officer for the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs was 'increasingly confident' that local authorities would meet the targets for England. Local authorities in England had disposed of 12.4 million tonnes of biodegradable municipal waste in landfill sites in 2005–06, which was 2.3 million tonnes less than in 2003–04 and only 1.2 million tonnes above the target for 2010 (see **Figure 2**). Much of the reduction already achieved coincided with the introduction of the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme in April 2005, which encouraged local authorities to take action by setting decreasing levels of biodegradable municipal waste that can be landfilled by each waste disposal authority each year.

5. The progress made in 2005–06 would have to be maintained and improved upon if the Department was to reduce the tonnage of biodegradable municipal waste sent to landfill each year by a further 4.9 million tonnes by 2013. The National Audit Office conducted a follow up survey of Waste Disposal Authorities in May 2007 which indicated that 70% of respondents were confident or very confident of meeting their 2013 targets. Of the 28% of respondents who were not confident of meeting their 2013 targets, the majority cited difficulties or delays in building new waste facilities as the main reason why. The Department has begun to collect better data on the infrastructure plans being developed by local authorities, and possible future trends in the amount of waste arising. The Department had not yet started to use this information, however, to model future trends more accurately and to determine the likelihood of meeting the European Landfill Directive targets.⁶

6. The Department's revised waste strategy, originally planned for December 2006 and published in May 2007, sets out the actions required to meet the European Landfill Directive. These include the establishment of a Waste Strategy Board, responsible for delivering the strategy and developing new policy actions where appropriate. The waste strategy confirmed that the Board would comprise officials from relevant government departments, plus two non-executive posts. The strategy did not clarify, however, what resources would be provided by each department to support the Board and to fund its different initiatives.⁷

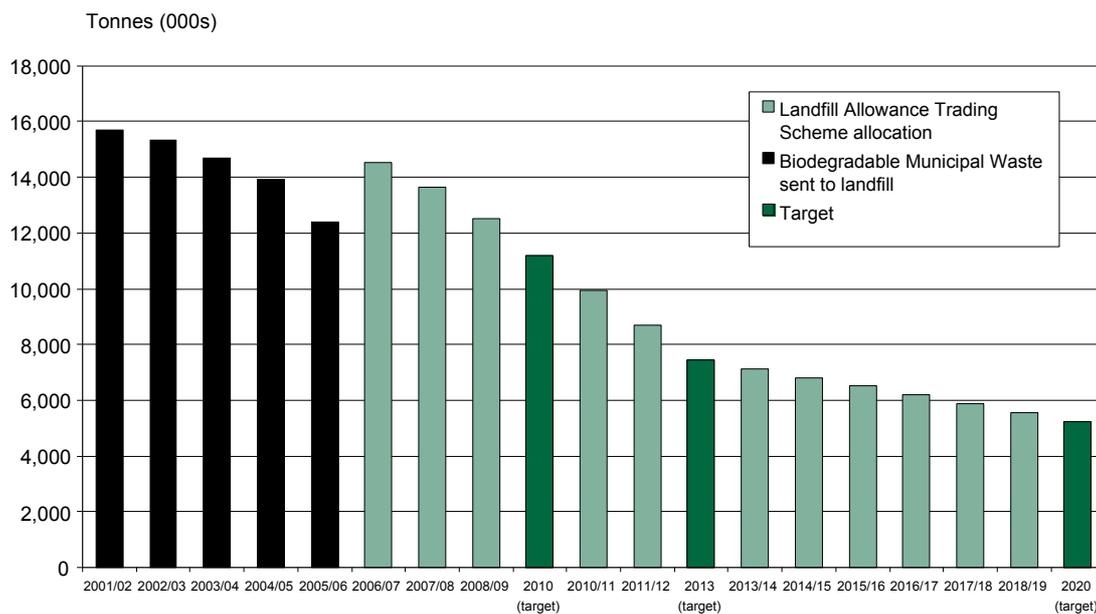
4 *Waste Not, Want Not, A strategy for tackling the waste problem in England*, Prime Minister's Strategy Unit, November 2002

5 C&AG's Report, paras 2.8, 2.9; Qq 6–7, 10, 12, 15–20, 60, 62–65, 76, 98

6 C&AG's Report, Figure 2; Qq 2–4, 9–12, 14, 61; Ev 19; NAO Waste Perception Survey, May 2007

7 *Waste Strategy for England 2007*, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, May 2007, Cm 7086

Figure 2: The amount of biodegradable municipal waste sent to landfill in England between 2001–02 and 2005–06, with the trend required to comply with the Directive



2001/2 is the baseline allocation.

2002/3 to 2004/5 are Defra estimates based on local authority returns to the Municipal Waste Management Survey.

2005/6 is the out-turn figure calculated by the Environment Agency.

Source: Defra statistics on recycling <http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/statistics/waste/kf/wrkf21.htm>

2 Encouraging businesses and householders to reduce the amount of waste generated

7. Reducing the tonnage of biodegradable waste sent to landfill depends in part upon minimising the amount of waste generated and increasing the tonnage that can be recycled or composted. Based on local authority data, the tonnage of municipal waste collected in England increased from around 24.5 million tonnes in 1996–97 to an estimated 29.1 million tonnes in 2003–04. The Department's Waste Strategy for England 2007 aimed to decouple waste growth from economic growth and put more emphasis on waste prevention and re-use. The strategy outlined plans for further consultation on the proposed removal of the ban on household charging by local authorities for waste reduction and recycling.⁸

8. The Department's Waste Implementation Programme and the Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP) provided £131 million of support to local authorities by awarding grants to encourage recycling, providing best practice advice in the introduction of kerbside collections, providing guidance to households, running public awareness campaigns, and encouraging the development of markets for recycled materials. There was no clear link between the amount of money granted to local authorities for these initiatives, however, and any consequent increase in performance. In addition, WRAP provided £2.3 million in funding to the Real Nappies Programme to divert 35,000 tonnes out of the 500,000 tonnes of disposable nappies sent to landfill each year. The initiative achieved a reduction of 23,000 tonnes, and the Department agreed with WRAP to look for another body to take on this work so that the funding could be used elsewhere.⁹

9. The amount of municipal waste recycled in England increased from 3.4 million tonnes in 2000–01 to 7.8 million tonnes in 2005–06. Much of the increase reflected the commitment of the public to play their part by sorting their waste, as well as the introduction of recycling arrangements by waste collection authorities. Around a third of household materials (such as cans, glass and plastic) are not biodegradable, however, so progress in complying with the European Landfill Directive on municipal biodegradable waste depends on finding alternative methods of disposal for more organic materials, such as garden waste. Local authorities have typically introduced kerbside collections for garden waste and some have moved from weekly to fortnightly collections for general waste. The Department acknowledged that the convenience of garden waste collection from the front door may have encouraged the public to dispose of materials that would have otherwise been put on their garden compost heap. Such actions would increase the tonnage of biodegradable waste recycled without any reduction in the amounts diverted from landfill, although the Department considered the impact was only marginal. Much of the increase

8 C&AG's Report, para 2.1; *Waste Strategy for England 2007*, May 2007, Cm 7086

9 C&AG's Report, paras 4.4–4.6, 4.9; Qq 2, 12, 35, 43, 56–59, 79–80, 91–96, 110; Ev 38

in the kerbside collection of garden waste was because people have taken less garden waste to civic community sites.¹⁰

10. The Department's modelling has estimated that, to meet European Union targets, approximately 40% of household waste should be recycled by 2010. Further increases in recycling rates depend upon increasing the number of people who take part, and encouraging those who already recycle some waste to do so even more. 57% of people are already committed recyclers. WRAP Ltd has undertaken television campaigns to raise public awareness, but as recycling arrangements differ between waste collection authorities to reflect local circumstances, the public can find it difficult to determine what can or cannot be recycled. Some packaging states that it can be recycled, for example, but the local authority may not have the facilities to process this type of waste. Shropshire County Council managed to improve its consistency amongst its collection authorities by determining a common set of standards across the county.¹¹

11. Further reductions in biodegradable municipal waste going to landfill depend upon more effective partnership working by the Department with retail and manufacturing businesses. The 1997 European Union Packaging Directive placed an obligation on the producers of goods and services to reduce waste by setting annually increasing targets on the proportion of packaging that must be recycled. Progress depends upon explaining and encouraging retailers to comply with the spirit of the regulations. The introduction of the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Directive during summer 2007 places the financial responsibility for recycling and disposal of electrical items (such as old televisions) on the retail and manufacturing industry, but it is not clear how such arrangements are likely to work in practice and who will ultimately bear the cost.¹²

12. The amount of food waste generated each year in England is growing and represents 17% of all household waste, and a significant proportion of the biodegradable waste sent to landfill. The introduction of the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme, however, appears to have led many waste collection authorities to review their charging scheme for collecting such waste from restaurants, public houses and other food establishments. In those cases where the costs of local authority collection have increased, businesses may have opted to rely on private contractors instead. In these circumstances, the waste would continue to be sent to landfill, but would no longer appear on the local waste collection authority's figures. Any financial incentive to divert food waste from municipal collection to private contractors instead will depend on the scale of the landfill tax escalator, a tax on using landfill. In the meantime, however, this anomaly in the rules of the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme could distort reported figures on the tonnage of municipal biodegradable waste sent to landfill and lead to inconsistencies across the country.¹³

10 C&AG's Report, para 4.3; Qq 33–34, 52, 79–80; Municipal Waste Management Statistics (<http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/statistics/wastats/>)

11 C&AG's Report, para 4.1, 4.7; Qq 12–13, 49–55, 71, 101–102

12 Qq 23–31, 43–48

13 C&AG's Report, para 1, footnote 1; Qq 54, 78–79, 81

3 Facilitating the development of new waste processing infrastructure

13. An emphasis on recycling alone is unlikely to be sufficient to enable the United Kingdom to comply with the European Union's Landfill Directive. The Department's modelling indicated that new infrastructure capable of processing up to 15 million tonnes of waste each year may be necessary and that the cost of waste disposal will consequently have to increase from £2 billion in 2003–04 to £3.4 billion in 2009–10. Such infrastructure could include burning, anaerobic digestion, or composting waste to generate electricity, or using mechanical and biological treatment plants to recycle some materials and to compost organic materials. The Department's evidence from Europe suggests that the development of such infrastructure does not discourage household recycling.¹⁴

14. A significant minority of people (43%) recognised the need to build more facilities in their local area to provide an alternative to landfill. The development of waste infrastructure has tended to be unpopular with the public, however, and the United Kingdom, Italy and Spain are characterised by large scale protests and mobilisation of public opinion against new facilities. In 2004, the Department commissioned research to bring together the literature and evidence on the relative health and environmental effects of all the different waste management options. The Department found no evidence to suggest that properly managed and regulated energy-from-waste plants were likely to have an effect on human health. The Department's evidence suggested that the issues of public concern centred on the smell and appearance of the facility, and the volume of traffic to and from the site.¹⁵

15. The Department estimates that it takes around nine years for an energy-from-waste plant to progress from an identified need to becoming operational. By summer 2006 there was a significant risk that many of the waste treatment plants being proposed by waste disposal authorities would not be operational in time to comply with the European Union's Landfill Directive. The best performing local authorities have tended to work effectively with their local communities to respond to such concerns and the Department anticipates that the revision of the planning guidance in recent years (in conjunction with the Department for Communities and Local Government) will set out a much better framework for public consultation.¹⁶

16. Local authorities have stated that they would welcome more specific detailed advice on their approach to waste management. Encouraging and supporting waste disposal authorities to develop and introduce appropriate waste infrastructure necessitates the Department working closely with them to determine local circumstances and requirements. The anaerobic digestion plant in Shropshire, for example, is effective in processing biodegradable municipal waste into compost and generating electricity, but depends upon the adequate separation of biodegradable waste beforehand. The National

14 C&AG's Report, para 3.1–3.3; Qq 21, 75–76

15 C&AG's Report, paras 3.6–3.9; Qq 97–98

16 C&AG's Report, paras 3.3–3.5; Qq 21–22, 74, 97–98

Audit Office established that the Department has few staff available for liaising with local authorities, so more specific and tailored advice from the Department would require some prioritisation. Only six out of the 25 largest waste disposal authorities confirmed in 2006 that they expected to achieve their 2010 targets. The Department has encouraged local authorities to collaborate, although an Office of Government Commerce survey in 2005 found that local authorities had done so for only 15% of waste contracts.¹⁷

17 C&AG's Report, paras 3.13–3.14; Qq 54–57, 66, 76–77

Formal minutes

Wednesday 18 July 2007

Members present:

Mr Edward Leigh, in the Chair

Mr Richard Bacon

Mr David Curry

Mr Ian Davidson

Mr Philip Dunne

Dr John Pugh

Draft Report

Draft Report (Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs: Reducing the reliance on Landfill in England), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

Ordered, That the draft Report be read a second time, paragraph by paragraph.

Paragraphs 1 to 16 read and agreed to.

Conclusions and recommendations read and agreed to.

Summary read and agreed to.

Resolved, That the Report be the Fifty-seventh Report of the Committee to the House.

Ordered, That the Chairman make the Report to the House.

Ordered, That embargoed copies of the Report be made available, in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order No. 134.

[Adjourned until Wednesday 10 October at 3.30 pm.]

Witnesses

Wednesday 10 January 2007

Mrs Helen Ghosh, Permanent Secretary and **Mr Neil Thornton**, Director,
Environment Quality and Waste, Department for Environment, Food and
Rural Affairs

Ev 1

List of written evidence

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
The Nappy Alliance

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Third Report	Collections Management in the National Museums and Galleries of Northern Ireland	HC 109 (Cm 7035)
Fourth Report	Gas distribution networks: Ofgem's role in their sale, restructuring and future regulation	HC 110 (Cm 7019)
Fifth Report	Postcomm and the quality of mail services	HC 111 (Cm 7018)
Sixth Report	Gaining and retaining a job: the Department for Work and Pensions support for disabled people	HC 112 (Cm 7019)
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Ninth Report	The Paddington Health Campus Scheme	HC 244 (Cm 7076)
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Fifteenth Report	The termination of the PFI contract for the National Physical Laboratory	HC 359 (Cm 7077)
Sixteenth Report	The Provision of Out-of-Hours Care in England	HC 360 (Cm 7077)
Seventeenth Report	Financial Management of the NHS	HC 361 (Cm 7077)
Eighteenth Report	DFID: Working with Non-Governmental and other Civil Society Organisations to promote development	HC 64 (Cm 7077)
Nineteenth Report	A Foot on the Ladder: Low Cost Home Ownership Assistance	HC 134 (Cm 7077)
Twentieth Report	Department of Health: The National Programme for IT in the NHS	HC 390 (Cm 7152)
Twenty-first Report	Progress in Combat Identification	HC 486 (Cm 7151)
Twenty-second Report	Tax credits	HC 487 (Cm 7151)
Twenty-third Report	The office accommodation of the Department for Culture, Media and Sport and its sponsored bodies	HC 488 (Cm 7152)
Twenty-fourth Report	Ofwat: Meeting the demand for water	HC 286 (Cm 7151)
Twenty-fifth Report	Update on PFI debt refinancing and the PFI equity market	HC 158 (Cm 7152)
Twenty-sixth Report	Department for Work and Pensions: Progress in tackling pensioner poverty—encouraging take-up of entitlements	HC 169 (Cm 7152)
Twenty-seventh Report	Delivering successful IT-enabled business change	HC 113 (Cm 7216)
Twenty-eighth Report	ASPIRE—the re-competition of outsourced IT services	HC 179 (Cm 7216)
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Thirty-first Report	Central government's use of consultants	HC 309 (Cm 7216)
Thirty-second Report	The right of access to open countryside	HC 91 (Cm 7216)
Thirty-third Report	Assessing the value for money of OGCbuying.solutions	HC 275 (Cm 7216)
Thirty-fourth Report	Recruitment and Retention in the Armed Forces	HC 43 (Cm 7216)
Thirty-fifth Report	BBC outsourcing: the contract between the BBC and Siemens Business Service	HC 118 (HC 1067)
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Thirty-eighth Report	Sure Start Children's Centres	HC 261 (Cm 7216)
Thirty-ninth Report	Preparations for the London Olympic and Paralympic Games—risk assessment and management	HC 377 (Cm 7216)

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Fifty-second Report	The Academies Programme	HC 402
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Fifty-fourth Report	Heritage Lottery Fund	HC 502
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Fifty-sixth Report	Jobcentre Plus: Delivering effective services through Personal Advisers	HC 312
Fifty-seventh Report	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs: Reducing the reliance on Landfill in England	HC 212

The reference number of the Treasury Minute to each Report is printed in brackets after the HC printing number

Oral evidence

Taken before the Committee of Public Accounts

on Wednesday 10 January 2007

Members present:

Mr Edward Leigh, in the Chair

Mr Richard Bacon
Annette Brooke
Mr Ian Davidson
Mr Philip Dunne
Helen Goodman

Mr Sadiq Khan
Mr Austin Mitchell
Dr John Pugh
Mr Alan Williams

Sir John Bourn KCB, Comptroller and Auditor General, National Audit Office, was in attendance.

Ms Paula Diggle, Treasury Officer of Accounts, HM Treasury, was in attendance.

REPORT BY THE COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR GENERAL DEPARTMENT FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOOD AND RURAL AFFAIRS REDUCING THE RELIANCE ON LANDFILL IN ENGLAND (HC 1177)

Witnesses: **Mrs Helen Ghosh**, Permanent Secretary and **Mr Neil Thornton**, Director, Environment Quality and Waste, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, gave evidence.

Q1 Chairman: Good afternoon, welcome to the Committee of Public Accounts where today we are considering the Comptroller and Auditor General's Report, *Reducing the reliance on landfill in England*. We welcome back to our Committee Mrs Helen Ghosh, who is the Permanent Secretary at the Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs. Welcome. Would you like to introduce your colleague?

Mrs Ghosh: This is Neil Thornton who is one of my directors; he is the Director, Environment Quality and Waste.

Q2 Chairman: Mrs Ghosh, are you confident you are going to meet the targets set by the European Commission's Directive?

Mrs Ghosh: In the light of the statistical material for the year 2005-06 which we let the Committee have in a note just before Christmas¹, I would say we were increasingly confident that we would do so. We are encouraged by the fact that there was the significant decrease in the amount of biodegradable municipal waste going to landfill, down to 12.4 million tonnes, against our 2010 target of 11.2 million and we are also encouraged, although we are looking into the extent to which this is part of a long-term trend, by the reduction in the amount of relevant arisings. So both of those statistical bits of evidence give us some encouragement, but we are not complacent and the work that we have done, in particular through the WRAP programmes and currently through the waste implementation delivery programme, is something we need to maintain our focus on. There will also inevitably be significant issues for us to consider and discuss with Treasury colleagues when it comes to funding for the CSR 2007 period.

Q3 Chairman: This Report was published on 26 July 2006 and in paragraph eight on page three, it says, contrary to what you just told us Mrs Ghosh, "There is a significant risk that local authorities in England will fail to reduce tonnages . . . by enough for the United Kingdom government to meet the . . . targets". Your Department also said in July 2006 at around the time this Report was published that you would miss the target by 1.4 million tonnes. What has changed between July 2006 and January 2007 which makes you so confident now?

Mrs Ghosh: The first thing that has changed is that we have the later year's statistics and, again as we said in our note to you, we would argue that the 2005-06 figures demonstrate that the LATS (Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme), the trading scheme, seems to be producing a positive effect on results. We also have some good infrastructure schemes coming on stream.

Q4 Chairman: So you are now giving a commitment to this Committee that you are confident that you will meet these targets.

Mrs Ghosh: I am saying that we are more confident that we will reach the targets, but we are not complacent.

Q5 Chairman: That is probably the best we can hope for then. This Directive was agreed in 1999, was it not?

Mrs Ghosh: Yes.

Q6 Chairman: It took you until 2003 before you really got a move on pressing ahead with some sort of serious action plan. Why so long?

Mrs Ghosh: I should say first of all that we would accept the charge which is quite rightly made in the Report that the UK was slow getting off the starting

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blocks. That was for a variety of reasons but something to do with the fact that in those early days landfill remained the easy and cheap way of disposing of waste and local authorities had to get their heads around a new world into which we were moving; also the increasing consciousness of the threats of climate change concentrated minds. We strongly support the point made in the Report that by 2003 we really did start getting our act together. Some of the programmes I mentioned which have enabled us to get into this much better place were impelled by the Strategy Unit Report around the work of the implementation programme. WRAP, the work we are doing now on infrastructure and the trading scheme are all things that get us into a much better position. However, I do not deny the initial charge that we were slow off the blocks.

Q7 Chairman: Because the Commission always moves very slowly presumably they had been talking about this for years before 1999. You must have known this was coming. It is only Spain that has a derogation similar to ours, is it not, so virtually every other country in Europe is performing better than we are. That is an historic position; I am not necessarily blaming you; it is an historic position but you must have known long before 1999 that this was coming and yet here you are waiting until 2003 before you get your act together.

Mrs Ghosh: The comparisons, and we may want to explore this again, with the situation in other European countries are very interesting ones and to a large extent come back to some of the points I made about the fact that in the UK landfill remained an easy and, as it was, cheap and relatively risk-free method of disposal, which simply was not the case in a lot of our EU comparator countries for a number of reasons, historic or cultural, but also geological. For example, the fact that the Netherlands is so far ahead of us is something to do with the fact that they simply could not go for landfill given the nature of their water table and so on. It was almost too easy for the UK to focus on landfill for too long.

Q8 Chairman: You mentioned the UK. We found in relation to another aspect of your Department's work with the Rural Payments Agency that you were performing far less well in England than in Scotland and Northern Ireland and Wales. There does appear to be a worrying pattern of English incompetence emerging in these matters. How are we performing in relation to this compared with Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales as a matter of interest?

Mrs Ghosh: I shall ask Neil to comment on the more detailed aspects of this. Clearly the position in England is altogether more complicated. There is not a parallel with some of the other issues I have been in front of you discussing. Clearly in terms of the scale, the population, the local authority structure, the English position is simply different from Wales and Scotland.

Q9 Chairman: Anyway, let us have an answer as to how they do it?

Mr Thornton: I do not have detailed figures with me, but broadly speaking they are not doing significantly better than we are doing but they are doing differently because, particularly in relation to Wales, the National Assembly has taken the view that they can work with their much smaller number of local authorities to hand manage the landfill allowance profile for each of their authorities. In England, with 120-odd disposal authorities, it was not judged practical for us to hand tailor individual plans with individual local authorities, hence our view that we should have not only landfill allowances, but a trading scheme to get a least-cost solution.

Q10 Chairman: Let us look at figure seven which you will find on page 23 "Prospects for 25 key waste disposal authorities". What progress has been made with these 25 largest local authorities to tackle the problem? This is obviously key, is it not? Is it fair to say that the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme is simply a way of transferring any fine from the European Commission onto local authorities? As a general point, I get councillors complaining to me, and I have a lot of sympathy with them, that again and again you agree to directives which you have not properly thought through, you do not carry them out in time and you then put more and more burdens on local authorities and try to transfer your obligations onto them. Is that a fair criticism?

Mrs Ghosh: If I turn the point round, there is no way we could deliver this apart from in partnership with local authorities and that is very much reflected in the style of work the Department is doing to facilitate—

Q11 Chairman: But is the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme just a method of transferring any fine from the European Commission to local authorities bypassing your responsibilities?

Mrs Ghosh: Absolutely not. It is a way of incentivising and giving flexibility to local authorities in the way that they collectively meet their obligations. Our economists, for example, have done some work on whether or not a straightforward regulatory cap system would have been preferable. We reckon that there is something like a £200 million-a-year total savings in the way we have approached it, so that they can trade under the scheme, they can trade allowances between themselves, although there has been little of this because they have responded so positively. We have also been able to set a trajectory of allowances in such a way that we do not heap costs on them at the start of the process; we reflect the way infrastructure and contracts need to be developed over time. Our trajectory, reflected through the way we are going to allot allowances, responds to that. We think it is a very flexible and responsive and indeed economically effective way to respond. I should also say of course that we have always said that were there to be fines—and we very much hope on present trends there will not be—they would go back into the local authority finance system in a way that we will obviously make clear nearer the time.

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Q12 Chairman: I have a number of other questions but other Members want to come in now, so I shall just put one more and that is to do with the public. I could ask you how you are going to incentivise people like me to recycle and compost more. That is a sort of question which I could ask, but what I should really like to ask you is why I should do work for you which you and local authorities have always done for me in the past. Why should I sort through my rubbish, put it in different coloured wheelie bins and all the rest of it? It is not something I have done in the past, why should I start doing it now?

Mrs Ghosh: What is very interesting is the extent to which people are increasingly willing and enthusiastic about doing it. I should say of course that I am a householder too and find myself doing the same thing on a Thursday night. There is increasing evidence, supported by some of the campaigns which we and local authorities have financed, that in fact citizens want to be engaged and one of the reasons for increasing confidence is, another thing that has changed since 2003 even, the public consciousness of the impact of climate change and therefore, by analogy, greenhouse gases in landfill. We are impressed by the extent to which citizens are looking for something to do that will help. At a previous hearing we talked a bit about the idea of entry level activity. For many citizens this is an entry level activity. It is the way they feel they can play their part. We would see citizen engagement as a positive even though, I quite agree—

Q13 Chairman: That is very inspiring.

Mr Thornton: It is not that we are asking citizens to do something that local government or we could do. If the rubbish from the household is not already separated by the time it reaches the local authority, it is not possible to turn it back into those nice clean separated streams, which is what the market needs. We are not, as public authorities, being lazy: we are actually trying to get the right environmental outcome.

Q14 Mr Williams: I see from the memorandum² you put in that you hope to meet your targets by 2010, which is good news and it is better than we expected and it shows a 270,000-tonne improvement on what was anticipated. That still suggests that for your next targets in 2013, you could be over one million tonnes below target and that would attract penalties for local authorities of about £150 million. What do you have to say about that? Is that still likely to happen? Is there much hope of making up lost ground?

Mrs Ghosh: We need to start looking very hard now, particularly in the light of the 2005–06 figures and, picking up a recommendation in the Report, the much better data we have now managed to get from both collection and disposal authorities, at what appears to be the trend. So, for example, there appears to be, from the better data we now have and the good evidence we have for 2005–06, a slowing down in the five-year rolling average in terms of the growth of arisings and the amount that will need to

go to landfill. Subject to any points Neil may want to make, what we need to do is to sort out what our projections of arisings and our modelling for what is likely to happen in 2013 are on the basis of the data we have now and we also need to do a projection of the capacity gap in terms of local authority infrastructure to respond, which is something that the infrastructure delivery programme is doing. I would not like to say now where we think we will be, but we are in a better place than otherwise.

Mr Thornton: Just to explain the 1.4 million tonnes which the Chairman referred to, that was the gap between what the Office of Government Commerce found that local authorities had already got in the pipeline, they had already planned infrastructure to produce, and what the target required on some assumption about recycling. It did not take account of—and the OGC and the National Audit Office both recognised this—what people would be doing in the meantime. So part of the difference is actually that people would be increasing their infrastructure in order to increase recycling rates and so on. It is not that we were forecasting a 1.4 million tonne gap; we are forecasting with a degree of confidence that we will get there.

Q15 Mr Williams: In 2001, the Strategy Unit produced a report with 34 recommendations and you accepted 13 of them. Does that mean the Strategy Unit was incompetent or you were arrogant?

Mrs Ghosh: In my experience the purpose of the Strategy Unit, quite rightly, and one can trace this across a number of their reports, is to stimulate debate in Government. Deliberately, they are not there to produce reports that, at the end of the day, have been so ground through the Whitehall machine that we all agree to them: they are there to challenge us. Neil will know more about the precise circumstances of that, but that was a perfect example, rather in the way that, say, social exclusion was.

Q16 Mr Williams: So they have made 34 challenges and you rejected 21 of them? That fits in with my suspicions that the department was arrogant.

Mrs Ghosh: They proposed and ministers disposed I would say.

Q17 Mr Williams: That is a nice phrase, but it means there is an awful lot of litter lying around that need not have been lying around if you had accepted the rest of the recommendations or others. Have you had to revisit any of the other recommendations and rediscover virtue in them?

Mr Thornton: At the time of the Strategy Unit report, first of all it was a very significant impetus to the Government and the Department, it was a highly professional report and nobody in the department has ever suggested anything otherwise. It was extremely valuable to us, the Treasury and the rest of Whitehall in trying to work out how best to take the challenge forward.

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Q18 Mr Williams: But are you actually saying all the other 21 recommendations were worthless?

Mr Thornton: No, absolutely not and we did not say that at the time.

Q19 Mr Williams: If they were not worthless, why were they not worth implementing?

Mr Thornton: They were recommendations and what the Government said at the time in their response was that they welcomed the report; they accepted the majority of the recommendations and supported the direction or intent of many of the others. What we have sought to do is learn from what the Strategy Unit analysis gave us and try to invent ways of taking the work forward that might either be identical to what they suggested or were in the same direction.

Q20 Mr Williams: In other words you rejected 21, as the Report says. Why is it that local authorities in this country are investing so heavily in mechanical and biological treatment plants when it is not happening in other countries which actually have a better record than we have?

Mrs Ghosh: One key message that I take out of the work that we have done with local authorities on waste is that there is not necessarily a standard solution for any one place and geography, as well as the cultural point I raised earlier which is very significant in that. For example, I was in Hampshire last Friday talking to the county council and they are in many ways a very good authority and they said they had never done landfill. I asked why they had never done landfill and it was because they are on chalk and you cannot do landfill in chalk. So they have moved rapidly to high levels of recycling and to energy from waste plants because they had to. The choices any one local authority or any EU Member State would make are governed to a large extent by a set of circumstances. What we are doing through our programmes is making sure that we are helping local authorities identify the best practicable options and, for example, through demonstration programmes, helping them develop it. We are not here to say "The mix in the end shall be . . ." when it comes to the recovery element.

Q21 Mr Williams: But the end product of these two processes is to produce something that then has to be burned and the public has shown an active dislike to having stuff burned in its vicinity. Do you think it is realistic to have invested so heavily in something the public is going to object to, is going to try to oppose on planning applications and which is going to take much longer to implement?

Mr Thornton: May I explain? As you will know, the principle is so far as possible to do recovery and recycling, to do recycling and re-use first, and then you have to deal with the residual waste. The choices for residual waste, assuming that it is not suitable for composting, tend to be some form of energy recovery, either directly by what you might refer to as incineration, a black bag incinerator, which the public are well known to have some hesitations about—

Q22 Mr Williams: It takes on average nine years to go all through the planning process and construction process for one incineration plant and yet you are encouraging the local authorities, or not discouraging them from investing in plant that can only lead in the direction of incineration.

Mrs Ghosh: In fact what we are doing, and again this is a very important point about our relationship with local government, what our role as a department and government is, is to facilitate the right decisions and the availability of the right technology for the particular local circumstances of the authority. In some cases energy from waste will be appropriate for the residual waste when you have gone through all the rest of the waste hierarchy to get to that point. There we are keen to make sure we maximise again; combined heat and power is probably the best use to make of energy from waste, then electricity generation. The point that the Report makes about public resistance to energy from waste plants is a very good one, but what we need to work on with local government is open discussions about health impacts, open discussions about what really concerns people. The evidence we have is that what, for example, profoundly concerns people is in many cases not potential health impacts where the evidence is very positive, but things like amenity, smell, the appearance of the thing and transport. The best local authorities work effectively with the local communities, and we have good examples of that, to respond to concerns and build plants that are acceptable.

Q23 Dr Pugh: May I look at the issue of electronic waste which, with analogue TV being phased out and computer monitors with cathode ray tubes being phased out and so on, is going to increase and increase and increase. Now the new Directive comes into force this year in the summer and for it to work there have to be dedicated collection facilities throughout the country, so that people can get this enormous quantity of equipment, which is piling up even now at waste disposal authorities, recycled in some way. How is that network getting along?

Mrs Ghosh: The first thing I should say obviously is that it is a DTI lead on this Directive, although we play a strong facilitative role. We have now made from the Defra point of view the necessary regulations. Neil might like to tell us a about the effect on the ground with our local authorities.

Mr Thornton: The division of labour is that we are responsible for the environmental regulatory process; so we have put in place the licensing system and regime for example and we have that well in hand. DTI have been working with us and with the industry to try to find the best way in British circumstances to implement the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Directive (WEEE). It has been difficult.

Q24 Dr Pugh: I was not worried about that. My anxiety is that the regulations are all there but there are no networks or facilities to enforce the regulations through. I am just asking what your assessment is of the network currently as it exists, six

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months away from this all going live. What is your assessment of this network of dedicated collection facilities which is supposed to exist right across the country? In part it does, but I would suspect that in a large part, it does not.

Mr Thornton: In a large part it does not, but it is being put in place by the DTI. If the Committee wanted to have more information, we would probably have to put in a note because it is not our lead on the detail, but we are working very closely to try to make it work for the environment and in a way that works for the industry.³

Q25 Dr Pugh: As I understand the way this scheme has to operate though, the local authorities have no specific responsibility for providing facilities for collection of electronic waste; that lies with the industry itself.

Mr Thornton: That is correct, though it is likely that in many cases the industry will agree with local authorities that the most convenient way of doing this would be to use some part of civic community sites. However, the responsibility will rest with the industry.

Q26 Dr Pugh: What worries me is that a lot of the old TVs being thrown out will say things like Ferguson and so on, I have one in my garage that says Luxo; firms do not exist any more. Taking it back to the firm or getting any firm to take it back is probably going to be very hard, it is going to be orphan equipment and it is going to end up at the local waste disposal centre. How then, at that point, does it get anybody to take responsibility for it?

Mr Thornton: If it finds its way, and, as you rightly say, that is a perfectly sensible approach by the householder, to a local civic community site, the local authority is then responsible for it and it would have to dispose of it in line with the WEEE Directive. The responsibility for proper environmental disposal would—

Q27 Dr Pugh: I thought all such equipment was an industry responsibility.

Mr Thornton: If it is in the hands of the local authority, they would have to take responsibility for actually getting rid of it: the industry has a responsibility for finding cost-free ways that these products can be dealt with.

Q28 Dr Pugh: Suppose we get a huge amount of these electronic devices produced by companies who have long since bit the dust, they are most likely to go to the local authority facility of one kind or another. The local authority then accumulates this

sort of stuff, it has a cost of disposal, it has this waste now, it cannot simply throw it into landfill, there is probably a limited amount of recycling facility for it at the moment in their area. Do they simply then bear the cost?

Mr Thornton: I do not wish to pretend authority that I do not have on this, Chairman. The local authorities are to some extent being funded by DTI for the additional work they are currently taking on because we have this gap between the industry scheme and current disposal. We will cover these points in a note to you.⁴

Q29 Dr Pugh: If there is a vast mountain of orphan equipment, the cheque will be in the post from the DTI.

Mr Thornton: We are not anticipating a vast amount that is not going to be dealt with and nor are DTI.

Q30 Dr Pugh: You are not anticipating a large amount?

Mr Thornton: We are not anticipating a large amount that is not going to be dealt with. We trust, with DTI, that there will not be a major crisis, but there will clearly be a system that has to deal with disposed-of televisions in particular.

Q31 Dr Pugh: So you think the bulk of this mountain that I am anticipating is going to be rehoused with producer companies who are still around or the retailers or Curry's or whoever?

Mr Thornton: I had better revert to the note.⁵

Mrs Ghosh: Yes.

Q32 Dr Pugh: With regard to landfill regulations, and obviously you have to implement the European regulations as they stand, it struck me while thinking about this that we differentiate waste stream into biodegradable and non-biodegradable and there is good biodegradable stuff you can put in the ground like compost, which always used to go in the ground and I cannot think of any objection to it going into landfill, and there is bad biodegradable stuff which, when it biodegrades, creates noxious gases that threaten the environment and so on. What I really wanted to ask was whether the regulations as they stand make sense in terms of the environmental effects and the behavioural effects they actually have?

Mr Thornton: There is not good and bad biodegradable waste in landfill. Once in landfill, biodegradable wastes biodegrade technically without oxygen anaerobically and they therefore generate methane which, as you know, is a very noxious greenhouse gas, only a proportion of which, on a modern landfill site maybe 75%, will be captured and used and hence the environmental problem. We do not want biodegradable materials

³ *Note by witness:* Around 99% of local authorities across the UK have registered their civic amenity sites as Designated Collection Facilities (DCFs) representing a total of 1082 Civic Amenity Sites. The DTI are currently working with the remaining local authorities to ensure they register their sites. 425 privately run sites have also been registered as DCFs. In addition, the largest electrical retailer, Dixons Stores Group is providing in store take back for consumers to deposit an item of WEEE when purchasing a replacement electrical item. We consider therefore, that the collection network for WEEE is sufficient to meet the requirements of the Directive.

⁴ *Note by witness:* The WEEE Regulations require all obligated producers to register through a compliance scheme when placing electrical and electronic equipment on the market. Producers can register directly with the Environment Agency, but to do this they will need to fulfill the same requirements as a compliance scheme.

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going into landfill. You are right to say some biodegradable materials coming out of the household can readily be turned into composts and so on. Some biodegradable materials, let us say kitchen waste mixed up in the black bag, cannot be recovered separately and have to be dealt with by some kind of residual treatment process. It is the biodegradable ingredient in the household waste, whether it is coming through in a green waste bin or whether it is in the black bag, which is of concern to us in terms of methane generation.

Q33 Dr Pugh: What I have observed locally in my neck of the woods is that the local authority has been pretty keen on collecting green waste because the more tonnage it puts in, the worse it does; it is a financial incentive. However, it is fairly slow to do something about plastic which, although it is inert chemically in many respects, is a horrible thing to be left lying around. Do you regard that as a perverse incentive in some way, the levy on landfill tax based purely on tonnage in so far as it gets people to collect things that might very well biodegrade quite happily of themselves in the back garden?

Mrs Ghosh: We were talking about this very issue this morning actually. The position we are in is that, as indeed you say, there may be cases where the fact that your local authority is collecting it from your front gate, which indeed Oxford City Council is just doing in our case though I do not have a front gate because I do not have a front garden, will encourage people to put green waste in a bag and let it go into the waste disposal system rather than leave it in a heap in the back garden. So there may be a marginal impact of that kind. The difference that we suspect is that, and again it would be true in Oxfordshire, what is probably happening in most cases is that the people who were previously taking their green waste to the civic community site are probably now, on the whole, putting it in the bag for their local authority collection. So it is not a perverse incentive to the extent that there are vast amounts of green waste going into the system that were not going somewhere into the system before: it is just that there is now more going from the kerbside collection and less from civic community sites.

Q34 Dr Pugh: But the way in which the landfill tax falls encourages people to concentrate on bulky weighty stuff, not necessarily the most environmentally dangerous stuff, the troublesome stuff.

Mrs Ghosh: And indeed the landfill tax of course has most impact on the non-biodegradable landfill kind of waste arising from building and commerce and industry and not biodegradable.

Mr Thornton: You are absolutely right when you say that our incentives in relation to the Landfill Directive do not cover plastics because we are after, for Landfill Directive purposes, only biodegradable waste. We are very keen to capture all the valuable resources that are in the household chain, for example aluminium cans and plastic, and the

Government's promised waste strategy will certainly be addressing the totality of the picture, not just the biodegradable.

Q35 Dr Pugh: I am going to try to roll two questions into one and essentially it is about incentives again, but this time incentives to the business world and incentives to the waste disposal authority. Anecdotally, as I go through a waste disposal centre, I can often see people tip stuff into landfill, where it is going to be processed and churned and everything else, even though alongside that is a facility which says "Put your timber here". I wonder why the operatives in the disposal site are so slack about it and do not coerce them into better behaviour. I have come to the conclusion, erroneously or not, that they are quite relaxed about it because most of the costs of what is basically not encouraging the right behavioural changes can be passed on to the local authority via the council tax. I am wondering whether there are sufficient incentives for waste disposal authorities directly, in other words it will hurt them rather than be a cost they pass on to the council. That is my first question. My second question is: given that I would say to every householder in my neck of the woods, the more you recycle, the more your council tax is likely to go up less sharply, what can I say to the local businesses where currently it may be just as financially worthwhile putting stuff into the ordinary waste disposal stream and making no effort whatsoever to recycle?

Mrs Ghosh: I shall just comment on the first question as much less of an expert than Neil. It sounds as though it is a pretty badly run contract if there are not the incentives in the contract to ensure that the operatives produce the right behaviour.

Mr Thornton: I think what you are asking about is how the waste disposal authority which has the landfill allowances and obligations encourages the collection authorities to make sure their people separate various materials. Typically a civic amenity site will actually be run by the disposal authority and they will certainly be incentivised to get the materials separated because it will help them with their targets. For them obviously in terms of their own operatives, that is an internal task. I realise that.

The Committee suspended from 4.00pm to 4.07pm for a division in the House.

Q36 Helen Goodman: Mrs Ghosh, it is clear that one problem with landfill is the large amount of methane which is emitted from it. If we were doing as well as the Dutch, what would be the impact on our greenhouse gas emissions?

Mrs Ghosh: The figure I have in my head is that 37% of the methane produced in the UK is produced from our biodegradable landfill, some of which of course is municipal, half of which is also industrial and commercial. So if we were to reduce our landfill proportionately to Dutch figures, then that 37% figure would come down.

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Q37 Helen Goodman: To 1.5% or something.

Mr Thornton: I think I am right in saying that represents about 3% of greenhouse gases, so the carbon dioxide equivalent in our total picture is about 3% but it is a very high proportion of the methane.

Mrs Ghosh: Which of course is extremely damaging, which of course is why the Committee are concerned about it.

Q38 Helen Goodman: Furthermore, if we were using this for energy generation in one form or another, we would avoid whatever emissions come from the systems for generating mass electricity at the moment.

Mr Thornton: Yes, that is true. Great efforts are made to capture landfill gas wherever possible because as well as being very noxious from a greenhouse gas point of view, it is an extremely good fuel. So landfill gas engines are a standard part of a modern landfill site and I think the Environment Agency's view would be that you can capture up to three quarters, though that would not be a typical average figure across landfill.

Q39 Helen Goodman: Have you put any value therefore on reducing this greenhouse gas as opposed to other greenhouse gases in terms of hitting our Kyoto targets or our CO₂ equivalent targets?

Mr Thornton: I could offer a corrective note, but it is broadly in the middle in terms of value for money in terms of carbon dioxide gains. It has to be done anyway because of the Landfill Directive; it is the right thing to do.⁶

Mrs Ghosh: In that sense, back to a comment that a member made earlier, the Landfill Directive is obviously pushing us in a direction that we would want to be going simply because of the damaging nature of methane.

Mr Thornton: You are absolutely right that deriving energy from the waste that we cannot do something else with is benefiting our energy targets and reducing emissions from elsewhere in the electricity generation system.

Q40 Helen Goodman: If we look at paragraph 2.7, it looks at features in the European countries which did better than we did: greater acceptance of energy from waste, timely and clear promotion of preferred alternatives and so on. Looking at those six bullet

points, would you not say that these are pretty much under the control of Defra and the local authorities working in partnership?

Mrs Ghosh: Yes and I would say that, and this is back to my opening remarks and the very positive response we have made to your recommendations, these are things which are either under active consideration or things that we are doing. So we need to work with the communities and with local authorities on the question of energy from waste, they are all things where we are learning lessons from Europe and which we are engaging with here to various degrees.

Q41 Helen Goodman: That being the case do you not think that the rather posh phrase "historical and cultural factors" is just a way of saying you have not done it properly before and people cannot be bothered?

Mrs Ghosh: No, what I am saying is—

Q42 Helen Goodman: How can not dealing with waste properly be a cultural factor?

Mrs Ghosh: Perhaps it was a posh word to use. Historically the population and indeed various levels of government have approached the idea of waste disposal as something that is easy and should be cheap and the cultural change or the economic change is that we have now moved into a world, post the directive, post the action that we are taking in this country, where waste disposal is complex if you want to do it with the right environmental impact and more expensive. In that sense we need a cultural shift. The fact that other European countries were in a different place, for example because of the availability of landfill, meant that they perhaps reached that realisation sooner. That is what I meant by a cultural shift.

Mr Thornton: It is fair to say that at the time that we were using a lot of landfill, the sense of the greenhouse gas and the climate change crisis was not at all recognised to the same extent. It is as we have all recognised that and the Landfill Directive has come in that we have recognised the need to change.

Q43 Helen Goodman: And part four on recycling and minimisation suggests that at the moment we are behind on the basic underlying problem and that comes out also of figure three at the front which shows that the rate of growth in municipal waste per person in the UK way exceeds some of the very good performers. I had a look on your website before we began. It says that consumer action can help bring about progressive change, regulations tackling this are only one part of the problem, consumers may like to take this up with retailers. Last week I went to a shop called Footlocker with my daughter to buy a pair of trainers and having bought the trainers, they put the trainers in a box and then they put the box into a plastic bag. I said that was over-packaged and I did not want the box. I took the box out of the bag and I took the shoes and just put the shoes in the bag. First of all they said to me that I was legally obliged to take the box. I contested this and asked whether they had not heard what the Defra Minister

⁶ *Note by witness:* The landfill diversion carbon benefit calculation is very complicated since it includes a number of variables such as technology choice and waste composition, and the additional benefits of fossil fuel offsetting for some technologies. However, although we have not set out a calculation in the format Helen Goodman describes the recently published *Waste Strategy 2007* (available at: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/waste/strategy/strategy07/index.htm>) does provide an assessment on the impacts of greenhouse gas diversion.

In particular Chart 4.1 (page 54) and the matrix shown in Table E.1 (in Annex E) show the estimated carbon benefit of diverting individual material streams from landfill, and the CO₂ impact of using different EfW technologies.

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had said about packaging. They clearly had not heard this and their parting shot was: “Well sod off then”. Of course I am not laying at the feet of Defra the rudeness and bad behaviour of retailers, but I would like to know what you are doing and what serious programme you have with retailers. If there is not a serious programme with retailers and we start taxing consumers and consumers no longer want to put it in their dustbin, those kind of interactions are going to take place in every shop in the land.

Mrs Ghosh: Yes, I entirely agree. You picked up the point about Ben Bradshaw’s initiatives and I must say this is something to which our ministers are extremely committed. Structurally packaging—and these regulations cover something like 11,000 businesses—comes under the controls of the Packaging Directive and actually in UK terms we are on track to meet that. So in so far as regulation is there, it is working, but in many ways it is much more a behavioural, I shall not say cultural . . . There is a lot we need to do outside the Directive even if that is going well to work with retailers to encourage reduction in packaging and appropriate responses to consumers. In your case it clearly was not an appropriate response. The coverage that Ben Bradshaw got of handing your packaging back at the supermarket checkout was something which arose from a series of meetings he has been having with retailers to work with them on a sensible balance between reducing packaging—

Q44 Helen Goodman: Does the Packaging Directive put requirements on them to reduce their packaging and if it does, can you tell us how? If it does not, can you tell us whether you will be submitting proposals to the Treasury on taxing packaging as they have done in the Republic of Ireland?

Mr Thornton: Broadly speaking the structure of the Packaging Regulations is to place obligations on the producers of goods and services and to make them responsible for the recycling of increasing proportions of the packaging that they are generating and those obligations are divided between the raw materials’ producers and so on and the retailers; they all have their share. So it does not lay an absolute obligation, as I understand it, subject to correction, on the amount of packaging but what it does say is that you are responsible for making sure that packaging gets recycled in increasing proportions and that therefore is giving a financial incentive to all the business community to reduce the amount of packaging. There is also a little-used and quite interesting regulation against excessive packaging and we are looking into whether we, with DTI, can give better guidance to Trading Standards Officers about how to use those regulations against the more extreme cases. We are using financial incentives, packaging regulations and the work that Helen Ghosh has referred to which is carried out largely on our behalf by WRAP working very closely with the retailers in the commercial sector to demonstrate to the retailers that improving their packaging, light-weighting their packaging, reducing the scale of their packaging, can be in their

interests as well as in the consumers’ interest and the consumers are calling for this themselves, because consumers, as you say in your own case, very strongly resent packaging coming from the retail sector.

Q45 Helen Goodman: May I ask you one last question? In the memorandum you submitted this week to us, the second bullet point, final sentence: “This may also reflect the divestment by some councils of commercial waste collection services, so transferring a proportion of municipal waste to the private sector and hence outside the scope of LATs”, the trading scheme. You have not, by allowing people to contract out, just opened up a massive loophole that means they are not obliged to control this waste, have you?

Mrs Ghosh: No.

Q46 Helen Goodman: Could you explain how it works then?

Mrs Ghosh: It is marginal, but I shall ask Neil to explain how it works.

Mr Thornton: Roughly, 10% or slightly more than 10% of municipal waste, in other words waste handled by authorities, is commercial, usually from small businesses, restaurants things of that kind. They are obliged to collect such wastes if the customer wants them to. In other words they are required to provide that service, but they can make reasonable charges for that service and most of them do charge and in many cases it is the same waste contractor who does both. Some councils have sought to reduce the amount of such waste they are carrying and certainly to ensure that their pricing is at least realistic because it is actually not helping them with their landfill allowances. Clearly the last thing we want is for these wastes not to be collected. We are very keen that a proper commercial service be provided whether on behalf of the local authority or by competitors and we should be very concerned if there were somehow a loss of service to the small business community.

Q47 Chairman: To sum up Mrs Goodman’s excellent line of questioning, there is going to be such a heavy array of encouragements, penalties and the rest on retailers that we are going perhaps to see a very significant reduction in the amount of packaging in our shops in the years to come, are we?

Mrs Ghosh: I believe we are. May I just make one comment which a waste disposal authority made to me? Some packaging is good packaging because well packaged goods, appropriately packaged goods mean that you can carry a large amount of food in a single lorry on a single journey rather than in a less environmentally friendly way. So there is a point where you need to balance ultimately some level of packaging with the reduction we are all keen on.

Q48 Annette Brooke: May I just follow on from that for a moment? Can you explain to me how the industry comes into the Packaging Directive? Like many other people, I am a keen recycler but I could not cope with the amount of refuse I gained over the

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Christmas period to go into my refuse bin. It was obviously not really the retailers' responsibility but it was actually how it had come from the factory and so on. What is being done to tackle that?

Mrs Ghosh: What you raise is a very important issue for us and one on which we shall be increasingly focusing, which is how you look at the whole chain from production through to consumption and disposal. Sustainable consumption and production is one of our over-arching strategic priorities. Indeed we do need to look at both how the thing is produced in the first place and how the packaging comes out from the maker. For the extent to which it fits into the directive I shall again hand over to my expert on directives.

Mr Thornton: As the Packaging Directive figures get tighter and higher and higher proportions of packaging have to be recycled under those obligations, we have national annual targets that fit between the target years for the Community and the business sector is having to go looking for packaging waste in the household sector, in other words the kind of waste you are talking about. In the early days they were able to go to where the waste was easiest to get hold of which tended to be in the commercial sector. They are increasingly now having to work with local authorities and there is quite an active process of discussion between the people who have these packaging obligations and the local authorities who have customers like you who are troubled by the amount of packaging they are handling. More and more there will be incentives in the chain for producers and retailers to reduce the packaging or to have take-back obligations as some retailers already do; they will take back the packaging once it has been opened. So we hope that will get better. Ultimately of course, if you are fixed with that kind of a problem, we are all hoping that householders will recognise that most of that packaging is capable of being put in the green bin and some can be recycled because there tends to be a lot of cardboard around at Christmas.

Q49 Annette Brooke: I should like to know whether there is a time line on what you are talking about. There is a lot of hope, a lot of prayers about whether this is really going to happen and that is really important. Could I ask you that, but at the same time, interestingly, somebody came to my surgery on Saturday with a vast array of plastic packaging, pots and all sorts of things and asked why there was no marking on them so they knew which of these plastics they could put into the blue bin, which we have, and which they could not. Surely it should be a matter of urgency to mark at least some of the essential packaging. Is this being progressed? Why not?

Mr Thornton: Increasingly it is good practice; I confess I do not know whether there is a legal obligation. We shall have to check, but increasingly it is good practice that PET or HTPe carry on them somewhere an indication of which material it is made out of. Usually for the householder, both of those will go comfortably into the recycling chain and they will be separated out by the local

authority's contractors. So you normally will not need to know which plastic it is, you will be able to put both of them in your plastics' recycling. There are of course difficulties over some of the mixed materials like Tetrapaks and so on which actually are very difficult to recycle. WRAP, the local authorities and we work together to try to establish what is the best practice in communication between a local authority and its customers. I happen to have the London Borough of Harrow which has very good communications with me about the kinds of things I should put in which coloured bin and they make very clear that all my plastic can go in the single bin and they will sort out which one is which.

Q50 Annette Brooke: But then of course that seems to be relying on the particular local authority.

Mr Thornton: Yes it is.

Q51 Annette Brooke: Actually I have had three letters about this in general so presumably the information is not there however hard you look for it. Is there not a case for a stronger national lead on this? I am really choosing the plastics as an example, but there does seem to be a lack of information.

Mrs Ghosh: Yes.

Mr Thornton: It would be right to say that our general approach would be that local authorities are responsible for the service they provide to their customers and there are all sorts of local reasons why the services may be slightly differently styled and structured and so on. However, a consistent thread is that there needs to be very good, very clear and repeated communication between the local authority and their customers about what it is you can do and why it is you can do it, for example around alternate weekly collections where those are in place. WRAP, the organisation which delivers for us on this kind of work, has a great deal of best practice guidance which they try to encourage local authorities to adopt. We are very interested and yes, I take your case in hand. Our waste strategy will certainly be saying there is the right balance to strike between national best practice, national guidance and local autonomy.

Q52 Annette Brooke: Going back to the industrial side of that with the actual plastics, should there not be some onus on whoever has made the plastic container to mark it in some way?

Mr Thornton: I would have to offer a note in terms of what the actual regulations are and the extent to which we and the DTI, who are almost certainly in charge of the standards for products of this kind, have looked into that area. It is a question of product standards and I should like to offer a note.⁷

⁷ *Note by witness:* There is currently no agreement on how best to mark plastics and there is no harmonised global set of standards for marking. The coding system introduced by the Society of the Plastics Industry (SPI) is commonly used in the USA, whereas European industry continues to support the material identification system developed by the European Committee for Standardisation (CEN) TC261 SC4/WG1. However, the European Commission has consistently rejected this system.

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Mrs Ghosh: It is a question of product standards and a comment that has been made to me is that it gets very confusing if the manufacturer of the plastic has put on a note, for example saying it is recyclable and for a variety of reasons, because of the facilities that the waste disposal authority has, it is not in that waste disposal authority. That is an area where I know customers, citizens, get very confused because they say it says it is recyclable but we are telling them it is not recyclable. It is all part of this getting more common standards, making sure in partnerships between waste disposal and collection that there is a clear line of sight and information to the citizen.

Q53 Annette Brooke: That is very true. I know in my constituency that in adjacent local authorities different things are actually taken in the recycling bins.

Mrs Ghosh: Yes.

Q54 Annette Brooke: How are you actually going to make local authorities collaborate because it is quite ridiculous when you are in an urban area which just rolls into the next one?

Mrs Ghosh: Of course there are some very good examples of collaboration, particularly between waste disposal authorities and their collection authorities. I was talking to the Chief Executive of Shropshire yesterday and she said that effectively they have a common set of standards for their collection authorities across the county, all the citizens of Shropshire work to a common set of standards and it works really well. We need to get the less well performing up to the standards of the good partnerships of that kind.

Mr Thornton: We have very strong encouragement and of course criteria if we are actually in the business of providing financial support to local authorities that they should be working together. We are not interested in single authorities coming to us with great solutions for infrastructure. They should always have looked at whether there is a collaboration opportunity with those around them. However, we have to recognise that in some cases the service will be different because that authority has different infrastructure. For example, the nature of their composting facility will determine whether they can mix food waste and green waste or whether they have to be collected separately and that is a proper differentiation that authorities have to make.

Q55 Annette Brooke: I think I might write directly to you on some of the discrepancies between small unitary councils and adjacent county councils. May I just ask you about the balance of grants to local authorities? One of my local authorities is getting quite a considerable grant to produce more information on recycling which is good, but throughout this Report I get the impression that local authorities do not feel supported well enough in providing alternative measures for waste disposal. There is a number of comments throughout this. You have obviously put a big effort into encouraging local authorities with their recycling efforts, but how are you matching this up? What proportion of funds

is now going towards promoting recycling versus actually tackling this enormous waste disposal programme ahead of us which does seem to not be on time.

Mrs Ghosh: You are interested both in how we support spending on infrastructure, for example, and how we support behaviour?

Q56 Annette Brooke: What is the balance?

Mr Thornton: The first thing to say is that most of the expenditure is made by local government and comes from a combination of council tax and revenue support grant. About £2.5 billion is the rough current cost.

Q57 Annette Brooke: I mean your extra support.

Mrs Ghosh: The extra support through WRAP and our recycling support programmes.

Mr Thornton: A high proportion of the direct support is going to developing recycling markets and to household behaviour and to best practice provision of local kerbside facilities through WRAP. For example, a lot of the expenditure that our waste implementation programme makes goes directly to WRAP who then spend it, for example, on their work with the retailers, on their work with local authorities on best practice. At the infrastructure end of the business, the main game in town is PFI credits rather than direct financial support from us, although obviously Government do provide consultancy, expert support to those who are engaging in PFI so that they have good financial advice and deal-making capacity. It is horses for courses. We have about £200 million or so going into waste support from Defra of which about half is in the form of the waste performance efficiency grant which is effectively just another tagged piece of local government support money; it is not going with close criteria.

Mrs Ghosh: To give you a strategic over-arching response, we are essentially setting aside the money that goes through the block grant and indeed specific PFI schemes. What we are focusing on are the people who need help; back to the recommendation that we should focus on the top 25. We are focusing inevitably on the people within the group who need most support from us, so that is the set of criteria that we use.

Q58 Annette Brooke: Would it be possible to produce a breakdown of figures?⁸

Mrs Ghosh: By local authority?

Q59 Annette Brooke: Yes, that would be really helpful.

Mrs Ghosh: Sure; we shall do that.

Q60 Mr Khan: One of the reasons we are doing so poorly compared with our European cousins is because of our historical reliance on landfill—for cultural reasons as alluded to by the Permanent

⁸ Ev 20–32

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Secretary. So we were unable to hit the ground running when it came to the directive that was passed. Is that what we are saying?

Mr Thornton: Yes.

Q61 Mr Khan: That is fine. May I just clarify something? In answer to the Chairman you said you were confident of us meeting our 2010 and 2013 targets and 2020 I see as well.

Mrs Ghosh: I said I was increasingly confident in the light of the 2005–06 data that we have about landfill and arisings and indeed about the extent to which we had exceeded our PSA recycling figure. I am increasingly confident because of some of the structural support that we have in place.

Q62 Mr Khan: Have you had any conversations with the European Commission about potential fines for non-compliance?

Mrs Ghosh: No, because the issue is not on the table.

Q63 Mr Khan: Quite; that is what I was alluding to. The danger of course of your increasing confidence is that it may lead you not to have conversations with the Commission because you are confident of reaching that threshold. Is that a simplistic conclusion to reach?

Mrs Ghosh: I am not sure what discussions with the Commission would produce.

Q64 Mr Khan: If some of these figures for penalties are to be believed, I would want to negotiate a reduction in the penalties, would you not?

Mrs Ghosh: It would be slightly strange and I suspect a slightly counter-productive negotiating tactic to go to them now and say we think we are going to miss when we do not actually think that we are going to miss and cast doubt in their minds about our commitment and our likely performance.

Q65 Mr Khan: So you are not going to negotiate at all with the European Commission prior to 2010?

Mrs Ghosh: At present, no.

Mr Thornton: At present, no, we do not have to. My opposite number is very well aware of the position in the UK, he can read the press and he can read our website. They are well aware that the UK is on the case, working hard on the case, that there are risks but there is increasing confidence. It would be very odd for them to start asking what is going to happen if we do not make it. There are formal procedures which they would engage in if we do not make it.

Q66 Mr Khan: Are the local authorities that you speak to—you mentioned the 25—increasingly confident about whether they will have to pay the penalty for exceeding the landfill allowance?

Mrs Ghosh: The signs from the first year of operation of the trading scheme are good in that they have come in below their allowances. What we are focusing on is helping those who do think they have a challenge ahead of them, particularly if it requires infrastructure investment, to make sure that they are in a good position. What we are doing is putting our effort against the risk that we see there.

Q67 Mr Khan: Have any local authorities come to you and said they think they are going to exceed their allowance and can they negotiate their fine levels with you?

Mrs Ghosh: No. We would first of all ask them why they think that is going to happen and whether there is anything we can help with. The other point of course about a trading scheme is that they may well be in a position, and that will only become clear as the scheme goes on, to get surplus from elsewhere because it is a UK target that we are trying to hit not just an authority by authority target.

Q68 Mr Khan: May I congratulate you on the increase in people recycling which is directly related to the investment you have put into that area as I understand it. That is very good. However, we know from the Report that unfortunately there has been an increase in tonnage down the other route, a 21% increase in waste tonnage collected. So although you have done very well in increasing the number of people recycling, unfortunately people have gone more down the other routes as well.

Mrs Ghosh: The 2005–06 figure for household arisings has actually gone down.

Q69 Mr Khan: What I suspect has happened is that because of the fantastic stewardship of the economy we have had record growth and style of living has gone up and people like Helen Goodman can buy expensive trainers and all the rest of it, so it is not surprising that people are buying more things and have more rubbish to put into their bins. Have you reached a plateau in relation not to the growth, which will continue to go up I am sure, but in relation to the amount people put into alternative forms of rubbish rather than recycling?

Mr Thornton: You are absolutely right to focus on that.

Q70 Mr Khan: On the growth; I agree. Thank you.

Mrs Ghosh: May I just say that what we are trying to do through the whole approach on sustainable consumption and production is decouple economic growth from environmental degradation and waste would be a classic example of that.

Mr Thornton: The 2005–06 figures have obviously led us to re-assess what we think has been going on in the four years previously and it looks as though we have had quite low growth if you take five-year average over recent years, well below 1.5% which we had been assuming and which was already in a sense de-coupled from economic growth running at potentially 3%. It looks as though we have just had a reduction in the absolute amount of municipal solid waste in the last year or so but the critical question is not that, it is what is happening to the recycling proportion.

Q71 Mr Khan: I was going to ask you about that. The Report alludes to 57% of the public being already committed “recyclers”, in inverted commas. Do you think you have reached a cap there in

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relation to the public who are willing to recycle? I know your aspiration is obviously a lot higher, but living in the real world and being realistic.

Mr Thornton: There are two things. Clearly WRAP spend a lot of time on this including aggressive expensive and valuable advertising to people through television and so on and the concept of a committed recycler is people who are motivated and are actually doing some recycling and are doing it because they believe it makes a difference. There are two things you want to do: one is increase the numbers of people who are taking part at all and the other is increase the amount of recycling being undertaken by those who have already started because there is always more you can go for and people can start doing more with their kitchen waste, as long as the service is being provided from the kerbside to them. So council provision of service comes first, then you need to get people motivated and David Miliband personally obviously is putting a lot of effort into raising awareness of people's individual responsibility, of which waste is an example.

Q72 Mr Khan: Is the Department giving any consideration to methods which may affect behaviour, for example carrots for those who recycle and sticks for those who do not? For example, you will know that people's behaviour *vis-à-vis* the amount of water they use has changed because of water metering. By analogy, is the Department considering methods to do with waste other than that which can be recycled or composted? If I have six bags of rubbish that are not going to be recycled, whereas my neighbour only has one, why should we both pay the same level of council tax?

Mrs Ghosh: Very much in the news this week has been the LGA call for powers for local authorities to make variable charges, for example, and David Miliband has said that that is an issue in which he is interested and would like to explore. We are seeing that across the whole range of incentives that appear to work and thus far we have had great success, starting indeed from a low base, in encouraging recycling and getting more committed recyclers but there is a variety. We have done some pilots. Local authorities have done some interesting pilots from which we can get some data about carrots rather than sticks, so discounts on charging and so on where recycling is high. There is a range of other things we might do.

Q73 Mr Khan: Were you surprised by the public's view that they thought they spent about £200 a year on waste.

Mrs Ghosh: Yes, very. I was surprised by it. Neil was not surprised because he knew the figure. It is an interesting reflection on people's perception of cost.

Mr Thornton: The Chairman of the Environment Agency who used to be with a district council said it is common knowledge in the local authority community that people think they are paying far more for their waste than it is actually costing the local authority.

Mrs Ghosh: What that tells you about their response to various incentives, we would need to explore.

Q74 Mr Khan: A few other quick things. One of the other issues alluded to is planning. May I ask you what sort of work is going on with DCLG about trying to speed up time taken for planning permission?

Mrs Ghosh: Yes, we have done a lot of work in recent years with DCLG on planning and there was a real step forward—I am always getting the initials of planning things wrong—in PPS10 which set out a much better framework for planning. Again we think we are more and more seeing through the regional spatial strategies sensible provision for waste infrastructure coming through. We shall also want to explore both the second Barker Report and the recent Eddington Report which said something about major infrastructure projects which ministers, as the Chancellor said at the time, are now considering. We do think things are getting better.

Q75 Mr Khan: Good. One concern people like the Mayor of London has raised is that our keenness to meet the targets set by the Commission in 2010 and 2013 may mean that long term things which are beneficial for the planet, more recycling, more renewables, are being sacrificed for incinerators. His particular concern is in relation to the one in Belvedere. What is your response to that charge?

Mrs Ghosh: Our evidence-based response to that charge is that it is not what has happened in Europe. The fact that they have made provision and there is a large amount of energy from waste provision there does not appear to have had an impact on recycling rates so there does not seem to us to be evidence that the one cannibalises the other.

Q76 Mr Khan: But if I am a local authority and I have this provision of this incinerator down the river, why should I want to spend a lot of time encouraging my residents to recycle?

Mr Thornton: Probably because it would be cheaper. Typically it will be cheaper to keep waste out of landfill by taking it off the top than by paying somebody a fee which will have to cover the infrastructure investment cost of that plant. Nobody is going to be offering free lunches at Belvedere or anywhere else. Perhaps I could just pick up the point that was made earlier by Alan Williams on MBT. Mechanical biological treatment plants are a route that ultimately is part of the energy from waste story and, as the Government made clear in their consultation paper on the waste strategy, we believe energy from waste has a part to play because it is secure renewable energy and it provides carbon benefits compared with landfill. We are equally clear and positively clear that we want recycling done first; maximum recycling, maximum reduction and composting and then considering recovering energy from waste.

Mr Dunne: Following on from what you have just been saying, I am pleased to hear Mrs Ghosh refer to a conversation with Shropshire County Council. I represent a constituency within that area and within

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Shropshire we have in the district council I believe the first anaerobic digester to take biodegradable waste and generate electricity through a process of anaerobic digestion.

Chairman: Would you like to tell us how anaerobic digestion works?

Mr Dunne: I should be delighted to have a separate discussion on that. It would take longer than 10 minutes.

Chairman: It sounds horrible.

Q77 Mr Dunne: It is actually extremely good and effective and it can take place adjacent to residential properties without having any adverse influence on the environment outside the shed in which it operates. Therefore it is something to be welcomed and my main question to you is: why have you not been encouraging more of this in other authorities around the country? I believe it is the first.

Mr Thornton: That plant of course is part of our encouragement to others to take it seriously because it is funded as a demonstration project by the department and one of the obligations upon the plant is to allow others to come to see how it works. This is to demonstrate in live commercial circumstances that this kind of plant can work in UK circumstances with UK feed stocks and so on. We are keen on anaerobic digestion. We do our best not to be too deterministic about the technologies that authorities should adopt, but clearly where you have a separated segregated waste room, because anaerobic digestion requires you to have only organic green kinds of inputs, then it can be highly efficient, it can have good amenity results and it can generate good carbon benefits. It is not the answer to the generality of black bag waste but it is one of the ways of dealing with that waste that can be separated first.

Q78 Mr Dunne: Do you agree with the calculation of the operator of that plant that over 25% of household waste is actually food waste?

Mr Thornton: I am sure we have those figures to hand. It is something like that. Kitchen waste is 17% and that would be substantially organic and that is of the total household waste.

Mrs Ghosh: It is certainly true to say, and this is an area we need to focus on, that food waste is increasingly an issue on which we need to focus because it is growing.

Q79 Mr Dunne: I am sure you would agree with my impression that it is food waste which degrades more rapidly than regular garden waste which historically used to be composted and is now much less frequently collected prior to your recycling targets. I will come onto that in a moment; it is what other Members have been touching on. In order to ensure that food waste is collected cleanly, it needs to be collected regularly and discreetly and one of the difficulties with this collection methodology of combining it with other green waste is that that does not happen. For example, I was speaking yesterday to the operator and he told me that on Monday they had been collecting 18 tonnes of gravel, which was

put into the green wheelie bins because householders will use these wheelie bins to place all sorts of rubbish in, which clearly makes the process very difficult to function. I would urge you to investigate and in fact come to visit that plant and your relevant officers to learn lessons about this. Just to go back to some questions rather than an advert and picking up on one of the problems as I see it, and is referred to in paragraph 4.4 of the recycling targets, by setting targets as percentages rather than tonnages, what you have effectively done is increased the recycling rates for local authorities by allowing them now to collect garden waste which previously would have been composted within the garden and that has the effect of relatively easily increasing the percentages recycled or composted. Would you agree with that?

Mrs Ghosh: It is the answer I gave to your colleague over there who asked whether this was a significant factor because I have heard this charge from local authorities who think I was cheating. For the reasons I described and the fact that most of that green waste was previously going to civic community sites and therefore coming back into the recycling figures that way, we do not think it is a serious charge.

Q80 Mr Dunne: I would suggest to you from evidence in this Report, that it is the rural authorities which have been exceeding the targets and the urban authorities which have not and a large part of that is the degree to which the garden waste has been counted in the targets in the way that it has.

Mr Thornton: We are certainly not suggesting that there is no part of that waste that was not previously being collected. The kind of concerns you have had have been had in the local authority community and as we look at incentivising and target setting for the future, we are clear that if you only set one kind of target, you get behaviour that answers that target and we will be looking to be a bit subtler about it as we go forward in the waste strategy, looking for example at residual waste per household and so on. So an alternative sweep.

Q81 Mr Dunne: Looking at food waste and the collections at the moment, why have you not allowed business food waste to be collected alongside household food waste, for example with this innovative project in south Shropshire? I mean pubs and restaurants and food processors that are producing a lot of food waste.

Mr Thornton: If I may distinguish, we and local authorities, bearing in mind the Landfill Directive target which applies only to municipal waste which is largely household collected waste, would obviously be unwise to try to drag all organic and green wastes that are available in the community at large into the municipal sector. However, we are very clear that those wastes when they go to landfill are just as noxious as household waste going to landfill, so we are keen for them not to go to landfill. We are keen for market signals to drive that and of course the landfill tax escalator is there precisely for that purpose. The Chancellor made clear in the Pre-Budget Report that the Government were

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considering whether to go further and faster on the landfill tax escalator, so that is the major driver of the commercial side of the waste chain as opposed to the household one. We are also very keen that infrastructure which is being put in place, including for example the kind of infrastructure you are describing, should be capable of servicing both masters because it makes no sense at all for us to have a piece of kit that is refusing to take it from somewhere else. That is part of the answer to those who were worried about black bag incinerators cannibalising future recycling performance. Much better if those incinerators are also capable of taking materials, as in many cases they are and as increasingly our best practice is that they should, from the commercial chain as well.

Q82 Mr Dunne: That sounds very appropriate. What actual steps are you taking with the DTI, for example, to encourage this co-sourcing of waste which could be treated in the same plant?

Mr Thornton: We are working closely with DTI both because of the business sector generally and because of energy policies and we are working closely with them on the role of energy from waste in relation to the White Paper. Commercial and business wastes are a market; they are a heavily regulated market clearly because they have to be, but they are on the whole driven by market signals. It is our sense that market incentives are the best way to go and therefore the obvious effective mechanism is something like a landfill tax escalator.

Q83 Mr Dunne: May I give you an example which falls within your area but not specifically within landfill and that is the whole anaerobic digestion of farm waste where the Secretary of State only last week at the Oxford conference highlighted the fact that there are 3,000 biogas plants in Germany and very few here. Is that not an area where, in working with the DTI, you could look to establish a more effective pricing regime for the electricity output which would encourage more on-farm generation of electricity and reduction of waste?

Mr Thornton: Yes, it is.

Mrs Ghosh: It is.

Q84 Mr Dunne: What are you doing about it then?

Mrs Ghosh: We have a good opportunity at the moment in the forthcoming Energy White Paper. The issue about how energy from various kinds of waste can contribute to the renewables obligation is something we are discussing actively with them. David particularly cited all the anaerobic digesters on German farms.

Q85 Mr Dunne: So would you look, for example, at having a differential banding for renewable obligations so that on-farm waste might get a better preferential rate than others?

Mr Thornton: Formally we would have to say that is a matter for the DTI and the Energy White Paper.

Q86 Mr Dunne: I hope you will be pushing them.

Mrs Ghosh: We shall take away that suggestion.

Mr Thornton: Were that opportunity to arise we should be very interested in using it.

Q87 Mr Dunne: As a final question from me, have you considered the potential for production of bio-methane as a long-term substitute for natural gas or vehicle fuel?

Mr Thornton: As a matter of both energy policy and as a matter of an approach to the use of land, we are very interested in the various ways in which renewable energy can be generated, renewable crops and energy crops being one of those, so yes, we are.

Mrs Ghosh: Did you mean specifically from waste?

Q88 Mr Dunne: Indeed. You referred to the landfill and Mrs Goodman asked how much more potent is methane than carbon dioxide and I have an answer for her: it is 22 times more potent.

Mr Thornton: Twenty-three.

Q89 Mr Dunne: Are you taking steps to try to capture bio-methane from landfill sites?

Mrs Ghosh: Yes, indeed.

Mr Thornton: The Environment Agency would be horrified to think that any landfill site that was currently operating was not seeking to capture the maximum methane. Clearly you have effectively a very large anaerobic digester, you have a capped system, up to 75% of gas could be captured and landfill gas engines do indeed attract renewable obligation certificates.

Q90 Mr Dunne: One final point. Do they not generally drive a turbine to produce electricity rather than get stored and used, for example in vehicles?

Mr Thornton: That is probably correct that that is normally the approach. I suppose the naive answer would be to say that it is a market question whether that other opportunity becomes attractive to them and that is a part of energy policy which the Department is very closely associated with.

Mrs Ghosh: We shall certainly take that away.

Q91 Mr Mitchell: I have a briefing from The Nappy Alliance⁹ which could be the youth wing of the Liberal Democrats for all I know about it. It says that every day eight million disposable nappies go to landfill. I can imagine nothing more methane emitting and noxious than that and yet they say that you have wound up the Real Nappy Campaign to get local authorities to provide facilities for reusable nappies. Why is that?

Mrs Ghosh: Although I shall hand over to my technical expert, I read this with enormous interest and I particularly read with enormous interest in the brief that I had that yet again this is one of those cases where the answer is not obvious. Indeed I remember with my babies that real nappies were being strongly pushed by the Real Nappy Campaign but when we did some analysis of the total environmental cycle of washing and detergent and

⁹ Ev 19

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electricity used in washing, the environmental balance was not as clear cut as it appears from the Real Nappy Campaign. I will hand over at this point to Neil however to explain what we are now doing to encourage appropriate use of real nappies.

Mr Thornton: As you rightly say, it is something like 1% of the biodegradable materials, the largest single stream in the biodegradable case, and therefore WRAP was carrying forward this campaign at our instance following the strategy report to see whether behaviour change could be moved and at the same time in parallel looking at the environmental impacts. The work that Mrs Ghosh has referred to does appear to suggest that the environmental impacts—forget the Landfill Directive for a second—when you look at the whole thing may not be very dramatic. However, questions have been raised about whether that included the most modern or the most economic use of wash cycles and so on in the home and bulking up with washing and so on. There are debates to be had about the merits of the argument but it did not look to us and to WRAP as though there were very substantial Landfill Directive benefits flowing from this that we could capture further than had already been done. So WRAP had been looking to pass on the work that they have done and the advocacy of real nappies, which they and we have not given up, to another party.

Q92 Mr Mitchell: Will you be extending producer responsibility to the producers of the nappies or the contents?

Mrs Ghosh: I think the contents of the nappies might be politically a touch controversial.

Q93 Mr Mitchell: Sorry? The producers of the nappies.

Mrs Ghosh: The producers of the contents of the nappies.

Q94 Mr Mitchell: Will you be extending producer responsibility to the producers of the nappies?

Mrs Ghosh: Of the nappies.

Mr Thornton: We have no plans to do so.

Q95 Mr Mitchell: I am interested in what you are saying, although I do not agree with it. The Real Nappy Campaign looks to have been a great success because the target was to divert 11,000 tonnes of nappies from landfill and it achieved 23,000 tonnes of nappies diverted. That is in contrast with the comparative lack of success of the challenge fund to encourage local authorities to improve performance. I see from that that Rushcliffe Borough Council got £200,000 and achieved 36 percentage points improvement, whereas Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council got £1.4 million and achieved only 1.5%. That looks really a waste of money compared with the Real Nappy Campaign.

Mrs Ghosh: Neil has given a good answer on real nappies.

Mr Thornton: Without carefully looking at the case I would not want to acknowledge a lack of value for money in any particular case because I am not

master of the individual cases. It is fair to say that on real nappies we did find it was very expensive to get the benefits we were getting and that was one of the reasons we slowed down the campaign.

Q96 Mr Mitchell: Why was the performance under the challenge scheme of disposal by councils so unsuccessful?

Mr Thornton: It was variable and it was not always the case that the purpose of the challenge was to change recycling rates very dramatically. I would like to go and look at our assessment of the challenge scheme because we have done one in the past and we will provide that to you. If that does not support what I have said so far, we will provide a note.¹⁰

Q97 Mr Mitchell: Just in passing, while incineration is obviously important and diverts stuff from landfill, environmental ministers have in the past been very equivocal about it. I remember a long campaign being waged in Grimsby which was successful eventually in getting an incinerator, but the kind of lunatic fears that we had to put up with and the lack of support from environment ministers who would not say this was rubbish, that they were no damaging environmental consequences, were really quite horrifying. It extended the planning process for a long, long time.

Mrs Ghosh: I am sorry, but I do not know the timing of the proposal you put forward. That is why we carried out in 2003 specifically a health impact study which Elliott Morley, the then Minister, published at the time, peer reviewed by members of the Royal Society which produced the conclusion that there was no consistent evidence that energy from waste plants has a significant health impact compared with other health impacts and indeed we have pushed strongly the message that energy from a waste plant that is run, as they all have to be under our regulatory scheme, according to the Waste Incineration Directive is no more damaging to health than a gas-fired generator. We have been trying to put that kind of information out.

Q98 Mr Mitchell: I am glad to hear that, but why did your Department take so long to get together with the Department for Communities and Local Government about the planning delays attending waste disposal plants?

Mrs Ghosh: This is where a number of factors had to come together: the incentive of the Landfill Directive, increasing understanding and public support for the issues around climate change and from 2003 onwards we really began to get our act together on evidence around health. We have been working very closely with DCLG so what you describe is evidence of that point that from 2003 we really did begin to get our act together and get evidence on the one hand and support for local authorities on the other on a much better footing.

Mr Thornton: I am pretty sure that was an example of something where we very strongly supported the direction of the strategy in the Report saying that

¹⁰ Ev 32–38

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planning was important, we needed to modernise the planning regime and we used the Modernising Planning Policy statement to do that.

Q99 Mr Mitchell: Why is the situation so chaotic? It was brought home to me over Christmas because my wife, who is neurotic, and my daughter, who is kind of more middle class—so middle class that she would vote Liberal if I did not stop her—who are both concerned with recycling had violent arguments over where stuff should go. Sunday papers come so wrapped in plastic and tinsel you are never sure whether to chuck them in one bin or the other bin and this made Christmas quite unpleasant frankly. The council did not help because all it provides are two things: a black bin in which you are supposed to put paper and recyclables and you put it out and it goes soggy and there is a great lump because the rain gets on it and a wheelie bin. The arguments over where stuff should go made life very embittered.

Mrs Ghosh: This does come back to the comments that Neil was making earlier to a Member about it all depending on excellent clear advice to the householder as to where to put what.

Q100 Mr Mitchell: Some councils provide a whole range of different coloured bins.

Mrs Ghosh: Indeed, and that is back to standardisation. My local authority does that. There are about three bins we can put things in.

Q101 Mr Mitchell: So why do you not prescribe a common pattern?

Mrs Ghosh: Because while we respect the autonomy of local authorities to make their own decisions, we are at the same time encouraging them in local areas such as Shropshire and elsewhere where there is lots of good practice to work together in partnership so that you get much more common practice than we have at the moment.

Q102 Mr Mitchell: But respecting autonomy means allowing sluggards and laggards in one direction to do what they want or do not want and lunatics to go off in the other direction. You must prescribe; people are very mobile, they move around the country, particularly MPs. There should be a common pattern of different coloured bins or disposal units so we know what we are doing.

Mr Thornton: The first thing to say is that we at national level would be concerned and so would DCLG if a local authority were performing poorly on waste and that obviously will form part of the local performance framework under the new White Paper regime and I am confident waste would be a very important ingredient in that. Secondly, we, with WRAP, are very keen to see national branding or consistent branding where that looks helpful. As you rightly say, people do move around, people do have discussions about the inconsistency but it is a very fundamental part of government policy and a very fundamental part of local government thinking that this is their job and they should determine how best to carry it out and it will vary according to the

infrastructure that they have given themselves. Some will correctly be saying they want five things comingled in a single box because they have a separation service down the street. Others will say actually they do not have that separation service so they want you to do the separation yourselves. We have to respect that separation. As a national civil servant, it frustrates the hell out of me, but it is correctly their job to get it right in their circumstances.

Q103 Mr Mitchell: Whitehall knows best as somebody once said.

Mr Thornton: I just said that Whitehall does not know best.

Q104 Mr Mitchell: You have a strategy now for concentrating money on the big generators and that means big energy from waste plants, does it not?

Mr Thornton: Frequently.

Q105 Mr Mitchell: Where are these made?

Mrs Ghosh: Do you mean where does the technology come from?

Q106 Mr Mitchell: Yes; are they imported?

Mr Thornton: Much of the technology will be imported; it would be surprising if we had huge capacity in inventing and making energy waste plants when we have not been generating very many of them in the UK.

Q107 Mr Mitchell: So the countries which have been virtuous have developed the technology?

Mrs Ghosh: Yes.

Mr Thornton: That would be natural. I am not saying it is universally the case. I am not an expert in the technology.

Q108 Mr Mitchell: These are very expensive things, are they not? If you are devoting so much money to the big authorities, why do you not encourage federations of small authorities clustered around them to use a common big waste disposal thing?

Mrs Ghosh: Our answer is that we do and there are lots of good examples of that.

Mr Thornton: When we are focusing on the major infrastructure, obviously all local government has to have access to some major infrastructure. They do not all have to own it themselves or their contractors do not have to, which is why we encourage collaboration. The municipal waste strategy for one authority may well be to work with two or three neighbours and together for them to get a private sector contractor to put in a plant.

Mrs Ghosh: Exactly.

Q109 Mr Mitchell: So you are not afraid of the concept of rubbish miles?

Mrs Ghosh: I was going to say that they do have to consider, and that comes out when discussing these issues with local government, the things that citizens really care about and citizens do not like large lorries full of rubbish being carried up and down their road all the time. Clearly one consideration that goes into

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effective partnership is that issue about the sideways impact of a decision to use a large facility somewhere else. You do not want too many waste miles.

Q110 Chairman: That concludes our hearing. May I thank you very much. I have made a quick back-of-an-envelope calculation and, as I have six children, I may be a nappy vandal. I may have consumed 13,540 nappies for my children, assuming they used nappies for two years. It is a very important issue. The Clerk has reminded us that it is the 150th

anniversary of this Committee in four years' time, so this might be our most glorious moment if we can change your attitude to the disposal of nappies. I am not entirely convinced by your arguments, Mr Thornton, against the Real Nappy Campaign so I would ask you to have another look at it please.

Mrs Ghosh: Certainly. I shall make a sexist comment. This is one of those issues which it would be great if more men became interested in and volunteered to change them.¹¹

Chairman: Thank you.

¹¹ Ev 38

Memorandum submitted by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

The Committee may wish to be aware of the following factual information that has been gathered as part of the ongoing work delivered since publication of the NAO Report.

STATISTICAL INFORMATION

- The recently published (Nov 2006) 2005–06 Municipal Waste statistics confirmed that the PSA6 targets for household recycling/composting (25%) has again been exceeded at just under 27%. This was based on returns from complete Reports provided by 100% of Local Authorities in England.
- The statistics also identified a decrease in total municipal waste (3%), down to 28.7 million tonnes and a small drop in household waste arisings, down by 0.8% to 25.5 million tonnes. The reasons for this are unclear but could reflect a dry year with below average rainfall and no Easter falling in the 2005–06 financial year. This may also reflect the divestment by some councils of commercial waste collection services, so transferring a proportion of municipal waste to the private sector and hence outside the scope of LATS.
- The first year of the LATS scheme (2005–06) was a success. All waste disposal authorities met their obligations to landfill within limits.
- The EA published in November the first annual report for LATS. Local authorities landfilled a calculated 12.4 million tonnes of biodegradable municipal waste in 2005–06 (a decrease of an estimated 1.5 million tonnes or 11% from 2004–05). The total landfilled represents 82% of the national allocation of landfill allowances in 2005–06. There was therefore a large surplus of allowances that have been banked by local authorities into the current scheme year. England's share of the landfill directive target is to landfill no more than 11.2 million tonnes of biodegradable waste in 2010. England is therefore making good progress towards meeting the 2010 national target.
- The actual tonnage of municipal (including non biodegradable) waste disposed of in landfill has also decreased from 19.8 million tonnes in 2004–05 to 17.9 million tonnes in 2005–06.
- Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) growth is reducing and Defra Economists now predict that the current trend will be maintained at around 0.75% (down from previous estimates of 1.5%).

WASTE STRATEGY REVIEW (WSR)

- The WSR has undergone its consultation stage with over 4,000 responses received. These have led to further amendments which are still under development and have yet to be finalised with Ministers. However, it is expected that the final strategy will be launched in the new year (probably around March).

INFRASTRUCTURE DELIVERY—WASTE INFRASTRUCTURE DELIVERY PROGRAMME (WIDP)

- Importantly both in terms of the NAO Report and the OGC Report the WIP Programme has continued to take steps to address the issue of infrastructure need, particularly in respect of residual waste. Working in partnership with other key stakeholders (4Ps, and Partnerships UK) WIP has established the new Waste Infrastructure Delivery Programme—which brings together in one team a group of experts who can provide vital support to local authorities for the delivery of Waste Infrastructure. This programme provides practical help to local authorities embarking on the complex task of scoping, specifying, procuring and delivering major waste projects: from technology choice, through planning and financing options to legal and procurement challenges. The unit will also acts the assessment and sponsorship channel for PFI credits, encouraging partnership working to maximise diversion. The aim of WIDP is not to divert attention away from minimization and recycling but rather to complement the top end effort by addressing the balance of BMW material which would otherwise end up in landfill sites. The programme focuses on support for large scale infrastructure build and will meet the NAO recommendation that we “Place greater focus on those waste disposal authorities sending the largest amounts of biodegradable municipal waste to landfill” by supporting those authorities offering robust plans for diversion of large amounts of material—where possible working in partnership with other authorities.
- The funding gap has also been estimated and we are working with Treasury on developing a CSR07 bid to help deliver this.
- As at 18 December 2006 three PFI contracts have been signed since publication of the OGC Report—with a contract value of £1,571 million and delivering the capacity to treat 993,000 tonnes per annum of residual waste. (A further contract of £517 million, delivering 188,000 tonnes of diversion is expected to be signed in the next day or so.)

18 December 2006

Memorandum submitted by the Nappy Alliance

The Nappy Alliance (NA) was established by 11 independent providers of real nappies to act as the trade body for the commercial market of re-usable nappies. The Alliance seeks to promote their use amongst new parents and to address the ongoing issue of the eight million disposable nappies which go to landfill in the UK everyday. The Alliance promotes awareness of the key benefits of reusable nappies including wider consumer choice, environmental benefits and cost savings to waste disposal authorities, and reusable nappies as a far cheaper alternative for parents than disposables. In addition to the environmental impacts of disposable nappies, the financial cost to local authorities and the taxpayer as a result of landfill, is considerable and has led to some authorities introducing and actively promoting re-usable nappies.

SUGGESTED QUESTIONS TO THE PERMANENT SECRETARY

- 1) What assessment she makes of the benefits of local councils promoting reusable nappies as a means of reducing household waste going to landfill.
- 2) Whether she will ensure that waste minimisation through the use of reusable nappies will feature high in the government's Revised Waste Strategy, due to be published at the beginning of the year.
- 3) Whether her department will look into extending producer responsibility schemes to disposable nappies to ensure that manufacturers pick up part of the bill for landfill once their products have reached the end of their life.
- 4) What help her Department will be providing to local authorities to introduce schemes designed to encourage parents to use reusable nappies, once the Real Nappy Campaign has finished.

BACKGROUND

- Nearly three billion nappies are thrown away in the UK every year—eight million nappies a day—making up 4% of all household waste. Disposable nappies constitute the largest single identifiable category of household waste and represents a cost to local authorities and the taxpayer of around £67 million per annum.
- The Environment Agency has concluded that it takes approximately 500 years for the plastic part of a disposable nappy to decompose. The paper-fluff and faeces take approximately 100 and 10 years respectively to degrade.
- Landfill sites in themselves are an excessive use of land, potential sources of water pollution and the production of methane gas.
- Alternative routes for disposing of nappies along with other household waste, such as incineration and even recycling, also come with environmental problems through the production of emissions.
- The government has funded the Real Nappy Campaign through the Waste Implementation Programme (WRAP). The WRAP Real Nappy Programme has been responsible for funding nappy projects in 35 local authorities in England and Scotland. These projects aimed at reducing waste by promoting the use of real nappies. The programme has now come to an end and WRAP will not commit further funding to the continuation of the programme.
- WRAP's Annual Achievements report for 2006 advises that the 23,000 tonnes of nappy waste directly diverted from landfill through WRAP funded projects with local authorities far exceeds the 11,000 tonnes target which it originally set out to achieve. The NA is therefore disappointed that the Department has decided to discontinue the Real Nappy Campaign.

December 2006

Supplementary memorandum submitted by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Question 31 (Dr John Pugh): WEEE Directive and companies that are no longer trading

The issue of "orphan equipment" will not arise under the WEEE Regulations because producers comply with the Regulations by joining a compliance scheme. It is the compliance schemes that have the responsibility for collecting the WEEE from DCFs and ensuring this is recycled. Although the operating models of compliance schemes vary, in general, producers pay schemes in advance according to the amount of equipment they place on the market. Most schemes then have contracts with Waste Disposal Authorities to clear all the WEEE arising at their DCFs, not just the equipment that their members placed on the market.

In terms of treatment capacity, the UK has already an established treatment and recycling infrastructure for a large proportion of WEEE. A number of companies have been recycling large household appliances, including fridges, televisions and computer monitors for a number of years. Further, there is a well established network of reuse organisations that are responsible for diverting a significant amount of WEEE from landfill. A number of WEEE treatment facilities have come on stream since the introduction of the

WEEE Regulations and there now seems to be enough capacity to deal with most, if not all, WEEE appropriately in the UK. The WEEE Regulations also provide producers with the option to send WEEE to recycling facilities overseas if they choose, as long as legislation on the transfrontier shipments of wastes is adhered to, and a robust audit trail is provided to demonstrate that the treatment and recycling in the overseas facility took place under conditions equivalent to those set by the WEEE Regulations.

Question 58 (Annette Brooke): *Breakdown of additional Defra support to local authorities*

WPEG Support 2005–06

<i>Local Authority</i>	<i>Amount (£)</i>
Adur District Council	18,889.54
Allerdale Borough Council	29,375.43
Alnwick District Council	9,939.43
Amber Valley Borough Council	36,997.50
Arun District Council	45,495.86
Ashfield District Council	35,240.55
Ashford Borough Council	33,301.43
Aylesbury Vale District Council	55,848.86
Babergh District Council	26,489.41
Barking and Dagenham Borough Council	132,061.44
Barnet London Borough	276,460.73
Barnsley Metropolitan Borough	164,905.55
Barrow-in-Furness Borough Council	22,150.68
Basildon District Council	56,371.89
Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council	50,082.41
Bassetlaw District Council	34,845.64
Bath & North East Somerset Council	135,176.25
Bedford Borough Council	49,019.72
Bedfordshire County Council	177,227.52
Berwick-upon-Tweed Borough Council	8,208.84
Bexley London Borough	175,650.56
Birmingham City Council	807,195.86
Blaby District Council	28,942.57
Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council	107,949.57
Blackpool Borough Council	117,725.61
Blyth Valley Borough Council	25,500.25
Bolsover District Council	22,952.10
Bolton Metropolitan Borough	203,885.70
Boston Borough Council	17,794.18
Bournemouth Borough Council	123,635.80
Bracknell Forest Borough Council	93,194.06
Bradford City Council	365,193.68
Braintree District Council	42,397.32
Breckland Council	38,602.02
Brent London Borough	231,680.81
Brentwood Borough Council	23,795.01
Bridgnorth District Council	16,775.86
Brighton and Hove Council	193,605.96
Bristol City Council	323,687.73
Broadland District Council	37,336.51
Bromley Borough Council	240,169.49
Bromsgrove District Council	28,448.89
Broxbourne Borough Council	30,052.22
Broxtowe Borough Council	33,913.97
Buckinghamshire County Council	225,788.50
Burnley Borough Council	28,126.88
Bury Metropolitan Borough Council	139,026.05
Calderdale Metropolitan Borough	147,932.13
Cambridge City Council	41,965.55
Cambridgeshire County Council	257,443.43
Camden London Borough	282,819.36
Cannock Chase District Council	29,124.77
Canterbury City Council	44,321.89
Caradon District Council	25,250.62

<i>Local Authority</i>	<i>Amount (£)</i>
Carlisle City Council	32,344.53
Carrick District Council	28,399.91
Castle Morpeth Borough Council	15,783.22
Castle Point Borough Council	27,414.59
Charnwood Borough Council	49,223.03
Chelmsford Borough Council	49,989.47
Cheltenham Borough Council	36,236.75
Cherwell District Council	44,200.68
Cheshire County Council	310,850.54
Chester City Council	40,207.12
Chesterfield Borough Council	31,878.49
Chester-le-Street District Council	16,939.90
Chichester District Council	34,579.90
Chiltern District Council	30,718.58
Chorley Borough Council	32,449.56
Christchurch Borough Council	14,458.68
City of London	187,403.50
Colchester Borough Council	50,229.26
Congleton Borough Council	29,333.95
Copeland Borough Council	22,182.83
Corby Borough Council	17,527.51
Cornwall County Council	215,526.24
Cotswold District Council	26,315.49
Coventry City Council	240,477.48
Craven District Council	17,256.10
Crawley Borough Council	37,717.85
Crewe & Nantwich Borough Council	36,215.91
Croydon London Borough	269,993.25
Cumbria County Council	210,178.14
Dacorum Borough Council	47,522.23
Darlington Borough Council	73,778.32
Dartford Borough Council	29,288.31
Daventry District Council	24,054.33
Derby City Council	180,991.72
Derbyshire County Council	329,920.29
Derbyshire Dales District Council	22,492.23
Derwentside District Council	26,849.48
Devon County Council	303,371.81
Doncaster Metropolitan Borough	215,714.50
Dorset County Council	171,679.36
Dover District Council	33,679.67
Dudley Metropolitan Borough	233,621.00
Durham City Council	29,088.85
Durham County Council	215,611.84
Ealing London Borough	256,280.31
Easington District Council	29,044.56
East Cambridgeshire District Council	25,443.44
East Devon District Council	39,548.40
East Dorset District Council	26,627.00
East Hampshire District Council	35,707.40
East Hertfordshire District Council	45,077.13
East Lindsey District Council	41,832.39
East Northamptonshire DC	25,449.49
East Riding of Yorkshire Council	238,650.50
East Staffordshire Borough Council	33,558.63
East Sussex County Council	215,906.66
Eastbourne Borough Council	29,546.69
Eastleigh Borough Council	37,695.03
Eden District Council	15,997.07
Ellesmere Port and Neston Borough Council	26,108.93
Elmbridge Borough Council	44,656.82
Enfield London Borough	224,583.99
Epping Forest District Council	41,374.45
Epsom and Ewell Borough Council	24,086.94
Erewash Borough Council	34,761.45
Essex County Council	588,620.13

<i>Local Authority</i>	<i>Amount (£)</i>
Exeter City Council	37,446.20
Fareham Borough Council	35,297.48
Fenland District Council	27,836.55
Forest Heath District Council	19,282.88
Forest of Dean District Council	25,574.89
Fylde Borough Council	24,842.49
Gateshead Metropolitan Borough Council	145,519.20
Gedling Borough Council	34,800.67
Gloucester City Council	36,053.02
Gloucestershire County Council	251,846.70
Gosport Borough Council	25,104.61
Gravesham Borough Council	30,058.97
Great Yarmouth Borough Council	28,939.65
Greenwich London Borough	208,199.08
Guildford Borough Council	46,647.58
Hackney London Borough	199,040.30
Halton Borough Council	92,475.51
Hambleton District Council	26,546.11
Hammersmith and Fulham London Borough	173,472.02
Hampshire County Council	555,836.51
Harborough District Council	24,997.03
Haringey London Borough	179,901.41
Harlow District Council	26,721.29
Harrogate Borough Council	48,093.78
Harrow London Borough	177,253.89
Hart District Council	27,924.14
Hartlepool Borough Council	67,746.13
Hastings Borough Council	26,858.71
Havant Borough Council	37,642.22
Havering Borough Council	179,623.08
Herefordshire Council	132,415.41
Hertfordshire County Council	494,018.18
Hertsmere Borough Council	32,477.79
High Peak Borough Council	28,610.15
Hillingdon London Borough	225,904.93
Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council	32,128.43
Horsham District Council	39,424.34
Hounslow London Borough	184,691.95
Huntingdonshire District Council	51,924.77
Hyndburn Borough Council	25,629.89
Ipswich Borough Council	38,008.09
Isle of Wight Council	107,403.89
Isles of Scilly Council	2,400.81
Islington London Borough	193,469.58
Kennet District Council	24,351.74
Kensington and Chelsea Royal Borough	199,185.93
Kent County Council	589,425.79
Kerrier District Council	29,513.79
Kettering Borough Council	27,063.55
King's Lynn & West Norfolk Borough Council	42,888.77
Kingston upon Hull City Council	191,034.63
Kingston upon Thames Royal Borough	130,139.30
Kirklees Metropolitan Borough	295,092.30
Knowsley Metropolitan Borough	113,398.48
Lambeth London Borough	255,048.83
Lancashire County Council	500,414.99
Lancaster City Council	42,709.18
Leeds City Council	557,962.52
Leicester City Council	236,155.95
Leicestershire County Council	272,963.94
Lewes District Council	29,310.41
Lewisham London Borough	227,920.57
Lichfield District Council	29,583.99
Lincoln City Council	28,645.14
Lincolnshire County Council	285,155.80
Liverpool City Council	358,099.82

<i>Local Authority</i>	<i>Amount (£)</i>
Luton Borough Council	145,326.29
Macclesfield Borough Council	49,105.84
Maidstone Borough Council	44,895.32
Maldon District Council	18,933.57
Malvern Hills District Council	23,164.56
Manchester City Council	392,445.27
Mansfield District Council	30,961.18
Medway Council	188,375.69
Melton Borough Council	15,260.72
Mendip District Council	33,157.92
Merton London Borough	161,565.22
Mid Bedfordshire District Council	40,872.37
Mid Devon District Council	22,163.24
Mid Suffolk District Council	27,348.74
Mid Sussex District Council	40,648.46
Middlesbrough Borough Council	109,020.72
Milton Keynes Council	174,731.08
Mole Valley District Council	28,760.42
New Forest District Council	55,671.29
Newark & Sherwood District Council	34,326.14
Newcastle upon Tyne City Council	225,202.86
Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council	38,415.60
Newham London Borough	199,385.72
Norfolk County Council	343,116.69
North Cornwall District Council	25,870.14
North Devon District Council	27,858.32
North Dorset District Council	19,897.70
North East Derbyshire District Council	30,398.80
North East Lincolnshire Council	117,567.54
North Hertfordshire District Council	38,938.90
North Kesteven District Council	30,765.75
North Lincolnshire Council	115,940.06
North Norfolk District Council	30,980.62
North Shropshire District Council	18,203.54
North Somerset Council	148,042.22
North Tyneside Metropolitan Borough	143,325.78
North Warwickshire Borough Council	20,049.04
North West Leicestershire District Council	27,737.06
North Wiltshire District Council	40,981.21
North Yorkshire County Council	253,920.55
Northampton Borough Council	63,940.67
Northamptonshire County Council	285,058.19
Northumberland County Council	135,080.37
Norwich City Council	44,302.65
Nottingham City Council	235,269.82
Nottinghamshire County Council	329,030.79
Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council	38,671.07
Oadby and Wigston Borough Council	17,704.20
Oldham Metropolitan Borough	167,271.32
Oswestry Borough Council	11,925.35
Oxford City Council	52,034.99
Oxfordshire County Council	284,328.67
Pendle Borough Council	27,910.24
Penwith District Council	19,875.48
Peterborough City Council	128,991.98
Plymouth City Council	182,396.38
Poole Borough Council	102,396.21
Portsmouth City Council	157,012.94
Preston Borough Council	44,061.20
Purbeck District Council	14,196.06
Reading Borough Council	130,684.90
Redbridge London Borough	196,991.49
Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council	103,568.12
Redditch Borough Council	24,753.52
Reigate and Banstead Borough Council	44,546.60
Restormel Borough Council	30,946.73

<i>Local Authority</i>	<i>Amount (£)</i>
Ribble Valley Borough Council	17,574.74
Richmond upon Thames London Borough	154,702.30
Richmondshire District Council	15,784.32
Rochdale Metropolitan Borough	158,265.66
Rochford District Council	24,921.04
Rossendale Borough Council	20,712.50
Rother District Council	27,139.80
Rotherham Borough Council	188,269.25
Rugby Borough Council	29,161.66
Runnymede Borough Council	27,966.05
Rushcliffe Borough Council	33,314.73
Rushmoor Borough Council	29,653.21
Rutland County Council	27,594.02
Ryedale District Council	16,244.72
Salford City Council	169,428.09
Salisbury District Council	37,576.25
Sandwell Metropolitan District	224,083.27
Scarborough Borough Council	33,310.53
Sedgefield Borough Council	27,267.57
Sedgemoor District Council	33,803.92
Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council	212,251.87
Selby District Council	24,054.80
Sevenoaks District Council	37,537.78
Sheffield City Council	395,826.41
Shepway District Council	30,929.23
Shrewsbury & Atcham Borough Council	30,104.64
Shropshire County Council	124,960.44
Slough Borough Council	107,116.78
Solihull Metropolitan Borough	158,032.95
Somerset County Council	219,137.47
South Bedfordshire District Council	37,523.73
South Bucks District Council	21,714.72
South Cambridgeshire District Council	43,473.29
South Derbyshire District Council	27,070.08
South Gloucestershire Council	188,982.66
South Hams District Council	25,618.57
South Holland District Council	24,691.56
South Kesteven District Council	39,414.39
South Lakeland District Council	32,215.27
South Norfolk District Council	35,160.29
South Northamptonshire District Council	26,410.35
South Oxfordshire District Council	42,671.57
South Ribble Borough Council	32,828.28
South Shropshire District Council	12,953.80
South Somerset District Council	47,659.94
South Staffordshire District Council	33,044.20
South Tyneside Metropolitan Borough	114,489.46
Southampton City Council	178,304.84
Southend-on-Sea Borough Council	121,193.67
Southwark London Borough	262,516.40
Spelthorne Borough Council	31,690.48
St Albans District Council	45,757.51
St Edmundsbury Borough Council	31,421.66
St Helens Metropolitan Borough	133,332.56
Stafford Borough Council	38,773.56
Staffordshire County Council	358,781.82
Staffordshire Moorlands District Council	30,307.55
Stevenage Borough Council	26,208.89
Stockport Metropolitan Borough	216,765.45
Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council	139,616.40
Stoke-on-Trent City Council	186,570.98
Stratford-on-Avon District Council	37,646.58
Stroud District Council	34,705.46
Suffolk Coastal District Council	37,091.38
Suffolk County Council	291,528.45
Sunderland City Council	211,992.99

<i>Local Authority</i>	<i>Amount (£)</i>
Surrey County Council	525,537.30
Surrey Heath Borough Council	28,699.89
Sutton London Borough	150,014.56
Swale Borough Council	39,432.43
Swindon Borough Council	142,622.94
Tameside Metropolitan Borough	162,718.07
Tamworth Borough Council	23,536.10
Tandridge District Council	28,149.23
Taunton Deane Borough Council	33,116.15
Teesdale District Council	7,846.87
Teignbridge District Council	38,421.61
Telford and Wrekin Council	120,114.71
Tending District Council	44,366.66
Test Valley Borough Council	36,218.29
Tewkesbury Borough Council	24,836.08
Thanet District Council	40,162.72
Three Rivers District Council	28,998.91
Thurrock Borough Council	117,869.31
Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council	34,692.90
Torbay Borough Council	98,200.65
Torrington District Council	18,990.76
Tower Hamlets London Borough	224,946.07
Trafford Metropolitan Borough	167,228.67
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council	33,134.73
Tynedale District Council	18,660.58
Uttlesford District Council	22,208.02
Vale of White Horse District Council	38,550.04
Vale Royal Borough Council	39,918.58
Wakefield City Council	241,809.09
Walsall Metropolitan Borough	193,275.99
Waltham Forest London Borough	177,155.33
Wandsworth London Borough	254,450.35
Wansbeck District Council	19,267.57
Warrington Council	150,892.68
Warwick District Council	43,512.06
Warwickshire County Council	236,507.96
Watford Borough Council	28,705.72
Waveney District Council	35,607.46
Waverley Borough Council	41,055.14
Wealden District Council	44,548.77
Wear Valley District Council	19,202.81
Wellingborough District Council	23,393.83
Welwyn Hatfield District Council	34,023.33
West Berkshire Council	118,159.42
West Devon Borough Council	15,501.62
West Dorset District Council	29,927.86
West Lancashire District Council	34,336.61
West Lindsey District Council	25,817.19
West Oxfordshire District Council	32,276.60
West Somerset District Council	11,541.83
West Sussex County Council	337,586.93
West Wiltshire District Council	39,164.01
Westminster City Council	489,336.99
Weymouth & Portland Borough Council	20,173.34
Wigan Metropolitan Borough	234,058.71
Wiltshire County Council	196,736.31
Winchester City Council	36,955.63
Windsor & Maidenhead Royal Borough	119,112.34
Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council	235,478.20
Woking Borough Council	31,736.97
Wokingham Council	123,919.05
Wolverhampton Metropolitan Borough	189,271.96
Worcester City Council	30,118.20
Worcestershire County Council	240,957.22
Worthing Borough Council	31,211.90
Wychavon District Council	36,062.36

<i>Local Authority</i>	<i>Amount (£)</i>
Wycombe District Council	53,961.19
Wyre Borough Council	33,971.55
Wyre Forest District Council	30,715.55
York City Council	145,789.54

Challenge Fund 2005–06

<i>Local Authority</i>	<i>Amount (£)</i>
Bedford BC	739,340.00
Bradford MDC	650,000.00
Broxtowe BC	255,156.00
Buckinghamshire CC Partnership	584,589.00
Cambridgeshire CC Partnership	1,021,599.00
Cheshire CC Partnership	3,574,909.00
Chiltern DC	580,716.00
Darlington BC	715,414.00
Derbyshire CC Partnership	450,000.00
Devon CC Partnership	1,933,328.00
East Riding of Yorkshire	887,249.00
Elmbridge BC	240,000.00
Essex CC Partnership	2,447,700.00
Shropshire and Gloucestershire CC Partnership	1,028,705.00
Great Yarmouth BC	556,486.00
Hampshire CC	1,369,205.00
Hertfordshire CC	1,240,980.00
Kettering BC	483,600.00
Kingston upon Hull CC	337,211.00
Lancashire CC Partnership	1,685,960.00
Leicestershire CC	100,000.00
Greater Manchester WDA Partnership	1,917,400.00
Merseyside WDA	4,173,000.00
North East Lincolnshire Council	50,000.00
North Kesteven DC	226,180.00
North West Leicestershire DC	685,136.00
Redcar and Cleveland BC	724,352.00
Restormel BC	449,601.00
Rushcliffe BC	582,071.00
Ryedale DC	564,588.00
Sevenoaks DC	97,867.00
Sheffield CC	485,907.00
Shepway DC	1,200,571.00
Slough BC	110,980.00
Somerset CC Partnership	1,607,784.00
South Bedfordshire DC	726,647.00
South Gloucestershire Council	78,440.00
South Norfolk Council	784,000.00
South Tyneside MBC	806,450.00
Stafford BC	281,000.00
Suffolk CC Partnership	1,885,205.00
Taunton Deane BC	420,921.00
West Dorset DC	197,055.00
West Sussex CC	76,275.00
Wolverhampton CC	739,987.00
London Waste Action	6,849,741.00

WRAP Funding 2005–06

<i>Council</i>	<i>Programme</i>	<i>Amount (£)</i>
Adur District Council		5,000.00
Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council	Organics	10,000.00
Bath & North East Somerset Council	Organics	45,000.00
Borough of Telford & Wrekin	Organics	848.00
Borough of Poole	Organics	16,475.00
Bristol City Council	ROTATE	42.64
Bristol City Council	Local Authorit Support	288.93
Cherwell District Council	ROTATE	569.88
Cumbria County Council	Organics	76,300.00
Cumbria County Council	Regional Market Development	120,000.00
Derbyshire County Council	Home Composting Campaign	1,403.96
Derbyshire County Council	Real Nappy Programme	8,846.99
Derbyshire County Council	Organics	37,478.25
Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council	Organics	29,500.00
Dorset County Council	Organics	56,886.88
Durham County Council	Organics	797.75
East Sussex County Council	Real Nappy Programme	66,835.92
East Dorset District Council	Organics	14,025.00
East Riding of Yorkshire Council	Organics	34,185.00
Essex County Council	Home Composting Campaign	420.00
Essex County Council	Real Nappy Programme	56,173.42
Essex County Council	Organics	76,590.10
Gloucestershire County Council	Home Composting Campaign	150.00
Halton Borough Council	Home Composting Campaign	2,936.33
Hampshire County Council	Organics	190,000.00
Hampshire County Council	Regional Market Development	59,107.00
Kent County Council	Regional Market Development	168,120.00
Kirklees Metropolitan Council	Organics	8,655.76
Leicestershire County Council	Home Composting Campaign	145.41
Lincolnshire County Council	Real Nappy Programme	11,255.45
Lincolnshire County Council	Organics	52,500.00
London Borough of Enfield	Home Composting Campaign	1,410.00
London Borough of Bromley	Real Nappy Programme	18,521.91
London Borough of Islington	Real Nappy Programme	18,853.05
London Borough of Richmond upon Thames	Real Nappy Programme	2,600.00
London Borough of Richmond upon Thames	Organics	41,108.00
London Borough of Hounslow	Real Nappy Programme	24,685.33
London Borough of Merton	Organics	47,186.00
Luton Borough Council	Organics	36,044.00
Manchester City Council	Regional Market Development	446,751.00
Medway Council	Real Nappy Programme	4,492.08
Milton Keynes Council	Real Nappy Programme	36,214.99
Milton Keynes Council	Organics	38,484.16
Newcastle City Council	Organics	52,794.46
Northumberland County Council	Real Nappy Programme	2,581.58
Norfolk County Council	Real Nappy Programme	44,088.49
Norfolk County Council	Organics	35,400.00
North Lincolnshire Council	Home Composting Campaign	350.50
North Dorset District Council	Regional Market Development	220,000.00
Reading Borough Council	Real Nappy Programme	46,376.45
Restormel Borough Council	Home Composting Campaign	744.00
Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead	Organics	19,966.70
Sedgefield Borough Council	ROTATE	349.42
South Tyneside Council	Organics	24,135.48
Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council	Organics	31,212.53
Surrey County Council	Real Nappy Programme	27,199.35
Surrey County Council	Organics	75,644.10
Swindon Borough Council	Organics	40,000.00
Warwickshire County Council	Home Composting Campaign	589.85
Warwickshire County Council	Real Nappy Programme	63,686.26
Warrington Borough Council	Organics	30,197.38
West Sussex County Council	Home Composting Campaign	120.00
West Sussex County Council	Real Nappy Programme	46,118.52

<i>Local Authority / Description of Project</i>	<i>Amount (£)</i>
Recycle to Reduce Waste Communications Campaign—St Albans District Council	13,000.00
Resolve-it Communications Campaign—South Tyneside Metropolitan Borough Council	49,071.22
Don't Wriggle Out of Composting Communications Campaign—Lancashire County Council	142,038.50
"Nada"—a waste reduction lifestyle magazine Communications Campaign—Oxfordshire County Council	63,780.00
Green Waste Kerbside Comms Campaign—Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council	23,200.00
Dry recycling multi-material kerbside and bring bank recycling communications campaign—Charnwood Borough Council	59,951.16
Garden & Dry Recycable Kerbside—Tamworth County Council	88,076.87
West Dorset DC	5,825.43
Rushcliffe	15,233.91
Dry Kerbside & Develop Site—Kingston upon Hull County Council	44,215.06
Green Waste Kerbside Communications Campaign—Broxtowe Borough Council	40,627.92
Dry Recycling Single Material Kerbside Communications Campaign—Wakefield Metropolitan Borough Council	5,913.14
Twin Bins Communications Campaign—North Norfolk District Council	29,861.07
Bring Bank MRF—Hastings County Council	166,452.81
Kerbside Green Waste and Composting Communications Campaign—Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council	21,452.00
Greenwaste kerbside Comms Campaign: South Bedfordshire District Council	23,240.87
Darlington BC	17,720.78
Ashfield Recycling Twin Bin Scheme Communications Campaign—Ashfield District Council	20,054.70
Green Waste And Dry Recycling Multi-Material Kerbside Communications Campaign—Ryedale District Council	12,877.00
Green Waste Kerbside Communications Campaign—Gateshead Council	39,952.80
South Tyneside	40,567.58
Green Waste and Dry Multi-Material Kerbside Comms Campaign—Kettering Borough Council	113,548.51
Green Waste Kerbside and Dry Recycling Multi-Material Kerbside Communications Campaign—North West Leicestershire District Council	4,963.60
Home Composting and Green Waste Kerbside Communications Campaign—Guildford Borough Council	20,000.00
North Kesteven DC	3,718.00
Think Twice Communications Campaign—South Norfolk District Council	34,951.74
Green Waste Kerbside Communications Campaign—Stafford Borough Council	15,500.00
Green Waste Kerbside Recycling Communications Campaign—Slough Borough Council	24,095.96
Dry Recycling Multi-Materials Kerbside Communications Campaign—Shepway District Council	103,500.00
Kerbside Collection Scheme for Dry Recyclables in Tynedale District, Northumberland, Communications Campaign—Tynedale District Council	10,850.18
Dry Recyclable Multi-Material Kerbside—Elmbridge Borough Council	32,685.70
bringbankrecycling—Runnymede Borough Council	6,000.00
Green Waste And Multi-Material Kerbside Communications Campaign—Restormel Borough Council	16,468.82
Expansion of paper kerbside—Kennet District Council	5,000.00
Green Waste Kerbside Communications Campaign—North East Lincolnshire Council	24,864.66
Multi-material dry—North Tyneside Council	90,486.78
Green Waste Kerbside Communications Campaign—City of Lincoln Council	0.01
Dry Recyclables and Putrescible Waste Communications Campaign—Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council	110,000.00
Redcar & Cleveland	86,500.00
Dudley MBC	
Green Waste Kerbside—South Kesteven District Council	34,652.71
Green Waste Kerbside—Alnwick District Council	5,000.00
Greenwaste & dry recycling multi-material kerbside Comms Campaign—Waveney District Council	25,145.44
Kerbside recycling box Comms Campaign—Blaby District Council	49,163.22
Green Waste & Dry—Bracknell Forest Borough Council	18,997.59
East Staffordshire BC	15,476.90
Dry Recycling Multi-Materials Kerbside Scheme Communications Campaign—Wolverhampton City Council	105,817.51
Kerbside Collection of Multiple Dry Recyclables Communications Campaign—Erewash Borough Council	72,405.46
Green Waste Kerbside Communications Campaign—Sevenoaks District Council	16,070.00
Green Waste Kerbside Communications Campaign—Sheffield County Council	62,000.00
Kerbside Collection of Dry Recyclables Communications Campaign—South Staffordshire Council	4,062.78
Bedford BC	7,350.00
Garden and bulky card kerbside and improvement to existing infra- structure comms campaign—West Devon Borough Council	10,009.37
Dry Recycling Multi-Material Kerbside Communications Campaign—East Riding of Yorkshire Council	177,424.04
Dry recycling multi-material kerbside communications campaign—Wyre Forest District Council	28,361.01
Food Waste Prevention Communications Campaign—West Sussex County Council	36,553.07
Recycling Litter, Glass & Dry—Leeds City Council	4,823.92
Expansion of paper recycling and glass recycling communications campaign—City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council	23,000.00
Civic Amenity Site Development Communications Campaign—Leicestershire County Council	12,000.00
City Of York	17,740.00
Recycling centres—Northamptonshire County Council	75,000.00
Education and Recycling Incentive Campaign—North East Derbyshire District Council	57,904.09
South Lakeland District 'Let's Sort It' Campaign—South Lakeland District Council	105,469.09
The Bedfordshire Recycle Now Campaign	202,702.31
Don't let Adur go to waste—Let's sort it—Adur District Council	72,333.00
It's Not Rubbish Recycle It—Hampshire County Council	451,500.00
Cornwall Waste Awareness Campaign—Cornwall County Council	419,963.60
Roaming Recycler—Wear Valley District Council	173,540.44
Why recycle?—North Hertfordshire District Council	74,569.64
Get it Sorted—Gloucestershire County Council	461,237.37
South Tyneside MBC	185,126.12
Recycling & Composting Kerbside Service—T.R.A.C.K.S Telford & Wrekin	85,256.65
Save it Recycle it—Cherwell District Council	143,369.43
Mission Impossible—Worcestershire County Council	343,411.71
County Durham & Darlington Waste Awareness Campaign—Durham County Council	439,670.65

<i>Local Authority / Description of Project</i>	<i>Amount (£)</i>
Luton Education Taskforce—Let's Reduce—Re-use—Recycle: Luton Borough Council	209,934.85
Recycling Participation—Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council	129,155.89
Recycling Together for Bucks—Bucks County Council	200,000.00
Talking Rubbish Recycling Comms Campaign—Macclesfield BC	35,990.08
Recycling For Schools—Lancashire Waste Partnership (Lancashire County Council)	146,782.00
Think inside the box—Guilford Borough Council	183,100.00
Wake up to recycling in Oldham—Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council	48,654.77
Lichfield is Recycling More—Lichfield District Council	164,500.00
Midlands Waste & Recycling Initiative—Warwickshire County Council	521,206.97
Warwickshire Wastewise 2004—2006—Warkwickshire Environmental Trust	232,171.51
Get recycling in association with Captain Recyclo—Stafford Borough Council	26,840.00
Let's Sort It—Crawley Borough Council	63,500.00
Saving the Earth's Resources: Waste Minimisation in South Cheshire—South Cheshire Friends of the Earth	2,480.00
Increasing Participation Rates and Recycling at Northamptonshire's 10 Recycling Centres—Northamptonshire County Council	126,000.00
Northamptonshire Slim Your Bin Waste Awareness Campaign—Northamptonshire County Council	147,400.00
Be Box Clever—North Doncaster Kerbside Recycling (North Doncaster Council)	17,441.35
Braintree District High Diversion Recycling Communication Campaign—Braintree District Council	85,689.00
Recycle it—Whittle down the Waste—Reigate and Banstead Borough Council	48,627.42
The Sack Race from Wigan Council	139,561.00
The Swaledale & Arkengarthdale Rural Recycling Project—Richmondshire District Council	24,969.91
The Big G: The future of Eastbourne is in your hands—don't let it go to waste—Eastbourne Borough Council	78,316.28
Waste Matters—Suffolk County Council	371,004.13
Recycling is easy—Let's do it together—Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council	143,334.00
Hartlepool Heroes (Householders educated in recycling opportunities)—Hartlepool Borough Council	171,500.00
Kerb it WRAP 2—Manchester City Council	248,000.00
Recycle for Gloucestershire—Gloucestershire County Council	6,726.89
Waste Partnership For Buckinghamshire Communications Campaign—Buckinghamshire County Council	105,714.06
Plastic Banks—Cambridgeshire County Council	93,924.10
Cheshire Waste Partnership—Cheshire County Council	205,800.03
Derbyshire County Council	32,558.74
Devon Composting Partnership Comms Campaign—Devon County Council	17,289.58
A 2020 Vision of Essex—Essex County Council	295,628.83
Shropshire CC	278,000.00
Greater Manchester Partnership Project Communications Campaign—Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority	483,140.81
Multi-material kerbside—Hampshire County Council	319,500.00
Multi-material—Hertfordshire County Council	284,665.00
Multi Material Waste—Lancashire County Council	313,981.68
Merseyside Waste Disposal—Merseyside Waste Disposal	25,168.48
Somerset County Council	247,735.91
Multi-material Kerbside—St Edmundsbury Borough Council (Suffolk)	361,849.61

Direct Consultancy Support

<i>Lead Authority</i>	<i>No of authorities</i>	<i>Project Title</i>	<i>Project Category</i>	<i>Budget (£)</i>
Stockton-on-Tees	1	Community Recycling Facility—Feasibility Study	Planning	29,933.00
Stockton-on-Tees	5	Tees Valley Bring Site Collection Scheme	Banks	18,409.00
Stockton-on-Tees	5	Waste Inventory and analysis	Waste Composition	41,390.00
Darlington Borough Council	1	Darlington Waste Contract Specification	Procurement	17,788.00
Darlington Borough Council	1	Finalisation of Darlington's Municipal Waste Management Strategy	Strategy	18,450.00
Durham County Council	8	Model Municipal Waste Management Strategy for County Durham.	Strategy	92,697.00
Durham County Council	8	Health Impact Assessment of the County Durham Waste Strategy	Strategy	14,887.50
Castle Morpeth Borough Council	1	Bulky Goods Collection Appraisal	Bulky Goods	16565.00
Alnwick District Council	1	Waste composition analysis	Waste Composition	19,181.00
Alnwick District Council	1	Household waste profiling exercise using this years waste composition study	Waste Composition	7,835.00
South Tyneside MBC	3	Joint Authority—Waste Management Partnership Procurement Project	Procurement	44,710.00
North Tyneside Council	1	Development of a waste strategy compliant with our LATS target	Strategy	20,846.71
Newcastle-upon-Tyne City Council	1	Evaluation of Strategic Solutions	Strategy	14,812.00
Gateshead MBC	1	Municipal Waste Strategy Gateshead Council	Strategy	17,913.00
Gateshead MBC	1	Public Consultation on Gateshead Councils Municipal Waste Management Strategy	Strategy	19,925.00
Warrington Borough Council	2	Development of a Procurement Strategy for Warrington and Halton Borough Councils	Procurement	43,613.00
Cheshire County Council	7	Improved Partnership Working Arrangements	Strategy	15,375.00
Cheshire County Council	7	Cheshire household waste composition analysis	Waste Composition	39,160.00
Cumbria County Council	7	Seasonal Compositional Analysis of Household Waste in Cumbria (Summer)	Waste Composition	93,439.00
Wigan MBC	1	Development of an implementation and procurement plan for waste facilities in Wigan	Procurement	19,950.00
Wigan MBC	1	Site search and waste strategy review update		19,500.00
Greater Manchester WDA	10	Bulky & Non-Household Waste Composition Study	Waste Composition	79,910.00
Greater Manchester Waste Disposal	10	Household Waste Composition Study	Waste Composition	94,870.00

<i>Lead Authority</i>	<i>No of authorities</i>	<i>Project Title</i>	<i>Project Category</i>	<i>Budget (£)</i>
Authority				
Greater Manchester WDA	10	Greater Manchester Waste Collection Cost Analysis		35,360.00
South Ribble Borough Council	1	Effective use of Bring Site recycling facilities	Banks	18,275.00
Ribble Valley Borough Council	1	Reuse and Recycling of bulky household waste	Bulky Goods	13,450.00
Wirral MBC	1	Estates, Terraces & High Rise—Breaking Down Barriers to Recycling	Estates	18,740.00
Sefton MBC	1	Bulky Item Diversion, Bulky item quantification, Single commodity Collection	Bulky Goods	20,800.00
Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority	6	Joint Merseyside Waste Strategy—Review of Residual Waste Management Options	Strategy	20,000.00
Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority	6	Additional Waste Strategy Support for Knowsley Council	Strategy	15,656.00
East Riding of Yorkshire Council	2	Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy review—East Riding of Yorkshire Council & Kingston upon Hull City Council	Strategy	39,688.00
East Riding of Yorkshire Council	2	Municipal Waste Composition Analysis		29,905.00
North Lincolnshire Council	2	Northern Lincolnshire Unitary Authorities Joint Strategic Waste Management Assessment	Strategy	39,875.00
North Lincolnshire Council	2	Waste Composition Analysis	Waste Composition	18,025.00
Selby District Council	1	Development of Community Bulk Waste Collections	Bulky Goods	16,050.00
Harrogate Borough Council	2	Strategic Review of Kerbside Collection Systems	Strategy	20,000.00
North Yorkshire County Council	9	York and North Yorkshire Waste Management Partnership (YNYWMP) and Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS)—revision and development	Strategy	72,182.00
Sheffield City Council	1	A new Household Waste Recycling Centre for South West Sheffield	HWRCs	13,167.00
Rotherham MBC	1	Designing a new layout for the Car Hill Household Waste Recycling Centre	HWRCs	11,600.00
Doncaster MBC	1	Procurement-Contract scoping and evaluation	Procurement	30,470.00
Barnsley MBC	1	Development of Waste Strategy	Strategy	27,513.00
Barnsley MBC	3	Management of Household Waste Recycling Centres	HWRCs	49,925.00
Leeds City Council	1	Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)	Strategy	19,050.00
Leeds City Council	1	Waste Composition analysis	Waste Composition	17,014.00
Leeds City Council	1	Development of Waste Strategy	Strategy	18,600.00
Kirklees MBC	1	SEASONAL WASTE COMPOSITION ANALYSIS	Waste Composition	19,900.00
Wakefield MBC	1	Compositional Analysis for Wakefield	Waste Composition	15,575.00
Bradford City MDC	1	Delivering Infrastructure Improvements to 3 CA Sites	HWRCs	20,000.00
Calderdale MBC	1	Calderdale Waste Analysis 2005	Waste Composition	9,004.00
Calderdale MBC	1	Household Waste Recycling Centre Design & Management Study 2005	HWRCs	15,500.00
Derbyshire County Council	10	Compositional Analysis of Household Waste in Derbyshire	Waste Composition	99,500.99
Leicestershire County Council	8	Leicestershire Waste Management Strategy Review	Strategy	98,900.00
Leicestershire County Council	8	MWMS and Waste Development Framework Integration in Leicestershire		30,062.75
Leicestershire County Council	8	Leicestershire Strategy Consultation		29,192.00
South Kesteven District Council	1	Waste Analysis	Waste Composition	13,550.00
East Lindsey District Council	1	Waste Compositional Analysis of Street Litter	Waste Composition	15,746.00
Lincolnshire County Council	8	Development of Lincolnshire Joint Municipal Waste Strategy	Strategy	17,848.00
Northamptonshire County Council	8	Procurement of Waste Management Services	Procurement	19,888.50
Northamptonshire County Council		Baseline Strategy Review	Strategy	13,500.00
Northamptonshire County Council	8	Partnership and Procurement	Waste Composition	75,000.00
Newark and Sherwood district Council	1	N&SDC Waste Strategy 2005–2010	Strategy	19,995.00
Ashfield District Council	1	Litter bin waste, location and frequency analysis	Waste Composition	19,867.00
Telford and Wrekin Council	1	Identification & Assessment of Suitable Waste Treatment/Resource Management Sites	Planning	19,345.00
Shropshire County Council	6	Joint MWMS Review and Sustainability Appraisal	Strategy	80,575.00
Shropshire County Council	6	Review of Household Recycling Centres (Civic Amenity Sites) to improve performance	HWRCs	19,650.00
Stoke-on-Trent City Council	1	Implementation of infrastructure changes at two household waste recycling centres.	HWRCs	19,160.00
Staffordshire Moorlands District Council	1	Waste Composition Analysis	Waste Composition	15,910.00
Luton Borough Council	1	Bulky Goods—reuse and recycling	Bulky Goods	18043.50
Warwickshire County Council	6	Finalisation of Warwickshire's Municipal Waste Management Strategy	Strategy	14,863.00
Warwickshire County Council	6	Bulky Waste Audit	Bulky Goods	93,000.00
Warwickshire County Council	6	Executive Voting within a Waste Partnership		4,100.00
Warwickshire County Council	6	Waste Minimisation		11,500.00
Walsall MBC	1	LATS Assessment	Strategy	17,550.00
Sandwell MBC	1	MODEL FOR PROCUREMENT OF COLLECTION SERVICES	Procurement	18,421.15
South Bedfordshire District Council	1	Communal Consultation	Estates	16,340.00
Bedfordshire County Council	5	Supplementary Planning Document to guide sustainable waste management in new developments	Planning	48,696.25
Bedfordshire County Council	1	Municipal Commercial Waste Recycling	Waste Composition	8,558.15
Cambridgeshire County Council	7	RECAP Consultancy Project	Strategy	108,485.00

<i>Lead Authority</i>	<i>No of authorities</i>	<i>Project Title</i>	<i>Project Category</i>	<i>Budget (£)</i>
Thurrock Council	1	Development of Long-term Municipal Waste Management Strategy in line with BPEO/ Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment principles to meet Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme requirements in 2005/06 and beyond	Strategy	25,913.00
Essex County Council	13	Maximising Diversion from Bulky Waste Collections through the engagement of the Community Sector	Bulky Goods	36,781.00
Essex County Council	13	Maximising Material Capture from Multi-occupancy and High Density Housing	Estates	36,630.00
Hertfordshire County Council	11	Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Hertfordshire	Strategy	96,100.00
Breckland	8	Waste Composition Analysis—Norfolk	Waste Composition	135,425.00
Norfolk County Council	8	Norfolk's Municipal Waste Management Strategy—Second Revision	Strategy	38,082.00
Suffolk County Council	7	County Wide Waste Composition Study	Waste Composition	98,980.00
Suffolk County Council	8	Evaluation of options for joint waste collection and disposal	Strategy	99,070.00
Tower Hamlets	1	Housing Bulky Waste Collection Service	Bulky Goods	11,595.00
Westminster City Council	1	West End Recycling	Estates	16,260.00
East London Waste Authority	5	Targeting the Strategy: Phase II	Strategy	80,743.00
Waltham Forest LB	2	Waste Analysis	Waste Composition	14,183.00
Hackney LB	1	LB. Hackney Recycling Contract Procurement	Procurement	18,000.00
Enfield LB	1	Waste Analysis	Waste Composition	19,010.00
Camden LB	2	Redevelopment of Household Waste Recycling Centre	HWRCs	13,300.00
Barnet LB	1	Waste Minimisation Strategy for Barnet	Strategy	15,300.00
North London Waste Authority	7	North London Community Involvement & Joint Working	Strategy	60,175.00
North London Waste Authority	7	Best Practice for Joint Waste Planning	Planning	12,000.00
Lewisham	1	Review & Development of Lewisham's Municipal Waste Management Strategy	Strategy	20,320.00
Greenwich LB	1	Waste Composition Analysis	Waste Composition	20,000.00
Kingston-upon-Thames LB	4	Partnership and Joint Procurement	Procurement	79,463.00
Croydon LB	1	Household Waste Composition Analysis	Waste Composition	17,360.00
Bromley LB	2	Waste Composition Audit	Waste Composition	40,730.00
Richmond upon Thames	1	Review of Waste and Recycling Services within the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames	Strategy	12,543.00
Hillingdon LB	2	Civic Amenity Site Re-Engineering (Design Phase)	HWRCs	16,817.00
Harrow Borough Council	5	Improving the Evidence Base for the Waste Development Plan Document process in West London	Planning	40,600.00
Brent LB	1	Preparation of a municipal waste management Strategy for The London Borough of Brent	Strategy	19,206.00
Wandsworth LB	1	Wandsworth Waste Composition Audit: To Assess (a) Quantity of garden waste in domestic waste stream and (b) Quantity of recyclate in domestic bulk bins.	Waste Composition	17,060.00
Lambeth LB	1	Strategy for the expansion of estate 'door to door' recycling services	Estates	19,635.00
Windsor and Maidenhead Borough Council	1	Waste Composition Analysis	Waste Composition	19,600.00
South Bucks District Council	1	Bring Site Overview and Enhancement Project	Banks	17,875.00
Buckinghamshire County Council	5	Delivery of the public consultation programme on the MWMS of the Waste Partnership for Buckinghamshire	Strategy	66,625.97
Buckinghamshire County Council	5	Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the developing MWMS for Buckinghamshire	Strategy	36,024.00
Buckinghamshire County Council	5	Engaging the Community in Developing a Joint Municipal Waste Strategy for Buckinghamshire		8,690.00
Brighton and Hove Council	1	Development of Recycling Containment and Collection From High Rise/ High Density Housing	Estates	9,990.00
East Sussex County Council	6	A pathfinder Municipal Waste Management Strategy and Sustainable Environment Assessment for East Sussex	Strategy	96,802.00
Hampshire County Council	14	Developing a Joint Municipal Waste management Strategy for Hampshire	Strategy	76,550.00
Swale Borough Council	1	Waste composition analysis	Waste Composition	9,400.00
Medway Borough Council	1	Finalisation of Medway's Municipal Waste Management Strategy	Strategy	18,825.00
Kent County Council	12	Kent Joint Household Waste Strategy-review	Strategy	81,952.00
Kent County Council	12	Contract structure for raising HWRC recycling rates	Procurement	8,982.00
Kent County Council	12	Opportunities associated with commercial waste	Strategy	19,962.00
Kent County Council	12	Activating the Community Waste Sector	Strategy	10,712.50
West Oxfordshire District Council	6	Business Case Approach for determining the way forward for Waste Management in Oxfordshire, 2005–2020	Strategy	106,612.00
Oxfordshire County Council	6	Improving Waste Management—Future Treatment	Procurement	29,934.33
Oxfordshire County Council	2	Bulky and residual waste analysis	Bulky Goods	15,900.00
Surrey County Council	12	Developing a new Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Surrey'	Strategy	97,480.00
Worthing Borough Council	2	Waste Analysis	Waste Composition	18,314.28
West Sussex County Council	5	Calculation of Respective Trade/Domestic Fractions in "Mixed" Waste Collections	Waste Composition	16,745.00
Bristol City Council	4	Development of a West of England Waste Management Strategy	Strategy	91,040.42
South Hams	1	Recycling Commercial Waste	Waste Composition	19,900.00

<i>Lead Authority</i>	<i>No of authorities</i>	<i>Project Title</i>	<i>Project Category</i>	<i>Budget (£)</i>
Plymouth City Council	1	MSW Compositional Analysis	Waste Composition	20,000.00
Plymouth City Council	1	Civic Amenity Recycling Centre Redesign	HWRCs	23,230.00
East Devon District Council	2	East & Mid Devon Recycling Contract Partnership	Procurement	17,465.00
Devon County Council	4	Residual Waste Composition Analysis	Waste Composition	103,258.79
Bournemouth Borough Council	1	Bournemouth Municipal Waste Audit	Waste Composition	19,986.70
Dorset County Council	7	Dorset Waste Analysis	Waste Composition	37,900.00
Dorset County Council	7	Dorset Recycling Contract 2006	Procurement	31,000.00
Gloucestershire County Council	7	Development of Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWS)	Strategy	81,368.50
Gloucestershire County Council	7	The Gloucestershire Collection Realignment Project	Procurement	37,200.00
Somerset County Council	6	Contract Integration	Procurement	98,950.00
Swindon Borough Council	2	Local municipal waste strategy	Strategy	19,923.80
Wiltshire County Council	5	Waste Composition Analysis	Waste Composition	75,079.00
				4,904,589.79

Household Incentive Pilot Scheme 2005–06

<i>Local Authority</i>	<i>Amount (£)</i>	<i>Local Authority</i>	<i>Amount (£)</i>
Alnwick DC	43,335	Cambridgeshire & Peterborough WP	50,000
City of Sunderland	24,700	Cambridgeshire & Peterborough WP	69,386
City of Sunderland	24,700	Essex CC	90,000
Durham CC	168,000	South Norfolk DC	25,000
Newcastle Upon Tyne City Council	108,500	St Edmundsbury BC	23,000
Tees Valley	66,110	Bromley and Sutton	21,400
Lancashire Waste Partnership	80,000	Hammersmith & Fulham and Lambeth	119,000
LWP & Partners	318,500	Haringey	118,000
Rochdale MBC & Salford	13,900	Havering	50,900
Sefton MBC	36,200	Islington, Enfield & Hackney	43,500
Stockport MBC	37,000	Westminster	4,000
Cheshire WP & Vale Royal BC	34,000	Brighton & Hove City Council	50,000
Crewe & Nantwich	40,000	Canterbury City Council	11,000
Calderdale MBC	18,040	East & West Sussex	87,500
City of York Council	6,394	East & West Sussex	40,500
East Riding of Yorkshire Council	9,400	East & West Sussex	29,500
Leeds City Council	97,846	East & West Sussex	45,500
Leicestershire Waste Partnership	157,000	Hampshire CC	142,500
Nottinghamshire CC	100,000	Hampshire CC	72,500
East Staffordshire BC	30,000	Slough BC	65,000
Redditch BC	20,500	South Oxfordshire	5,000
Shropshire CC	36,000	West of England Partnership	67,450
Worcestershire CC	61,800	Dorset CC	52,375
Breckland Council	9,200		

Question 96 (Mr Austin Mitchell): *Challenge Fund*

Challenge fund 2002-03

<i>Local Authority</i>	<i>Difference in recycling rate 2002–05 (percentage points)</i>	<i>Amount of funding received (excluding partnerships) (£)</i>	<i>Financial Year Funding Received</i>
Ashfield District Council	14.5	177,000	2002–03
Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council	14.5	757,667	2002–03
Barrow-In-Furness Borough Council	13.1	297,500	2002–03
Bassetlaw District Council 1	12.9	60,000	2002–03
Bassetlaw District Council 2	12.9	260,000	2002–03
Bath & North East Somerset Council 1	8.4	336,954	2002–03
Bath & North East Somerset Council 2	8.4	639,260	2002–03
Birmingham City Council 1	6.5	32,384	2002–03
Birmingham City Council 2	6.5	315,000	2002–03
Borough of Pendle	10.5	96,000	2002–03
Bradford Metropolitan District Council	7.1	825,000	2002–03
Braintree District Council	14.5	186,800	2002–03
Breckland Council 1	30.1	79,652	2002–03
Breckland Council 2	30.1	806,923	2002–03

<i>Local Authority</i>	<i>Difference in recycling rate 2002-05 (percentage points)</i>	<i>Amount of funding received (excluding partnerships) (£)</i>	<i>Financial Year Funding Received</i>
Brentwood Borough Council	12.5	106,100	2002-03
Bristol City Council	0.3	67,547	2002-03
Broadland District Council	28.9	171,884	2002-03
Broxtowe Borough Council	23.1	176,386	2002-03
Burnley Borough Council	5.2	133,307	2002-03
Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council	7.7	20,000	2002-03
Cambridgeshire County Council	15.7	73,535	2002-03
Cannock Chase District Council	8.9	194,896	2002-03
Canterbury City Council	21.1	706,000	2002-03
Caradon & North Cornwall District Councils	Caradon = 11.8 / North Cornwall = 25.1	1,696,000	2002-03
Chelmsford Borough Council	14.6	736,200	2002-03
Cheshire County Council	8.9	1,186,216	2002-03
Chesterfield Borough Council	14.3	234,000	2002-03
Chichester District Council	6.1	88,400	2002-03
Chorley Borough Council	15.9	187,056	2002-03
City of Salford Council	7.3	301,000	2002-03
City of Sunderland	8.9	779,517	2002-03
City of Sunderland & Gateshead Metropolitan Borough Council	Gateshead = 9.2 / City of Sunderland = 8.9	221,760	2002-03
City of Wakefield Metropolitan District Council	13.9	920,500	2002-03
Coventry City Council	8.8	1,000,000	2002-03
Craven District Council	13.2	273,200	2002-03
Crawley Borough Council	8.4	210,000	2002-03
Dartford Borough Council	8.6	25,000	2002-03
Daventry District Council	1.2	67,400	2002-03
Devon Authorities	Partnership	1,119,000	2002-03
Devon County council	12.2	375,000	2002-03
Dorset County Council	7.9	260,000	2002-03
Durham County Council	11.5	1,619,845	2002-03
East Northamptonshire Council	7.5	367,850	2002-03
East Sussex County Council 1	6.1	261,880	2002-03
East Sussex County Council 2	6.1	78,000	2002-03
Elmbridge Borough Council	8.8	238,514	2002-03
Essex County Council	8.6	268,565	2002-03
Forest Heath District Council	17.9	651,000	2002-03
Gateshead Council	9.2	639,000	2002-03
Gedling Borough Council	10.3	27,000	2002-03
Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority 1	Partnership	20,000	2002-03
Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority 2	Partnership	434,500	2002-03
Harlow District Council	7.3	52,000	2002-03
Harrogate Borough Council	8.9	24,959	2002-03
Hartlepool Borough Council	7.2	707,400	2002-03
Horsham District Council (West Sussex County Council)	Horsham D.C.—22 / West Sussex C.C.—8.6	220,000	2002-03
Hyndburn Borough Council	18	600,000	2002-03
Kennet District Council	-4.7	20,000	2002-03
Kirklees Metropolitan dc 1	5.5	946,000	2002-03
Kirklees Metropolitan District Council 2	5.5	160,000	2002-03
Lancashire County Council	14	61,689	2002-03
Lancashire Waste Partnership	Partnership	2,418,363	2002-03
Lewes District Council	7.5	398,650	2002-03
Maldon District Council	7.4	77,214	2002-03
Malvern Hills & Wychavon District Councils	Malvern Hills—13.7 / Wychavon D.C.—5.9	106,614	2002-03
Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority	Partnership	120,000	2002-03
Newcastle-Under-Lyme Borough Council	8	133,000	2002-03
Newcastle-Upon-Tyne City Council 1	10	87,000	2002-03
Newcastle-Upon-Tyne City Council 2	10	925,264	2002-03
North East Lincolnshire Council 1	11.9	710,000	2002-03
North East Lincolnshire Council 2	11.9	43,731	2002-03
North Hertfordshire District Council	9.1	33,000	2002-03
North Lincolnshire Council	7.9	76,504	2002-03
North Somerset Council	6.6	721,755	2002-03
North Warwickshire Borough Council	16.2	108,300	2002-03
Northumberland County Council 1	18.3	363,000	2002-03
Northumberland County Council 2	18.3	403,000	2002-03
Norwich City Council 1	5.5	307,166	2002-03
Norwich City Council 2	5.5	708,234	2002-03
Nottinghamshire County Council	17.5	525,000	2002-03
Peterborough City Council	6.9	1,046,000	2002-03
Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council 1	8	31,000	2002-03
Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council 2	8	578,030	2002-03
Restormel Borough Council	6	98,475	2002-03
Ribble Valley Borough Council	10	345,180	2002-03
Richmondshire District Council	5.1	14,000	2002-03
Runnymede Borough Council	9.3	143,000	2002-03
Rushcliffe Borough Council	36	225,397	2002-03
Scarborough Borough Council 1	6.2	275,000	2002-03

<i>Local Authority</i>	<i>Difference in recycling rate 2002-05 (percentage points)</i>	<i>Amount of funding received (excluding partnerships) (£)</i>	<i>Financial Year Funding Received</i>
Scarborough Borough Council 2	6.2	135,000	2002-03
Shrewsbury & Atcham Borough Council	12.3	63,900	2002-03
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	14.5	205,000	2002-03
Somerset County Council 1	16	241,563	2002-03
Somerset County Council 2	16	693,705	2002-03
South Buckinghamshire District Council	3.5	272,000	2002-03
South Tyneside Metropolitan Borough Council 1	12.3	466,246	2002-03
South Tyneside Metropolitan Borough Council 2	12.3	428,000	2002-03
Staffordshire Moorlands District Council	15.8	95,580	2002-03
Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council	19.7	202,500	2002-03
Stratford-Upon-Avon District Council	19.3	40,000	2002-03
Suffolk Coastal District Council	15.5	364,000	2002-03
Suffolk County Council	17.6	265,800	2002-03
Surrey Heath Borough Council	2.8	209,500	2002-03
Thanet District Council 1	14.8	342,250	2002-03
Thanet District Council 2	14.8	67,500	2002-03
Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council	4.5	150,000	2002-03
Waverley Borough Council	8.5	101,970	2002-03
Wear Valley District Council	7.3	707,700	2002-03
Wellingborough Borough Council	7.9	128,500	2002-03
West Berkshire Council	6.8	49,552	2002-03
West Lindsey District Council	16.8	237,174	2002-03
Wiltshire County Council	10.7	31,000	2002-03

Large Partnership Project—
Waste Disposal authority

Challenge fund 2003-04

<i>Local Authority</i>	<i>Difference in recycling rate 2002-05 (percentage points)</i>	<i>Amount of funding received (excluding partnerships) (£)</i>	<i>Financial Year Funding Received</i>
Adur District Council Bid 1	5.9	327,970	2003-04
Allerdale Borough Council Bid 2	13.9	247,610	2003-04
Ashfield District Council Bid 1	14.5	214,000	2003-04
Basildon District Council Bid 1	2.1	121,433	2003-04
Bath and North East Somerset Bid 2	8.4	755,441	2003-04
Bedfordshire County Council Bid 1 (partnership), Bedford B.C, Mid Bedfordshire D.C., South Bedfordshire D.C.	15.6	914,000	2003-04
Boston Borough Council Bid 1	21.7	448,025	2003-04
Boston Borough Council Bid 2	21.7	123,592	2003-04
Bournemouth Borough Council Bid 1	1.3	1,381,400	2003-04
Bradford Metropolitan District Council Bid 1	7.1	553,000	2003-04
Braintree District Council bid Bid 1	14.6	1,069,100	2003-04
Brentwood Borough Council Bid 1	12.5	252,250	2003-04
Brighton and Hove City Council Bid 1	8.3	737,599	2003-04
Bromsgrove District Council Bid 1	16	718,600	2003-04
Bromsgrove District Council Bid 2	16	1,596,380	2003-04
Broxbourne Borough Council Bid 2	9.6	87,622	2003-04
Broxtowe Borough Council Bid 1	23.1	783,420	2003-04
Burnley Borough Council Bid 2	5.2	520,000	2003-04
Cambridgeshire County Council Bid 1 (partnership), Cambridge City Council, East Cambridgeshire DC, Fenland DC, Huntingdonshire DC, South Cambridgeshire DC	15.7	3,428,736	2003-04
Cambridgeshire County Council (partnership) Bid 2, Cambridge City Council, East Cambridgeshire DC, Fenland DC, Huntingdonshire DC, Peterborough City Council, South Cambridgeshire DC	15.7	270,647	2003-04
Carrick District Council Bid 1	15.7	572,107	2003-04
Castle Morpeth Borough Council Bid 2	15	172,000	2003-04
Chelmsford Borough Council Bid 2	14.6	556,000	2003-04
Cherwell District Council Bid 1	35.2	998,240	2003-04
Chesterfield Borough Council Bid 1	14.4	52,500	2003-04
Chichester District Council Bid 1	6.1	117,365	2003-04
Chorley Borough Council Bid 1	16	87,261	2003-04
City of Sunderland Bid 1	8.9	879,500	2003-04
City of Wakefield MBC Bid 1	13.9	229,820	2003-04
Colchester Borough Council Bid 1	7.8	746,809	2003-04
Copeland Borough Council Bid 1	21.4	433,900	2003-04
Corby Borough Council Bid 1	8.1	559,265	2003-04
Coventry City Council Bid 1	8.8	425,000	2003-04
Crawley Borough Council Bid 2	8.4	38,332	2003-04
Dacorum Borough Council Bid 1	18.5	908,600	2003-04
Darlington Bid 1	5.7	536,600	2003-04

<i>Local Authority</i>	<i>Difference in recycling rate 2002–05 (percentage points)</i>	<i>Amount of funding received (excluding partnerships) (£)</i>	<i>Financial Year Funding Received</i>
Derby City Council Bid 2	9.7	114,926	2003–04
Derbyshire County Council Bid 1	10.7	403,489	2003–04
District of Bolsover Bid 1	7.7	102,275	2003–04
Dorset County Council Bid 2 (partnership), Christchurch BC, East Dorset DC, North Dorset DC, Purbeck DC, West Dorset DC, Weymouth and Portland DC	7.9	2,597,390	2003–04
Dudley MBC Bid 1	5.1	577,000	2003–04
East Dorset District Council Bid 1	10.4	492,760	2003–04
East Hampshire District Council Bid 1	16.3	270,000	2003–04
East Lindsey Bid 2	12.2	46,503	2003–04
Eastleigh Borough Council Bid 1	5.1	170,035	2003–04
Elmbridge Borough Council Bid 1	8.8	329,000	2003–04
Epsom and Ewell Borough Council Bid 1	8.6	244,850	2003–04
Forest of Dean District Council Bid 1	23.4	789,000	2003–04
Forest of Dean District Council Bid 2	23.4	323,378	2003–04
Gloucester City Council Bid 1	4.7	646,231	2003–04
Gosport Borough Council Bid 1	14	597,727	2003–04
Greater Manchester W.D.A Bid 1	Partnership	2,205,280	2003–04
Greater Manchester W.D.A (partnership) Bid 2, Bury, Bolton, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Stockport, Tameside, Trafford	Partnership	4,996,139	2003–04
Guildford Borough Council Bid 1	15.9	182,600	2003–04
Hambleton District Council Bid 1	24.9	486,700	2003–04
Hambleton District Council Bid 2	24.9	32,330	2003–04
Hampshire County Council (partnership) Bid 2, Basingstoke & Deane BC, East Hampshire DC, Eastleigh BC, Fareham BC, Gosport BC, Havant BC, Hart DC, New Forest DC, Portsmouth CC, Rushmoor BC, Southampton CC, Test Valley BC, Winchester CC	8.8	2,400,000	2003–04
Harborough District Council Bid 1	38.2	1,151,079	2003–04
Harrogate Borough Council Bid 1	8.9	9,884	2003–04
Hart District Council Bid 1	10.9	148,750	2003–04
Hartlepool Bid 2	7.2	41,800	2003–04
Horsham District Council Bid 1	22	1,363,697	2003–04
Hull City Council Bid 1	6.2	803,477	2003–04
Kent County Council Bid 1	8.6	200,000	2003–04
Kings Lynn & West Norfolk Borough Council Bid 2	2.8	119,625	2003–04
Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council Bid 2	5.6	259,064	2003–04
Lancashire County Council (partnership) Bid 1 Lancashire Waste Partnership— LCC, Blackburn with Darwen BC, Blackpool BC, Burnley BC, Chorley BC, Flyde BC, Hyndburn BC, Lancaster City Council, Pendle BC, Preston City C, Ribble Valley DC, Rossendale BC, South Ribble BC, West Lancs DC, Wyre BC	12.8	2,033,201	2003–04
Lancaster City Council Bid 1	11.5	753,950	2003–04
Leeds City Council Bid 1	7.7	494,410	2003–04
Leicestershire County Council (partnership) Bid 2, Blaby DC, Charnwood BC, Harborough DC, Hinckley & Bosworth BC Melton BC, NW	13	518,000	2003–04
Leicestershire County Council Bid 1	13	670,000	2003–04
Lewes District Council Bid 1	7.5	524,590	2003–04
Lichfield District Council Bid 1	16.6	410,672	2003–04
Maidstone Borough Council Bid 1	4.8	201,126	2003–04
Malvern Hills District Council Bid 1	13.7	452,000	2003–04
Mansfield District Council Bid 2	12.5	495,500	2003–04
Mid Suffolk District Council Bid 1	16.1	534,918	2003–04
Mid Sussex District Council Bid 1	3.3	62,443	2003–04
New Forest District Council Bid 1	1	192,000	2003–04
Newcastle-Under-Lyme Borough Council Bid 2	8	300,000	2003–04
North Devon Bid 1	7.6	692,240	2003–04
North East Lincolnshire Bid 2	11.9	582,500	2003–04
North Lincolnshire Bid 1	7.9	1,402,000	2003–04
North Somerset Council Bid 1	6.7	150,000	2003–04
Northamptonshire County Council Bid 2—partnership—Corby Borough Council, Daventry District Council, East Northamptonshire Council, Kettering Borough Council, Northampton Borough Council, South Northamptonshire Council	13.1	493,000	2003–04
Norwich City Council Bid 1	5.5	171,000	2003–04
Oadby and Wigston Bid 1	11.1	515,900	2003–04
Oswestry Borough Council Bid 2	22.7	45,000	2003–04
Peterborough City Council Bid 1	6.9	266,000	2003–04
Preston Borough Council Bid 2	8.9	201,219	2003–04
Purbeck District Council Bid 2	4	114,500	2003–04
Reading Borough Council Bid 2	10.4	70,000	2003–04
Redditch Borough Council Bid 1	9.9	653,868	2003–04
Redditch Borough Council Bid 2	9.9	29,364	2003–04
Richmondshire District Council Bid 1	5.1	29,500	2003–04
Richmondshire District Council Bid 2	5.1	122,000	2003–04
Rossendale Borough Council Bid 2	16.6	285,183	2003–04
Rotherham MBC Bid 2	16.4	317,740	2003–04

<i>Local Authority</i>	<i>Difference in recycling rate 2002-05 (percentage points)</i>	<i>Amount of funding received (excluding partnerships) (£)</i>	<i>Financial Year Funding Received</i>
Runnymede Bid 1	9.3	123,377	2003-04
Rushmoor Borough Council Bid 1	11.8	248,000	2003-04
Sandwell M.B.C. Bid 2	1.4	561,712	2003-04
Sedgefield Borough Council Bid 2	7.9	54,700	2003-04
Sedgemoor District Council Bid 2	8.6	89,050	2003-04
Sefton Council Bid 2	7	644,470	2003-04
Selby District Council Bid 1	4.4	377,270	2003-04
Sheffield City Council Bid 2	12.1	437,732	2003-04
Slough Borough Council Bid 2	3.4	478,400	2003-04
South Norfolk Council Bid 1	11.9	212,000	2003-04
South Northamptonshire Bid 1	16.6	299,860	2003-04
South Oxfordshire DC Bid 1	11.2	132,184	2003-04
South Ribble Bid 2	11.2	291,000	2003-04
South Somerset DC Bid 1 (Partnership), Mendip DC, Taunton Deane BC, Sedgemoor DC	7	363,160	2003-04
Southampton City Council Bid 1	7.7	1,115,368	2003-04
St Albans District Council Bid 1	6.2	310,000	2003-04
St Edmundsbury Borough Council (partnership) Bid 1	21.54	2,049,000	2003-04
St. Helens Council Bid 1	9.7	645,000	2003-04
Staffordshire County Council Bid 1	14	1,700,000	2003-04
Staffordshire Moorlands DC Bid 1	17.4	625,000	2003-04
Stockton on Tees Bid 1	10.6	594,468	2003-04
Suffolk County Council Bid 2	17.6	576,485	2003-04
Surrey County Council Bid 2	6.2	8,000	2003-04
Tandridge District Council Bid 1	1.9	68,950	2003-04
Tendring District Council Bid 1	9.3	181,389	2003-04
Tewkesbury Borough Council Bid 1	7.7	354,850	2003-04
Tonbridge and Malling Bid 1	2.8	101,645	2003-04
Torbay Council Bid 1	1.1	80,000	2003-04
Trafford MBC Bid 2	11.2	22,839	2003-04
Tynedale District Council Bid 1(partnership), Northumberland CC	8	295,500	2003-04
Warwickshire County Council Bid 1	14.2	191,650	2003-04
Waverley Borough Council Bid 1	9	229,809	2003-04
Wealden DC Bid 1	9.2	96,300	2003-04
Welwyn Hatfield Council Bid 1	6	148,250	2003-04
West Devon Borough Council Bid 1	11.4	120,380	2003-04
West Dorset District Council Bid 1	8.8	356,600	2003-04
West Lindsey Bid 1	16.8	225,000	2003-04
Wiltshire County Council (partnership) Bid 1, Kennet DC, N. Wiltshire DC, W.	10.1	938,454	2003-04
Wiltshire County Council Bid 2	10.1	224,922	2003-04
Worcester City Council Bid 1	8	395,480	2003-04
Worcestershire County Council Bid 1	10.5	729,660	2003-04
Wychavon D.C. (partnership) Bid 2 Malvern Hills DC	5.9	165,486	2003-04
Wyre Borough Council Bid 2	-5.3	403,640	2003-04
Wyre Forest District Council Bid 1	18.7	660,110	2003-04

Challenge fund 2004-05

<i>Local Authority</i>	<i>Difference in recycling rate 2002-05 (percentage points)</i>	<i>Amount of funding received (excluding partnerships) (£)</i>	<i>Financial Year Funding Received</i>
South Norfolk Council	11.9	1,123,000	2004-05
Broadland DC	28.9	20,995	2004-05
Ashfield District Council	14.5	737,000	2004-05
Bassetlaw District Council	12.9	457,124	2004-05
Charnwood Borough Council	7.4	478,511	2004-05
Erewash B.C	No data available	970,000	2004-05
City of Lincoln Council	15.3	501,850	2004-05
North West Leicestershire District Council	16.6	1,124,100	2004-05
Leicestershire County Council	13	1,200,000	2004-05
Tynedale Council	8	179,800	2004-05
Gateshead Council	9.2	1,496,500	2004-05
South Tyneside Council	12.3	800,000	2004-05
Darlington Borough Council	5.7	730,314	2004-05
Allerdale Borough Council	13.9	630,377	2004-05
Shepway District Council	3.3	1,368,676	2004-05
Sevenoaks District Council	8.8	245,318	2004-05
Guildford Borough Council	26.9	211,751	2004-05
West Dorset District Council	8.8	227,455	2004-05

<i>Local Authority</i>	<i>Difference in recycling rate 2002–05 (percentage points)</i>	<i>Amount of funding received (excluding partnerships) (£)</i>	<i>Financial Year Funding Received</i>
Dorset County Council	17.9	494,500	2004–05
South Gloucestershire Council	21.1	471,418	2004–05
South Staffordshire Council	14.5	116,000	2004–05
Wolverhampton City Council	4	1,500,000	2004–05
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council	5.1	1,500,000	2004–05
Wyre Forest District Council	18.7	216,410	2004–05
Stafford Borough Council	4.6	871,000	2004–05
City of Wakefield Metropolitan District Council	13.9	1,500,000	2004–05
East Riding of Yorkshire Council (ERYC)	6.8	1,400,000	2004–05
Bradford	7.1	1,500,000	2004–05
South Bedfordshire District Council	8.3	1,357,315	2004–05
North Norfolk District Council	12.4	1,493,913	2004–05
Waveney District Council	29.1	1,234,075	2004–05
Blaby DC	8.6	1,048,922	2004–05
Broxtowe Brough Council	22.6	670,826	2004–05
Kettering Borough Council	10.2	1,353,016	2004–05
Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council	8	927,906	2004–05
Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council	12.2	635,000	2004–05
Elmbridge Borough Council	8.8	430,000	2004–05
Slough Borough Council	3.4	309,920	2004–05
West Sussex	8.6	140,000	2004–05
Restormel Borough Council	6.1	783,320	2004–05
West Devon Borough Council	11.4	414,155	2004–05
Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council	8.7	1,500,000	2004–05
Sandwell MBC	1.5	884,428	2004–05
East Staffordshire Borough Council	15.3	437,615	2004–05
Tamworth Borough Council	22.9	704,730	2004–05
Sheffield City Council	12.14	1,499,600	2004–05
Ryedale DC Malton North Yorkshire	16.4	669,560	2004–05
North East Lincolnshire Council	11.9	903,050	2004–05
Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council	14.3	1,500,000	2004–05
Yorkshire County Council—City Of York	7.4	350,000	2004–05
Kingston upon Hull City Council	6.2	1,479,323	2004–05
Kennet District Council	4.7	182,307	2004–05
Hastings BC	1.2	406,310	2004–05

Challenge fund 05–06

<i>Local Authority</i>	<i>Difference in recycling rate 2002–05 (percentage points)</i>	<i>Amount of funding received (excluding partnerships) (£)</i>	<i>Financial Year Funding Received</i>
Bedford BC	10.8	739,340	2005–06
Bradford MDC	7.1	650,000	2005–06
Broxtowe BC	23.1	255,156	2005–06
Buckinghamshire CC Partnership	6.1	584,589	2005–06
Cambridgeshire CC Partnership	15.7	1,021,599	2005–06
Cheshire CC Partnership	9	3,574,909	2005–06
Chiltern DC	2.5	580,716	2005–06
Darlington BC	5.7	715,414	2005–06
Derbyshire CC Partnership	10.7	450,000	2005–06
Devon CC Partnership	12.2	1,933,328	2005–06
East Riding of Yorkshire	6.8	887,249	2005–06
Elmbridge BC	8.8	240,000	2005–06
Essex CC Partnership	8.6	2,447,700	2005–06
Shropshire and Gloucestershire CC Partnership	19.3 – 10.5	1,028,705	2005–06
Great Yarmouth BC	5.7	556,486	2005–06
Hampshire CC	8.8	1,369,205	2005–06
Hertfordshire CC	11.7	1,240,980	2005–06
Kettering BC	10.2	483,600	2005–06
Kingston upon Hull CC	6.2	337,211	2005–06
Lancashire CC Partnership	12.8	1,685,960	2005–06
Leicestershire CC	13	100,000	2005–06
Greater Manchester WDA Partnership		1,917,400	2005–06
Merseyside WDA Partnership		4,173,000	2005–06
North East Lincolnshire Council	11.9	50,000	2005–06
North Kesteven DC	35.6	226,180	2005–06
North West Leicestershire DC	16.6	685,136	2005–06
Redcar and Cleveland BC	8	724,352	2005–06
Restormel BC	6.1	449,601	2005–06
Rushcliffe BC	36	582,071	2005–06
Ryedale DC	16.4	564,588	2005–06

<i>Local Authority</i>	<i>Difference in recycling rate 2002–05 (percentage points)</i>	<i>Amount of funding received (excluding partnerships) (£)</i>	<i>Financial Year Funding Received</i>
Sevenoaks DC	8.8	97,867	2005–06
Sheffield CC	12.1	485,907	2005–06
Shepway DC	3.3	1,200,571	2005–06
Slough BC	3.4	110,980	2005–06
Somerset CC Partnership	16	1,607,784	2005–06
South Bedfordshire DC	8.3	726,647	2005–06
South Gloucestershire Council	21.1	78,440	2005–06
South Norfolk Council	11.9	784,000	2005–06
South Tyneside MBC	12.3	806,450	2005–06
Stafford BC	4.6	281,000	2005–06
Suffolk CC Partnership	17.6	1,885,205	2005–06
Taunton Deane BC	8.1	420,921	2005–06
West Dorset DC	8.8	197,055	2005–06
West Sussex CC	8.6	76,275	2005–06
Wolverhampton CC	5	739,987	2005–06

Question 110 (Mr Edward Leigh): *Continuation of support for the Real Nappy Campaign*

Having given the issue further consideration, including discussions with WRAP, we have reached the conclusion that the reasons for our decision to wind down WRAP's involvement in the programme remain valid.

This programme was chosen initially because disposable nappies make up a significant part of the biodegradable municipal waste stream—about 500,000 tonnes per year—for which there is a clearly defined alternative. As such they were a good case study for how to develop a programme to persuade people to make choices which prevent waste even if that involves some inconvenience.

In the event the programme succeeded in diverting 23,000 tonnes of nappy waste from its direct activities and an indeterminate amount as a result of its wider awareness raising. The Nappy Alliance briefing claimed that the overall target for the programme had been exceeded. It does so on the basis of some assumptions which they believe to be reasonable but for which there is no direct evidence. That is the basis on which the Nappy Alliance wants us to continue funding.

However, we have had to consider the overall priorities for WRAP and its programmes. We are conscious that as a result of WRAP's intervention there is now a very good range of information and resources to support future activity. We are also conscious that, although it is significant in total, the maximum diversion of BMW from this source will be limited by the plausible market share for real nappies starting from a low base. We and WRAP are also keen to take the experience that WRAP have gained from this programme and concentrate WRAP's resources into areas where the prizes are potentially larger; especially food waste where some 6.7 million tonnes of BMW is discarded each year.

Therefore, we agreed with WRAP that it should start the process of identifying another body with a long term interest in the subject that could take over the Campaign's resources and continue the work. I understand that WRAP has been holding some positive discussions with a number of interested parties with a view to them taking on the programme in the next financial year. A modest amount of bridge funding may be needed to start this up and Defra will consider any request for such funding put to us.

The work carried out by the real nappy programme has produced valuable experience of how to influence consumer behaviour to make choices that reduce the amount of waste created. The lessons learnt from this work on nappies is being carried over to WRAP's other programmes.