

13 WASTE DISPOSAL

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Waste Disposal Facts

- o The Island is almost self-sufficient in waste disposal.
- o The quantity of waste may be reduced by recycling.
- o Some mineral quarries are appropriate for inert waste disposal.
- o Waste disposal by landfill will continue throughout and beyond the plan period.

Introduction

13.1 The Government strategy has 3 key objectives:

- i Reduce the amount of waste that we produce.
- ii To make the best use of what waste is produced.
- iii To choose waste management practices which minimise the risks of immediate and future environmental pollution and harm to human health.

13.2 The primary Government targets are:

- a) To reduce the proportion of controlled waste going to landfill to 60% by 2005.
- b) To recover 40% of municipal waste by 2005.
- c) By the end of 1998 to set a target for overall waste reduction.

Waste Reduction

13.3 Waste reduction stands apart from other options in the waste hierarchy. By avoiding the production of waste, we also avoid the costs associated with the disposal or recovery of waste. By the end of 1998, the Government will set a target for overall waste

reduction.

Re-use

13.4 To promote re-use the Government will:

- a) Encourage businesses and the consumer to do more to realise the economic and environmental gains that can be obtained in this area; and
- b) Continue to work with voluntary groups such as Waste Watch to encourage imaginative and innovative local approaches to re-use.

Recycling

13.5 Recycling involves the processing of waste materials to produce a useable raw material or product. This enables the same materials to be used more than once, so extending their life and maximising the value extracted from them. The Government will encourage recycling where it is economically and environmentally beneficial, and sets targets to encourage greater recycling of household waste including:

- a) To recycle or compost 25% of household waste by the year 2000.

- b) To have easily accessible recycling facilities for 80% of households by the year 2000.

controlled waste by 2005.

Composting

13.6 Composting has been practised for centuries by farmers and gardeners. The Government targets to help realise the potential of composting include:

- a) To recycle or compost 25% of household waste by the year 2000.
- b) To encourage 40% of domestic properties with a garden to carry out home composting by the year 2000.
- c) Support for the Composting Association's target to compost one million tonnes of organic household waste by the year 2000.

Energy Recovery

13.7 The best way to recover energy from waste is combustion in a waste to energy plant. The Government will help provide more information to local communities and Local Authorities about the potential role of incineration with energy recovery in a sustainable waste strategy.

Landfill

13.8 Nationally, 70% of controlled waste and 90% of household waste is disposed of direct to landfill. The Government's objective is to reduce the proportion of waste in England and Wales going to landfill to 60% of

Regional Advice

13.9 The South East Waste Regulation Advisory Committee published a final report (RAC 300) in February 1996. This report contains the following findings in relation to the region and the Island.

- 1. The overall volume of void space for landfill identified within the South East has decreased only slightly from 676 million m³ in 1993 to 669 million m³ in 1995.
- 2. Disposal by incineration has increased 68% over the region in the last 3 years. Despite the minor role currently played by incineration, 1995 figures show that new facilities coming on stream will have a significant impact on reducing landfill requirements.
- 3. There is an increasing need both regionally and on the Island to conserve landfill void space suitable for household waste that has a high pollution potential. Whilst a certain amount of inert material is required for bunding or daily cover in landfill sites that are licensed for household waste, the current mixture of waste types being accepted is reducing the available capacity for household waste at a high rate.

Existing and potential void space by category - 1995 (million cubic metres)

	Operational *Category 1	Not in Use *Category 2	Potentially Suitable for Waste Disposal *Category 3	Total
South East	159.89	30.08	209.66	399.63
Isle of Wight	2.39	0.00	1.20	3.59

*Category 1: Operators and WRA Officers provided estimates of the life of each site based on local knowledge.
 *Categories 2 & 3: Operators and WRA Officers provided estimates of the year when each site may become operational.

13.10 In addition to the well recognised waste arising from domestic or household waste, policies also need to address the disposal of building and industrial waste, clinical waste, sewage sludge and small quantities of hazardous waste. The Government's current target is to recycle or

compost 25% of all household waste by 2000. SERPLAN extends this target to all waste. Taking into account the Council's strategy borne in the IWMC, the Council needs to consider policies relating to anaerobic digestion, composting, the use of transfer facilities, car and metal scrapyards.

Planning Policy Guidance

13.11 Although the Government's strategy is contained in Making Waste Work, Government advice on planning for waste is contained in PPG23, Planning and Pollution Control dated July 1994. The aim of this PPG is to encourage close consultation between the Council and the Environment Agency in particular, to prevent unnecessary duplication and conflict of interest between planning and pollution control. Matters of concern regarding waste disposal, which are not all land use related, include air quality, water quality, agricultural waste and sewage waste and these will be addressed in the Local Environment Agency Plan to be prepared by the Environment Agency by the end of 1999. The planning system controls the development and use of land and has an important role to play in determining the location of development which may give rise to pollution.

13.12 Planning applications for waste facilities can give rise to a range of issues for consideration including transport mode, traffic, access, appearance, restoration, aftercare management and after use and effects upon neighbouring land use, including agriculture and upon the amenity of the locality.

13.13 Guidance is also given on the obligations which the Waste Management Licensing Regulations 1994 in implementing the amended EC Waste Framework Directives (75/442/EEC as amended by 91/156/EEC and 91/692/EEC) on waste place on planning authorities in drawing up development plans. The Directives also place obligations on planning authorities in determining planning applications and carrying out related functions.

Council Strategy for Waste Disposal

13.14 There is no Waste Local Plan, but the Council published a Waste Disposal Plan in 1989 which remains a valid document to date. It concluded that landfill capacity was being rapidly used up and that there was very limited opportunity to find suitable locations for new landfill because of aquifer, planning and land use constraints. Waste volumes are increasing mainly in the areas of commercial and Civic Amenity.

13.15 Export to mainland sites is

considered to be prohibitively expensive. As a consequence, the Council's policy was declared as:

Disposal at the least cost to the community but having due regard to safeguarding the environment, using the waste as a resource and achieving the maximum reduction in quantity by pre-treatment prior to landfill.

Private Sector

13.16 In the private sector, there are several worked out mineral sites which are being reclaimed with inert waste. The majority of sites are concentrated in the eastern half of the Island and will provide sufficient landfill capacity for the Plan period. The private sector also includes the dismantling and disposal of cars and scrap metal all of which are on sites licensed under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 controlled by the Environment Agency. There is considered to be sufficient landfill capacity for inert wastes for the plan period.

Landfill Tax

13.17 The commencement of the landfill tax on 1 October 1996 may cause some private licensed sites to voluntarily cease trading, but the sites will remain licenced until the Environment Agency formally accepts surrender of the licence. The landfill tax is intended to be an incentive to divert wastes away from landfill by promoting waste minimisation and re-use and reflect the true costs of landfill in its prices.

Integrated Waste Management Contract

13.18 Under the provision of Section 51 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 the Council has a duty to arrange for the collection of household waste arising in its area and to arrange for disposal of the waste so collected and to arrange for places to be provided at which persons resident in its area may deposit their household waste and for the disposal of waste so deposited. The arrangements can only be made with waste disposal contractors.

13.19 As a consequence, the Council is seeking to make such arrangements through the letting of an Integrated Waste Management Contract, which will include a requirement to achieve recycling targets in

addition to the collection and disposal of household waste. The contract is structured to allow the tenderers the greatest flexibility in how they will achieve the targets. In reality, the amount of waste concerned is no more than 30-40% of the total arising to be disposed of on the Island.

13.20 The successful tenderer will be required to complete the filling of Lynbottom landfill site, which is expected to have around 200,000 cubic metres of void space at the start of the contract. The contractor will also be offered the freehold of the adjacent Standen Heath landfill site which has an estimated capacity of 1.1 million cubic metres and will be encouraged to maximise the life of these sites by seeking to divert waste by energy production, recycling and other means (see Appendix E).

13.21 The contract will be subject to extension, with the Authority's agreement, if the Standen Heath site is not completely filled at the end of the tender period. The successful contractor will be required to recover for recycling and have recycled at least 25% of the household waste in the first year of the contract and increase the figure by at least 1% every year thereafter. This will, in the Authority's view, necessitate continuing operation of the Waste Derived Fuel Plant at

least for the life of the existing electricity supply contract which expires on 31 December 1998.

13.22 The existing three Civic Amenity sites will, as part of the contract, have to be retained and operated at least during the current working hours and under licence from the Environment Agency. The contractor will be allowed to increase the number of Civic Amenity sites (see Appendix E), with the Council's permission, to enhance the recycling targets contained within the contract. The Council will also retain the right to develop recycling initiatives in conjunction with the successful contractor.

13.23 The movement of waste management practices up the waste hierarchy must be governed by the principle of achieving the Best Practicable Environmental Option (BPEO). The waste hierarchy is as follows (preferred option first):

- 1 Waste minimisation
- 1 Re-Use
- 1 Materials recycling
- 1 Energy Recovery
- 1 Landfill/incineration (without energy recovery).

Objectives:

The Council will encourage measures to minimise the generation of waste and adopt appropriate business practices to minimise its own waste generation, by the following:

- o the split between urban and countryside areas;
- o seek to establish schemes aimed at waste minimisation at source;
- o encourage recycling and the recovery of resources from waste, in both the public and private sectors;
- o increase levels of waste diverted from landfill, through investment in various schemes for the re-use or recycling of waste;
- o aim to recover or dispose of waste in a way that minimises the environmental consequences of transport within and off the Island;
- o seek to generate energy from waste where appropriate.

General Waste Disposal

W1 All waste/effluent generated on the Island should be subject to the highest possible level of purification/treatment/reclamation prior to disposal or recycling.

13.24 The Council is concerned to ensure that the best possible treatment of waste is achieved and to provide minimal levels of pollution and impact on the environment. The

Council will use its planning powers to achieve effective and efficient disposal of waste.

Landfill

W2 Planning applications for the disposal of waste by landfill beyond those sites with planning approval identified in the appendix will be approved where:

- a there is an identified need which cannot be met through more environmentally acceptable means;*
- b facilities are well connected to the strategic road network;*
- c the land will be restored to a suitable condition for an appropriate after use; progressive filling and restoration will take place during the active life of the site;*

In considering the suitability of any waste disposal, the Council will take account of facilities already available for the deposit of waste and may refuse permission if there is adequate alternative provision.

Consent will not be granted for the deposit of waste where it will have an unacceptable adverse effect on the local environment and amenity.

13.25 The Council expects the sites identified at Lynbottom and Standen Heath as well as the several licensed inert waste disposal sites listed in Appendix E to meet the Island's overall landfill needs during the plan period (to 2011) and given improvements that should occur through waste reduction and recycling in the near future, extend this landfill capacity well beyond the plan period. It is in the interests of the contractor holding the Integrated Waste management Contract to extend the lifespan of the identified landfill sites, although it is recognised that some waste may always have to go to land disposal sites.

13.26 A high percentage of waste arising from the Island which is currently disposed of by landfilling could be re-used or recycled. In this way, the resource potential of waste would be realised and the need for disposal reduced. However, in support of Government strategy and more sustainable waste management, the Council would wish to move away from landfilling as a primary means of disposal during the period of this plan. Reasons for this move are fourfold: the risk of contaminating water; landfilling may contaminate land and make it unsuitable for some uses; landfill gas can be dangerous and its methane content is an important

greenhouse gas; and not least because suitable space is running short (See Appendix E).

13.27 Preference will be given to the filling of exhausted mineral workings where there will be positive benefits from the eventual re-use of the land and overall environmental impact is minimised, although some mineral workings will be best left unrestored for their geological and/or nature conservation interest.

13.28 The type of mineral working will determine the options for reclamation and after use of a site. The majority of mineral workings are likely to be reclaimed for agriculture, forestry or amenity use, including nature conservation or public open space.

13.29 It is envisaged that in view of the shortage of land disposal sites, permission will only be granted for land disposal capacity sufficient for the disposal of waste which cannot be dealt with by any other means. Where the extraction of mineral is to be followed by the disposal of waste, a waste management licence will be required by the operator as well as planning permission.

13.30 In the past the Council and Borough

Waste Collecting, Sorting, Reclamation and Transfer Sites

W3 Planning applications for waste handling facilities and waste transfer sites will be approved provided that they are all housed within a fully enclosed building and meet all of the following criteria:

- a are well connected to the strategic road network;*
- b have good access to wharfage, including conventional cross-Solent ferry services, if export is involved;*
- c provide litter control;*
- d are well landscaped;*
- e have adequate precautions taken to prevent dust, noise, obnoxious smell and visual intrusion.*

Councils in the Island have been responsible for making arrangements for the collection and sorting of household waste and providing Civic Amenity Sites for public use in addition to the weekly household collection. Household waste and recycling centres provide for both the disposal of waste and increasingly the separate collection of suitable materials for recycling.

13.31 The Integrated Waste Management Contractor is now responsible for household waste collection and may need to reorganise the present system and provide appropriate new waste handling facilities.

13.32 As Government policy states the first priority for sustainable waste management is to reduce the production of waste to the

Waste Minimisation, Recycling and Energy from Waste

W4 Planning applications for waste minimisation and recycling facilities and initiatives to recover energy from waste will be approved provided they meet all of the following criteria:

- a they are well connected to the strategic road network;*
- b they have access to wharfage, including conventional cross-Solent ferry services, if export is involved;*
- c where possible they are associated with existing waste disposal sites;*
- d they are well landscaped;*
- e adequate precautions are taken to prevent dust, noise, obnoxious smell and visual intrusion;*
- f they do not have an unacceptable adverse effect on public amenity and safety, nature conservation and the local environment.*

minimum consistent with economic sustainability. This applies to all waste streams, but in particular hazardous wastes. The planning system is able to play only a limited role in promoting waste reduction but the Council will remain sympathetic to development proposals which could lead to improvements in this respect.

13.33 The Council's strategy is to seek to encourage recycling and recovery of resources from waste. Current recycling activities on the Island exceed Government guidelines, insofar as the 25% of household waste is being recycled now, and through the Integrated Waste Management Contract, is required to be increased by 1% every year thereafter. The materials that may be recycled include plastics, glass and metals as

well as paper, cardboard and hardcore, but fluctuations in the market for recycled material make all these processes unpredictable.

13.34 Collection of recyclable materials is through licenced Civic Amenity sites at Afton, Lynbottom and the WDF Plant. Other facilities include bottle banks in most of the Island towns, and private collection and recycling eg at Dodnor Industrial Estate, Newport and the Yard at Bullen Road, Ryde. The Council wishes to encourage the depositing of green/garden waste at Civic Amenity sites, for processing into compost at the central facility. The Council is also encouraging home composting by making low cost home composting bins available.

13.35 It is uncertain what progress will be made during the plan period towards improved recycling methods and the demand for recycled products but the way forward lies mainly with the waste management contractor and the private sector to initiate

waste minimisation and recycling schemes.

13.36 Major new works for wastewater treatment and disposal are required on the Island by the end of the year 2000 in order to meet new European standards. The Council

Waste Water Treatment

W5 The Council will seek to safeguard the following sites for possible future development for the transfer and improvement of wastewater treatment or the handling and treatment of sewage sludge and will refuse proposals for development which would prevent or prejudice such development at these sites:

Waste water and sludge treatment at Sandown wastewater treatment works and adjacent land; flow transfer pumping stations at Lane End outfall pumping station, Bembridge; upgrade of existing pumping stations for storm water storage and ancillary development at Woodville outfall pumping station, Wootton and Gurnard transfer pumping stations; Springhill headworks, East Cowes; Appley Park outfall pumping station, Ryde; Norton outfall pumping station; Fairlee wastewater treatment works.

will be pressing for the best possible methods of treatment and disposal. In order to implement a suitable scheme, and also to provide for future improvement works, Southern Water need to safeguard from alternative development, areas of land needed for treatment works and pumping

stations. A large proportion of the works do not however require planning approval for their implementation.

13.37 Hazardous and special wastes are produced by a wide range of industries. Improper disposal of special waste could

Hazardous Waste

W6 Planning applications which provide for the holding and handling of hazardous waste (including special wastes referred to in Section 62 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and defined in the Special Waste Regulations 1996), to enable safe treatment and export to the mainland for appropriate processing will be approved provided they satisfy the requirements of the Health and Safety Executive and the Environment Agency.

result in environmental pollution or harm to human health. Special waste producers, carriers and disposers have to maintain a comprehensive record of all consignment notes and the Environment Agency has a duty to see that these records are maintained in respect of the wastes produced in the Island.

13.38 The small quantities of hazardous waste arising in the Island, including the clinical waste from St Mary's Hospital is transferred to the mainland for incineration or other disposal.

13.39 Used tyres will not degrade and when stored in dumps can pose a serious fire risk. Their physical size and handling problems result in them being classified as difficult waste. Bulk disposal of whole tyres to landfill should be avoided. The Landfill Directive on Waste requires banning of landfilling of tyres by 2003 for whole tyres and 2006 for shredded tyres. The Island's waste tyres are transported to sites in the Midlands for retreading or disposal.

13.40 Existing licensed car dismantling and metal scrapyards are located in Newport, Cowes, Ryde and Rookley; there are no

Scrapyards and Vehicle Dismantling

W7 Planning applications for the development of new scrapyards and vehicle dismantling facilities will only be approved on sites identified for special industrial uses.

facilities in the west of the Island. It is assumed that with the anticipated increase in car ownership in particular over the plan period, new facilities may be required to cope with demand, but these will be expected to be

provided on existing allocated sites.

13.41 Over the last year there has only been one composting scheme on trial on a licensed site at Calbourne. In the past, all

Composting

W8 Planning applications for composting schemes will be approved where they are associated with existing waste disposal sites; there are no unacceptable adverse environmental effects, and they are strategically located to meet local needs.

green waste has been delivered by the public to the licensed landfill sites, particularly Lynbottom. Composting is an important method of processing organic waste because it reduces the amount of potentially polluting waste going to landfill or incineration. Green waste composting depots may be subject to waste management licences, which are the responsibility of the Environment Agency.

13.42 Depending on the success of this trial, the integrated waste management contractor will be encouraged to establish a number of green waste composting depots near centres of population.