

Paper (D)

Facts and Figures

Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy

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1. Household Recycling Centres

When Hills Minerals and Waste (Hills) won the Waste Disposal Contract for Wiltshire County Council in 1996, the county had 2 Civic Amenity (CA) sites, or public ‘tips’, one in Warminster and another in Salisbury. Since 1996 considerable investment has been put into developing a network of 10 ‘Household Recycling Centres’ (HRCs) across Wiltshire (Table 1), with recycling being the key function of the sites, rather than tipping as had been the perception of the old CA sites.

Table 1: HRC sites and opening dates

District	Site	Opened
Kennet	Everleigh	1997
	Devizes	June 2004
North Wiltshire	Stanton St Quinton	1999
	Purton	2001
	Calne, Honeyball	May 2003
Salisbury	Salisbury	Pre-1996
	Amesbury	March 2004
West Wiltshire	Warminster	Pre-1996
	Melksham	Dec 2001
	Trowbridge	Dec 2002

All 10 HRCs have facilities for separating the following materials for recycling:-

textiles	paints	cans	garden waste	paper/ yellowpages	cardboard
metals	glass	oil	fridges/freezers	plastic bottles	chemicals
Soil/ rubble	timber	tyres	car batteries	gas bottles	pesticides

Householders can also dispose of mixed and contaminated wastes, which will be sent to landfill. Additional facilities for the safe disposal of household asbestos are available at Purton, Warminster and Salisbury HRCs.

After collection at the HRCs, paper, cardboard, glass, cans and plastic bottles are taken to the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) at Compton Bassett. Here the materials can be sorted further and compacted into bales, if necessary, ready for onward transportation. Table 2 illustrates the main re-processor or merchant for the materials collected for recycling.

Table 2: Recycling Material Re-processors/Merchants

Material	Main Re-processor/Merchant*
Paper	Aylesford Newsprint, Aylesford, Kent
Cardboard	Sevenside Recycling
Glass	Berryman, South Kirkby
Plastic bottles	Plastics Recovery Limited, Preston
Cans (steel)	Corus Group, South Wales
Cans (aluminium)	Novelis Recycling, Warrington
Metals (mixed)	European Metal Recycling Ltd, Swindon and Southampton
Timber	Kronospan, Wrexham (via Hills wood chipping facility at Chapel farm Landfill site)
Fridges	Sims Group, Newport
Car batteries	EJ Shanley and Sons, Scrap Metal Merchants, Trowbridge
Textiles	Devizes Textiles, Devizes
Garden waste	Composted at Hills Waste, Compton Bassett and Grately Farm Site Wiltshire**
Oil	Malary Environmental Service, Witney, Oxfordshire
Tyres	Waste Tyre Solutions, Durham
Rubble/Soil	Hills Waste, Sorting Facility, Barton Court Landfill Site

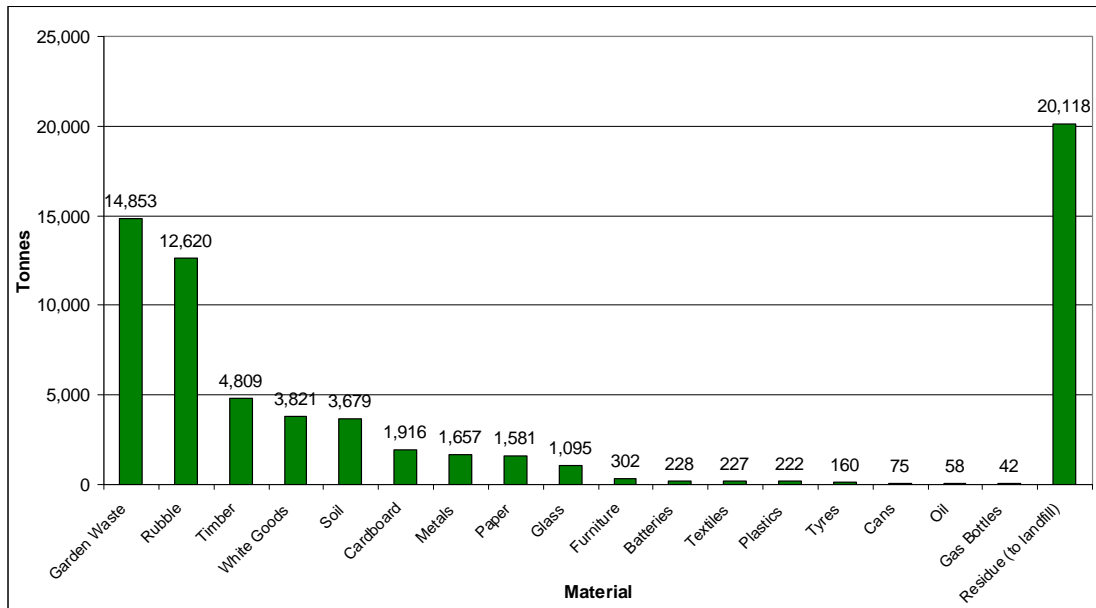
* Re-processors and merchants are subject to change as markets vary.

** Opening of an additional farm composting site is planned for West Wiltshire during 2005/06

HRCs are a major source of recycling for Wiltshire. In 2004/05 the total amount of material recycled through the HRCs was 47, 348 tonnes (Figure 1). This represents 70.1% of the total amount of material recycled in the county. With the opening of 2 new HRCs in 2004 (Amesbury and Devizes) the recycled HRC tonnage increased by over 20% in 2004/05.

All the HRCs consistently perform to a high standard, recycling approximately 70% of the total material deposited at every site. In Best Value (BV) terms, where soil and rubble are not included in the calculation, the recycling rates for every site are consistently around the 60% mark. This level of performance makes Wiltshire County Council one of the top 5 performing local authorities in England for HRC recycling (Future West Network Recycling, National Assessment of Civic Amenity Sites, 2004).

Figure 1: Total waste collected through HRCs (2004/05)



Key Policy 2: Increase the levels of participation in recycling and minimisation schemes

Key Policy 3: Improve collective working via the WWP to ensure the best net benefit to householders

2. Kerbside Collection

In 2003/04 the **Wiltshire Waste Partnership** (WWP) received a grant for £933,545 from the Department for the Environment Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) to introduce a multi-material kerbside recycling collection service to 57,000 households in Wiltshire. Prior to this the four District Councils had operated separate schemes with varying coverage and materials being collected (Table 3).

Table 3: District Council Kerbside Recycling Collection Schemes, Pre-2003/04

District	Households	Material/s
Kennet	9,000	Paper
North Wiltshire	1,200	Green waste
Salisbury	45,000 (approximately)	Paper/Cardboard
West Wiltshire	20,000	Paper

The DEFRA grant made it possible to design and invest in a kerbside recycling collection scheme which could be delivered across district boundaries to the same format, maximising the use of resources. The grant was used to purchase six specialist ‘Kerbside Kollector’ lorries, 57,000, 55 litre recycling boxes, and to fund the operating costs until March 2004.

The service is operated by Hills Minerals and Waste and collects paper, glass, cans, textiles and aluminium foil on a fortnightly basis. The materials are sorted at the kerbside into the split-bodied vehicles, which ensures that all the material collected is fit for recycling. Any unsuitable or contaminated materials are left behind in the recycling box with a ticket noting why the materials have not been taken.

Like MSW the amount of household waste generated in Wiltshire has also been increasing year on year, from just over 191,700 tonnes in 1998/99 to 226,886 tonnes in 2004/05. This represents an overall increase of over 18% and an average increase of 2.9% each year (Figure 3). Figure 3 illustrates that household waste, although increasing, is not increasing at the same rate as MSW. (Note: the drop in household waste between 2000/01 and 2001/02 is a result of the change in national definitions. Soil and rubble were no longer counted as household waste from 2001/02 onwards.)

4.2 Reasons for growth

One direct reason for the growth in MSWI and household waste in Wiltshire is the increase in population. Between 2001 and 2004 the population of Wiltshire (excluding Swindon) increased by 47,000, or 8.6%, to 432,973. Within the four districts the rate of population growth varied significantly (Table 5).

Table 5: Population growth in Wiltshire

Local Authority	P* 2001	P* 2004	PC ** 1991-01	PC ** 2001-04	% PC ** 1991-01	% PC ** 2001-04
Kennet	74,838	-	3,358		4.9	
North Wiltshire	125,372	-	12,372		10.9	
Salisbury	114,613	-	8,613		8.1	
West Wiltshire	118,150	-	9,850		9.1	
Wiltshire	432,973	445,150	34,737	47,000	8.6	11.8

Source: Census of Population 2001, Office for National Statistics (ONS)

*Population

** Population Change

The increase in Wiltshire's population on its own does not explain the increase in MSW and household waste. However, other factors can also contribute to these increases including:

- Changes in household composition – particularly the declining average household size, and the growth of new household formation caused by family breakdown
- Increased consumer spending leading to more goods being consumed and more waste created
- Behavioural change in relation to waste producing activities e.g. food wastage, DIY/ gardening activities
- Transfers of waste from other sectors, rather than true increases: for example the transfer of material from commercial sources following the introduction of the Landfill Tax in 1996 (this is mostly associated with trade waste arising at HRCs, but may also involve wastes from small businesses deposited in the household waste stream)
- Changes to waste management services, such as the increased provision of 240 litre wheeled bins to householders for residual waste, although this impact is reduced when combined with a multi-material kerbside recycling collection service and fortnightly collection of residual waste

5. Performance against targets

The Government has set national targets for recycling and composting of household waste, and for the 'recovery' of MSW. 'Recovery' includes the diversion of waste from landfill by

- Recycling
- Composting
- other forms of material recovery (such as anaerobic digestion)
- energy recovery (combustion with direct or indirect use of the energy produced, manufacture of refuse derived fuel, gasification, pyrolysis, MBT or other technologies)

Key Policy 4: Understand how emerging technologies could manage waste more sustainably

In addition to the national targets, each Local Authority has been set individual recycling/composting targets for household waste which are based upon the actual performance being achieved by an authority in 1998. In an attempt to even out the initial targets given to the 4 District Councils, the County and the Districts entered into a target 'pooling' exercise. This resulted in the following targets being given to Wiltshire's Local Authorities (Table 6).

Table 6: Statutory (pooled) targets and performance for recycling/composting of household waste

Year	Target/ Achieved	Kennet	North Wiltshire	Salisbury	West Wiltshire	County
2003/04	Target	11%	10%	16%	10%	20%
	Achieved	11.3%	11.5%	17.4%	9.8%	21.0%
2005/06	Target	25%	18%	30%*	21%	30%*
	Performance to March 2005	13.7%	15.8%	18.7%	15.0%	26.3%

*now capped at 30% from 33%

Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy

In addition to these District-specific service developments WCC has employed a Communications Officer with specific responsibility for promoting waste awareness and recycling schemes. The aim is to develop a comprehensive county-wide campaign which results in increased participation rates and yields from the kerbside collections schemes. This is to be achieved through a greater understanding of the issues surrounding waste and recycling. It is hoped that the combined effect of new services and promotions will increase recycling rates in Wiltshire to over 30%.