

## **Strategy Unit Report 'Waste not, Want not' Recommendations Progress to January 2005**

The Strategy Unit Report 'Waste not, Want not' made 46 recommendations. The Government's response to the report, published in May 2003 highlighted 63 actions to be taken to achieve these recommendations.

**43 out of the 63 actions have already been completed** (Table 1).

Since the last update was published in May 2004, the Waste and Resources Research Strategy has been published - in September 2004. This is a 3 year R&D strategy which aims to provide a sound evidence base for better informed policy development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation on all waste streams bar radioactive waste. Consultation on the data strategy closed on 7 January 05.

Following consultation on the design of a Performance Reward Grant, an announcement was made on a Waste Performance and Efficiency Grant (WPEG) on 9 December 2004.

Some of the other actions which have recently been completed include:

- Waste section of the Framework for Sustainable Development on the government estate was published on 24 June 04 (action 7ii).
- The PFI procurement pack was published in July 04 (action 23i).
- The Treasury announced that Landfill Tax revenues would be recycled to business through the Business Resources and Efficiency Programme (BREW) (action 25i). An announcement on spending was made in November 2004.
- Spending Review 2004 announced that revenue would be returned to local authorities via revenue support grant (EPCS) (action 25ii).
- Consultation on Planning Policy Statement 10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management was published on 6 Dec 2004 (action 32i).
- The Landfill (Scheme Year and Maximum Amount) Regulation 2004 came into force on 22 July 04. The Landfill Allowance and Trading Scheme (England) Regs will come into force on 1 April 2005 (action 34iv).
- The Hazardous Waste Forum published its report on long term capacity need up to and beyond the 16 July 04 end date for co-disposal (action Haz(2)).

Of the remaining 20 actions, 12 are still within their original deadlines, or are 'ongoing' projects with no set end dates. The other 8 actions have passed their original date for review/completion.

Some are awaiting results of consultations, publishing of final reports or are dependent on the conclusion of other actions.

The tables below set out in more detail the work that has been undertaken.

## Completed Actions (Table 1)

	STRATEGY UNIT REPORT 2002 - RECOMMENDATIONS AND FOLLOW-UP ACTION		Completed Actions
Number	Recommendation	Action	Status
6	Revise building regulations to require allocation of space in housing developments for accessible recycling activities	Revise building regulations to include space for recycling containers in new housing developments	Completed.
7 (i)	Finalise central government targets for the use of recycled materials. All Departments to have trained Green Procurement Officer	Decide on use of targets for recycled materials in Government procurement	Training for procurement officers on sustainability issues is included in the Procurement Section of the Framework for Sustainable Development on the Government Estate published on 6 October 2004. The Construction Section also covers sustainability and waste issues. Defra and WRAP will continue working with the Office for Government Commerce in encouraging the procurement of recycled materials.
7 (ii)		Complete waste section of the Framework for Sustainable Development on the Government Estate, including waste recycling and reduction targets where appropriate	Waste section of the Framework for Sustainable Development on the Government Estate was published on 24 June 2004.
8 (i)	Consider setting voluntary green procurement targets for local authorities	Local Government Procurement Forum to include sustainable development in its national strategy	National Strategy published October 2003. Centres of Procurement Excellence now being established to help implement the Strategy.
8 (ii)		IDeA Guidelines on Green Procurement for local government	Guidelines launched 26th November 2003.
10 (i)	Encourage development of quality standards for compost	Set regulations under the EU Animal By-Products Regulation setting out rules for composting catering waste	Originally published in July 03, revised guidance was published in December 2004.
11	Raise landfill tax to £35 a tonne for active waste in the medium term	Raise landfill tax by £3 per tonne in 2005/6 and at least £3 per tonne each year thereafter up to £35 per tonne	Completed.
13	Ensure guidance to magistrates is sufficient to support more prosecutions for waste crimes. Consider strengthening deterrents	Sentencing Guideline Council to publish comprehensive set of Guidelines on sentencing	Proposals for measures which strengthen the legislation and increase penalties for flytipping have been included in the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Bill currently before Parliament (December 2004).
14	Keep incineration tax under review	Consider case for an incineration tax	The case for incineration tax has been reviewed. This review has been informed by the health and environmental effect study and an assessment of the costs of the impacts identified in the study. Currently the Government is not convinced that there is a strong case for the introduction of a tax on incinerated waste (Pre Budget Report December 2004).

15	Independent report on health and environmental effects of all different waste management options relative to each other and other activities	Report on review of health and environmental effects of waste disposal, and management options	Published May 2004.
16	Take forward programme of four waste reduction measures	Initiate four programmes for waste minimisation	Completed. WRAP is taking this forward.
17	Increase recycling and composting	Initiate kerbside task force to help local authorities maximise potential for kerbside collection of recyclables	ROTATE is available to all local authorities in England. It is a technical advisory service providing support and advice on the separate collection of dry recyclables and organic wastes. The advice will be 'hands on' and practical and support will be customised to the specific needs of individual local authorities.
18	Information campaign to support waste minimisation and recycling	Initiate programme for education and awareness	WRAP has launched a national campaign to raise consumer awareness of recycling and to encourage people to take action and recycle now.
19	Extend role of Envirowise to cover 20% of UK companies over the next two years	Decide whether to extend the role of Envirowise	Resources available for Envirowise will be increased under the new Business and Resource Efficiency Programme (BREW) enabling Envirowise to expand the range of its support and significantly increase its coverage.
20	Draw up data and research strategy for the next three years	Initiate programme for data and research	Consultation on the data strategy closed on 7 Jan 05. The Waste and Resources Research Strategy was published in Sept 04 and first call for proposals was launched in Dec 04.
21	Programme of development of new technologies or approaches, including pilots	Initiate programme for new technologies	Completed. Taken forward by WIP.
22 (i)	Retain Challenge Fund and consider opening up bids to private sector	Replace Challenge Fund with a non-ringfenced Performance Reward fund - start date to be considered by Ministerial Group/DA	Announced Start date of PRG in Sept 03.
22 (ii)		Finalise details of Performance Reward Fund	Consultation on the design for a Performance Reward Grant finished on 31 March 2004. The replacement Waste Performance and Efficiency Grant was announced on 9 Dec 2004.
23 (i)	Accelerate delivery of PFI waste projects	Working with WRAP and 4P's complete PFI procurement toolkit for local authorities	The PFI procurement pack was published in July 04 and is available to order from 4Ps by phone or through their website.
23 (ii)		Increase speed of delivery of PFI funding for waste projects	Government has increased the resources provided for PFI waste projects.
24 (i)	Reform Landfill Tax Credit Scheme	Reform Landfill Tax Credit Scheme so that 2/3 is devoted to a programme that reflects a more strategic approach to waste	Announced in Pre-Budget Report 2002. Came into effect April 2003.
24 (ii)		Reform the successor tax credit scheme	Completed - legislation has been amended so biodiversity projects are included in the scheme.

25 (i)	Consider use of additional revenue from landfill tax to incentivise investment in reduction, re-use and recycling	Consult on and decide how landfill tax will be recycled to business	Following SR 2004, the Treasury announced that Landfill Tax revenues would be recycled to businesses through a number of expenditure measures via a fund to be managed by Defra (Business Resource Efficiency and Waste Programme (BREW)). An announcement on the measures to be used was made on 22 November 2004.
25 (ii)		Consult on and decide how landfill tax will be recycled to local authorities	Complete - SR 2004 announced that revenue would be returned to local authorities via revenue support grant (EPCS).
26 (i) & (ii)	Strengthen Defra waste policy / management function; assess resources required	Appoint programme director and new staff for waste delivery programme  Consider the case for allocating extra resources to waste policy making	John Burns was appointed May 2003 and a full WIP team is now in place.  The Waste Strategy division has been expanded.
28	Set up a multi-disciplinary operational task force to help local authorities	Initiate Local Authority Support Nerve Centre and Funding Teams	The LA Support unit has initiated a number of projects which will help local authorities reach their statutory recycling targets, by providing best practice guidance and toolkits in waste management. A dedicated website has been set up to promote these outputs.
29	Extend role of WRAP and allocate additional funding for waste minimisation, re-use, recycling and development of recycle markets	WRAP to be allocated additional funding under the new sustainable waste delivery programme	WRAP is now running 3 of the WIP workstreams, Awareness, Minimisation and Kerbside.
31 (i)	Review whether further incentives are needed to encourage local authorities to work together more effectively	Royal assent to the Waste and Emissions Trading Bill, which will include powers in respect of joint municipal waste management strategies and delivery of separated waste to disposal authorities	Bill gained Royal Assent in November 2003.
31 (ii)		Review of other incentives	Recycling credits scheme reviewed in Summer 2004. Proposals for reform have been included in the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Bill following public consultation.
32 (i)	Revise PPG10 as a priority to ensure the required facilities and residual waste management can proceed	Consult on revision of PPG10 to ensure the planning system can deliver the required facilities for recycling, composting and waste management	Consultation on Planning Policy Statement 10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management was published on the 6th December. Consultation will close on the 11th March 2005
33	Set up a high level Steering Board to drive forward implementation of the strategy in this report	Set up Steering board to provide leadership and advice to new sustainable waste delivery programme	Steering Board set up to discuss issues
34 (ii)	Ensure Best Value Indicators support waste reduction and recycling. There should be appropriate penalties and incentives for LAs to meet waste targets	Finalise Performance Reward grant, including start date	Following consultation on the Performance Reward Grant Government announced Waste Performance and Efficiency Grant on 9 Dec 2004.

34 (iii)		Consultation on system of tradable allowances for biodegradable waste to landfill following passage of WET Bill	Government's Response to Consultation published May 2004
34 (iv)		Regulations completing parliamentary passage	The Landfill (Scheme Year and Maximum Amount) Regulation 2004 came into force on 22/7/04. The Landfill Allowance and Trading Scheme (England) Regulations will come into force on 1/04/05.
34 (v)		Initiate system of tradable allowances	Defra and the Environment Agency held a series of regional roadshows in July 04 on LATS. These were designed to increase local authority understanding of the scheme, encourage participation and to provide a forum for discussions with stakeholders.
Haz (1)	Ensure clear definition of hazardous waste (including household) is developed and disseminated.	Finalise Special Waste Regulations	Defra published a consultation on revisions to the Special Waste Regulations on 30 July 2004. The revisions are proposed to come into force in July 2005.
Haz (2)	Assess existing and planned capacity for hazardous waste management	Hazardous Waste Forum to consider and report on capacity for hazardous waste management	The Forum's Treatment and Capacity Task Force has been assessing the provision of capacity up to and beyond the 16 July end date for co-disposal. The Forum has published its report on long-term capacity need and it is available on the Forum website.
Haz (3 i)	Assess the potential for flytipping in light of legislative requirements	Gain Royal assent for the Anti-Social Behaviour Bill	Measures commenced by order on 31 March 2004.
Haz (3 ii)		Establish system for data returns on fly tipping to enable national reporting	Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003 - power commenced from 31 March 2004. Flycapture database developed with the Environment Agency. System went live on 5 April 2004 with 92% of local authorities registering for the first month.
Haz (4)	Hazardous Waste Forum	Establish a Hazardous Waste Forum	In operation.
C&I (2 i)	Consider the value of mandatory environmental reporting	Guidance to directors on how they can assess whether an item is material to their company and hence whether it must be included in an Operational and Financial Review	Guidance published by the OFR Working Group through DTI in May 2004.
C&I (3)	Increase the role of waste minimisation clubs	Consider role of waste minimisation clubs	Funding announced for Waste Minimisation Clubs as part of increased funding for Envirowise through the Business Resource Efficiency and Waste Programme.

**Actions Ongoing (Table 2)**

STRATEGY UNIT REPORT 2002 - RECOMMENDATIONS AND FOLLOW-UP ACTION		Actions Ongoing		
Number	Recommendation	Action	Current Date for Review / Completion	Status
1	Allow local authorities to take forward incentive schemes to reduce waste and increase recycling	Further work to investigate options, in cooperation with the LGA and other stakeholders	Ongoing	The Government has carried out work - in consultation with LGA and local authority practitioners - looking in particular at the practicalities of operating incentive schemes. The Government is continuing to investigate options for influencing household behaviour and is complementing its research on international schemes with some further work on the current extent of incentive schemes in England. In addition the Government will work with Local Authorities and has announced £5m to pilot household incentive schemes.
2 (i)	Extend voluntary agreements with industry to reduce waste and increase the use of recycled materials and the recyclability of products	Voluntary agreement to increase recycling of waste consumer batteries.	Ongoing	A draft Batteries Directive is under negotiation. Work has therefore ceased on a voluntary agreement which would be duplicatory. A voluntary Agreement with the Periodical Publishers Association to increase the recycling of post consumer magazines is expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2005.
2 (ii)		Determine suitable options for voluntary agreements in household hazardous waste	June 2004	Defra continue to consider the possible options, in the light of the work on other waste streams.
3 (i)	Consider options of increasing incentives for re-use	Contribute to ACP Task Force considering reuse and minimisation of packaging and packaging waste	Ongoing	The Reuse and Minimisation Task Forces are continuing work on these issues.
3 (ii)		Initiate study on potential for deposit refund schemes in the UK	Ongoing	The study was concluded in mid December 04 and is likely to be published later in the year 2005.
3 (iii)		Work with WRAP and voluntary organisations to identify scope for encouraging reuse of products	Ongoing	Developing framework for BVPI Reuse indicator.
4	Consider applying incentives, such as economic instruments, to encourage eco-products	Consider how the use of economic instruments can be extended to improve waste management	Ongoing	Work ongoing.
5	Assess what more can be done to promote use of secondary resources through BSI standards	Continual review of standards as issues arise over secondary materials	Ongoing	Work ongoing.

9 (i)	Develop proposals for alternative indicators that incorporate waste reduction, and set appropriate new targets e.g. combined waste minimisation and recycling targets; targets for home composting; higher national targets; replace recycling targets with targets to reduce residual waste.	Review waste BVPIs to ensure they set the right incentives for local government to reduce waste	October 04	Defra is reviewing all recycling targets in the light of the progress made by local authorities in meeting their 2003/04 targets. Alongside this Defra will examine the complete suite of waste BVPIs to ensure that they focus on the key indicators of local authority performance on waste management and take account of recent developments e.g. in technologies for managing waste more sustainably.
9 (ii)		Review national recycling and composting targets in light of progress by local authorities	Dec 2004	For the shorter term, Defra is working with ODPM in light of consultation on proposed changes to BVPIs, to agree a final package of changes for implementation in April 2005.
10 (ii)	Encourage development of quality standards for compost.	Continue to fund WRAP's work on compost standards development, building on BSI PAS 100 published in 2002	Ongoing	Government funding of WRAP increased from 2003 in part to support a full organics market development programme which incorporates further work on compost standards. WRAP has published a new business plan covering the period to 2006. The UK is encouraging publication of proposals for an EC Biowaste Directive (due Spring 2005 at the earliest) which may set EU-wide standards.
10 (iii)		Consult WRAP and other key stakeholders over EC Bio-waste Directive	End 2004	EC published a discussion document December 2003. UK responded Feb 2004 following informal consultation. UK is now encouraging the EC to bring forward proposals for a Directive. The earliest a draft is expected is Spring 2005.
12	Review the case for a ban on landfill or incineration of recyclable products or materials	Review progress on market development and recycling rates in 2006/7 and reconsider the case for a ban on disposing of recyclable products or materials	2006/07	On hold until 2006.
27	Assess the merits of focusing responsibility for waste policy in one department	Carry out a review of waste policy across Government and determine whether it should be centralised in one department	Dec 2003	Work ongoing.
30	Establish an industry forum	Determine whether a Government-industry forum would be a useful body to progress sustainable waste management	Nov 2003	Work ongoing.
32 (ii)		Publish revised guidance (subject to outcome of consultation)	Spring 2005	Consultation closes on 31 March 2005.

34 (i)	Ensure Best Value Indicators support waste reduction and recycling. There should be appropriate penalties and incentives for LAs to meet waste targets	Review waste BVPIs	April 04-Oct 04	Following consultation, Defra is now working with ODPM on the final package of changes to BVPIs for introduction in April 2005. Defra is developing a detailed engagement and intervention strategy to ensure that poor performing authorities receive appropriate levels of support, engagement and intervention to improve their recycling and composting performance.
C&I (1)	Explore the potential for supporting the wider development of waste exchanges	Investigate potential gains for waste reduction and reuse through Industrial Symbiosis	Review October 2004	The BREW Programme is funding the National Industrial Symbiosis Programme (NISP).
C&I (2 ii)	Consider the value of mandatory environmental reporting	Enabling legislation to require some companies to report where these issues are material to an understanding of the company's business	Ongoing	Draft regulations and consultation document launched in May 04 by DTI
C&I (4)	Consider the use of statutory targets for commercial and industrial waste. Consider increasing targets after 2005	Consider the role of targets in light of better data on commercial and industrial wastes	Ongoing	An intermediate review of Waste Strategy 2000 including targets is being undertaken in 2005.