

Strategy Unit Report 'Waste not, Want not' Recommendations FINAL UPDATE JULY 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.

54 out of the 63 actions have now been completed. The progress report to January 2005 includes details of 43 of these completed actions:

[Strategy Unit report "Waste not, Want not" recommendations - progress to January 2005](#)

This report covers the other 20 actions.

Of the remaining 9 actions, most have been subsumed into mainstream work and are ongoing. Some are being taken forward by the Review of Waste Strategy 2000.

The tables below set out in more detail the work that has been undertaken. As the Review of Waste Strategy 2000 is now underway and a progress report will be published in the autumn ([Written Ministerial Statement: Review of the Government's National Waste Strategy](#)), this will be the last Defra update of the status of actions.

Completed Actions (Table 1)

	STRATEGY UNIT REPORT 2002 - RECOMMENDATIONS AND FOLLOW-UP ACTION		Completed Actions
Number	Recommendation	Action	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	The Government is continuing to investigate options for influencing household behaviour and has carried out research 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 in accordance with Defra's 5 Year Strategy.
3 (i)	Consider options of increasing incentives for re-use	Contribute to ACP Task Force considering reuse and minimisation of packaging and packaging waste	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	The study was completed July 2005. Peer review also done.
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	This will be taken forward through the Energy Using Products Directive (EUP)
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	This will be taken forward in the Review of Waste Strategy 2000.
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	PAS 100 was revised and published in June 2005. WRAP and EA are currently working on a composting quality protocol.
10 (iii)		Consult WRAP and other key stakeholders over EC Bio-waste Directive	EC published a discussion document December 2003. UK responded Feb 2004 following informal consultation. Biowaste is likely now to be considered within the Thematic Strategy on Waste and Recycling rather than as a separate Directive. This will be taken forward in the Thematic Strategy.
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	Following consultation a package of changes to BVPIs was published in April 2005. Defra has 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	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	The Companies Act 1985 (Operating and Financial Review and Directors Report etc.) regulations 2005. Available on HMSO website came into force March 2005.
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	This will be taken forward in the Review of Waste Strategy 2000.

Actions Ongoing (Table 2)

STRATEGY UNIT REPORT 2002 - RECOMMENDATIONS AND FOLLOW-UP ACTION				Actions Ongoing
Number	Recommendation	Action	Current Date for Review / Completion	Status
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 last quarter of 2005.
2 (ii)		Determine suitable options for voluntary agreements in household hazardous waste	Ongoing	Defra continue to consider the possible options, in the light of the work on other waste streams.
3 (iii)	Consider options of increasing incentives for re-use	Work with WRAP and voluntary organisations to identify scope for encouraging reuse of products	Ongoing	Developing framework for BVPI Reuse indicator.
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	Anticipated that this will be one of the subjects covered by the Thematic Strategy on Waste and Recycling. Expect to be published Autumn 2005.
9 (ii)	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 national recycling and composting targets in light of progress by local authorities	Dec 2005	A consultation on targets is planned for Autumn 2005. A longer term review of targets will form part of the Waste Strategy 2000 Review.

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	This will be taken forward in the Review of Waste Strategy 2000.
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	Consideration of the usefulness of such a forum will form part of the Review of WS2000
32 (ii)	Revise PPG10 as a priority to ensure the required facilities for recycling and residual waste management can proceed	Publish revised guidance (subject to outcome of consultation)	Spring 2005	Policy published July 2005. Practice Guidance to follow in the Autumn.