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STATISTICAL RELEASE

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**LOCAL AUTHORITY COLLECTED WASTE MANAGEMENT STATISTICS FOR
ENGLAND – FINAL RELEASE OF QUARTERS 1, 2, 3 AND 4 2010/11**

These final results summarise waste collected and managed by local authorities in England in the 12 months from April 2010 to March 2011. They are based on quarterly data submitted by local authorities to [WasteDataFlow](#).

The quarterly datasets for national and regional data up to Quarter 4 of 2010/11 are available to [download](#). In this statistics release comparisons are made between the financial years April 2009 to March 2010 and April 2010 to March 2011, to minimise the effects of seasonal fluctuations.

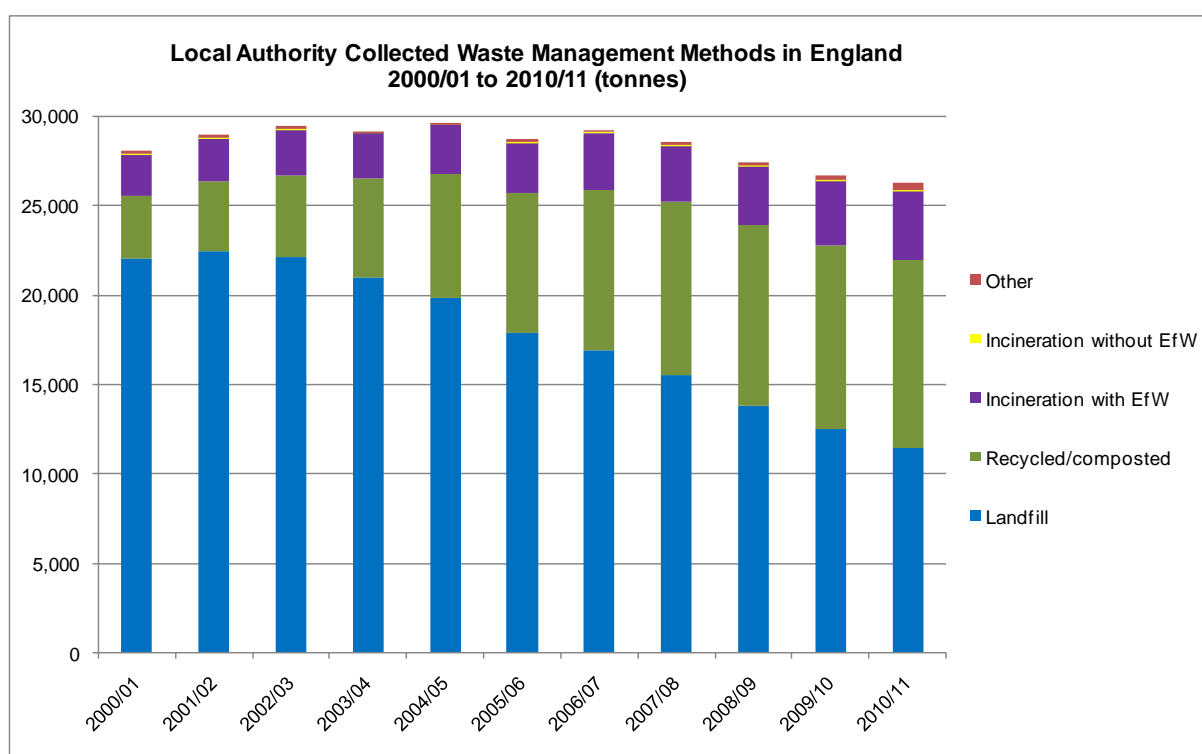
Headline results

- ***Household recycling has increased*** The proportion of household waste sent for recycling, composting or reuse between April 2010 to March 2011 in England was 41.2 per cent, increasing from 39.7 per cent in the year April 2009 and March 2010.
- ***Household waste production has decreased*** The generation of household waste continued to decrease between the financial years 2009/10 and 2010/11, with a 0.9 per cent reduction to 23.5 million tonnes. This continues the slowing in a reduction of household waste since 2007/08.
- ***Waste generation per person has decreased*** The weight of household waste generated in the year April 2010 to March 2011 in England, in kilograms per person, was 449 kg per person. Of this total, 185 kg was recycled, composted or reused whilst 264 kg was not.
- ***Local authority collected waste sent to landfill has declined*** The tonnage of local authority collected waste being sent to landfill by local authorities has decreased by 8.8 per cent between the financial years 2009/10 and 2010/11

to 11.4 million tonnes. This continues the decrease of tonnes sent to landfill since 2002/03, however the decrease has been slowing since 2008/09.

Local authority collected waste generation and management

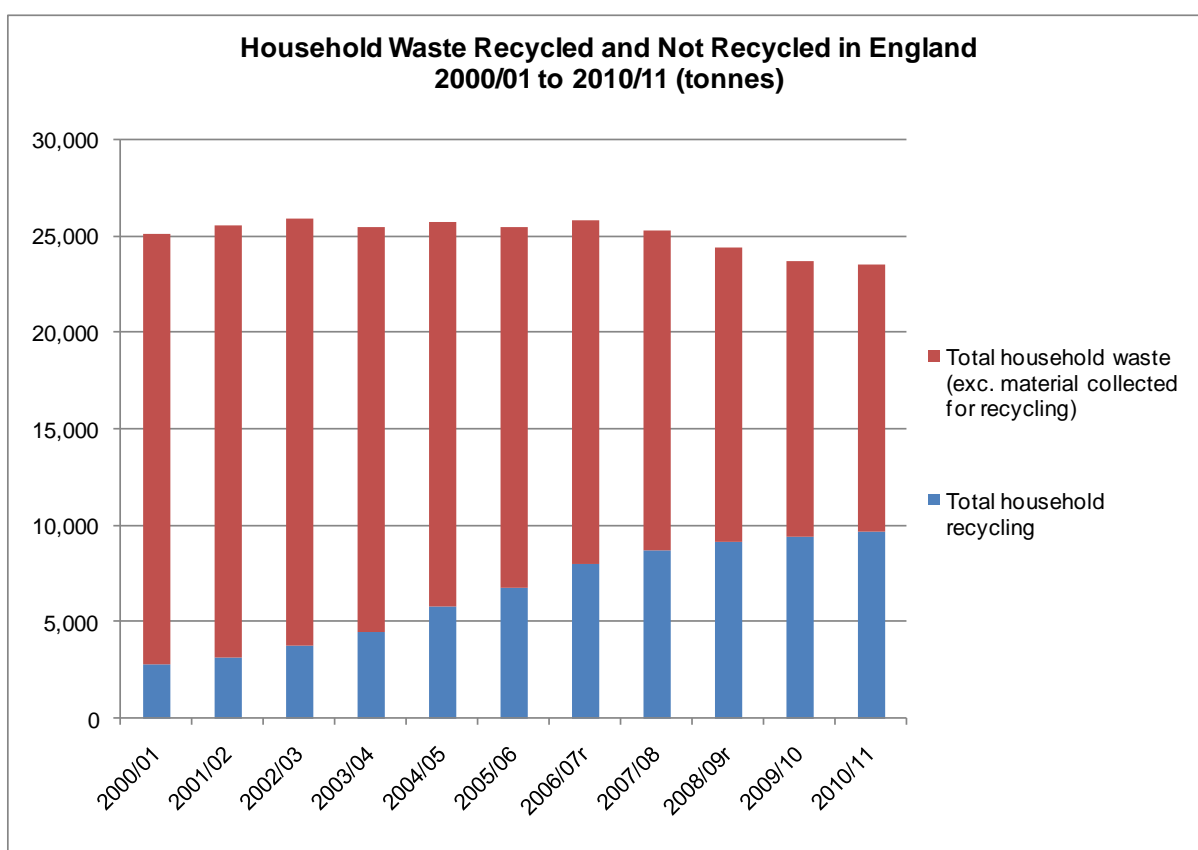
- The total amount of local authority collected waste generated has decreased by 1.3 per cent to 26.2 million tonnes between the financial years 2009/10 and 2010/11. This continues the reduction seen since 2007/08.
- The proportion of local authority collected waste being recycled, composted or reused continued the long term trend by increasing to 40.1 per cent between the years 2009/10 and 2010/11.
- The proportion of local authority collected waste disposed of into landfill in 2010/11 was 43.4 per cent. Over the last 10 years local authority collected waste sent to landfill has decreased from 78.0 per cent of generation in 2001/02. In 2010/11 England sent just under half (49%) the tonnage of waste to landfill compared to 2001/02.



Household waste and recycling

- The amount of waste collected from household sources decreased by 0.9 per cent, between the financial years 2009/10 and 2010/11, to 23.5 million tonnes. The average annual change in total household waste over the five years to 2010/11 was a decrease of 1.6 per cent with household waste generation decreasing annually since 2006/07.

- The proportion of household waste recycled (including composting and reuse) has continued to increase, rising from 39.7 per cent in 2009/10 to 41.2 per cent in 2010/11. In 2010/11 household recycling tonnage was 3.0 times that of 2001/02, increasing from 3.2 to 9.7 million tonnes.
- The amount of household waste generated per person per year in kilograms in the financial year 2010/11 was 449 kg, of which 185 kg was recycled and 264 kg was not recycled. This continues the trend since 1983 when our records began of recycling per person increasing year on year, however, total household waste generated per person has only been falling year on year since 2006/07.
- In 2010/11, household sources accounted for 89.5 per cent of local authority collected waste generation.



These statistics are final. The next statistics release will be for Quarter 1 of 2011/12. These will be released in February 2012.

Annual local authority level [data](#) up to 2010/11, a [statistical summary](#) note and information on local authority waste [policies](#) and the [Waste Review](#) are also available. Additional analyses can also be produced via the reporting tool on the [WasteDataFlow website](#).

Appendix 1 - Notes

1. These tables are the final release of data from WasteDataFlow for Quarters 1, 2, 3 and 4 of 2010/11 and are national and regional estimates based on local authority returns in England.
2. For all quarters of 2010/11 there was a 100% response rate on WasteDataFlow. The data entered into WasteDataFlow are also used by the Environment Agency to monitor biodegradable local authority collected municipal waste sent to landfill by local authorities under the Landfill Allowances Trading Scheme (LATS).
3. There have been seven annual sets of results produced from the WasteDataFlow system. Some care should be taken when comparing 2004/05 onwards with previous year's results from the Municipal Waste Management Surveys.
4. Household waste includes household collection rounds ('bin' waste), other household collections such as bulky waste collections, waste from services such as litter collections, waste from civic amenity sites and wastes separately collected for recycling or composting through bring/drop off schemes, kerbside schemes and at civic amenity sites. Local authority collected waste is that which comes under the possession or control of the Local Authority and includes household waste and other wastes collected by a waste collection authority or its agents, such as municipal parks and gardens waste, beach cleansing waste, commercial or industrial waste, and waste resulting from the clearance of fly-tipped materials.
5. The amount of waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting is that which is accepted by the reprocessor. As such it excludes any recycling rejects that occur during collection, sorting or further treatment. Waste diverted for recycling from the residual (or 'black bag waste') stream by further processing is included in the recycling tonnages.
6. WasteDataFlow is a UK wide system managed by Defra in collaboration with Devolved Administration partners. Statistics for other UK countries are published by the relevant organisation.

Scotland (SEPA, Scottish Government)	http://www.sepa.org.uk/waste/waste_data/waste_data_digest.aspx http://scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Environment/ses/o/Q/TID/9
Wales (Welsh Government)	http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/theme/environment/wasterecycle/?lang=en
Northern Ireland (DOENI)	http://www.doeni.gov.uk/index/information/asb/statistics.htm#environmentalstatistics

Appendix 2 – Notes on definitions of terms

This note sets out the background to the change in terminology and definition of ‘municipal waste’ reporting in statistical terms.

Previously the term ‘Municipal Waste’ as used in the UK was used in nationally reported data to refer to waste collected by local authorities. In fact the definition of municipal waste as described in the Landfill Directive includes both household waste and that from other sources which is similar in nature and composition, which will include a significant proportion of waste generated by businesses and not collected by Local Authorities. In 2010, negotiations with the EU Commission and consultation with the waste community redefined national targets and the effects of this change in relation to the EU Landfill Directive targets.

To remove ambiguity, in the future references to ‘municipal waste’ will refer to the new definition. Therefore there is a need to define a new term to describe the data collected by WasteDataFlow. The agreed terminology arises from Defra’s response to the 2010 consultation on meeting the EU Landfill Diversion Targets in England.

Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste (LACMW)

LACMW refers to the previous ‘municipal’ element of the waste collected by local authorities. That is household waste and commercial and industrial waste where collected by the local authority and which is similar in nature and composition as required by the Landfill Directive. This is the definition that will be used for LATS allowances. It excludes C&D waste

Local Authority Collected Waste (LACW)

All waste collected by the local authority. This is a slightly broader concept than LACMW as it would include both this and non municipal fractions such as construction and demolition waste. LACW is the definition that will be used in statistical publications, which previously referred to municipal waste.

WasteDataFlow Statistics

From 2011, statistical releases and outputs from WasteDataFlow are branded as Local Authority Collected Waste. This reflects the coverage of the data collected. Previous outputs may be found which are described as ‘municipal waste’ but will purely reflect the old description – the data will not have changed and will only cover LA activity. We expect it will take some time for the new terminology to become established.

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