



Annual Report
2008/09

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 This report has been prepared by the North West Region Waste Management Group¹ (NWRWMG) in order to assess the progress that has been made within the region towards the implementation of the North West Region Waste Management Plan 2006-2020 (WMP), which can be accessed at www.northwestwaste.org.uk
- 1.1.2 The Department of the Environment for Northern Ireland via its Planning and Environmental Policy Division has a statutory duty to make and deliver policy to meet United Kingdom (UK) and European Union (EU) obligations. The Department, therefore, has a need for information on a regular basis to carry out its functions under the Waste and Contaminated Land (NI) Order 1997. This includes reporting on the implementation/review of Waste Management Plans by District Councils in a Group format.
- 1.1.3 This report provides an update on the current waste arisings for the 2008/09 financial year and compares them with the gap years of 2006/07 and 2007/08 using figures stated within the 2006/07 and the 2007/08 Municipal Waste Management Reports, which can be accessed at (www.ni-environment.gov.uk). The data for 2008/09 derives from www.wastedataflow.org² and the Municipal Waste Management Report for 2008/09. The report also includes a review of the actions taken by the group towards the implementation of infrastructure and assesses the measures that have been set in place to secure contracts for the collection, reprocessing and delivery to end markets of material collected within the NWRWMG region. The report compares current and projected wastes arisings against the Waste Management Strategy targets. For individual Council performance for 2008/09 year, the Northern Ireland Environment Agency has produced a Municipal Waste Management Report, which can be accessed at www.ni-environment.gov.uk.

¹ The NWRWMG represents a voluntary grouping of seven district councils: Ballymoney Borough Council, Coleraine Borough Council, Derry City Council, Limavady Borough Council, Magherafelt District Council, Moyle District Council & Strabane District Council.

² WasteDataFlow is the web-based system for municipal waste data reporting by UK local authorities to government.



1.2 Strategy Targets

- 1.2.1 The Strategy targets are based on legislation via the EU Waste Framework Directive 75/442/EEC, EU Landfill Directive 99/31/EC, Towards Resource Management – the Northern Ireland Waste Management Strategy 2006-2020 and the North West Region Waste Management Groups Waste Management Plan 2006-2020.
- 1.2.2 The aim of the NWRWVG Waste Management Plan (section 1.9) is “to develop a waste management system that meets the region’s needs and contributes to economic and sustainable development”³. Section 6.14 of the Plan sets out the diversion of biodegradable municipal waste (BMW)⁴ from landfill in compliance with the requirements of the Landfill Directive (99/31/EC). The following targets limit the quantities of BMW going to landfill in the North West region:
- 75% of 1995 levels by 2010 – (NWRWVG – Northern Ireland Landfill Allowance Scheme (NILAS) target 89,283 tonnes)
 - 50% of 1995 levels by 2013 – (NWRWVG – target 61,172 tonnes)
 - 35% of 1995 levels by 2020 – (NWRWVG – target 42,384 tonnes)
- 1.2.3 The Landfill Allowances Scheme (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009, which came into operation on 1 April 2009, amended the NILAS 2004 Regulations by reducing from 71% to 64% by weight, the assumed amount of biodegradable municipal waste in an amount of collected municipal waste.
- 1.2.4 In recognition of the priority that needs to be attached to Waste Prevention and the un-sustainability of high waste growth rates, the Group set limits for annual growth in municipal waste over the Plan period. Section 6.27 of the WMP sets annual waste growth rates as follows:
- 1.5% up to 2010
 - 1.0% from 2010-2013
 - 0.5% from 2013 to 2020

³ North West Region Waste Management Group, December 2006, *Waste Management Plan 2006-2020*, section 1-3, www.northwestwaste.org

⁴ Biodegradable municipal waste is defined as ‘Any municipal waste that is capable of undergoing anaerobic or anaerobic decomposition, such as food and garden waste and paper and paperboard’, accessed from the Municipal Waste data monitoring and reporting: Interim Guidelines 2003 Annex C available at www.ni-environment.gov.uk



- 1.2.5 Section 4.8 of the Groups Plan sets out the targets for household recycling and composting at:
- To recycle and compost 35% of household wastes by 2010
 - To recycle and compost 40% of household wastes by 2015
 - To recycle and compost 45% of household wastes by 2020
- 1.2.6 Whilst the recycling and composting targets included in the Northern Ireland Waste Management Strategy 2006-2020 and the NWRWMG Waste Management Plan of December 2006 aim to reach 45% by 2020 this has been revised to 50% in order to be consistent with the EU Waste Framework Directive of 2008⁵. Therefore, operationally, the recycling and composting target of NWRWMG is to reach 50% by 2020.
- 1.2.7 Section 6.84 of the Group's Plan sets out the targets for municipal recycling and composting at:
- To recycle and compost 30% of municipal wastes by 2010
 - To recycle and compost 35% of municipal wastes by 2013
 - To recycle and compost 40% of municipal wastes by 2020
- 1.2.8 The data provided has been sourced from www.wastedataflow.org, the Council themselves, previous Annual Reports, the Municipal Waste Management reports for 2006/07 and 2007/08 and the Landfill Allowance Scheme Regulations (2004) Northern Ireland.

⁵ the EU DIRECTIVE 2008/98/EC OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 19 November 2008, Article 11 Section 2a increased the recycling rate to 50%.



2 REVIEW OF CURRENT WASTE ARISING

Information for this section of the report has been compiled using WasteDataFlow information from April 2008 to March 2009. Data from previous years has also been included within this report as a means of allowing comparisons to be made against consecutive years and hence annual performance to be monitored. The data from 2006/07, 2007/08 and 2008/09 has been obtained from the Municipal Waste Management Reports for Northern Ireland.⁶

2.1 Household Waste Arisings

For the basis of this report, the definition of 'household waste' reported derives from the Municipal Waste Data monitoring and reporting: Interim Guidelines 2003. The definition in the Guidelines states that household waste means "waste arising from a domestic property (i.e. a building or self contained part of a building which is used wholly for the purposes of living accommodation), caravan, residential home, premises forming part of a university or school or other educational establishment and premises forming part of a hospital or nursing home"⁷.

2.1.1 Number of households

Key waste management indicators are being presented to provide an overview of the NWRWMG performance and compare them with the previous two years. The number of households with the NWRWMG sits at 128,402 this figure is provided by Department for Social Development – Northern Ireland Housing Bulletin.

⁶ Municipal Waste Management Reports Northern Ireland 2006/07 , 2007/08 and 2008/09 report available at www.ni-environment.gov.uk

⁷ Municipal Waste data monitoring and reporting: Interim Guidelines 2003 Annex C available at www.ni-environment.gov.uk



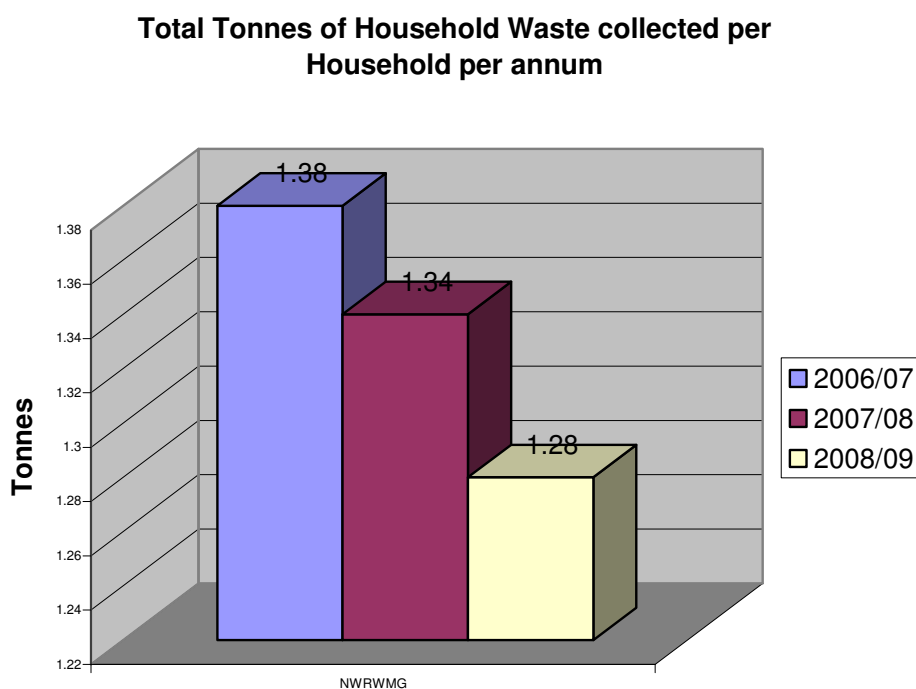
2.1.2 Tonnes of household waste collected per household per annum

The quantity of waste generated per household, calculated as the quantity of household waste produced in a region divided by the number of households, provides an indicator of trends in household waste arisings. The figure can be used to assess the performance of waste reduction activities and evaluate broad trends in household waste generation.

Table 1

	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Tonnes collected per household	1.38	1.34	1.28

Figure 1



The Group has shown a general reduction in the amount of waste produced per household from 1.34 tonnes in 2007/08 to 1.28 tonnes per household in 2008/09.

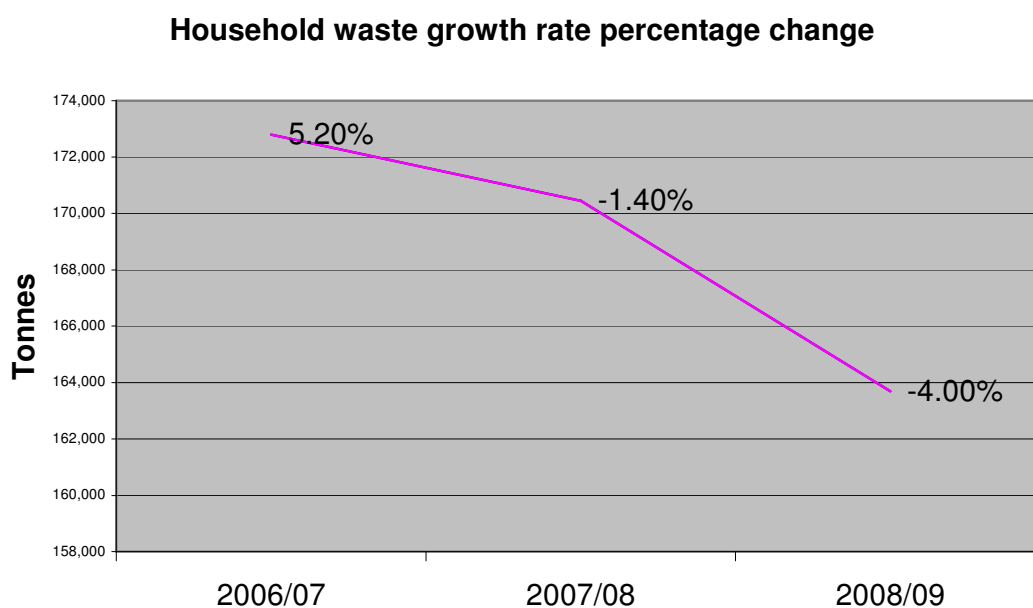


2.1.3 Household waste arisings growth rate as a percentage

Table 2

	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Households Waste Arisings Totals tonnes	172,790	170,451	163,683
Growth rate percentage ⁸	5.2%	-1.4%	-4.0%

Figure 2



The household waste arisings in tonnes for NWRWMG per year have been presented in figure 2 above. The data has been compiled from the Municipal Waste Management Northern Ireland reports, 2006/07, 2007/08 and 2008/09.

⁸ In 2005/06 the total tonnes of household waste arisings for the Group was 163,869

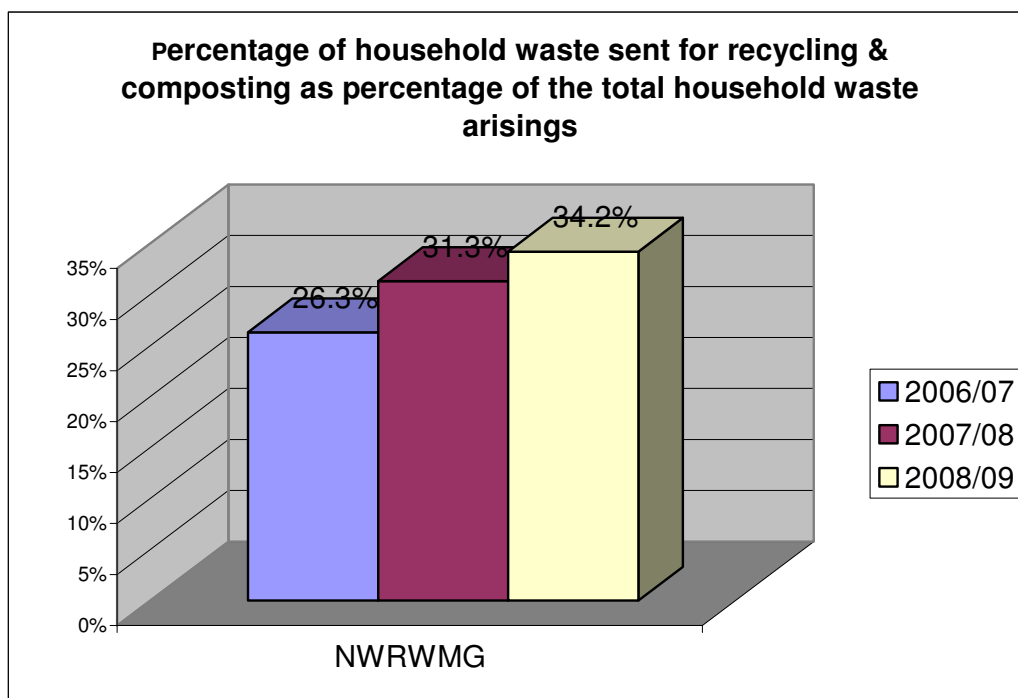


2.1.4 Percentage of household waste sent for recycling and composting as a percentage of the total household waste arisings

Table 3

Year	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Total in tonnes of household waste arisings	172,790	170,451	163,683
Total tonnes of household dry recycling and composting	45,415	53,372	56,004
Percentage of household waste sent for recycling and composting as a percentage of the total municipal waste arisings	26.3%	31.3%	34.2%

Figure 3



The average household recovery rate for the NWRWMG during 2008/09 was 34.2% an increase of 2.9% on the 2007/08 figures. This rise has been due to the continued efforts of the Councils within the Group in the implementation and improvement of infrastructure and services. The target for the 2009/10 year as set out in the Waste Management Plan is 35%.



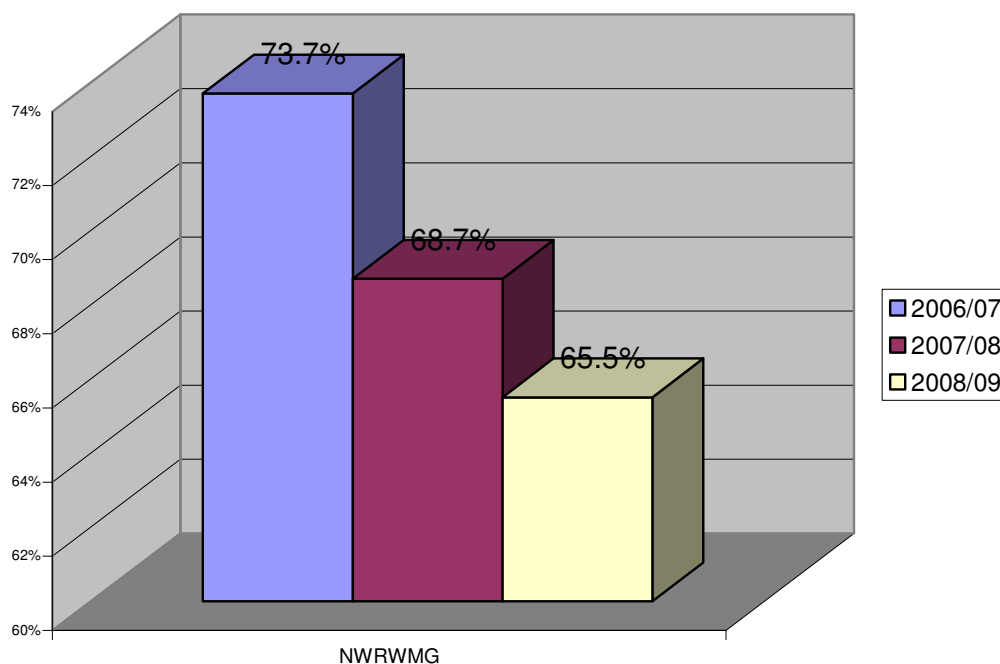
2.1.5 Percentage of household waste landfilled as a percentage of the total household waste arisings

Table 4

	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Total in tonnes of household waste arisings	172,790	170,451	163,683
Total tonnes of household waste landfilled	127,348	117,092	107,291
Percentage of household waste landfilled as a percentage of the total household waste arisings	73.7%	68.7%	65.5%

Figure 4

Percentage of household waste landfilled as a percentage of the total household waste arisings



The figures in the above table show a significant reduction in household waste landfilled of 8.2% from 2006/07.



2.2 Municipal waste arisings

For the purposes of this report, the definition used for municipal waste means “household waste and any other waste under the control of (i.e. collected by) District Councils or their agents acting on their behalf”.⁹

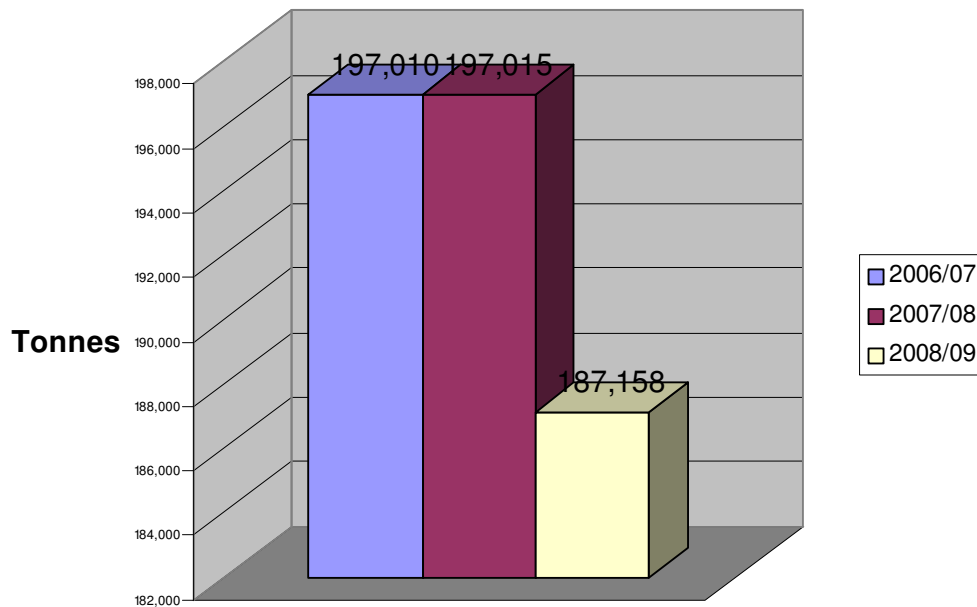
2.2.1 Total tonnes of municipal waste arisings

Table 5

	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Total tonnes of municipal waste	197,010	197,015	187,158

Figure 5

Total tonnes of municipal waste arisings



⁹ Municipal Waste data monitoring and reporting: Interim Guidelines 2003 Annex C



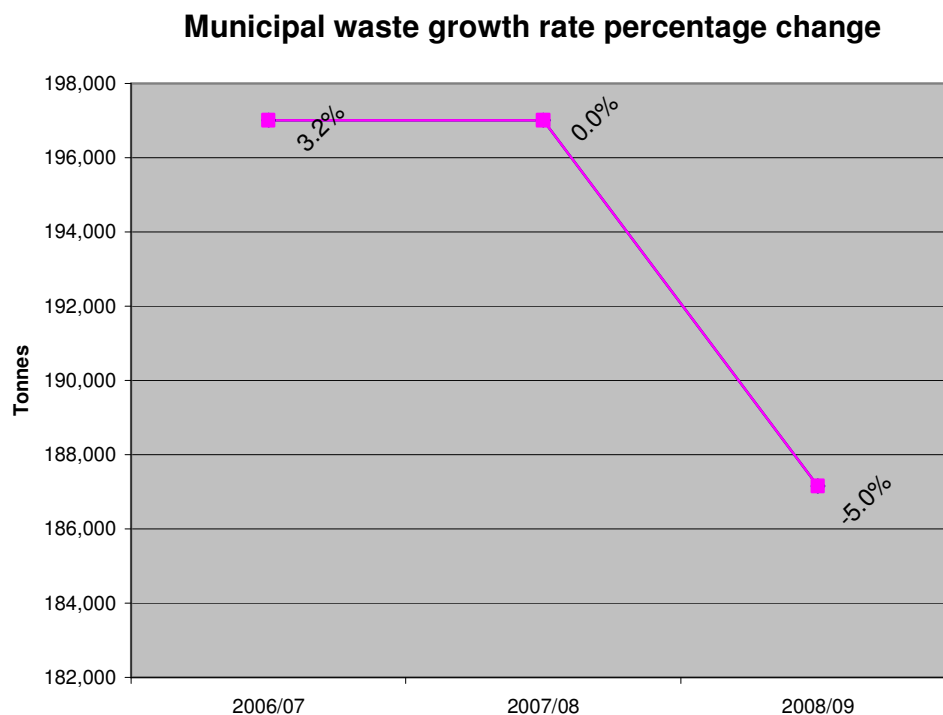
2.2.2 Municipal waste arisings growth rate as a percentage

Table 6

	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Total tonnes of municipal waste	197,010	197,015	187,158
Municipal Waste growth rate ¹⁰	3.2%	0.0%	-5.0%

The total amount of municipal waste arising in the Group in 2008/09 is 187,158; this represents a decrease of 5.0% from the 2007/08 figures. Waste growth in the municipal sector has, for the moment, been reversed and become a reduction. The reasons for this reduction are not fully understood. The level of waste growth reduction has a significant effect on environmental impacts, costs and the amount of disposal infrastructure needed to meet the EU landfill diversion targets. The Group will continue to seek to improve its knowledge of the underlying causes.

Figure 6



¹⁰ In 2005/06 the total tonnes of municipal waste arisings for the Group was 190,741



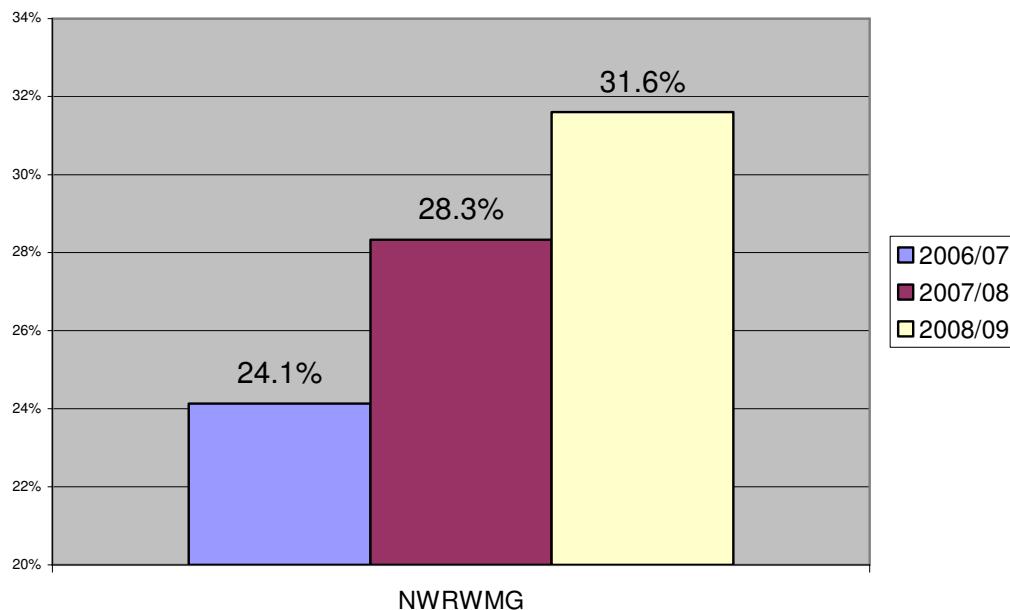
2.2.3 Percentage of municipal waste sent for recycling and composting as a percentage of the total municipal waste arisings

Table 7

Year	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Total in tonnes of municipal waste arisings	197,010	197,015	187,158
Total tonnes of municipal dry recycling and composting	47,541	55,805	59,055
Percentage of municipal waste sent for recycling and composting as a percentage of the total municipal waste arisings	24.1%	28.3%	31.6%

Figure 7

Percentage of municipal waste sent for recycling and composting as a percentage of the total municipal waste arisings



The average municipal recovery rate for the NWRWMG during 2008/09 was 31.6% an increase of 3.3% on the 2007/08 figures. This rise has been due to the continued efforts of the Councils within the Group in the implementation and improvement of infrastructure and services. The target for the 2009/10 –year as set out in the Waste Management Plan Section 6.84 is 30%.

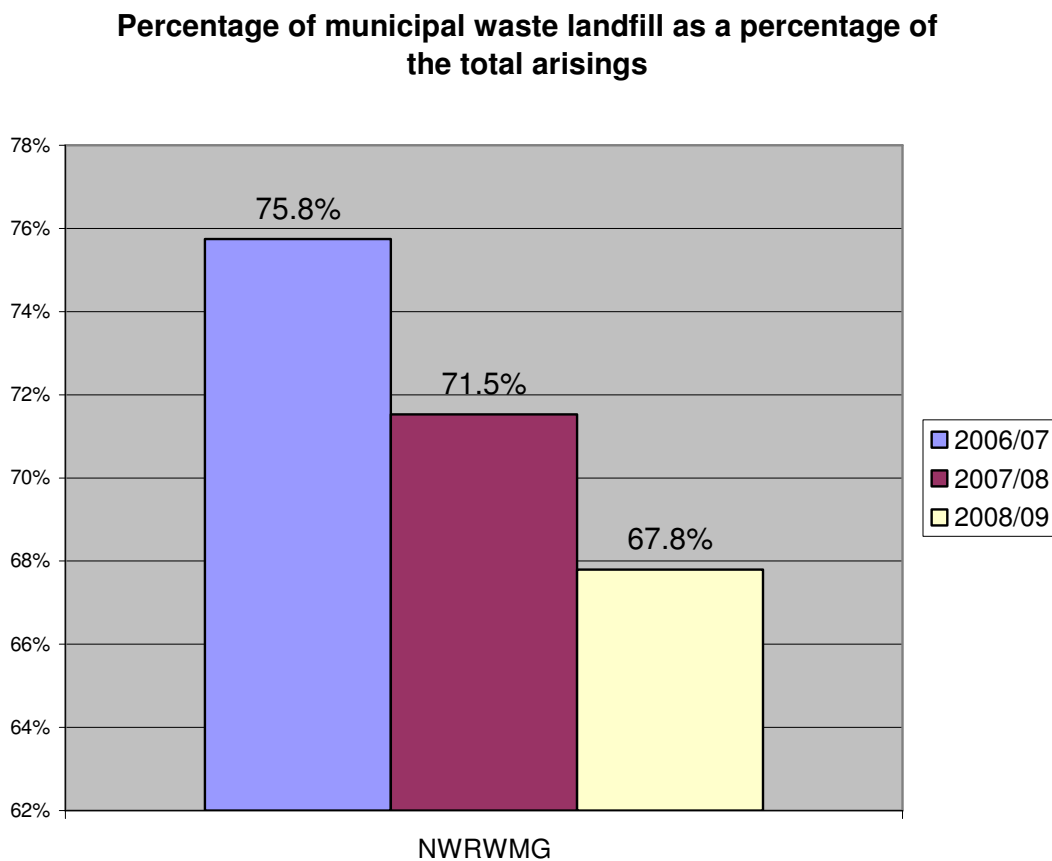


2.2.4 Percentage of municipal waste landfill as a percentage of the total municipal waste arisings

Table 8

	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Total in tonnes of municipal waste arisings	197,010	197,015	187,158
Total tonnes of municipal waste landfilled	149,248	140,929	126,857
Percentage of municipal waste landfilled as a percentage of the total municipal waste arisings	75.8%	71.5%	67.8%

Figure 8



2.2.5 Tonnes of biodegradable municipal waste landfilled

Table 9

	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Allocation in tonnes	123,745	121,307	118,847
Tonnes of biodegradable municipal waste landfilled	104,257	98,763	89,558
Allowances available after utilisation	19,488	22,544	29,289
% of available allowances utilised	84.3%	81.4%	75.4%

Biodegradable Municipal Waste landfilled – The total tonnage of Biodegradable Municipal Waste (BMW) sent to landfill in the NWRWMG region in 2008/09 was 89,558 tonnes, which is 24.6 % less than the allocated (118,847) allowance. (See appendix 1 for the Group's NILAS Allocation). This indicator is a **statutory requirement** set out in the Group's (WMP). Section 6.14 of the Plan sets out the diversion of biodegradable municipal waste (BMW) from landfill in compliance with the requirements of the Landfill Directive (99/31/EC).

Figure 9

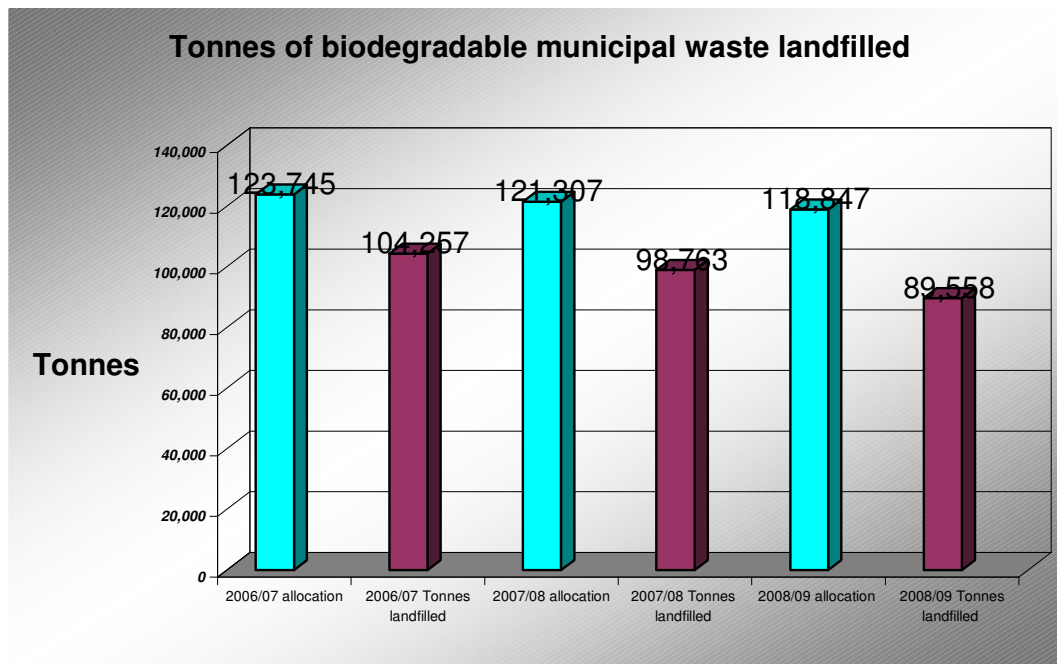


Table 10

2.6 WASTE STREAM QUANTITIES 2008/09

	Amount Collected (tonnes)		Amount Recycled/Composted (tonnes)	
	Separately Collected	Collected via Residual Waste Collection	Separately Collected	Collected via Residual Waste Collection
Green Glass	133.9	-	133.9	-
Brown Glass	86.8	-	86.8	-
Clear Glass	249.7	-	249.7	-
Mixed Glass	3,340.3	-	3,340.3	-
Paper	11,560.4	-	11,560.4	-
Card	3,990	-	3,990	-
Books	1.9	-	1.9	-
Books for re-use	6	-	6	-
Mixed Paper & Card	14.3	-	14.3	-
Mixed Cans	1,379.3	-	1,379.3	-
Plastics	2,642	-	2,642	-
Textiles and Footwear	584	-	584	-
Co Mingled Materials	123.5	-	123.5	-
Green Waste Only	11,129.2	-	11,129.2	-
Other Compostable Waste	2,533.8	-	2,533.8	-
Wood	2,246.4	-	2,199	-
Furniture	34	-	34	-
Furniture for re-use	188	-	188	-
Rubble	707.9	-	707.9	-
Rubble for re-use	822	-	822	-
*Fridges & Freezers	441.2	-	441.2	-
*Other Electrical Goods	1,271.8	-	1,271.8	-
*Other White Goods	536.2	-	532	-
Other Scrap Metal	1,620.4	-	1,620.4	-
*Fluorescent Tubes	8.8	-	8.8	-
Aluminium Foil	1.5	-	1.5	-
*Automotive Batteries	42.5	-	42.5	-
*Post Consumer, Non Automotive Batteries	5.2	-	5.2	-
Vegetable Oil	36.8	-	36.8	-
Mineral Oil	86.4	-	86.4	-
Paint	275.21	-	275.21	-
*Abandoned Vehicles	206.56	-	206.56	-
Other	738	-	738	-

*Priority Waste Streams have been identified on account of one or more of the following: their volume, hazardous nature, potential for recycling, potential to create an economic benefit or the fact that legislation has changed the way these materials have traditionally been managed. The variation of the shaded figures in the above is due to the materials being contaminated and thus being rejected for recycling. The definition of 're-use' means any operation by which products or components that are not waste are used again for the same purpose for which they were conceived¹¹

¹¹ (the EU DIRECTIVE 2008/98/EC OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 19 November 2008, Article 3 paragraph 13.



3 IMPLEMENTATION OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

3.1

Table 11 **District council collection infrastructure for recyclables 2008/09**

Type of Infrastructure	Planned Number to have at End of Reporting Year	Actual Number at End of Reporting Year	Coverage (% of Total number of Houses in Council / Group Area)	Reason if not achieved
Collection System				
- Number of Mixed dry recycling kerbside blue bins	128,000	128,000	100%	
- Number of Composting kerbside brown bins (Garden)	25,375	25,375	25%	
- Composting (Kitchen)	Not applicable	N/A	N/A	
- Composting (Combined)	N/A	N/A	N/A	
- Kerbside sort Dry Recycling 55 litre box	12,000	12,000	9%	
- Other? (Specify)	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Bring Banks	79	79	N/A	
Household Waste and Recycling Centres	27	27	N/A	



3.2

Table 12 **Installed group waste infrastructure for 2008/09**

Type of Infrastructure	Planned capacity to have at end of reporting year		Actual capacity at end of reporting ear	
	Number of facilities	Capacity (tonnes per year)	Number of facilities	Capacity (tonnes per year)
Transfer Stations	6		6	
Materials Recycling Facilities	3	300,000	3	300,000
Recycling Facilities (Household Waste and Recycling Centre and Bring sites)	106		106	
Composting Facilities	2		2	
- In-vessel		10,000		10,000
- Anaerobic digestion				
- Windrow composting		10,000		10,000
Mechanical Biological Treatment	0		0	
Thermal Treatment with Energy Recovery	0		0	
Landfill	2	80,000	2	80,000
Other (specify)				



3.3 Progress with procurement contracts/new infrastructure

- 3.3.1 While the ongoing recycling and composting work is very important and must continue, councils still have to deal with the issue of how best to manage that waste left in black bags and wheelie bins which can't be recycled or composted.
- 3.3.2 The common practice until now has been to send this waste, known as municipal residual waste, to landfill to be buried. However, due to the strict European Union restrictions mentioned earlier and the need to turn waste into a resource, this practice must reduce and an alternative solution to landfill must be found.
- 3.3.3 The responsibility of deciding on the best strategy lies with the North West Region Waste Management Group. This will be the most important waste management development to take place in the North West for decades, changing the way the region deals with waste in the future. After due consideration and consultation with all relevant parties, the councils of the region have decided that a combination of Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT) and energy recovery technologies is the most effective and efficient way to deal with residual waste. There are up to 200 examples of these types of plants already in operation throughout Europe. It is the responsibility of the NWRWVG to oversee the development of these facilities and to ensure that they are in place by the required timeframe.
- 3.3.4 To deliver the infrastructure project the NWRWVG formally initiated a procurement process in February 2009. The aim is to secure Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT) facilities with a capacity of c. 140,000 tonnes annually and Energy Recovery facilities with the capacity to deal with MBT outputs.
- 3.3.5 It is important to ensure that the necessary infrastructure is secured to ensure that the NWRWVG achieves its EU landfill diversion targets. To this end, a public procurement process was initiated inviting bidders to apply for the contract to provide facilities and services required. This procurement was published in the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU). The contract is expected to be awarded by the end of 2010 and the MBT and energy recovery plants are anticipated to be fully operational by 2014.

Service Contracts:

Mixed dry recyclables	Runs to 31.3.2011
Regional Landfill	At preferred bidder stage
NW Infrastructure Project	At Detailed Solution stage



4 WASTE EDUCATION AND AWARENESS PROGRAMMES

Table 13

Waste Awareness and Education Activities Planned, and Objectives	What Activities were Implemented, and Comments	Measures of Success
General promotion of schemes and facilities i.e. CA/HWRC, Community and Schools talks, Free Cycle, Real Nappy promotion	The Group members initiated dialogue with participants via letter writing, engagement with community groups and presentations delivered.	Increased usage in scheme and facilities, affects in waste arisings
Eco Schools/Congregation, work with local schools & churches to develop waste management initiatives	Presentations, workshops and support information provided to new and existing participants.	Schools achieving green flag status
Environmental Youth Speak	The Group members participated in the local, regional and final heats of the competition.	Increase the total of schools participating in local heats, press coverage
Christmas Promotion, waste campaign – Christmas Tree/Card Recycling events and schemes	Media awareness	Participation in schemes and events. Reduction in waste arisings during Christmas period.
Compost, general promotion of composting and sustainability including love food hate waste campaign	Media awareness of content within residual waste that can be biodegraded.	PR and participation, positive affect in waste arisings
Continued development of members/group web-sites	Research and content development for the members/group sites, beginnings of incorporating the recycle now brand	Increased usage in scheme and facilities, affects in waste arisings
Green procurement policies	Develop and pass policy	A number of Councils have either 'Green' procurement policies or have elements within their purchasing policies that address environmental/sustainable development.



5 PERFORMANCE COMPARISON AGAINST PREVIOUS YEARS

The below tables indicate how the NWRWMG has performed in relation to the targets set out in its Waste Management Plan (WMP) and NILAS targets.

Table 14

Tonnes of biodegradable municipal waste landfilled	2006/07 Allocation	2006/07 Land filled	2007/08 Allocation	2007/08 Land filled	2008/09 Allocation	2008/09 Land filled	2009/10 Statutory allocation
NWRWMG total	123,745	104,257	121,307	98,763	118,847	89,558	89,283

The NWRWMG is currently on course to achieving the target as outlined in section 4.8 of the NWRWMG Waste Management Plan for the household recycling rate.

Table 15

Household recycling rate	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10 target year
NWRWMG total	26.3%	31.3%	34.2%	35.00%

The NWRWMG has already achieved in 2008/09 the target as set out in section 6.84 of its waste management plan for 2009/10 for the municipal recycling rate.

Table 16

Municipal recycling rate	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10 target year
NWRWMG total	24.1%	28.3%	31.6%	30.00%



5.1 Waste Prevention

- 5.1.1 In order to minimise impact on the environment, improve resource efficiency and reduce the cost of waste management stabilising waste generation is at the core of the Northern Ireland Waste Management Strategy and the NWRWMG Waste Management Plan.
- 5.1.2 In recognition of the importance of Waste Prevention and the unsustainability of high waste growth rates, the Group set limits for annual growth in municipal waste over the Plan period (section 6.27 of the WMP), up to 2020, as follows:
- 1.5% up to 2010
 - 1.0% from 2010-2013
 - 0.5% from 2013 to 2020
- 5.1.3 As shown in the figures in section 2.2.2 of this report the growth rate over the last two years has been below the targets set in the WMP. This may be a result of the downturn in the economy and the continued education awareness initiatives implemented by the Group and nationally.
- 5.1.4 Section 6.143 – 6.147 of the NWRWMG Waste Management Plan sets out the Group's **Waste Prevention** initiatives, which are to:
- Implement sustained education and awareness campaigns
 - Promote and supply home composting units
 - Implement 'Green Procurement' Policies
 - Monitor and Assess
- 5.1.5 Over the course of the year the Group and its members councils have continued to work on education and awareness raisings campaigns with community groups, schools, householders and businesses. In addition, some member councils have developed 'Green' procurement policies and/or have included 'Environmental'/'Sustainable Development' elements within their purchasing policies.
- 5.1.6 Over 31,000 home composting units have been supplied to householders within the region over the last number of years; in addition, three of the seven local authorities offer brown bin collections.



5.2 Recycling and Recovery

- 5.2.1 Section 4.8 of the Group's WMP sets out the target for household recycling and composting at 35% for 2009/10. The North West Region Waste Management Group current rate of recycling is 34.2%.
- 5.2.2 Section 6.14 of the WMP sets out the diversion of biodegradable municipal waste (BMW) from landfill in compliance with the requirements of the Landfill Directive (99/31/EC). This limits the quantities of BMW going to landfill through the Northern Ireland Landfill Allowance Scheme (NILAS):
- 75% of 1995 levels by 2010 – (NWRWVG – NILAS target 89,283 tonnes)
- 5.2.3 The North West Waste Management Group has consistently met its NILAS targets over the last number of years. In 2008/09 the group was allocated 118,847 tonnes of biodegradable municipal waste that it could send to landfill, however it sent 89,588 tonnes to landfill, which is 24.65% less than the allowance.
- 5.2.4 Section 6.84 of the NWRWVG WMP sets out the target for municipal recycling and composting at 30% for 2009/10. The North West Regional Waste Management Group has increased the amount of **municipal** waste it has recycled and composted by 3.2% from the previous year with its 2008/09 rate at 31.6% and therefore achieved this target a year in advance.
- 5.2.5 To meet the 2013 and 2020 targets set out in the Waste Management Plan will require additional investment in resources and facilities to be undertaken by the local authorities.
- Modifications of the Waste Management Plan
 - Review the Optimum collection systems
 - Review the NWRWVG Bring site and Household Waste and Recycling Centres
 - Communications development
 - Publish a bi-annual newsletter
 - Re-develop the NWRWVG web-site

5.3 Waste Planning

To deliver the infrastructure project the NWRWVG formally initiated a procurement process in February 2009. The aim is to secure Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT) facilities with a capacity of c. 140,000 tonnes annually and Energy Recovery facilities with the capacity to deal with MBT outputs. In addition, modifications to the Waste Management Plan have been identified as an action to progress in the coming year.



5.4 Data & Research

- 5.4.1 The Group prepared in 2008/09 to initiate a waste compositional study to assist in the development of the North West Infrastructure project.
- 5.4.2 The Group decided in 2008/09 to undertake two studies in partnership with the Waste Resources and Action Programme (WRAP). WRAP will be conducting a review of the NWRWMG household waste recycling centres & civic amenity sites. They will also be carrying out a study of potential optimal collection systems for the Group beyond 2015. These studies will be carried out in 2009/10.
- 5.4.3 The councils of the Group continue to populate data for Waste Data Flow, which is a system for municipal waste data reporting throughout the UK (www.wastedataflow.org).

5.5 Legislation and Enforcement

- 5.5.1 The Group has taken into account the revised EU waste framework directive 2008/98/EC, which increases the household recycling target from 45% to 50% by 2020.
- 5.5.2 The Group responded to the consultation document ‘Proposals for a Waste Bill’.

5.6 Learning and Communications

- 5.6.1 The aim of learning and communications is to “raise awareness, encourage best practice and achieve behavioural change by all stakeholders, in order to effect a cultural shift towards better resource management and improved environmental quality”.¹²
- 5.6.2 There has been progress in the NWRWMG Region in 2008/09 with regard to Learning and Communications. All member councils have carried out Waste Awareness Initiatives and Home Composting promotions (see section 4.0 of this report). In addition, the Group has revised its web-site (www.northwestwaste.org.uk) and to develop content for a bi-annual newsletter to improve communications.
- 5.6.3 The Recycling Officers Forum for the Northwest meets on a bi-monthly basis to develop on going waste management initiatives and share best practice.

¹² Department of the Environment Northern Ireland (2006) *Towards Resource Management, the Northern Ireland Waste Management Strategy 2006-2020*, p.61, www.doeni.gov.uk



6.0 Conclusion

- 6.1 The annual report for the NWRWMG for 2008/09 has shown an increase in performance for the Group as a whole over the past twelve months, with the result that the NWRWMG household recycling rate has risen from 31.3% in 2007/08 to 34.2% in 2008/09.
- 6.2 There have been similar results for municipal waste with recovery rate rising from 28.3% in 2007/08 to 31.6% in 2008/09. The Group has met the target (30%) set out in its Waste Management Plan 2006-2020 a year ahead of schedule.
- 6.3 The NWRWMG total tonnage of Biodegradable Municipal Waste (BMW) sent to landfill in 2008/09 was 89,558 tonnes, which is 24.6 % less than the allocated (118,847) allowance. (See appendix 1 for the Group's NILAS Allocations).
- 6.4 There has been a marked increase in the recovery rates of both household and municipal waste, however there is a need to ensure that current initiatives continue, like the:
- Modifications of Waste Management Plan
 - Communications and learning
 - North West Infrastructure Project
 - Waste minimisation
 - Education raising campaigns with households, the community and others

Appendix

Northern Ireland Landfill Allowance Scheme Allocations

	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20
NWRWMG	89,283	89,460	88,886	61,172	58,559	55,931	53,290	50,641	47,889	45,136	42,384

