

Diverting Municipal Waste from Landfill: Speeding up to Meet the Challenges

NAO Waste Perception Survey Findings Report May 2007



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NAO Waste Perception Survey

Findings Report

Aim

To investigate waste disposal authorities (WDAs) understanding of how close they perceive they are to meeting EU landfill targets.

Background

Local authorities in the United Kingdom rely much more on landfill for municipal waste disposal than many other European countries. According to performance data for 2003, 75 per cent of municipal waste (equivalent to 17.7 million tonnes of biodegradable municipal waste) was landfilled in the United Kingdom, compared to 38 per cent in France and 20 per cent in Germany.

Provisional figures (collected by Defra) for 2004-05 for England indicate that the amount landfilled has fallen from 72 per cent in 2003-04 to 67 per cent. The United Kingdom's historic reliance on landfill left it poorly positioned in relation to many European countries who have already achieved their targets to reduce their reliance on landfill, partly due to geological, cultural and historic differences in approach to waste management.¹

The National Audit Office (NAO) has commissioned Neil Stewart Associates (NSA) to undertake research to determine how close local authorities perceive they are to meeting EU Landfill targets for 2009-10 and 2010-12. The findings of this research are laid out in the following report.

Methodology

One hundred and twenty one WDAs were contacted to complete the Waste Perceptions Survey. (see [appendix A](#) for a list of the WDAs). A letter and a survey were emailed out (see [appendix B and C](#)). The survey was written by the National Audit Office with advice from Neil Stewart Associates.

The survey ([appendix C](#)) contained 12 multiple choice questions.

¹ Information taken from NAO report: 'Reducing Reliance on Landfill in England'
http://www.nao.org.uk/publications/nao_reports/05-06/05061177.pdf

Each respondent was asked to answer on behalf of their organisation and were the most senior member of staff appropriate and available. A list of respondents including job titles can be found in [appendix A](#).

The results of the survey will be used to inform work to be presented by the National Audit Office at their forthcoming conference *Diverting Municipal waste from landfill: Speeding up to meet the challenges*.

Response Rate

The response rate for the survey was 91 per cent.

A total of 110 responses were received within the time limit given. One WDA refused to participate. Ten responses were not received (see [appendix D](#)).

Main Report

The results of the survey have been collated and presented in graph format throughout this document. There is then a short summary of the results of each question finishing. The report finishes with final conclusions.

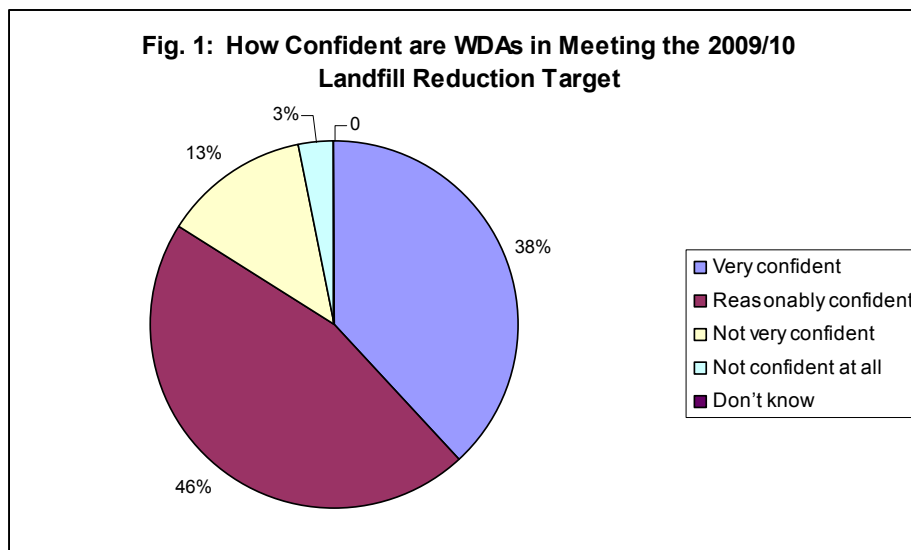
Results and Analysis

Question 1

2009/10 EU Landfill targets

Figure 2 below shows how confident WDAs are in meeting their 2009-10 targets for reducing the amount of biodegradable municipal waste sent to landfill.

The majority of respondents (84 per cent) felt confident. Just three per cent of WDAs felt 'not confident at all' (a list of these authorities can be found in [appendix E](#) - none were from the 25 WDAs which send the most municipal waste to landfill).



Base: 110

Question 2

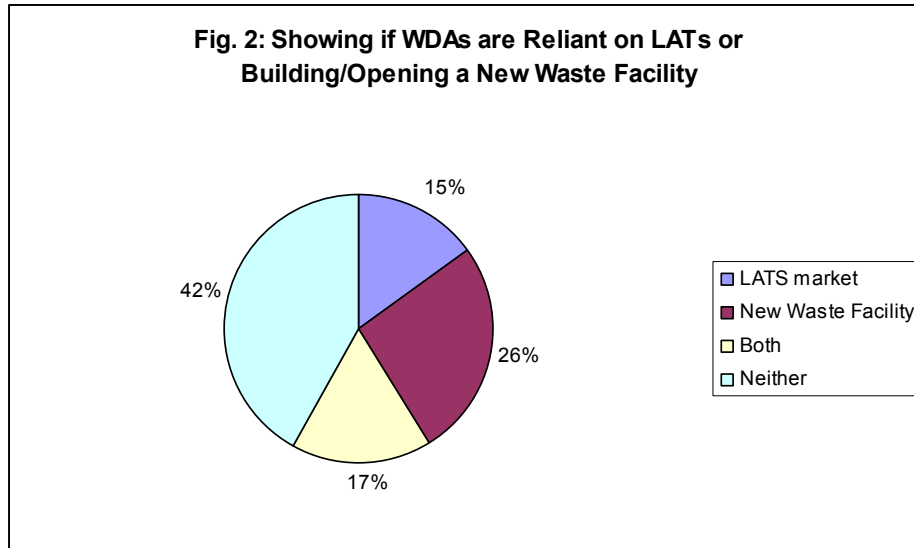
What are 'confident' authorities reliant on?

Question 2 was asked only to the WDAs who answered confident (84 per cent) to Question 1.

Figure 2 below shows whether, to meet the 2009/10 EU landfill targets, the 'confident' WDAs are reliant on:

- a) LATs
- b) A new waste facility

The results (see Figure 2) show that the majority of WDAs are not reliant on either (42 per cent). Twenty-six percent said they were reliant on ‘building/opening a new waste facility’. It should be noted that some WDAs included expansion of an existing facility as ‘building or opening a new facility’.



Base: 92 respondees who answered option A or B to question 1

results continue overleaf

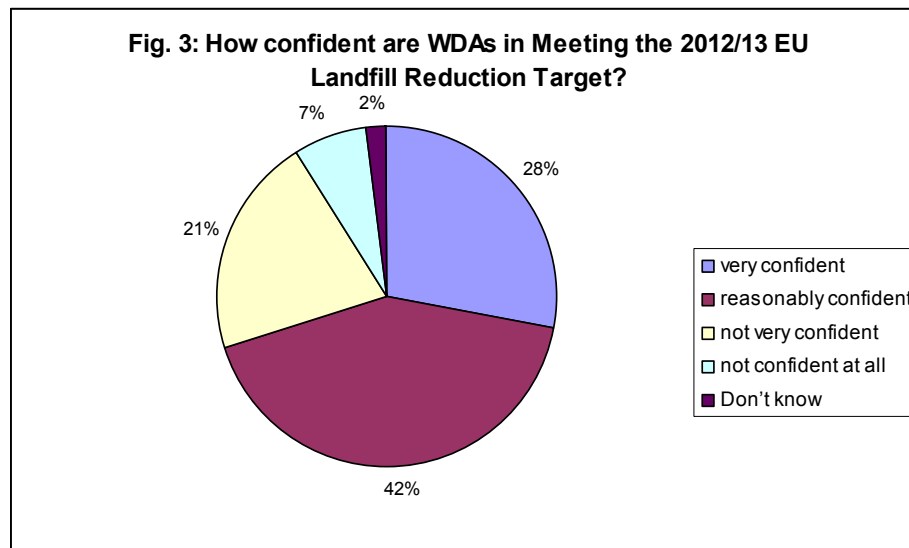
Question 3

2012/13 EU Landfill targets

The majority of respondents felt either ‘very’ or ‘reasonably’ confident (70 per cent) that they would meet the 2012/13 landfill reduction target.

Again the lowest response option was ‘not confident at all’ (seven per cent) (see Figure 3 below). A list of the eight ‘not confident at all’ authorities can be seen in [appendix F](#), three of which are among the 25 WDAs that send most waste to landfill. None of the WDAs who answered ‘not confident at all’ are the same as those who answered the same option in Question 1.

The number of respondents who are not confident of reaching their 2012-2013 targets has increased to 28 per cent (25 WDAs), against 16 per cent (18 WDAs) who were not confident about meeting their 2009-2010 target.



Base: 110

Question 4a

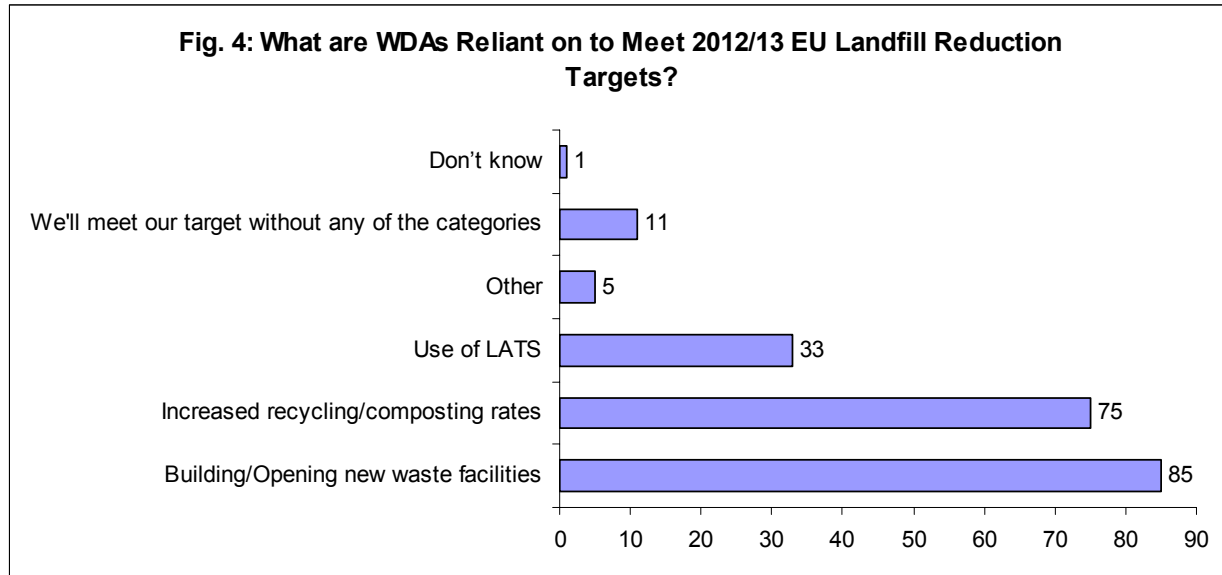
What are ‘confident’ authorities reliant on?

Question 4 asked what factors the WDAs were relying on, in order to meet the 2012/13 EU landfill targets.

Respondents were able to choose as many categories as necessary.

The majority (84 per cent (85 individual WDAs)) chose ‘Building/opening a new waste facility’ and ‘Increased recycling/composting rates’ (76 per cent (75 individual WDAs)).

Eleven WDAs were not reliant on any of the categories to meet their targets (see Figure 4 below).



Base: 110 respondees providing 210 separate responses

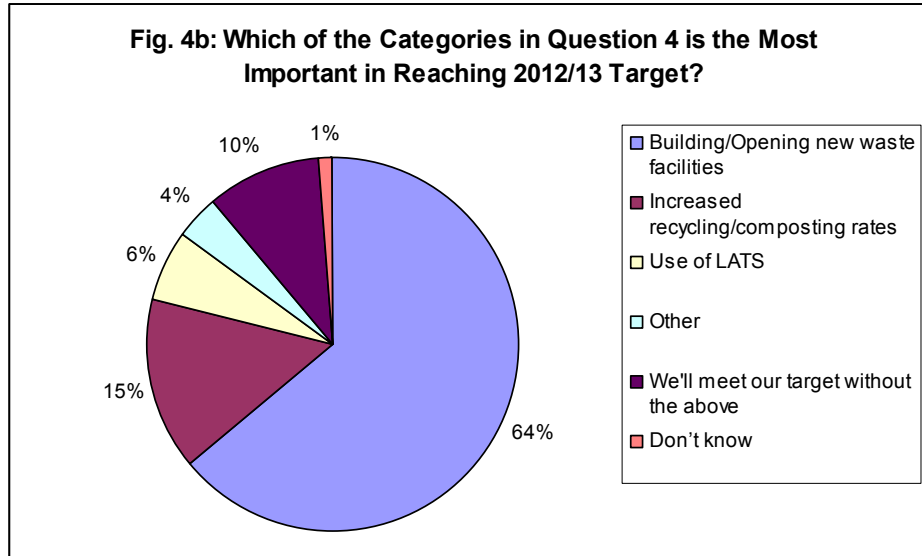
Some WDAs specified 'other':

- Existing facilities
- Incineration
- Buying waste treatment capacity
- New Waste Disposal contract in place by 2009/10

results continue overleaf

Question 4b

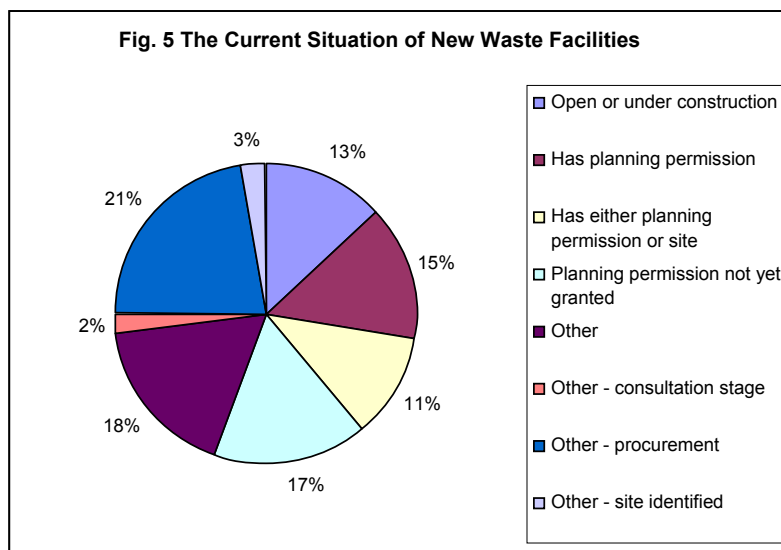
From the categories in question 4a, 70 WDAs (64 per cent) felt the most important was ‘Building/opening of a new waste facility’ (see Figure 4b below).



Base: 110 respondees

Question 5a

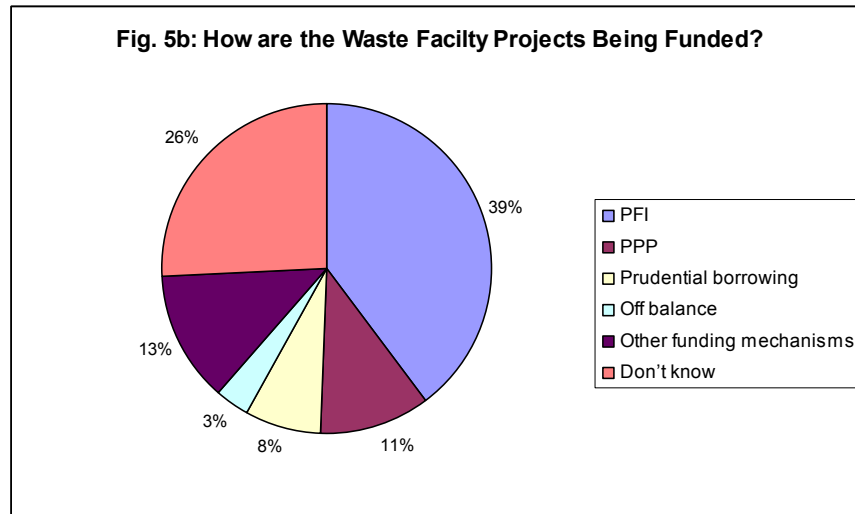
Question 5a asked what the current situation was regarding the new waste facility. As a number of WDAs have more than one project (see [appendix K](#) for breakdown) the numbers in this graph refer to project as opposed to WDA. The majority of respondents said that the new waste facility was in “other - procurement stage” (24 projects or 21 per cent). Forty-two projects (39 per cent) have projects underway (at least at planning permission granted stage) against 21 per cent who have yet to start the procurement/planning process fully.



Base: 85 authorities who answered option A to question 4a. 7 WDAs are opening more than one facility (between 2 & 9 a breakdown can be found in [appendix K](#)) and answered the question for each facility, making 108 individual responses.

Question 5b

Funding of the Waste Facilities



Base: authorities who answered option A to question 4a. 7 WDAs are opening more than one facility (between 2 & 9 a breakdown can be found in [appendix K](#)) and answered the question for each facility, making 108 individual responses.

Figure 5b shows that 39 per cent of new waste facilities are likely to be funded by PFI (this accounts for 37 of the projects). The responses showed that this is an area of uncertainty with 26 per cent (24 projects).

Question 6

Collaboration with other authorities

The majority of WDAs (53 per cent) are reliant on collaboration with other waste authorities for its plans (discussed above) to work. Forty per cent are planning on working alone, while seven per cent were unsure. [Appendix G](#) shows which WDAs are collaborating with which local authorities.

Question 7 determined whether the collaborating authorities were *collection* or *disposal* authorities (see [appendix H](#)). This question was asked to all 110 respondents.

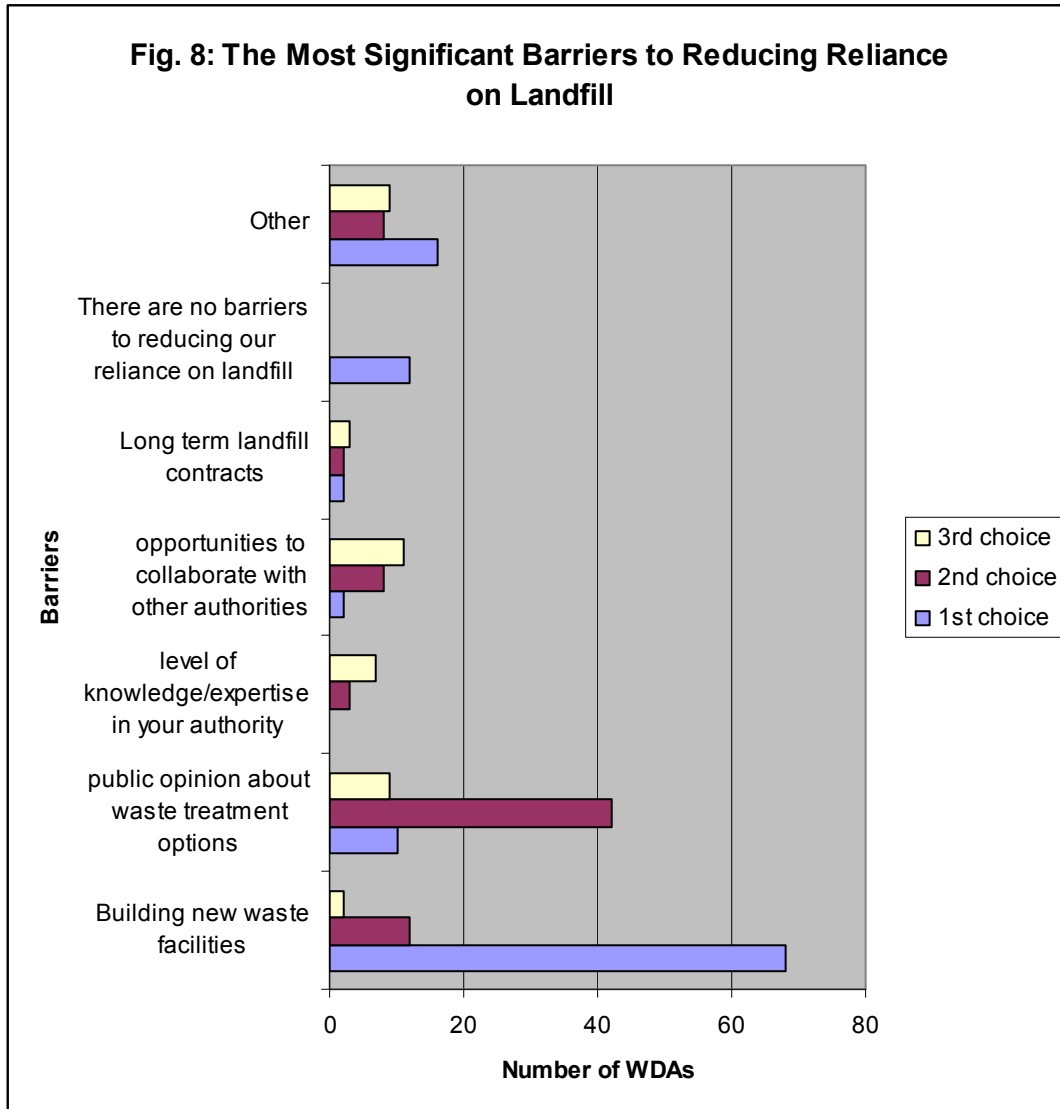
WDAs are more reliant on other WDAs than on Waste Collection Authorities (WCAs). Nineteen WDAs rely on WCAs where as 34 WDAs will rely on other WDAs to meet targets.

However, the most popular response, which came from 48 authorities, is that they were not reliant on any other authority. Eight WDAs said they were reliant on both Collection and Disposal authorities.

Question 8

Barriers to reducing landfill

Each respondent was asked to list the three most important barriers to reducing landfill. ‘Building new waste facilities’ was by far the most common choice with 68 WDAs (61 per cent) listing it as the most important. ‘Public opinion about waste treatment’ was the second most popular choice. Other responses were spread amongst the remaining options. For a breakdown of ‘other’ please see [appendix I](#).



Base: 110. Each respondent was asked to name their top three factors giving 284 total responses

The table below shows a breakdown of most important barriers cross referenced to the WDAs' confidence in meeting the 2012/13 targets.

| | 2009-2010 | 2009-2010 | 2012-13 | 2012-13 |
|--|-----------|---------------|-----------|---------------|
| Factor | Confident | Not Confident | Confident | Not confident |
| Building new waste facilities | 55 | 13 | 44 | 22 |
| Public opinion about waste treatment options | 9 | 1 | 8 | 2 |
| Level of knowledge/expertise in your Authority | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Opportunities to collaborate with other Authorities | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Long-term landfill contracts | 5 | 1 | 5 | 1 |
| There are no barriers to reducing our reliance on landfill | 12 | 0 | 12 | 0 |
| Other (please specify) | 19 | 3 | 7 | 5 |

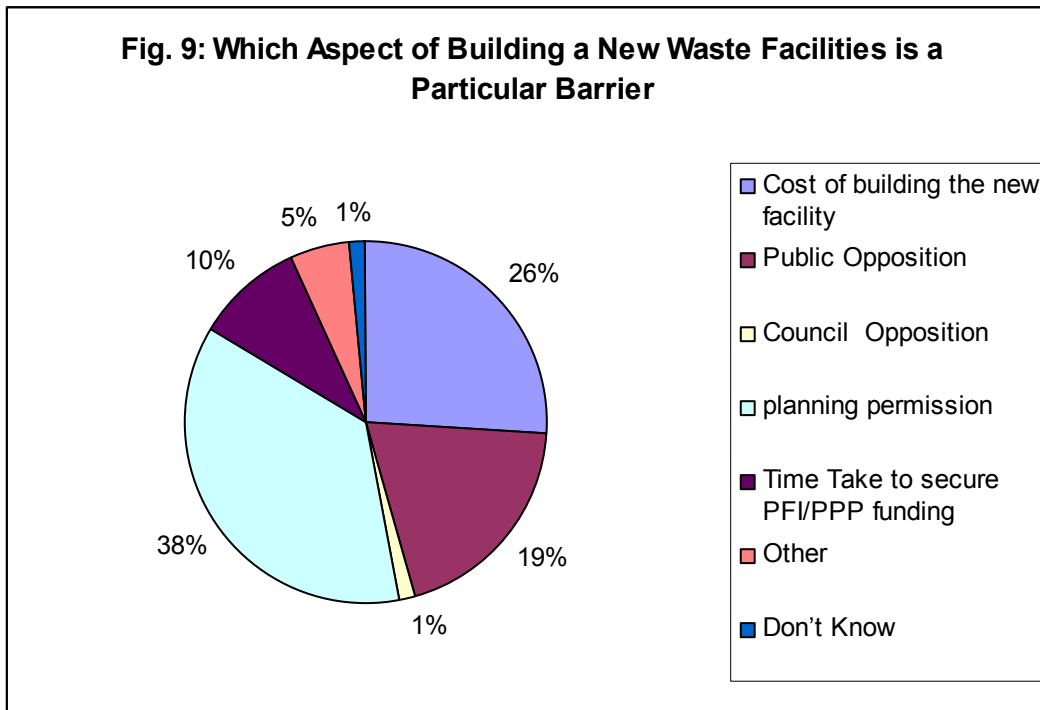
Base: 110, excluding the two authorities who answered 'don't know' in Question 3

Results continue overleaf

Question 9

Barriers to building new facilities

Planning permission was cited as the main barrier to building new waste facilities by 38 per cent of WDAs, with cost (26 per cent), public opposition (19 per cent) as other important barriers.



Base: 82, all those answering option A in Question 8

Those who responded with 'other' listed:

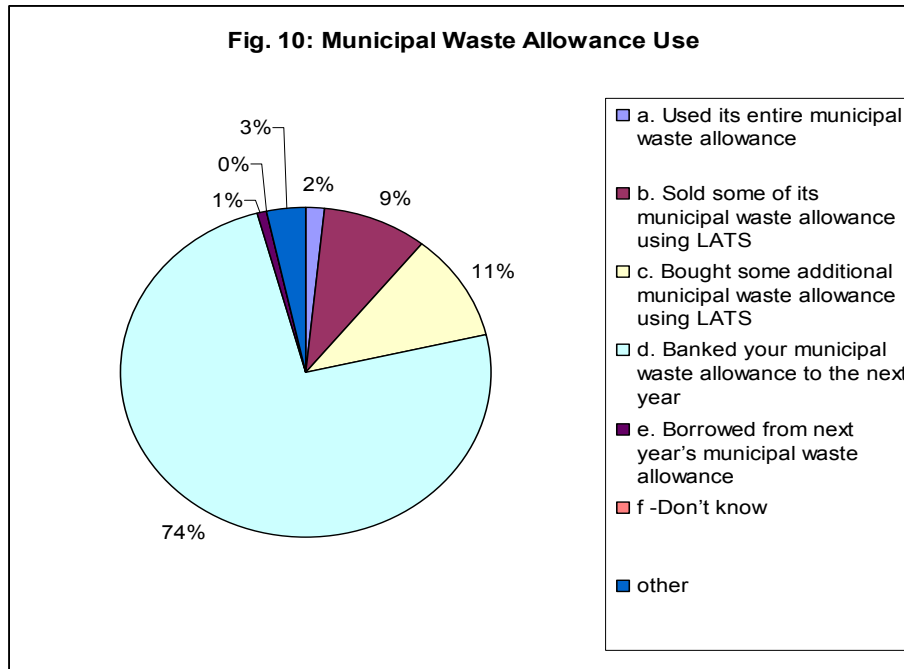
- site availability (1 WDA)
- site suitability (1 WDA)
- procurement (1 WDA)
- time taken for overall project (1 WDA)
- issues with Greater London Assembly (1 WDA)
- all of listed options (1 WDA)

Question 10

Each respondent was asked whether, for the 2006-07 year, they had used, sold, bought, banked or borrowed municipal waste allowance.

The vast majority (74 per cent) of respondents told the researcher that they had banked their municipal waste allowance to the next year.

Only 15 WDAs had either used their entire allowance or required additional allowance, either buying or borrowing from the following year.



Base: 110. 11 WDAs selected more than one option - ie to bank *and* sell, totalling 121 individual responses

The four authorities who answered ‘other’ had specific circumstances, listed below:

- non financial exchange with another WDA (two WDAs)
- share waste from another WDA at no cost
- trying to sell at the moment

The table below shows the breakdown of response to Question 10 in relation to whether local authorities are confident about meeting their 2012/13 targets

| | Confident | Not Confident | Don't Know |
|---------------|-----------|---------------|------------|
| a) Used | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| b) Sold | 10 | 2 | 0 |
| c) Bought | 5 | 7 | 0 |
| d) Bank | 64 | 24 | 0 |
| e) Borrowed | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| f) Don't Know | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| g) Other | 3 | 1 | 0 |

More unconfident WDAs bought in 2006-07 than confident WDAs but by a small ratio (7 compared to 5). But 23 of the 33 unconfident authorities have banked allowance to next year.

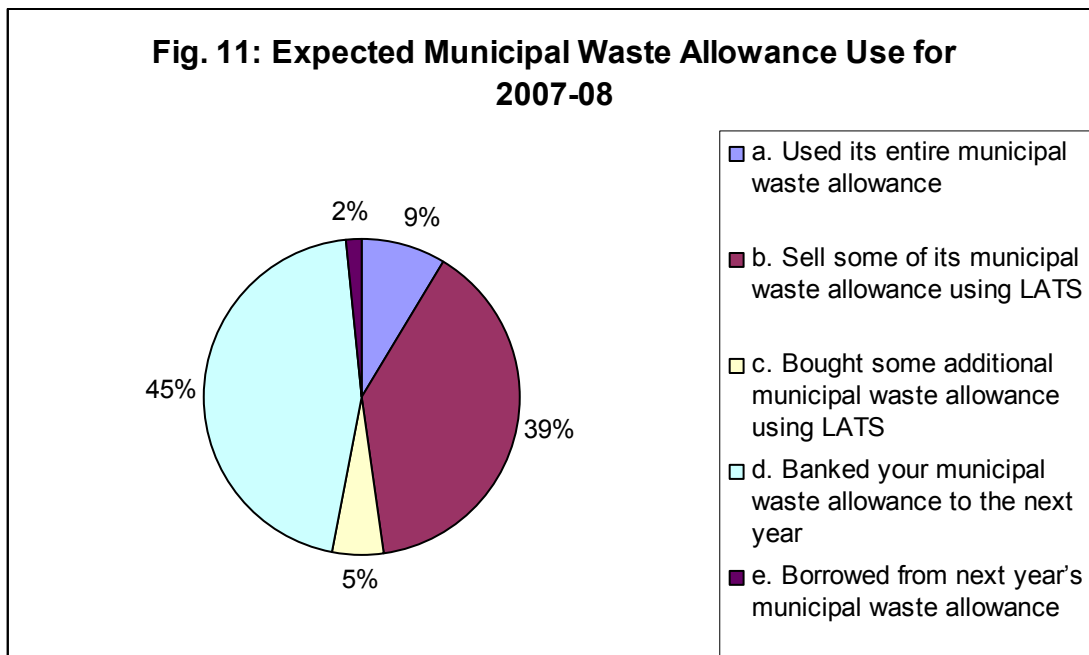
Question 11

Question 11 asked whether the WDA expected to use, sell, buy, bank or borrow their municipal waste allowance. Again, the most popular response was ‘bank’ with nearly half the authorities (45 per cent) expect to bank some of their allowance to next year.

Although this is the overwhelming majority, it is three fifths of the amount of WDAs who answered this option in question 10.

Again the banking option was the most popular. Second most popular choice was to sell allowances - this would leave WDAs in the situation where 50 authorities were selling and only five buying

Twenty WDAs expected to use, buy or borrow in 2007-2008, only one WDA more than in 2006-07.



Base: 110. 20 WDAs selected more than two options - i.e. to bank *and* sell, and one WDS selected three options totalling 132 individual responses

The figures below show what the 90 authorities who answered 'banked municipal waste allowance' for 2006-07 (question 10) answered for 2007-08 (question 11).

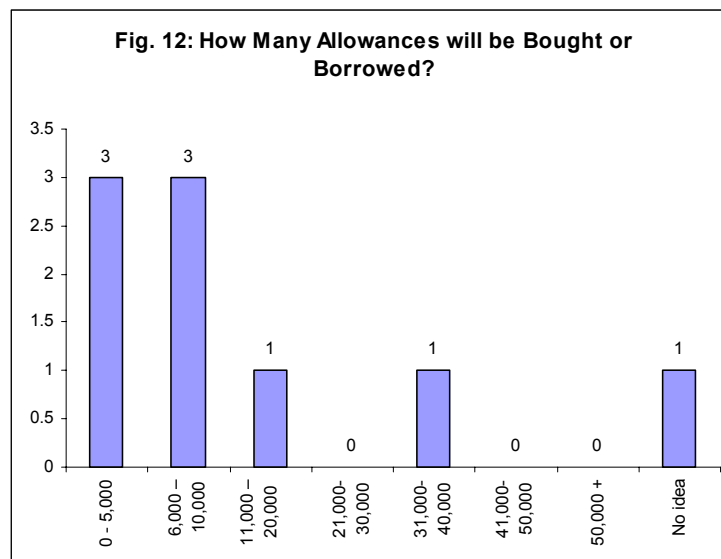
| Plan for 2007-08 | Banked in 2006-07 |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Used | 10 |
| Sold | 39 |
| Bought | 3 |
| Bank | 56 |
| Borrowed | 1 |

*note due to authorities choosing more than one option there are 109 responses

It shows that the majority think they'll continue to bank allowances (56 WDAs), although some intend to sell their allowance (37). Only 10 WDAs think they'll use their banked allowance in 2007-08.

Question 12

Question 12 was asked to all respondents who were planning to buy or borrow municipal waste allowance in 2007-08 to determine how many allowances (one allowance equals one tonne of waste sent to landfill) they expected to buy or borrow.



Base: 9 respondents who answered either option c or e to question 11

It is clear from figure 12 (above) that those authorities who intend to buy or borrow, do not intend to buy very large amounts. Seventy four per cent (6 WDAs) intend to buy or borrow under 10,000 tonnes. Only one WDA suggested it would borrow 11- 20,000 and only one suggested 31 - 40,000.

None of the top 25 authorities (listed by NAO as least likely to meet their EU targets see [appendix m](#)) felt they would need to buy or borrow more allowances.

Conclusions

- It is clear from the results presented that WDAs are confident that they will reach EU Landfill targets (both 2009/10 and 2012/13).
- WDAs believe that the building and opening of new waste facilities, along with increasing recycling and composting rates are key factors in reaching these targets.
- According to the research, those WDAs who have opted to open new facilities are on course to opening them; however there are a number of potential steps along the way. Planning permission and costs were listed as key barriers.
- The vast majority of waste facility projects are being funded through the PPP/PFI route, although those without PPP/PFI seem to be uncertain of the best way to move forward.
- The most significant barriers to WDAs are those associated with new waste facilities. Public opinion is also seen as a key barrier.
- Municipal waste allowances are being banked, and authorities expect to go on banking or selling. This could be problematic as very few WDAs have been buying allowances and even fewer expect to buy in the future.
- The relatively low number of WDAs using, buying or borrowing allowances, especially in 2007-08, when only 10 of the WDAs that banked their 2006-07 allowance expects to use it, may suggest that the allowance targets are not stretching enough for WDAs.



National Audit Office

Appendices



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Appendix A

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WDAs, Contacts and Position

| WDA | Respondent | Position |
|--|--------------------|---|
| Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council | Geoff Birkett | Executive Director Environmental Services |
| Bath and North East Somerset Council | NO RESPONSE | |
| Bedfordshire County Council | Steve Watson | Waste Service Development Manager |
| Bexley London Borough | Mike Frizoni | Assistant Director Regeneration and Environment |
| Birmingham City Council | Jeremy Shields | Waste Contracts and Strategy Manager |
| Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council | Stuart Hammond | Waste and Recycling manager |
| Blackpool Borough Council | Caroline Alsop | Waste Management Officer |
| Bournemouth Borough Council | Roy Osborough | Strategic waste Manager |
| Bracknell Forest Borough Council | Janet Dowlman | Waste and Recycling Manager |
| Brighton and Hove Council | Jan Jonker | Head of waste Strategy |
| Bristol City Council | Steve Gill | GROUP MANAGER, STRATEGIC WASTE FACILITIES |
| Bromley London Borough | John Woodruff | Head of Waste Services |
| Buckinghamshire County Council | Martin Dickman | Waste Management Service Manager |
| Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council | Malcom Akroyd | waste Manager |
| Cambridgeshire County Council | Julia Barrett | director of Environment and Regulation |
| Cheshire County Council | Harold Collin | County Waste Manager |
| City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council | Stuart Russo | Performance management officer |
| City of York Council | John Goodyear | Assistant Director Environment |
| Cornwall County Council | Malcom Mills | Principal Waste Managemnt Officer |
| Coventry City Council | NO RESPONSE | |
| Croydon London Borough | Jim Brennan | Divisional Director Waste |
| Cumbria County Council | Graham Harrison | Head of Waste Management |
| Darlington Borough Council | Phillippa Scrafton | Waste Minimization and Recycling Officer |
| Derby City Council | Richard Winter | Promotions and Campaigns Officer |
| Derbyshire County Council | Steve Pearson | Head of Waste Management |
| Devon County Council | Ben Jennings | County Waste Manager |
| Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council | Lisbeth Clarke | Interim Technical Theme Lead |
| Dorset County Council | Steve Burdis | Head of Waste Management |
| Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council | Martin Downs | Waste Disposal |
| Durham County Council | John Wade | Waste Management Business Manager |
| East London Waste Authority | Tony Jarvis | Executive Director |
| East Riding of Yorkshire Council | Cassie Hart-Fisher | Sustainable Development Manager |
| East Sussex County Council | Gary Urwin | Head of Integrated Waste Management Services Contract |
| Essex County Council | Nicola Beach | Head of Waste & Recycling |
| Gateshead Metropolitan Borough Council | NO RESPONSE | |
| Gloucestershire County Council | Mike Williams | Head of Waste Management |
| Greater Manchester WDA | Justin Lomax | Contracts and Performance Manager |
| Greenwich London Borough | Andrew Chambers | Senior Waste Policy Officer |
| Halton Borough Council | Richard Tregrea | Strategic Director Environment |
| Hampshire County Council | Paul Archer | Head of Waste and (material) Resource Management |
| Hartlepool Borough Council | Colin Ogden | Waste Management Manager |

| | | |
|---|-----------------------------|---|
| Herefordshire Council | Richard Woodward | Project Manager (Worcestershire County Council, completed on behalf of Herefordshire as we are joint partners in a PFI project) |
| Hertfordshire County Council | Richard Brown | Assistant Director |
| Isle of Wight Council | Steve Boswell | Operational Manager - Maintenance |
| Kent County Council | PETER BALDOCK | FINANCE and PERFORMANCE MANAGER – WASTE MANAGEMENT |
| Kingston-upon-Hull City Council | Doug Sharp | Sustainable Waste Development Manager |
| Kingston-upon-Thames London Borough | NO RESPONSE | |
| Kirklees Metropolitan Borough Council | Mike Proud | Strategic waste Manager |
| Lancashire County Council | Steve Scott | Operations Manager Waste |
| Leeds City Council (Metropolitan Borough Council)1 | Liz Behrens | Strategy & Development Officer |
| Leicester City Council | | |
| Leicestershire County Council | Nigel Shilton/Samantha Wain | Waste Projects Officer/Waste Management Technician |
| Lewisham London Borough | Sam Kirk | Strategic Waste & Environment Manager |
| Lincolnshire County Council | Nelson Medina | Senior Operations Officer (Performance) |
| London Corporation | Colin Russell | Acting Assistant Director of Street Cleansing and Waste Disposal |
| Luton Borough Council | Mick Wright | Head of Waste Management |
| Medway Borough Council | Keith Hanshaw | Head of Traffic, Parking, Waste Services |
| Merseyside | Mandy Valentine | Corporate Services Manager |
| Merton London Borough | Alison Broom | Head of Street Environment Services |
| Middlesbrough Borough Council | Tom Puntun | Head of Street Scene Services |
| Milton Keynes Council | NO RESPONSE | |
| Newcastle-upon-Tyne City Council (Metropolitan Borough Council) | Les Clark | Head of Sustainability |
| Norfolk County Council | Gerry Mole | Head of Environment & Waste |
| North East Lincolnshire Council | NO RESPONSE | |
| North Lincolnshire Council | Kevin Booth | Head Of Waste Managemnt |
| North London Waste Authority | Christine Preece | Contract Manager |
| North Somerset Council | NO RESPONSE | |
| North Tyneside Council | Julie Evans | Waste Strategy Manager |
| North Yorkshire County Council | Ian Fielding | ASSISTANT DIRECTOR |
| Northamptonshire County Council | Sian Juzyk | Business Support Officer Waste |
| Northumberland County Council | Paul Jones | Head of Waste Management |
| Nottingham City Council | Peter Saunders | Waste Management Project Officer |
| Nottinghamshire County Council | Jas Hundel | Service Director |
| Oxfordshire County Council | Richard Dudding | Director Environment & Economy |
| Peterborough City Council | Mike Brown | Head of Environment and Public Protection |
| Plymouth City Council | Mike Carroll | SERVICE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT MANAGER |
| Poole Borough Council | Shaun Robson | Head of Environmental and Consumer Protection Services |
| Portsmouth City Council | Richard Johnson | Principal Engineer |
| Reading Borough Council | NO RESPONSE | |
| Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council | Simon Dale | Director of Area Management |
| Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council | Adrian Gabriel | Waste Strategy Manager |
| Rutland County Council | George Chase | Waste and Amenties Manager |
| Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council | Jan Britton | Head of Env Services |
| Sheffield City Council | David Bird | Head of Waste Management |

| | | |
|---|------------------|---|
| Shropshire County Council | Adrian Poller | Director Shropshire Waste Partnership |
| Slough Borough Council | Nigel Dicker | Head of Environment Services |
| Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council | NO RESPONSE | |
| Somerset County Council | Dave Oaten | Waste Operations Coordinator |
| South Gloucestershire Council | Yvonne Pearce | Waste Management Manager |
| South Tyneside Metropolitan Borough Council | Tom Turner | Waste Disposal Coordinator |
| Southampton City Council | Mike Thomas | Recycling & Disposal Manager |
| Southend-on-Sea Borough Council | John Whidden | Group Manager |
| Southwark London Borough | Barry Short | Sustainable Waste Manager |
| Staffordshire County Council | Paul Wilcox | Head of Waste Management |
| Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council | NO RESPONSE | |
| Stoke-on-Trent City Council | Paddy Knowles | Waste Operations and Contracts Manager |
| Suffolk County Council | NO RESPONSE | |
| Sunderland City Council | Peter High | Head of Env Services |
| Surrey County Council | Colin Blunden | Finance and Statistics Team Manager (Waste) |
| Sutton London Borough | Peter O'Connell | Executive Head of Street Scene services |
| Swindon Borough Council | Richard Fisher | Wastes Data & Resources Manager |
| Telford and Wrekin Council | Alan Stewart | Waste Technical Officer |
| Thurrock Council | John Byford | Waste Strategy Manager |
| Torbay Council | Gareth Bourton | Assistant Director operational Service |
| Tower Hamlets London Borough | Kevin crook | Waste policy & development manager |
| Wakefield Metropolitan District Council | Ian Stephenson | Corporate Director Neighbourhood Services |
| Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council | Dave Roberts | Service Manager |
| Warrington Borough Council | john rowson | Head of Waste Services |
| Warwickshire County Council | Roy Burton | Operations Manager Waste |
| West Berkshire | Andrew Deacon | Waste and PFI Project Manager |
| West London Waste Authority | Mike Nicholls | Director |
| West Sussex County Council | Ian Spicer | Business Support Manager |
| Western Riverside Waste Authority (London) | Mark Broxup | Deputy General manger |
| Westminster City Council | Mark Banks | Head of waste Strategy |
| Wigan Metropolitan Borough Council | Gary Taylor | Waste Disposal Manager |
| Wiltshire County Council | Andy Conn | Waste Services Manager |
| Windsor and Maidenhead Borough Council | Larry Wolfe | Waste and Env Protection Manager |
| Wokingham Council | Graham Hunt | STREET CARE MANAGER |
| Wolverhampton Metropolitan Borough Council | Chris Smiles | Waste Policy Officer |
| Worcestershire County Council | Richard Woodward | Project Manager |

Appendix B

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Diverting Municipal Waste from Landfill: Speeding up to Meet the Challenges

Tuesday 22nd May, The Brit Oval, London SE11



In partnership with:



Supported by:



IMPORTANT SURVEY FROM NATIONAL AUDIT OFFICE

Dear Colleague,

The NAO and Audit Commission are surveying all waste authorities to gain an understanding of how close they perceive they are to meeting EU Landfill targets. We have commissioned this survey to build on the findings of the recent NAO report 'Reducing Reliance on Landfill in England'.

The research results will be used to demonstrate a snapshot of current thinking. The results will not be published but will be used to inform internal planning, and will be shared amongst NAO, Audit Commission and Defra.

The findings of this research will be presented by the National Audit Office at the forthcoming 'Reducing the reliance on Landfill' event on May 22nd at the Oval cricket ground in London

At the event, delegates will hear direct from central government their vision for waste policy and possible strategies for change. (Details of the event can be found at www.neilstewartassociates.com/sw111). Discussions on the day will centre on sharing the latest thinking on waste management and enabling local authorities to learn from others' and private sector experiences.

You will be contacted over the next few days by a member of our survey team to submit your answers. Please [click here](#) for a copy of the survey

If you would prefer to email the survey, please fill out the attached form and return by reply, or post to our survey team at:

Neil Stewart Associates
2nd Floor, 1 Benjamin Street
London
EC1M 5YT

If you would like to receive further information about this event, or suggest to us who in your authority would like to attend please indicate on the survey response sheet.



National Audit Office

Appendix C

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In Partnership with:



National Audit Office

Waste Perceptions Survey
On Behalf of the National Audit Office

LOCAL AUTHORITY

OFFICER

POSITION

PHONE NUMBER

EMAIL



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WASTE PERCEPTION SURVEY

Q1

How confident is your Authority that it will meet its 2009-10 targets for reducing the amount of biodegradable municipal waste sent to landfill?

- a. *Very confident* _____ GO TO Q2
- b. *Reasonably confident* _____ GO TO Q2
- c. *Not very confident* _____ GO STRAIGHT TO Q3
- d. *Not confident at all* _____ GO STRAIGHT TO Q3
- e. *Don't know* _____ GO STRAIGHT TO Q3

Q2

IF ANSWERED A OR B PLEASE ANSWER

To meet the 2009-10 target, are you reliant on the LATS market or on building/opening new waste facilities prior to 2009-10?

- a. LATS market _____
- b. New waste facilities _____
- c. Both _____
- d. Neither _____

Q3

How confident is your Authority that it will meet its 2012-13 target for reducing the amount of biodegradable municipal waste sent to landfill?

- a. *Very confident* _____
- b. *Reasonably confident* _____
- c. *Not very confident* _____
- d. *Not confident at all* _____
- e. *Don't know* _____

Q4

Is your authority reliant on any of the following to meet its 2013 landfill reduction target?

- a. Building /opening of new waste facilities _____ GO TO Q5
- b. Increased recycling / composting rates _____ GO STRAIGHT TO 6
- c. Use of LATS _____ GO STRAIGHT TO 6
- d. Other (please specify) _____ GO STRAIGHT TO 6
- e. We'll meet our target without the above _____ GO STRAIGHT TO 6
- f. Don't know _____ GO STRAIGHT TO 6

Q4b IF ANSWERED YES TO MORE THAN ONE OPTION

Which is most important?

Q5

5a

Regarding the new waste facilities, which of the following best describes the current situation? Our facility...

- a. Is open or under construction _____
- b. Has planning permission and site acquired _____
- c. Has either site *or* planning permission _____
- d. Planning permission has not yet been granted _____
- e. Other (please specify) _____

5b

Are the waste facility projects being funded, or intended to be funded, through Private Finance as PFI or PPP projects?

- a. Yes PFI _____
- b. Yes PPP _____
- c. No prudential borrowing² _____
- d. No off balance sheet _____
- e. No other funding mechanisms _____
- f. Don't know _____

Q6

Is your Authority reliant on collaboration with other waste authorities for its plans to work?

- a. Yes _____ **GO TO Q7**
- b. No _____ **GO STRAIGHT TO Q8**
- c. Don't know _____ **GO STRAIGHT TO Q8**

Q7

² The ability of local authorities to undertake additional borrowing to finance capital investment without being subject to detailed government controls. Local authorities can determine how much long term borrowing they can afford to take to fund capital expenditure. It was introduced in the Local Government Act 2003 and came into effect on 1 April 2004.

Which Authority/Authorities are you collaborating with? For each one, is it a Disposal or a Collection Authority?

Q8

In the opinion of your Authority what are the most important barriers, in order of importance, to reducing your reliance on landfill? [CAN CHOOSE MAX 3]

- | | | |
|---|-------|-------------------|
| a. Building new waste facilities | _____ | GO TO Q9 |
| b. Public opinion about waste treatment options | _____ | GO STRAIGHT TO 10 |
| c. Level of knowledge/expertise in your Authority | _____ | GO STRAIGHT TO 10 |
| d. Opportunities to collaborate with other Authorities | _____ | GO STRAIGHT TO 10 |
| e. Long-term landfill contracts | _____ | GO STRAIGHT TO 10 |
| f. There are no barriers to reducing our reliance on landfill | _____ | GO STRAIGHT TO 10 |
| g. Other (please specify) | _____ | GO STRAIGHT TO 10 |

Q9

IF ANSWERED A, PLEASE ANSWER

For your Authority, which aspect of building new waste facilities is a particular barrier?

- | | |
|---|-------|
| a. Cost of building new facility | _____ |
| b. Public opposition | _____ |
| c. Council opposition | _____ |
| d. Planning permission | _____ |
| e. Time taken to secure PFI/PPP funding | _____ |

[INTERVIEWER SHOULD EXPLAIN THAT ISSUES RAISED HERE WILL BE FOLLOWED UP IN A LATER AUDIT COMMISSION SURVEY]

Q10

For 2006-07 has your Authority...

- | | |
|--|-------|
| a. Used its entire municipal waste allowance | _____ |
| b. Sold some of its municipal waste allowance using LATS | _____ |
| c. Bought some additional municipal waste allowance using LATS | _____ |
| d. Banked your municipal waste allowance to the next year | _____ |
| e. Borrowed from next year's municipal waste allowance | _____ |
| f. Don't know | _____ |

Q11

Looking ahead to 2007-08, does your Authority expect to...

- | | | |
|---|-------|-----------------|
| a. Use its entire municipal waste allowance | _____ | (GO TO THE END) |
|---|-------|-----------------|

- | | | | |
|----|--|-------|-----------------|
| b. | Sell some of its municipal waste allowance using LATS | _____ | (GO TO THE END) |
| c. | Buy some additional municipal waste allowance using LATS | _____ | GO TO Q12 |
| d. | Bank your municipal waste allowance to the next year | _____ | GO TO Q12 |
| e. | Borrow from next year's municipal waste allowance | _____ | GO TO Q12 |

Q12

How many landfill allowances (one allowance equals one tonne of biodegradable municipal waste sent to landfill) does your Authority think it will need to buy or borrow in 2007-08 in order to avoid being penalised under LATS?

| | | |
|----|-----------------|-------|
| a. | None | _____ |
| b. | 0 - 5,000 | _____ |
| c. | 6,000 - 10,000 | _____ |
| d. | 11,000 - 20,000 | _____ |
| e. | 21,000 - 30,000 | _____ |
| f. | 31,000 - 40,000 | _____ |
| g. | 41,000 - 50,000 | _____ |
| h. | 50,000+ | _____ |

For more info about the event please see www.neilstewartassociates.com/sw111

If you are not the right person to receive information about this event please list alternatives here:

THE END

Appendix D

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No response

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Bath and North East Somerset Council | NO RESPONSE |
| Coventry City Council | NO RESPONSE |
| Gateshead Metropolitan Borough Council | NO RESPONSE |
| Kingston-upon-Thames London Borough | NO RESPONSE |
| Milton Keynes Council | NO RESPONSE |
| North East Lincolnshire Council | NO RESPONSE |
| North Somerset Council | NO RESPONSE |
| Reading Borough Council | NO RESPONSE |
| Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council ² | NO RESPONSE |
| Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council | NO RESPONSE |
| Suffolk County Council* | NO RESPONSE |

* One of the 25 WDAs that send the largest amount of municipal waste to landfill

Appendix E

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WDAs who answered 'not very confident' to question one

East Riding of Yorkshire Council

Torbay Council

Kingston-upon-Hull City Council

*none of these authorities is one of the 25 authorities who sent the most biodegradable municipal waste to landfill in 2003-04 (NAO Report, Reducing the reliance on landfill in England, July 2006, HC1166, Session 2005-06) - see [appendix J](#)

Appendix F

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WDAs who answered 'not very confident' to question three

Lincolnshire County Council*

Bristol City Council

Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council

Merseyside*

North Yorkshire County Council*

Swindon Borough Council

Telford and Wrekin Council

Warwickshire County Council

*none of the WDAs who answered 'not very confident' to question three is one of the 25 authorities who sent the most biodegradable municipal waste to landfill in 2003-04 (see [appendix J](#))

Appendix G

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WDAs and Collaborating Authorities

* Under type: d = disposal,
c = collection
u = unitary (both collection and disposal)
n= no collaboration

| WDA | Partners | Type |
|--|--|------|
| Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council | Rotherham MBC, Doncaster MBC unitary | d |
| Bath and North East Somerset Council | No Response | |
| Bedfordshire County Council | Bedford Borough - collection, Mid Bedfordshire - collection, South Bedfordshire, collection, Luton - unitary | c |
| Bexley London Borough | in talks with Greenwich about possible collaboration - unitary | u |
| Birmingham City Council | n/a | n |
| Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council | n/a | n |
| Blackpool Borough Council | Lancashire - disposal | d |
| Bournemouth Borough Council | Dorset County- disposal | d |
| Bracknell Forest Borough Council | Reading, Wokingham - both unitary | u |
| Brighton and Hove Council | East Sussex County - disposal | d |
| Bristol City Council | B&NES, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire WDAs within the West of England Partnership | d |
| Bromley London Borough | n/a | n |
| Buckinghamshire County Council | Chiltern, Aylesbury , South Bucks and Wycombe - collection | c |
| Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council | Bradford - unitary | u |
| Cambridgeshire County Council | Cambridge City, Huntingdonshire, East Cambridge, Fenland, South Cambridgeshire - all collection | c |
| Cheshire County Council | n/q | n |
| City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council | n/a | n |
| City of York Council | North Yorkshire County - WDA | d |
| Cornwall County Council | n/a | n |
| Coventry City Council | | |
| Croydon London Borough | Merton, Kingston Sutton - unitary | d |

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| Cumbria County Council | No Response | n |
| Darlington Borough Council | n/a | n |
| Derby City Council | Derbyshire County - disposal | d |
| Derbyshire County Council | Derby City - unitary | u |
| Devon County Council | Plymouth City Council | c |
| Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council | We do not feel we are reliant on collaboration but are currently working with Barnsley and Rotherham Unitary Councils for economies of scale. | d |
| Dorset County Council | Bournemouth Borough - Unitary | u |
| Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council | n/a | n |
| Durham County Council | n/a | n |
| East London Waste Authority | Barking, Dagenham, Newham, Redbridge Havering | c |
| East Riding of Yorkshire Council | Kingston upon Hull - unitary | u |
| East Sussex County Council | Brighton and Hove unitary-, Eastbourne Borough Council, Hastings Borough Council, Rother Borough Council, Wealden District Council, Lewes District Council - collection | c |
| Essex County Council | Essex County Council is in partnership with Southend-on-Sea Borough Council which is a unitary authority. In addition, the Essex strategy and project must have the support of the twelve Essex waste collection authorities if we are to successfully meet targets. | c |
| Gateshead Metropolitan Borough Council | No Response | |
| Gloucestershire County Council | 6 Gloucestershire Collection Authorities to supply kitchen waste for the IVC | c |
| Greater Manchester WDA | Bolton MBC, Bury MBC, Manchester CC, Oldham MBC, Rochdale MBC, Salford MBC , Stockport MBC, Tameside MBC, Trafford MBC | c |
| Greenwich London Borough | n/a | n |
| Halton Borough Council | Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority | d |
| Hampshire County Council | n/a | n |
| Hartlepool Borough Council | n/a | n |
| Herefordshire Council | Worcestershire County Council - disposal | D |
| Hertfordshire County Council | On a more long term basis 2012 plus Essex and Bucks, all Herts WCAs | d |
| Isle of Wight Council | n/a | n |
| Kent County Council | n/a | n |
| Kingston-upon-Hull City Council | East Riding of Yorkshire Council | d |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Kingston-upon-Thames London Borough | | |
| Kirklees Metropolitan Borough Council | n/a | n |
| Lancashire County Council | Blackpool - unitary | u |
| Leeds City Council (Metropolitan Borough Council) ¹ | n/a | n |
| Leicester City Council | No Response | |
| Leicestershire County Council | n/a | n |
| Lewisham London Borough | n/a | n |
| Lincolnshire County Council | n/a | n |
| London Corporation | Tower Hamlets, Westminster - unitary | c |
| Luton Borough Council | Bedfordshire County Council - disposal | d |
| Medway Borough Council | n/a | n |
| Merseyside | Liverpool, Sefton, St Helens, Knowsley, Wirral, Halton | c |
| Merton London Borough | Croydon, Sutton, Kingston | u |
| Middlesbrough Borough Council | Tees Valley disposal authority | d |
| Milton Keynes Council | No Response | |
| Newcastle-upon-Tyne City Council (Metropolitan Borough Council) | n/a | n |
| Norfolk County Council | n/a | n |
| North East Lincolnshire Council | | |
| North Lincolnshire Council | n/a | n |
| North London Waste Authority | Barnet, Camden, Enfield, Hackney, Haringey, Islington and Waltham Forest - collection | c |
| North Somerset Council | | |
| North Tyneside Council | n/a | n |
| North Yorkshire County Council | City of York Council | d |
| Northamptonshire County Council | Milton Keynes - unitary | d |

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| Northumberland County Council | Working with our six District Councils on the development/expansion of kerbside recycling & composting schemes with delivery of waste to the County Council for processing via the County's Waste PFI Contract. The Districts are:- Alnwick District Council - collection, Berwick-upon-Tweed Borough Council - collection, Blyth Valley Borough Council - collection, Castle Morpeth Borough Council - collection, Tynedale District Council - collection, Wansbeck District Council - collection | c |
| Nottingham City Council | n/a | n |
| Nottinghamshire County Council | | |
| Oxfordshire County Council | n/a | n |
| Peterborough City Council | n/a | n |
| Plymouth City Council | Although Q6 answer is no, PCC is in discussions with both Devon County Council and Torbay Council to develop a sub-regional solution for treatment. | d |
| Poole Borough Council | Bournemouth BC - Unitary Waste Authority | c |
| Portsmouth City Council | Hampshire County - disposal, Southampton City - unitary | d |
| Reading Borough Council | | |
| Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council | Stockton, Middlesborough, Hartlepool WDA | d |
| Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council | Barnsley, Doncaster | d |
| Rutland County Council | n/a | n |
| Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council | n/a | n |
| Sheffield City Council | n/a | n |
| Shropshire County Council | n/a | n |
| Slough Borough Council | n/a | n |
| Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council ² | | |
| Somerset County Council | Mendip, Sedgemore, South Somerset, West Somerset, Taunton Dean Borough - collections | c |
| South Gloucestershire Council | Bristol City, North Somerset, Bath & NE Somerset - all unitary | d |
| South Tyneside Metropolitan Borough Council | Gateshead and Sunderland in collaboration but not reliant on | d |
| Southampton City Council | Portsmouth Unitary, Hampshire County - disposal | d |
| Southend-on-Sea Borough Council | Essex - disposal | d |

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Southwark London Borough | n/a | n |
| Staffordshire County Council | n/a | n |
| Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council | | |
| Stoke-on-Trent City Council | n/A | n |
| Suffolk County Council | | |
| Sunderland City Council | South Tyneside, Gateshead Unitary | d |
| Surrey County Council | n/a | n |
| Sutton London Borough | L B Croydon, LB Merton and R B Kingston all unitary | d |
| Swindon Borough Council | Wiltshire County Council - Disposal. Not reliant but will work better with their involvement. | d |
| Telford and Wrekin Council | n/a | n |
| Thurrock Council | n/a | n |
| Torbay Council | Plymouth City Council unitary | d |
| Tower Hamlets London Borough | n/a | n |
| Wakefield Metropolitan District Council | n/a | n |
| Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council | Staffordshire CC - Disposal, Sandwell , Coventry/Solihull, Wolverhampton Dudley Council - these are unitary | d |
| Warrington Borough Council | n/a | n |
| Warwickshire County Council | Solihull & Coventry - collection & disposal, Staffordshire, Leicestershire - disposal | d |
| West Berkshire | n/a | n |
| West London Waste Authority | n/a | n |
| West Sussex County Council | Chichester, Worthing, Adur, Horsham, Mid-Sussex, Arun and Crawley - collections | c |
| Western Riverside Waste Authority (London) | Hammersmith and Fulham, Kensington and Chelsea, Lambeth, Wandsworth - collection | c |
| Westminster City Council | n/a | n |
| Wigan Metropolitan Borough Council | n/a | n |
| Wiltshire County Council | Kennet, North Wiltshire, Salisbury, West Wiltshire - all collection | c |
| Windsor and Maidenhead Borough Council | Buckinghamshire County Council - disposal | d |
| Wokingham Council | Bracknell Forest and Reading Borough - both unitary | d |
| Wolverhampton Metropolitan Borough Council | n/a | n |

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--|---|
| Worcestershire County Council | Bromsgrove District Council (WCA), Malvern Hills District Council (WCA), Redditch Borough Council (WCA), Worcester City Council (WCA), Wychavon District Council (WCA), Wyre Forest District Council (WCA), Herefordshire Council (UA) PFI partner | c |
|-------------------------------|--|---|

Appendix H

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WDAs Reliance on Other Authorities

WDAs Reliant on Collection Authorities to reach EU Targets (19)

Gloucestershire County Council
Bedfordshire County Council
Cambridgeshire County Council
Devon County Council
Wiltshire County Council
Worcestershire County Council
Buckinghamshire County Council
East Sussex County Council
London Corporation
Merseyside
North London Waste Authority
Northumberland County Council
Poole Borough Council
Somerset County Council
West Sussex County Council
Western Riverside Waste Authority (London)
East London Waste Authority
Essex County Council
Greater Manchester WDA

WDAs Reliant on Disposal Authorities to reach EU Targets (34)

Herefordshire Council
South Tyneside Metropolitan Borough Council
South Gloucestershire Council
Plymouth City Council
Southend-on-Sea Borough Council
Torbay Council
Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council
Blackpool Borough Council
Bournemouth Borough Council
Brighton and Hove Council
Bristol City Council
City of York Council
Derby City Council
Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council
Halton Borough Council
Hertfordshire County Council
Kingston-upon-Hull City Council

Luton Borough Council
Middlesbrough Borough Council
Milton Keynes Borough Council
North Yorkshire County Council
Northamptonshire County Council
Portsmouth City Council
Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council
Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
Southampton City Council
Sunderland City Council
Sutton London Borough
Swindon Borough Council
Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council
Warwickshire County Council
Windsor and Maidenhead Borough Council
Wokingham Council
Croydon London Borough

WDAs Reliant on Both Collection and Disposal Authorities to reach EU Targets (8)

East Riding of Yorkshire Council
Bexley London Borough
Bracknell Forest Borough Council
Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council
Merton London Borough
Derbyshire County Council
Dorset County Council
Lancashire County Council

WDAs Reliant on No Other Authorities to reach EU Targets (48)

Rutland County Council
Tower Hamlets London Borough
Cornwall County Council
Bromley London Borough
Cumbria County Council
Lincolnshire County Council
Norfolk County Council
Peterborough City Council
Shropshire County Council
Slough Borough Council
Birmingham City Council
Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council
Cheshire County Council
City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council
Darlington Borough Council
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
Greenwich London Borough
Hampshire County Council

Isle of Wight Council
Kent County Council
Kirklees Metropolitan Borough Council
Leeds City Council (Metropolitan Borough Council)
Leicestershire County Council
Lewisham London Borough
Medway Borough Council
Newcastle-upon-Tyne City Council (Metropolitan Borough Council)
North Lincolnshire Council
North Tyneside Council
Nottingham City Council
Oxfordshire County Council
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council
Sheffield City Council
Southwark London Borough
Staffordshire County Council
Stoke-on-Trent City Council
Surrey County Council
Telford and Wrekin Council
Thurrock Council
Wakefield Metropolitan District Council
Warrington Borough Council
West Berkshire
West London Waste Authority
Westminster City Council
Wigan Metropolitan Borough Council
Wolverhampton Metropolitan Borough Council
Durham County Council
Hartlepool Borough Council

Appendix I

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Question 8 - option G (other) breakdown

| Most Important | Second | Third |
|---|---|--|
| All of the above | Planning permission | Increased cost is barrier in terms of the amount per tonne cost of treatment versus Landfill and the availability of treatment plants. |
| Development of additional recycling market | Cost and market for products e.g. from MBT plants | More support from central govt, need significant funding for infrastructure costs |
| Facilities being available | Moving forward on alternate weekly refuse collection | Reliance on the Collection Authorities to capture recyclables/compostables via kerbside collection. |
| Finding a disposal contractor | Public opinion on home composting | Planning system |
| Finding an appropriate disposal method for size for authority | Revenue costs | Planning system |
| Funding for improved recycling collection services i.e. changing from kerbside boxes to collection by wheeled bins (more capacity) and expansion of kerbside schemes especially green waste collections to the rural, "difficult to reach" areas. | Planning permission | Political buy in to technology |
| Identify suitable land and obtaining planning permission | National policy and strategy is behind other European countries | Public awareness of issues |
| Meeting the affordability gap between current waste budgets and the amount that we will need to spend in the future. | Problems with waste plant if they occurred | The approval of a Joint Waste Development Plan Document to provide confidence in the planning process. |
| Planning application for new facilities | | Delay in process due to politics, election in may |

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| <p>The single barrier to progress is to obtain financial support to the changed arrangements from Central Government. Currently the Government have just one funding mechanism (PFI) for which the two partner Authorities appear ineligible. Failure to bring forward assistance could see the implementation of the project falter despite the fact that planning and other requirements are secured.</p> | | |
| <p>Time and finance - it takes a long time to procure and build a large waste management treatment facility to meet the diversion targets.</p> | | |
| <p>Failing to reach recycling target</p> | | |
| <p>Public behaviour change</p> | | |

Appendix J

The twenty-five authorities who send the most biodegradable municipal waste to landfill.

Based on analysis of Municipal Waste Management Surveys from 20002-3 and 2003-04, the NAO identified the prospects for meeting the 2010 landfill diversion targets (see NAO Report, “Reducing the reliance on landfill in England”, July 2006, HC1177, Session 2005-06, Figure 7 on page 23):-

Authorities where existing capacity, or capacity in an advanced stage of procurement, assisted by improved recycling performance, was **highly likely to meet the target**:

Derbyshire County Council
East London Waste Authority
Hampshire County Council
Kent County Council
North London Waste Authority
Nottinghamshire County Council

Authorities whose procurement of capacity was more advanced or have scope to considerably increase recycling and composting rates, but **still face a challenging timetable** to achieve the required reductions in landfill:

Cheshire County Council
Devon County Council
Essex County Council
Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority
Hertfordshire County Council
Lancashire County Council
Leicestershire County Council
Norfolk County Council
North Yorkshire County Council
Northamptonshire County Council
Suffolk County Council
West London Waste Authority
West Sussex County Council
Western Riverside Waste Authority

Authorities who were **very unlikely to achieve the target** by increasing recycling and who had not started procurement of residual wastes treatment capacity or who were at a very preliminary stage:

Bradford Metropolitan Borough Council
Leeds Metropolitan Borough Council
Lincolnshire County Council
Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority
Surrey County Council



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Appendix K

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WDAs with more than one new waste facility project:

| | No of sites |
|-------------------|-------------|
| LB Bexley | 2 |
| Wiltshire CC | 2 |
| Borough of Poole | 3 |
| Worcestershire CC | 3 |
| Herefordshire | 4 |
| Essex | 6 |
| East Sussex | 9 |