

**WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY – 2009 TO 2013****1. INTRODUCTION**

- # 1.1 This report presents to Cabinet the Council's updated Waste Management Strategy 2009 to 2013. A copy of the Waste Management Strategy is given in Appendix 1.
- 1.2 The Council first published a Waste Management Strategy in 2004 (Cabinet – 4 August 2004, minute ref. 41). Most of the aims and objectives set out in the 2004 Waste Strategy have been achieved and it is now time to identify the strategic priorities for the next three years.

**2. WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY**

- 2.1 In 2003 the Council identified the requirement for a waste management strategy. The first strategy was published in 2004 and now needs to be updated. The Council is faced with recycling targets plus rapid developments in many areas of waste management and it is important to have a strategy in place to deal with these challenges.
- 2.2 The Council's Corporate Plan "Leading our Forest Communities" sets a number of priorities for dealing with waste, including an objective to minimise and manage waste and a commitment to ensure that streets and public spaces are clean. Dealing with waste is one of the most important and conspicuous services provided by the Council, and is continually becoming more complex and more expensive.
- 2.3 The Council's Waste Management Strategy covers seven broad areas of Waste Management:
- 2.3.1 Waste Minimisation and Re-use
  - 2.3.2 Recycling
  - 2.3.3 Refuse Collection
  - 2.3.4 Promotion and Education
  - 2.3.5 Abandoned Vehicles
  - 2.3.6 Street Cleansing
  - 2.3.7 Project Integra and Partnership Working
- 2.4 A draft Waste Management Strategy was prepared in 2008. Consultation on the draft was then undertaken with the following groups and organisations.
- Environment Agency
  - Project Integra Executive Officer
  - Hampshire County Council's Waste Management Section
  - New Forest National Park Authority

- Refuse Collection and Recycling Working Party
- Employee Representatives
- Environment Review Panel

2.5 Comments on the draft Waste Management Strategy were summarised and presented to the Portfolio Holder for the Environment in May 2009. Where appropriate the Portfolio Holder has agreed to these comments being included. These comments have been incorporated into the Waste Management Strategy given in Appendix 1.

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2.6 Once the Waste Management Strategy receives approval, it is proposed that the document will be enhanced with the use of graphs, diagrams and photographs and then published by the Council both in hard copy and on the Council's website.

### **3. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

3.1 Implementation of the Council's Waste Management Strategy will have important implications for the Environment. The strategy proposes high levels of recycling, waste minimisation and other measures that should have a positive impact on the environment and reduce carbon emissions.

### **4. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 The Council's Waste Management Strategy deals with environmental crime. The strategy proposes stronger action to deal with fly-tipping and littering.

### **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 The Strategy does not specify additional financial requirements at this time as these are still unknown. The Strategy takes a realistic approach to investment in waste management. The Strategy also identifies the need for efficiencies in the delivery of waste management services.

### **6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 The Waste Management Strategy takes into account the diverse community of the New Forest, both in terms of the age profile of the population and the needs of minority groups. Measures have been put in place to improve service delivery to the elderly and the disabled.

### **7. CONCLUSIONS**

7.1 The Waste Management Strategy sets out service priorities for the next four years. These priorities are linked to the Council's Corporate Plan and the aims of Project Integra.

### **8. ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO HOLDER COMMENTS**

8.1 The Portfolio Holder supports the adoption of the Council's Waste Management Strategy and the recommendations set out below.

## 9. RECOMMENDATION

- 9.1 It is recommended that the Waste Management Strategy 2009 – 2013 is presented to Council on 14 September 2009 for final approval.

<b>Further information:</b>	<b>Background Papers:</b>
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## NEW FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

**WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY – 2009 to 2013****1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1 The Council's Corporate Plan "Leading Our Forest Communities" sets a number of priorities for dealing with waste, including commitments to reduce the amount of waste and to keep the district clean and tidy. Refuse collection is an essential local utility, but the Council's Waste Management Service covers a much wider range of activities including street cleansing, recycling, waste minimisation and abandoned vehicles. The strategic drivers for this document are the Council's Corporate Plan, the Hampshire Local Area Agreement 2008-2011, The Council's Green Audit process and the annual Project Integra Action Plan.
- 1.2 Partnership working is important to this Council's approach to Waste management, where it can be demonstrated to provide value for money and efficiency. The most important waste management partnership is Project Integra, which is the partnership of local authorities and a private waste contractor working together to provide an integrated solution to Hampshire's waste. As a result of this ground-breaking partnership, Hampshire now has some of the best waste infrastructure in the UK, and a combined recycling rate of more than 40%. The Council will also seek to develop other partnerships in order to achieve economies of scale and to improve service delivery.
- 1.3 The Council has a good record in recycling and achieved its statutory recycling target of 30% in 2006/07 and a recycling rate of 33% in 2008/09. The Council's recycling rate is within the top quartile of recycling rates for Waste Collection Authorities. To achieve higher levels of recycling, the Council will have to build on the success of existing schemes. This will include measures to improve the efficiency of the recycling centres, the possible introduction of a glass collection scheme and intensive publicity to boost the "capture" of recyclables and the "quality" of the material collected for recycling. All of the household waste collected by New Forest District Council goes to the Marchwood ERF where it is burnt to generate electricity. The bottom ash from this incineration process is recycled into hard core and road making material.
- 1.4 The Council provides a weekly refuse collection using plastic sacks. Refuse is collected from the edge of curtilage. The Council will continue to monitor alternative methods of refuse collection, taking into consideration the unique nature of the New Forest. Major changes to refuse collection and recycling are not anticipated within the timescale of this plan. The Council provides chargeable services for the collection of bulky waste and garden waste. Income from the collection charges is used to cover the running cost of these two services. The Council aims to develop better opportunities for furniture recycling either through charities or by the promotion of exchange web sites such as Freecycle as these are a more effective route for people to pass on household items that are no longer needed.
- 1.5 The Council recognises the importance of Waste Minimisation in the hierarchy of dealing with waste. The Council intends to increase the promotion and communication of waste minimisation, taking waste minimisation into account as it develops policies in all areas of waste

management. This will be achieved by working with Project Integra to introduce practical steps to discourage residual waste growth.

- 1.6 One practical measure to reduce household waste has been the introduction of a garden waste collection service. This scheme is diverting garden waste from the household waste stream into centralised composting. Linked to this is home composting, which is the most effective way of dealing with garden waste at source.
- 1.7 A key theme of this strategy is to focus on promotion, communication and education with the aim of increasing participation of our existing recycling activities. This will link to promotion activities co-ordinated by Project Integra and will include targeted campaigns, advertising and road shows. Work with local schools and community groups will continue. The Council will focus promotional activities into those areas where there is greatest need.
- 1.8 In recent years the problem of abandoned vehicles has diminished. The main reason for this has been a surge in the value of scrap cars but the Council's amnesty scheme for End of Life Vehicles has also had a positive effect. The Council has joined a County wide contract for removal, storage and disposal of abandoned vehicles. The Council aims to use new powers available under the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 to broaden the scope of the abandoned vehicles service.
- 1.9 One of the Council's key priorities is clean streets and public spaces. The Council has reviewed all aspects of the street cleaning operation. The review included publicity and promotion, systems and support, employment issues, partnership opportunities and operational methods. The review looked for improvements that can be achieved within existing budgets and considered specific areas that may require additional investment. An action plan is now in place to identify areas for improvement.
- 1.10 The actions arising from this Waste Management Strategy will form a medium and long-term action plan, which will be implemented and monitored by the Council's Portfolio Holder for the Environment.

## **2. INTRODUCTION**

- 2.1 New Forest District Council published a waste management strategy in July 2004. In the rapidly changing area of waste management, much has been achieved since July 2004 and it is time for the Council to set new strategic priorities. Waste Management is one of the most important services provided by the Council; important because refuse collection is an essential local utility and important because of the public profile of the service. For district residents the weekly refuse collection is the most tangible service that the Council provides.
- 2.2 The Council's Corporate Plan "Leading Our Forest Communities" sets a number of targets for dealing with waste, including commitments to reduce the amount of waste and to keep the district clean and tidy. Other strategic drivers are the Hampshire Local Area Agreement 2008-2011, the Council's Green Audit process and the annual Project Integra Action Plan. Waste Management includes street cleansing, recycling centres, recycling collections, commercial waste, clinical waste, bulky waste and garden waste. All households in the New Forest now receive a weekly collection of paper, cardboard, cans and plastic bottles for recycling and all households

in the New Forest now have access to the chargeable garden waste collection scheme. The Council also collects waste and recyclables from about 1,000 local business customers.

- 2.3 Because of environmental considerations and because of changes in legislation, dealing with waste is gradually becoming more complex and more expensive. There is now much more emphasis on sorting waste at source and separating out items that can be recycled or that need special waste handling. The Council is committed to the promotion of waste as a secondary raw material in production, thereby creating an economic contribution to the local community. This forms part of the Council's corporate aim to help local businesses to succeed.
- 2.4 Fundamental to this Council's waste management strategy is the joint responsibility for dealing with waste. District Councils are Waste Collection Authorities, responsible for collecting waste; County Councils are Waste Disposal Authorities, responsible for disposing of waste. In the New Forest, New Forest District Council (NFDC) collects waste and recyclables. Hampshire County Council (HCC) disposes of the waste and provides the infrastructure for sorting recyclables. The need for strong partnership working between local authorities is identified in the Government's Waste Strategy for England 2007. In Hampshire Project Integra provides the interface between refuse collection and waste disposal. This strategy follows some of the ideas and principles set out in the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy which was first published by Project Integra in April 2002 and updated in 2006.
- 2.5 The overall aim of this Waste Management Strategy is to provide the framework for an effective and efficient service for dealing with household and commercial waste in the New Forest, to keep the New Forest clean and tidy, to implement policies and systems to meet the Council's objectives and achieve agreed recycling targets.
- 2.6 The objectives of this Waste Management Strategy are:
- To provide a refuse collection service this meets the needs of New Forest residents.
  - To develop a waste management system that provides value for money and meets customer expectations.
  - To make sustained progress towards higher levels of recycling.
  - To improve the quality and capture of collected dry recyclables.
  - To protect the unique environment of the New Forest, both now and in the future
  - To continue to work with partners to achieve an Integrated Waste Management system.
  - To keep streets and other public spaces clean and free of litter.
  - To deal effectively and efficiently with abandoned and nuisance vehicles.
  - To investigate and evaluate new and improved methods of working taking into consideration changes in legislation.

- To develop a three-year medium term and five-year long term plan for waste management.
- To promote the use of waste as a secondary raw material.

### 3. BACKGROUND

3.1 This Council's achievements in the areas of recycling and waste management have been creditable. Successive customer satisfaction surveys have shown that the majority of New Forest residents are pleased with their refuse collection, recycling and street cleansing services. The Council has a good record of dealing responsibly with waste and has achieved high levels of recycling. The Council's recycling rate is within the top quartile of recycling rates for Waste Collection Authorities. Achievements to date include:

1981	First New Forest District Council bottle banks.
1983	First New Forest District Council paper banks, can banks and textile banks.
1992	Launch of mini recycling centres for paper, card, cans, plastic bottles and glass.
1995	Launch of the Clear Sack Recycling Scheme in Totton. Opening of the Materials Reclamation Facility (MRF) at Otterbourne. Formation of the Project Integra partnership.
1998	Extension of recycling collections to Lymington and New Milton areas. Opening of Portsmouth MRF.
2000	Project Integra awarded Beacon Council status for dealing with waste.
2002	Opening of Recresco glass reprocessing plant at Southampton.
2004	Clear Sack Recycling Scheme extended to all properties in the District. Opening of Alton MRF and Marchwood ERF.
2005	Introduction of garden waste collection service to south and west of the District.
2006	Extension of garden waste collection service to all properties in the District. Recycle Right campaign in Pennington. Achieved 30% recycling rate.
2007	Recycle Right campaign in Totton and Brockenhurst. Closure of Efford Landfill Site.
2008	All residual waste from the New Forest is now incinerated to generate electricity.

3.2 NFDC is a partner in Project Integra, the Integrated Waste Management project for Hampshire. The other Project Integra partners are HCC, Portsmouth City Council, Southampton City Council, the other District Councils in Hampshire and Veolia Hampshire. Integrated waste management is defined as:

- Recognising each step in the waste management process as part of a whole.
- Involvement of all key players.
- A mixture of waste management options.

3.3 The Project Integra Business Plan 2009 – 2014 sets five key policy themes for the partnership:

- Sustainable and Ethical Recycling.
- Eliminating Landfill.
- Commercial Materials Management.
- Efficiency and Value for Money
- Leadership and Influence.

3.4 This Waste Management Strategy links to the New Forest Sustainable Community Strategy “Future Matters”, as it contributes to the key theme of environmental protection and the wise use of natural resources. It is important that the Waste Management Strategy supports the Council’s corporate aims by:

- 3.4.1 Reducing the use of non renewable natural resources.
- 3.4.2 Reducing the amount of waste.
- 3.4.3 Keeping the district clean and tidy.

3.5 After years of continuous increase, the amount of residual waste collected by the Council has started to decline. This is probably the result of increases in recycling combined with a general reduction in certain types of waste, such as packaging. In 2006 NFDC achieved the statutory 30% recycling rate and is making strides to achieve higher levels of recycling. Tonnages for the last few years are as follows:-

<b>TONNES OF WASTE COLLECTED AND RECYCLED PER ANNUM</b>						
	<b>Refuse Collected</b>	<b>Recycled in Clear Sacks</b>	<b>Recycled at Recycling Centres</b>	<b>Garden Waste Collected</b>	<b>Total Recycled</b>	<b>Total Recycling Rate</b>
2002/03	48,482	9,682	6,053	none	15,735	23.36%
2003/04	47,981	10,799*	5,962	none	16,761	24.34%
2004/05	47,652	10,823*	6,106	28	16,957	24.90%
2005/06	45,889	12,066	5,926	771	18,763	26.40%
2006/07	43,615	12,924	6,259	1,617	20,800	30.02%
2007/08	42,179	13,462	6,825	1,862	22,149	33.11%
2008/09	40,196	12,687	6,512	2,189	21,388	32.85%

\* Includes paper/cardboard collected in interim Recycling Plus Scheme



- 3.6 In March 2005 NFDC introduced the garden waste collection service. This is an optional scheme – residents pay an annual licence fee for a regular fortnightly collection of garden waste. Approximately 10,000 New Forest households have joined the garden waste collection service. Tonnes of garden waste collected are shown above.
- 3.7 In the last few years there has been an encouraging decline in the amount of residual waste collected, as shown by the table below, which gives the kg of residual waste and kg of waste recycled per head. There were large increases in recycling in 2006/07 and 2007/08. These increases in recycling can be attributed to the garden waste collection service and to increased recycling at the recycling centres.

	kg per head disposed	kg per head recycled
2002/03	365 kg	93 kg
2003/04	371 kg	96 kg
2004/05	374 kg	98 kg
2005/06	369 kg	99 kg
2006/07	369 kg	113 kg
2007/08	365kg	125 kg
2008/09	368 kg	118kg

- 3.8 The statutory recycling target of 30% was achieved in 2006/07. The Council is committed to achieving higher levels of recycling. Where possible, this will be achieved by developing and improving existing schemes, such as the clear sack scheme, the recycling centres and the garden waste collection service. Investment in new schemes to boost recycling will be required, as recycling targets set by the Government and Project Integra are very challenging. Additional future expenditure on recycling will need to be viewed within the overall context of the Council's priorities and overall financial position.

#### 4. SCOPE

- 4.1 The Council's waste strategy has implications for the whole New Forest community. Dealing with waste is an essential public service. The Council's Waste Strategy is based on the Waste Hierarchy:

Reduce

Re-use

Recycle

Recover energy from waste

Landfill

- 4.2 The Waste Hierarchy is fundamental to the Council's waste strategy. It dictates that the most effective environmental solution may often be to reduce the generation of waste: waste reduction or waste minimisation. Where further reduction is not practicable, products and materials can sometimes be used again, either for the same or a different purpose. Failing that, value should be recovered from waste, through recycling or

composting. If this is not possible, the energy should be recovered from the waste, by incineration to produce electricity or by some other means. Only if none of the above offer an appropriate solution should waste be sent to landfill.

- 4.3 None of the household waste collected by New Forest District Council now goes to landfill as it is all incinerated at Marchwood ERF to generate electricity. The Council therefore needs to apply the Waste Hierarchy to increasing recycling and to addressing the more important areas of re-use and waste reduction.
- 4.4 The Council's Waste Management Strategy covers twelve areas:
  - 4.4.1 Waste Minimisation
  - 4.4.2 Bulky Waste,
  - 4.4.3 Recycling Centres,
  - 4.4.4 Clear Sack Recycling Scheme,
  - 4.4.5 Garden Waste,
  - 4.4.6 Refuse Collection,
  - 4.4.7 Commercial Waste,
  - 4.4.8 Clinical Waste,
  - 4.4.9 Promotion and Education,
  - 4.4.10 Abandoned Vehicles,
  - 4.4.11 Street Cleansing,
  - 4.4.12 Project Integra and Partnership Working.

## **5. WASTE MINIMISATION**

- 5.1 The Council participates actively in countywide Waste Minimisation projects. The Council is involved with the many local initiatives that incorporate Waste Minimisation. The Council actively promotes waste minimisation and has embarked on a programme to reduce its own waste.
- 5.2 There is no limit on the quantity of waste that the Council will collect from each household, but the Council limits the allocation of free black refuse sacks to 26 sacks every 6 months. Local residents have to buy extra sacks if they want to dispose of additional household waste and this policy may help to keep down waste tonnages. The Council does not accept garden waste in the plastic refuse sacks and a countywide ban on garden waste in the domestic waste stream was introduced in 2006
- 5.3 The Council's Home Composting Scheme is a good example of waste minimisation in action as the waste is recycled at source. Although funding from WRAP is no longer available, the Council will continue to work with Blackwall to provide home composters to New Forest residents at reduced prices. The Council hopes to extend this scheme

to include food waste digesters. If this is successful, New Forest residents will be able to obtain food waste digesters at reduced prices and compost their food waste at home. Waste minimisation is an important part of the strategy for dealing with food waste. Rather than introduce food waste collection schemes, it may be more advisable for the Council to promote food waste reduction. The benefits of which option will be suitable for the New Forest will become a lot clearer when the review of the current food waste collection and processing trials is completed by Project Integra and reported to the Project Integra Board in early 2010. The findings of this review will then be reported back to the Refuse and Recycling Working Party for further discussion. Until then the Council will continue to support the current Love Food – Hate Waste campaign.

- 5.4 The Council supports Project Integra waste minimisation initiatives and looks towards Project Integra to promote Waste Minimisation in Hampshire and to co-ordinate work on waste reduction. There are two major projects that are actively concerned with waste minimisation – the New Forest Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) and the Materials Resources Strategy (MRS). The Council aims to participate in the development of these two projects. Much of waste minimisation is about lifestyle issues and these issues are probably best tackled by speaking directly to the public. Proposals on waste promotion should acknowledge the need to promote waste minimisation.
- 5.5 The Council intends to increase the promotion of waste minimisation and to take waste minimisation into account as it develops its policies on waste management. This will be achieved by working with Project Integra partners to promote waste minimisation and by taking practical steps to discourage growth in waste arisings. The Council will continue to promote home composting and the use of food digesters as a means to achieve waste minimisation.

## 6. BULKY WASTE COLLECTION

- 6.1 The Council provides a chargeable special collection service for the collection of bulky household items on request. The cost of providing the service is recovered through the collection charge. One Special Collection per year is available free of charge to people on benefits.

The number of special collections in recent years was as follows:-

Special Collections Per Annum	
2002/03	5,545
2003/04	5,351
2004/05	5,105
2005/06	4,442
2006/07	4,521
2007/08	4,487
2008/09	4,159

Charging for special collections was introduced on 1 April 2000. The introduction of charging for special collections has had no effect on the amount of fly-tipping of domestic bulky items.

- 6.2 The challenge for the Council is to develop the special collection service that maximises opportunities for recycling and re-use. The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Directive (WEEE Directive) was introduced in July 2007. This legislation requires Councils to

recycle bulky electrical and electronic appliances. Items such as televisions now have to be separated for recycling.

- 6.3 In 2008/09 there were 4,159 special collections. Items collected in 2008/09 included 1,366 fridges or freezers. All fridges and freezers are taken to a specialised recycling plant where the Chloro Fluoro Carbon (CFC) gases are removed from the cooling systems and the insulation, metals and plastics are recycled.
- 6.4 The Council intends to maintain the charge for special collections at a level that recovers the total cost of the service. The Council also intends to review the service, so that more items and materials can be collected for recycling and re-use. This needs to be done with reference to local charities and to Project Integra.
- 6.5 The Council works with charities to maximise the opportunity to reuse old furniture for the benefit of the community. Stronger links need to be developed with the community sector, but it is acknowledged that charities can only accept a limited range of furniture and white goods for re-use. The Council aims to develop better opportunities for furniture recycling through waste exchange schemes and web sites such as Freecycle, so that more bulky items can be re-used and recycled.

## 7. RECYCLING CENTRES

- 7.1 Although all local residents receive a recycling collection, use of the recycling centres has increased significantly in recent years. Most local residents have access to a local recycling centre. They provide an important local amenity and make a valuable contribution to the Council's recycling achievement. In 1992 the Council launched the mini recycling centres and increased the number of recycling centres to 40. Since then the number of public recycling centres has increased steadily year by year. There are currently 104 public recycling centres in the District collecting a range of materials. For each material the number of sites is as follows:

	Number of Sites	Tonnes Collected 2008/09
Glass	102	4,724
Paper and Card	69	1,261
Cans and Plastics	67	100
Textiles and Shoes	43	482
Books	21	46

- 7.2 Glass is collected and taken to Recresco in Southampton where it is reprocessed into glass cullet. From there the glass cullet is transported by ship to factories in Merseyside and Ireland to be made into new glass bottles. Glass cullet that cannot be recycled into container grade glass is also used in construction and road making.
- 7.3 Glass is collected in 3 separate colours – clear, green and brown. Although the Recresco glass reprocessing plant at Southampton is capable of separating mixed glass into the 3 constituent colours, it is more expensive and time consuming to do this. A review of glass reprocessing in Hampshire has provided NFDC with the opportunity to look at the feasibility of collecting mixed glass. Collection of mixed glass will improve the efficiency of the Council's bottle bank and recycling centre collections.

- 7.4 Paper and card is collected and delivered to the Waste Transfer Station in Lymington. From Lymington it is taken to paper and board mills in Kent. The paper and card is pulped and de-inked and made into newsprint, cardboard packaging and tissues. All of the material is recycled in the UK.
- 7.5 Cans and plastics are collected mixed and taken to storage bays at Lymington, Marchwood or Somerley and then on to the MRF at Portsmouth for sorting. Aluminium cans are sent from the MRF to a factory in Warrington to be made into new aluminium cans. Steel cans are sent to a steel works in South Wales to be made into new steel cans and a range of steel products. Plastics are sent to factories in Dagenham, Lancashire and Yorkshire to be made into a range of products such as polyester fabric, garden furniture, and drainage pipes.
- 7.6 Textiles, shoes and books are collected by charity groups for re-use and recycling. Clothes and books are recovered for sale in Charity Shops. Other textiles such as wool and cotton are generally sent to Eastern Europe where they are sorted and recycled by the textile industry.
- 7.7 The Council will look for opportunities to increase the range of items that can be recycled via the recycling centres, where it is practical to do so. The recycling centres are best suited to the collection of high volume, bulky materials such as glass and paper. Containers could be provided at selected recycling centres for materials such as batteries, tetra paks and aluminium foil, but this may not be the best way of collecting these. A better solution may be for retailers to provide recycling containers at the point of sale.
- 7.8 The strategy for recycling centres has been very successful. There is a need to look at the future provision of recycling centres, taking into consideration the need for greater efficiency, the needs of local residents and the unique environment of the New Forest. A comprehensive review of recycling centres will look at gaps in the provision of recycling centres and areas of possible duplication. The review will link to a wider Project Integra review of glass reprocessing which will look at the feasibility of collecting mixed glass. The review will also look at the possibility of providing recycling points for blocks of flats. A review the servicing arrangements for the recycling centres will look for ways to optimise collections, reduce the environmental impact of recycling centre collections and to balance the network of recycling centres against the operational capacity to handle more materials.

## **8. CLEAR SACK RECYCLING SCHEME**

- 8.1 In September 2004 a new MRF opened at Alton. This allowed NFDC to expand collections of mixed dry recyclables. All households in the New Forest now receive a weekly collection of dry recyclables – paper, cardboard, cans and plastic bottles. The mixed dry recyclables are delivered to local waste transfer stations at Lymington, Marchwood and Somerley and from there they are transported by lorry to a MRF for sorting.
- 8.2 The Clear Sack Recycling Scheme was introduced in Totton in April 1995 and now covers 100% of the District. The scheme encourages households to separate their dry recyclables from the remainder of their waste using a clear sack, which is collected weekly with their

refuse sack. Residents are provided with 26 plastic refuse sacks and 36 clear recycling sacks every 6 months. The plastic sacks are for refuse and the clear sacks are for mixed paper, card, cans and plastic bottles. It is important that only paper, cardboard, cans and plastic bottles are put into the clear sacks, as other materials are treated as contamination.

8.3 The collected clear sacks are taken to a MRF for sorting. The MRFs are located at Portsmouth and Alton and they are large sorting plants where recyclable materials are separated. Most of the separation of the materials is done by machines but there is also some hand sorting. The range of materials that this Council can collect for recycling is limited by the input specification of the MRFs. The use of clear sacks to collect recyclables does not constrain the range of materials that can be collected. The review of collection and processing options being carried out by Project Integra will look at the possibility of increasing the range of materials that can be accepted at the MRF.

8.4 The materials currently collected for recycling are:

<b>Paper</b>	Newspapers, magazines, mixed paper, leaflets, etc.
<b>Cardboard</b>	Brown cardboard, cardboard packaging.
<b>Plastic Bottles</b>	Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET) and high density polyethylene (HDPE)
<b>Tins and Cans</b>	Aluminium and steel drink and food cans.

8.5 Paper is sent from the MRF to paper mills in Kent and North Wales. Cardboard goes to board mills in Kent. The paper and card is pulped and de-inked and made into newsprint, cardboard packaging and tissues. Steel and aluminium cans are separated at the MRF. Steel cans are sent to a steel works in South Wales to be made into new steel cans and a range of steel products. Aluminium cans are sent from the MRF to a factory in Warrington to be made into new aluminium cans. Plastics are sent to factories in Dagenham, Lancashire and Yorkshire to be made into a range of products such as polyester fabric, garden furniture, and drainage pipes.

8.6 In recent years there has been a steady increase in the quantity of material recycled in the clear sacks. In 2008/09 there was a slight reduction in tonnes collected. Reductions in packaging and printed material plus the overall effect of the global economic recession have probably resulted in a reduction in the quantity of waste available for recycling. Tonnes collected for recycling are given below:

2002/03	9,682 tonnes
2003/04	10,199 tonnes
2004/05	11,817 tonnes
2005/06	12,066 tonnes
2006/07	12,924 tonnes
2007/08	13,462 tonnes
2008/09	12,687 tonnes

8.7 The figures above are the tonnes of material in clear sacks delivered to the MRF for sorting. Not all of this material will be recycled, as a small proportion will be contamination, material that cannot be recycled. NFDC, and other Project Integra partners, are working to reduce the amount of contamination in the clear sacks. Samples of collected dry recyclables are regularly analysed at the Materials Analysis Facility (MAF) at Alton. Analysis results are sent to NFDC and these results are used to take action to reduce contamination. The most recent

results from the MAF show a contamination rate for NFDC of 9.07%. This includes contra material, material that is recyclable but cannot be recycled at the MRF, eg plastic bags. The overall contamination rate varies according to the time of year and the demographics of the area from which the recyclables were collected.

- 8.8 NFDC will continue to take a proactive approach to dealing with contamination in the clear recycling sacks. The aim is to boost the quality and capture of the materials collected in the clear sacks, that is to collect more paper, cardboard, tins, cans and plastic bottles and to collect less material that cannot be recycled. The main focus of the Council's promotional activities is aimed at boosting quality and capture of collected dry recyclables. The Council will also look for opportunities to increase the range of materials that can be accepted for recycling.

## **9. GARDEN WASTE**

- 9.1 NFDC has been operating a home composting scheme since 1996. Home composters are sold at reduced prices to local residents by mail order from Blackwall. This scheme is no longer subsidised by the Waste Resources Action Programme (WRAP). By 1 March 2009 nearly 26,000 home composters had been sold. The Council recognises that home composting is the most sustainable way of dealing with garden waste. It is planned to continue with the Blackwall Home Composting scheme, with enhanced promotion to boost the sale of home composters. The Council will also seek to extend the range of home composting units available at reduced prices, to include food waste digesters.
- 9.2 The Council introduced a chargeable garden waste collection service in March 2005. This was introduced as a pilot with the capital cost funded by DEFRA and is similar to the schemes operating elsewhere in Hampshire. Previously, residents had to purchase grey garden waste sacks to dispose of garden waste. The waste in the grey sacks was collected as part of the normal household waste collection and was not composted. The garden waste collection service is optional. Residents pay an annual subscription charge and are issued with a re-usable polypropylene sack which is emptied every two weeks. Charges are reduced for residents who join the scheme later in the year. The garden waste collection service is self financing. Income from subscription charges covers the operational costs (vehicles, labour, fuel etc.) of collecting the garden waste.
- 9.3 The garden waste collection service is more sustainable for New Forest residents than making individual journeys to the Household Waste Recycling Centres to recycle their garden waste. The Council aims to encourage more New Forest residents to join the scheme, but this can only be done if additional collection capacity is made available. The Council employs two vehicles to collect garden waste. These two vehicles are currently running at near to full capacity. The Council has already introduced alternative methods for increasing collection capacity with Saturday working, but eventually it may be necessary to introduce a third collection vehicle.

## **10. REFUSE COLLECTION**

- 10.1 The Council operates a weekly refuse collection service using plastic sacks. Refuse is collected from approximately 78,000 domestic properties in the District. The refuse collection service is provided “In-house” using Council staff and vehicles.
- 10.2 Every six months, an allocation of plastic refuse sacks and clear recycling sacks are delivered to each property in the District. If householders run out of plastic refuse sacks, they must purchase extra, either from the Council or from local retailers. There is no limit on the amount of waste that the Council will collect from each household.
- 10.3 Council Policy is now “edge of curtilage” collection. In exceptional circumstances the Council offers a “back door” collection. A “back door” collection can be applied for if the resident is elderly or disabled or if there are access difficulties.
- 10.4 Collected refuse is either delivered directly to the Marchwood Energy Recovery Facility (ERF) or is delivered to the ERF via waste transfer stations at Lymington or Blue Haze. All household waste collected by NFDC is now incinerated to generate electricity. Scrap metals are recovered from the bottom ash from the Marchwood ERF. Most of the remainder of the bottom ash is now recycled to produce hard core and road making material.
- 10.5 The Council will continue to monitor alternative methods of refuse collection, taking into account the unique nature of the New Forest. The Council will continue to review refuse collection and recycling collections and evaluate the costs of alternative options, but always taking into consideration the unique nature of the new Forest and the need to protect the National Park area, however it must be acknowledged that the existing cost of refuse and recycling collections, baring in mind the geographical area covered and the fact that the current service provides a weekly collection for both household Waste and Recyclable materials provides is low when compared to other districts locally . Whilst the Council remains committed to a weekly refuse collection system, alternative systems will be kept under review. The review will include refuse collection systems for flats, sheltered housing schemes and houses of multiple occupation.

## **11. COMMERCIAL WASTE**

- 11.1 New Forest District Council currently collects waste from about 1,100 commercial premises, approximately 20% of the 5,600 businesses in the District. Commercial waste and commercial recyclables are co-collected with household waste and recyclables. Commercial waste customers generally purchase green trade waste sacks, but an increasing number now use the commercial waste recycling facilities. In a competitive market, many other national waste management companies collect commercial waste in the New Forest and are starting to offer recycling services. The Council’s Commercial Waste Service is restricted because of two significant limitations.



- 11.1.1 NFDC does not provide bulk commercial waste bins.
- 11.1.2 NFDC has to pay relatively high waste disposal costs for commercial waste. Continual market testing has shown that the NFDC could not provide a competitive bulk bin service for commercial waste, largely because of the high waste disposal charges at HCC disposal sites.
- 11.2 The Council has a facility for separating some trade waste for recycling. Traders can purchase recycling stickers, which may be used with the clear recycling sacks or attached to bundles of cardboard. The charge for the sticker covers the cost of collection and recycling. In addition, much of the waste collected by NFDC from the street markets at Lymington and Ringwood is now recycled. The Council intends to extend this recycling service to other markets in the District.
- 11.3 The Council has set an example by establishing in-house collection points for office waste paper, glass bottles and jars, metal cans, plastic bottles and batteries. These need to be reviewed, modified and publicised.
- 11.4 The Council also operates a trade glass collection service. Glass is currently collected from about 80 licensed premises within the District, mostly clubs and hotels. A charge for this service was introduced in April 2008. Collection of glass from trade premises is integrated with the collection of glass for recycling from public recycling centres. There are also sites where the Council collects paper and other recyclables using 1100 litre containers. The Council intends to develop and expand its commercial recycling service.
- 11.5 The Council has carried out a thorough review of its commercial waste service and looked again at the feasibility of using bulk bins for commercial refuse. The Council intends to look at how commercial waste services are promoted in the local business community. This has direct links to the Project Integra Action Plan which seeks to improve commercial materials management, to break down the distinction between household waste and commercial waste and provide more opportunities for recycling commercial waste.

## **12. CLINICAL WASTE**

- 12.1 The Council currently collects clinical waste from New Forest residents receiving treatment in the Community. The collections are free of charge to National Health Service patients. There is no longer a commercial clinical waste collection service from rest homes, surgeries, etc. This service was withdrawn in March 2006 as it was no longer profitable.
- 12.2 Clinical waste is collected in yellow bags. Sharps boxes are used to collect syringes etc. Regulations on the classification of clinical waste were changed in 1999 and this means that items such as incontinence pads and stoma bags from household sources are no longer classified as clinical waste. This means that NFDC has less clinical waste to collect. Tonnes of clinical waste collected have fallen gradually since the Council phased in the new regulations and since the Council stopped collecting commercial clinical waste. A further review of clinical waste management in Hampshire is currently being undertaken, in response to new advice from the Department of Health.

Total Tonnes of Clinical Waste per Annum	
2001/02	174 tonnes
2002/03	117 tonnes
2003/04	95 tonnes
2004/05	70 tonnes
2005/06	71 tonnes
2006/07	34 tonnes
2007/08	27 tonnes
2008/09	25 tonnes

- 12.3 The Council has done much to rationalise the clinical waste service. In particular, the Council stopped collecting commercial clinical waste in March 2006. A review of clinical waste was carried out in 2006 and, as a result, collection rounds have been amended. Customers are now provided with large sharps boxes and these are collected on an “on demand” basis. This change has considerably reduced the number of sharps box collections, with consequent savings in fuel and time. The Council is working with Project Integra partners to review the collection, transport and disposal of clinical waste in Hampshire.

### 13. PROMOTION AND EDUCATION

- 13.1 It is important that practical measures taken by the Council to collect recyclables and improve waste management are backed up by promotional and educational activities. The New Forest community has a very good record of dealing responsibly with waste and have achieved very high levels of recycling. The challenge for the Council will be to achieve the recycling targets agreed with Project Integra and to promote the Waste Minimisation agenda. In particular, the Council needs to do more to improve the capture of recyclable materials and also to improve the quality of material collected for recycling.
- 13.2 The Council has had considerable success in promoting recycling. In order to raise awareness of waste issues and change lifestyles and behaviour a variety of sustainable direct and indirect communication methods have been used. In 2008/09 there were approximately 70 school visits, 20 talks to community groups, 10 visits to community events and 20 supermarket road shows. Waste management and recycling information was also given out at many community events and village fetes throughout the summer.
- 13.3 Press releases and feature articles regularly appear in the local papers, parish newsletters and Council publications. More emphasis needs to be made on drafting more effective and topical press releases. The District Council also has supported many countywide campaigns initiated by Project Integra. We have also developed and deployed leaflets, games, competitions etc in order to encourage people to minimise waste and recycle more.
- 13.4 New Forest Spring Clean is an annual litter initiative which has been held in the Forest every year since 1973 and is one of the longest running community environmental events in the country. New Forest Spring Clean is an annual event organised in partnership with the Forestry Commission and the New Forest National Park Authority. The Council aims to develop the concept of New Forest Spring Clean to try to get members of the community involved in cleaning up their neighbourhood at all times of the year..

- 13.5 The existing waste education activities carried out by NFDC should continue and be developed. Issues that require further education include waste minimisation and home composting. More resources are required to effectively promote recycling and good waste management practices. Where possible, resources will be targeted at those areas where recycling is poor or where there are problems with litter or fly tipping.
- 13.6 To help to identify areas of poor recycling, more work needs to be carried out to identify participation rates, contamination rates and recycling rates in different areas of our District. This would help the Council to develop local solutions to improve recycling and reduce contamination of collected dry recyclables.
- 13.7 The Council intends to review promotions and educational activities to focus activities on the needs of the community.

#### **14. ABANDONED VEHICLES**

- 14.1 The Council has a statutory duty under the Refuse Disposal (Amenity) Act 1978 to remove abandoned vehicles from the public highway and any land in the open air to which the public has access. HCC has the responsibility to pay for storage for and disposal of the abandoned vehicles collected by this Council.
- 14.2 In recent years, the problem of abandoned vehicles has reduced. Fewer vehicles are now abandoned in the New Forest District. There are a number of reasons for the steady decline in the number of abandoned vehicles.
- 14.2.1 Buoyant scrap metal prices mean that ELVs now have a substantial residual value.
- 14.2.2 Action by the Driver Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) has tightened up on aspects of vehicle ownership and made it more difficult for irresponsible owners to abandon End of Life Vehicles (ELVs).
- 14.3 The Council joined a County-wide contract for abandoned vehicles in April 2008. This contract is managed and administered by HCC. The contractor employed by HCC to remove, store and dispose of abandoned vehicles is Silverlake. The same contractor covers the whole of Hampshire, removing abandoned vehicles identified by the District Councils. Vehicles removed by the HCC contractor are either scrapped or taken to local storage areas. The Council intends to review the operation of the new contract within the first year of operation, to ensure that there has been no reduction in service standards as a result of the new arrangements.
- 14.4 New legislation on abandoned vehicles (part of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act) was introduced in 2005 and is now fully operational. This legislation gives the Council the power to remove "nuisance vehicles" without giving notice to the Registered Keeper.
- 14.5 As stated in Section 14.2 the number of vehicles abandoned in the New Forest District fallen steadily in recent years. Although this has reduced the administrative workload of dealing with abandoned vehicles and reduced costs, HCC have withdrawn their funding for this

administrative work. It has therefore been necessary to restructure the administration of abandoned vehicles.

**NUMBER OF ABANDONED VEHICLES REMOVED BY NEW FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL**

	HIGHWAYS	HOUSING	TOTAL	REMOVED UNDER VEHICLE AMNESTY SCHEME
2002/03	818	224	1,042	none
2003/04	416	76	492	420
2004/05	171	43	214	531
2005/06	186	27	213	260
2006/07	131	16	147	175
2007/08	91	19	110	71
2008/09	55	2	57	24

14.6 In November 2003 the Council introduced an amnesty for ELVs. Numbers of vehicles removed under the amnesty scheme are given above. Up to December 2008 about 1,500 vehicles were removed free of charge as a result of the amnesty. Numbers of vehicles collected has reduced recently, as there are now more opportunities to dispose of End of Life vehicles. As from April 2007, vehicle manufacturers have to meet the cost of recycling End of Life vehicles.

14.7 The Council employs local contractors to remove ELVs. These contractors receive a payment from the scrap-yard for the vehicles that they deliver and so they are able to collect free of charge. A certificate of destruction is obtained for each ELV removed. Scrap metal prices have fallen recently and this could affect the viability of the free ELV collection service in the long term. If scrap metal prices continue to fall and if demand for ELV collections continues to fall the Council may suspend collections.

**15. STREET CLEANSING**

15.1 The Council is the Principal Litter Authority for the District and has a duty under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 to keep most highways and some open spaces clean and free of litter. This is achieved with a combination of manual street sweeping, mechanical street sweeping and litter picking. The Council's Corporate Plan "Leading our Forest Communities" seeks to ensure that our streets and public spaces are kept clean. Street cleaning includes litter, detritus, graffiti and fly posting. Gulley cleansing is carried out by Hampshire County Council.

15.2 The standard of street cleansing throughout the country is determined by the environmental Protection Act Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse. The Code was introduced in January 1991 and revised in 1999.

The Code sets out zones to which street cleansing apply, such as:

- Zone 1 – Town Centre Areas
- Zone 2 – High Density Residential Areas
- Zone 3 – Low Density Residential Area.
- etc.

The Code also describes grades of litter:

- Grade A = No litter or refuse.
- Grade B = Predominantly free of litter and refuse.
- Grade C = Widespread distribution of litter.
- Grade D = Heavily littered.

Different cleansing standards apply to different zones, with the most stringent standards applying to Zone 1 areas. If the grade of litter in a particular area falls, there is a maximum time for the area to be cleaned, depending upon the litter zone. Street cleansing standards are monitored in accordance with national performance standard NI195 which requires the Council to monitor litter, detritus, graffiti and fly posting at a wide range of locations across the District.

- 15.2.1 In practise, there can be significant practical variations in environmental standards between Zones. NI195 requires Local Authorities to further designate the land classes for inspection purposes to reflect these practical differences. These Zones are then monitored for litter, detritus, fly posting and graffiti.
  - 15.2.2 The strict and detailed inspections required by NI195 have been introduced to ensure consistency of inspections by all Local Authorities across the Country. Thus enabling a more accurate picture of the Country's standards of cleanliness to be assessed.
- 15.3 Although the standard of Street Cleansing in the District is good and the number of complaints about street cleansing relatively low there are a number of issues for consideration:
- 15.3.1 Use of mechanical mini sweepers.
  - 15.3.2 Litter picking in main roads.
  - 15.3.3 Mechanical sweeping in suburban and rural areas to control detritus.
  - 15.3.4 Working patterns for street cleansing staff.
  - 15.3.5 Fixed penalty notices for dropping litter and other enforcement measures.
  - 15.3.6 Designation of litter control areas.
  - 15.3.7 Fly tipping.
  - 15.3.8 Public Education
  - 15.3.9 Enforcement action to deal with abandoned shopping trolleys in town centre areas.
- 15.4 Fly tipping (illegal disposal of waste) is a particular problem in the New Forest. The Council has to deal with incidents of fly tipping on the Highway and on Council owned land. Fly tipping in the open forest (Crown Land) is dealt with by the Forestry Commission:

Fly Tipping Incidents Per Annum (including Crown and private land)	
2002/03	502
2003/04	702
2004/05	731
2005/06	743
2006/07	806
2007/08	836
2008/09	1,011

The number of incidents of fly tipping is increasing. One reason for this is the new policy on access for vans to the Household Waste Recycling Centres, introduced by HCC in February 2008 and have added to the problem. There are a number of hotspots within the District, which are a cause for concern. CCTV has been introduced as a means of controlling fly tipping.

- 15.5 The Council has carried out a review of street cleansing, concentrating on the following issues:
- 15.5.1 Publicity and promotion.
  - 15.5.2 Systems and support.
  - 15.5.3 Employment issues.
  - 15.5.4 Partnership opportunities.
  - 15.5.5 Methodology, costs and standards.
- 15.6 The review of street cleaning indicates that more work needs to be done on (a) detritus in channels and on footpaths (b) promotion of street cleaning issues.
- 15.7 The Council will continue to work with the Forestry Commission, the National Park Authority, Town and Parish Councils and other landowners to improve the overall environment of the New Forest.

## 16. PROJECT INTEGRA

- 16.1 Partnership working is an important feature of the delivery of the New Forest Waste Management Strategy. As stated in Section 1.3, this Council is directly responsible for waste collection and relies upon HCC to dispose of the waste it collects. The Project Integra partnership is central to the success of waste management in the New Forest. The role of Project Integra is to co-ordinate the activities of the Waste Collection Authorities, HCC and Veolia Hampshire and to ensure that facilities are provided to process materials that are collected. In addition Project Integra has a fundamental role in procuring and securing markets for recyclable materials, ensuring that now only sustainable markets are used but that income received from these sources are maximised.
- 16.2 NFDC was influential in the setting up of the Project Integra Partnership in 1995. Continued membership of Project Integra has enabled this Council to achieve considerable success in dealing with waste. Project Integra is one of the leading waste management partnerships in the country and has achieved recognition at European level.

- 16.3 This Council is an active partner in Project Integra. Project Integra enables this Council to influence the wider waste management agenda and is essential to the achievement of integrated waste management in Hampshire. Project Integra produces an annual Action Plan, which sets out the waste management objectives for the forthcoming year. This Council participates in the production of the Action Plan and the final document must be approved each year by the NFDC Cabinet.
- 16.4 It is important that this Council plays an active role at both Officer and Member levels within Project Integra, seeking to influence the agenda and to represent the interests of New Forest District Council.
- 16.5 Project Integra regularly analyses samples of collected dry recyclables at the MAF at Alton. The first samples analysed in 2003 showed that only about 85% of the material delivered to the MRF could be recycled. This caused Project Integra to focus on **Capture** and **Quality**.
- Capture** – means trying to get local residents to recycle more of the materials that can be recycled.
- Quality** – means trying to reduce the amount of incorrect material that gets into the recycling stream.
- 16.7 Samples of collected dry recyclables analysed at the MAF at Alton in March 2009 show contamination rates of between 5.3% and 10.27%, which is a considerable improvement on the earlier sample results of around 15%. In March 2009 the contamination rate for NFDC measured 9.07%, which suggests that more needs to be done to improve quality and capture.
- 16.8 Project Integra has reviewed its communication and marketing strategy. As a result of this review, promotional activities will be focussed on five strategic outcomes:
- 16.8.1 Sustainable and ethical recycling.
  - 16.8.2 Elimination of landfill.
  - 16.8.3 Commercial materials management.
  - 16.8.4 Efficiencies and value for money.
  - 16.8.5 Leadership and influence.
- 16.9 There is a definite need to get more out of existing recycling schemes by persuading local residents to recycle more of the materials that can be recycled and to improve the quality of collected recyclables. Residents need to be clear on the items that can be recycled, what happens to the recyclables that are collected and the problems associated with the amount of rubbish produced at the moment. The Council intends to develop existing means of communication, including community engagement and to make better use of the NFDC website to promote a dialogue within the community.

## 17. RECYCLING TARGETS

17.1 The Council achieved its statutory recycling target of 30% recycling in 2006. The Waste Strategy for England 2007 set national targets for re-use, recycling and composting of 40% for 2010, 45% for 2015 and 50% for 2020. The Council will continue to work towards the 40% Project Integra recycling target in accordance with the Hampshire Local Area Agreement, but acknowledges that it will be expensive and difficult to achieve such high levels of recycling. Although all of the bottom ash from Marchwood ERF is now recycled, this cannot be counted towards statutory performance indicators or recycling targets.

17.2 The following measures are proposed to increase recycling:

### 2009/10

- Campaign to encourage more residents to join the garden waste collection service.
- More recycling points in urban areas.
- Publicity and promotion targeted at areas of poor recycling.

### 2010/11

- Review recycling centre provision to improve efficiencies.
- Review glass collection opportunities.
- Intensive waste promotion campaign with Project Integra.
- Project Integra review of collection and processing of recyclables.

### Beyond 2011

- Intensive recycling and waste minimisation promotions campaign.
- Further promotional initiatives to boost and facilitate recycling, - working with Project Integra to anchor behavioural change.
- Fundamental service review of refuse collection system
- Roll out of collection systems for multi occupancy properties

17.3 The measures proposed in Section 17.2 form a package aimed at making significant improvements to the Council's recycling rate. They represent a two sided approach, firstly, collection systems to pick up more recyclables and secondly, communication and promotion to encourage local residents to recycle more of their waste. It will become progressively more difficult to achieve high levels of recycling, particularly as it is not possible to include incinerator bottom ash as part of the recycling figures. The Council already achieves a high recycling rate and spends proportionately more than many councils on recycling.

## 18. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

18.1 As we move from a landfill based approach to dealing with waste towards sophisticated waste management and high levels of recycling, costs will inevitably increase. Council expenditure on waste management has increased steadily in recent years, although much has been done in recent years to control the increase in costs.

New Forest District Council Waste Management Costs per Annum:

2002/03	£3,832,364
2003/04	£3,795,225
2004/05	£4,198,703
2005/06	£4,610,109
2006/07	£4,783,990
2007/08	£4,836,773
2008/09	£5,146,170



- 18.2 The cost of achieving the Project Integra recycling target of 40% will be considerable. Firstly, there are the operational costs of introducing new recycling collections and expanding existing schemes and secondly, there is the cost of promotional activity to improve the capture and quality of the material collected for recycling.
- 18.3 The Council was fortunate to receive grants from DEFRA and WRAP in 2003, 2004 and 2005 to fund the introduction of recycling schemes. These grants were used to extend the clear sack recycling scheme to the West of the District and to purchase two garden waste collection vehicles. Further grants have been received from WRAP to fund promotion and publicity. These grants have been used to support schemes under the umbrella of the Hampshire Behavioural Change Strategy.
- 18.4 The Council needs to take a realistic approach to the achievement of recycling targets. Each incremental step to boost recycling needs to be evaluated and a cost/benefit analysis carried out to balance the cost of introducing and sustaining the initiative against the expected increase in recycling. The Council needs to take advantage of grants that may become available to promote recycling, but needs to be sure that the revenue implications of grant funded capital intensive projects are properly budgeted for.
- 18.5 A review will be undertaken in 2009/10 to improve the efficiency of refuse and recycling collection rounds. It is hoped that this will lead to more efficient working arrangements and therefore financial savings, which could be reinvested in improvements to waste management systems.

## **19. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

- 19.1 The Council's edge of curtilage refuse collection policy requires New Forest residents to put their sacks out for collection by the front gate. It is important to take into account the elderly, disabled and those with other mobility issues and give these residents access to a convenient refuse and recycling collection.
- 19.2 Promotional material for refuse, recycling and street cleaning is all printed in English, although translations are available on request. The council needs to address the issues of equality and diversity by using a more pictorial approach to promotional material, so that it can be understood by those with limited knowledge of English and those with limited reading skills
- 19.3 In designing new refuse and recycling schemes, the Council needs to address the needs of the various communities in the New Forest. There is a substantial retired population, but the needs of young people must not be ignored. The Council's sack based collection scheme works well in residential areas, but less well in areas where there are flats and houses of multiple occupation. The Council needs to consider people who live in flats, sheltered housing schemes and similar properties when framing policies on refuse collection, recycling and street cleaning.

## **20. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

- 20.1 Environmental crime is a serious issue. This can range from dropping litter to the more serious offences of fly tipping and pollution. In the New Forest, the Environment Agency takes the lead on serious waste crime, leaving the Council to deal with littering, graffiti and the majority of fly tipping incidents.
- 20.2 The Council is reviewing the implementation of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005. This Act of Parliament gives NFDC the power to issue fixed penalty notices for a range of offences, such as littering, graffiti and dog fouling. The Council has scaled up its enforcement activities as a result of the CNEA and further enforcement activity is being considered.
- 20.3 Fly tipping in the New Forest continues to increase (see Section 15.5). The Council has recently acquired CCTV systems which are being used to monitor fly tipping hot spots. The Council takes a proactive approach to the investigation of fly tipping incidents.

## **21. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 21.1 One of the most important aims of this Waste Management Strategy is to protect the unique environment of the New Forest, both now and in the future. Much of this can be achieved by the wise use of natural resources and by reducing the amount of pollution. In order to mitigate the effects of climate change and reduce our carbon footprint, we need to make better use of the natural resources that we have, reduce and manage waste more effectively and tackle pollution.
- 21.2 The environmental benefits arising from of this Waste Management Strategy can be summarised as follows:
- The provision of an efficient refuse collection service will reduce fuel consumption and vehicle movements. More efficient routing of collection vehicles should reduce fuel consumption and emissions.
  - Sustained progress in recycling will increase the amount of material recycled and reduce the quantity of waste going to disposal. A greater proportion of the waste from the New Forest will be put to good use as a secondary raw material, rather than going for disposal.
  - Improved quality and capture of collected dry recyclables will mean that more recyclable material will be recycled. More of the paper, cardboard, glass etc. will go into recycling; contamination of recycling will be reduced.
  - The achievement of an Integrated Waste Management system will improve the efficiency of waste and recycling collections, providing an efficient interface between waste collection and waste disposal.
  - Actions to keep streets and other public spaces clean and free of litter will reduce the visual intrusion caused by litter and will reduce pollution. Litter is unsightly, a danger to animals and a source of pollution.

- Dealing effectively and efficiently with abandoned and nuisance vehicles will reduce the risk of pollution and improve the amenity of local areas.
- The use of waste as a secondary raw material will reduce the need to extract and manufacture new materials and hence reduce damage to the environment and pollution.

21.3 The environmental implications of all decisions arising from this strategy will be carefully considered, applying the principle of best practical environmental option where appropriate. It may not always be sensible to strive for higher levels of recycling. Options such as glass collection, battery collection or food waste collection will undoubtedly increase recycling but will also have negative effects on the environment in terms of more vehicles movements, more fuel consumption and more pollution. It is important to weigh up the environmental costs and benefits.

## 22. CONCLUSION

22.1 The Council has achieved a recycling rate of more than 30% and is committed to achieving higher levels of recycling rate in the longer term. The Council has a good record of responsible waste management and high levels of customer satisfaction. The Council seeks to build on this success to achieve higher levels of recycling and to meet the challenges of new legislation and environmental controls. Links with Project Integra and other neighbouring authorities will be strengthened in order to maximise the benefits of partnership working. The Waste Management strategy sets out a series of reviews which will be carried out with the involvement of elected Members, local residents and other stakeholders.

22.2 This strategy sets out the key objectives for the Council with respect to Waste Management. In some instances services will be reviewed and the outcome of the review implemented as part of the overall strategy.

22.3 The key strategic objectives are as follows:

22.3.1 Strive to increase recycling rates, target taking into account the costs and benefits of measures to boost recycling.

22.3.2 Take action to improve the quality and capture of collected dry recyclables

22.3.3 Increase participation in the garden waste collection service with all material being composted.

22.3.4 Seek to maintain high levels of customer satisfaction with all aspects of the Council's Waste Management service.

22.3.5 Work in partnership where this adds value to service delivery.

22.3.6 Keep the district clean and tidy.

## 23. ACTION PLAN

<b>SHORT TERM ACTIONS up to 31.03.10</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>KEY DATE</b>	<b>FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS</b>	<b>DATE COMPLETED</b>
To continue to explore partnership opportunities with other local authorities.	All	Ongoing	Possible cost savings	
To continue to take an active part in the Project Integra partnership	All	Ongoing	None	
New initiatives to tackle contamination in clear recycling sacks.	Roger Sired/ Colin Read	Ongoing	Budgeted for.	
Identification of areas of poor recycling.	Roger Sired/ Tony Harris	Ongoing	Budgeted for.	
Deploy covert CCTV in fly tipping hot spot areas	Mike Cash	Ongoing	Budgeted for.	
To review the network of recycling centres and servicing arrangements	Roger Sired/Derek Durham/Tony Harris	31.12.09	None	
Refocus waste and recycling education programme.	Roger Sired/ Colin Read	31.12.09	Small increase in costs	
Review the implementation of sections of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act	Colin Read/ Mike Cash	31.12.09	None	
Improve public education about litter issues.	Colin Read / Roger Sired	31.12.09	Small increase in costs	
Investigate links with the voluntary sector for the reuse of old furniture and white goods.	Roger Sired	31.12.09	None	
Investigate opportunities to increase commercial waste recycling.	Roger Sired/ Derek Durham	31.12.09	Possible extra income.	
Extend market waste recycling to Hythe, New Milton and Totton.	Roger Sired/ Derek Durham	31.12.09	Possible extra income.	
Review working practices and operations for street cleaning staff.	Mike Cash	31.12.09	Possible saving	
Review amnesty scheme for End of Life Vehicles	Roger Sired/ Mike Cash	31.12.09	None	
Review clinical waste collection arrangements in Hampshire	Roger Sired/HCC	31.12.09	Possible saving in disposal costs	
Assess whether it is more effective to utilise vehicles for a full working day.	Colin Read, John Steeds	31.12.09	None	
Investigate options to achieve a 40% Recycling Rate for 2010 and report to Environment Review Panel.	Colin Read / Roger Sired	31.03.10	Major budget implications.	

<b>SHORT TERM ACTIONS up to 31.03.10</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>KEY DATE</b>	<b>FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS</b>	<b>DATE COMPLETED</b>
Fundamental review of refuse and recycling collection rounds.	Tony Harris/ Colin Read	31.03.10	Major budget implications.	
Set up delivery point for garden waste.	Roger Sired/HCC	31.03.10	None	
Evaluate Project Integra glass collection trial and improve efficiency of glass collection in the New Forest	Roger Sired/ Tony Harris	31.03.10	Possible increase in costs	
Following the review by Project Integra debate the issues surrounding food waste collection and disposal	Roger Sired/ Colin Read	31/03/10	Possible increase of costs	

<b>MEDIUM TERM ACTIONS next 3 years</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>KEY DATE</b>	<b>FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS</b>	<b>DATE COMPLETED</b>
Continue to tackle areas of poor recycling.	Roger Sired/ Tony Harris	Ongoing	Budgeted for.	
County-wide review of collection and reprocessing options for recyclables	HCC	2010	HCC cost.	
Prepare a feasibility study for a bulk bins for flats and commercial waste.	Tony Harris/ Derek Durham	2010	Possible extra income.	
Investigate how we can work more closely with Town and Parish Councils to ensure all open spaces are kept clean.	Mike Cash/ Roger Sired	2010	Small increase in costs	
Develop New Forest Spring Clean to include environmental projects throughout the year.	Roger Sired/ FC / NFNPA	2010	Small increase in costs	
Review options for mixed glass collection.	Roger Sired/Tony Harris	2010	Possible reduction in costs	
Work with the Environment Agency to take more action on fly Tipping.	Roger Sired/Mike Cash	2010	Possible increase in costs	
Evaluate options for dealing with food waste.	Roger Sired	2010	None	
Review garden waste collection service	Tony Harris/Roger Sired	2010	None	
Review Special Collection Service to include possible collection system for Waste Electrical Goods	Roger Sired	2010	None	
Improve promotion of battery recycling options, in response to new legislation.	Roger Sired	2010	Small increase in costs	
Carry out a comprehensive review of refuse collection systems and policies.	All	2010	Unknown	

<b>LONG TERM ACTIONS next 5 years</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>KEY DATE</b>	<b>FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS</b>	<b>DATE COMPLETED</b>
Further opportunities for partnership working with neighbouring authorities.	All			
Implement changes from review of refuse collection.	All			
Implement changes from review of food waste collection.	All			
Market testing exercise for refuse collection and recycling services	All			
Evaluate options for dealing with other recyclables such as batteries, textiles and mixed plastics.	Roger Sired			
Implement changes from review of glass collection.	Roger Sired			
Review the future of Project Integra with other partners.	Colin Read			
Work with Project Integra to boost overall recycling rates	Roger Sired			
Review operation of the MRFs in Hampshire.	Project Integra			

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