



BEST VALUE

PERFORMANCE PLAN 2005

'The North London Waste Authority is committed to obtaining "Best Value" for users of its service. The Authority will ensure that service users receive a high quality service that meets their requirements.'

North London Waste Authority
Room 226
Camden Town Hall
Judd Street
LONDON
WC1H 9JE

NORTH LONDON WASTE AUTHORITY

BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE PLAN 2005

<u>CHAPTER</u>	<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
1	BEST VALUE AND PERFORMANCE PLAN STATEMENTS	2
2	INTRODUCTION TO THE AUTHORITY	3
3	INTRODUCTION TO BEST VALUE	5
4	AUDITORS COMMENTS ON THE LAST BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE PLAN	7
5	SUMMARY OF THE AUTHORITY'S OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE DEVELOPMENTS	8
6	THE NORTH LONDON JOINT WASTE STRATEGY	17
7	FINANCIAL STATEMENT	30
8	BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE INDICATORS AND TARGETS	34
9	UPDATE ON PAST REVIEWS OF SERVICES	39
10	RESOURCES	43
11	EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS	44
12	WASTE TRENDS	45
13	CONSULTATION	50
14	PUBLISHING	51
APPENDIX 1	TABLES 1 – 3 BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	
APPENDIX 2	AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE 2004 BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE PLAN	

NORTH LONDON WASTE AUTHORITY

BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE PLAN 2005

1.0 BEST VALUE AND PERFORMANCE PLAN STATEMENTS.

- 1.1 *The North London Waste Authority is committed to obtaining “Best Value” for users of its service. The Authority will ensure that service users receive a high quality service that meets their requirements.***
- 1.2 *The North London Waste Authority is responsible for the preparation of the Performance Plan and for the information and assessments set out within it, and the assumptions and estimates on which they are based. The Authority is also responsible for setting in place appropriate performance management and internal control systems from which the information and assessments in the Performance Plan have been derived. The Authority is satisfied that the information and assessments included in the Plan are in all material respects accurate and complete and the Plan is realistic and achievable.***
- 1.3 *The Authority’s principal aims and objectives in the context of the draft North London Joint Waste Strategy are set out in Chapter 6 of this Plan, with a report on progress made in developing and implementing the Strategy to start achieving the Strategy’s aims and objectives.***
- 1.4 *The Authority’s past performance against targets, and its future targets are set out in Chapter 8 of this Plan.***
- 1.5 *The Authority has let no contracts involving a transfer of staff since the requirement to comply with the Code of Practice on Workforce Matters in Local Authority Service Contracts and the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 1981 (as amended) came into force.***

2.0 INTRODUCTION TO THE AUTHORITY.

2.1 The North London Waste Authority (NLWA) was established in 1986 as a statutory waste disposal authority after the abolition of the Greater London Council. The Authority's prime function is to arrange for the disposal of waste collected by its seven constituent London Boroughs. These Boroughs are:-

- BARNET
- CAMDEN
- ENFIELD
- HACKNEY
- HARINGEY
- ISLINGTON
- WALTHAM FOREST

2.2 The Authority has a membership of 14 elected councillors. Each Constituent Borough appoints two councillors. The Authority meets 5 times a year, with a provision for special meetings as required. An Urgency Committee has also been established to meet and consider appropriate business where necessary.

2.3 Arising from the requirements of the Environmental Protection Act 1990, the Authority in 1992 entered a process leading to the formation of a Local Authority Waste Disposal Company (LAWDC) and subsequently a Joint Venture. The Authority selected SITA (GB) Ltd as the preferred partner, and a Joint Venture Company called LondonWaste Ltd was established. The Authority subjected its waste disposal needs to competitive tender, with LondonWaste Ltd successfully bidding on behalf of the Joint Venture Partners.

2.4 After eighteen months of negotiations, the arrangements for the Joint Venture were finalised and received the Secretary of State for the Environment's approval in December 1994. The divestment of the Authority's operational arm to LondonWaste Limited took place on 15th December 1994. At the same time, a twenty-year contract for the transfer and disposal of the Authority's waste was awarded to LondonWaste Ltd.

2.5 The LondonWaste Ltd board has eight directors. Three are nominated by the Authority, three are nominated by SITA (GB) Ltd and two non-voting directors are nominated by LondonWaste Ltd itself. This is representative of the 50%-50% share holdings of both partners within the Joint Venture.

2.6 The Authority does not employ any staff directly, but makes the following cross-borough arrangements for governance support services:-

- **London Borough of Camden**

- Clerk
- Deputy Clerk
- Finance Adviser
- Finance Officer
- Legal Adviser

- **London Borough of Haringey**

- Technical Adviser
- Valuation Adviser
- Strategy & Contracts Team (13 full time posts)

2.7 There is also a Technical Officer Group, which is comprised of one senior waste manager from each Constituent Borough, and provides further officer support. The Group is chaired by the Technical Adviser.

2.8 New duties and responsibilities are falling to the Authority beyond its initial role of waste disposal. The Authority now has its own statutory recycling and composting performance standards and has lead the development of a North London Joint Waste Strategy (NLJWS) with the Constituent Boroughs to provide a framework and the appropriate management systems and resources to achieve all Partners' statutory performance standards and new national and European directive targets and obligations. Greater detail on this work is set out in Chapter 6.

3.0 INTRODUCTION TO BEST VALUE.

- 3.1 The Local Government Act 1999 places a duty of “Best Value” on local authorities to secure continuous improvement in exercising all their functions having regard to economy, efficiency and effectiveness. Authorities must produce reports on their past and current performance and how they plan to improve the service in the future. They must also work towards meeting national and local targets, while consulting with users of their services to ensure that services provided match users’ requirements.
- 3.2 Best Value is part of the Government’s plan for modernising local government. The NLWA is defined as a “Best Value Authority” within Section 1 of the Local Government Act 1999. Previously the Authority was required to review all its services in a piecemeal fashion over a five year period, having to: -
- **Challenge** why and how services are provided the way they are.
 - **Compare** the Authority’s performance to that of other similar organisations.
 - **Consult** with users of the services provided by the Authority, including other authorities, the private sector and the public to determine their opinions.
 - Ensure **competition** to demonstrate that the services are being delivered efficiently and effectively.
 - Ensure **co-operation** between authorities.
- 3.3 It is essential that the Authority to play it’s part in ensuring the UK meets its targets for reducing the amount of waste that is sent to landfill and the supporting targets in the Government’s *Waste Strategy 2000*, as subsequently developed by the Government’s Strategy Unit in “Waste Not Want Not”, the London Mayor’s municipal waste strategy *Rethinking Rubbish in London* and the Waste and Emissions Trading Act 2003; the integration of the above Best Value principles into all of the Authority’s work is seen as key to achieving this. At a local level, the Statutory Performance Standards for recycling and composting set by the Government for the Authority and each of the Constituent Boroughs individually are also already requiring change in accordance with the above principles.
- 3.4 This Best Value Performance Plan is intended to advise service users of the steps that the Authority is taking towards providing “Best Value” in the delivery of its services.

- 3.5 This is the Authority's sixth Best Value Performance Plan. It includes details of the Authority's current performance and compares it to similar organisations and the targets that have been set. It continues to follow the pattern of previous documents even though Government advice has allowed the simplification of these documents, because it also helps give the necessary context to residents who want to understand the Authority and its work. It also includes details of the progress made in implementing the decisions following previous Best Value Review work and shows the work planned for 2005-06.
- 3.6 The Best Value Performance Plan is subject to audit by the External Auditor. The same team that audits the financial accounts will also be responsible for auditing this plan. The Auditors report on last year's Best Value Performance Plan is also reported in this plan.

4.0 AUDITOR'S COMMENTS ON THE LAST BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE PLAN.

- 4.1 The Best Value Performance Plan 2004 produced by the Authority last year was audited by Deloitte and Touche LLP in accordance with Section 7 of the Local Government Act 1999 and the Audit Commission's Code of Audit Practice.
- 4.2 The Auditors' full Report is attached as Appendix 2. The Auditors stated their view that the Best Value Performance Plan, was prepared and published in all significant respects in accordance with Section 6 of the Local Government Act 1999 and statutory guidance issued by the Government.
- 4.3 The Auditors then noted that they are required, where appropriate to recommend procedures to be followed by the Authority in relation to the Best Value Performance Plan, but stated that they considered there were no matters to be brought to the Authority's attention.
- 4.4 There is also a requirement for the Auditors to recommend whether the Audit Commission should carry out a Best Value Audit under Section 10 of the Local Government Act 1999 or the Secretary of State should issue a direction under Section 15 of the Act. In both instances the Auditor has not recommended these actions.

5.0 SUMMARY OF THE AUTHORITY'S OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE DEVELOPMENTS

5.1 The Authority's statutory duties are arranging the disposal of controlled waste collected by the seven Constituent Boroughs, the transport and disposal of household waste from Constituent Boroughs' re-use & recycling centres (formerly known as civic amenity sites), the storage and disposal of abandoned vehicles (currently delegated to the Constituent Boroughs), and waste recycling and composting (as a result of statutory performance standards and the new duty to prepare a joint waste strategy).

5.2 Arranging the disposal of controlled waste collected by the seven Constituent Boroughs.

The Authority arranges for the waste collected by the seven Constituent Boroughs and presented to the Authority for disposal under the 'Main Waste Disposal Contract' with LondonWaste Ltd. The total for 2004-05 was 826,002 tonnes. The waste was delivered to one of five sites:

5.2.1 **Ashburton Grove** – A road waste transfer station, which was built by the Authority in 1989. The Authority no longer retains the freehold to this site which has now been transferred to Ashburton Properties Ltd. in July 2004 following practical completion. Situated in the London Borough of Islington it received all of Islington's waste and a proportion of Camden's and Hackney's waste. During 2004 a replacement facility was provided at Hornsey Street, Islington as a result of Arsenal Football Club's successful planning application to build a new football stadium that encompasses the Authority's original site (and many other sites too). The new facility described below accommodates the Authority's waste transfer station, Islington's depot and a new re-use and recycling centre. The Authority agreed in principle to this relocation in July 2001 and moved in July 2004.

The waste from this site was mostly sent to landfill sites in Hertfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Bedfordshire or to Edmonton for incineration with energy recovery.

Scrap metal and construction and demolition wastes that were delivered to the site were segregated for subsequent recycling, wherever practicable.

5.2.2 **Hornsey Street** – A road transfer station that opened in July 2004. This site is a replacement for the Ashburton Grove Waste Transfer Station and is a more modern design with an emphasis on enhanced recycling facilities.

The site is built on three operational levels and accommodates Islington's depot as well as a re-use and recycling centre for local residents collecting a wide variety of materials for recycling and re-use.

The waste handling facility includes recycling bays used for the recycling of paper, green waste, construction waste, scrap metal, glass, used beverage containers, co-mingled recyclables and refrigeration equipment collected by the Boroughs from local residents. These wastes are subsequently transferred to other local sites for reprocessing.

Residual waste is packed into waste compactors that reduce the environmental impact of handling the waste by reducing the amount of time the waste is exposed to the open air. The facility has been designed to allow the use of the adjacent railway for waste transfer in the future.

Waste delivered to this site for both recycling and disposal comes from the Boroughs of Camden, Hackney and Islington.

5.2.3 Edmonton Solid Waste Incineration Plant – This facility is owned and operated by LondonWaste Ltd and is situated just off the North Circular Road at Edmonton. The facility receives all of Enfield's and Waltham Forest's waste, and most of Hackney's and Haringey's waste together with small amounts from the other three boroughs. The waste is tipped into five bunkers from where it is loaded by crane into hoppers leading into the furnaces. The five furnaces with their associated boilers produce superheated steam to drive turbines, which generate electricity. Some of the electricity generated is used in running the plant, but the vast majority (some 90%) is exported into the national grid, thereby reducing the use of fossil fuels.

Ferrous and non-ferrous metals are extracted from the ash that is produced by the energy-from-waste process and are subsequently recycled. The ash is then processed by another company under contract to LondonWaste Ltd to produce materials that are suitable for use in the road building and construction industries as a substitute for natural aggregates. This reduces the amount of quarrying activity elsewhere in the country.

LondonWaste Ltd has also started to implement plans for an "EcoPark" to recycle or compost appropriate wastes and to introduce further improvements to the combustion and emissions control processes in compliance with the Waste Incineration Directive by December 2005.

The Edmonton facility is an accredited re-processor for packaging waste and recovers energy from this waste in accordance with the requirements of the Packaging Waste Regulations. This is a valuable recovery operation and assists the UK to meet its international commitment to recover value from used packaging whilst also reducing the amount of waste that is sent to landfill.

5.2.4 Fuel Preparation Plant (FPP) – This facility is a road transfer station, where bulky municipal and commercial waste is crudely sorted to separate various fractions for recycling and for energy recovery; the residue (which is the vast majority) is loaded onto articulated lorries and sent to landfill sites, mostly in either Hertfordshire or Bedfordshire. The FPP is within the same site at Edmonton as the energy-from-waste facility described above.

Bulking bays have been installed so that paper, green waste, construction and demolition wastes and scrap metal that are delivered separately to the site can remain segregated and subsequently despatched for composting or recycling and so that obvious quantities of these materials delivered into the main tipping hall can be pulled out and transferred to the bulking bays for recycling.

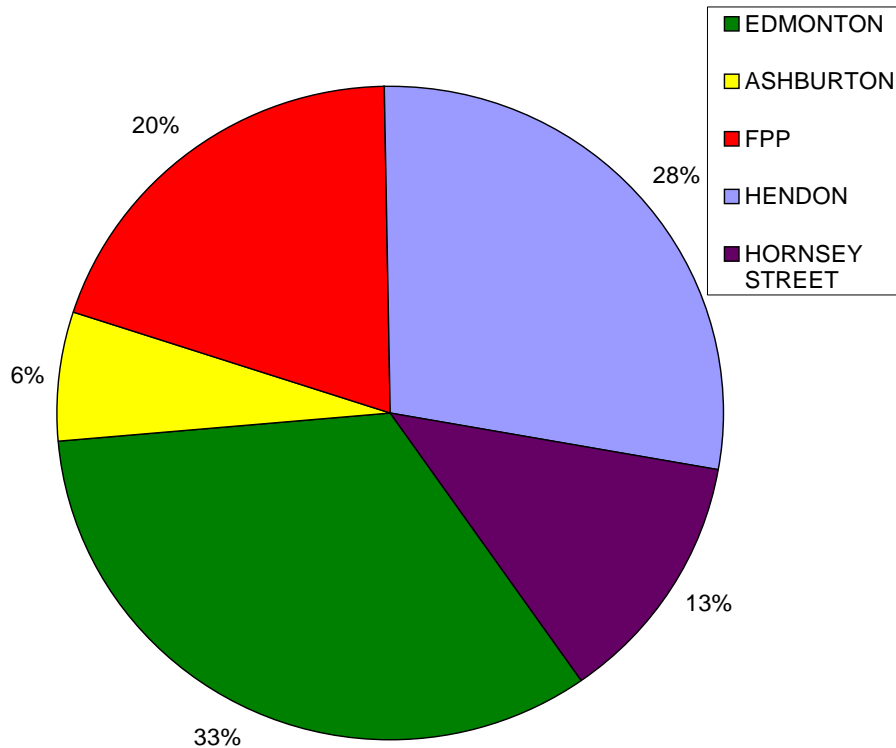
A bulky waste recycling facility has also been constructed alongside the FPP to substantially increase the amount of recycling of metals, wood, green waste and construction wastes that are delivered from special bulky waste collections and from re-use and recycling centres (civic amenity sites).

5.2.5 Hendon Rail Transfer Station – Situated near Brent Cross Shopping Centre, this site receives nearly all of Barnet's waste, a significant proportion of Camden's waste, and a small amount of Haringey's waste. Waste Recycling Group operates the site under a tri-party agreement with LondonWaste Ltd and the Authority. This arrangement is being extended to March 2009, when the Authority's lease on the site expires. The waste is compacted into containers and transported by rail to a landfill site in Bedfordshire.

There are proposals to relocate this facility too, as part of a much wider redevelopment of the Brent Cross and Cricklewood area. Negotiations are underway regarding the precise nature of the replacement facility.

5.3 The overall proportion of the waste delivered to each site can be seen in the pie chart below (please note however that secondary and tertiary transfers to the Edmonton energy-from-waste facility change the proportions of how waste is ultimately disposed of). During the relocation period to the new Hornsey Street site, some additional waste was delivered to Hendon. This can be seen by the 4% tonnage decrease delivered to the combined Ashburton Grove and Hornsey Street in comparison to the previous year and a 5% greater share delivered to the Hendon site. Within the Edmonton site the amount of waste deposited in the main energy-from-waste plant remained constant while initial deposits at the FPP fell by 1%.

**PROPORTION OF WASTE DELIVERED TO EACH OF THE
AUTHORITY'S CONTRACTED FACILITIES, 2004-2005**



5.4 A number of smaller contracts exist for the recycling or disposal of specific waste streams, as shown below:

- **Clinical Waste** – This type of waste is directed to the clinical waste disposal facility provided by LondonWaste Ltd at Edmonton through their subsidiary company Polkacrest Ltd.
- **Construction Waste** – The Authority no longer has a contract for the recycling of construction waste as this is now done by the relevant Constituent Boroughs, which then claim a recycling credit from the Authority. The waste continues to be recycled into different grades of aggregate and is subsequently sold to the construction industry.
- **Asbestos** – Cement asbestos deposited at Enfield's Carterhatch Lane re-use and recycling centre and Islington's Hornsey Street re-use and recycling centre is transported by Biffa Waste Services Ltd. in especially designed containers to Pinden Plant & Processing Ltd at Dartford, Kent for disposal.

- **Tyres** – Boroughs are directed to ETD Ltd in Edmonton for the disposal of their tyres. Those tyres that are not suitable for re-use are sent for use as fuel in cement manufacturing.

5.5 The transport and disposal of household waste from Constituent Boroughs' Re-use and Recycling Centres (formerly known as Civic Amenity sites).

5.5.1 Within the Authority's area, re-use and recycling centres (RRCs) are provided at eight sites. The Authority's responsibility is for transporting and disposing of the waste from these sites. In 2004-05 the Authority disposed of 41,106 tonnes of waste from the following RRCs:

- Barnet: Summers Lane
- Camden: Regis Road
- Enfield: Barrowell Green and Carterhatch Lane
- Haringey: Park View Road
- Islington: Hornsey Street
- Waltham Forest: Kings Road and South Access Road

5.5.2 The Authority's first completed Best Value Review concluded that the Authority should cease the prevailing approach of contracting for both the transport and disposal of RRC wastes together, and instead should separate the contractual provisions for transport from those for disposal. This was fully implemented in September 2003, when a new contract for just the transportation of the RRC wastes commenced, and the disposal of these wastes was incorporated within the main waste disposal contract with LondonWaste Ltd. Greater detail is available in Chapter 9 of this document.

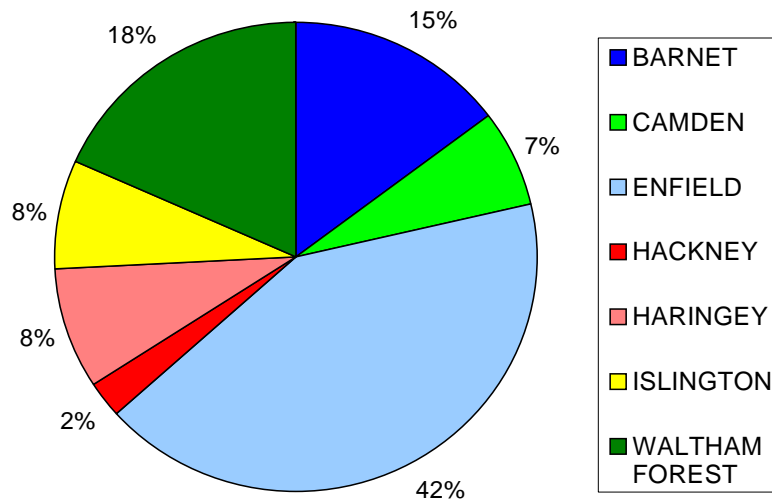
5.5.3 The Authority took the opportunity of seeking tendered rates for the transportation of recyclable wastes on behalf of the Constituent Boroughs within this contract, as it was considered that such a large contract might achieve greater economies of scale and therefore better value for money. All five Constituent Boroughs with RRC's are now benefiting from this contract in some way.

5.5.4 Successful bids to the London Recycling Fund led to substantial capital investment at the Barrowell Green and Park View Road sites at the end of 2003/04. This investment has improved access to the sites for the public and has increased the range of materials that are separately collected for recycling.

5.5.5 The replacement facility for Ashburton Grove mentioned above at 5.2.1 also includes a new separate RRC, so the recycling of such wastes in Islington has improved significantly since July 2004.

5.5.6 RRC wastes that are to be sent to landfill are transported in containers, mostly to the bulky waste recycling facility at the FPP road transfer station at Edmonton. From the FPP the wastes for disposal are loaded into articulated lorries and sent in bulk to landfill sites in either Hertfordshire or Bedfordshire.

**PROPORTION OF CIVIC AMENITY WASTE DISPOSED OF
BY EACH BOROUGH
2004-2005**



5.5.7 Changes to the provision of RRC's are expected during 2005-06, temporarily in Camden and permanently in Enfield and Waltham Forest. During 2005 Camden are redeveloping the area around the Regis RRC and as a consequence some disruption to services is expected. Waltham Forest will be opening a new facility in the Borough with significant funding support from the London Recycling Fund.

5.6 Storage and disposal of abandoned vehicles

5.6.1 The Authority has the statutory responsibility under the Refuse Disposal (Amenity) Act 1978 to arrange for the storage and disposal of abandoned vehicles collected by the Constituent Boroughs.

- 5.6.2 The Authority has always delegated these functions, together with the expenditure and income, to the Constituent Boroughs, but continues to have an interest in the carrying out of its functions. This arrangement was the subject of a Best Value Review in 2001-02, but due to the continuing delays in the UK implementation of the End of Life Vehicle Directive (under which it appears likely that the Authority will be left with this responsibility until December 2006 rather than it being transferred to vehicle manufacturers and importers or a wider range of the motor industry) it has still not been possible to complete this Review.
- 5.6.3 It subsequently became apparent that it would not be necessary to let an Authority-wide contract for the de-pollution and disposal of these vehicles in order to attract the necessary private capital investment as Borough contractors proceeded to install the necessary equipment. The historic arrangements have therefore continued.

5.7 Waste recycling and composting

- 5.7.1 The majority of the municipal waste recycling (excluding ash recycling) that occurs in the North London area is managed by the seven Constituent Boroughs. The Authority supports this by paying statutory “recycling credits” to the Boroughs and to local charities. The recycling credit is paid for every tonne of waste that is recycled. The amount of credit paid is equal to the highest cost that the Authority would have been required to pay if the waste had been sent for disposal instead of being recycled. This money is then available to the Boroughs to help fund their recycling activities.
- 5.7.2 The Authority is also in receipt of a £1,000,000 dividend from LondonWaste Ltd that it is holding as a separate fund to assist with boosting its recycling rate. As soon as it is possible to align sufficient Borough’s contracts and specifications, the Authority will use this money to help finance a suitable new facility.
- 5.7.3 The Authority’s principal contractor also recycles waste materials (see earlier in this Chapter), principally incinerator bottom ash, scrap metal, construction waste, wood and green waste.
- 5.7.4 The Authority has been leading the development of the North London Joint Waste Strategy, as described fully in Chapter 6, in anticipation of the duty placed upon it and the Boroughs by the Waste and Emissions Trading Act 2003.

- 5.7.5 As noted above, the Authority also was awarded funding by the London Recycling Fund to improve recycling rates at reuse and recycling centres in its area and to extend estates recycling and green waste collections for composting, as in Chapter 6. A separate Authority bid to the London Recycling Fund for a recycling bulking facility at Edmonton was unsuccessful, but the Authority has since been awarded £1,700,000 of capital funds towards the construction of a new in-vessel composting facility at Edmonton that will be able to process 30,000 tonnes per year of green garden waste and organic kitchen wastes in accordance with the new, stricter regulations since the outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease.
- 5.7.6 This bid and award were part of an integrated approach to the organic waste stream, with some £120,000 also awarded to home and community composting and some £2,180,000 organic waste collection infrastructure. The London Community Recycling Network was the Authority's partner for home and community composting and during 2004/05 they ran a "Master Composter" scheme to develop local expertise that other people could call upon. The Boroughs ordered relevant collection infrastructure and the Authority ordered the new in-vessel composting facility, which is due to open in July 2005. These bids have been consistent with the approved North London Joint Waste Strategy approved by the Authority.

5.8 Non-household waste.

- 5.8.1 The Authority has started to review the way in which it assesses the amount of non-household waste delivered within mixed municipal waste by the Constituent Boroughs. This is important firstly so that the Authority charges Boroughs for the disposal of appropriate tonnages and secondly as it affects household waste recycling targets.

After consultation with the Borough Technical Officers it was agreed to assess the amount of waste per household in North London, then to multiply this by the number of households in each Borough and finally to assume that all waste delivered above this amount is non-household and to charge the Boroughs accordingly.

This work was not fully completed in 2004/05. Further considerations will be made in 2005/06 whilst looking at a tonnage based apportionment of the Authority's levy

5.9 Co-operation.

5.9.1 The North London Waste Authority will continue to support recycling and sustainable waste management practices by working with the Constituent Boroughs and supporting and engaging in active dialogue with the following organisations:

- Association of London Cleansing Officers
- Association of London Government
- Chartered Institution of Wastes Management
- Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
- Department of Trade and Industry
- Environment Agency
- Government Office for London
- Greater London Authority (Mayor and Assembly)
- Local Government Association
- London Community Recycling Network
- London Development Agency
- London Recycling Officers Group
- London Remade
- London Waste Action
- National Association of Waste Disposal Officers
- North London Recycling Forum
- Office of the Deputy Prime Minister
- Waste Resources Action Programme
- Waste Watch

6.0 THE NORTH LONDON JOINT WASTE STRATEGY (NLJWS)

6.1 The Authority last formally reviewed its waste management strategy in the early 1990's. This supported the principle of the waste hierarchy and, in particular, favoured incineration with energy recovery over landfill as a waste management technique. This enabled the Authority to develop its options for meeting its obligations under the Environmental Protection Act 1990, including, the development of its 20 year Main Waste Disposal Contract. This contract was designed not to constrain the Authority or its Constituent Boroughs in adopting an integrated approach to waste management. The main provisions within the contract that enable this approach are: -

No guaranteed minimum tonnage to be delivered (since December 1999);
No restrictions on the amount of waste that the boroughs can recycle.

6.2 The Government's national waste strategy, *Waste Strategy 2000*, actively encouraged the Authority, and Constituent Boroughs, to produce a Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy and stated the Government's intention to make this a statutory requirement in the future. The Government then issued detailed guidance in March 2001. The Waste Emissions and Trading (WET) Act 2003 has now provided the statutory basis for joint waste strategies in areas such as North London that have separate waste collection and disposal authorities. The WET Act also provided for exemptions from this duty, which apply from 2005 to the Authority and L.B. Camden; both continue, however, to participate fully.

6.3 In September 2003 the London Mayor stated in his municipal waste strategy *Rethinking Rubbish in London* that a joint waste strategy should be written for the Authority's area (as for other London joint waste disposal authority areas), too.

6.4 The NLJWS is a key foundation for and means by which to improve services in the future. The NLJWS has been approved by seven of the eight partner Authorities with only Barnet seeking to finalise negotiations on the subject of the levy apportionment.

6.5 Between December 2001 and September 2002, the Boroughs and the Authority formally adopted joint Aims and Objectives, established a Strategy Project Board of officers and began gathering information needed for the development of a Joint Waste Strategy. The principles of striving for optimal outputs through challenging what we do and how we do it, making comparisons with other areas, consulting with key stakeholders at an early stage, co-operating with each other throughout and accepting open, competitive procurement as a likely means of implementation have formed the basis of both the development of the NLJWS and the Authority's own work on Best Value.

- 6.6 Five Cabinet Member Seminars were held between March 2003 and January 2004, during which Cabinet Members from each of the Constituent Boroughs and the Chair of the Authority (or their nominated deputies) considered the strategic options for waste management in North London, agreed scenarios and evaluation criteria to conduct a Best Practicable Environmental Option appraisal, reviewed the results of this appraisal, agreed draft wording for an internal draft of a strategy document and revised wording for an external draft to be issued for a stakeholder dialogue.
- 6.7 The Authority reviewed the internal draft document at its meeting on 17th December 2003, approving the draft, subject to any changes for the external draft collectively agreed at the 27th January 2004 Cabinet Member Seminar. Minor clarifications to the wording of the document were agreed at this meeting and an external draft document was finalised for a stakeholder dialogue that commenced in February 2004. MORI was engaged to assist with obtaining and assessing the views of residents, local groups, community recyclers, other local authorities, waste contractors and other stakeholders.
- 6.8 The single most important item that came out of the stakeholder dialogue was concern that the scenarios selected for the BPEO analysis had given an unfair advantage to co-mingled recycling collections over kerbside-sort recycling collections. The Authority's technical consultant, and subsequently the Partners, agreed that the NLJWS should be clarified on this point and that Borough Partners should be given a year in which to decide how much tonnage they expect to collect through each type of collection service. The Authority will then be able to plan to provide appropriate facilities.
- 6.9 On 5th July 2004 a further Cabinet Member Seminar considered the results of the stakeholder dialogue and agreed changes to the strategy document. Subsequently the "Mayor's Draft" North London Joint Waste Strategy was submitted to the London Mayor in September 2004.

6.10 **Summary of the North London Joint Waste Strategy**

In North London we will throw away almost a million tonnes of rubbish this year, enough to fill eight football stadiums to the roof and that throwing away rubbish is expensive and damages the environment as it wastes the energy and materials needed to make the products we all use and can cause pollution. The amount of rubbish we throw away is increasing at a rate of approximately 3% per year, and that if we don't change what we do, we will have two thirds more rubbish by the year 2020.

Over half of this rubbish is buried in old quarries called "landfill sites" in Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire. When rubbish is placed in landfill sites it rots down and produces gases that contribute to global warming. However, new laws drastically restrict how much rubbish we can send to these landfill sites in future and special taxes are making it more and more expensive.

The key steps to dealing with the million tonne rubbish problem are firstly to producing less waste as the best option for the environment; secondly, if rubbish can't be avoided, then recycling or composting it as the next best alternative; thirdly, given that not all rubbish can be recycled or composted, recovering energy from rubbish that cannot be recycled is better than sending it straight to landfill sites.

The ways identified to reduce North London's rubbish by up to 80,000 tonnes per annum are:

- Working with local businesses to reduce packaging and waste
- Increasing awareness of rubbish problems amongst consumers
- Supporting home and community composting and re-use collection services.

Ways in which residents can help are:

- Trying to reduce the amount of packaging they buy
- Composting at home or in the local community
- Repairing, refurbishing and passing on products for re-use wherever possible.

The ways identified to recycle almost half of North London's rubbish are:

- Providing all households in North London with easily accessible recycling and composting collection services
- Improving the efficiency of our re-use and recycling centres by diverting at least 60% of this rubbish away from landfill sites
- Providing incentives for residents to recycle
- Providing new facilities in North London to enable us to recycle and compost the majority of our rubbish.

Ways in which residents can help are:

- Separating your rubbish for recycling
- Separating your rubbish for composting at home or with a local community group
- Recycling more when you visit your local re-use and recycling centre.

The ways to further avoid landfilling rubbish and to continue recovering energy from it instead (we are avoiding over half a million tonnes of landfill already) are:

- Recycle and compost rubbish wherever practical before recovering energy
- Use as much of your rubbish that cannot be recycled or composted as is practical to generate electricity and provide heating
- Improve the environmental performance of the Edmonton energy-from-waste incinerator during its remaining operational life

- Replace the Edmonton energy-from-waste incinerator with the best available technology when this becomes necessary.

Although household rubbish makes up the majority of the waste managed by the North London local authorities, we also plan to take action to improve the management of other commercial, hazardous and difficult waste streams that we manage in line with new and emerging legislation. These include reducing the environmental impact of how we transport rubbish through continuing our commitment to rail and water transport.

The Authority and its Partners have undertaken a Best Practicable Environmental Option analysis for North London. The preferred option involves working in partnership as local authorities and with local communities to provide the services and facilities required to make the improvements needed. The option we prefer requires action and investment in:

Waste minimisation:

- Investing in an intensive and on-going public awareness campaign
- Increasing the percentage of residents composting at home from the current 7% to 25%
- Investing significantly in new community composting and re-use projects.

Recycling and composting

- Achieving 35% recycling and composting rates by 2010
- Achieving 45% recycling and composting rates by 2015
- Maintaining and improving the existing recycling banks on the street
- Providing recycling and composting collections to at least 95% of all residents
- Sorting materials in three new local Materials Recycling Facilities
- Composting organic kitchen and garden wastes in four new composting facilities.

Recovering energy from waste

- Recovering energy from 34% of rubbish by 2015
- Improving the environmental performance of the Edmonton energy-from-waste incinerator in the short term
- Replacing the Edmonton Incinerator with advanced energy treatment technology after 2014.

6.11 The cost of improving the management of our rubbish is going to increase significantly, no matter what we choose to do, but doing nothing is not an option. Legislation requires local authorities to divert rubbish from landfill sites. We think our preferred option will enable us to meet these targets by doing as much as we all can to reduce rubbish, and then recycle or compost it.

6.12 Although achieving all the above targets is a significant challenge, the Partner Authorities are committing themselves to make every effort to do so.

6.13 'Technical' Issues for the North London Joint Waste Strategy

The development of the NLJWS has challenged existing objectives and Authority-wide municipal waste management arrangements and addresses recent developments in waste management policy. The NLJWS gives due consideration to the following principal "technical" issues in addition to key stakeholders' views and the over-arching need for sustainability:

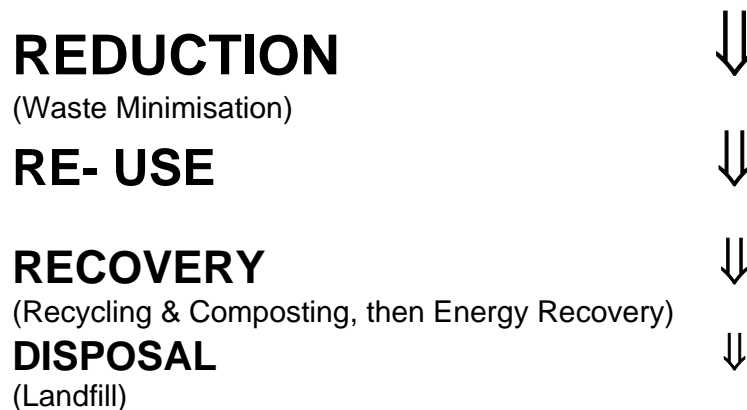
6.14 Best Practicable Environmental Option

All choices of waste management options will have regard to the best practicable environmental option (BPEO). BPEO is defined as '.... for a given set of objectives, the option that provides the most benefits or the least damage to the environment as a whole, at acceptable cost, in the long term as well as the short term.'

Within the NLJWS this has been identified for North London as achieving a combined recycling and composting rate of 35% by 2010 and 45% by 2015. This is consistent with "*Waste Not, Want Not*" from the Prime Minister's Strategy Unit in November 2002 and the London Mayor's own assessment in "*Rethinking Rubbish in London*" in September 2003.

6.15 Waste Hierarchy

The "waste hierarchy" shown below is a useful tool used by the Authority and its Constituent Boroughs to help identify the BPEO and to guide overall priorities:



6.16 Proximity Principle

Another tool to assist identify the BPEO is the “proximity principle”. The Authority will seek to ensure that its waste is managed at facilities in close proximity to the area where the waste arose. Applying the proximity principle increases the general awareness of waste issues, reduces the environmental impact of transporting waste long distances and removes the environmental impact of treating or disposing of North London’s waste from people and ecosystems in other parts of the country.

6.17 The Government’s National Waste Strategy - *Waste Strategy 2000* and Statutory Performance Standards.

The Authority will start to offer infrastructure to assist the Constituent Boroughs (and thereby itself) achieve the Government’s local statutory performance standards devised to work towards the *Waste Strategy 2000* (WS2K) targets as follows, but will aim to exceed the latter in conformance with the BPEO within the draft North London Joint Waste Strategy.

Statutory Performance Standards, Public Service Agreement Targets & Waste Strategy 2000 Targets

Authority	2003-04 performance standard	2004-05	2005-06 performance standard	2010 WS2K (national)	2015 WS2K (national)
Barnet	18%		27% (30% PSA)	30%	33%
Camden	22% (24% PSA)		33%	30%	33%
Enfield	18%		27% (30% PSA)	30%	33%
Hackney	10%		18%	30%	33%
Haringey	10%		18%	30%	33%
Islington	10%		18%	30%	33%
Waltham Forest	12%	19% PSA	18%	30%	33%
NLWA recycling/ composting	12%		18%	30%	33%
NLWA energy recovery (national)				15%	34%
NLWA combined recycling/ composting and recovery			40%	45%	67%

(national)					
------------	--	--	--	--	--

The Authority's first steps in this direction are the commissioning of a bulky waste recycling facility and an in-vessel composting facility, both through LondonWaste Ltd at their Edmonton site. Work has also started on specifying a materials recycling facility for sorting and bulking dry recyclable wastes such as paper, card, glass, cans, plastic bottles, carrier bags and foil.

The Government consulted on a series of changes to Waste Strategy 2000 during 2004-05, principally on the role of BPEO assessments. The Authority will naturally take full regard of the changes the Government ultimately decides to make in the future.

6.18 The Landfill Directive and the Waste & Emissions Trading Act 2003 (WET Act)

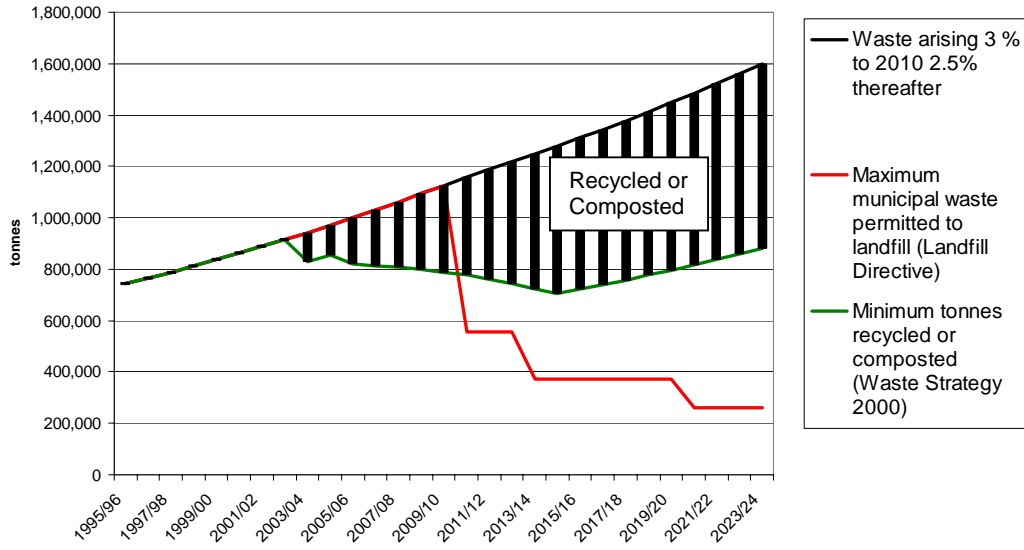
The Landfill Directive has been transposed into UK law predominantly (from the local authority perspective) by the Waste and Emissions Trading (WET) Act 2003. It is starting to change the way waste disposal authorities manage the municipal waste stream in several ways, the most significant of which is the reduction of the quantity of biodegradable municipal waste that can be sent to landfill sites to 75% of 1995 levels by 2009/10, 50% by 2012/13 and 35% by 2019/20.

The WET Act is the new primary legislation, and the Government has initiated the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme (LATS) to minimise the cost of UK compliance and to allow maximum flexibility from 2005-06 onwards. The Authority set up a Member Working Group to assess this; however, it has not been possible to finalise a LATS strategy without guidance on relevant accounting rules and restrictions that will apply. The trading system itself will require many direct and consequent changes to the work of the Authority and its Partners within the NLJWS Partnership.

The WET Act also introduced a duty on all waste authorities in two-tier areas to produce a Joint Waste Strategy. The Authority was well advanced with this anyway, but has nevertheless been confirmed as exempt from the duty because it exceeded the 2004-05 statutory performance standards. The Authority will nevertheless continue with the NLJWS alongside its Partners.

The combined effects of the directive, statutory performance standards and NLJWS are shown in indicative form below.

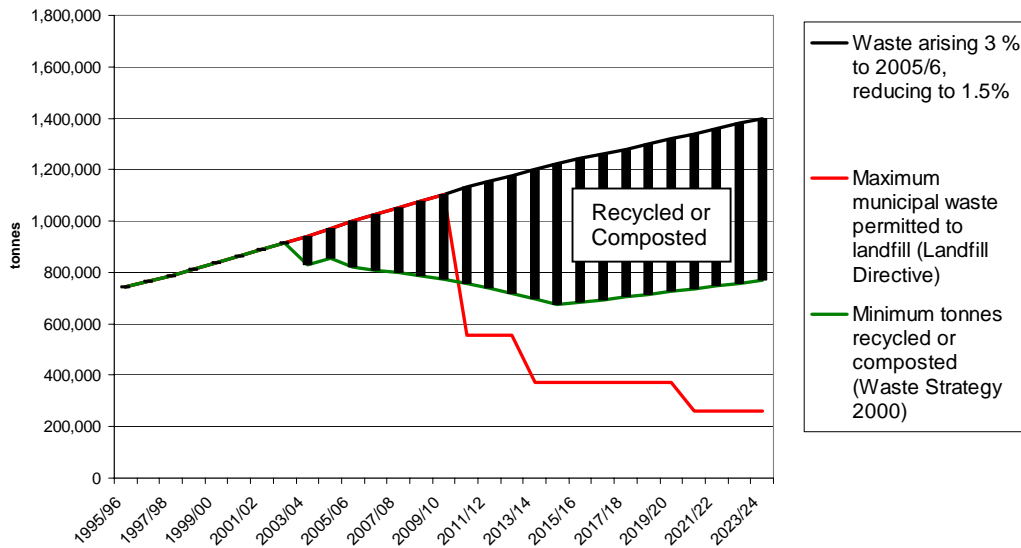
**Landfill Directive and North London Joint Waste Strategy
- Projected Growth**



The graph above shows the Authority’s waste stream increasing at 3% per year to 2010, then reducing to 2½% per year thereafter as local waste minimisation policies take measurable effect, in line with the Strategy Unit and the London Mayor again. The graph also shows the statutory performance standards and the NLJWS recycling and composting targets taking effect from 2003-04 in the hatched area and the Landfill Directive limits from 2010 as the red line.

The graph below has been produced in order to illustrate the significance of seeking to minimise the growth in the amount of municipal waste arising each year. It is the same chart, but this time it assumes the annual growth rate for waste arisings falls from 2006, reducing gradually to 1½% by 2016. Whilst such reductions are beyond what the Partners to the NLJWS believe they can achieve within current legislation, they illustrate what might potentially be achieved by far more rigorous and concerted Government action on this front; namely some 200,000 fewer tonnes to manage per year in North London in twenty years time.

Landfill Directive and North London Joint Waste Strategy - Low Growth



It should be noted that whilst the Landfill Directive does not limit in any way the amount of non-biodegradable municipal waste that can be landfilled, all of the municipal waste that cannot be sent to landfill must be composted, recycled or recovered. If the waste stream does increase at the Government’s predicted 3% rate to over 1.6m tonnes per year, then the amount of waste that must be treated or recovered will grow substantially too as landfill restrictions increase, even if the Authority exceeds the very challenging NLJWS targets.

6.19 The Landfill Tax

The Landfill Tax is levied on all waste going for disposal to landfill sites. “Inactive” (or inert) wastes that pose no threat to the environment are charged a tax of just £2 per tonne, whereas other wastes are charged the full tax (£15 in 2004-05, £18 in 2005-06 and increasing annually thereafter by at least £3 per tonne to £35 per tonne).

Coupled with higher landfill gate prices resulting from increasingly rigorous environmental protection demands from the Environment Agency, the Landfill Tax is one of the Government’s principal economic instruments to increase recycling and composting.

6.20 Waste Incineration Directive

This Directive is to further reduce emissions to air and land, to reduce the environmental impact of all waste incineration facilities.

The Authority's contractor and joint venture company LondonWaste Ltd has carefully evaluated the best way forwards under their current circumstances, and is now actively modifying various parts of the combustion and gas treatment equipment and processes in order to achieve compliance with WID, and thereby be allowed to continue with their energy-from-waste service. The works are scheduled for completion in December 2005.

6.21 Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive

The WEEE Directive obligates retailers, importers and manufacturers of electrical and electronic goods to arrange for the separate collection and recycling of these products and was due to come into effect in 2005 but is now expected to be implemented in January 2006.

The Government has consulted on means of implementation, but the precise role waste disposal authorities will have is still not yet known in detail. Nevertheless, the Authority will monitor developments closely as additional costs may well arise, and it may be possible to co-ordinate or assist with new arrangements at Constituent Borough Re-use and Recycling Centres.

6.22 The London Mayor's Waste Strategy

The Mayor for London published "*Rethinking Rubbish in London*", his final municipal waste management strategy in September 2003, having previously consulted very widely.

The Authority engaged fully and constructively in this process, submitting detailed comments on the Mayor's many draft policies and proposals. The most significant matters were the Authority's concern that the Mayor's recycling and composting targets were too high, that his desire to control London's Landfill Directive permits was inappropriate, that the Mayor should not seek to create a single London-wide waste disposal authority (but that a single waste planning authority for London should be considered) and that the Mayor's apparent opposition to energy-from-waste incineration ought not be sustained whilst all alternatives for the treatment of residual wastes (other than landfill) remain unproven at an appropriate scale of operation for London. Notwithstanding the above however, the Authority was in broad agreement with most of the Mayor's draft policies and proposals, at least in principle.

The Authority was therefore relatively pleased with the Mayor's final municipal waste strategy insofar as all the above key points were either modified towards the position suggested by the Authority (and, no doubt, by others), or they were deferred for future consideration (such as the single waste disposal authority for London). A consultation on the single waste disposal authority for London is expected during 2005-06.

6.23 Other Legislative Requirements

The Authority and its Constituent Boroughs will comply with all legislative requirements relating to waste management including other EU Directives, and will seek to ensure that all developing requirements assist the Authority in the pursuit of its shared strategic objectives with the Constituent Boroughs.

6.24 Implementation of North London Joint Waste Strategy

The NLJWS has been formally agreed by seven of the eight Partners in North London. The London Borough of Barnet was initially concerned about the apportionment of the Authority's costs through the levy and the delay in allowing Boroughs a year to further consider their method(s) for collecting recyclable and compostable wastes, but has since accepted the latter point. Barnet has still not yet approved the document, but options-modelling and discussions are on-going and a resolution is sought by all.

As the Authority is moving forward into the implementation of the NLJWS it continues to have regard to its responsibilities under the Best Value regime. At the time of preparing the Best Value Performance Plan the Authority has yet to consider this in detail, but will do so in such a way at the planned Strategy Implementation Board as to address key improvement priorities where there is the greatest need or opportunity for improvement, and the specific outcomes that the Authority and its Partners expect to achieve as a result.

Much work has already been undertaken however to improve recycling and composting rates in North London, both in accordance with the draft NLJWS and the statutory performance standards.

The former Strategy Project Board prepared a comprehensive analysis of various potential funding sources for new services and facilities in North London. The most accessible of these was the London Recycling Fund, which was London's share of the £140m fund provided by the Government nationally, namely £21.3 million funding for London that was allocated by January 2003. In total, £4,139,000 was awarded to North London authorities.

Three joint bids, which collectively involved co-operation between all North London boroughs, were awarded funding:

- £2,690,000 to an Estates Recycling Joint Bid (led by L.B. Islington on behalf of L.B. Camden, L.B. Enfield and L.B. Haringey)
- £379,000 to a Civic Amenity Joint Bid (led by L.B. Enfield on behalf of L.B. Haringey, L.B. Waltham Forest and the NLWA) and,
- £400,000 to a Green Waste Joint Bid (led by L.B. Waltham Forest on behalf of L.B. Barnet and L.B. Hackney).

All three projects are now completed, and the improvements to local recycling rates are being measured, albeit that some were completed only in March 2004.

As part of the Civic Amenity Joint Bid, £79,000 was allocated to expand a successful furniture and electrical item re-use service in partnership with all Constituent Boroughs and Restore. The NLWA have been supporting this bid through paying the equivalent of the avoided cost of disposal for each tonne of waste re-used.

As noted earlier, significant further work has commenced since the award of a further £4,000,000 to the North London Integrated Compost Project. For the Authority this has meant managing the London Community Recycling Network as they promoted and assisted home composting and community composting in North London, it meant co-ordinating the work of five Constituent Boroughs in the planning for the collection of good quality organic waste, and it meant managing LondonWaste Ltd. as they secured planning permission and started to build the new in-vessel composting facility. The facility is expected to open in July 2005.

Other work took place on the Authority's award from the London Recycling Fund of over £83,000 for building partnerships with the community recycling and composting sector through the London Community Recycling Network. This funding is used in a range of projects across London including support for furniture and household appliance reuse schemes, Borough recycling initiatives and the establishment of a Master Composter scheme to promote home composting.

The NLJWS has started to help the Authority and its Constituent Boroughs to meet the targets for composting, recycling and recovery that have been set by the Government, and also to provide Best Value through flexibility in its waste management options. This will allow the Authority and Constituent Boroughs to take advantage of new technology and exploit new recycling and recovery options as they appear.

The Authority and its Constituent Boroughs have achieved further improvements to the level of recycling and composting in 2004-05. The Authority has always sent a large proportion of its residual waste for energy recovery through incineration, and the use of this waste management option is likely to continue alongside increasing recycling services. Flexibility in the NLJWS will help the Authority to maintain and build on this past performance.

During 2004-05 the Authority also reviewed its own staffing arrangements for the Strategy & Contracts Team in the context of the challenges presented by the NLJWS. A new, increased indicative establishment was approved, and progress has been made towards filling key posts.

Significant work has also been started on the preparation of a Joint Waste Development Plan Document for land-use planning. North London planners felt that they could not commence this work without first knowing the scope and implications in some detail. Consequently they bid (successfully) for £50,000 from DEFRA's Waste Implementation Programme, and commissioned a piece of work from consultants to assist them. The essential scope of the work was to give advice on the potential detailed scope of a Joint Waste Development Plan Document (JWDPD), the timescales over which it might be developed, the key decisions and the amount of officer time likely to be needed along with a contract specification for the actual work of assisting waste planners employ consultants to take the matter forward.

It will also cover the linkages of a JWDPD to Borough Local Development Schemes, Core Strategies, Statements of Community Involvement Local Development Frameworks and any relevant Local Development Documents contained therein, along with the questions of financial and officer resources mentioned above.

The Authority has its own aims in continuing and enhancing the services it currently provides for its users. The main objectives are as follows:

- i) To provide local facilities for the disposal of waste collected by our Constituent Boroughs. These disposal facilities will be: -
 - Offering a disposal option over 24 hours, 365 days of the year.
 - Providing a turnaround time for vehicles of no more than 20 minutes.
 - Continuing to provide a healthy and safe working environment.
- ii) To provide information on transactions (dates, times, weights etc.) for Borough vehicles, within 24 hours, and to provide weekly transaction reports to each Borough within seven days.
- iii) To provide advice on all waste management issues to Constituent Boroughs
- iv) To finalise and implement a Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy in partnership with all the Constituent Boroughs.

7.0 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

- 7.1 The services provided by the Authority are paid for by the seven London Boroughs that make up the Authority's area, who then include this expenditure in their own budgets and council tax calculations. The payment comprises of two elements. A payment for household waste which is paid in the form of a charge known as the levy, and a separate charge for non-household waste, i.e. industrial and commercial wastes.
- 7.2 The Authority's net expenditure requirements for the year ahead and the basis for apportioning the levy are determined each year at the February meeting of the Authority. All constituent Boroughs must agree the method of apportioning the levy unanimously. In the event of failure to reach unanimous agreement a default arrangement is applied.
- 7.3 Since the formation of the Authority in 1986, there has never been unanimous agreement on an alternative method of apportioning the levy and therefore the Authority has relied upon the default arrangements that currently require the levy to be apportioned in proportion to each Borough's Council Tax base. As this may not fairly reflect the real cost of disposal for Boroughs, the Authority and its constituent boroughs have previously made representations to Government urging a change to a tonnage basis for apportioning the levy. As part of the development of the North London Joint Waste Strategy the eight Partners (the seven boroughs and the Authority) are examining the scope to develop a voluntary move to a tonnage based levy in 2006-07. The Government has also recently advised of its intention to issue a consultation paper to change the default arrangements for apportioning the levy in the near future.
- 7.4 The Authority owns a 50 per cent interest in LondonWaste Ltd, its principal contractor. No dividend is expected to be paid for the foreseeable future as it is necessary for the Company to re-invest profits in the upgrade of the energy-from-waste facility at Edmonton.
- 7.5 The net budget for 2005-06 of £54.054m is financed as follows:

Financing of Authority's Net Budget for 2005-06

	£'000
Charges for non-household waste	7,450
Use of balances	4,767
Levy for 2005/2006	41,837
Total Income	54,054

- 7.6 Since the formation of LondonWaste Ltd in 1994, it has not been necessary for the Authority to incur expenditure of a capital nature. In 2004/05, however, the Authority in conjunction with LondonWaste Ltd, were successful in securing financial support of £1.7m from the London Recycling Fund to assist with the funding of the new In-vessel Composting facility at the Edmonton Eco-Park. The Authority therefore made a capital payment of £1.7m to LondonWaste Ltd and this has been offset by the payment of a grant from the London Recycling Fund.
- 7.7 Further details of the Authority's budget for 2005-06, together with details of actual expenditure and income for 2003-04 and the 2004-05 probable outturn (subject to audit) are set out below:

<u>Authority Budgets</u>				
	2003-04 Actual	2004-05 Original Budget	2004-05 Probable Outturn	2005-06 Original Budget
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Expenditure				
Transport and Disposal	27,141	32,188	32,006	33,356
Fridges and Freezers	1,872	1,072	740	1,004
Landfill Tax ¹	5,484	6,360	5,690	6,591
Recycling Credits	4,779	9,295	6,366	11,986
Other Recycling Initiatives	3	100	16	100
Other Costs	738	969	941	1,157
Total Expenditure	40,017	49,984	45,759	54,194
Income				
Rents	(74)	(77)	(76)	(80)
Interest on Balances	(951)	(490)	(1,088)	(560)
Dividend Income	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)
Total Income	(1,025)	(567)	(1,164)	(640)
Net Expenditure	38,992	49,417	44,595	53,554
Contingency	0	500	0	500
Total Net Expenditure	38,992	49,917	44,595	54,054
Financed by:				
Balances b/fwd	(3,949)	(4,767)	(6,080)	(4,767)
Non-household Charges	(6,029)	(6,776)	(6,495)	(7,450)
Levy	(35,094)	(38,374)	(38,374)	(41,837)
Total	(45,072)	(49,917)	(50,949)	(54,054)
Estimated Balances c/fwd	(6,080)	0	(6,354)	0

Table Footnotes
In October 1996 the Government introduced the landfill tax at a standard rate of £7 per tonne for general waste and a lower rate of £2 per tonne for inactive waste. The standard rate of tax increased to £14 per tonne in April 2003, £15 in April 2004 and £18 per tonne in April 2005.

- 7.8 Variations in the figures above are due to a wide range of factors. Despite the increase in recycling activity by constituent councils the costs of waste disposal are continuing to rise because of the underlying growth in the waste stream, legislative requirements to dispose of waste more safely and fiscal measures introduced by central government to discourage the use of landfill. As a consequence the Authority's costs are continuing to rise steeply at above normal inflation levels. In particular:
- New requirements for the safe disposal of hazardous waste came into effect on 1 July 2004 and further changes are expected in July 2005. The 2004-05 probable actual and 2005-06 budget allow for this potential new area of cost.
 - The Authority's landfill tax liability is directly influenced by changes in the waste stream, the level of ash recycling activity achieved by LondonWaste Ltd, and also the stepped increase in the landfill tax rates set by Central Government as set out in the table footnote above.
 - The costs of transport and disposal of waste passing through the Hendon Waste Transfer Station increased significantly on 1 January 2004 in response to changing environmental legislation and the strategic importance of retaining Hendon as an environmentally safe waste disposal route in North London.
 - The new waste transfer station at Hornsey Street (Islington) – a replacement for the Ashburton Grove waste transfer station – became operational in July 2004. The much-improved new facility to meet today's higher environmental standards comes with a higher operational cost and this is reflected in the Authority's expenditure profile.
 - The cost of the recycling credit scheme increased significantly in 2003/04. This is expected to continue to rise steeply in both 2004-05 and 2005-06 to reflect the anticipated increase in recycling activity by Constituent Boroughs and the higher value of the recycling credit payment for each tonne of waste diverted from the waste stream.
- 7.9 The Authority also receives a net income from the temporary investment of its cash balances. Although the Authority benefited from an improved cash flow in 2004/05, the receipt of interest due to be paid in respect of land acquired by the Highways Agency has been delayed and an income of at least £0.350m should now be received in 2005-06.
- 7.10 The level of residual waste delivered to the Authority by constituent boroughs has increased by 11% between 1995-96 and 2004-05. However, the overall growth in the total waste stream (before allowing for borough recycling activity) is 24%. The 2005-06 budget allows for a 3% growth in the total waste stream, i.e. before increased recycling and composting.

7.11 Details of each Borough's share of the levy and estimated charge for non-household waste in 2005-06 compared with the cost to Boroughs in 2004-05 are set out below:

Waste Disposal Costs						
	2004-05 Non - Household Charges (Probable Outturn)	2004-05 Levy	2004-05 Total cost to Boroughs	2005-06 Non - Household Charges	2005-06 Levy	2005-06 Total cost to Boroughs
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Barnet	751,739	8,279,149	9,044,560	850,114	8,951,547	9,801,661
Camden	1,401,695	5,550,838	6,989,120	1,600,225	5,985,492	7,585,717
Enfield	531,734	6,537,458	7,106,413	609,081	7,078,278	7,687,359
Hackney	933,009	3,815,541	4,838,886	1,105,383	4,276,212	5,381,595
Haringey	901,707	4,998,276	5,938,440	1,023,550	5,509,957	6,533,507
Islington	1,124,013	4,721,096	5,861,226	1,276,475	5,212,433	6,488,908
Waltham Forest	851,421	4,471,642	5,371,668	985,485	4,823,081	5,808,566
Total	6,495,318	38,374,000	45,150,313	7,450,313	41,837,000	49,287,313

7.12 Financial Forecast for 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09.

At the Authority's budget meeting in February 2005 Members were advised that assuming full use of balances by 31 March 2006, and a year-on-year increase in the waste stream of 3% per annum (as adjusted for further stepped increases in recycling), the percentage increase in the cost to the Boroughs in 2006-07 is estimated to rise by 18.41%, a further 8.98% in 2007-08 and by a further 9.11 in 2008-09. Following closure of the 2004/05 accounts and a first review of the 2005/06 budget (to be reported to the Authority meeting in July) the increases have been revised to 14.1% in 2006-07, 13.1% in 2007-08 and 9.1% in 2008-09. These forecasts are based upon known and quantifiable changes only - including landfill tax rates where the standard rate of tax is expected to rise by stepped increases of £3 per year until a rate of £35 per tonne is reached. These forecasts also allow for the estimated additional full year cost of operating a new waste transfer station at Hornsey Street (the proposed replacement to the Ashburton Grove waste transfer station). In addition, the Authority is likely to encounter other budget pressures – which are not at present quantifiable, including, possible costs in connection with the relocation of the Hendon rail transfer station and the costs of meeting the Governments national waste strategy and other environmental legislation.

8.0 BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE INDICATORS AND TARGETS.

8.1 Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPIs)

8.1.1 As part of an integrated approach the Department for the Environment, Transport and Regions together with the Audit Commission have published a number of Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPIs) specifically for Waste Disposal Authorities. The indicators establish a management framework based on performance. The Authority is obliged to report on designated indicators, stating its performance and setting targets for the following year. By adopting the 'Five Cs', Compare, Compete, Challenge, Consult and Co-operate, in both the review of its services, and the development of its Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (NLJWS), the Authority intends to improve all its services. Waste Disposal Authorities' Best Value Performance Indicators are split into three categories:

8.2 Corporate Health BVPIs

8.2.1 The North London Waste Authority does not directly employ any staff directly. Two of the Constituent Boroughs (Camden and Haringey) provide officer support through both part-time and full-time employees instead.

8.2.2 Under these circumstances the Authority considers that it remains inappropriate to publish these indicators.

8.3 Statutory Environmental Service BVPIs for Waste Disposal Authorities – APPENDIX 1, TABLE 1 (attached at the end of this Plan)

8.3.1 These indicators are designed to show how well the Authority performs in providing its waste disposal services. Users can then monitor the improvements in performance over time, and comparisons with other Waste Disposal Authorities can be made.

8.3.2 The service BVPIs have been designed by the Government to reflect a balanced approach in the assessment of performance, and the statutory performance standards set are designed to contribute to national compliance with the Landfill Directive.

8.3.3 The Authority does not report BVPI 90c, (the percentage of people expressing satisfaction with Civic Amenity sites), as these facilities are provided and operated by the Constituent Boroughs under the Refuse Disposal (Amenity) Act 1978.

8.4 Local Performance Indicators – APPENDIX 1, TABLE 2 (attached at the end of this Plan)

8.4.1 Specific requirements of Constituent Boroughs and local sensitivities can be mirrored within these local performance indicators. Targets set will establish the speed at which local improvements in service will be made.

- 8.4.2 As the Government changed the definition of recycling to be used in calculating the amount of household waste recycled for indicator BVPI 82a after 2001-2002, this made the recycling rate appear to fall due to the large amount of ash and ash products that were included in the rates published in previous years. Therefore, the indicator does not reflect the full amount of recycling in the Authority and since its second Best Value Performance Plan, the Authority decided to report the amount of household waste that is recycled in the Authority both including and excluding the ash products as local performance indicators. This will show the amount of ash product that is recycled and diverted from landfill. Reporting this indicator allows both trends to be monitored.
- 8.4.3 The Authority is also continuing to publish recycling, composting, energy recovery and landfill as average weights per head and per household to allow more transparent comparisons with other waste management services both in the U.K. and abroad in the future.

8.5 Best Value Performance Indicator Targets

- 8.5.1 Legally binding targets for recycling and composting have been set by the Government as statutory performance standards for 2003-04 and 2005-06 for all Waste Disposal Authorities. The North London Waste Authority is pleased to have exceeded its first statutory performance standard. Other targets continue to be set locally by the Authority.
- 8.5.2 The Government also requires targets to be set which will improve the Authority's services to a level in line with the performance set by the top 25% of Local Authorities. The Authority has published the Government's 2003-04 upper quartile data for London and metropolitan areas (shown at Appendix 1) for comparative purposes. These show the Authority as being comfortably within the upper quartile comparator for combined recycling and composting (18.28% against a target of 15.47%). Surprisingly, the Authority is some way below the upper quartile for recovery of waste, but this is believed to be the result of the energy-from-waste facility in south-east London serving single, unitary boroughs, whereas the Authority's performance is necessarily an average across our seven boroughs. The same principle applies to waste sent to landfill, but in reverse. The Authority's average kilogrammes per head of population is outside of the upper quartile, but below the average; these figures are however subject to the many different methods of calculation. Also, because unitary authorities operate in different ways and to different legislation in some cases to the statutory joint waste disposal authorities such as NLWA, they can be used only as an approximate guide.

8.5.3 The targets set for 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 represent an even transition to the second known statutory target, and then to the combined recycling and composting rate of 35% in 2010, as within the draft North London Joint Waste Strategy (NLJWS). The Authority is already achieving the upper quartile 2003-04 London and Metropolitan Areas combined recycling and composting rate, and the Authority's targets are set to ensure continuous improvement.

8.6 Action to achieve targets

8.6.1 The Authority's statutory performance standards for the amount of waste collected, the percentage recycled and the percentage composted are at present very dependent upon the decisions and actions of the Constituent Boroughs given the exclusion by the Government of ash and ash metal recycling.

8.6.2 In this context, progress towards these targets will be monitored by the Authority at its meetings as complete quarterly information becomes available, a process which effectively encourages comparisons between the relative effectiveness of the different approaches of different boroughs. Progress has also been made through the development of the NLJWS, within which both the Boroughs and the Authority are working in partnership to find and implement the most cost-effective and sustainable means of achieving our common objectives. Our progress with the NLJWS is described more fully at Chapter 6.

8.6.3 Last year the Authority exceeded the 2003-04 statutory performance standard for the Authority of 12% recycling and composting through benefiting from the successful bids to the London Recycling Fund for additional estates and civic amenity recycling and additional green waste collection services, as well as from other programmed improvements in the Boroughs to their recycling and composting services and the Authority's own contractor's arrangements for fridge recycling and other efforts to recycle more from the residual waste stream. The Authority has already exceeded the combined recycling and composting target for 2005-06 of 18%. It is anticipated that the Authority will remain ahead of target due to the implementation of the constituent Borough plans to expand collection schemes for recyclable and compostable wastes.

8.6.4 The statutory targets for the cost of waste disposal per tonne and the percentages landfilled and used for energy recovery are within the Authority's control only to a limited extent, as at present they are largely dependent upon increases in the level of landfill tax and the physical capacity of the Authority's relevant contracted waste handling facilities. The Authority is examining, however, ways of encouraging the contractor to maximise the diversion from landfill of the Authority's waste.

- 8.6.5 During 2004-05 the quantity of household waste collected per head of population fell quite significantly, more than exceeding the Authority's target to keep growth rates within 1.5% per person per year. The Authority has done preparatory work on a range of potential waste minimisation measures for the NLJWS noted in Chapter 6 to prioritise and implement this area of municipal waste management. It is believed that further improvements beyond those in the NLJWS will need Government action. As before however, it should be noted that different methods of calculation prevail between different waste disposal authorities, so comparisons must be treated with caution.
- 8.6.6 The Authority's local performance level for availability of disposal facilities and the processing of Borough vehicles are under constant review to ensure their achievement.

8.7 Historical Comparisons of Best Value Performance Indicator

- 8.7.1 General comments have been made above, and further outline comments on the variations in the Authority's BVPI's for 2004-05 are included in Appendix 1 at the rear of this document. The amount of household waste collected by the Boroughs for recycling and composting and separated from the residual waste stream by the Authority's contractors increased by nearly 52,000 tonnes from 89,294 tonnes in 2003-04 to 141,983 tonnes in 2004-05.
- 8.7.2 The percentage used to generate electricity decreased a little, principally due to the commencement of the Authority's contractor's boiler modification works to comply with the European Union Waste Incineration Directive. This issue is expected to continue in 2005-06, as the boiler modification works will not be complete until December 2005.
- 8.7.3 From 2005-06 onwards the Authority's prime concern will be managing within its allocation of tradable landfill allowances.

8.8 Comparisons of BVPIs with other Joint Waste Disposal Authorities **– APPENDIX 1, TABLE 3 (attached at the end of this Plan)**

- 8.8.1 At Appendix 1, Table 3 comparisons are shown between the North London Waste Authority and the other five statutory joint waste disposal authorities. North London's recycling rate remains third to Western Riverside and West London, and our composting rate has now risen to third behind West London and Manchester.

- 8.8.2 In the past, BVPI 82a (the percentage of household waste recycled) has been difficult to compare because of different circumstances in each area. Whilst the NLWA's indicator benefited from ash and ash metal recycling, others benefited from the recycling of abandoned cars (which is a delegated function in the NLWA area, and not included). It should be noted too that the definition of "household waste" has changed for the purposes of this indicator, making year-on-year comparisons difficult. There still remain however very different methods of calculating the proportion of the municipal stream that is classified as "household waste", and that which is "non-household waste", which still affect the published figures.
- 8.8.3 The development of new recycling and composting facilities is a key objective of the draft North London Joint Waste Strategy, discussed in detail in Chapter 6. The recent construction of a bulky waste recycling facility and an in-vessel composting facility, both through LondonWaste Ltd at their Edmonton site, are the first steps in this direction.
- 8.8.4 The relative performance on BVPI 82c, the percentage of household waste used for heat or power generation, varies tremendously according to the availability of a suitable facility. The NLWA is contracted to LondonWaste Ltd, owners and operators of the Edmonton Solid Waste Incineration Plant, and consequently delivers a relatively high proportion of its waste to this facility. The same facility receives some of ELWA's waste, whilst Greater Manchester also has some access to a nearby facility. The variations on BVPI 82d, the percentage of household waste sent to landfill sites, are effectively a mirror image of this.
- 8.8.5 The amount of household waste collected per head of population varies considerably (the highest is 1.5 times greater than the lowest), indicating outstanding differences in the way in which each waste disposal authority has calculated the household element of the municipal waste stream to reflect local operational differences and historical precedents, as noted above.
- 8.8.6 Variations in the cost of disposing of municipal waste may also be a further reflection of the methods of identifying the "non-household" element of the municipal waste stream, and the consequent amounts charged to the Constituent Boroughs for their disposal. In North London, this is coming under close consideration as we assess how to allocate costs more fairly and how to jointly introduce new co-ordinated services and facilities through the NLJWS.
- 8.8.7 The table shows the North London Waste Authority as the second highest in terms of cost per tonne although at the time of publication no figure was available from the Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority which we expect to be higher than the NLWA rate.

9.0 UPDATE ON PAST REVIEWS OF SERVICES

- 9.1 Whilst the most significant work in the last three years has been on the development of the draft North London joint Waste Strategy (as detailed in Chapter 6), it remained important not to lose sight of the Authority's first two Best Value Reviews.
- 9.2 The conclusions of the Authority's first Best Value Review on the Transport and Disposal of Civic Amenity Waste (chosen due to the conclusion of the prevailing contract) are fully implemented now, with new contractual arrangements having been tendered and the contract started in September 2003. The second Best Value Review on the Arrangements for the Storage and Disposal of Abandoned Vehicles Combined with Disposal Arrangements for Dumped Tyres (chosen due to expected legislative change) was completed as far as possible until the precise nature of the legislative change became certain.

9.3 Transport and Disposal Arrangements for Civic Amenity Waste

- 9.3.1 The principal challenge to the way in which this service was being operated was to question whether the Authority should continue with a single contract for both the transport and disposal elements of the service, or whether these should be separated. The Review concluded to separate these services in order to obtain the most competitive prices possible for the transport element, and to place the disposal of these wastes within the Main Waste Disposal Contract.
- 9.3.2 Within the transport contract the opportunity was also taken to provide Constituent Boroughs with prices for the transportation of their recyclable wastes, taking advantage of a competitive tender across all seven Boroughs. The rates secured are good, and all five of the Constituent Boroughs with their own direct RRC's are now benefiting from the contract.
- 9.3.3 This contract was awarded to LondonWaste Ltd. As the contracting process pre-dated the Code of Practice on Workforce Matters in Local Authority Service Contracts (issued as Annex C to ODPM Circular 03/2003 to regulate the transfer of staff), it was not assessed against the requirements of the Code. The Code also applies at present only to principal local authorities but the Authority will follow the Code or tailored guidance for statutory joint waste disposal authorities when the Authority next has a qualifying contract to let.

9.4 Arrangements for the Storage and Disposal of Abandoned Motor Vehicles Combined with Disposal Arrangements for Tyres

9.4.1 Arrangements for the storage and disposal of abandoned motor vehicles have been fully delegated to the Boroughs, whereas the collection and disposal of fly-tipped tyres remains an issue for both the Boroughs and the Authority. New European legislation is changing these existing relationships however. This legislation was consulted on with the Authority's prospective service users, the Boroughs, and it formed the basis of this Review, rather than an assessment of existing arrangements that was expected to have to change.

9.4.2 The principal consideration within this Review was therefore the End of Life Vehicle Directive, which set targets for re-use, recycling and recovery, and introduced treatment standards.

9.4.3 The targets are:

- to increase re-use and recovery to 85% and recycling to a minimum of 80% by 1st January 2006
- to increase re-use and recovery to 95% and recycling to a minimum of 85% by 1st January 2015

9.4.4 The Directive also requires:

- manufacturers to design vehicles with recyclability and re-use in mind
- systems to be established to ensure that all vehicles are collected and transferred to an authorised treatment facility, for "de-pollution" (i.e. the full and proper removal of all potential pollutants).

9.4.5 Because the UK Government has not yet made any decisions of how responsibility for achieving these recycling targets is to be divided up, and who is going to be financially liable for which parts of the process (local authorities, vehicle manufacturers and importers or the whole motor industry at large), and because the magnitude of change may be so tremendous, it has still not been possible to bring this Review to a meaningful conclusion yet, although it does appear fairly certain that local authorities will carry much of the burden until 2007.

9.4.6 Also of major importance to abandoned vehicles and tyre disposal is the Landfill Directive which banned the landfilling of whole tyres during 2003 and shredded tyres during 2006 and banned the co-disposal of hazardous and non-hazardous wastes such as car battery acids in 2004.

- 9.4.7 The Review initially included a more detailed summary of the End of Life Vehicle Directive, an appraisal of best practice elsewhere, alternative disposal points for tyres (fuel for cement kilns, raw material for athletic tracks, carpet underlay, rubberised asphalt road surfaces, etc) and consideration of whether or not sufficient abandoned cars and tyres were arising within the Authority area in order to provide the feedstock for a new Authorised Treatment Facility as envisaged in the ELV Directive.
- 9.4.8 The last issue was, however, already overcome in 2003 by the installation of equipment to “de-pollute” unwanted and abandoned vehicles by a contractor who was already serving four of the Authority’s Constituent Borough’s.
- 9.4.9 On the assumption that the legislative framework in the UK for End of Life Vehicle’s would be finalised in 2004-05, this Best Value Review was expected to be fully completed in 2004-05. This is now expected in 2005-06. Market testing for tyre disposal is in any case planned for 2005-06.
- 9.4.10 The Authority has co-dependency with its Constituent Boroughs. Borough services, collection of municipal wastes and the provision of re-use and Recycling Centres, are directly reliant upon the efficient manner in which the Authority exercises its primary function of disposing of waste. The Authority recycling rate is dependent on the recycling activities in the Boroughs. Therefore, any future Reviews will involve substantial consultation phases with Constituent Boroughs as well as other stakeholders and interest groups.
- 9.4.11 Additionally there have been and will be external factors, which the Authority cannot entirely control that have impacted or may impact on the Authority’s services. These include:
- The disruption to the Edmonton Energy from Waste facility whilst works are undertaken (with boilers shut down for potentially long periods of time) to comply with the Waste Incineration Directive.
 - The re-location of the Ashburton Grove road transfer station as part of the Arsenal FC stadium proposals.
 - The re-location of the Rail Transfer Station at Hendon as part of a major redevelopment of the Cricklewood area.
 - The provision and operation of civic amenity sites.
 - New statutory performance standards for recycling and composting and Constituent Borough LPSAs.
 - The way in which the Government enacts European Legislative requirements such as the Landfill Directive, the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Directive and the End of Life Vehicle Directive.
 - The Mayor of London’s future review of his strategy for all waste in the Capital, and his plans for a single London-wide waste disposal authority.
 - Possible changes to the way in which the Authority assesses the amount of non-household waste in the mixed municipal waste stream.

- Possible changes to the way in which the Authority charges the Boroughs for the disposal of household waste, from a levy based on the number of Council Tax band D properties to, for example, a levy based on the actual tonnage the Boroughs deliver. This may also affect the way the Authority calculates recycling credits.

Where the dates of these external factors are known, they will be linked into future Best Value Reviews.

9.4.12 In February 2002, Statutory Instrument No. 2002/305 revoked the requirement for the Authority to review all its functions in a five-year cycle. This change allowed the Authority to cease the piecemeal reviews of its various waste services and instead to focus attention on the development of the North London Joint Waste Strategy. Developing the strategy has already covered the “Five C’s” of Best Value identified in Chapter 3 of this document and has particularly involved critical appraisal of the most appropriate roles for the Authority and the Constituent Boroughs, making comparisons in the U.K. and beyond, introducing competition wherever appropriate and affordable, employing and co-ordinating the resources of the Authority and the Boroughs and consulting with stakeholders throughout. This continues as we move into implementation.

9.4.13 Opportunities for improved value for money will be kept under review, but it has to be recognised that there is now only one local service provider, LondonWaste Ltd (LWL), and that the wastes are contracted to LWL in any case under the Main Waste Disposal Contract until December 2014. The Authority’s principal focus now must be on working within and gaining benefit from the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme in the short term. In the medium to long term it is delivering new waste recycling, composting and recovery infrastructure to support the NLJWS. This must all be done in consultation with stakeholders and using the full rigour of the Best Value regime.

10.0 RESOURCES

- 10.1 The first Best Value Reviews were written with assistance from the Improvement and Development Agency, but significant Authority officer time was expended on this, and some Borough officers' time, too.
- 10.2 The Best Value approach of the North London Joint Waste Strategy (NLJWS) in 2004-05 was resourced mostly by officers of the Authority and the Constituent Borough's but with specific external resources for the BPEO assessment. The Authority funded the development of the NLJWS and continues to coordinate its implementation. As noted previously, the NLJWS will require application of the "Five C's" (Compare, Compete, Challenge, Consult and Co-operate) in reviewing the services, monitoring the Authority's progress in achieving the Best Value Performance Indicator targets and the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme with regular reports back to the Authority.
- 10.3 The use of a mixture of external, Borough and Authority expertise is intended to give an independent approach to the process and critical analysis of the findings. Consultants have already assisted, for example, with a review of technologies for central facilities to sort mixed recyclable wastes (which will allow reduced collection costs) and for composting garden and kitchen wastes, with the stakeholder dialogue, with a local waste composition assessment and with modelling the 'best practicable environmental option' for North London within the NLJWS. Others will be needed for items such as technical reviews of further waste handling and treatment technologies and other discrete tasks within the implementation of the NLJWS to ensure the process and the outcomes are in accordance with the Authority's commitment to Best Value.

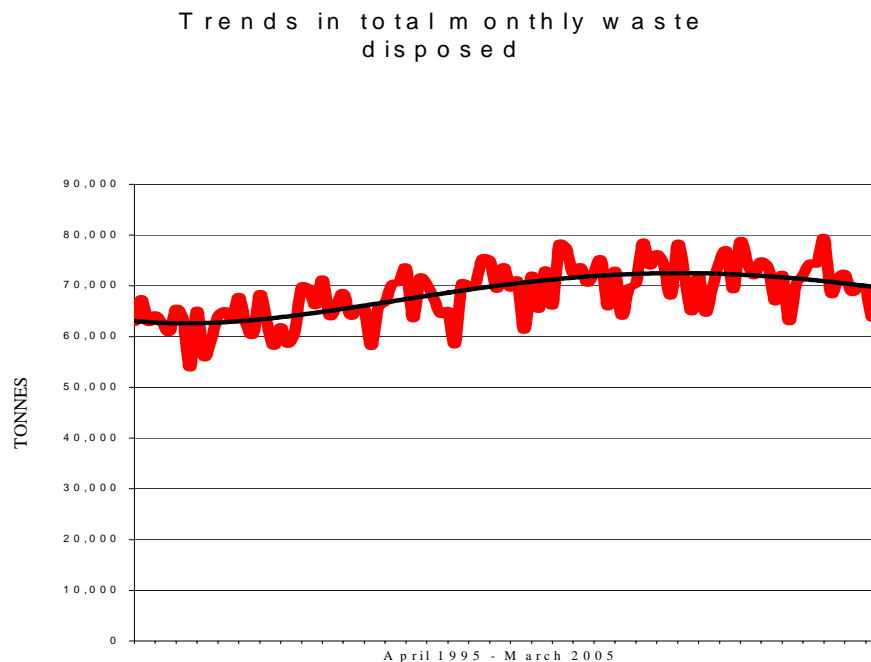
11.0 EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS

- 11.1 The commencement of the new contract for the transport of civic amenity wastes brought improvements to this service in as efficient a manner as possible, and provides stability and opportunity for at least five years. Arranging for the disposal of this waste stream through the Main Waste Disposal Contract at the originally tendered price per tonne (plus inflation) ensured value for money for eleven years (until the end of that contract).
- 11.2 The still nearly complete Best Value Review on abandoned vehicles appears now most unlikely to give a whole new area of work to the Authority that is currently undertaken by the Boroughs. Efficiency improvements in this case are likely therefore to remain a matter for the Constituent Boroughs.
- 11.3 In all other areas the Authority is looking very closely at how it can most efficiently achieve its own statutory recycling and composting performance standards, and assist the Constituent Boroughs achieve theirs in a joined-up way. Beyond that, the Authority has been looking closely at the Landfill Directive, the Waste & Emissions Trading Act and the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme, the Gershon requirements and other forthcoming proposals with the same goal of efficiency and best value.
- 11.4 In all cases the Authority will:
- Clearly identify the end objectives of change to all users;
 - Monitor and control the process of change;
 - Ensure all resources and pre-requisites are in place;
 - Recognise all external dependencies;
 - Ensure that quality standards are maintained; and
 - Identify any risks involved.
- 11.5 An indication of the Authority's performance can be judged by the benchmarking of service BVPIs of all statutory Waste Disposal Authorities. The results can be seen in Appendix 1, Table 3 at the end of this Plan.

12.0 WASTE TRENDS

12.1 Total Waste Disposed

12.2 In order to evaluate future waste trends the Authority has analysed 9 years of historical data. During this period the total tonnage disposed of by the Authority increased from 744,178 tonnes (1995-96) to 867,336 tonnes (2002-03), an increase of 16.5% (123,158 tonnes) that is equivalent to just under 2% growth per annum in residual waste presented by the Constituent Boroughs to the Authority for disposal. However, since then there has been a decrease in the residual waste stream to the current figure of 826,002 tonnes (2004-05), but this must be looked upon in the context of greatly increased recycling and composting by the Constituent boroughs, which is expected to show a continuing overall increase in the size of the waste stream. Through the monthly variations in Graph 3 a trend line has been plotted to show more clearly the year on year changes in total waste presented for disposal.

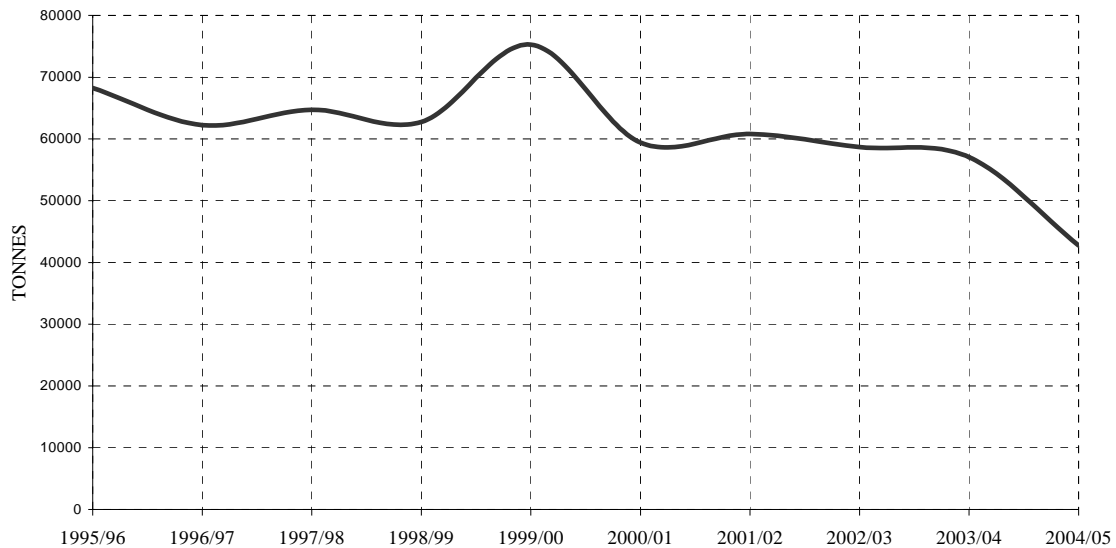


12.3 The Government's *Waste Strategy 2000* indicates an annual growth rate of 3 percent. Through the development of the draft NLJWS a local projection has been agreed, specific to the Authority's area, of 3% until 2010, reducing to 2.5% thereafter.

12.4 Re-use and Recycling Centre (Civic Amenity) Waste

- 12.5 The tonnage from Re-use and Recycling Centres (RRCs) is included within the total waste arising shown in the previous section. RRC waste is household waste that is delivered by residents to designated sites within the Constituent Boroughs. From 1995-96 to 1998-99 the tonnage from these sites reduced due to the closure of the old Summers Lane (Barnet) and Auckland Road (Waltham Forest), and the introduction of permits to discharge, for all vans.
- 12.6 The decrease from 1999-00 to 2000-01 is largely due to the closure of both Enfield sites for capital improvement works and subsequent restrictions imposed by Enfield on opening times and access by non-residents.
- 12.7 The 2002-03 year was the first full year in which Barnet provided just its new Summers Lane CA site (having closed its Brent Terrace CA site during December 2001), which was designed and is being operated to achieve much higher recycling rates.
- 12.8 In 2003-04 RRC waste diminished for a variety of reasons, but principally the temporary closures of RRCs whilst they were being refurbished and improved with monies from the London Recycling Fund and, to a much lesser extent, the furniture re-use scheme partly funded by the Authority diverted some residual waste in 2003-04 too.
- 12.9 The single greatest factor in the further downward trend in 2004-05 was the reorganisation of the South Access Road CA site with a combination of much higher recycling rates and more rigorous access restrictions. Residual waste tonnages from the new Hornsey Street RRC were lower than arose at the former Ashburton Grove RRC as the new facility was designed for greater levels of recycling and composting.
- 12.10 In overall terms, however, it appears that the residual waste stream from RRCs has fallen after staying relatively static for previous years.

TRENDS IN RE-USE AND RECYCLING CENTRE WASTE (1995 - 2005)



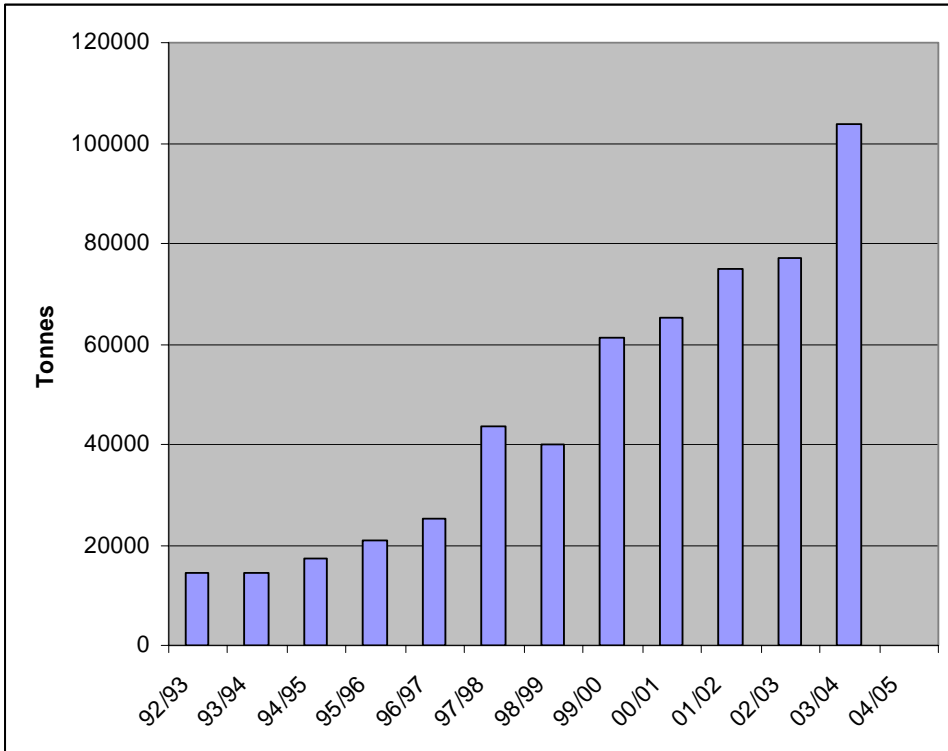
12.11 The Authority does not provide or operate RRCs. Future changes in the tonnage levels can and will occur due to operational changes made by Constituent Boroughs. Notably, new RRC's are planned within Haringey and Waltham Forest during 2005-06.

12.12 Recycling Waste

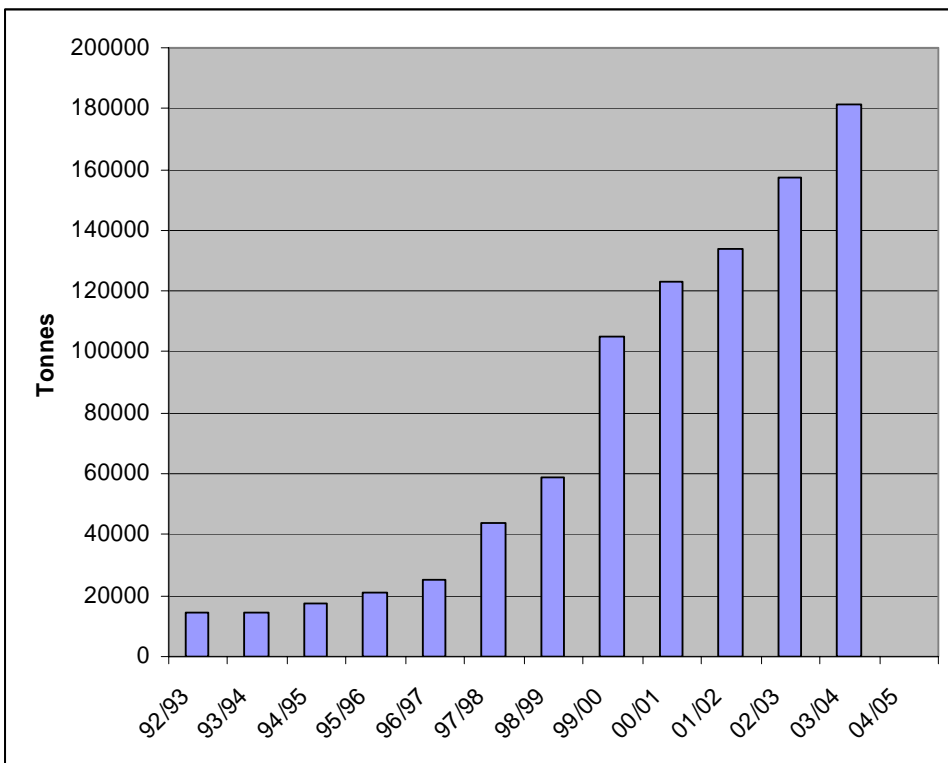
12.13 The total amount of waste recycled and composted by the Authority and the Boroughs has increased more than 9 times from 1992-93 (14,584 tonnes) to 2004-05 (141,983 tonnes). This means that the Authority has exceeded its performance standard of recycling or composting 14% of its household waste (excluding residues from energy recovery) in 2003-04 by achieving a rate of 18.28% in 2004-05. This figure rises to 23.38% when construction waste, ash and ash metal recycling are included.

12.14 Recycling across the Authority-area has increased rapidly in recent years. This has been mainly due to the Constituent Boroughs introducing and expanding kerbside recycling schemes, and to improvements in the design and operation of Re-use and Recycling Centres. More recently, green waste collection services have been introduced by some Boroughs.

12.15 The first graph below shows the amount of waste recycled and composted by the Authority and the Constituent Boroughs over the past 10 years excluding ash and ash-metal recycling.



12.16 The second graph shows the amount of waste recycled and composted by the Authority and the Constituent Boroughs over the past 10 years including ash and ash-metal recycling.



- 12.17 As noted previously, the Authority helped to co-ordinate successful bids to the London Recycling Fund to the value of over £4m in 2003-04 and over £4m again across 2004-05 and 2005-06. The earlier part was mostly for improved recycling on housing estates, but also for improved re-use and recycling centres, new or improved green waste collections, furniture re-use from re-use and recycling centres and community recycling development support; the latter part is for organic waste minimisation, collection and actual composting in North London, and the building of further effective partnerships with the community sector.
- 12.18 The Authority's recent contract for the transportation of re-use and recycling centre waste was also written to assist the Constituent Boroughs with their recycling operations at these sites, and is achieving this objective.

13.0 CONSULTATION

- 13.1 The Authority places its draft Best Value Performance Plan in the public domain in April each year by publishing it with the Authority agenda and placing it on the Authority web-site. This is principally an opportunity for the Constituent Boroughs to engage in reality.
- 13.2 Once the draft is approved, a press release is sent out to relevant newspapers to encourage wider input.
- 13.3 The North London Recycling Forum is also informed, so that a broad range of relevant and interested stakeholders can express views.
- 13.4 The draft BVPP is also sent to neighbouring waste disposal authorities and the London Mayor.

14.0 PUBLISHING

- 14.1 The Best Value Performance Plan is published annually. Copies are placed in Constituent Boroughs' public buildings. Service users can obtain a copy of the Plan by contacting the Authority directly via letter, telephone, fax or e-mail. A notice will be issued to local newspapers, outlining these methods of obtaining the plan.
- 14.2 The Authority has developed its own web site on the Internet, where all the Authority's public reports are now published. The address of the web site is:

www.nlwa.gov.uk

If you would like to comment on the Best Value Performance Plan or any aspect of the Authority's functions then please write to:

**North London Waste Authority,
Camden Town Hall,
Judd Street,
London,
WC1H 9JE**