

2. Role and Operation of the Authority

2.1. North London Waste Authority (NLWA) (the Authority) is the statutory joint waste disposal authority for north London and as such is responsible for the disposal of waste collected by seven north London boroughs (the constituent boroughs):

- **The London Borough of Barnet (LB Barnet)**
- **The London Borough of Camden (LB Camden)**
- **The London Borough of Enfield (LB Enfield)**
- **The London Borough of Hackney (LB Hackney)**
- **The London Borough of Haringey (LB Haringey)**
- **The London Borough of Islington (LB Islington)**
- **The London Borough of Waltham Forest (LB Waltham Forest)**

2.2. NLWA also arranges for the recycling and composting of waste collected by six of the seven constituent boroughs and for the provision of reuse and recycling centres (RRCs).

2.3. In addition to the operational functions for managing waste, NLWA also works jointly with the north London boroughs to deliver public-facing behaviour change programmes to encourage waste prevention and recycling.

2.4. The Authority is the owner of LondonEnergy Ltd (LEL), which operates an energy from waste (EfW) facility and other waste facilities at the Edmonton EcoPark in Enfield. LEL also operates transfer stations in Hornsey Street, Islington and Brent Terrace, Barnet. NLWA has a waste services contract with LEL as well as contracts with other companies for the treatment of mixed dry recyclable materials, waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE), and tyre recycling and disposal.

2.5. The Authority has a membership of 14 councillors, with each constituent borough appointing two councillors. Meetings are normally held five times a year, with provision for extraordinary meetings as required.

2.6. At the June 2017 Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Authority, Councillor Clyde Loakes (LB Waltham Forest) was appointed as Chair of the Authority, and Councillors Feryal Demirci (LB Hackney) and Dean Cohen (LB Barnet) as Vice Chairs.

2.7. The Authority is funded in the main by a levy it places on its constituent boroughs for waste services and specific charges for the management of some types of waste.

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2.8. NLWA does not employ any staff directly, but make cross-borough arrangements for support services, involving LB Camden, LB Enfield and LB Haringey. The principal officer support and managers in post as at 31 March 2018 are set out below:

Clerk – Mike Cooke (part-time NLWA)

Financial Adviser – Mike O'Donnell (part-time NLWA)

Legal Adviser – Andrew Maughan (part-time NLWA)

Environment Adviser – Ian Davis (resigned)*

Managing Director and Deputy Clerk – Martin Capstick**

Head of Operations – Andrew Lappage***

Head of Legal and Governance – Ursula Taylor

Head of Finance – Paul Gulliford

* The post is currently vacant as Ian Davis resigned during the 2017-18 year.

** Until 6 December 2017 the duties of the Managing Director and Deputy Clerk were split between the Head of Operations and Head of Legal and Governance.

*** The post became vacant on 7 May 2018 when Andrew Lappage resigned from the Authority. The role's title is being revised to Head of Strategy and Services.

2.9. Structure charts for the officer teams are attached as Annex 1.

North London Joint Waste Strategy

2.10. The Authority and the seven constituent boroughs have agreed a joint waste strategy for 2004 to 2020, which sets out the eight partners' targets, aspirations and approach to managing waste in the area for the period. All the targets in the 'North London Joint Waste Strategy' (the Strategy) have been achieved with the exception of the recycling target. It seems increasingly unlikely that the partners will not reach the Strategy target of 50% recycling by 2020 despite considerable progress since 2004. NLWA reports annually on progress with delivering the Strategy on behalf of the eight partners.

2.11. During 2017-18 NLWA produced the ninth 'Annual Monitoring Report' (AMR) of progress made with implementing the Strategy and an accompanying Strategic Environmental Assessment; the AMR presented data up to 2016-17. A copy of the AMR is available at: <http://www.nlwa.gov.uk/governance/annual-monitoring-reports>.

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2.12. Key targets in the Strategy include:

- to achieve a 35% recycling and composting rate for household waste by 2010, 45% by 2015, and 50% by 2020;
- to reduce the amount of municipal waste sent to landfill to 15% of overall municipal waste;
- to provide door to door recycling services to 95% of relevant households;
- to provide all residents in multiple occupancy housing (flats) with either door-to-door collection services or a minimum of one 'near-entry' recycling site for every 500 households as soon as possible; and
- to achieve 60% recycling and composting diversion rates at all north London reuse and recycling centres by 2015.

As noted above, all but one of the above targets - the recycling and composting target - have now been achieved.

2.13. The Authority also produces an Annual Report for the AGM in June each year, including details of waste management performance in the previous year. The preliminary data upon which this performance is based is subsequently adjusted as the numbers are finalised with the constituent boroughs for reporting to the national WasteDataFlow system by 30 June each year. The numbers are then validated by WasteDataFlow and subsequently reviewed by the Department for Food, Environment and Rural Affairs (Defra).

2.14. Current data and reports from the constituent boroughs indicate that the provisional performance in 2017-18, with 2016-17 for comparison in brackets, was as follows:

- 588kg (593kg) residual waste for every household was collected;
- 32% (32%) of household waste was reused, recycled or composted;
- 11% (8%) of municipal waste was sent to landfill; and
- 100% (100%) of residents continued to receive a door-to-door or communal recycling service.

2.15. The partners' current performance remains below the recycling and composting target contained within the Strategy; however, work continues amongst the partners to address this shortfall. Longer than expected outages at the Edmonton EfW plant resulted in more local authority collected waste being sent to landfill in 2017-18 however, the amounts sent were still below the Strategy target of 15%.

2.16. The following sections of this report provide further details about NLWA's work to encourage more waste prevention through behaviour change and communication activities, and the operational aspects of managing waste including progress with developing replacement and new facilities for future waste management. The report also details the financial and governance arrangements of the Authority in the past year.