

# 3. North London Joint Waste Strategy

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- 3.1** The Authority and the seven constituent boroughs 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 that period. All the targets in the North London Joint Waste Strategy (the Strategy) have been achieved, except for the recycling target. While the Authority and constituent boroughs take positive action to promote recycling, recycling performance has remained in line with broader London trends, with average London recycling rates (as a percentage) remaining in the low 30s. The partners did not reach the Strategy target of 50% recycling by 2020 despite considerable progress since 2004.
- 3.2** The Authority reports annually on progress with delivering the Strategy on behalf of the eight partners in the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR). The publication of the last AMR was delayed but the twelfth AMR will be published in 2021. The AMR will present data up to 2020-21 and brings the AMR series of reports to a close. A copy of the AMR is available at [nlwa.gov.uk/ourauthority/our-reports](http://nlwa.gov.uk/ourauthority/our-reports)
- 3.3** Key targets in the Strategy include (with achievements in 2019-20 in brackets):
- 3.3.1** to achieve a 35% recycling and composting rate for household waste by 2010, 45% by 2015, and 50% by 2020 (28%);
  - 3.3.2** to reduce the amount of local authority-collected waste sent to landfill to 15% of overall local authority-collected waste (5%);
  - 3.3.3** to provide door to door recycling services to 95% of relevant households (100%);
  - 3.3.4** 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 (100%); and
  - 3.3.5** to achieve 60% recycling and composting diversion rates at all north London reuse and recycling centres by 2015 (73%).



**3.4** As noted above, all but one of the above targets - the recycling and composting target - have now been achieved. The strategic approach to managing residual waste beyond 2020 has also been set through the application for and grant of a Development Consent Order for the development of the Edmonton EcoPark in Enfield with a new replacement Energy Recovery Facility. This new facility will have the ability to generate 78MWe of energy from unrecyclable, residual waste. The development of the replacement facility incorporates assumptions which require ongoing activity to increase recycling and to reduce the amount of waste disposed. More details about the Authority's work to increase recycling and reduce waste are set out in further sections of this report.

**3.5** At the AGM, which usually takes place in June each year, the Authority provides details of waste management performance in the previous year (as contained in this report). The preliminary data upon which this performance is based is subsequently adjusted once 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 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra).

**3.6** For this financial year the performance in 2020-21, with 2019-20 for comparison in brackets, was as follows:

**3.6.1** 592 kg (579.3) residual waste for every household was collected;

**3.6.2** 28.4% (28.9%) of household waste was reused, recycled or composted;

**3.6.3** 4.5% (5%) of municipal waste was sent to landfill; and

**3.6.4** 100% (100%) of residents continued to receive a door-to-door or communal recycling service.

**3.7** As noted above, the eight partners' current performance remains below the recycling and composting target contained within the Strategy. However, work continues amongst the partners to address the current recycling rate. National government action in the form of proposed changes to introduce a deposit return scheme for drinks containers, reform packaging regulations, require consistency of recycling collections as well as introduce a tax on plastic packaging will all have a positive impact in the forthcoming years.

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

