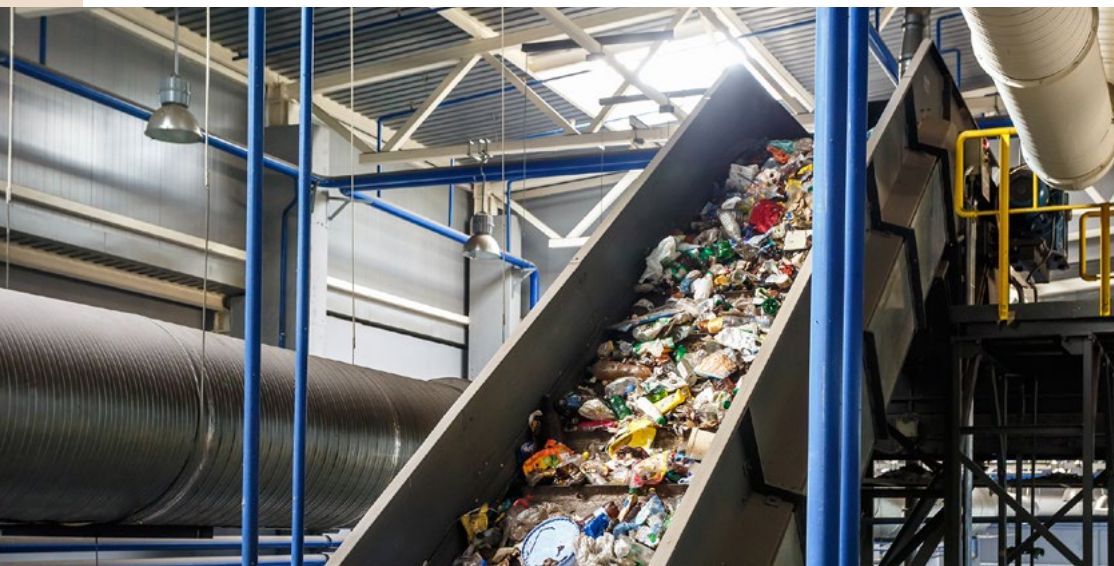


2. Role and Operation of the Authority

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 The Authority 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, the Authority 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, 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. A Programme Committee was established in 2018-19 to oversee progress with the North London Heat and Power Project (NLHPP). The Programme Committee meets in between Authority meetings five times per year.

2.6 At the June 2019 Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Authority, Cllr Clyde Loakes (LB Waltham Forest) was appointed as Chair of the Authority, and Cllrs Dean Cohen (LB Barnet) and Rebecca Rennison (LB Hackney) as Vice Chairs.

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

2.8 The Authority does not employ any staff directly, but makes 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 2020 are set out below:

Clerk – Jenny Rowlands (part-time NLWA)
Financial Adviser – Jon Rowney (part-time NLWA)
Legal Adviser – Andrew Maughan (part-time NLWA)
Managing Director and Deputy Clerk – Martin Capstick
Programme Director, North London Heat and Power Project – David Cullen
Head of Strategy and Services – Andrew O'Connor
Head of Legal and Governance – Ursula Taylor
Head of Finance – Paul Gulliford
Commercial Lead – Robert Sedgman

Structure charts for the officer teams are on p55 and p56.

North London Joint Waste Strategy

2.9 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 with the exception of 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 will not reach the Strategy target of 50% recycling by 2020 despite considerable progress since 2004.

2.10 The Authority reports annually on progress with delivering the Strategy on behalf of the eight partners in the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR). During 2019-20 the Authority produced the eleventh AMR. The AMR presented data up to 2018-19. A copy of the AMR is available at nlwa.gov.uk/ourauthority/our-reports

2.11 Key targets in the Strategy include (with achievements in 2019-20 in brackets):

- to achieve a 35% recycling and composting rate for household waste by 2010, 45% by 2015, and 50% by 2020 (28%);
- to reduce the amount of local authority-collected waste sent to landfill to 15% of overall local authority-collected waste (5%);
- to provide door to door recycling services to 95% of relevant households (100%);
- 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
- to achieve 60% recycling and composting diversion rates at all north London reuse and recycling centres by 2015 (73%).

2.12 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 manage waste to produce 78MWe of energy. The development of the replacement facility incorporates assumptions which require ongoing activity to increase recycling and to reduce the waste arisings in the area. Details of the Authority's work to increase recycling and reduce waste arisings are set out elsewhere in this report.

2.13 At the Annual General Meeting (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).

2.14 In line with many other local authorities, the Authority's AGM is being held later than usual as a result of coronavirus. For this financial year the later date of the 2020 AGM in September means that performance information for 2019-20 has already been validated. The performance in 2019-20, with 2018-19 for comparison in brackets, was as follows:

- 579.3 kg (583kg) residual waste for every household was collected;
- 28.9% (29.9%) of household waste was reused, recycled or composted;
- 5% (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 following sections of this report provide further details about the Authority's work to encourage more waste prevention and recycling through behaviour change and communication activities, and the operational aspects of managing waste. The report also details progress with developing replacement and new facilities for future waste management as well as the financial and governance arrangements of the Authority in the past year.