Derry City & Strabane District Council

Comhairle Chathair Dhoire & Cheantar an tSratha Báin

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DERRY CITY & STRABANE DISTRICT COUNCIL

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (LDP) 2032

DRAFT PLAN STRATEGY

Evidence Base EVB 20: Waste Planning – December 2019

Updated December 2021

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DERRY CITY AND STRABANE DISTRICT COUNCIL

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (LDP) 2032

EVIDENCE BASE PAPER EVB 20

Waste Planning

Updated December 2021

This Document is one in a series which comprises the evidence base that informs the preparation of the Derry City and Strabane District Local Development Plan (LDP 2032) Plan Strategy.

It builds upon the suite of thematic Topic Papers prepared and published alongside the LDP Preferred Options Paper (POP), which established the May 2017 baseline position and identified the key issues that needed to be addressed by the LDP.

This Waste Planning Evidence Base paper updates the baseline POP position and sets out the evidence base that has informed the strategy, designations and policies within the draft LDP Plan Strategy. Evidence has been informed by feedback from public consultation, discussions with Elected Members, input from statutory consultees, stakeholder groups, from other Departments within the Council, liaison with adjoining Councils and through the iterative Sustainability Appraisal process.
The Evidence Base is published as a 'supporting document' in accordance with Regulation 15(a) of the Planning (LDP) Regulations (NI) 2015.

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Appendix 1 Glossary of Terms

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1.0 Introduction to Paper

1.1 The information presented in this paper assists the Council in developing an informed and innovative approach to setting clearly defined aims and objectives in relation to Waste Management in the District, as well as considering the implications for other developments in the vicinity of such a land use.

1.2 This paper provides the evidence base information to assist the Council in considering how the LDP can facilitate development while considering waste management over the plan period. This enables the Council to begin to:

- make informed planning decisions, particularly within the plan making context;
- consider baseline information which informs planning policy making at local level; and
- understand the link between national policy, regional policy and the development of other strategies such as the Inclusive Strategic Growth Plan 2017 – 2032 (SGP).

1.3 This paper covers waste collection, treatment and disposal (including Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTW) and associated environmental impacts and provides an assessment of how existing planning policies take account of the Regional Development Strategy (RDS), the Strategic Planning Policy Statement (SPPS), the Sustainability Appraisal themes and DCSDC objectives through the LDP objectives.

2.0 Legislative and Policy Context

2.1 In preparing the new LDP, the Council will have regard to several existing plans and documents which set out the main legal and policy contexts and considerations of what the LDP is required to do and can include, in relation to Waste Management in the District.

The Regional Development Strategy 2035 (RDS, launched 2012)

2.2 Regional Development Strategy 2035 *(RDS)*: Waste management is covered under **RG10: Manage our waste sustainably:** Managing waste is a significant part of how we treat our environment. If waste is not managed safely then it can become a serious threat to public health, and cause damage to the environment as well as being a local nuisance. RG10 can be achieved by applying the *Waste Hierarchy* and *Proximity Principles* which are embodied in the **EU *Waste Framework Directive*** and provides a 5-step waste hierarchy which is widely used in other jurisdictions.

2.3 The 5-step waste management hierarchy, laid down in Article 5 of the Waste Framework Directive, is a core principle of the Northern Ireland Waste Management Strategy and is also referenced in the RDS 2035. This waste hierarchy aims to encourage the management of waste materials in order to reduce the amount of waste materials produced, and to recover maximum value from the wastes that are produced. Waste disposal should only be used when no option further up the hierarchy is possible. The application of the 'Proximity Principle' is also highlighted. The following diagram taken from Scottish Government's web page illustrates these key principles.

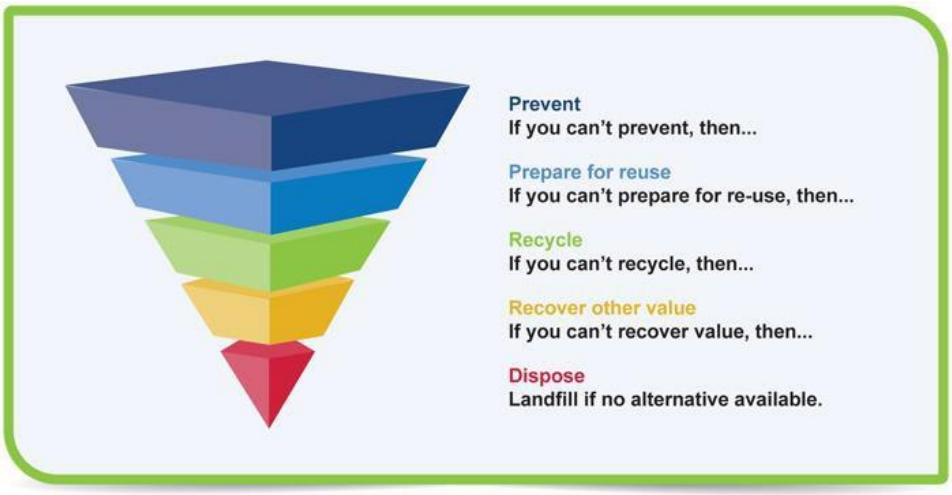


Figure 1: Waste Management Hierarchy

2.4 In addition, the **Proximity Principle** also emphasises the need to treat or dispose of waste as close as practicable to the point of generation to minimise the environmental impacts of waste transport.

2.5 The RDS is also intended to be sufficiently flexible to allow the private sector to bring forward innovative development proposals which are of significance to the whole or substantial part of Northern Ireland and create employment, wealth and important assets for the Region.

2.6 The RDS also states under its aims that everyone should contribute to reducing the Region's carbon footprint. Policy ***RG 9: Reduce our carbon footprint and facilitate mitigation and adaptation to climate change whilst improving air quality*** states that consideration needs to be given on how to reduce energy consumption and the move to more sustainable methods of energy production. For example, the use of fossil fuels and greenhouse gas emissions can be reduced by recycling waste and recovering energy from it.

2.7 Meeting the targets through the diversion of waste from landfill to other treatment methods will require the development of significant new waste management infrastructure. This is a challenging, costly and time consuming process which will require a substantial programme of investment if the aims set out in Strand 3 of the NI Waste Management Strategy 2006-2020, are to be achieved.

2.8 Central Government is working closely with local government in the development of new waste facilities to ensure that Northern Ireland's long term needs for all waste streams are met. These will be developed at a limited number of key sites, convenient to the major centres of waste production. Research suggests that to meet the Landfill Directive targets, Northern Ireland will require a combination of up to seven Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT) and three Energy from Waste plants. This includes both incineration and gasification plants, to deal with the residue from the MBT process.

2.9 Tackling waste management and increasing the use of renewable energy sources will help address climate change targets. The Executive's *Sustainable Development Strategy*, recognises that concentrated efforts across all sectors will be needed to improve energy efficiency and reduce carbon emissions in order to address the challenges presented by climate change and the need for sustainable development.

Programme for Government (PfG) 2011-2015 and Draft PfG 2016-2021

2.10 The Northern Ireland Executive's Programme for Government 2011-2015 contains a specific commitment to achieve a household recycling or composting rate of 45% for Northern Ireland by 2014/15, under the objective *'Protecting our People, the Environment and Creating Safer Communities'.* It also aims to reduce the consumption of single use carrier bags by at least 80%. More recently, the published draft Programme for Government Framework (PfG) 2016-2021 highlights the importance diverting waste away from landfill and the importance of recycling which can contribute to the Circular Economy.

Strategic Planning Policy Statement 2015 (SPPS)

2.11 Sustainable waste management is essential for the health and well-being of society, and our quality of life. The waste management industry is an important provider of jobs and investment across the region, with the potential to support future business development, investment and employment.

2.12 The SPPS references the Northern Ireland Waste Management Strategy - '*Delivering Resource Efficiency'* (October 2013) – which emphasises that waste is a resource and an opportunity, rather than a burden. The strategy recognises that smarter use of scarce resources is both a strategic necessity and an economic opportunity. It reflects the EU Waste Framework Directive (WFD) target of recycling (including preparing for re-use) 50% of household waste by 2020, as well as the Executive's Programme for Government commitments. https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/delivering-resource-efficiency-northern-ireland-waste-management-strategy

2.13 The aim of the SPPS is to support wider government policy focused on the sustainable management of waste, and a move towards resource efficiency. It sets three strategic objectives for waste management:

- Promote development of waste management and recycling facilities in appropriate locations;
- Ensure that detrimental effects on people, the environment, and local amenity associated with waste management facilities (e.g. pollution) are avoided or minimised; and
- Secure appropriate restoration of proposed waste management sites for agreed after-uses.

2.14 Our local development plan should set out policies and proposals that support this aim and policy objectives, tailored to the local circumstances of the plan area. Our Council must assess the likely extent of future waste management facilities for the plan area. Specific sites for the development of waste management facilities may be identified in the Plan together with key site requirements.

2.15 In the case of a regional scale waste collection or treatment facility, its location should relate closely to and benefit from easy access to key transport corridors such as the A5 and A6 and where practicable make use of the alternative transport modes such as the Derry to Belfast rail link or River Foyle. Council's new plan should also identify the need for appropriate waste management facilities within new development.

2.16 The preparation of a LDP affords the opportunity to engage with relevant government departments and agencies responsible for various aspects of waste management, fostering a necessary joined up approach. This approach should also be extended to neighbouring councils where appropriate.

2.17 The Northern Ireland Strategic approach is set not only within the context of Northern Ireland policy and legislation, but also takes into consideration the wider context of relevant **EU Environmental Directives** and the *current 'direction of travel'* of EU policy toward life cycle thinking and a resource efficient Europe. The EU provides strong direction to Member States on waste issues and much of the UK and NI waste policy and guidance is based on EU legislation. As part of the UK, Northern Ireland must comply with the EU's waste management policy as laid down in the Framework Directive and associated legislation. The EU Waste Framework Directive was established in 1975 and provides a legal framework for all EU waste regulation. It has been updated repeatedly in response to changes in the waste burden and waste management tools. The **revised EU Waste Framework Directive (2008/98/EC)** (The revised *WFD) seeks to position the EU as a 'recycling society', with broad aims 'to avoid waste generation and to use waste'.* Decoupling economic growth from the environmental impacts associated with waste generation is a key objective of the revised WFD. Stabilising waste generation is no longer considered enough and this needs to be reversed. The '*Roadmap to a Resource Efficient Europe'* which was published by the European Commission in September 2011 defines medium to long-term objectives and the means for achieving them.

2.18 A key milestone is not just to manage waste but to recognise it as a resource and thereby create a **'Circular Economy'** with residual waste reduced as far as is possible. An integral part of this concept is greater focus on waste prevention followed by increased recycling. The requirements of the WFD have been transposed into NI legislation through the Waste Regulations (NI) 2011.

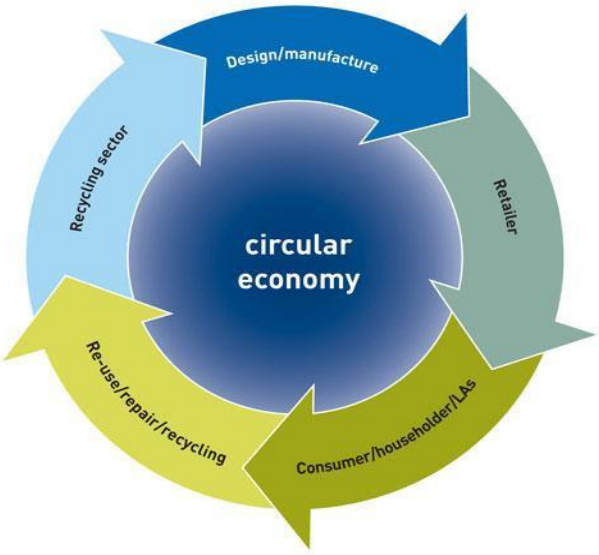


Figure 2: Circular Economy (Resource Magazine)

2.19 **Planning Policy Statement: *PPS 11: Planning and Waste Management* –**

Planning applications for waste collection and treatment facilities are considered against the policies contained in PPS 11. Proposals for the development of any waste management facility will be considered against Policy WM1 and will be subject to a thorough examination of the environmental effects and will only be permitted where it can be demonstrated that it meets an extensive criteria such as not causing harm to human health or unacceptable adverse impacts to the environment.

During plan preparation, Council waste management groups may wish to discuss the likely extent of future waste management facilities for the plan area. Sites for the development of waste management facilities may be identified together with the need for appropriate waste management facilities associated with new development. Development plans will also consider the potential impact of existing or approved waste management facilities when zoning adjoining lands for other forms of development and the need to separate incompatible land uses. The COMAH Directive (EU Directive 96/82/EC) requires development plans to consider the location of hazardous installations including the need to maintain an appropriate distance between establishments where hazardous substances are present and residential areas, areas of public use or areas of nature conservation interest.

2.20 The most recent version of the **Northern Ireland Waste Management Strategy (NIWMS)** entitled *'Delivering Resource Efficiency'* was published in October 2013. During 2011, the DOE carried out a scoping exercise and it was agreed that the original 2006 version should be revised to cover all EU Directive requirements and provide a coherent approach to the waste policy framework for Northern Ireland. While it builds on and retains the core principles of the 2006 Waste Management Strategy, it places a renewed emphasis on the Waste Hierarchy. The new Strategy moves the emphasis of waste management in Northern Ireland from resource management, with landfill diversion as the key driver, to resource efficiency i.e. using resources in the most effective way while minimising the impact of their use on the environment.

2.21 It also emphasises that waste as a resource can provide an opportunity, rather than be perceived as a burden. The strategy recognises that smarter use of scarce resources is both a strategic necessity and an economic opportunity. It sets out the EU Waste Framework Directive (WFD) target of recycling (including preparing for re-use) 50% of household waste by 2020, as well as the Executive's Programme for Government commitments.

2021 Update: The DOE Environmental Policy Division prepared the first Waste Prevention Programme for Northern Ireland – 'The Road to Zero Waste' by December 2013; this was required by Article 29 of the Waste Framework Directive [2008/98/EC], see https://crni.ie/content/uploads/2019/11/waste-prevention-programme-NI-road-zero-waste-2014.pdf DAERA has been

building on the first programme, having done a consultation, which closed in March 2020, on a new 'Waste Prevention Programme for Northern Ireland 2019', aimed at maintaining a downward trend in waste arisings, which in turn will have a significant impact on meeting EU landfill diversion targets. The programme is also aimed at supporting and promoting resource efficiency and the sustainable use of resources in Northern Ireland, whilst ensuring a shift towards a more circular economy; see https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/consultations/waste-prevention-programme-northern-ireland-2019#:~:text=This%20programme%20then%2C%20aims%20to,impacts%20associated%20with%20waste%20generation.

Until the Northern Ireland Waste Management Strategy (NIWMS) *'Delivering Resource Efficiency'* is superseded, it is still the key document that is referenced in the SPPS and in the LDP policies.

2.22 Northwest Region Waste Management Group (NWRWMG) has prepared a Waste Management Plan (WMP) aimed at improving waste management practices through a regional approach to economies of scale and resource-sharing. The North West Region Partnership's **'Review of the Waste Management Plan 2006-2020** sets out arrangements for waste management and covers the period from 2012 to 2020. One of the main objectives of this plan is to promote recycling/recovery and reduce the reliance on landfill sites as the primary means of waste management. The future of the waste management groups, following local government reorganisation in April 2015, remains uncertain and is yet to be determined.

2.23 **Derry City and Strabane District Council Corporate Plan 2018/19 and Performance Improvement Plan 2018/19**

This document includes plans to ensure an integrated approach to waste management and developing a circular economy approach with an objective to protect our environment and deliver physical regeneration. Council has adopted a Zero Waste Strategy in conjunction with Zero Waste North West.

2.24 **Derry City and Strabane District Council Inclusive Strategic Growth Plan – Our Community Plan**.

The Inclusive Strategic Growth Plan (SGP) provides a unique opportunity for the Council to genuinely shape the District for local communities and will enable them to adopt a joined up approach, incorporating linkages to other functions such as regeneration, local economic development and community planning. The Local Government Act introduces a statutory link between the Community Plan (CP) and the LDP, in that the preparation of the LDP must 'take account' of the CP. It is intended that the LDP will be the spatial reflection of the SGP and that the two should work in tandem towards the same vision for the Council area and our communities and set the long term social, economic and environmental objectives for the District. The Strategic Growth Plan's key actions of ensuring an integrated approach to waste management and developing a circular economy approach to meet landfill diversion targets,

invest further in high quality waste facilities and infrastructure therefore provides the key context at the local Council level for the preparation of the LDP.

2.25 **A Circular Economy/Zero Waste Strategy for Derry City and Strabane District Council**

In addition to setting out the Council's current approach and the outcomes of same, this document puts forward thirty-seven policies to inform Council's zero waste circular economy strategy. It provides examples of how key sectors, including the construction industry, could become more circular and the resulting benefits. A link to the full document is provided in Appendix 3.

2.26 The existing **Derry Area Plan 2011 (DAP)** was adopted in 2000 and is now beyond its notional date of 2011. The DAP 2011 has one waste policy under Chapter 13 Public Utilities: *Policy WD 1 Waste Disposal within Areas of Scenic Quality – Planning permission will not normally be granted for the disposal of waste materials within the Sperrins AONB, Bonds Glen and Ness Wood/Ervey Wood Countryside Policy Area or within the Areas of High Scenic Value.* At the time of publication, the predominant method of dealing with waste materials was landfilling/landraising. Sites at Culmore and Duncastle were used and operated by the former Derry City Council, while others were privately operated. However it was recognised that the life of these facilities is limited and that new arrangements, including facilities for re-cycling and recovery as well as disposal by landfilling or other means, would be required. Various options were being considered for the management and disposal of waste, some in conjunction with neighbouring Councils, but it was clear, at that time, that there would be an ongoing need for landfilling/landraising facilities.

2.27 **Strabane Area Plan (SAP) 2001** was adopted in 1991 and is also beyond its notional end-date. The SAP stated that waste disposal would continue to be disposed of in landfill. SAP identified two sites that the district uses for landfill i.e. at Spamount, for inert materials and at Carricklee where most of the waste was disposed by the Council, and is now closed.

3.0 Background and Statistical Data on Waste Planning in the District

3.1 A rising quality of life, and high rates of resource consumption patterns have had an unintended and negative impact on the urban and rural environments which in turn present challenges for the handling capacities of urban governments and agencies. In particular, public agencies are now grappling with the problems of high volumes of waste, the costs involved, the disposal technologies and methodologies, and the impact of wastes on the local and global environment.

3.2 Further to the reform of local government on April 2015, waste management continues to be a key responsibility for local government and represents a significant cost risk. While costs associated with waste management are subject to volatility, the expectation is that over time these costs will continue to rise. While Northern Ireland is striving to manage its waste in a more environmentally responsible and sustainable way due to strict EU legislation, the amount of waste being sent to landfill needs to be reduced further. It is therefore vital that alternative solutions and the necessary infrastructure to deal with our waste is developed and failure to do so, will result in the potential for fines which will ultimately impact on ratepayers.

3.3 With local government reorganization, planning applications for waste proposals have come to Council with other planning responsibilities which were previously dealt with by DOE Planning at HQ in Belfast. Therefore, the elected members and Council planning team have had to develop its expertise in this specialist area of planning – including enforcement.

3.4 According to the Department for Agriculture Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) (2016), Councils throughout Northern Ireland collected 985,994 tonnes of local authority collected (LAC) municipal waste during 2016/17 compared to 969,157 tonnes collected during the previous year. In addition to the rise in waste tonnage, the following trends were also identified;

- Recycling rates are starting to plateau;
- Tonnage going to landfill continues to fall;
- Increase in food waste collections;
- Volume of Refuse Derived Fuel being exported is growing year on year in the absence of indigenous infrastructure;
- Waste Crime has distorted the local market. This typically occurs when users of waste services opt for unscrupulous illegal operators who charge less and dump illegally;
- Northern Ireland is unlikely to meet the revised Waste Framework Directive target of 50% recycling by 2020 based on the current trajectory; and
- Proposed EU Circular Economy Target will only heighten the need for infrastructure and increased recycling.

The Council provides a range of waste and environmental services across the city, towns, villages and district such as the collection and treatment of waste from 58,798 domestic properties and approximately 300 commercial customers on a weekly basis

and the provision of a street cleaning services to cover approximately 1130 kilometres of carriageway - with an emphasis on cost effective Waste Management services to all its citizens.

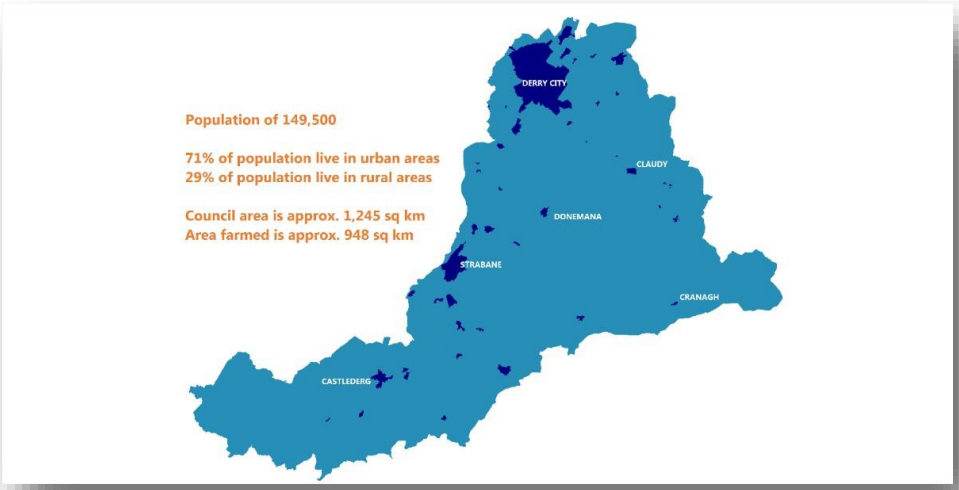


Figure 3: Derry and Strabane District Council Area and Profile

3.5 The Waste Management information presented in this paper will highlight the importance of Waste Management within the Local Development Plan and hence working towards Waste Management designations/policies in the LDP Draft Plan Strategy to be published in October 2019.

Key Players in Waste Management

3.6 The **NI Executive** oversees nine government departments which includes the Department for Infrastructure (DfI) - formerly DOE. Amongst the Department of Infrastructures aims is to improve the quality of life for everyone in NI through the promotion of sustainable development principles in all the activities of government and wider society in particular, their application in DOE's responsibilities for land use, air and water quality, waste management and the natural and built environments. The DOE published a Revised Northern Ireland Waste Management Strategy in order to delivery statutory and non-statutory targets, comply with the revised Waste Framework Directive and move the emphasis of waste management in NI from resource management (with landfill diversion as they key driver) to resource efficiency.

3.7 **The Department of Agriculture Environment and Rural Affairs** (DAERA) is responsible for the drafting of legislation on waste and implementation of waste management policy and the promotion of a more sustainable approach to dealing with waste in Northern Ireland. They also have responsibility for monitoring, recording, reporting and setting standards for compliance, issuing consents, licenses, permits and authorisations and enforcing legislation.

3.8 **The Strategic Investment Board Limited** is a professional advisory company within the public sector in Northern Ireland, working wholly in the public interest. The company was established under statute by Ministers in 2003 to

bring high calibre investment skills into the public sector in order to accelerate the delivery of major infrastructure programmes and to ensure a good deal for the public purse. The company remains fully owned by and accountable to the Executive Office (TEO). SIB supports the Northern Ireland Executive to deliver major and complex infrastructure projects successfully including waste related projects.

3.9 The Northern Ireland Waste Management Strategy 2006-2020 proposed the establishment of a Ministerial-chaired advisory committee, the **Strategic Waste Board**, to co-ordinate and monitor the Waste Strategy Delivery Programme. The Board is made up of senior representatives of all the key statutory organisations, and will include representatives of local government at both officer and elected member level.

3.10 **The Waste Infrastructure Task Force** was established in April 2005 to consider and report on key stakeholders' views on how best to facilitate the delivery of the waste infrastructure required to enable Northern Ireland to meet national and European waste management targets.

3.11 **The Waste Programme Board** was established in September 2010 and is a non-statutory advisory committee chaired by the Minister of the Environment. Its role is to oversee the implementation of the targets contained within the NI Waste Management Strategy 2006-2020.

3.12 **The Waste Infrastructure Programme Board (WIPB**) is also an advisory board, accountable to the Waste Programme Board and responsible for overseeing the delivery of an effective and efficient Waste Infrastructure Programme. It is chaired by the Department of Environment's Deputy Secretary Environment and Marine Group, and is comprised of representatives from Central and Local Government and the Strategic Investment Board.

3.13 **The North-West Region Waste Management Group (NWRWMG**) is a voluntary coalition of Derry City and Strabane District Council and Causeway Coast and Glens Council responsible for formulating local waste management plans and delivering effective waste management across its area.

3.14 **Derry City and Strabane District Council** provides a range of waste and environmental services across the District. The services involve the collection and treatment of waste from both domestic and commercial customers as well as street cleaning services 9 (see Section 5).

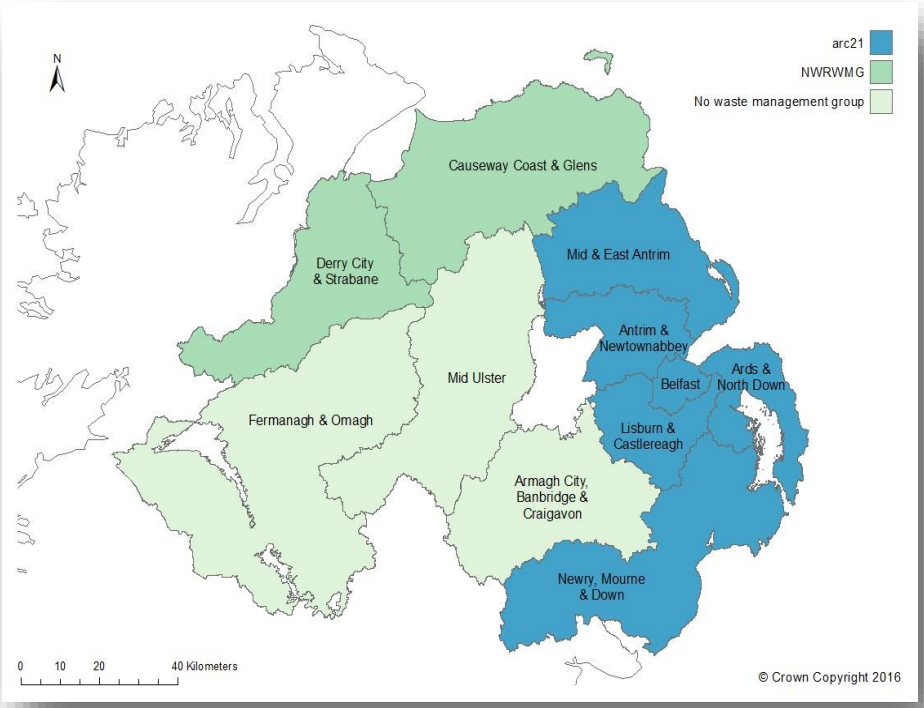


Figure 4: Northern Ireland Sub-Regional Waste Management Group

Northern Ireland Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste Statistics 2016-2017

3.15 The following statistical data which has been compiled by DAERA and 8 of the 11 councils were split into two Waste Management Groups (WMGs) with 3 councils unaffiliated to any group. WMGs produce, develop and implement Waste Management Plans for their areas of responsibility and are an important part of the data submission process.

3.16 The group with the largest share of the population is arc21 with 59%. The North West Regional Waste Management Group (NWRWMG) has 16% of the population with the remaining 25% residing in councils belonging to no waste management group. There were six councils in the arc21 Waste Management Group: Antrim & Newtownabbey; Ards & North Down; Belfast; Lisburn & Castlereagh; Mid & East Antrim; and Newry, Mourne & Down. NWRWMG contained two councils: Causeway Coast & Glens; and Derry City & Strabane. The remaining three councils were not members of any WMG: Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon; Fermanagh & Omagh; and Mid Ulster.

3.16 The proportion of Northern Ireland's total LAC municipal waste collected by each council broadly reflects the population within the councils. Belfast City Council had the greatest LAC municipal waste arisings in 2015/16 with 169,964 tonnes. This was 18% of total NI LAC waste arisings, the same as its 18% share of the total NI population. Interestingly, it also had the largest proportion of non-household local authority collected municipal waste arisings, at 26%, likely

reflecting the concentration of businesses in this area. Fermanagh & Omagh District Council had the lowest arisings in 2015/16 with 53,963 tonnes collected. This represented 6% of total NI arisings during the period and again was the same as the 6% of the NI population living in this council area.

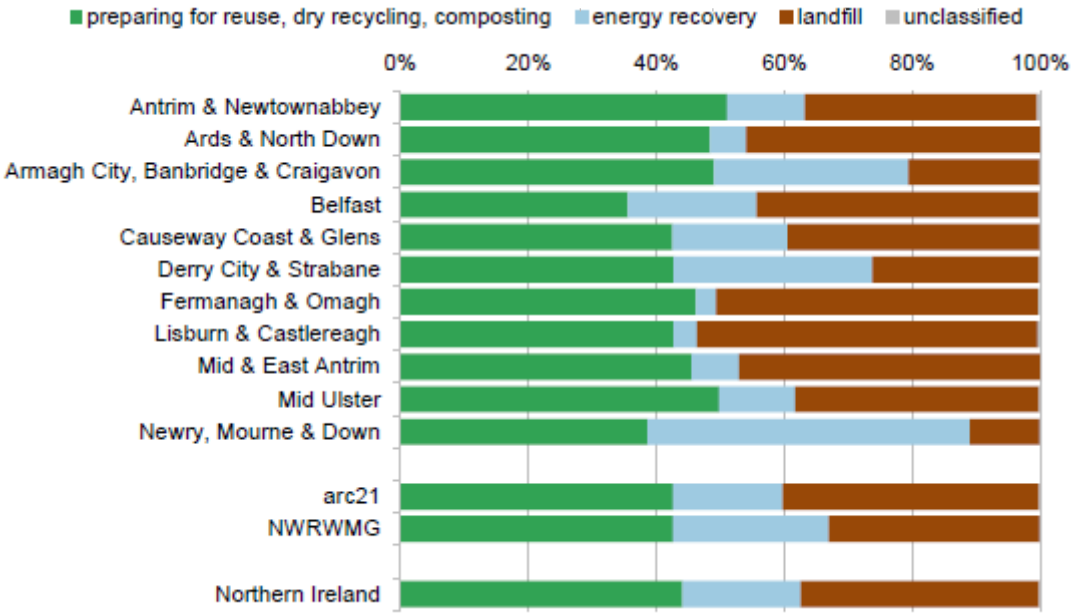
3.17 Table 1 provides an overview of waste management performance (tonnes) in regard to the key performance indicators for 2017/18 in Northern Ireland while Figure 5 represents the key performance indicators as a % value.

Table 1: Key Figures for LAC Waste Arisings, Recycling, Re-Use and Composting & Landfill for 2017/18

Authority	LAC Municipal Waste Arisings (tonnes)	LAC Municipal Waste Preparing for Re-Use, Dry Recycling and Composting (tonnes)	LAC Municipal Waste Landfilled (tonnes)
Antrim & Newtownabbey	93,023	50,797	30,895
Ards & North Down	89,749	45,035	39,540
Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon	105,778	54,183	18,582
Belfast	169,368	68,022	65,160
Causeway Coast and Glens	79,634	33,993	30,878
Derry City and Strabane	**77,707**	**35,766**	**17,586**
Fermanagh and Omagh	53,828	25,177	25,621
Lisburn and Castlereagh	74,992	36,110	34,172
Mid and East Antrim	72,404	37,461	29,156
Mid-Ulster	79,851	42,917	22,904
Newry, Mourne and Down	81,483	36,317	4,719
Arc21	581,019	273,741	203,641
NWRWMG	**157,341**	**69,759**	**48,463**
Northern Ireland	977,817	465,777	319,212

Source: DAERA 2019

Figure 5: LAC Municipal Waste Preparing for Reuse, Dry Recycling, Composting, Energy Recovery and Landfill Rates by Council and Waste Management Group, Northern Ireland (DAERA)



3.18 During 2018/19 reporting period, Northern Ireland's councils collected 990,233 tonnes of LAC municipal waste. This was a 1.3% increase on the 977,817 tonnes collected in 2017/18. Household waste accounted for 88.8% of total LAC municipal waste.

3.19 In 2018/19, 49.8% of LAC municipal waste was sent for preparing for reuse, dry recycling and composting, up from 2017/18 rate of 47.6%. At council level, rates vary from 44.3% in Derry City & Strabane to 49.6% in Antrim & Newtownabbey and Mid Ulster at 56.1% and 56.0% respectively.

3.20 The LAC municipal waste energy recovery rate was 19.4% in 2018/19, an increase of 1.0 percentage points on the 18.4% recorded in 2017/18. Newry, Mourne & Down had the highest energy recovery rate in 2018/19 at 46.2%, whilst the lowest energy recovery rate was 5.1% for Ards & North Down. Derry City & Strabane District had a rate of approx. 28.0%. The NWRWMG had an energy recovery rate of 23.0%, up from 22.3% in 2017/18, and higher than that of arc21 which at 17.0 per cent remained similar to last year.

3.21 For Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon, Belfast, Causeway Coast & Glens, Derry City & Strabane, Mid Ulster and Newry, Mourne & Down, energy recovery for mixed residual waste accounted for a greater proportion of their total energy recovery than specific streams such as wood. Generating energy from waste by incineration is preferable to landfill, although preparing for reuse, dry recycling and composting are preferable to both.

3.22 The landfill rate for household waste recorded a new low of 28.4% in 2018/19, a drop of 3.6 percentage points on the 2017/18 rate of 32.0% and a fall from a high of 72.3% in 2006/07. There were 153,323 tonnes of

BLACMW sent to landfill during 2018/19. This was 10.5% lower than the 171,295 tonnes sent in 2017/18, and 65% of the NILAS allowance used, compared to 69% in 2017/18.

3.23 At local level, Derry City and Strabane District Council sent approx. 22.0% of its household waste to landfill compared to Lisburn & Castlereagh with 44.7%, Newry, Mourne & Down recorded the lowest landfill rate at 4.1%.

3.24 In Autumn 2019, the Council launched a new campaign in a bid to get people to recycle more plastic waste around the house. *Recycling Starts at Home* aims to highlight the materials that can be recycled in the blue bin and encourage householders to recycle items from all rooms in the home, not just the kitchen. The campaign highlights that there are many items that could be disposed of as recyclables that people aren't aware of and advises that recycling saves local people money as it's twice the cost for ratepayers to send materials to landfill compared to recycling.

Councils Roles, Responsibilities and Services

The collection and disposal of refuse is the responsibility of Derry City and Strabane District Council. During 2015-2016, Derry City and Strabane District Council managed 70,901 tonnes of local authority collected municipal waste. In coalition with Causeway Coast and Glens Council as part of the NWRWMG, 149, 265 tonnes of waste were collected during the same period. Recycling and composting is similarly the responsibility of the Council and is facilitated through the provision of domestic recycle bins, bottle banks and civic amenity sites throughout the Districts. The Council provides a 'bulky household waste' collection service for those who cannot transport their waste to civic amenity sites. Recycling is the collection and sorting of waste materials and reprocessing to produce, material or substance whether for the original or other purposes. This usually involves the following phases: collection, sorting, reprocessing and resale. The advantages of recycling include:

- Environmental and other cost savings associated with production (including raw materials, energy, transport and processing) as the life of raw materials is extended and the value extracted from them is maximised;
- Reduced disposal needs and costs; and
- Consumer participation through enhanced public awareness and understanding of environmental issues.

3.25 There are three systems used for the collection of household recyclable materials in the NWRWMG:

- Kerbside Collections;
- Recycling Centres; and
- Bring Sites/Community Recycling Centres (CRCs).

3.26 *Kerbside Collection*

Various methods have been implemented throughout Northern Ireland for the

kerbside collection of recyclable materials. These include the following systems.

3.27 *Mixed Dry Recyclables Collection*

With the mixed dry recyclables system (blue bin system), the householder is provided with a wheeled bin specifically for the collection of mixed dry recyclables. The bins are collected by conventional refuse collection vehicles, usually on an alternate weekly basis. The mixed dry recyclables are then taken to a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) where the material is sorted and the recyclables densified and/or bailed for dispatch to reprocessing markets.

3.28 *Recycling Centres*

Derry City and Strabane District Council operate 11 Recycling Centres, 6 in Derry District and 5 in Strabane District. They are currently located at:

- Glendermott Road
- Pennyburn
- Strathfoyle
- Eglinton
- Claudy
- Park
- Strahan's Road, Strabane
- Ligford Road, Plumbridge
- Berryhill Road, Donemana
- Scraghey Road, Killen
- Douglas Road, Newtownstewart

Strahan's Road, Strabane

3.29 A new multi-million pound waste station and recycling centre has recently opened (December 2014) at Strahan's Road in Strabane. The £4.2m project involved the construction of a waste transfer building and an office building with adjoining garage. The Strahan's site was chosen as a central location for the residents of Strabane, Sion Mills, Glebe, Clady, Ballymagorry, Artigarvan and the surrounding district. The new state-of-the-art facility replaces Carricklee Recycling Facility ('Urney dump') and the leased Waste Transfer Shed at Strabane Road in Newtownstewart. The facility is a large fully enclosed industrial unit capable of handling various types of waste collected by council, currently in the region of 20,000 tonnes per year for Strabane District. The unit also acts as a facility for the segregation of waste including furniture, carpets, washing machines, fridges, cookers, windows, doors, plumbing items, kitchen units, garden waste and coal bunkers. The centre has revolutionised how Strabane's rubbish is managed and is aimed at driving down dramatically the amount of waste currently being sent to landfill.

Pennyburn Household Recycling Centre - £1.5m Investment

3.30 Pennyburn Recycling Centre has recently benefitted from a major refurbishment works to transform it into a new multi-functional Recycling Centre. The site has increased its capacity and also offers a wide range of enhanced recycling services. This has been a key capital development project representing an investment of over £1.5m from Council, including £250,000 from Rethink Waste. The new facility is more accessible, safer and more user friendly and represents a commitment to improve recycling across the Council area.

Bring Sites/Community Recycling Centres (CRCs)

3.31 Bring banks are located throughout NI for the recycling of glass, aluminium drinks cans and steel food cans, paper and textiles. There are Bring Sites at the following locations in Derry City and Strabane District:

- Sainsburys;
- Northside Shopping Centre;
- Lettershandoney Community Centre;
- Tesco Lisnagelvin;
- Drumahoe Service Station;
- Council Offices;
- All Civic Amenity Sites (as listed above);
- Student Village Duncreggan Road;
- Mace-Creggan Road;
- Newbuildings Community Centre car park;
- Creggan Country Park and
- B&Q

Other Council Initiatives

3.32 *Food Caddy*

Food waste is taken to a processing plant where it is recycled into compost which is used on farms and community gardens. Recycling food waste reduces the amount of food waste in landfill sites. Rotting food produces methane gas which contributes to climate change and, as the cost of sending food waste to landfill is increasing, it will help the council and its residents save money too. This is currently only available to some households across the District.

3.33 *BIN-Ovation*

The free BIN-Ovation App is revolutionising recycling for households and local councils by providing citizens with clear information about bin collection and recycling centres in the Derry City and Strabane District Council area. Citizens can easily check what waste items go where, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

3.34 *Bulky Collections*

As noted previously, this service is provided on a scheduled weekly basis within fixed zones and remains free to all householders within the Council District.

3.35 *Home composting*

Composting is the aerobic decomposition of biodegradable organic matter to produce compost. The composting of kitchen and garden wastes has the potential to be a major factor in achieving the recycling and composting targets for municipal waste. It is anticipated that approximately 25% of our household waste can be compostable.

3.36 *Education Programme*

Derry City and Strabane District Council employ Waste Minimisation and Recycling officers and offer a recycling education programme and workshops to local schools. This is aimed at stimulating awareness of the issues associated with waste and of the range of solutions available through waste minimisation and recycling activities. A free education programme is offered to all primary and secondary schools in the Council area. Council officers will visit schools to give short presentations and workshops to pupils on Waste Management topics. The programme aims to educate children about the problems associated with waste and how they can take responsibility for changing habits.

3.37 *Restoration of Culmore Landfill Site*

- Culmore Landfill Site operated from 1971 to 2007. The restoration of the landfill site presented a unique opportunity to transform the landfill into a valuable green space for the region and a Landscape Plan has been produced. The £7m restoration programme commenced in 2013 and will be completed in 2016. This involves installing a capping system which will:
- Reduce the amount of rainwater entering the historic waste and prevent contamination;
- Utilise the gas emissions produced by the landfill, to produce 'green' electricity that will be sold to the National Grid, to generate revenue for Council; and
- Provide a landscaped green space for the public and habitat creation for internationally important over-wintering birds within Lough Foyle.

A similar scheme is currently being considered by Council at the previous Council landfill site on Urney Rd Strabane, next to the River Finn as a potential new parkland. This is on the Capital Works list and a Masterplan is ongoing.

Waste Crime and Illegal Dumping

3.38 Waste crime is the unauthorised management of waste, including illegal dumping. A number of illegal sites have been discovered in the Derry City and Strabane District and more recently in the neighbouring jurisdiction of Donegal.

3.39 The most significant site subject to illegal waste disposal activities is located at Mobuoy Road. The site consists of two distinct parcels of land, namely the City Industrial Waste (CIW) Site and the Campsie Sands and Gravels (CSG) site and are located approximately 1.5km east of Derry. The site occupies an area of circa 46 hectares. The River Faughan forms the western boundary of the Mobuoy Road waste site. This stretch of the river is designated as an Area of Special Scientific Interest (ASSI) and a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) that supports an Atlantic Salmon population of international importance.

3.40 Licensed landfill sites are where local authorities and industry can take waste to be buried and compacted with other wastes and regulated to ensure that the impact to the environment is minimised. Conversely, illegal dump sites involves the deposit of any waste onto land without the relevant regulation and licenses. Investigations by NIEA (DAERA) in 2015 have improved their understanding of the nature and extent of waste illegally disposed at this site. At a stakeholder meeting in November 2015, the estimated volume of controlled waste illegally disposed at the site was reported to be a minimum of 913,105 m^3. The nature of the illegal deposits includes municipal waste, construction and demolition (C&D) waste and municipal waste mixed with C&D waste.

3.41 NIEA (DAERA) has spent £1.2million clearing the site, removing leachate, completing an extensive risk assessment of the waste site and in managing surface water run-off where necessary. NIEA (DAERA) is now developing a detailed remediation strategy for the site at additional costs of £150,000. Given the size and complexity of this site, full implementation of any strategy is unlikely to be immediate. The development of this strategy will consider all viable options. The options for dealing with the waste will ensure the protection of the river. Options included removing the waste and potentially leaving it in place. Officials from NIEA told MLAs that if the waste was to be left in place a system to collect any liquid run-off and landfill gas would be needed to prevent pollution reaching the river. Estimates have put the cost of fixing the problem at anything from £800,000 to £100m, depending on the approach taken. A link to further information on this remediation scheme is included in Appendix 3.

3.42 There have been some methods suggested for site remediation emerging from the private sector. The proposals centre the site being transformed into parkland. A link to further information on this remediation proposal is included in Appendix 3.

3.43 In response to waste offences within the Council area, there has been a

notable increase in the number of fixed penalty notices issued by Council since 2012/13, peaking at 448 in 2014/15. According to the Enforcement Officer, approximately 75% of these fines relate to littering offences while the remaining 25% to fly-tipping.

Table 2: Fixed penalties issued for both Fly-Tipping and Littering 2012-2016

2010/2011	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016 -
No records	No records	85	175	448	374	48

Source: Derry City and Strabane District Council

Future Waste Management Proposals

3.44 The following issues and proposals regarding future waste management are currently being considered or planned for implementation. In the event of being progressed, these will be subject to securing the relevant statutory approvals and consents:-

- A Waste Transfer Station at the RiverRidge Site in Newbuildings is currently being explored to deal with wastes arising in the wider Derry area.
- The current Castlederg facility is located just outside Killen and Council is currently looking at the possible acquisition of nearby land to provide an upgraded community recycling centre in the area. The current Eglinton facility is located within Benbow Industrial Estate, but it is likely that the replacement will be on the edge of the village, with the area next to the Rainbow shelter currently under consideration. The current Waterside facility is located on Glendermott Rd and Council would like a replacement site to serve the east bank of the city.
- At present there are no plans to develop additional bring sites, but this is subject to change if amendments are made to existing waste regulations/obligations etc.
- The Culmore District Park on the outskirts of Derry opened in November 2016 following major restoration work that saw the former landfill site transformed into a valuable green space for locals to enjoy. The landfill site operated for 36 years and was closed in 2007. Following closure, the site has been restored by Council to reduce its impact on Lough Foyle and the surrounding environment – including the capping of the site to reduce rainwater coming into contact with waste and becoming polluted and to trap gas being emitted by the infilled waste.
- The current Waste Plan covers the period up to 2020 and Council will be required to develop and implement an updated plan for the period thereafter. Council(s) are presently awaiting guidance and direction from NIEA (DAERA) on this and related matters such as the continuation of the sub-regional waste groups etc.
- Council officers are currently exploring the potential of developing a small scale Anaerobic Digestion on a Council owned site and currently considering

the findings of a feasibility study.

- There are no active landfill sites in the District, however there are a small number of inactive sites. Details of these can be found on the DAERA website https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/northern-ireland-environment-agency
- There are no plans for Council to develop or operate a landfill site at any point in the future.
- Council remains concerned about the number of illegal sites across the district, particularly the Mobuoy Road site.

4.0 LDP Preferred Options Paper Stage

4.1 The research findings contained in an earlier EVB paper together with Members views and advice from the relevant parties/consultees informed the following options which have been taken forward and subjected to Sustainability Appraisal (incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment) as part of the Preferred Options Paper (POP) process.

	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
G - Waste	Existing Infrastructure & committed Capital Proposals identified & protected	Identify/Protect a long-term reserve of potential projects / sites	

4.2 Following publication of the POP, seventeen representations (responses) were received relating to the proposed options for the waste management policy. The representations centred on such considerations as the need to assess the likely extent of future waste management facilities and identify specific sites; cross border engagement with the Republic of Ireland; the circular economy/zero waste approach and a strategy for illegal infilling and future uses of those sites affected by same. In addition, land was proposed for disposal of inert waste and it was asserted that there is a recognised shortfall in provision for landfill sites, particularly for inert waste.

4.3 The waste management policy is guided by the NI Waste Management Strategy (WMS) and as such accords with the SPPS. It is also guided by the Waste Management Plan (WMP). The WMS is confined to Northern Ireland and waste management is not currently dealt with on cross border basis. Illegal infilling is being addressed through a government led working group and there will be no impediments in the LDP to any recommended remediation. Chapter 7: General Development Principles and Policies provides guidance in respect of contaminated land.

4.4 Regarding inert waste, both in terms of a shortfall of land and the proposal of land for infill, adequate policies will be put in place if it is determined that there is a shortfall however there is no intention to designate or strategically zone land for waste management uses. At present, the WMS and WMP do not envisage the need for large-scale waste disposal sites within the boundaries of the Council area during the LDP period. It is recognised however that private operators will come forward for proposals for the disposal of inert waste material from building sites in areas such as disused quarries. Proposals for such waste management will be dealt with on their own merits and accordance with prevailing policy context at the date of submission of an application

5.0 Key Considerations

5.1 Given that the vast majority of environmental policy and legislation in Northern

Ireland, and UK as a whole, is governed by legal frameworks and regulations set at the European Union level, it is not yet clear what the NIs relationship with the EU will be after withdrawal. For example, the EU influences the implementation and delivery of waste management and legislation and in NI these responsibilities are split between DAERA, NIEA, local councils and waste management groups. Local targets are set under the NI Waste Management Strategy (2013) and reflect the overarching Waste Framework Directive (2008) which includes definitions of waste, sets a hierarchy of waste management, introduces the 'polluter pays' principle and 'extended producer responsibility' and sets recycling targets.

5.2 Working on the basis that the status quo will remain, Waste Management proposals will be dealt with through Planning's Development Management process. The Local Development Plan will have regard to and take account of the current Waste Management Plan. Planning can contribute to the timely provision of an integrated network of waste facilities which are essential if EU targets are to be met. Following the recent transition of the two councils to form the new Derry City and Strabane District Council, the future of the waste management in the District is likely to be subject to change.

5.3 Sustainable waste management is essential for the health and well-being of society, and our quality of life. Waste can also be considered as a resource, with potential for energy generation, or employment creation / businesses. Waste management provides a number of challenges including impact on the environment and impact on residential amenity. Our strategy is to provide a balanced approach to management of waste within our district The LDP will assess the likely extent of future waste management facilities for the District and in doing so will take account of the Northern Ireland Waste Management Strategy.

6.0 Draft Plan Strategy Stage

6.1 Following the Preferred Options Paper (POP), letters were sent to relevant consultees in March 2018 asking for their views relating to waste management. The feedback from each respondent is summarised below:

DAERA

- A number of pieces of waste legislation have been updated since PPS 11. DAERA supports a review of PPS 11 both to update it, and to enable Planning authorities to take account of local factors in the decision-making.

Environmental Health (EHD)

- Consider inclusion of Anaerobic Digesters / Combined Heat and Power plants under WM 2

- The LDP should provide comment on all identified illegal dumps/tarry waste sites so that potential developers can plan for additional costs in investigation and remedial measures that may be needed to develop on or in close proximity to these potential sources of contamination

- Inert material from major projects such as A6/ A5 should be re-used.

- Northern Ireland Environment Agency is currently consulting on the implementation of Part III of the Waste and Contaminated Land (NI) Order 1997 and a report has been drafted into the options associated with its implementation. The report highlights concerns in relation to illegal waste sites / contaminated land sites and indicates that in the absence of a Part III contaminated land regime, a number of contaminated land sites may remain unidentified which may present issues for Local Development Plans across Northern Ireland

Environment Section of DCSDC

- Recycling centres, some need relocated / extended / improved. In Waterside area, District Recycling Centre / facility similar to Pennyburn is required. Eglinton and Killen facilities also need improved / relocated. Killen currently serves the Castlederg area and a relocation more convenient to the larger settlement is the preferred outcome.

- The Council has tried to implement local neighbourhood facilities in the city in the past, but they have been met with opposition from local residents. Therefore, District facilities, such as Pennyburn, rather than local facilities, have worked better.

- Private proposals for inert waste – not an issue for the Council Environment section unless location wasn't acceptable.

- Environment Section of DCSDC would like the definitions in PPS 11 updated in line with NIEA terminology in documents such as the WMS.

In addition to the formal consultation exercise, a series of 'round table discussion' (RTD) meetings were held in 2018. While waste management was not identified as a key issue for discussion the RTD a meeting was held in April 2018 during which the following views were expressed:

- Planning officers should take account of the Council's strategy for a circular economy approach to waste management

- approved anaerobic digester plants which seek to further expand and these proposals should be subject to a rigorous assessment of impacts

- only inert waste should be used in restoring quarried land

Inclusive Strategic Growth Plan 2017-2032

6.2 In respect of the provisions of the Council's Inclusive Strategic Growth Plan 2032 (SGP), under Outcomes and Actions: Environment and Regeneration the prioritisation of water investment is identified as a key action.

6.3 The development of our infrastructure is vital to the regeneration that the SGP aims to achieve. The SGP views waste as a resource so that the question is not how do we get rid of it but how do we produce as little as possible and use what is produced to provide new business opportunities.

6.4 The SGP requires the LDP to ensure an integrated approach to waste management and promotes a circular economy approach to meet landfill diversion targets, invest further in high quality waste facilities and infrastructure

Resultant Policy Direction

WP 1 - Environmental Impact of a Waste Management Facility

6.5 It is considered that the proposed policy WP 1 reflects the policy direction as set out in the SPPS. The wording of WP 1 closely reflects that of WM 1 of PPS 11. Changes of note from PPS 11 include:

- the omission of the flooding-related criteria in PPS 11, as it felt that any proposal will be subject to a similar policy in the Flooding section of the LDP; and
- the addition of an amendment to policies WP 2 and 3, suggested by SES, i.e. that the general provisions of WP 1 must also be applied to proposals applied for under WP 2 and WP 3, accepted on the basis of improving the policy in relation to the HRA.

WP 2 - Waste Collection and Treatment Facilities

6.6 It is considered that the proposed policy WP 2 reflects the policy direction as set out in the SPPS. The wording of WP 2 closely reflects that of WM 2 of PPS 11. The one difference in wording / content relates to the removal of the reference to Best Practicable Environmental Option (BPEO), which is line with the advice in SPPS that it is no longer a material consideration in the Planning process.

6.7 In respect of anaerobic digesters / combined heat and power plants, these are primarily for generating Renewable Energy so they are mainly considered in that chapter of the LDP. However, as they may involve 'waste' inputs and there are 'waste' outputs, the policies in this chapter are also relevant; a note has been added into the text to make this clear.

6.8 There has been an addition to this policy which requires that proposals for waste collection and treatment facilities must also comply with the general provisions of WP 1.

WP 3 - Waste Disposal

6.9 It is considered that the proposed policy WP 3 reflects the policy direction as set out in the SPPS. The wording of WP 3 closely reflects that of WM 3 of PPS 11.The proposal also covers the intent and purpose of Policy WD 1 in the DAP 2011, which stated that waste disposal will not normally be granted for the disposal of waste materials within the Sperrin AONB, Bonds Glen / Ness Woods CPAs or within Areas of High Scenic Value.

6.10 There is also a difference in wording / content between the PPS 11 and the proposed policy, with the removal of the reference to Best Practicable Environmental Option (BPEO), is line with the SPPS.

6.11 Furthermore, it is proposed that an additional criterion is added to the proposed policy whereby the presumption in favour of approval will only apply to sites outside designated areas such as AONBs and proposed LDP designations such as Special Countryside Areas. The addition is the result of merging of WM 3 of PPS 11 with WD1 of the DAP 2011. This addition is in line with the SPPS objective of promoting development of waste management in appropriate locations and also in line with the LDP's strategy of protecting environmentally sensitive areas and areas of landscape quality.

6.12 With regard to concerns over illegal waste disposal, a government-led working group has been set up to deal with the remediation of our main illegal landfill site. There will be no impediments in the LDP to any remediation recommended. Chapter 7: General Development Principles and Policies will also include policy for development which will set out a requirement for developers to provide a suitable remediation scheme on the site. However, it is not the role of the LDP to identify / map / categorise all the old / existing / potential waste sites in the District.

6.13 There has been an addition to this policy which requires that proposals for waste collection and treatment facilities must also comply with the general provisions of WP 1.

WP 4 - Land Improvement

6.14 It is considered that the proposed policy WP 4 reflects the policy direction as set out in the SPPS. The wording of WP 4 closely reflects that of WM 1 of PPS 11. The only minor difference is the exclusion of the reference to BPEO, as per policies set out above.

WP 5 - Development in the Vicinity of Waste Management Facilities

6.15 The proposed policy WP 5 also reflects the policy direction as set out in the SPPS. The wording of WP 5 is the same as the *WM 5* of PPS 11.

Overall Policy Direction

6.16 The LDP strategy for waste management, in accordance with the relevant documents, aims to promote development of waste management and recycling facilities in appropriate locations. There will be a presumption in favour of waste management facilities, where there has been a need established through the NIWMS (unless / until it is superseded – see update on page 9) and WMP.

6.17 The Proximity Principle will also apply, which emphasises the need to treat or dispose of waste as close as practicable to the point of generation to minimise the environmental impacts of waste transport. We will liaise with Councils Environment Directorate in assessing future waste management facilities within the District.

6.18 It will also seek to ensure that detrimental effects on people, the environment, and local amenity associated with waste management facilities (e.g. pollution) are avoided or minimised; and it will seek to secure appropriate restoration of proposed waste management sites for agreed after-uses.

6.19 To support the implementation of this strategy, 5 operational policies have been proposed to manage the development of waste in our District. The policies will deal matters relating to the impact of waste facilities, location of facilities and development in the vicinity of waste management facilities.

6.20 The consultation responses to the POP, feedback from Members through the Round Table Discussions and statutory consultation liaison have informed the draft policies for waste management for the draft Plan Strategy. We have also liaised with officials from Councils Environment Section who have advised they do not envisage any new regional facilities will be required within the District over the plan period. It is anticipated a number of recycling centres will be required within the district, however they will be subject to normal assessment under the proposed policy and associated legislation. Therefore, there will be no specific zonings or designations for waste management.

6.21 The policies/strategy will subsequently be subjected to a full Sustainability Appraisal (SA) (which incorporates the Strategic Environmental Assessment), Rural Needs Impact Assessment (RNIA), Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA), and Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA).

7.0 Sustainability Appraisal

7.1 Throughout their formulation, the policies contained within the Waste Management Chapter have been subject to an ongoing internal sustainability appraisal (SA). This is in addition to the wider external SA, conducted by Shared Environmental Service as part of the wider suite of impact assessments/appraisals required under the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011. The internal appraisal was carried out with the fourteen objectives of the external appraisal in mind (refer to the SA report for more information).

7.2 The process of sustainability appraisal aims to ensure that a council's approach towards waste management is the most sustainable of all reasonable options available i.e. having considered any reasonable alternatives. In the case of waste management policies, it is not considered that any of the alternatives are reasonable as there are strict legislative requirements with regard to waste management. The proposed policies are therefore the only realistic options to meet the aims of the RDS, SPPS and the waste management legislative framework.

7.3 With regard to the degree of sustainability of each the resulting proposed policies, this is outlined below. Policies WP1 - WP3 have been appraised as a group as they centre on waste management / disposal facilities.

Policies: WP 1 Environmental Impact of a Waste Management Facility, WP 2 Waste Collection and Treatment Facilities and WP 3 Waste Disposal.

7.4 This option will deliver a minor positive impact on health and wellbeing through protecting existing development against nuisance impacts from new waste facilities and through the beneficial impacts on public health that waste management services and facilities provides. No perceptible impacts are identified on the other the social sustainability objectives.

7.5 The option delivers minor positive impacts on the objectives to enable sustainable economic growth and to manage material assets sustainably, recognising that the processing and recycling of waste can be an economic contributor and that the option will enable opportunities that lead to waste going to landfill.

7.6 The protective criteria of WP1 and locational criteria of WP2 both contribute to protecting against negative impacts on the environmental sustainability objectives. The inclusion of facilities for wastewater treatment under WP2 contributes to a minor positive impact on the objective to protect, manage and use water resources sustainably.

7.7 Supporting the waste hierarchy will also have long-term beneficial impacts on the objective to reduce causes of and adapt to climate change through reducing overall consumption and reducing emissions of greenhouse gas from landfill.

WP 4 - Land Improvement

7.8 This policy has a very narrow scope and spatial extent and consequently its potential effects are relatively limited. While this policy does not result in many positive impacts on the sustainability objectives, it helps to provide a mechanism for safeguarding against significant negative impacts from unauthorised infilling and enables the Council to have control over any remedial development or reinstatement.

7.9 The nature of any arising effects on natural resources / on enhancing biodiversity will be dependent on the nature and extent of the land to be improved.

WP 5 – Development in the Vicinity of Waste Management Facilities

7.10 This option will deliver a minor positive impact on health and wellbeing through preventing development that would be vulnerable to nuisance impacts from existing waste facilities and through the beneficial impacts on public health that waste management and wastewater treatment services provide.

7.11 No perceptible impacts are identified on the other the social sustainability objectives.

7.12 The option delivers minor positive impacts on the objectives to enable sustainable economic growth and to manage material assets sustainably, recognising that treatment and management of waste is an important function in sustaining economic development and enabling growth.

7.13 Minor positive effects are also identified on physical resources, through enabling efficient use of land by supporting expansion of an existing facility to meet increased demand rather than requiring the development of new facilities.

7.14 By providing the scope for wastewater treatment facilities to be upgraded in the future, in response to increased demand or new treatment standards, this option contributes to a minor positive impact on the objective to protect, manage and use water resources sustainably. No other perceptible effect on the environmental sustainability objectives is identified.

8.0 Equality Impact Assessment

8.1 Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 requires that public authorities have due regard to the need to promote equality of opportunity and good relations between persons of a particular religion, political opinion, race, age, marital status, sexual orientation or gender. It also includes people with disabilities or those with primary responsibility for the care of a dependant, such as an elderly person. These are known as 'Section 75' groups.

8.2 The policies contained within the Waste Management chapter have been subject to an equality impact assessment (EQIA) to ensure no adverse impact on these groups.

8.3 Waste management facilities such as civic amenity sites will be located where they are accessible to local neighbourhoods and settlements and this will have positive impacts on people who have limited access to private transport and / or who are dependent on others for transport or for help in accessing services, such as elderly people and those with disabilities. Equally, they will not be sited so proximate to existing residential and incompatible non-residential development as to lead to amenity issues for example through odour or noise.

8.4 Waste management facilities will dispersed throughout the District, where the relative criteria are met and as such will be available to all groups of a particular religion or political opinion.

8.5 This policy is likely to have a positive effect on all Section 75 groups as it supports the provision of such facilities where a local need is identified. The Council is therefore satisfied that there will be no adverse impact on any Section 75 groups or on community relations as a result of Waste Planning.

9.0 Rural Needs Impact Assessment

9.1 The Rural Needs Act 2016, requires District Councils and other Public Authorities to have due regard to rural needs when developing, adopting, implementing or revising policies, strategies and plans, and when designing and delivering public services.

9.2 To 'have due regard' means that a public authority must consciously consider the needs of people in rural areas. How much 'due regard' depends on the circumstances and, in particular, on the relevance of rural needs to the decision or function in question. The greater the relevance and potential impact for people in the rural area, the greater the regard required by the duty.

9.3 Throughout the formulation of the draft Plan Strategy, there has been consideration of the impact of each policy approach on the rural area, relative to the urban area and policies have been amended where it was deemed appropriate to do so. In the case of Waste Management policies, no amendments were considered necessary.

9.4 The requirement to site facilities throughout the District and in accordance with a recognised need means that the rural area should not be disadvantaged; however in cases where existing rural development is particularly remote it cannot be said that facilities will be as equally accessible as they would be to urban areas or rural settlements. This differential is not considered to be significant in impact but rather it reflects the nature of rural living. Though the provision is not equal it is considered equitable.

9.5 The remoteness of some development sites also often means there is likely to be no access to mains sewerage and thus non-mains sewerage is required, usually through a septic tank. This can have an additional cost attributed to it whilst an accumulation of these types of developments can have an impact on the environment. Modern septic tanks are of a specification and design which minimises environmental impacts and as such significant adverse environmental impact from a properly functioning tank is highly unlikely.

9.6 Undoubtedly, there is a financial consideration associated with septic tanks however it is not feasible to provide mains sewerage infrastructure to every remote development. Small settlements will however have access to mains infrastructure.

Appendix 1
GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Anaerobic Digestion – Anaerobic digestion is the biological decomposition and stabilisation of organic material in the absence of oxygen and under controlled conditions which produces biogas and a digestate. The process has the advantage of producing gas for energy recovery in addition to a usable end product.

Biodegradable Local Authority Collective Municipal Waste (BLACMW) – the portion of the municipal waste stream [see definition of municipal] that is capable of undergoing anaerobic or aerobic decomposition, such as food and garden waste, and paper and paperboard.

Biodegradable Waste – any waste that is capable of undergoing anaerobic decomposition, such as food and garden waste, and paper and paperboard.

Bring Site - An unmanned site with a container or a collection of containers for depositing recyclable waste.

Capture rate for household kerbside collected waste – The amount of 'available' material that is actually being collected for recycling through household kerbside collection schemes.

Civic amenity site - A manned site for depositing waste.

Commercial Waste – waste from premises used for the purpose of trade or business, sport, recreation or entertainment.

Compost – organic matter decomposed aerobically or anaerobically and used as a fertiliser or soil conditioner.

Composting - An aerobic, biological process in which organic wastes, such as garden and kitchen waste, are converted into a stable granular material which can be applied to land to improve soil structure and enrich the nutrient content of the soil.

Composting Rate - The percentage of waste sent for composting. It excludes waste collected for composting that was rejected at collection or at the gate of the reprocessor.

Construction/Demolition Waste – masonry and rubble wastes arising from the demolition or construction of buildings or other civil engineering structures.

Contaminated Land – land which has been subject to the addition of a material or materials to such a degree as to render it unfit for its intended purpose.

Controlled waste – refers to household/municipal, industrial and commercial waste.

Dry recycling - The recycling of dry materials such as paper, card, cans, plastic bottles, mixed plastic, glass.

Dry recycling rate - The percentage of waste sent for recycling. It excludes waste collected for recycling that was rejected at collection, during sorting or at the gate of the recycling reprocessor. It includes residual waste which was diverted for recycling but excludes waste sent for preparation for reuse.

Energy recovery rate - The percentage of waste sent for energy recovery. It includes mixed residual and specific sources components.

Environmental Impact – the total effect of any operation on the surrounding environment.

Essential Interim Landfill Capacity – the Waste Management Strategy provides for the development of additional landfill capacity to meet essential capacity needs identified by District Councils prior to the establishment of an integrated network of waste management facilities.

Groundwater – water held in water-bearing rocks.

Hazardous Waste – a waste that, by virtue of its composition, carries the risk of death, injury or impairment of health, to humans or animals, the pollution of waters, or could have an unacceptable environmental impact if improperly handled, treated or disposed of. The term should not be used for waste that merely contains a hazardous material or materials. It should be used only to describe wastes that contain sufficient of these materials to render the waste as a whole hazardous within the definition given above.

Household Waste – waste from a domestic property, caravan, residential home or from premises forming part of a university or school or other educational establishment; premises forming part of a hospital or nursing home.

Hydrogeology – the study of water in rocks.

Incineration – the burning of waste at high temperatures. This results in a reduction in bulk and may involve energy reclamation.

Industrial Waste – wastes from any factory, transportation apparatus, from scientific research, dredging, sewage and scrap metal.

Inert Waste – waste material that does not undergo any significant physical, chemical or biological transformations when deposited in landfill. Inert waste will not dissolve, burn or otherwise physically or chemically react, biodegrade or adversely affect other matter with which it comes into contact in a way likely to give rise to environmental pollution or harm human health. The total leachability and pollutant content of the waste and the leachate must be insignificant, and in particular not endanger the quality of surface water and/or groundwater.

In-Vessel Composting - The composting of biowaste in a closed reactor where the composting process is accelerated by controlled and optimised air exchange, water

content and temperature control.

IPPC – new Regulations are proposed to transpose the requirements of EC Directive 96/61 on Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (IPPC). The Regulations are designed to protect the environment through the prevention of or reduction in pollution of air, water and land caused by emissions from industrial installations. Under the Directive Specified Waste Management, activities, which includes most landfill sites and certain types of hazardous waste treatment will require permits.

Kerbside - A regular collection of waste from premises.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) - A set of measures used to gauge performance in terms of meeting waste strategy targets.

LAC (Local Authority Collected) Municipal waste - household waste and any other waste under the control of District Councils or their agents acting on their behalf.

Landfill Gas – a gas produced by the decomposition of biodegradable waste. It consists primarily of a mixture of methane and carbon dioxide.

a) improving agricultural land, for example where steep gradients are reduced and the land re-graded with an adequate surface layer of topsoil; or
b) land reclamation for necessary development, or
c) preparing other land for necessary development, or
d) landscaping, screening or re-grading other land.

Landfill Site – the controlled deposit of waste to land generally involving the infilling of voids following mineral extraction.

Landraising – involves the deposit of waste above ground, e.g. in naturally occurring depressions or as part of reclamation schemes.

Landspreading – the application of waste or sludges to the land and thereby facilitating their degradation and incorporation into the top layer of soil. Fertiliser is usually added to assist aerobic breakdown.

Leachate – liquid that seeps through a landfill site and by so doing extracts substances from the deposited waste.

Mixed Dry Recyclables - Waste streams intended for recycling found together with each other but separately from other waste.

Municipal Waste – is defined in the waste regulations (Northern Ireland) 2011 and means waste from households and other waste which is similar n nature to waste from a household. This includes commercial and industrial waste which is similar in nature to waste from a household.

Proximity Principle – highlights a need to treat and/or dispose of waste in reasonable

proximity to the point at which it is generated.

Putrescible – liable to decompose or rot with an offensive smell.

Recovery – the reclamation, collection and separation of waste materials from the waste stream.

Recycling – the recovery and re-use of materials from the waste stream.

Recycling Centre – site for the collection of recyclable materials and bulky household waste.

Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) - Consists largely of organic components of municipal waste (such as plastics and biodegradable waste). This can then be used in a variety of ways to generate electricity, most commonly as an additional fuel used with coal in power stations or in cement kilns.

Re-use – the repeated utilisation of an item/material for its original (or other) purpose.

Self-sufficiency – is a central tenet of EC legislation which requires all member states to apply this principle in their waste management practices at national level and, as far as is practicable, also at regional and sub-regional levels.

Special Waste – waste which contains substances deemed to be dangerous to life as defined by the Special Waste Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1998.

Waste – the unwanted by-product of industrial, commercial and domestic activities or anything otherwise discarded.

Waste Arisings - The amount of waste collected in a given locality over a period of time.

Waste Disposal – the process of getting rid of unwanted, broken, worn out, contaminated or spoiled materials in an orderly, regulated fashion.

Waste Management Hierarchy – is at the centre of European waste management policy. The hierarchy indicates the relative priority of different methods of managing waste, and provides instruction to waste management policy and planning initiatives on how to progress towards sustainable waste management policies.

Waste Management Strategy – published on 20th March 2000, this document's main purpose is to provide a framework for the development of regional waste management facilities in Northern Ireland.

Waste Management Plans (WMPs) – the principle mechanism for implementation of the Waste Management Strategy that requires District Councils to prepare WMPs in

line with the timetable contained within the Strategy. Article 23 of the Waste & Contaminated Land Order 1997 imposed a duty on District Councils to prepare WMPs detailing what arrangements were appropriate for dealing with the recovery, treatment and disposal of controlled waste arising in their districts.

Waste Management Licence (WML) – a licence granted by the Environment & Heritage Service under the Waste & Contaminated Land Order (Northern Ireland) 1997. The WML will replace the current Waste Disposal Licence (WDL) granted by the relevant District Council under the Pollution Control and Local Government (Northern Ireland) Order 1978 when licensing powers transfer to EHS.

Appendix 2

Commonly Used Initials in this Paper

Arc21	Regional waste management group in Northern Ireland
BLACMW	Biodegradable Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste
CIWM	Chartered Institution of Wastes Management
DAERA	Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs
EC	European Commission
EU	European Union
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
LAC	Local Authority Collected
LACMW	Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste
LPS	Land and Property Services
MDR	Mixed Dry Recyclables
MRF	Materials Recovery Facility
NI	Northern Ireland
NIEA	Northern Ireland Environment Agency
NILAS	Northern Ireland Landfill Allowance Scheme
NISRA	Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency
NWRWMG	North West Regional Waste Management Group
RDF	Refuse Derived Fuel
SASB	Statistics and Analytical Services Branch, DAERA

Appendix 3

https://www.eunomia.co.uk/reports-tools/a-circular-economy-zero-waste-strategy-for-derry-city-and-strabane-district-council/

https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/daera/lac-municipal-waste-2018-19-report.pdf

https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/mobuoy-road-waste-project

www.mobuoyremediation.com

https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/northern-ireland-local-authority-collected-municipal-waste-management-statistics-2018