

Appendix 3

Policy Statements From the Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Devon

The **Municipal Waste Management Strategy** for Devon was published by the County Council and the Devon District Councils in March 2005, and has contributed to the development of the Waste Local Plan. The **Waste Strategy Policy Statements (WSPS)** from the Strategy of particular significance are as follows:

WSPS1

This Strategy will form the framework for the management of municipal waste within the administrative area of Devon over the period to the year 2035.

WSPS3

Decisions about waste management will, in broad terms, be based on the hierarchy of:

- Reduction
- Re-use
- Recycling/Composting
- Energy Recovery
- Final Disposal

The overall aim is to increase the proportion of waste which is managed by options towards the top of the hierarchy. However, there may be a different order of options for particular waste streams depending on environmental, economic or other factors involved.

WSPS4

The objectives of this Strategy are:

1. The reduction in growth of municipal waste that is generated and to set a target for reducing the growth rate in household waste.
2. To provide a framework to ensure the development of facilities for the collection, treatment and disposal of waste in Devon which would enable it to become as self-sufficient as possible, and in line with the South West Regional Waste Strategy. This would not prohibit the transport of waste between Devon and the adjacent Authorities where this would be mutually economically and environmentally beneficial.
3. The beneficial use of as much household waste as possible through (in order of priority), materials recycling, composting and maximising the recovery of resources and energy, i.e. follow the waste management hierarchy wherever possible.
4. The recycling/composting of at least 30% of household waste by the year 2005/06 within Devon, and to recycle or compost 40% of municipal waste by 2009/10, 50% by 2014/15, 60% by 2019/20, and 65% by 2025/26.

APPENDICES

Source: Devon County Council *Waste Local Plan June 2006*

5. The recovery of value (including recycling and composting) from 40% of municipal waste by 2005, 45% of municipal waste by 2010, and 67% by 2015.
6. To comply with the requirements of the EU Landfill Directive, including the meeting of targets to divert biodegradable municipal waste away from landfill. These are:
 - By 2010 to reduce the amount of biodegradable municipal waste landfilled to 75% of that produced in 1995.
 - By 2013 to reduce the amount of biodegradable municipal waste landfilled to 50% of that produced in 1995.
 - By 2020 to reduce the amount of biodegradable municipal waste landfilled to 35% of that produced in 1995.
7. To ensure compliance with the landfill allocations set by the Waste and Emissions Trading Act from 2005/06.
8. To ensure compliance with the Household Waste Recycling Act 2003 and other Acts as they become law.
9. To choose an integrated mix of waste management methods with regard to managing waste as close to its source of generation (the Proximity Principle) which represents the optimum balance of environmental and economic costs and benefits, and minimises the risks of immediate and future environmental pollution and harm to human health (Best Practicable Environmental Option).

WSPS14

Recovery of value for all practicable waste including energy from waste facilities will play an important role in the long term management of municipal waste in Devon, in particular to meet the Waste Strategy 2000 recovery targets and the Landfill Directive diversion targets.

Smaller scale facilities which follow the Proximity Principle will be preferred.

The Local Authorities and Environment Agency will maintain an overview of the technologies available to determine an appropriate balance which may be appropriate for Devon.

WSPS15

In the short term (within the next six years), landfill will continue to be an important method of managing waste.

There will be a phased reduction in the amount of biodegradable waste landfilled in Devon in order to comply with the Waste and Emissions Trading Act.

In some parts of the County, the existing landfill capacity will be insufficient for the quantity of waste likely to be generated over that period and extensions to existing landfill sites or new capacity will be required to meet that need.

In the long term landfill will, as part of this Strategy, be used only for those wastes which cannot be recycled, composted or recovered and the residues/rejects from these processes.

WSPS17

The Local Authorities will ensure that the requirements of the Landfill Directive are met.

The Local Authorities will work together to achieve the targets set out for the reduction of biodegradable municipal waste being sent to landfill in 2010, 2013 and 2020. This will be achieved by promoting waste reduction, meeting or exceeding the Strategy recycling and composting targets and either some form of waste to energy facilities or mechanical – biological treatment.

WSPS24

The Local Authorities will work together with the Environment Agency and the waste management industry to investigate alternative forms of transporting waste both within and outside of the County, taking account of both the environmental and economic factors.

APPENDICES

Source: Devon County Council *Waste Local Plan June 2006*