

Environment & Heritage Service

Framework for Waste Prevention in Northern Ireland

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An Agency within the Department of the
Environment
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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



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Heritage Service**
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Foreword

“To improve our environment and to ensure that the natural resources needed for life are unimpaired and remain so for future generations”

This is a guiding principle of the UK strategic framework for Sustainable Development. Waste prevention is a key mechanism which will help us achieve this goal, helping to reduce the volume of waste and the inefficient use of resources.

The Department of the Environment recognises that several tools will be required to bring about the behaviour change needed to reduce the overall growth of waste. This Framework for Waste Prevention sets out an integrated approach to motivating all sectors in Northern Ireland through a mix of initiatives. It has been developed through stakeholder engagement and consultation. The activities presented in the Framework reflect those recommended by stakeholders during the consultation process.

The Framework for Waste Prevention describes our key priorities to support progress on waste prevention across all sectors. It is a working document which will continue to be developed to respond to the needs of all sectors as we seek to manage our resources effectively.

Acknowledgements

The Department of the Environment would like to acknowledge the significant contribution of stakeholders to the development of the Waste Prevention Framework, including members of the waste prevention steering group, and delegates from across all the sectors. The facilitation of the consultation/ engagement process by the National Resources & Waste Forum and the Environment Council is also gratefully acknowledged.

1 Introduction

This Framework for Waste Prevention, developed by the Department of the Environment, Environment & Heritage Service, collates the findings of the stakeholder engagement/ consultation process carried out by the National Resource Waste Forum.

October 2004 marked the beginning of the waste prevention consultation process. A total of 600 key stakeholders were invited to take part, representing all sectors in Northern Ireland. The process included the circulation of a questionnaire and supporting information in February 2005 followed by workshops in April 2005.

Four well attended workshops, provided the opportunity for discussion on possible policy measures and action which would result in the prevention of waste in Northern Ireland. Four key messages emerged strongly throughout the process and are reflected in this Framework:

- Provide a wide range of tools (carrot and stick);
- Increase understanding through enhanced communication;
- Build and extend existing initiatives e.g. Envirowise, WRAP, InvestNI and Arena Network; and
- Make waste prevention a responsibility of all sectors.

2 What is Waste Prevention?

Waste prevention includes all activities that reduce the amount of waste entering the collected waste stream, for example:

- Avoiding waste generation;
- Reducing quantities and hazardousness of waste at source; and
- Reducing products before they enter the waste stream.

3 The Challenge

All waste arisings in Northern Ireland are growing rapidly. Municipal waste arisings had a reported growth rate for 2003 – 2004 of 2.5%. There are several reasons why waste continues to increase, such as:

- Increased disposable income

There is a clear link between growth GDP¹ and waste generation; both have grown by approximately 40% in the OECD² countries as a whole since 1980.
- Convenience-led lifestyle

People in the UK work more hours in a week than any other European Nation and consequently have less free time³. This contributes greatly to the wider demand for greater convenience and speed, increasing demand for ready meals, fast food and a vast array of disposable items.
- Fashion Trends

Today's society is more fashion conscious than ever, and with many goods available at low cost, the norm is to replace items when they go out of fashion, or when the next model is available.
- Changing Attitudes

There is no longer an attitude of "make do and mend"; people would rather buy a new item than repair an old one.

Northern Ireland cannot sustain the continued growth in waste arisings. We therefore need to take action across all sectors to ensure waste is prevented wherever possible in the life cycle of a product. By considering waste prevention at all stages of the product lifecycle the impact the above activities have on waste arisings will be minimised.

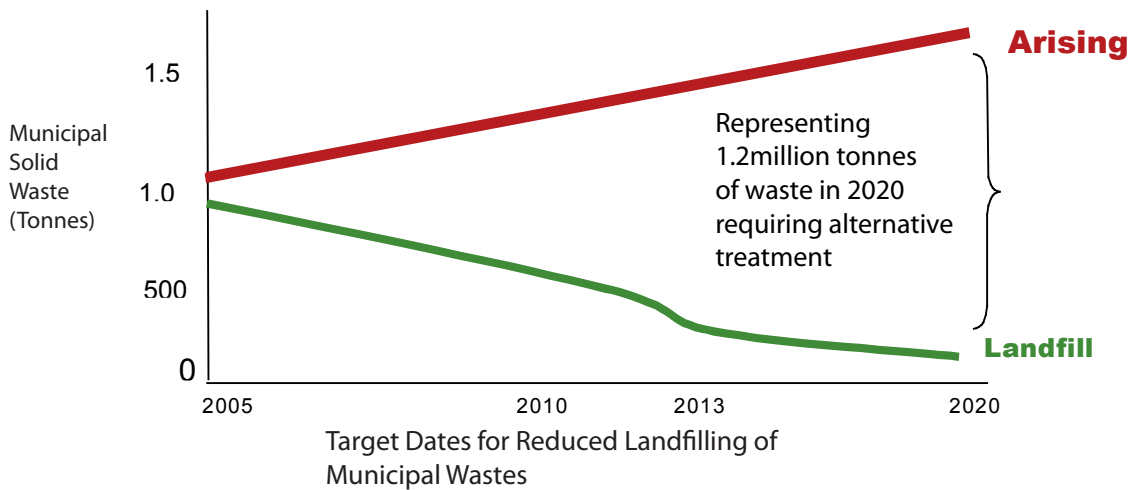
The European Landfill Directive has placed stringent targets on the diversion of packaging and biodegradable municipal waste from landfill. Figure 1 identifies the challenge for Northern Ireland in terms of the increasing gap between municipal waste arisings and the amount we are allowed to dispose to landfill by 2020. Waste prevention will help us meet these targets by reducing the amount of residual waste requiring recycling and recovery.

¹ GDP Gross Domestic Product

² OECD Organisation for Economic and Co-operation and development

³ OECD (2002), Reference Manual on Strategic Waste Prevention British Lifestyles, January 2003 (www.mintel.com)

Figure 1: The Waste Disposal Gap



The challenge is similar for all waste streams. Individuals, businesses and the public sector must all reduce and manage the consumption of resources to stem the growth in waste. The benefits of waste prevention are to:

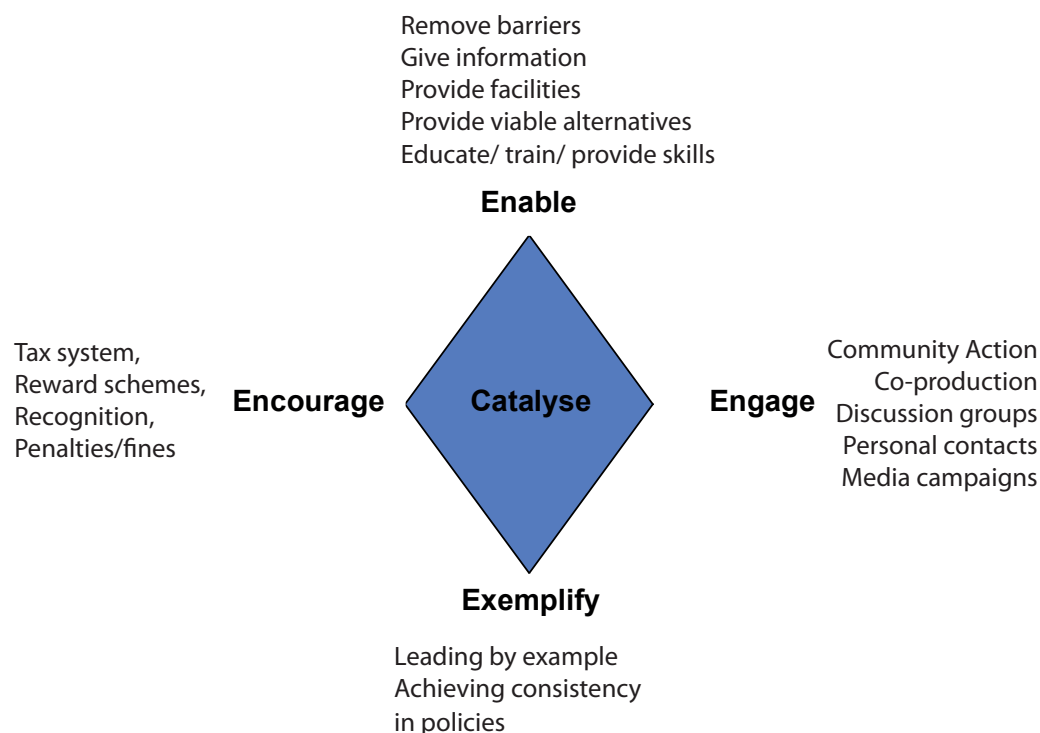
- Meet the demands of EU legislation, particularly the biodegradable municipal waste diversion targets of the Landfill Directive;
- Reduce demands on finite natural resources and the often “hidden” adverse environmental impacts of resource extraction and harvesting;
- Reduce the need for waste disposal facilities;
- Reduce the amount of money spent on waste disposal; and
- Encourage social inclusion and economic development through creating jobs and training opportunities.

The overall aim of the Framework for Waste Prevention in Northern Ireland is to stabilise waste generation. The fulfilment of the activities set out in the framework would result in a reduced impact on the environment from waste disposal activities, resource efficiency and reduced expenditure on waste disposal.

4 A Model for Waste Prevention

The UK Sustainable Development Strategy has developed a new behaviour change model (Figure 2) based on various research programmes⁴ on what influences our decisions to ‘spark’ behavioural change. The new approach brings together the levers currently in place recognising both the social and practical factors which influence or limit our choices.

Figure 2: Behaviour Change Model for Sustainable Development in the UK



These elements alone may not be sufficient to bring about the changes we need. We will need to go further, designing our actions to influence people to behave differently. Over time, our objective is for the new behaviour to become the norm.

The Waste Prevention Framework aims to use this approach to encourage waste prevention across all sectors. It defines a range of initiatives which fall under all of the areas of the Sustainable Development Behaviour Change Model.

⁴Defra, March 2005 ‘Securing the Future Delivering UK Sustainable Development Strategy’
 Jackson T 2005 ‘Motivating Sustainable Consumption – a review of evidence on consumer behaviour and behavioural change’
 Andrew Darton, for Defra, March 2004, ‘Impact of sustainable development on public behaviour’
 Andrew Darton, for Defra, May 2004 ‘Driving public behaviours for sustainable lifestyles’
 Prime Ministers Strategy Unit, February 2004, ‘Personal Responsibility and Changing Behaviour: the state of knowledge and its implications for public policy’
 Demos and the Green Alliance, for Defra, December 2003 ‘Carrots, sticks and sermons; influencing public behaviour for environmental goals’

When applied to waste prevention the model aims to:

- Empower and encourage people to use resources more efficiently and to generate less waste for collection;
- Establish better resource management and waste prevention as an integral part of business management and project planning, with clear economic and environmental benefits; and
- Quantify the amount of waste generated, to allow progress in waste reduction to be monitored.

The following activities have been identified by stakeholders during engagement as being key to achieving waste prevention in Northern Ireland, and are discussed in more details in chapter 6. All areas of the Behaviour Change Model are represented by the activities. These will be targeted across all sectors and will require everyone to take an active role in delivery.

Area of Influence	Proposed Activity
Enable	Build & extend services of business support agencies Provision of guidance to both public and private sectors on prevention and management of wastes Promote the National Resource and Waste Forum Waste Prevention toolkit Department of the Environment to provide information on regulatory requirements via website and other media. Encourage the implementation of Environmental Management Systems Support community Waste Prevention activities through various support mechanisms Improve the level and accuracy of waste management data and information Require waste management plans for new building projects
Engage	Establish a cross-sector Waste Prevention Forum Partnership with relevant professional bodies and associations on professional sector guidance Partnership with retailers Partnership between government agencies Partnership between Local Government and Voluntary sector. Promote waste prevention awareness campaigns
Encourage	Establish recognition awards for good practice in waste prevention Consider separate charging for household waste disposal Support eco-design practice in the manufacturing sector Develop incentive award schemes Industry to set sector specific targets for waste prevention through out the product life cycle.
Exemplify	Government procured contracts to demonstrate environmental considerations Environmental Product Labelling Research and Demonstration projects Phased roll out of Environmental Management Systems across Government.

5 Roles and Responsibilities

During the consultation process three key overarching groups were identified as target audiences:

Target Audience	Rationale
General Public	1.5 million population 1 million households Producers of 1 million tonnes of Municipal Waste (priority waste stream)
Business	Large producer of various types of waste e.g. Commercial & Industrial waste 635,000 tonnes in 2005 81,480 enterprises in Northern Ireland Major reliance on landfill
Public Sector	£1.8 billion procurement expenditure Large producer of waste Provide leadership

The aim is to establish a waste prevention forum from these groups with the appropriate membership by the end of 2005. This will ensure a co-ordinated approach is taken in the development and the implementation of waste prevention policy. The table below identifies the sectors and organisations within these overarching groups who will play a part in the delivery of waste prevention in Northern Ireland.

General Public
Voluntary Sector Government funded programmes Local Government Government Departments Retail Sector Service Sector Education Authorities
Business Sector
InvestNI, Envirowise, WRAP Professional Institutions & trade bodies , Agriculture
Public Sector
All Government Departments All associated Government agencies (e.g. HealthCare Trusts, Education Authorities). Local Government

6 Delivering the Model for Waste Prevention

Waste prevention will require many changes, small and large from all sectors detailed in chapter 5. The actions detailed in this chapter will be prioritised into an action plan by the Waste Prevention Forum. The Forum will consist of representatives from each of the sectors listed previously. The action plan will define clear timescales, quantitative targets, resources and responsibilities for each of the actions.

This chapter summarises the actions providing case study examples on how each activity may be put into practice. The case studies identify a number of activities already in progress

Proposed Activity/ Initiative	Build and extend the services of Business Support Organisations, for example Envirowise, Invest NI , WRAP.
Target Audience	All business sectors
Rationale	The provision of support to businesses on waste related issues has been invaluable. The demand for assistance from support agencies will increase as businesses begin to realise the importance of "Corporate Social Responsibility".
Case Study	Envirowise carry out fast track visits which highlight practical opportunities to improve resource efficiency and reduce associated costs. Perident, manufacturers of oral care products, received an Envirowise fast track visit. The visit resulted in the implementation of various waste minimisation initiatives. The resulting benefits were reduced packaging use, reduced waste disposal costs, improved networking with suppliers and a 66% reduction in waste sent to landfill.

Proposed Activity/ Initiative	Provision of guidance to both public and private sector on waste issues including waste prevention and green procurement.
Target Audience	Business and Public sectors
Rationale	The Waste Works website, developed by InvestNI in conjunction with EHS, will provide online information on all issues relating to waste for all sectors. However there is a need to provide a complementary step by step guide/ handbook, simplifying and signposting current guidance.
Case Study	The Welsh Executive has produced a high level public sector guidance document for Public Sector organisations on how to prevent and manage waste within their normal business functions.

Proposed Activity/ Initiative	Promote the NRWF Waste Prevention Toolkit.
Target Audience	All sectors
Rationale	<p>The National Resources & Waste Forum (NRWF) has developed a waste prevention toolkit which provides step by step guidance to both District Councils and the voluntary sector on how to implement waste prevention projects and campaigns.</p> <p>The Department of the Environment is a member of the Forum and has endorsed the toolkit as providing a helpful and consistent approach to all organisations planning or considering waste prevention measures.</p>
Case Study	The toolkit is published on www.nrwf.org.uk/Wasteprevention.htm

Proposed Activity/ Initiative	Department of the Environment to raise awareness of regulatory requirements, in particular producer responsibility, through website and other media.
Target Audience	All sectors
Rationale	<p>All business sectors must meet their legal requirements when managing waste. The Department has provided guidance to all sectors via several media for example: website, leaflets, guidance notes, workshop, seminars and help lines. The Department of the Environment supports NetRegs, which provides plain language guidance on environmental legislation and how to comply with it.</p> <p>The Department of the Environment recognises the importance of providing this guidance and will continue to do so.</p>
Case Study	In anticipation of the new Hazardous Waste Regulations which came into force on the 16 July 2005, the Environment and Heritage Service organised several informative seminars in June 2005 raising awareness of the impact of the changes to the business sector. For more information visit www.ehsni.gov.uk and www.environment-agency.gov.uk/netregs

Proposed Activity/ Initiative	Encourage the implementation of Environmental Management Systems, including waste management plans, in consideration for grant aid provided by Government.
Target Audience	Business Sector
Rationale	<p>Environmental Management Systems (EMS) provide a systematic way of managing the environmental concerns of a business addressing immediate and long term impacts of all practices within an organisation. As a result, implementation of an EMS will assist organisations to prevent waste and manage the waste they produce more effectively. Government and all other funding organisations should encourage the implementation of Environmental Management Systems when organisations apply for funding.</p>
Case Study	In 2003 – 2004 InvestNI grant aided an Environmental Audit Support Scheme, providing financial assistance to companies wishing to conduct environmental audits. 107 applications have been received and £394,000 has been committed. For more information visit www.investni.com

Proposed Activity/ Initiative	Support community activities on waste prevention through various support mechanisms.
Target Audience	Social and community sectors
Rationale	The voluntary sector are well positioned to deliver initiatives and innovative solutions to local communities which can make a significant impact on waste management behaviour. The Department can provide technical advice and support to those groups encouraging waste action in their local community. However, Government recognises that financial support may be required to initiate and sustain positive actions at the local level which will contribute to the overall objectives of the Waste Management Strategy.
Case Study	Previously assistance has been available to communities via grant aid, including the Landfill Tax Credit Scheme and various extensions to this scheme. The new Community Waste Innovation Fund launched by the Department of the Environment in 2005 will provide £3 million support for community action until 2008. Education, training, communication and practical activities that support all aspects of the Northern Ireland Waste Management Strategy implementation may be encouraged through the new scheme. Successful applicants for the first projects under the new scheme will be announced later in 2005.

Proposed Activity/ Initiative	Continue to improve the level and accuracy of waste management data and information in Northern Ireland.
Target Audience	All sectors
Rationale	Accurate and reliable information on waste arisings, composition and management methods is essential to planning and decision making for improving resource and waste management.
Case Study	Environment and Heritage Service has worked with the other UK administrations in the development of Waste Dataflow, an electronic recording system for Municipal Solid Waste, now used by District Councils throughout Northern Ireland to make accurate quarterly returns on household and municipal waste.

Proposed Activity/ Initiative	Require waste management plans for new building projects.
Target Audience	All sectors
Rationale	A waste management plan would ensure consideration is given to the implications and potential uses of waste, at the design stage of a new development. This would help to prevent the creation of waste and maximise the opportunity to use significant quantities of Construction and Demolition Wastes beneficially, thus reducing the demand for virgin aggregates for filling purposes.
Case Study	The Department of Trade and Industry has produced a voluntary code of practice to guide construction contractors and clients in developing site waste management plans (DTI, July 2004. For further information see www.dti.gov.uk/construction .) The Sustainable Construction Group in Northern Ireland is currently working on preparation of a Northern Ireland version of the DTI guide, expected to be published in 2005.

Proposed Activity/ Initiative	Establish a cross-sector waste prevention forum.
Target Audience	All sectors
Rationale	<p>The Waste Prevention Steering Group and workshops held in April 2005 have been highly successful in providing an opportunity for different sectors to get together and exchange experiences and ideas, leading to the development of this initial framework. Development of specific actions and priorities will require ongoing involvement of stakeholders to ensure that the framework remains relevant and delivers the desired outcomes.</p> <p>A waste prevention forum, drawn from stakeholders across public, private and community sectors, will assist in driving this process.</p>

Proposed Activity/ Initiative	Professional institutions and associations to provide support to their members on waste prevention, sustainable supply chain management and green procurement.
Target Audience	All sectors
Rationale	<p>Associations and professional institutions provide essential guidance to professions across all sectors. Each group should provide specific information to their members on how to design out waste at all stages of the product life cycle. Associations and institutes guiding professions involved at the design stages for example, Architects, Engineers, and Construction professionals have a particular role in delivery of waste management objectives. Government recognises that it also has a role to assist these bodies with the provision of technical expertise, guidance notes and training assistance.</p>
Case Study	<p>The Royal Institute of British Architects and the Carbon Trust have teamed together to inspire Architects to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions from buildings. Architectural Design contributes to about 45% of greenhouse gas emissions in the UK. The Carbon Trust is providing professional assistance to the institute on the tools for sustainable architecture to reduce greenhouse emissions. For more information visit www.architecture.com</p>

Proposed Activity/ Initiative	Enhance partnerships with retailers.
Target Audience	Business Sector
Rationale	As part of the Northern Ireland's Wake up to Waste campaign, a Retailers' Charter was launched in October 2002. This was a voluntary commitment made by retailers to reduce the volume of waste they produce and to encourage their customers to prevent waste. For more information visit www.wakeuptowaste.org
Case Study	WRAP and Tesco are currently working together to investigate the opportunities to improve the design of ready meal packaging, with the aim of reducing product packaging by 10%. For more information visit www.wrap.org.uk or www.tescocorporate.com

Proposed Activity/ Initiative	Develop partnerships between Government agencies to deliver waste prevention objectives.
Target Audience	Public sector
Rationale	Liaison with the devolved administrations and enforcement agencies enables the adoption of a "joined up" approach allowing consistent policy making and sharing of experiences. All of these agencies are members of the National Resources & Waste Forum working in partnership with the waste management industry, the voluntary sector and local government taking forward resource efficiency.
Case Study	Within Northern Ireland, a Department of the Environment waste audit has given rise to a waste management Action Plan built around the 3R's of reduction, reuse and recycle. The Action Plan has waste prevention as the priority and will run over the next five years. The Action Plan is currently being reviewed by the other 10 Departments with a view to adoption of similar plans by March 2006

Proposed Activity/ Initiative	District Councils to work in partnership with the voluntary sector to take forward waste prevention action.
Target Audience	Public Sector and General Public
Rationale	<p>The voluntary sector has an unprecedented level of influence in all sectors especially the general public encouraging action on various issues. This has been recognised by Government and will underpin the implementation of the Northern Ireland Sustainable Development Strategy.</p> <p>The Department of the Environment will continue to assist the voluntary sector through the provision of grant assistance.</p>
Case Study	In February – March 2005, the Interim Landfill Tax Replacement Fund funded Bag Lady Productions which teamed up with 10 District Councils in Northern Ireland to promote the “NEEDabag” campaign. The Department of the Environment and District Councils supported this voluntary organisation to promote the reduction of plastic bag use. Local retailers displayed supporting posters and stickers.

Proposed Activity/ Initiative	Promote waste prevention awareness campaigns.
Target Audience	All sectors
Rationale	<p>Relating waste prevention to every day life has been identified as a priority by stakeholders. Waste prevention campaigns are a key mechanism to achieve this. All sectors may be involved in the promotion of waste prevention activities, from the local farmers market to the multinational manufacturer.</p> <p>The Department of the Environment and District Councils, with the assistance of appropriately skilled organisations will take the lead in the delivery of campaigns relating to Smart Shopping, Home Composting, Reuseable Nappies and Junk Mail. All sectors will be involved in the delivery of these campaigns, for example the retail sector will be closely involved in the delivery of a smart shopping campaign.</p>
Case Study	The Scottish Waste Awareness Group has developed a campaigning programme which provides a consistent approach to terminology and images throughout Scotland. They have devised a five phase campaign approach to assist local authorities in the delivery of local campaigns. For more information visit www.wascot.org

Proposed Activity/ Initiative	Establish recognition awards for waste prevention for good practice in Northern Ireland.
Target Audience	All sectors
Rationale	Recognition for the efforts made to prevent waste is a key tool to empower and encourage everyone to get involved, motivating action at all levels. There are few prestige award schemes in Northern Ireland and UK for recycling schemes and improved waste management practices. The schemes which are in place are predominately focused on the activities of business and local authorities (for example; the Belfast Telegraph Northern Ireland Business Awards). An award scheme will provide recognition to all sectors making an effort to prevent waste.
Case Study	The National Recycling Awards provide an opportunity for recognition of those who make a large contribution to the industry. The awards are open to any organisation, community group or company that are affected by recycling, play an active part in the recycling process or are involved in the production chain of recycled products. There are 14 awards including an award for waste minimisation project of the year. This award scheme is highly recognised throughout the UK and provides good advertisement for those organisations working hard to reduce, reuse, recycle. For more information visit www.nationalrecyclingawards.com

Proposed Activity/ Initiative	Consider separate charging for waste disposal.
Target Audience	All sectors
Rationale	At present the amount that a householder pays for waste is not related to the amount of waste that each household produces. This means that there is no financial incentive for the household to reduce its waste. Many other countries around the world have introduced a 'pay by use' schemes, which have been effective in increasing recycling rates and decreasing the growth in waste arisings.

Proposed Activity/ Initiative	Encourage Eco-Design practice within each manufacturing sector.
Target Audience	All sectors
Rationale	<p>The Eco-Design principle is based on the life cycle analysis of a product, assessing the environmental impact over the life of a product. This process identifies opportunities of where to “design- out” or minimise undesirable environmental impacts.</p> <p>Northern Ireland currently supports a number of initiatives led both in the UK and EU including the Waste Resources Action Programme (WRAP). WRAP currently administers an £8 million Waste Minimisation Innovation Fund on behalf of DEFRA. This supports the application of Eco-Design and design innovation in retail packaging in order to minimise retailer-derived household waste.</p> <p>Support for the Eco-Design principle will continue through the initiatives managed by WRAP, Eco Smart Design and extension of local support programmes where appropriate.</p>
Case Study	<p>Eco Smart Design is a new support initiative for SMEs in the cross- border region of Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. The new scheme provides invaluable support to business sectors on product life cycle analysis by delivering an interactive and collaborative company assistance programme tailored on individual needs and requirement. For more information visit www.ecosmartdesign.co.uk</p>

Proposed Activity/ Initiative	Develop incentive schemes.
Target Audience	All sectors
Rationale	<p>A number of incentive schemes have been trialled and investigated by many European Local Governments. These schemes provide a mechanism of rewarding sustainable behaviour dealing with issues ranging from recycling, to sustainable purchasing.</p> <p>The Department of the Environment in partnership with District Councils will consider the potential for establishing a pilot award/ incentive scheme with the central aim of rewarding sustainable purchasing behaviour for example the purchase of products with less packaging or the rental of goods instead of purchasing new. A pilot scheme could be developed to reward a range of sustainable practices like recycling, using public transport and healthy living.</p>
Case Study	<p>The city of Rotterdam trialled a reward scheme to encourage sustainable behaviour. It was implemented using a similar mechanism to a store loyalty card, allowing users to stock up points when buying sustainable products, participating in recycling schemes, using public transport etc. The scheme has been very successful and will be extended to other large cities in the Netherlands. The Welsh Executive has been investigating the opportunities to develop a similar scheme at a national level within Wales. For more information visit www.sus-life.org.uk</p>

Proposed Activity/ Initiative	Industry to set specific targets to reduce waste throughout the product life cycle.
Target Audience	All sectors
Rationale	<p>Product Designers and specifiers (buyers) have influence on the amount of waste associated with a product – for example the longevity of a product, how easy the product is to repair.</p> <p>Industry sectors in Northern Ireland should investigate the opportunities to develop sector specific guidelines and waste prevention targets. In partnership with the different sectors. The Department of the Environment will explore the possibilities of formulating voluntary agreements, and the potential for providing incentives for those sectors meeting the voluntary targets.</p>
Case Study	<p>The European Union has made a very successful voluntary agreement with the Motor Manufacturing industry on the reduction of CO₂ pollution from vehicles. The agreement has resulted in a reduction of 10.8% of CO₂ emission from vehicles between 1995 and 2002. For more information visit www.lowcyp.org.uk</p>

Proposed Activity/ Initiative	Government procured contracts to demonstrate environmental considerations.
Target Audience	Public sector
Rationale	<p>The public sector in Northern Ireland spends approximately £1.5 billion a year on both operational and executive functions. As a result, 'greening' government procurement is of the highest priority. The Department of Finance and Personnel has produced a guidance document "Integrating Environmental Considerations into Public Procurement".</p> <p>The Government will work in partnership with WRAP and the Central Procurement Directorate to identify greater opportunities for green procurement within the Public Sector with a view to encouraging waste prevention, reuse and recycling.</p>
Case Study	<p>The Central Procurement Directorate managed the redevelopment of a previously used industrial site into a modern business and educational village. The contract specifications set several environmental requirements to ensure the efficient use of the materials generated during the demolition activity. For example, all concrete floor slabs, underground concrete structures and foundations were excavated, crushed and reused on site for structure fill (25%), capping on road construction (20%), fill pipe trenches (10%) and as general fill (45%). For more information visit www.cpdni.gov.uk</p>

Proposed Activity/ Initiative	Environmental product labelling.
Target Audience	All business sectors
Rationale	<p>Environmental labelling on products will enable consumers and manufacturers to make informed choices about the products they buy. There are several schemes involving labelling with waste information to identify “low waste” products. A number of initiatives are being taken forward internationally and at UK level, for example the European Eco-labelling scheme which covers a limited range of products. This scheme is currently under review.</p> <p>A voluntary approach should be adopted initially by encouraging business sectors to use environmental labelling schemes and to follow good practice when making green claims for their products and services.</p>

Proposed Activity/ Initiative	Research and demonstration projects
Target Audience	Business and Public Sectors
Rationale	<p>Research and demonstration projects will improve our understanding to inform decision-makers both collectively and by individual waste generators.</p> <p>InvestNI and the Department of the Environment will encourage innovative demonstrations, efficiency projects and new environmental technologies through liaison with other UK and EU agencies and extension of existing support programmes where appropriate.</p> <p>Tertiary education authorities and Questor, with the support of InvestNI and the Department of the Environment, will also investigate the opportunities for emerging environmental technology and demonstration projects.</p>
Case Study	<p>WRAP funded a research project led by Marks & Spencer in conjunction with Closed Loop London and London Remade to introduce post-use recycled plastic in the packaging for its ‘Food to Go’ range. The 6-month trial involved around 1,500 tonnes of recycled PET being incorporated into salad bowls, beverage bottles, recipe pots and trays, with the recycled content ranging from 30% to 50%. For more information visit www.wrap.org.uk</p>

Proposed Activity/ Initiative	Phased roll out of Environmental Management Systems across Government.
Target Audience	All sectors
Rationale	<p>Corporate Environmental Management is recognised as a vital tool to ensure the public sector meets their sustainable development commitments. An Environmental Management System (EMS) is recognised as an important mechanism for ensuring better resource management and prevention of waste.</p> <p>The Department of the Environment has developed a model following a waste audit that has been piloted within the Environment & Heritage Service. The intention is to use this model to encourage wider roll out across other government departments.</p>
Case Study	<p>EHS piloted the implementation of an EMS in the Built Heritage Headquarters, Waterman House which accommodates 85 staff. The new management system is expected to halve water costs through water saving measures; save at least £3,000 from the new lighting controls and energy-saving bulbs; and save £1,000 through increased recycling of materials such as cardboard and dense plastics. The EMS assisted in the launch of a paper reduction campaign throughout the Department, with a planned 10% reduction each year for the next five years which will save approximately £42,000 after five years.</p> <p>For more information visit www.ehsni.gov.uk</p>

Key Priorities for 2005-06

A priority action for EHS in 2005-06 is to collate good practice and develop activities further, and communicate outcomes to all stakeholders. Detailed actions being taken forward by EHS during 2005-06 include:

- Enable:**
- Enhanced support to WRAP to extend the number of WRAP programmes available in NI
 - Continue to support with business support organisations for example InvestNI, Envirowise and Arena Network.
 - Development of guidance to public and business sector on waste management.
 - Ongoing liaison with InvestNI for public launch of WasteWorks website,
 - Development of EHS and Wake up to Waste websites.
 - Grant Aid successful projects – Community Waste Innovation Fund (CWIF).
 - Undertake data surveys.
- Engage:**
- Establishment of a Waste Prevention Forum.
 - Review partnerships with District Councils, Retailers etc to establish current needs and progress implementation.
 - Support campaigns on Smart Shopping, Home Composting, junk mail and reusable nappies.
 - Continue to liaise with NRWF to ensure the Waste Prevention toolkit is made more user friendly.
 - Raise awareness of the Waste Prevention Tool Kit.
- Encourage:**
- Undertake a scoping study on the potential for specific incentive and award schemes.
- Exemplify:**
- Roll out of Waste Management Plans across government.
 - Action Plan for adoption of similar Waste Management plans across Government.

7 Monitoring and Evaluation

The Framework for Waste Prevention is a working document detailing key activities which need to be developed further. The Waste Prevention Forum detailed in chapter six will have the role of developing an action plan setting clear timescales for delivery, measurable targets detailed responsibilities and resources.

The forum will review both the framework and action plan annually against its progress. The annual reviews will ensure both the framework and action plan remains relevant and delivers the desired outcomes.

The Department of the Environment will continue to liaise with all the delivering bodies including: Envirowise, InvestNI, WRAP, Central Procurement Directorate (CPD), local Government, the voluntary sectors to ensure a co-ordination of waste prevention activity.

ANNEX 1

Useful References

Environment and Heritage Service – www.ehsni.gov.uk
Wake up to Waste – www.wakeuptowaste.org
Envirowise- www.envirowise.gov.uk
WRAP- www.wrap.org.uk
InvestNI- www.investni.com
Arena - www.arenanetwork.org
Household waste prevention toolkit - www.nrwf.org.uk/Wasteprevention.htm
Race Against Waste (DEHLG) - www.raceagainstwaste.com
DTI code of practice on developing site waste management plans - www.dti.gov.uk/construction
Tools for sustainable architecture- www.architecture.com
Information on the design of ready made packaging- www.tescocorporate.com
Scottish Waste Aware Group campaigning programme- www.wascot.org
National Recycling Awards- www.nationalrecyclingawards.com
Eco smart Design- www.ecosmartdesign.co.uk
Incentive schemes for rewarding sustainable behaviour- www.sus-life.org.uk
Voluntary agreement on the reduction of CO2 pollution from vehicles- www.lowcvp.org.uk
Central Procurement Directorate- www.cpdni.gov.uk

Waste Prevention in Northern Ireland – Report of Stakeholder Consultation Process- January 2005- April 2005. Copies available on request from EHS
Waste Prevention Stakeholder consultees. - list available on request.



Our aim is to protect and conserve the natural and built environment and to promote its appreciation for the benefit of present and future generations.

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