

Review of the Waste Management Strategy for Northern Ireland

Reflections on the Waste Management Advisory Board Strategy Review Report

*Department of the Environment
September 2004*

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SUMMARY

In March 2003 the Department commenced its review of the Waste Management Strategy. Over the last 12 months we have been analysing the responses from the public consultation completed in July 2003 and from regular meetings with key stakeholders. We have critically examined our performance with the assistance of consultants and the independent Waste Management Advisory Board. This has identified progress in many areas but has also identified gaps and issues that we must address if we are to realise the vision for sustainable waste management in Northern Ireland.

Over the last three years we have introduced new legislation, initiated awareness and market development programmes, improved our information baseline, and published comprehensive Waste Management Plans. However Government leadership and engagement of all sectors is crucial if we are to meet the challenging targets set by Europe. We acknowledge these as key areas for progress in the next phase of Strategy development. We also recognise that co-ordination and focus of implementation mechanisms and activity will be essential.

Our programme of actions over the next 12 months therefore focuses on drawing together activities across the six strands of the Waste Management Strategy and prioritising measures which will enable us to develop a robust new framework for future management of wastes in Northern Ireland.

The key areas of this focus based on new recommendations from the consultation process include:

- development of a new Strategy which progressively moves us towards a single waste management plan as the principal means of implementation;
- emphasis on waste prevention and development of markets building on a central delivery body such as WRAP;
- enhanced communication and engagement of government, business and community partners;
- establishment of treatment infrastructure that meets the requirements, quality and environmental standards expected by the community.

Our aim is to provide a Strategy which retains its original vision, builds on its successes and is firmly grounded in action. The Department will continue to take the lead in this process but is dependent on everyone playing their part as our thinking develops to move us forward from waste towards resource management.

1. INTRODUCTION

Background to the NI Waste Management Strategy (NIWMS)

The Northern Ireland Waste Management Strategy ("the Strategy") was published in March 2000. The key aim of the Strategy is to achieve fully sustainable waste management by using material resources more efficiently; cutting down on the amount of waste produced; and managing waste in a way that minimises the impact on the environment.

The Strategy comprises six core policy measures as shown in *Figure 1.1*.

Figure 1.1 Structure of the Strategy



The Department of the Environment ("the Department") is responsible for leading the implementation of the Strategy in conjunction with other major stakeholder groups. The Strategy recognises the need for monitoring and review to enable delivery of the vision and ensure key targets are achieved. The implementation actions included a review of progress after the first three years.

Strategy Development Process

In March 2003, the Department initiated a comprehensive public consultation exercise. Following receipt of 45 detailed responses, consultants advising the Department prepared a number of working reports to assist the process including:

- an analysis of stakeholder responses (*Ref A1*);
- a review of the Strategy, Waste Management Plans and Draft Biodegradable Waste Strategy in the context of EU Directives (*Ref A2*);
- a factual review of the Strategy implementation and identification of priorities, barriers and opportunities for Phase 2 (*Ref A3*); and
- a review of the Annual Performance Reports and implementation action plans for the three Waste Management Plans for 2002 (*Ref A4*).

Key issues identified by the Department from these documents included:

- Government Engagement;
- Business Engagement; and
- Infrastructure development.

These reports were fed into an independent review carried out by the Waste Management Advisory Board (WMAB), which was set up in 2001 to guide stakeholders in the uptake of the Strategy, oversee the Market Development Programme and undertake a review of Phase 1.

In parallel, the Department commenced work in September 2003 to address key issues identified from the consultation as part of the Strategy development process. Priorities included:

- initiating a NI-wide BPEO process to guide the development of an integrated network of facilities for Northern Ireland and provide further direction to local authorities in preparing and reviewing their plans;
- developing a procurement framework to assure future funding of essential new infrastructure;
- engaging Government and other key stakeholders on implementation of green purchasing and sustainable waste management practices;
- identifying tools, mechanisms and action programmes to underpin the Strategy implementation for priority waste streams.

The development of a new Strategy is a process involving wide consultation with stakeholders. Key milestones in the process are highlighted in *Table 1.1*.

Table 1.1 Key Milestones in the Strategy Review Process

Commence Strategy Consultation review	March 2003
Responses received	June 2003
Department analysis of responses	September 2003
WMAB Review Report published	June 2004
Complete review stage	July 2004
Workshop with all key stakeholder groups	December 2004
Preparation of draft Strategy for stakeholder consultation	January 2005
Public Consultation	March-May 2005
New Strategy	September 2005

Structure of this Report

This report sets out the Department's provisional reflections on Phase 1 consultations, to the extent that they have been captured by the review carried out the WMAB, which was published in June 2004. It provides:

- an overview of progress to date and ongoing activities on implementation and development of the Strategy (*Section 2*); and
- preliminary comments and observations on the recommendations/statements contained in the WMAB Review Report (*Section 3*).

A list of key reference documents is attached at Annex A. A summary of the ERM report on consultations and key issues is included at Annex B.

Programme and Next Steps

The process of Strategy development incorporates ongoing feedback and contribution from stakeholders engaged in a wide range of current activities. As a result of these activities and investigations, the Department will progressively refine its policies and strategy for meeting the challenges that lie ahead.

When this process is complete, the Department will be in a more informed position to provide its detailed response on the recommendations arising from the consultation process as a whole. To assist understanding, the Department will therefore provide documentation to accompany the draft blueprint of the new Strategy scheduled for January 2005. This will explain why certain recommendations were not adopted. The blueprint itself will contain those recommendations, in whole or in part, which will enable us to provide a robust new framework for the future management of wastes in Northern Ireland.

2. OVERVIEW OF PROGRESS

Strategy Implementation Phases

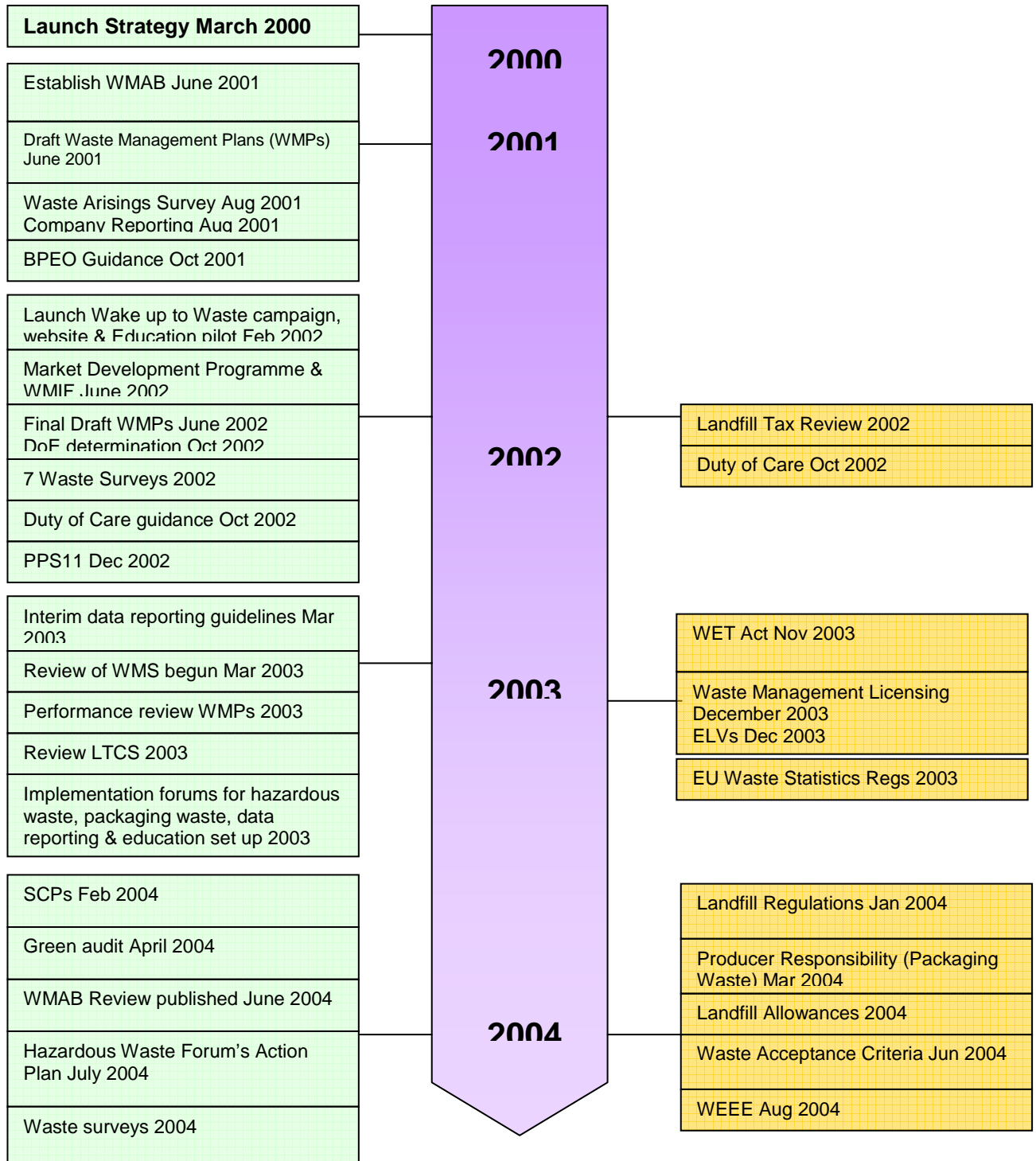
The Strategy involves continuous implementation and review. It not only involves initiating and developing projects, but also sustaining the commitment of stakeholders to the Strategy and putting in place the required measures and activities to allow progress to be made towards sustainable waste management.

The Strategy identified two particular phases for implementation, namely:

- **Phase 1 (2000-2003)**, in which the primary challenge was getting the Strategy underway and preparing the foundations for achieving targets and objectives; and
- **Phase 2 (2004-2007)**, where the major challenges identified in the original Strategy were anticipated to be infrastructure development, public participation and meeting targets and obligations.

Figure 2.1 illustrates how the strategy implementation programme has progressed over time. Progress during Phase 1 and key action areas for Phase 2 are summarised under the six policy strands.

Figure 2.1 Progress of Strategy Implementation



Policy Area 1: Reduction, Recycling & Recovery

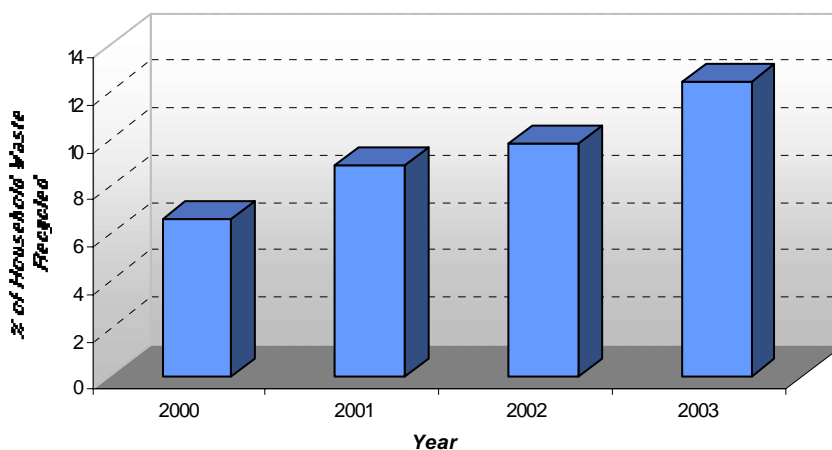
The Strategy document sets out a series of provisional primary and secondary targets for achieving the major goals of the Strategy. Implementation actions during Phase 1 to achieve these goals have concentrated on the primary targets, especially the recovery of 25% of household waste by 2005, which is the first key milestone. Progress has been primarily laying the foundations for measurement and performance review, and in particular:

- working with District Councils to improve reporting mechanisms and establish a consistent basis for data collation and measurement, including development of performance indicators and reporting guidelines (*RefA6*);
- development of a new WasteDataFlow recording system (*see Section 2.6*);
- initiating a waste management audit of the Department and encouraging the use of recycled paper;
- establishment of a Market Development Programme (further details provided in *Table 2.2* below); and
- implementing and reviewing Producer Responsibility obligations, including establishment of a Packaging Waste Forum, legislation on Packaging Waste and ELVs, and initiating guidance and a BPEO on WEEE

The Northern Ireland Packaging Waste Forum organised an awareness conference in April 2004 for stakeholders involved in all aspects of the waste management chain for packaging. They produced a report in June 2004 (*Ref A7*), including issues and recommendations to be taken into account in preparation of the revised Strategy.

There has recently been a significant increase in the provision of recycling services (bins, boxes etc) for households within NI and it is hoped that this will insure recycling levels continue to improve. Progress has been made in increasing recycling rates in NI over the past few years, as illustrated in *Figure 2.2* below.

Figure 2.2 Household Waste Recycling Rates for NI 2000-2003



Source: EHS July 2004

The three sub-regional waste management groups have provided assurance that they are developing and implementing plans to ensure the achievement of the target to recycle / compost 25% of household waste by the financial year 2005/2006.

One significant obstacle to increasing levels of recycling and resource recovery in NI is the lack of local markets for recycled materials. The focus of the Market Development Programme (MDP) is to stimulate local demand for recyclable materials by promoting uptake of products, developing specifications and exercising the purchasing power of Government, District Councils and major businesses in NI. The main mechanism for this is working in close partnership with the UK wide market development programme WRAP. See *Table 2.1* for a summary of initiatives.

In addition to the activities listed in *Table 2.1*, a wide range of reduction, recycling and recovery projects have been funded by sources such as the Landfill Tax Credit Scheme and the National Lottery New Opportunities fund. These have often been driven by the voluntary sector and have included education programmes, waste collection pilot schemes, demonstration projects and other community projects.

The Department's Waste Management Industry Fund has also distributed funding to companies in NI to stimulate sustainable waste management businesses.

Key issues for Government in Phase 2 include:

- ***continued development of robust tools and monitoring to assess progress towards achievement of all targets;***
- ***continued actions and infrastructure development to meet the first Landfill Directive target in 2010;***
- ***further extension of Producer Responsibility to other key waste streams; and***
- ***consolidating existing programmes and initiatives through a single body such as WRAP for effective delivery of resource management.***

Table 2.1 Summary of Market Development Programme

- **UK Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP):** The Department joined WRAP in 2002 and has committed funding until 2005. The programme focuses on the creation of stable and efficient markets for recycled materials and products. Membership of WRAP affords access to a £34 million market development programme with developed products and processes that are fully applicable to NI. WRAP's programmes are promoted locally by a NI Liaison Officer appointed in March 2003.
- **Waste Management Industry Fund:** This is a £1million joint initiative between EHS and InvestNI formed in 2002 to encourage the practical development of sustainable markets for reused, recycled or recovered materials by offering grants to capital projects. Projects supported to date include plastic manufacture, glass recycling, waste timber recycling, composting and cardboard recycling facilities.
- **Waste Minimisation Initiatives:** The Department liaises with InvestNI in its support of NIWEB, Envirowise and BLOWISE programmes. These programmes help to minimise industrial waste by helping businesses identify waste minimisation opportunities through collaborative demonstration projects.
- **Education & Information:** Initiatives have been undertaken to raise awareness of sustainable waste management, for example, the Wake up to Waste campaign that addresses both consumer and business issues. A retail partnership between EHS and key retailers was launched in 2002 to support the campaign and communicate the need to reduce waste.
- **R&D:** Research supporting the MDP has included surveys of arisings of priority waste streams, contribution to a study on recycling markets, sponsorship of a market development conference, as well as contribution to a number of UK wide initiatives through the Scotland and Northern Ireland Forum for Environmental Research (SNIFFER), the Environment Agency and WRAP.
- **All-island co-operation:** A joint North-South Market Development Group has been operating since 2002. This has initiated market development links across the island of Ireland including specific proposals for a joint paper mill feasibility study to be tendered in Autumn 2004.

Policy Area 2: Strategy Leadership

A major priority identified in the Strategy was 'greening government'. The public sector accounts for a high proportion of the NI economy. It is recognised that this will require positive actions by government departments, agencies and District Councils.

The Strategy's ambition was that, where government leads, business will follow. The Department has established a senior level waste management steering group within the department to help facilitate the introduction of 'green purchasing' within the Department, and to drive forward the waste minimisation and recycling message. The steering group includes a representative from the Department of Finance and Personnel, Central Procurement Directorate and this involvement will assist towards rolling out green purchasing across all government departments.

A waste audit has been undertaken in 20 of the Department's sites to establish a baseline of arisings, and to obtain a clearer understanding of which waste types need to be targeted. In parallel with this to initiate green purchasing, the use of recycled paper has already been introduced into all offices, and paper, plastic and can recycling schemes are being tested.

These activities on waste and recycling will feed into a wider Environmental Management System that is being initiated by the Department.

A Waste Management Advisory Board (WMAB) was established in 2001 to guide stakeholders in the uptake of the Strategy, to oversee the Market Development Programme and to undertake a review of Phase 1 (*Ref A5*). It was also the remit of WMAB to engage with businesses and NGO stakeholders.

In parallel with the above, a wide range of businesses have undertaken environmental audits of their operations and subsequently introduced environmental management systems. The business sector, via InvestNI representation on the Waste Management Advisory Board (WMAB), is beginning to tackle waste management issues through initiatives such as the "Business Leaders Forum for Waste Minimisation".

Business engagement continues to be pursued by involvement of representatives in a range of groups including:

- NI Hazardous Waste Forum;
- NI Packaging Waste Forum;
- Retail Partnership; and
- NI-wide BPEO Steering Group.

A key issue for Phase 2 is engagement of Government departments, agencies and District Councils to extend and demonstrate leadership to drive the Strategy implementation. Progress will also be needed with positive engagement of the business community.

Policy Area 3: Planning and Infrastructure

The preparation and adoption of the Waste Management Plans (WMPs) by the District Councils formed the main focus of the first phase of Strategy Implementation. The key stages of this process are as follows:

- The Strategy recognised the need for economies of scale and group working of the 26 District Councils within larger sub-regional groups, and recommended that the Councils should form collaborative waste management groups.
- Three such groups were formed (See *Figure 2.3*) during 2000 and joint Waste Management Plans were prepared.
- EHS facilitated the process by providing advice and guidance on partnership, initiating a forum to exchange information and progress across the Groups, and reviewing drafts as the Plans developed.
- The WMPs were formally adopted by all Councils by February 2003 and provided the context for the development of more detailed action programmes for delivery of infrastructure (See *Table 2.2*) and achievement of targets.
- arc21 were assisted by the Department in setting up a procurement committee for the development of new facilities. This was achieved by an amendment to The Local Government (Constituting a Joint Committee as a Body Corporate) Order (NI) 2004.
- IAPs were also prepared by each group and reviewed by the Department to take forward implementation actions and integration to provide a network of facilities.

Figure 2.3 Sub Regional Waste Planning Groups

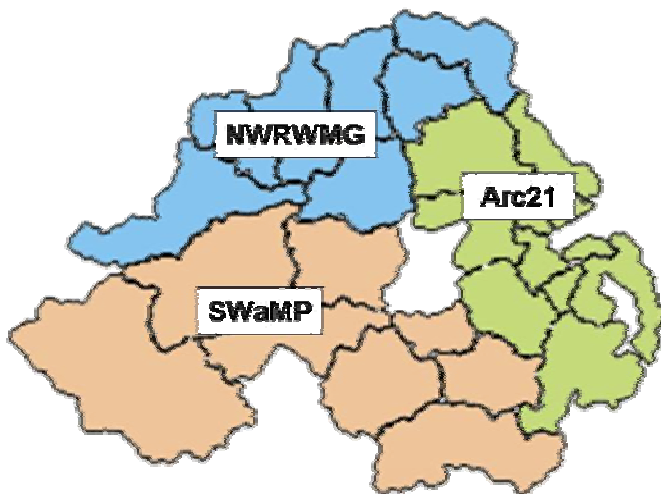


Table 2.2 New Waste Management Facilities Planned for 2005

Facility	NW	SWaMP	arc21
CA Sites	22 + 6 extensions	15 +3 extensions	Not specified
Material Recycling Facility	1-2	1-2	1-2
In-vessel	1	1	1-2
Windrow Composting Facility	2-3	2-3	2-3

Source *Review of IAPs, 2003*

The development of the Waste Management Plans (WMPs) was further supported by development of Department guidance on BPEO (*Ref A8*) and Planning Policy Statement, Planning and Waste Management (PPS11) (*Ref A9*).

In advance of the development of infrastructure by the WMPs, there was a need to ensure that sufficient interim landfill capacity was available. The Department therefore prepared an Essential Interim Capacity Report which quantified the remaining landfill capacity and recommended that planning applications be processed for a number of sites identified in the WMPs.

The importance of other waste streams was recognised during Phase 1, and as a result, a multi-stakeholder Hazardous Waste Forum was established in 2003. Its Action Plan was published in June 2004 (*Ref A 10*). The Department acknowledges, however, that the revised Strategy needs to give more attention to other waste streams arising in NI, including C&I, C&D and agricultural waste.

Since 2001 the Department has provided grant assistance to District Councils (DCs) to implement their WMPs. In 2003/04 this grant assistance amounted to £10 million.

Key Issues for Phase 2 include:

- ***Comprehensive reviews of the WMPs are planned to ensure they continue to meet Strategy objectives and comply with EU directives. The revised plans will be informed by the NI wide BPEO to be completed in December 2004 and this will be used to ensure that the planned infrastructure is sufficient to meet the long term needs of NI as a whole for MSW, C&I and C&D waste streams.***
- ***Timely planning permission for implementation of the required infrastructure to meet Strategy targets***
- ***A clear procurement process for funding of the required infrastructure consistent with the relevant requirements such as Best Value principles.***

Policy Area 4: Regulations and Guidance

Considerable progress has been made in implementing a raft of new EU-led waste management legislation over the last 3 years. These include the following regulations under Waste and Contaminated Land Order (WCLO) (See *Table 2.3*).

Table 2.3 *Regulations under WCLO*

	Dates
Controlled Waste Regulations & Duty of Care	Oct 2002
WET Act 2003	Nov 2003
Landfill Allowance Regulations (NI)	Jan 2004
Landfill Regulations	June 2004
Waste Management Licensing	Dec 2003
Waste Electrical & Electronic Equipment	Aug 2004
End of Life Vehicles (ELVs)	Dec 2003
Producer Responsibility Obligations (Packaging Waste Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland)	Apr 2003

The Department has also worked closely with its partners across the UK (DEFRA, EA and SEPA) in developing operational guidance. The Department further developed a draft Biodegradable Waste Management Strategy (BWS) in 2003 to fulfil requirements under Landfill Directive. See *Table 2.4*.

Table 2.4 *Operational Guidance*

	Dates
Duty of Care Code of Practice	Oct 2002
Municipal Waste Data Monitoring and Reporting Guidelines	Oct 2004
Biodegradable Waste Strategy (Draft)	May 2003
Essential Interim Capacity (EIC)	April 2003
Guidance on Site Conditioning Plans	July 2003 & Jan 2004
Landfill and Permitting Guidance	Dec 2003
ELV Guidance for Authorised Facilities	
WEEE Statutory BATRRRT Guidance	June 2004
Action Programme	May 2003 (with annual review)

The Department established an independent Northern Ireland Hazardous Waste Forum, acting in the role of secretariat. The Forum, comprising of stakeholders from central and local government, waste producers, waste management industry and an NGO, has initially concentrated on providing advice on a way forward for hazardous waste reduction, recovery and management. The advice was published in July 2004 in an Advisory document that set out the key issues and actions that need to be carried out to ensure the continued environmentally sound management of hazardous waste.

The role of the Department has changed dramatically over the past two years. The development and implementation of new environmental legislation have led to a significant increase in budgets, staff and professional expertise. The number of staff in the Environmental Policy Division has risen from 55 in 2001 to 87 in 2003/04, whilst staff levels in the Waste and Contaminated Land section within EHS have risen progressively from 15 to around 60 staff over the same period. Planned recruitment of an additional 35 staff is currently in progress in 2004, in order to support EHS new regulatory functions, including waste management licensing, which EHS took over from the District Councils in December 2003.

To support this regulatory function and implementation of the Strategy, programme budgets for the Department's Waste Management and Contaminated Land section have increased steadily since 2001. Programme budgets including funding to support District Councils, the WMIF, WRAP and the NGO sector, increased from £3.9 million in 2001/02 to around £15 million in 2003/04, of which the majority has been used to support District Councils in the implementation of their waste management plans.

Since taking over its new enforcement role, the Department has been proactive in using a range of powers to prepare prosecution cases against operators and landowners who have allowed their land to be used for illegal waste disposal.

A key issue for Phase 2 is implementation of legislation, definition of roles and provision of further guidance for effective enforcement. There is an ongoing legislative programme and several other initiatives in this area, including new procedures for waste reporting, changes to TFS and hazardous waste, introduction of new PR Regulations, and extension of the controlled waste regime to Agricultural Waste.

Policy Area 5: Improving our Understanding

During Phase 1, the Department undertook comprehensive data studies in the areas shown in *Table 2.5* to improve the breadth and accuracy of baseline data for the Strategy and WMPs.

Table 2.5 Waste Survey Reports

Survey	Date	Consultant
Pilot Municipal Waste Arisings Survey (Phase I)	2000	Enviros
NI2000 Waste Characterisation Survey	2000	NI2000/KMM
Municipal Waste Arisings Survey (Phase II)	2001	KMM
Industrial and Commercial Waste Arisings Survey for NI	2001	KMM
Municipal Waste Arisings Survey (Phase III)	2002	MEL/Envirocentre
End of Life Vehicles Survey	2002	Viridis
Used Tyres Survey	2002	Viridis
Waste Contractor Survey	2002	Enviros
Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Survey	2002	Enviros
Construction & Demolition Waste Survey	2002	Enviros
Industrial and Commercial Waste production in NI	2002	MEL/Envirocentre

Summaries of these reports are available on www.ehsni.gov.uk.

A Data Monitoring and Reporting Taskforce has been established with representatives of EHS and the three Waste Management Groups. Its role has been to develop, apply and standardise the methodology used in municipal waste data recording. This has led to the development of interim guidelines on *Municipal Waste Data Monitoring and Reporting* issued in March 2003 (*Ref A6*). The taskforce was also instrumental in enabling the trial of the UK WasteDataFlow system in NI and its wider roll out from April 2004 (*see www.wastedataflow.org*).

To address the issue of information and education for business and to support the introduction and enforcement of the various waste regulations, EHS has taken a lead in establishing NetRegs for NI. NetRegs is a UK-wide initiative, involving EHS, the Environment Agency and SEPA, providing easily accessible sector-specific and management guidelines to help small businesses understand their environmental obligations. The NetRegs team has developed 52 sector or industrial guidelines that address specific waste issues for each sector. Issue-specific Management Guidelines have also been produced for a number of topics including: Duty of Care; Transfrontier Shipment of Waste; Packaging wastes; and Waste Minimisation.

Key issues for Phase 2 include:

- ***new surveys to extend and improve baseline and monitoring data for all waste streams;***
- ***accessibility of information and development of database to link reported information; and***
- ***initiating a series of development and demonstration programmes for sustainable waste management practices.***

Policy Area 6: Marketing the Strategy

Two key areas of activity in Phase 1 included the launch of the Wake Up To Waste programme and development of a waste education programme. Northern Ireland's Wake up to Waste campaign was launched in February 2002 with the objective of raising the profile of waste management and engaging all stakeholders. The campaign was delivered in three phases, details of which are summarised in *Table 2.6* below.

EHS commissioned a pilot waste education programme, "Wake up to Waste for Schools", in January 2002, to promote the objectives of the Waste Management Strategy for Northern Ireland to schools. This innovative and cross-curricular programme, incorporating the themes and requirements of the curriculum for Key Stage 1,2 & 3, was delivered to two schools in every District Council area (52 schools).

In response to the pilot study, a long-term programme incorporating the provision of educational materials and practical participation in recycling has been planned, including:

- the co-ordination and funding of recycling facilities in schools;
- a comprehensive submission to the Curriculum Review to ensure waste and sustainability issues are included;
- development of Kids Against Waste website;
- a publication of Waste Supplement for Schools (*Ref A11*); and
- the establishment of District Council Recycling/Education and Awareness Taskforce, liaising with the Council for Curriculum, Examination and Assessment (CCEA) and Education and Library Boards.

Key issues for Phase 2 include an increased focus on:

- ***waste prevention and minimisation;***
- ***building upon and sustaining messages given out in the Wake up to Waste campaign; and***
- ***building upon awareness raising work to establish actual behavioural change.***

Table 2.6 The Wake up to Waste Campaign

Phase I: 'Your Waste, your Problem, your Say'	Timing: Feb 2002 - May 2002
<p><i>Key messages:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Raise awareness of the waste issue (general public and businesses); and ▪ Encourage public involvement in the consultation process on Waste Management Plans. <p><i>Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Brand development and major launch event; ▪ Hard hitting TV advert and radio adverts with informative messages; ▪ Attention grabbing outdoor advertising on billboards and bus backs; and ▪ Regional, local and business press presence. <p><i>Evaluation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It was highly successful, helping to achieve a response from 10% of households to the consultation exercise; ▪ Up to 30% increase in materials collected for recycling; and ▪ 14 million opportunities to see the Wake up to Waste message. 	
Phase II: 'Reduce, Re-use, Recycle'	Timing: Oct 2002 - June 2003
<p><i>Key messages:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Building on raised awareness; ▪ 'Daily Do-ables': Simple everyday actions (starting point for more sustained behavioural change); ▪ Highlighting activities that all stakeholders can do to manage waste & resources effectively; and ▪ Duty of Care. <p><i>Activities (see Ref C13):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TV campaign focussed on Reduce, Re-use and Recycle messages; ▪ Race competition as an interactive mechanism to involve schools, families, businesses and communities; ▪ Retail Partnership (communicating with consumers and key business targets); and ▪ Duty of Care advert targeted at businesses to raise awareness of new regulations. <p><i>Evaluation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 95.5% of the population saw the TV advert at least once; ▪ Tracking research indicated 71% of people considered how they could manage their waste better after seeing the advert; ▪ The recycling rate for NI as a whole rose to nearly 10% over this period; and ▪ A reported increase of up to 100% in materials collected for recycling. 	
Phase III: 'Reduce, Re-use, Recycle'	Timing: Dec 2003 - April 2004
<p><i>Key Messages:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Emphasis on waste minimisation (Reuse & Reuse); ▪ Targeted seasonal messages - Christmas/New Year & Spring; ▪ Christmas recycling; reuse at home and through charity shops; composting; avoid disposable items; ▪ Highlighting link between daily consumption and waste generation. <p><i>Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 4 humorous TV adverts involving seasonal messages i.e. Christmas and New Year, Spring Cleaning, when waste generation is at a peak; ▪ Supported by radio and press advertising with complementary messages; ▪ Distribution of Marketing kits to assist District Councils in local marketing initiatives; and ▪ PR initiatives to engage neighbourhood retailers in resource management and as a vehicle communicate with consumers. <p><i>Evaluation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Phase III <i>evaluation scheduled for completion October 2004.</i> 	

3. Provisional Comments on WMAB Report

Number	Reference Number	Recommendation	Is It New?		Comment	Provisional View 0 Neutral +5 Strongly Agree -5 Strongly Disagree
			Yes	No		
Overarching Recommendations						
1		The Board strongly supports the establishment of an Independent Environmental Protection Agency for Northern Ireland, which would have the responsibility for delivery of robust and accountable monitoring, enforcement and regulation.			Outside the scope of the Waste Strategy	0
2		The NIWMS needs to be viewed within Government as a Strategy for all Government . To ensure that all Government Departments engage with the strategy and provide real leadership there should be a cross-departmental delivery group with membership at Permanent Secretary level and be chaired by a Minister.	✓		Recognised in current Government activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Greening Government Action Plan ▪ Strategy Leadership Steering Group ▪ Central Procurement Board Needs also to be viewed as a Strategy requiring engagement by <u>all</u> stakeholders	+3
3		Government need to recognise the huge infrastructural deficit , which exists in Northern Ireland, in terms of waste treatment, recycling, recovery, disposal and processing capacity. The issue needs to be given urgent priority within the Programme for Government.	✓		Recognised. Planning framework in place via WMPs and PPS11; guidance for delivery being extended via NI-wide BPEO and detailed procurement assessment. Government support initiatives include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ £10m/annum Waste Management Grant scheme for DCs assist local recycling/ recovery schemes ▪ £1m WMIF focused on business development ▪ £400k/annum membership of WRAP assists sustainable development of recycling/ processing capacity ▪ Meeting SIB to take forward future financial mechanisms for procurement 	+1
4		Reviews need to be carried out in a number of critical areas including, land-use planning, waste management planning, procurement and partnerships .	✓		Initiatives commenced including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Application of PPS11 and BPEO in the land use planning/waste management planning process ▪ NI-wide BPEO to assist waste management planning ▪ Research on Procurement Framework 	+2

Number	Reference Number	Recommendation	Is it New?		Comment	Provisional View 0 Neutral +5 Strongly Agree -5 Strongly Disagree
			Yes	No		
5		Waste reduction , waste production and waste prevention must be addressed by all sectors.		✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NI supporting NRWF toolkit for waste prevention (to be published autumn 2004) and is developing a Waste Prevention Framework to be incorporated in new Strategy ▪ Waste reduction is at heart of Waste Audit for DOE and developing action plan ▪ WRAP Business Plan 2004-2007 includes enhanced programmes for waste prevention/reduction ▪ Waste Awareness programmes to focus on waste prevention 	+5
6		To date there has been concentration on municipal wastes and this imbalance must be addressed through consideration of Agricultural, Commercial and Industrial, Construction and Demolition and Hazardous waste streams . Much more emphasis must be placed on waste prevention rather than dealing with waste generated.		✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Statutory requirement for WMPs to consider all wastes and priority waste streams to meet EU obligations. ▪ NI-wide BPEO research includes C&I, C&D waste, WEEE and asbestos. ▪ Legislation introduced/extended on a number of priority waste streams including Packaging, ELVs, WEEE, batteries, tyres, aggregates etc ▪ Hazardous Waste Action Plan recommends priorities for tackling hazardous waste stream ▪ Waste Data Strategy will improve baseline information on all waste streams ▪ WEEE working groups with retailers, DCs and waste management companies, with pilot on WEEE collection & arisings ▪ ELVs working group to bring businesses to ATS, and work with DVLNI to improve databases 	+4
7		The potential for developing a Single Waste Management Plan for Northern Ireland should be explored. Within such a concept there may be scope for establishment of a Single Waste Management Authority to provide leadership, be independent of regulators and operators, engage with the private sector and encourage the use of new technologies.	✓		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Raised in consultation responses and through Forum such as NISGWP (chaired by NILGA). New Strategy will consider how this potential can be taken forward. ▪ Recommendation lacks evidence and explanation in relation to scope and delivery of the Single Waste Management Authority 	+2

Number	Reference Number	Recommendation	Is it New?		Comment	Provisional View 0 Neutral +5 Strongly Agree -5 Strongly Disagree
			Yes	No		
8		In order to deliver the activities identified within the NIWMS, there is an urgent necessity to create Specific Measurable Achievable Realistic and Timebound (SMART) objectives. A detailed Implementation Plan is needed, clearly quantifying and identifying the resources required to achieve success.		✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not clear to what sectors this applies. Specific action programmes will be needed to develop all areas of policy and involve all stakeholders. For Government, Unit Operational Plans identify waste teams/activities/resources for the forthcoming year, set in context of Department Business Plans and wider PFG. Internal consultation on DOE action plan in relation to activities and interfaces for ongoing implementation and to develop new Strategy 	0
9		Consideration should be given to a Cross Border Working Group including Government and all Key Stakeholders to explore the challenges and opportunities in an All Island approach to Waste Management.		✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> North South Market Development Group and other shared initiatives (e.g. ENFO, CRN) ongoing since 2002, and continuing at officer level despite Assembly suspension. Future development depends on OFMDFM Fridge freezers contract developed on cross-border basis WRAP Paper Mill Feasibility study at tender is all-island initiative DEHLG/EPA representatives on hazardous waste forum INTERREG funded joint DOE/DEHLG waste awareness campaign in cross border area commenced July 2004 EHS member of EPA Unauthorised Waste Movement Working Group 	+1
10		Transfrontier Shipment Regulations are essential for waste control in Northern Ireland. The Board recommends the UK Import Export Regulations reflect Northern Ireland's position in the review process, currently underway in the UK		✓	TFS Regulations are UK & Import/Export Plan is prepared by DEFRA. NI Hazardous Waste Forum will be advising DEFRA to ratify 2000 Draft Review of the UK Import/Export Plan which reflects NI position.	0
2.1 Current Situation						
11	2.1.2.1	To place greater emphasis on waste prevention and maximize the efficient use of material resources.		✓	See comment on Recommendation 5. Recommendation is philosophical - current WMS places full emphasis on waste prevention as top of hierarchy, challenge is how to deliver.	+2

Number	Reference Number	Recommendation	Is it New?		Comment	Provisional View 0 Neutral +5 Strongly Agree -5 Strongly Disagree
			Yes	No		
12	2.1.2.2	To address waste streams in addition to municipal solid waste.		✓	See comment on Recommendation 6. Recommendation is vague. Statutory requirement to address all waste streams, issue is priorities and what is required.	+1
13	2.1.2.3	To ensure that all measures (fiscal, educative and regulatory) are used to encourage all sectors of society to make fundamental changes in the way which people view and treat the use of natural resources and waste.		✓	Many fiscal, educative and regulatory measures have been implemented during Phase 1 and will continue to form essential elements of implementation programmes and new policy statements under the new Strategy. (Examples include from Landfill Tax & Aggregates Tax, Awareness & Education Programme & extensive new environmental legislation and guidance)	0
14	2.1.2.4	To ensure that Waste Management is effectively addressed within the proposed Northern Ireland Sustainable Development Strategy.		✓	The WMS <u>is</u> Sustainable Development in practice and firmly embodied in current WMS. Government NI Sustainable Development Working Group includes consultation with Waste Strategy team to ensure consistency of development. NI Waste Management Strategy will however be published as a separate document.	0
15	2.1.2.5	To ensure that all Government strategies address waste issues.	✓		NI Waste Management Strategy will guide policy development and action programmes within both other Government Departments and for other stakeholders.	-2
16	2.1.2.6	To make explicit the linkages between waste management and other Government programmes such as the strategies on Public Health and the economy.	✓		Government engagement through various working groups and forum seek to ensure linkages are both made and understood.	-2
17	2.1.2.7	To be proactive in the development of EU waste and resource policy.		✓	Desired but efforts needs to be proportionate to NI influence. NI will continue to work, as it does at present, with DEFRA and the Devolved Administrations, and with the EA, SEPA and EPA in developing guidance, commenting on emerging issues (e.g Thematic Strategy, Soils Strategy and Biowaste Directives); implementing EU legislation (ELVs, WEEE, Duty of Care etc) and providing information.	-3

Number	Reference Number	Recommendation	Is it New?		Comment	Provisional View 0 Neutral +5 Strongly Agree -5 Strongly Disagree
			Yes	No		
18	2.1.2.8	To promote Northern Ireland as a leader in research, development and implementation of new waste management technologies.		✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NI will continue to work through existing forums such as SNIFFER to advance research. ▪ NI piloted the WasteDataFlow project and one of the first places in UK to fully embrace its use. ▪ EHS sponsors Full Circle, QUESTOR etc in NI. ▪ The INTERREG IIIA Measure 2.2, administered by EHS in NI, seeks to support innovative cross-border waste projects including research, pilots and demonstration projects for waste technologies. 	+1
19	2.1.2.9	To promote Northern Ireland as a leader in developing policies and practices.	✓		This is a sequitor of our success, not an aim. The new NI Waste Management Strategy will be focused on solutions for NI, requiring development of policies and practices which may subsequently be taken forward by other administrations where these meet their needs.	-3
20	2.1.2.10	To recognise the importance of high infrastructural and environmental standards in attracting foreign direct investment and inward investment from companies to Northern Ireland.		✓	This is a statement. Evidence of how/to what extent standards will lead to inward investment would be more helpful.	0
2.2 Reduction, Recycling and Recovery						
21	2.2.2.1	To establish an implementation plan with delivery mechanisms which ensure that targets will be met.		✓	Waste Management Plans are the current implementation mechanism for the Strategy. New Strategy (and 'single' WMP) will clarify implementation mechanisms and propose action programmes	-3
22	2.2.2.2	To better promote reuse, recycling and recovery to the public, business and all other sectors with targeted messages, mechanisms and fiscal incentives.		✓	Promotion already occurs and communication interfaces are continually developing. Further development of Public Awareness & Information Programme, Schools Education Programme, WRAP and InvestNI/Envirowise initiatives are planned in next phase.	0
23	2.2.2.3	To maximise the economic development and job creation opportunities associated with sustainable waste and resource management.		✓	Agree but lacks supporting evidence of how this might be achievable. Social progress and maintenance of high & stable levels of economic growth are underlying principles of sustainable development.	0

Number	Reference Number	Recommendation	Is it New?		Comment	Provisional View 0 Neutral +5 Strongly Agree -5 Strongly Disagree
			Yes	No		
24	2.2.2.4	To give greater emphasis to the importance of waste reduction through appropriate programmes and fiscal mechanisms.		✓	See comment on Recommendation 5.	+2
25	2.2.2.5	To support financially the development of segregated collection and recycling facilities.		✓	The Department has provided Waste Management Grants to District Councils since 2001/02	0
26	2.2.2.6	To establish a Centre of Excellence for Waste and Resource Management.	✓		NI as a centre of excellence is a vision of the Strategy. A centre of excellence cannot be 'established', but rather is acquired through the quality and recognition of its achievements.	-2
2.3 Strategy Leadership						
27	2.3.2.1	To encourage integrated thinking and action on waste management issues by all Government Departments and Agencies.		✓	Encouraged through representation on various working groups and for a throughout Government and other stakeholders.	-2
28	2.3.2.2	To provide leadership on key issues, publicise its achievements and improve its own environmental performance.		✓	DOE is currently carrying out a waste audit, developing an action plan and progressing an EMS for EHS with the objective of improving environmental performance across the DOE. This will be disseminated widely across Government and be publicly available to encourage others.	+2
29	2.3.2.3	All central and local Government Departments and Agencies must produce and agree green purchasing policies and incorporate these in defined targets.		✓	Government already provides guidance on Integrating Environmental Considerations into Public Procurement and work on specific areas/contracts is continually expanding.	+1
30	2.3.2.4	To engage with DETI to develop similar support programmes to those operating elsewhere in the UK e.g. Sustainable Technology Fund.			DETI are a key stakeholder for consultation. EHS already interfaces through InvestNI and WRAP programmes.	0
31	2.3.2.5	To develop, implement and report annually on Government plans for delivering and monitoring of all targets and actions.		✓	New Strategy will clarify measuring and monitoring mechanisms	0
32	2.3.2.6	To produce an annual report auditing environmental performance of all Government Departments.		✓	See comment on Recommendation 28. Reporting should apply to all stakeholders	+1
33	2.3.2.7	To remove barriers to recycling and reuse of materials by changing its materials specification through implementation of green procurement practices in all Government Departments.		✓	Central Procurement Group is taking forward guidance and contract specifications	+4

Number	Reference Number	Recommendation	Is it New?		Comment	Provisional View 0 Neutral +5 Strongly Agree -5 Strongly Disagree
			Yes	No		
2.4 Regulations and Guidance						
34	2.4.2.1	To establish an independent body which has the power and resources to deliver the NIWMS.	✓		Delivery of Strategy is dependent on engagement, activity and performance of all stakeholders. There is no evidence that single body, regardless of its independence and resources, could improve performance.	-5
35	2.4.2.2	To remove 'Crown Immunity' from Government Departments for Environmental Pollution and Prevention.	✓		Outside the scope of the Strategy	+2
36	2.4.2.3	To consider the use of incentives to stimulate behavioural changes in both the waste producers and the waste treatment industry.		✓	Proposals for appropriate extension of incentives welcomed. e.g InvestNI provide free half day audits to reduce hazardous waste under "Fastrack" and support EMS development for SMEs.	+2
37	2.4.2.4	To create SMART (Specific Measurable Achievable Realistic Time bound) objectives for each of the activities identified within the text of the Waste Management Strategy under Regulations and Guidance.		✓	WMAB Report does not identify relevant activities. The text refers to regulatory guidance, enforcement of legislation, prosecutions, roles of the Department, Industry & Councils, uncontrolled waste and agricultural waste. The objective for the regulatory team is fair and effective application of legislation. The objective for industry is to comply with legislation. DCs also have clear responsibilities to assist and respond.	-5
38	2.4.2.5	To create detailed business plans for each activity, detailing the time-lines, human resources and other resources required to achieve success.		✓	A detailed operational plan is prepared by each section in the Department for its functions, reviewed and updated annually and monitored in-year. Regulated businesses should also prepare plans in accordance with their obligations. All these plans may be subject to audit.	-4
39	2.4.2.6	To create a detailed implementation plan for these activities; the plan to have a rolling five-year horizon.		✓	An appropriate time horizon and plan will vary from activity to activity.	-5
40	2.4.2.7	To develop and implement appropriate Project Management techniques and protocols to ensure the timely achievement of the actions.		✓	This is common practice and undertaken as appropriate to particular actions or activities.	0

Number	Reference Number	Recommendation	Is it New?		Comment	Provisional View 0 Neutral +5 Strongly Agree -5 Strongly Disagree
			Yes	No		
41	2.4.2.8	To extend the recruitment net to include external candidates already holding appropriate qualifications and to consider the secondment of experienced people from all key stakeholder groups.		✓	Extensive external recruitment has taken place for the Department to meet its new obligations e.g. current staff at HSO level and above within WMCL unit all appointed from external competitions. EHS is also well linked to other Agencies in UK and Ireland and secondments regularly explored. Capabilities and expertise from leading consultancies, universities and professional practices are also being employed by the Department.	0
2.5 Planning & Infrastructure						
42	2.5.2.1	To recognise the huge infrastructural deficit, which exists in Northern Ireland, in terms of waste treatment, disposal and processing capacity. The Infrastructure deficit needs to be given urgent priority within the Programme for Government.		✓	See comment on Recommendation 3.	+1
43	2.5.2.2	To establish an inter-departmental taskforce, to include Local and Central Governments, the private sector, together with the Strategic Investment Board, to address Planning, Infrastructure and Funding issues.		✓	Addressed through interfaces across series of specialist working groups e.g. NI-wide BPEO steering group, developing procurement framework, interdepartmental steering groups.	+2
44	2.5.2.3	To develop a single, integrated, Waste Management Plan for Northern Ireland inclusive of Municipal, Commercial, Industrial, Construction, Demolition, Hazardous and Agricultural wastes.	✓		See comment on Recommendation 7.	+4
45	2.5.2.4	To develop a five-year rolling plan for the deployment of capital monies for major infrastructure projects.		✓	Department is seeking to investigate financial mechanisms such as PPP/PFI rather than grant for major infrastructure projects, and strategic planning horizons will require adjustment accordingly.	0
46	2.5.2.5	Planning Service to consider applications for all facilities included in the integrated single Northern Ireland Waste Management Plan with a fixed timescale for planning applications relating to waste management facilities.	✓		Planning Service has protocols and a process for considering applications. The Department recognises that further review and guidance is required to make these more effective and transparent. Determination process and timescales must have due regard to other EU consultation requirements and to legal appeal mechanisms.	+3

Number	Reference Number	Recommendation	Is it New?		Comment	Provisional View 0 Neutral +5 Strongly Agree -5 Strongly Disagree
			Yes	No		
47	2.5.2.6	To make available in Northern Ireland all WRAP services available in rest of the UK.		✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Joined WRAP in 2003, all core UK programmes are currently available in NI. ▪ In conjunction with feedback from NI WRAP liaison officer and monitoring benefits to date, EHS is currently reviewing opportunities for expansion of regional WRAP programmes in NI as appropriate. 	+2
48	2.5.2.7	To review the operation and delivery mechanisms of the Waste Management Industry Fund to make it more effective, to make more monies available and to stimulate greater take-up by the private sector.		✓	WMIF has been reviewed. The Department's analysis concludes that additional monies would not be effective in achieving Strategy objectives and alternative mechanisms are required to stimulate market development.	-3
49	2.5.2.8	To use 100% of the revenue generated by the Landfill Tax Credit Scheme (or its successors) in Northern Ireland to support the development of sustainable waste management practices locally.		✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ UK tax subject to bid process from NI Block. £2m of NI Landfill Tax revenues allocated to WMCL within the Department in 2004-05 is used for direct support of local waste management projects e.g. via enhanced grant to DCs for WMP implementation and NGO projects. ▪ Whilst direct hypothecation of taxes is generally not practical, the Department aims to demonstrate that all revenue returned to NI is effectively deployed to support the development of sustainable waste management practices locally. 	+3
50	2.5.2.9	To establish urgently a fund for the research and development of demonstration projects into alternative technologies that could provide solutions to the waste disposal, recycling and recovery problems.		✓	This currently occurs through UK WRAP, SNIFFER, Ireland and DEFRA research forums etc to ensure effective use of funds and avoid overlap.	-3
51	2.5.2.10	To develop legal, financial and procurement mechanisms to extend the options for partnership working within the area of waste.		✓	This should emerge from current research to establish baseline and options for a new procurement framework. DCs should also consider in developing WMPs.	+1
52	2.5.2.11	To consult with commerce and industry to determine their needs for waste disposal and to investigate the potential for recycling and re-use within Northern Ireland.		✓	Currently statutory function of DCs under Art 23 of WCLO in developing their WMPs. Statutory requirement of both WMS and WMP development. Also ongoing with business through InvestNI, WRAP etc.	0

Number	Reference Number	Recommendation	Is it New?		Comment	Provisional View 0 Neutral +5 Strongly Agree -5 Strongly Disagree
			Yes	No		
53	2.5.2.12	To incorporate provisions into the integrated land-use and waste management planning process to address the fluid nature of development and to allow for the evaluation of new proposals which are not included in Waste Management Plans to be considered within a structured decision making framework.		✓	Policy guidance to be issued Autumn 2004 to clarify process	0
54	2.5.2.13	To publish an updated list of Licensed Waste Management Facilities on an annual basis and make it available electronically.		✓	Licensing function passed to EHS from DCs in late 2003 together with new regulations. Licensing status of sites being reviewed in 2004-05. EHS agrees with need for accessibility and publication of updated listings.	+3
55	2.5.2.14	To fix a timescale for responses from statutory consultees to the Planning Service.	✓		See comment on Recommendation 46.	+5
56	2.5.2.15	To develop appropriate Key Operational Indicators to monitor the performance of the Planning Service.			Explain	
2.6 Improving our Understanding						
<i>2.6.1 Data Collection and Information Provision</i>						
57	2.6.2.1	To increase substantially non-municipal waste data collection to include industrial, commercial, construction and demolition and agricultural waste arisings.		✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Will be enhanced through WML provisions and Waste Data Strategy which has to meet obligations under Waste Statistics Regulations. ▪ Extension of mandatory reporting by industry likely to be required to meet objective of robust database. ▪ Other mechanisms e.g. data surveys require businesses to engage to be effective. 	+5
58	2.6.2.2	To introduce a comprehensive waste data stream collection systems incorporating non-exclusive reliance on regulatory frameworks and information relating to informal waste streams and independent research.		✓	See comments on Recommendation 57.	0
59	2.6.2.3	To develop and use an effective, modern Management Information System.		✓	Databases in relation to Special Waste tracking, DOC, Packaging and WasteDataFlow etc already deployed and are developed appropriately to meet needs. Development of an over-arching GIS system to provide greater co-ordination of management information is likely to take some time.	0
60	2.6.2.4	To introduce data verification measures.			Data Monitoring and Reporting Guidelines	+1
61	2.6.2.5	To develop appropriate analytical and modelling methodologies.			Data Monitoring and Reporting Guidelines	+1

Number	Reference Number	Recommendation	Is it New?		Comment	Provisional View 0 Neutral +5 Strongly Agree -5 Strongly Disagree
			Yes	No		
<i>2.6.3 Development and Demonstration Projects</i>						
62	2.6.4.1	To establish a viable NI D&D Programme, ideally in tandem with other Agencies, e.g. Invest NI.	✓		Activity proposed in original Strategy. Funding for D&D has been available via a number of schemes e.g. LTCS, WMIF, EU Interreg IIIA, SNIFFER, DEFRA but would benefit from clearer co-ordination and communication in NI.	+3
2.7 Marketing the Strategy						
<i>2.7.1 Marketing the Strategy</i>						
63	2.7.2.1	To continue to market the strategy, but with an increased emphasis on the public's role as producers of waste and on waste reduction.	✓		Phase 4 Wake up to Waste Campaign to focus on these key issues.	+3
64	2.7.2.2	To focus on creating behavioural change to deliver strategy targets.	✓		Key aim of Phase 3 Wake up to Waste is to maintain awareness and assist move towards behavioural change. Increasing recycling rates is evidence of some success. Focus on behavioural change is being taken forward in cross border INTERREG project and will be further developed in Phase 4.	+2
65	2.7.2.3	To increase awareness of the impact of the commercial and industrial, construction and demolition, hazardous, and agricultural waste streams.	✓		Awareness activities to form part of all action plans for priority waste streams/issues NetRegs communicates broad based awareness and information across a wide range of sectors	+1
66	2.7.2.4	To base the marketing around better quality factual information.	✓		Agreed. Linked to development of case studies, databases, learning experience from previous campaigns and crucially provision of information by other stakeholders who must engage in the process.	+1
67	2.7.2.5	To increase local awareness through locality specific targeted messages.	✓		Local initiatives require delivery by local stakeholders who have role and responsibility to take forward. Government already supports this engagement through, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Education and awareness taskforce links NI and Waste Management Group initiatives. ▪ A Marketing Kit provided to all Recycling Officers ▪ EHS facilitates Recycling Officers exchange of information through organising e.g. all-Ireland Recycling officers colloquium ▪ EHS directly supports key events e.g. CIWM, Balmoral Show, Belfast Waste Awareness Week 	+1

Number	Reference Number	Recommendation	Is it New?		Comment	Provisional View 0 Neutral +5 Strongly Agree -5 Strongly Disagree
			Yes	No		
68	2.7.2.6	To explore other marketing opportunities via other interested key stakeholders.		✓	WRAP is well placed to develop a range of marketing opportunities, also Government interfaces with/supports a range of stakeholders, for example, Full Circle, QUESTOR, Investment Belfast, ARENA network, UWT, Bryson House and NRWF (Environment Council) activities.	+1
2.7.4 Training and Education						
69	2.7.4.1	To continue the schools' education programme in tandem with the NI Curriculum Development agencies (DEL & CCEA) to ensure its long term sustainability.		✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Waste Supplement for Schools published March 2004. ▪ 5 Factsheets on waste - further 5 in series to be published Autumn 2004 ▪ District Council Recycling/ Education and Awareness Taskforce ▪ Schools Recycling Scheme commenced, to be formally launched Autumn 2004 ▪ Education programme including CCEA development ongoing 	+4
70	2.7.4.2	To ensure better uptake of training schemes by improved marketing and financial assistance.			Explain	
71	2.7.4.3	To prioritise the uptake of Environmental Management and Auditing (in tandem with Invest NI).		✓	InvestNI role. The Department liaises with InvestNI and supports.	0
2.8 Implementation of Waste Strategy						
Roles and Responsibilities						
72	2.8.5.1	To revise the roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders as outlined in the Strategy to ensure they are clear, tangible and measurable.		✓	<p>Agree roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders should be clear. P.63-64 of WMS already sets out the roles and responsibilities of various stakeholder groups, in what way are these not clear and require revision?</p> <p>Within its defined role, each stakeholder group needs to ensure its activities are tangible /measurable so that progress towards targets can be assessed, gaps identified and adjustments made.</p>	0
73	2.8.5.2	To ensure all Government Departments engage with the strategy. In order to do this the role and responsibilities of every Government Department should be clearly defined		✓	A commitment is required from <u>all</u> stakeholders to firmly ground policies and proposals in action. See also comments on roles & responsibilities on Recommendation 72.	0

Number	Reference Number	Recommendation	Is it New?		Comment	Provisional View 0 Neutral +5 Strongly Agree -5 Strongly Disagree
			Yes	No		
74	2.8.5.3	To establish a cross-departmental delivery group with membership at Permanent Secretary level such as the Ministerial Group on Public Health. The Strategy needs to be viewed within Government as a Strategy for all Government, not just an environmental issue		✓	See comment on Recommendation 2.	+1
75	2.8.5.4	To devise SMARTER (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, Timebound targets which can be Evaluated and Reviewed) objectives for all key stakeholders.		✓	See comment on Recommendation 72.	0
Strategy Phases						
76	2.8.5.5	To give infrastructure development immediate priority.		✓	See comment on Recommendation 3.	
77	2.8.5.6	To change focus from the municipal waste stream to tackle commercial and industrial, construction and demolition, hazardous, and agricultural wastes.		✓	Statutory requirement to consider all controlled waste streams. Municipal waste remains important because of EU targets on BMW. However, agree must also focus on other priority waste streams such as packaging, WEEE, batteries, tyres, C&D, C&I etc and these will be given due emphasis in new Strategy.	+2
78	2.8.5.7	To produce an Agricultural Waste Strategy as a matter of urgency.		✓	Referred to in current WMS. Department and DARD are collaborating.	0
79	2.8.5.8	To prioritise Greening Government initiatives.		✓	CPD	+3
Implementation Plan						
80	2.8.5.9	To prepare as a matter of urgency a SMARTER Implementation Plan that includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A full resource and cost assessment, • All aspects of infrastructure development, • Quantifiable targets, objectives and timescales, • Performance measurement techniques for product delivery, • Review mechanisms by which performance can be assessed. • Clearly defined responsibilities for all key stakeholders 			The purpose of the Strategy action programme is to provide an overarching context for individual plans to develop, including the WMPs that form the principal implementation mechanism for the Strategy. The actions required by all stakeholders to implement the Strategy are wide ranging and interact. A number of implementation plans are therefore likely to be required	0
81	2.8.5.10	To establish a cross-departmental group with representatives from EHS, EPG, Planning Service, finance and personnel for strategic planning.		✓	The Departmental Board already fulfils this function.	+1

Number	Reference Number	Recommendation	Is it New?		Comment	Provisional View 0 Neutral +5 Strongly Agree -5 Strongly Disagree
			Yes	No		
Guiding Principles						
82	2.8.5.11	To develop a mechanism which ensures that the Guiding Principles are taken into account when decisions are being made in the planning and implementation stage.	✓		This already exists in legislation - the WMPS prepared under Art 23 of the WCLO must take account of the Department's Strategy prepared under Art 19. If this was not so the WMPs would not have been approved not meet EU obligations. PPS11 further guides the development process and advises that waste planning decisions are made in accordance with WMS and development plans. Similarly permits are issued in accordance with regulations and guidance.	0
2.9 The Role of the Waste Management Advisory Board						
83	2.9.2.1	To review the WMABNI role, Terms Of Reference and appointments procedure.	✓		Future role of the WMAB beyond the interim period will depend on how the new Strategy develops. There are a number of possible permutations because of the significant implications of recommendations for one WMP/Agency/Authority and RPA.	0

Annex A: References

- A1 Report on Analysis of Stakeholder Responses (summary report of key strategy implementation issues/ areas for significant change and investigation). (ERM, September 2003.)
- A2 Report on the Review of NIWMS, WMPs and Interim BWS in the context of EU Directive Requirements. (ERM, October 2003).
- A3 Report on the Review of the Strategy and identification of priorities, barriers and opportunities for Phase 2. (ERM, November 2003).
- A4 Review of the Annual Performance Reports and implementation action plans for the three Waste Management Plans for 2002 Dec 2003
- A5 Northern Ireland Waste Management Strategy Review Report. Waste Management Advisory Board for Northern Ireland. June 2004.
- A6 Municipal Waste Data Monitoring and Reporting - Interim Guidance (March 2003).
- A7 NI Packaging Waste Forum Report. EHS. June 2004
- A8 BPEO Decision Maker's Guide (Department of Environment, Environment and Heritage Service - November 2001).
- A9 Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 11, Planning and Waste Management (on EHS web site).
- A10 Hazardous Waste in Northern Ireland - An Action Plan for its Environmentally Sound Management, June 2204
- A11 Reduce, Re-use and Recycle: A special publication for young people (Belfast Telegraph, February 2004)

Website Links:

EHS Website - www.ehsni.gov.uk

Wake up to Waste - www.wakeuptowaste.org

Kids Against Waste Web Site - www.kidsagainstwaste.org

NetRegs Web Site. www.netregs.gov.uk

Annex B: Identification of Key Issues for Development of Phase 2 of the Strategy (to 2020): *Summary of ERM Report, November 2003*

Terms of Reference and Scope

To review the activities and performance of Phase 1 of the Strategy implementation and its effectiveness in meeting objectives and making progress towards sustainable waste management, focussing in particular on seeking to answer the following questions:

- *Were the priorities for Phase 1 correct?*
- *Were the timescales anticipated in the original Strategy realistic and achievable?*
- *Should targets be revised and/or made statutory?*
- *What additional measures including regulatory controls, funding mechanisms, economic instruments and changes to legislation should be considered to drive implementation?*
- *What should be the priorities for Phase 2?*

The report is intended to identify the likely programme of work for the next stage of the project. It does not address all the issues that would be involved in revising / updating the NIWMS, but rather lays the foundation for the Strategy Review process. This process will be continually developed as the project evolves.

Production of the report involved an extensive review of progress as at September 2003 on the Strategy implementation, including:

- Review of Stakeholder responses to the Strategy Consultation carried out between March and June 2003;
- Two independent reviews of the Strategy by key industry experts;
- A factual review of progress on the Strategy delivery and implementation; and
- A strategic planning workshop and brainstorming sessions held in August 2003, which involved key personnel from EHS and the ERM Consortium (and was preceded by field visits to selected waste management facilities in NI).

Findings of the Review

Box 1: Answers to Questions Posed

Question 1: Were the priorities for Phase 1 correct?

Yes. The original (Phase 1) Strategy set the vision for how waste management in Northern Ireland should develop, and focused on preparing the framework for the achievement of the 2005 recycling targets and delivery of the objectives. There is little argument among the stakeholders about that vision, nor the key themes of Phase 1 of the Strategy implementation, which were: Greening Government; Creating Partnerships; and Mobilising Stakeholders.

The broad priorities were therefore correct, with the result that there has been very considerable progress in a number of areas since the publication of the Strategy. Specifically, the significant progress in 'Creating Partnerships' through the development of sub-regional Waste Management Plans, by three voluntary groupings, is acknowledged. 'Mobilising Stakeholders' has also progressed via a range of initiatives, including The Wake Up To Waste Campaign, the establishment of the Waste Management Advisory Board, and district councils programmes of education, information dissemination and awareness. It is with respect to 'Greening Government', which includes both central and local government, that least progress has been demonstrated.

Question 2: Were the timescales anticipated in the original Strategy realistic and achievable?

Yes and No. The focus in the Phase 1 implementation was on the three themes of: Greening Government; Creating Partnerships; and Mobilising Stakeholders, which are, in principle, ongoing and not timebound. The preparation of the WMPs by the district councils, with the associated progress towards the 2005 recycling targets, has shown the timescales in this key area to be broadly realistic and achievable. Other targets however look as if they will be missed. In addition, there were many other actions included in the strategy, where the timescales were not defined, or were ambitious given the NI starting point in terms of baseline information.

With the benefit of hindsight, it was unrealistic to expect to achieve progress quite so quickly on so many parallel fronts during the first phase of strategy implementation, when not all stakeholders had yet been fully engaged in the process. This emphasises the need to ensure that timescales are defined for all targets and actions, to ensure that stakeholders are fully aware of what is expected of them.

There is now a need therefore, both for a concerted effort to engage stakeholder groups in a more proactive and focussed manner, and for more clearly defined actions with timescales for achievement - i.e. a time bound IAP.

Question 3: Should targets be revised and/or made statutory?

There were no strong views among stakeholders that **any of the targets** in the strategy should be revised or made statutory, although it was suggested by some sectors that statutory targets should be limited to those defined by EC requirements. Given the fact that targets are now mandatory in England and Wales, it may be appropriate to consider making some key targets statutory to further drive implementation of the Strategy.

Some targets need to be revisited, with the aim of making them both more focused on the critical issues, and deliverable. The following therefore should be defined for any target or action:

- Why: Description of the purpose;
- Who: Stakeholder responsible for delivery;
- How: The delivery mechanism, to ensure that it is achievable; and
- When: The timescale by which it is to be delivered.

To put it simply, it is important that the principle of setting S.M.A.R.T. objectives is enshrined within the Strategy.

Question 4: What additional measures including regulatory controls, funding mechanisms, economic instruments and changes to legislation should be considered to drive implementation?

One of the independent reviews carried out, in particular, has identified the need for a more coherent and innovative set of instruments to drive the Strategy implementation. A 'toolkit' of policy instruments should be developed under the following broad categories: statutory /regulatory controls; funding mechanisms; economic instruments; and voluntary agreements and/or information dissemination.

An area for particular attention is how to facilitate capacity development, for both recycling and for waste treatment and disposal. Key issues include providing the mechanisms to enable DCs to group together for procurement of infrastructure, encouraging entrepreneurship and using financial support mechanisms innovatively to drive strategy implementation.

Question 5: What should be the priorities for Phase 2?

The priorities for Phase 2 have been grouped into four categories as summarised in Box 2.

Box 2: Priorities

Implementation delivery and monitoring	Stakeholder Mobilisation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of the land use planning process • Prioritisation of waste streams • Re-launch of Strategy implementation • Development of a data monitoring and reporting system • Consider the mandatory provision of weight measuring equipment at all new waste management facilities • Provide support to potential entrepreneurs • Development of guidance on the evaluation of environmental costs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government leadership to mobilise stakeholders • Clear definition of individual actions & responsibilities with respect to specific waste streams • Changing the view of “waste” as a surplus unwanted material to a valuable “resource” • Focus on waste minimisation & efficient use of resources
Strategy & WMPs	Legislation, Policy & Other Instruments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of a NI - wide approach to BPEO and to the Strategic Environmental Assessment of the WMPs & the NIWMS. • Effective co-ordination & integration of the WMPs to create an adequate network of facilities. • Developing a small(er) number of realistic and achievable (S.M.A.R.T) Strategy Targets. • Future planning for specific waste streams to be undertaken by the most appropriate party 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prompt implementation of EU / UK legislation, including clearing of the current ‘back-log’ • Dissemination of information, advice & guidance on legislation • Making key targets within the NIMWS statutory • Increasing Producer Responsibility for specific waste streams • Review of the waste management licensing regime to include mandatory reporting of processing data

Box 3: Barriers, Constraints & Opportunities

Barriers / Constraints
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Lack of effective engagement of all stakeholder groups (in particular, those outside the waste management industry).▪ Lack of effective leadership on the part of Government.▪ Delays in the delivery of the infrastructure necessary to achieve the Strategy Targets, & also to meet stakeholder expectations.▪ The interface between the programme for the Strategy Review & timetables for WMP reviews, which are currently proceeding in parallel rather than the WMS informing the WMPs.
Opportunities
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Development of a BPEO solution for NI as a whole, for the delivery of an adequate & sustainable network of infrastructure.▪ The unusually high proportion of GDP accounted for by the public sector in NI provides Government with an opportunity to show real leadership by developing green procurement & purchasing policies▪ Publication of a short and easy to read version of the NIWMS document - i.e. a Decision Maker's Version.▪ Development of an effective strategy to mobilise and fully engage all stakeholders.▪ Provision of direct guidance to the DCs on the future reviews & development of WMPs.▪ Review of existing legislation & development of new legal instruments.▪ Development of a NI Waste Information Centre