



Waste Strategy 2007; What are the implications for local councils?

An APSE event at the Association of Liberal Democrat Councillors Conference

ICC Birmingham, 2007

Mo Baines  
Principal Advisor, APSE

### Objectives



- Summary of both the Waste Strategy and Incentives for recycling for Households consultation
- Your chance to feed into the APSE response
- Note; Closing date for both consultations is 16 August

### Waste Strategy 2007



- The traditional waste hierarchy of **waste prevention – reuse – recycle/compost – energy recovery – disposal** remains
- Overall impact (expected) reduction in greenhouse gas emissions of at least 9.3m tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> p.a. compared to 2006
- New target to reduce amount of household waste not reused, recycled or composted from over 22.2m tonnes (2000) to 15.8m tonnes (2010) with aspiration to reduce it to 12.2m tonnes (2020).
- Higher national targets than in 2000 have been set for:
  - recycling and composting of household waste – at least 40% by 2010, 45% by 2015 and 50% by 2020; and
  - Recovery of municipal waste – 53% by 2010, 67% by 2015 and 75% by 2020.

### Proposals



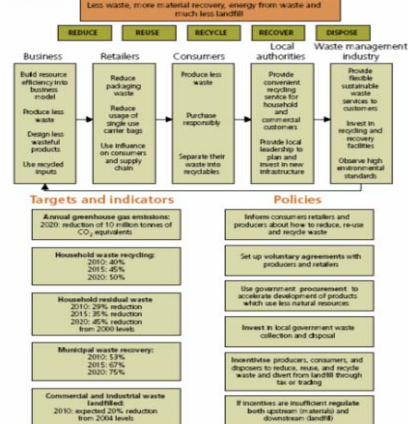
- Landfill tax escalator will increase by £8 pa from 2008 to reach £48 by 2010
- Consult regarding removing the ban on local authorities introducing household financial incentives
- **Paper** - establish with the paper industry an agreement with challenging targets to reduce paper waste and increase paper recycling
- **Food and green wastes** - support for anaerobic digestion through the new technologies programme, Renewable Obligations system, PFI and a digestate standard that will establish the use of this technology in this country
- **Plastics and aluminium** - proposals (subject to further analysis) for higher packaging recycling requirements beyond the 2008 European targets to increase recycling

### Local authority role



- Strengthening ability in two-tier areas to work together and encouraging partnership working
- Establish a new local performance package
- Encourage a wider role (in partnerships) to help local (small) businesses reduce and recycle
- Extending the campaigns for recycling to awareness and action
- Providing more recycling bins in public places
- Placing greater emphasis on promoting the reduction of waste and increase of recycling

Figure E1



## Incentives for Recycling by Households



- Proposal that LA's are given the power to decide to introduce a revenue-neutral financial incentive scheme, where this is desired locally.
- To introduce a scheme, local authorities will be required to provide at least 5 kerbside recycling facilities - **not including garden waste**.
- Redistribution of money in scheme would be self-contained: the incentive would be funded by householders. Money would transfer from those householders who continued to dispose of large quantities of residual waste to those who disposed of smaller quantities.

Country	Extent of financial incentive scheme
Austria	Widespread charging
Belgium	Widespread. In Flanders region vast majority of municipalities have variable charging.
Denmark	Around 10% of authorities have weight-based charging schemes, others have 'excess waste' charging schemes
Finland	Widespread charging
France	Widespread charging (covering around one third of municipalities)
Germany	Widespread charging
Greece	Charging allowed under legislation but power not currently utilised by local authorities
Ireland	Compulsory variable charging across the country
Italy	Variable charging already widespread; to become compulsory in all municipalities by 2008
Luxembourg	Widespread charging
Netherlands	Increasing number of municipalities applying variable fee linked to waste production (122 of 443 municipalities covered in 2000)
Portugal	Charging allowed under legislation but power not currently utilised by local authorities
Spain	Charging allowed under legislation but power not currently utilised by local authorities
Sweden	Widespread charging
Switzerland	Increasing number of municipalities applying variable fee linked to waste production
Australia	Charging widespread in New South Wales and Victoria
Canada	Widespread charging (e.g. British Columbia and Ontario)
South Korea	All households covered by charging
United States	46 states covered by charging to some extent (35 million citizens in 1999)



## Schemes must



- Have as its aim the promotion of recycling and waste reduction;
- Waste separated for recycling or composting will continue to be collected free of charge
- Be revenue neutral
- Provide kerbside recycling facilities for at least 5 waste streams (not including garden waste) – e.g. paper, glass, cans, plastics and food waste
- Clear communication strategies must be in place to on the nature of the scheme
- Take account of impact on groups disadvantaged such as families with young children or council tax benefit recipients.
- Make provision to avoid fly-tipping, littering and illegal disposal of waste.

## Types of Scheme options



- Volume based
- Frequency based
- Sack based
- Weight based
- Does not have to be the full authority

## Potential costs



- Purchase of any new technology, containers, vehicles, e.g. weigh technology for collection trucks
- Advertising the scheme in advance
- Billing arrangements
- Monitoring waste levels before, during and after to assess effectiveness
- Monitoring fly-tipping levels before, during and after the scheme
- Setting-up and enforcing new fly-tipping strategies;
- Enforcement of compliance, including court or arbitration costs related to new penalties
- Administration of the scheme.

## Example 1



- *Weighing wheelie bins. Through the year the amount of non-recycled rubbish produced by each household is weighed. At the end of the year, a bill for each household is produced with waste billed at 10p/kg, equating to an average £50 per household. This is offset against a flat rate rebate of £50 per household. Household A is a low waste house, and has disposed of £20-worth of waste. With the £50 rebate, it receives a payment of £30 at the end of the year. Household B is a high waste house, disposing of £80 of waste. When the £50 rebate is deducted, the final balance to pay is £30. Household A has gained £30 through the scheme, whereas Household B has lost £30.*

## Example 2



- **Selling sacks for residual waste.** Households are required to buy sacks at 60p each and use them for collection of residual waste. Householders buy sacks as required throughout the year shops. At the end of the year the local authority returns the money raised by sending each household on the scheme a rebate of £50. Household A is a low waste household and uses 50 sacks over the year (£30) and, with the £50 rebate, gains £20 at the end of the year. Household B is a high waste house, using 110 sacks over the year (£66). After the £50 rebate, Household B has lost £16 through the scheme.

Over to you!



Comments?  
Observations?  
Will it work?  
Does it go far enough?

**LOCAL SERVICES  
LOCAL SOLUTIONS**



**Contact details**  
**Mo Baines, Principal Advisor**

**Email: [mbaines@apse.org.uk](mailto:mbaines@apse.org.uk)**



Association for Public Service Excellence  
2nd floor Washbrook House, Lancastrian Office Centre, Talbot  
Road, Old Trafford, Manchester M32 0FP.  
telephones: 0161 772 1810  
fax: 0161 772 1811  
web: [www.apse.org.uk](http://www.apse.org.uk)