

Statistical Notice

Proposed changes to the Northern Ireland local authority collected municipal waste management statistics annual publication

This statistical notice invites users to provide comments on proposed changes to the Northern Ireland local authority collected municipal waste annual statistical report, scheduled to be published on 1 December 2016. This report will cover the period April 2015 to March 2016 and will therefore be the first annual report in the series to include data for the 11 new councils. By this time, five quarterly provisional reports will have been published for the 11 councils (all quarters for 2015/16 and quarter 1 of 2016/17). The changes will apply to all subsequent issues of the annual publication.

Whilst the changes are a necessary consequence of the re-organisation of Local Government here, the opportunity is also being taken to streamline the publication, increase its utility, and to make it more user-friendly.

In summary, the proposals are:

1. **Harmonisation of the annual report with the recently updated quarterly reports** - Within this, we will update the annual report to reflect changes made to the quarterly report in 2015. These changes to the quarterly report were in response to its user consultation in summer 2015. They include:
 - a. the switch in reporting basis from 26 to 11 councils and from 3 to 2 waste management groups from April 2015,
 - b. a move from the current report's indicator-based sections, which includes covering LAC municipal and household versions of each indicator separately, to broader sections for:
 - overview
 - arisings
 - reuse, recycling & composting
 - energy recovery
 - landfill
 - biodegradable landfill
 - c. that each section will contain a time series chart and a chart comparing councils' data. The quarterly report does this, but the latest annual report does not.
 - d. that the focus of the recycling section will be the household recycling rate, but with all three recycling rates (household, local authority collected and waste from households) included in the tables. The excel tables will also be reorganised and renumbered into the broader sections listed at (b) above.
 - e. the move of data tables from the back of the pdf report to excel based appendices. Users who wish to print the tables will be able to do so from the spreadsheet, which will be print-friendly i.e. one page per table.
 - f. many presentational changes, including the metadata-based front cover, use of colour, and with user guidance, glossary and list of acronyms at the end of the document.

2. **Propose specific changes to the data tables** - for the quarterly reports consultation last year we had specifically set out to maintain all current data tables produced in the publications. This time we propose the following changes to the tables of the annual report:

- a. Table 10 contains material types reporting as accepted / rejected for recycling and composting. However it only contains a waste management breakdown and stands out as the only non-council level table at the moment, and given that there will be no SWaMP figures for 2015/16 it will stand out even more. We propose adding council level data to this table alongside remaining waste management groups and NI level data.
- b. Table 9 breaks down local authority collected municipal waste sent to material recovery facilities by district council and waste management group. However, the council and group splits are potentially misleading as MRFs take inputs from multiple councils across groups. Further, the distinctions made between clean and dirty MRFs are not clear with clean MRF outputs contributing to dirty MRF inputs. In addition, we are not aware of any users of this table and so for these reasons we propose removing it.
- c. Other tables will remain but where they are reporting on a time series from 2005/06, no council breakdown will be available due to the change from 26 to 11 councils. For these tables, figures will only be shown at the Northern Ireland level.
- d. The above changes will bring the quarterly and annual reports broadly in line in terms of the data tables which they contain, although the annual report contains additional time series tables that are not produced in the quarterly report. Users can still recreate these tables on a quarterly basis from the time series dataset provided. We will however retain the time series tables in the annual for ease of use, as not all users will be comfortable working with the time series dataset.

An example of the proposed new format of the report can be found below. It is proposed that the report will be released as an Adobe pdf document with its referenced data tables being released as an Excel xlsx file. There will also be an associated time series dataset released in csv format. We would be keen to hear from any users who are interested in the data being made available in alternative formats.

If you have any comments on these proposals, please contact Statistics and Analytical Services Branch by **16 September 2016**.

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Northern Ireland Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste Management Statistics

Annual Report 2015/16



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Key Points

Note: This section contains an outline only and is intended for illustration only. The latest provisional quarterly data and finalised annual data are available from <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/topics/statistics/environment-statistics>

- This section will give a short overview of four or five key points from the report.
- Such key points could include Northern Ireland and District Council level arisings, recycling rate, energy recovery rate, biodegradable local authority collected municipal waste sent to landfill figures.
- It may vary depending on what the data actually show.
- It may include key points relating to particular councils e.g. highlighting particularly large increases or decreases in arisings, recycling, composting, energy recovery or landfill.

Reader Information

This document may be made available in alternative formats, please contact us to discuss your requirements.

Purpose

This is an annual publication which reports finalised figures on the key measurements of local authority collected municipal waste for councils and waste management groups in Northern Ireland.

Next Update

- Provisional figures for July to September 2016 will be available on 26 January 2017.
- The scheduled dates for all upcoming publications are available from the GOV.UK statistics release calendar: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics>

National Statistics

National Statistics status means that official statistics meet the highest standards of trustworthiness, quality and public value.

All official statistics should comply with all aspects of the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. They are awarded National Statistics status following an assessment by the Authority's regulatory arm. The Authority considers whether the statistics meet the highest standards of Code compliance, including the value they add to public decisions and debate.

It is a producer's responsibility to maintain compliance with the standards expected of National Statistics. If we become concerned about whether these statistics are still meeting the appropriate standards, we will discuss any concerns with the Authority promptly. National Statistics status can be removed at any point when the highest standards are not maintained, and reinstated when standards are restored.

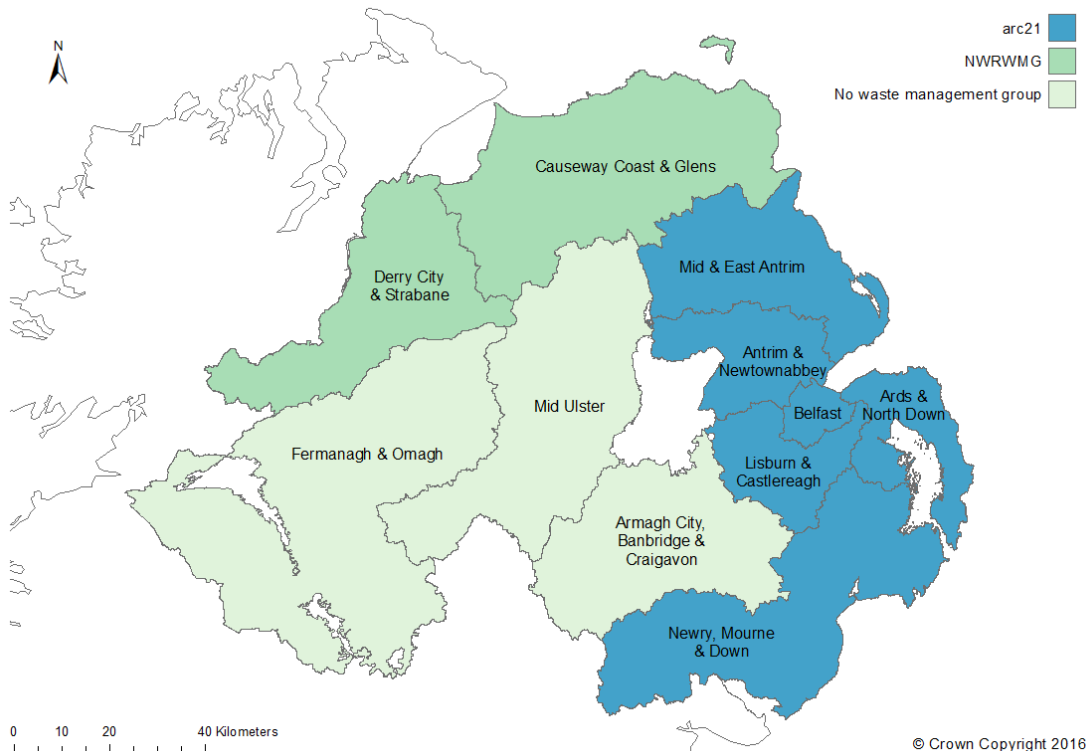
Introduction

This report presents finalised and validated information on the quantities of local authority collected (LAC) municipal waste collected and managed in Northern Ireland over the 2015/16 financial year, as well as trend data over previous years. It provides information on the quantities and rates of local authority collected municipal waste arising, sent for preparing for reuse, for dry recycling, composting, energy recovery and sent to landfill. Some of these measurements are key performance indicators (KPIs). These are used to assess progress towards achieving waste strategy targets and where appropriate this is highlighted in the tables and charts.

The 26 councils covered by previous reports were reorganised into 11 new councils from 1 April 2015. This is the first annual release on an 11 council bases. Five quarterly reports presenting provisional estimates for local authority collected municipal waste management statistics have already been published on an 11 council basis (four quarters for 2015/16 and quarter 1 of 2016/17). During this period in Northern Ireland 8 of the 11 councils were split into two Waste Management Groups (WMGs) with 3 councils unaffiliated to any group. WMGs produce, develop and implement Waste Management Plans for their areas of responsibility and are an important part of the data submission process. The group with the largest share of the population is arc21 with 59%. The North West Regional Waste Management Group (NWRWMG) has 16% of the population with the remaining 25% residing in councils belonging to no waste management group.

There were six councils in arc21: Antrim & Newtownabbey; Ards & North Down; Belfast; Lisburn & Castlereagh; Mid & East Antrim; and Newry, Mourne & Down. NWRWMG contained two councils: Causeway Coast & Glens; and Derry City & Strabane. The remaining three councils were not members of any WMG: Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon; Fermanagh & Omagh; and Mid Ulster.

Figure 1: Map of councils and waste management groups in Northern Ireland

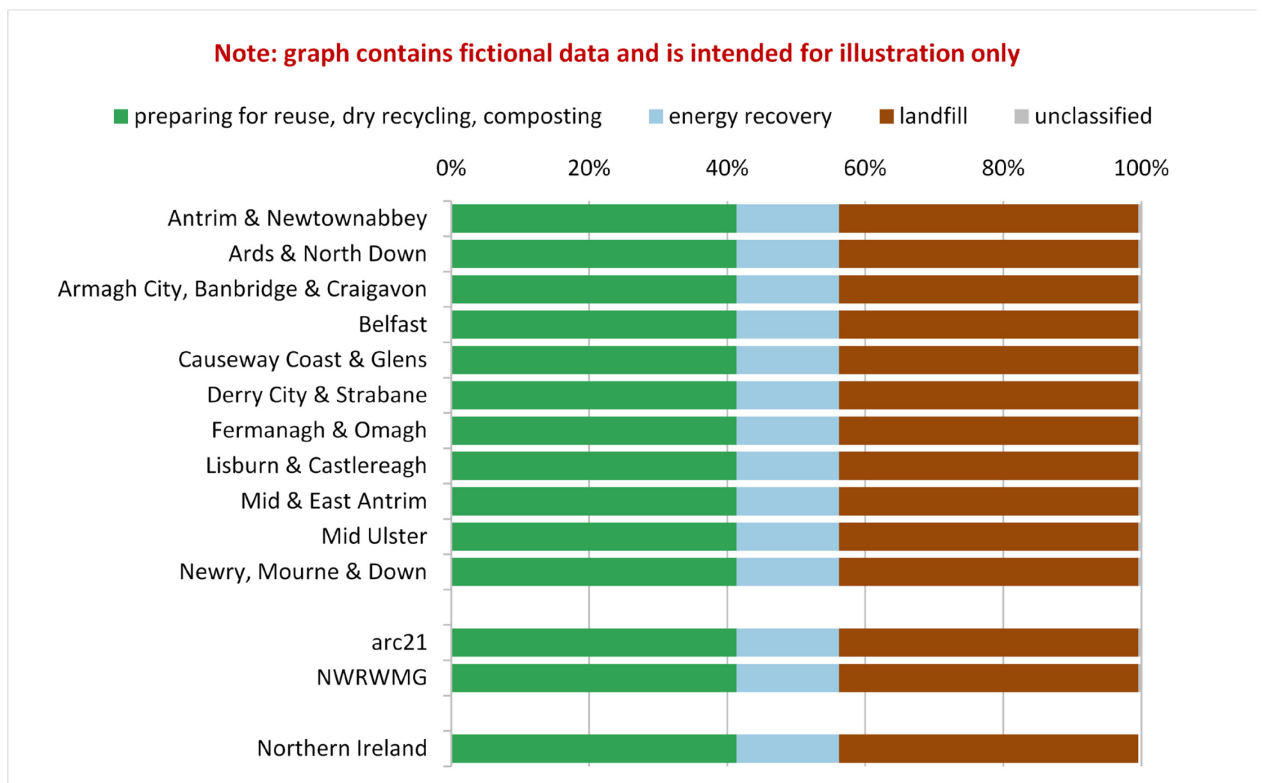


Overview

- This will be a new section of the annual report
- The report will be split into five sections, each of which cover local authority collected (LAC) municipal and, where appropriate, household waste:
 - waste arisings (pages 7-9),
 - reuse, dry recycling and composting (pages 10-11),
 - energy recovery (pages 12-13),
 - landfill (pages 14-15), and,
 - biodegradable landfill (pages 16-17).

The purpose of this overview is to show at a glance the proportions of the total LAC municipal waste arisings sent for preparing for reuse, dry recycling, composting, energy recovery and landfill.

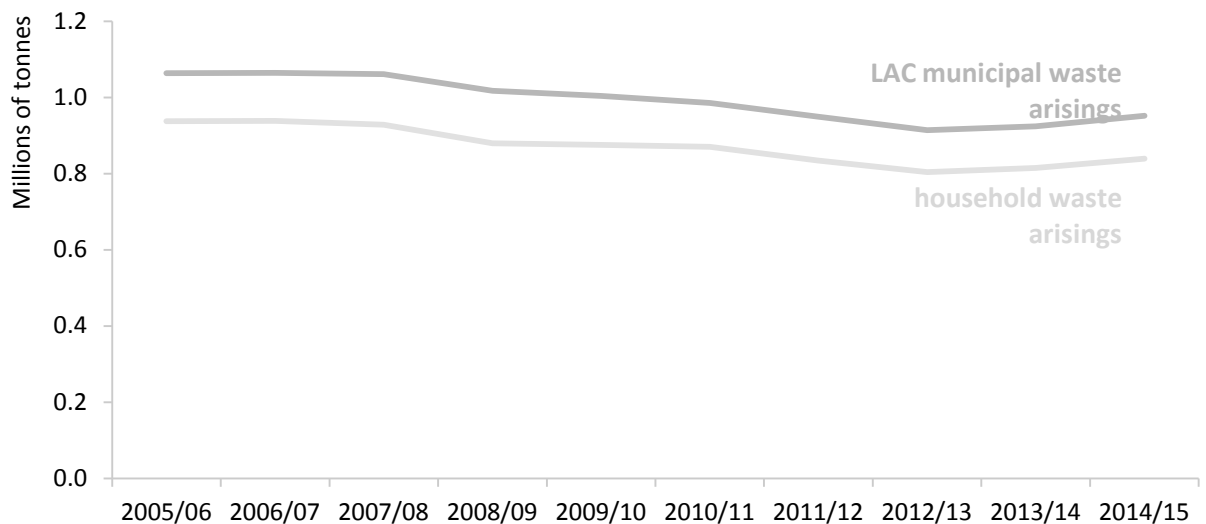
- Chart will show proportions of waste sent for reuse, dry recycling, composting, energy recovery and landfill for each council, waste management group and Northern Ireland.



- Discussion at the Northern Ireland level will be included.

Waste Arisings

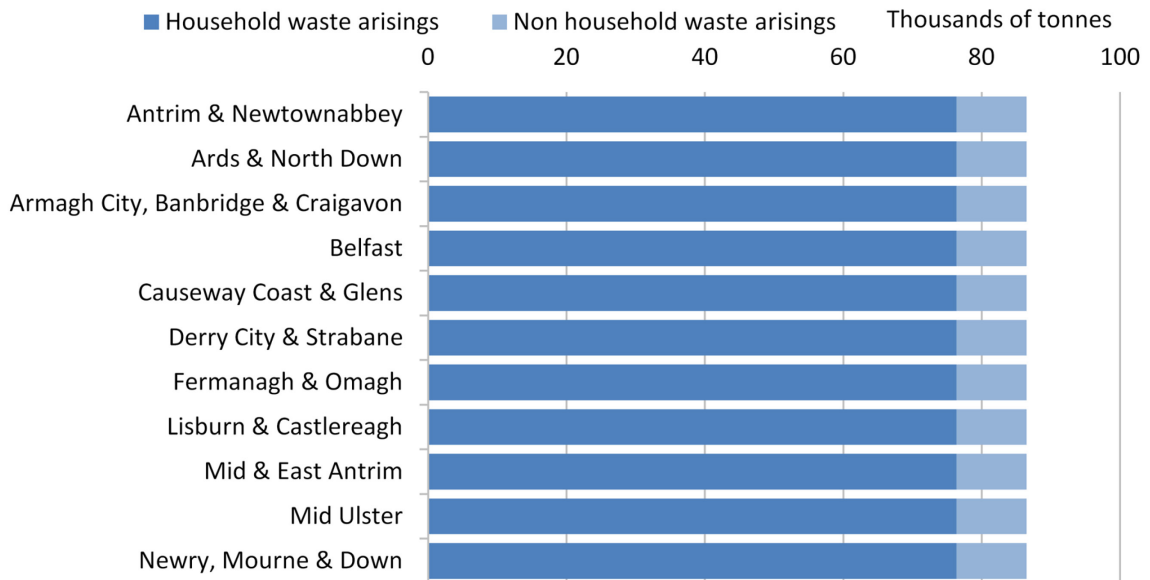
- Commentary and analysis will aid interpretation and provide factual information about the policy and operational context of the local authority collected waste statistics. Formats will be chosen to present the statistics clearly, consistently and to aid their interpretation. This is likely to include the following:
- Line chart showing NI local authority collected [KPI(j)] and household waste arisings trends



Note: graph currently contains data up to 2014/15. The latest data are available from <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/northern-ireland-local-authority-collected-municipal-waste-management-statistics>

- Discussion of longer- and shorter-term trends in LAC municipal waste arisings. Longer term trends will cover several years. Shorter term trends will compare current year to previous year.
- Comparison of household and non-household proportions

Note: graph contains fictional data and is intended for illustration only



- Chart showing local authority collected municipal waste arisings for the 11 district councils. Initially, no past data will be available, but over time short-term, and later, longer-term comparisons will become possible.
- Discussion of notable figures for individual & specific councils. This will contain points of interest rather than a description of every council's figures. For example, the highest or lowest figures, and notable changes over time.
- The data behind these charts will be published in the data appendix, and will be available in excel spreadsheet and csv format.
- There are two key performance indicators which look at household waste arisings in more detail by considering household waste arisings per capita, KPI (p), and per household KPI (h). Some discussion around these KPIs will be included here along with thematic maps showing household waste arisings per capita and per household for the 11 district councils.

kilogrammes per capita



kilogrammes per household

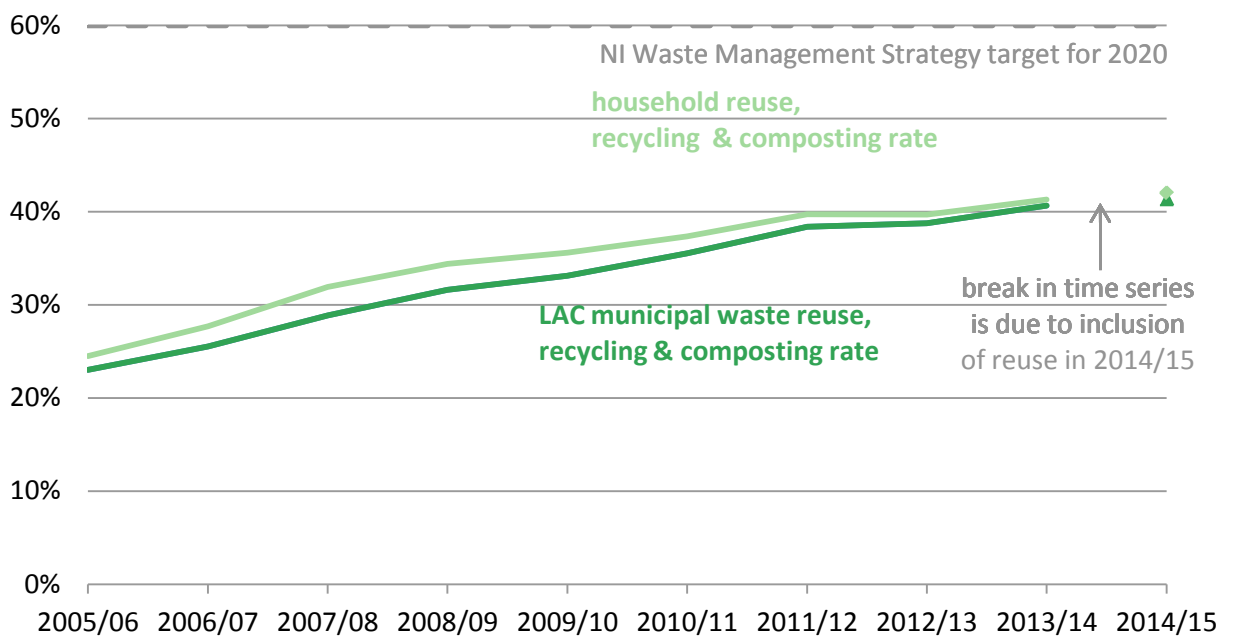


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- Discussion of notable figures for individual & specific councils. This will contain points of interest rather than a description of every council's figures. For example, the highest or lowest figures.
- Tables with figures for all councils will be available from the data appendix in excel spreadsheet format and a link to the tables will be included here.

Recycling (preparing for reuse, dry recycling and composting)

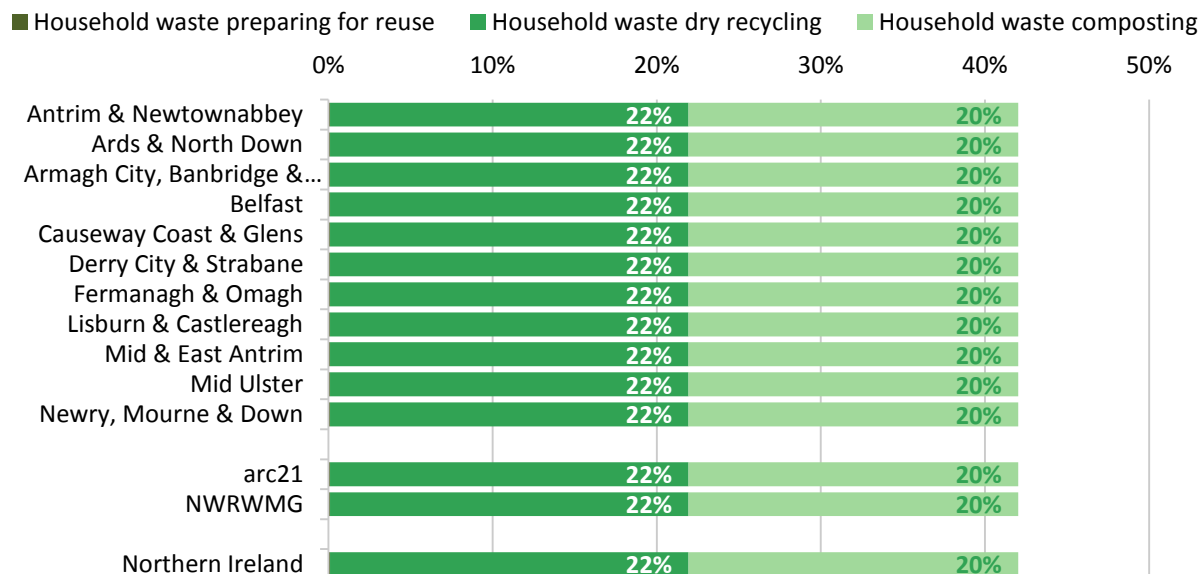
- This section of the report will describe and report on three recycling measures.
 - household reuse, recycling & composting rate KPI(a2)
 - LAC municipal waste reuse, recycling & composting rate KPI(e2)
 - 'waste from households' recycling rate (new indicator)
- It will outline the similarities, differences and reasons for each measure.
- Line chart to show trends in local authority collected and household recycling rate will be included



Note: graph currently contains data up to 2014/15. The latest data are available from <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/northern-ireland-local-authority-collected-municipal-waste-management-statistics>

- Discussion of longer- and shorter-term trends in recycling rates. Longer term trends will cover several years. Shorter term trends will compare current year to the previous year.
- Discuss relative sizes of reuse, dry recycling and composting components.

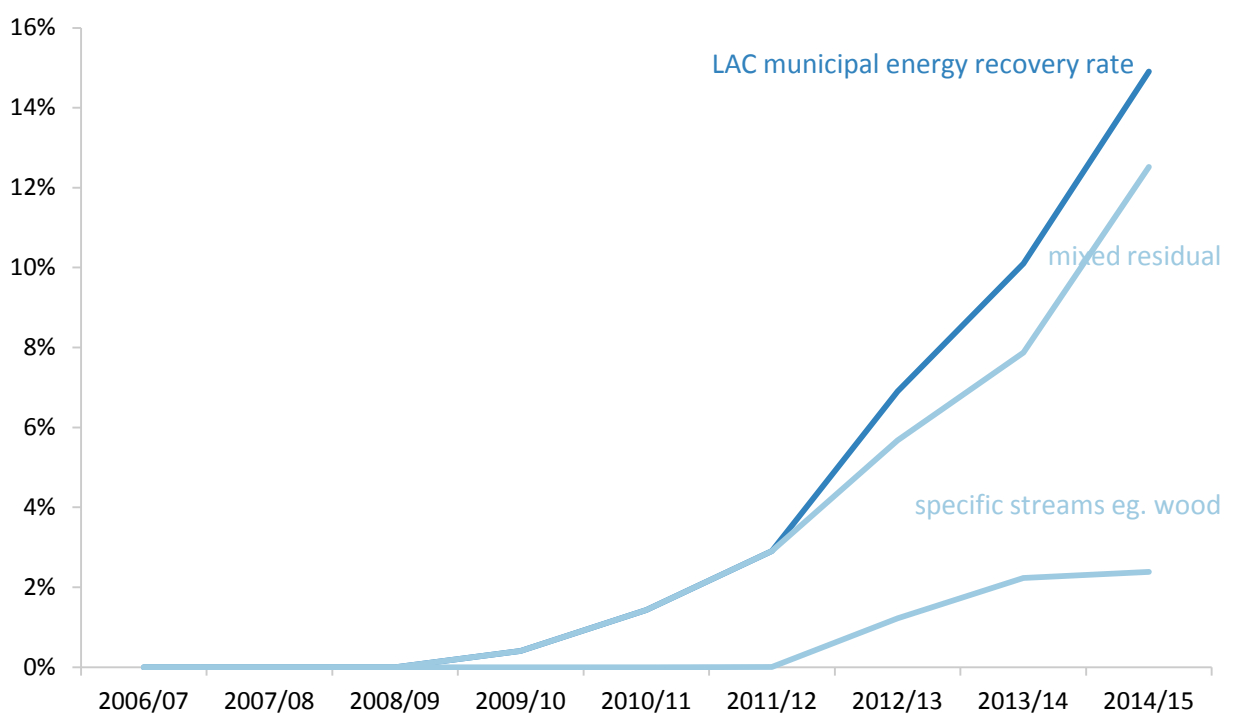
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- Bar chart showing household reuse, recycling & composting rates for the 11 district councils. Initially, no past data will be available, but over time short-term, and later, longer-term comparisons will become possible. Household recycling was chosen because it is the definition against which the current NI long-term policy framework and new statutory performance indicator for councils are based.
- Discussion of notable figures for individual & specific councils. This will contain points of interest rather than a description of every council's figures. For example, the highest or lowest figures, and notable changes over time.
- Any known drivers of change in the data will be noted and discussed.

Energy recovery

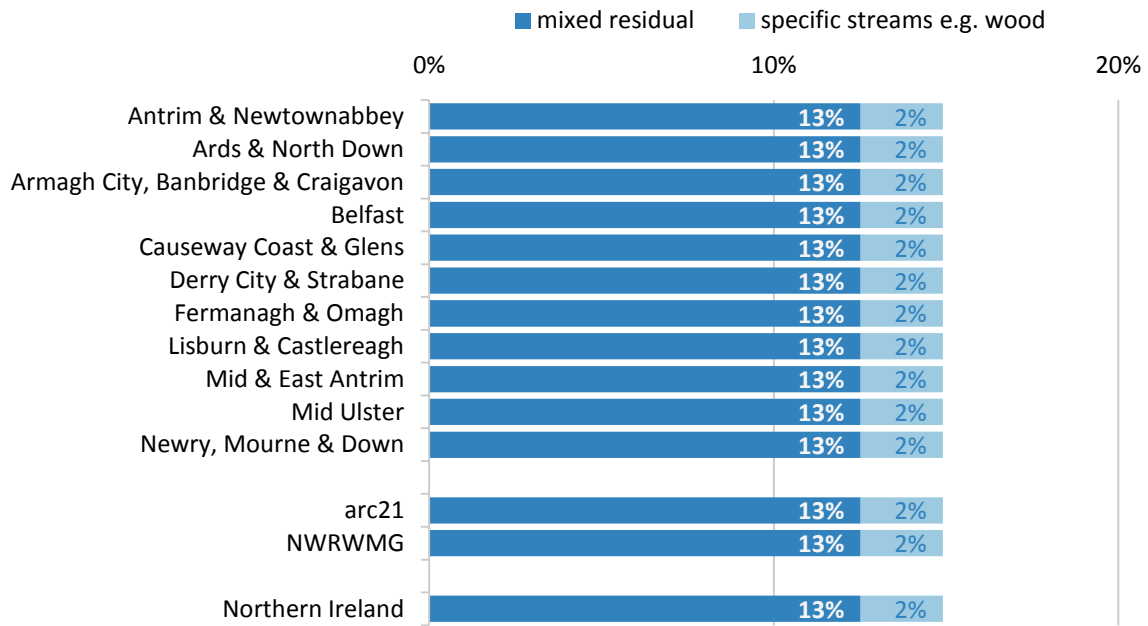
- This will be a new section of the report which will describe and report on quantities of waste sent for recovery.
- It will contain similar energy recovery information to the figures included in the 2014/15 annual report, see figure 4 and table 3. This will involve two variables, LAC municipal waste energy recovery: mixed residual waste and specific streams e.g. wood.
 - <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/doe/lac-municipal-waste-2014-15.pdf>
- Line chart to show trends will be included.



Note: graph currently contains data up to 2014/15. The latest data are available from <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/northern-ireland-local-authority-collected-municipal-waste-management-statistics>

- A bar chart will show energy recovery rates for the 11 councils. Initially, no past data will be available, but over time short-term, and later, longer-term comparisons will become possible. This will use household waste landfilled, for consistency with the council breakdowns in the recycling section.

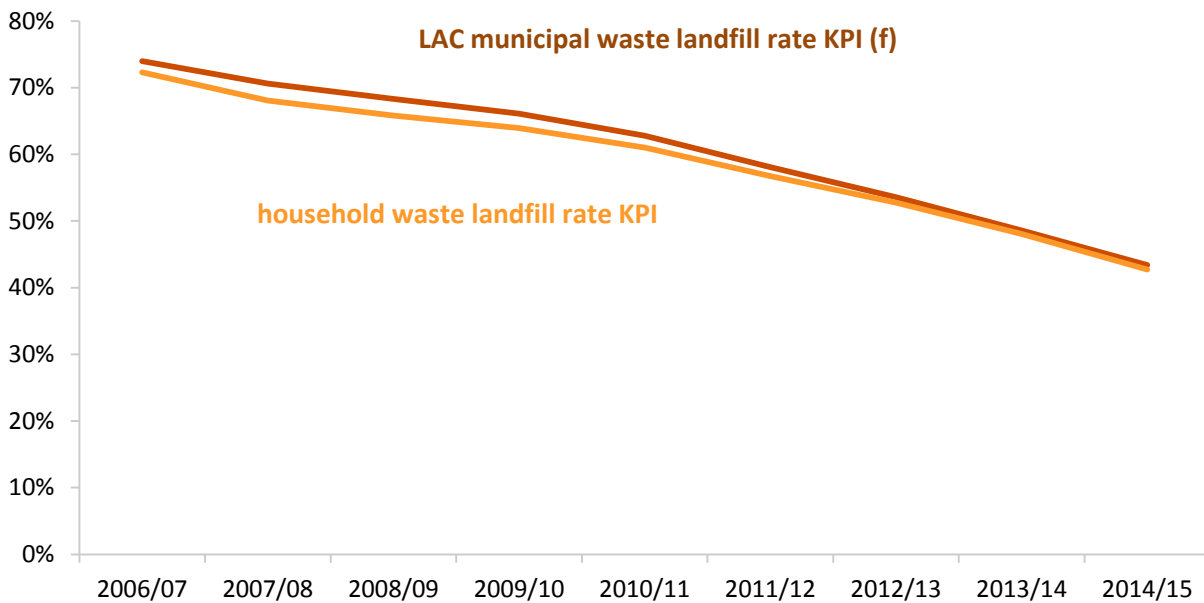
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- Discussion of notable figures for individual & specific councils. This will contain points of interest rather than a description of every council's figures. For example, the highest or lowest figures.
- The data behind these charts will be published in the data appendix in excel spreadsheet format and a link to the tables will be included here.

Landfill

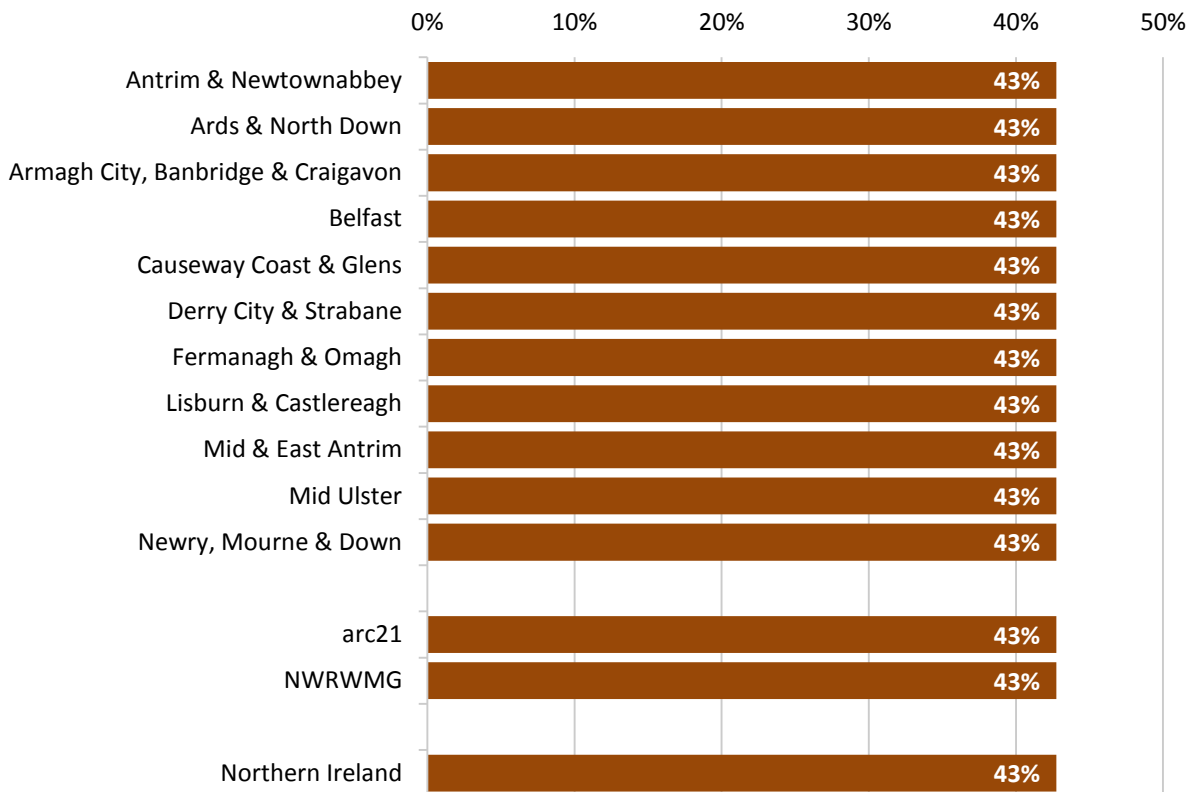
- This section of the report will describe and report on landfill.
- A line chart will show trends in landfill rate at the Northern Ireland level. It will include both LAC municipal waste landfilled and household waste landfilled.



- *Note: graph currently contains data up to 2014/15. The latest data are available from: <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/northern-ireland-local-authority-collected-municipal-waste-management-statistics>*
- Discussion of longer- and shorter-term trends in recycling rates. Longer term trends will cover several years. Shorter term trends will compare current quarter to the same quarter from the previous year.

- Bar chart showing landfill rates for the 11 district councils. Initially, no past data will be available, but over time short-term, and later, longer-term comparisons will become possible. This will use household waste landfilled, for consistency with the council breakdowns in the recycling section.

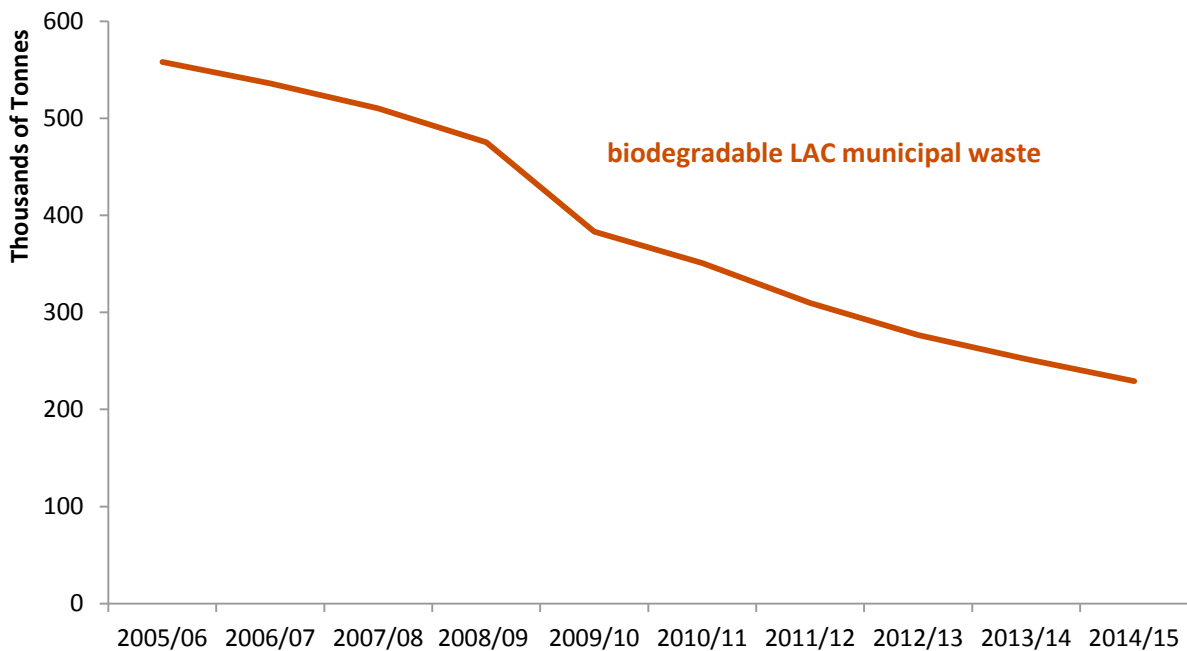
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- Discussion of notable figures for individual & specific councils. This will contain points of interest rather than a description of every council's figures. For example, the highest or lowest figures, and notable changes over time.
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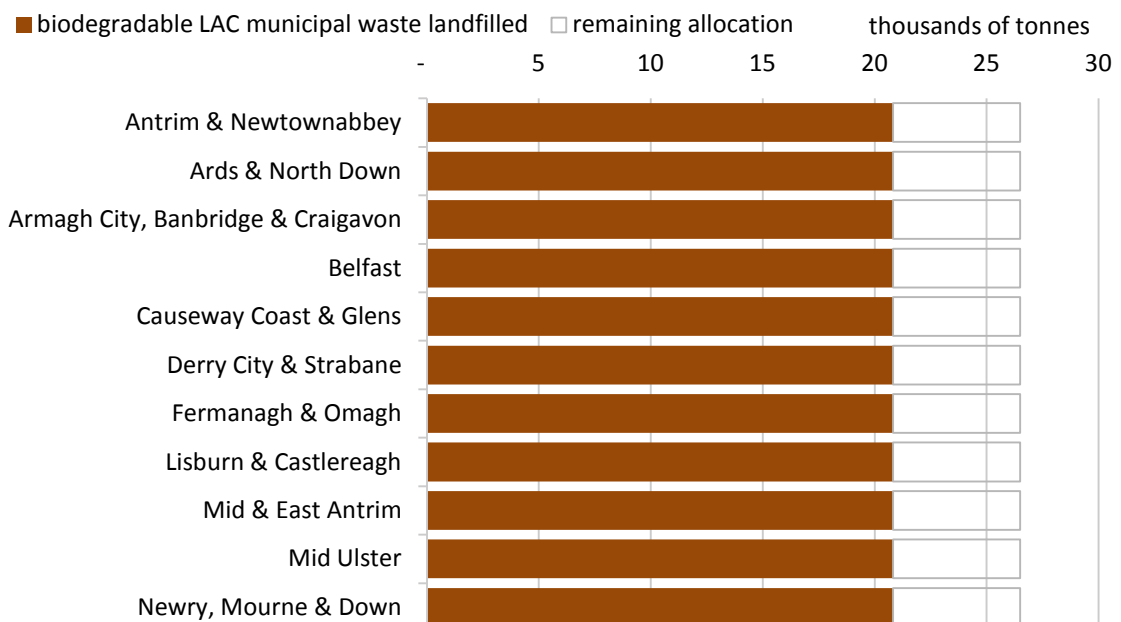
Biodegradable local authority collected municipal waste to landfill

- This section of the report will describe and report on biodegradable LAC municipal waste sent to landfill, the new statutory performance indicator for councils.
- It will describe the policy context of this indicator and the related NILAS targets.



- Include a bar chart showing 11 council breakdown of biodegradable local authority collected municipal waste landfilled

Note: graph contains fictional data and is intended for illustration only



- Discussion of notable figures for individual & specific councils. This will contain points of interest rather than a description of every council's figures. For example, the highest or lowest figures.
- The data behind these charts will be published in the data appendix in excel spreadsheet format and a link to the tables will be included here.

Northern Ireland Key Performance Indicators 2015/16

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are a set of measures used to gauge performance in terms of meeting waste strategy targets. They were originally defined in the Environment and Heritage Service (now the Northern Ireland Environment Agency) municipal waste data monitoring and reporting: interim guidelines, published in March 2003.

The table below has been included to help users find a specific KPI value or location in the report or appendix. Previously used key performance indicators KPIs (a) and (e) have been modified, in line with the rest of the UK, to include waste sent for preparing for reuse, and relabelled as KPI (a2) and (e2).

<< Table(s) will be included showing performance against KPIs and comparison of provisional and final figures for 2015/16 KPIs >>

KPI	Performance during 2015/16	Page
a2	% of household waste sent recycling (including composting and preparing for reuse)	Report page x Appendix table x
b	% of household waste landfilled	Report page x Appendix table x
e2	% of LAC municipal waste sent for recycling (including composting and preparing for reuse)	Report page x Appendix table x
f	% of LAC municipal waste landfilled	Report page x Appendix table x
g	tonnes of biodegradable LAC municipal waste landfilled	Report page x Appendix table x
h	tonnes of household waste generated per household	Report page x Appendix table x
j	tonnes of LAC municipal waste generated	Report page x Appendix table x
m	See Figure 13 for capture rates by primary waste category	Report page x Appendix table x
n	% increase in LAC municipal waste generated	Report page x Appendix table x
p	kilogrammes of household waste generated per capita	Report page x Appendix table x

Progress against targets

Data contained in this release are published primarily to provide an indication of the progress towards achieving waste strategy targets. They allow for the assessment of the performance of the councils and waste management groups in Northern Ireland in managing waste arisings, recycling, composting and landfill.

<< A table reporting progress against proposed PfG, the Waste Management Strategy and the Landfill Scheme will be presented below >>

Appendix 1: Detailed Tables

- Usually this appendix would contain 29 pages of tables showing all the data from the report and additional variables at NI and Council level. However this is currently a duplication of effort, as these exact same tables are also made available in excel format alongside the report.
- It is proposed that this appendix is dropped from the report. All the tables will still be available from the excel appendix, will still be printer-friendly, and will reduce the length of the report, duplication of effort and potential for errors.
- Users who wish to print out the data tables will be able to do so from the spreadsheet, rather than from the pdf document.

Appendix 1: User Guidance

This section will be reviewed and updated as part of the normal review process.

Appendix 2: Glossary

This section will also be reviewed and updated as part of the normal review process.

Appendix 3: List of Acronyms

This is a list of commonly used acronyms in this report.

arc21	Regional waste management group in Northern Ireland
BLACMW	Biodegradable Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste
CIWM	Chartered Institution of Wastes Management
DOE	Department of the Environment
DAERA	Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs
EC	European Commission
EU	European Union
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
LAC	Local Authority Collected
LACMW	Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste
LPS	Land and Property Services
MRF	Materials Recovery Facility
NI	Northern Ireland
NIEA	Northern Ireland Environment Agency
NILAS	Northern Ireland Landfill Allowance Scheme
NISRA	Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency
NWRWGM	North West Regional Waste Management Group
RDF	Refuse Derived Fuel
UK	United Kingdom
WDF	WasteDataFlow
WEEE	Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment
WRAP	Waste and Resource Action Programme

This section will be reviewed and updated.