

SURREY LOCAL
GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

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Voice for Surrey

Working together to improve our management of household waste

The district and borough councils of Surrey and Surrey County Council have been working together to produce a "Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy" that will improve and strengthen the management of household waste in Surrey.

This strategy builds on earlier strategic work in 2003. The new strategy has taken on board the views and opinions of the people of Surrey and the changing guidance and targets set by regional and national bodies.

This consultation sits alongside, but is distinct from, a series of consultations on the Surrey Waste Local Plan, which deals with the potential siting of waste facilities.

The strategy is founded on a vision and number of key principles, which are set out below. To achieve the aims set out in the vision and principles we need to consider some key implementation issues. The attached questionnaire seeks your views on these implementation issues.



The Vision

The vision is to provide Surrey with a forward-looking strategy for a more sustainable future in which resources are used and managed efficiently so that by 2025:

- The amount of waste produced will be minimised
- The overwhelming majority of materials will be re-used or recycled
- The environment will be protected and enhanced for future generations

Sustainability and Self-Sufficiency

The County, Boroughs and Districts will work in partnership and with other stakeholders in order to promote sustainable waste and resources management in Surrey. We will support regional policies for net self-sufficiency, which means we will take full responsibility for dealing with the waste produced by Surrey households.

One important principle underlying this policy is the acknowledgement that counties need to be able to deal with their own waste and not expect other communities to deal with our problem. This includes local provision of facilities for handling, separating and treating waste need.

Education and Awareness

We will work in partnership to develop and deliver a co-ordinated waste education and awareness programme, which focuses on all aspects of sustainable waste management, in line with the priorities of the waste hierarchy.

This means that the twelve authorities will work together to help you and your neighbours understand how to reduce the amount of waste being produced in the first place and to increase levels of recycling and composting.

The strategy will mean taking steps at every level of the waste hierarchy (which starts with maximising waste minimisation, then increasing recycling and composting, recovering materials or energy of any waste left over before landfilling the remainder.)



Waste Minimisation

We will vigorously pursue the minimisation of waste to achieve a growth rate below current levels, through common public messages, lobbying retailers and enforcement.

Many people confuse waste minimisation with recycling. We use the term to mean reducing the total amount that households throw away in the first place. We need to use the most effective methods possible to encourage and enable the minimisation of the production of waste.

One initiative we are planning is asking people to sign a waste minimisation pledge. Anyone who signs up to it will be kept informed of new initiatives to assist you to minimise your waste. If you want to sign up to the pledge please tick the pledge box on the attached questionnaire.

Recycling and Composting

We will commit significant efforts and resources to achieve and exceed household recycling and composting targets of 40% by the year 2010 and 50% by 2015, and aspire to reach a long term target of 60% recycling by 2025.

The district, borough councils and the county council are proposing to achieve these targets by improving kerbside collection recycling services and facilities at civic amenity sites and by extending the range of waste that is collected e.g. garden and kitchen waste. We are reliant on your participation and cooperation to achieve these targets.

Waste collection authorities will be examining their collection methods to try to encourage waste reduction and maximise recycling and composting.

Recovery and Disposal of Remaining Waste

We will adhere to the waste hierarchy, with residual waste treatment preferred to landfill. Recovery and disposal facilities will be delivered to ensure compliance with the Landfill Directive.



The principle underlying this policy is that landfill is the worst method of disposing of waste and we should find other methods to dispose of the “residual” waste which is left over after high level recycling, composting etc. This means that we will have to build waste treatment facilities. Different authorities prefer different technological solutions to these facilities. In particular there is a division of opinion about whether energy from waste via incineration should be used to deal with the residual waste.

Essentially, whatever waste is leftover after we have recycled can be treated in three ways:

- **Landfill.** This is the most undesirable process in the waste hierarchy; national and European legislation means it will be the most expensive form of waste disposal. However, some landfill space will still be required to take some residual waste.
- **Biological breakdown.** This involves crushing and degrading residual waste so that it could be spread on the land as a form of soil conditioner. The technology to do this and the market for this type of material is relatively untested. This technology can also provide capture of the gas produced, which can be used for energy generation.
- **Energy recovery via incineration.** This could be in the form of heat and electricity through energy from waste incineration or gasification. This technology has a poor reputation with some people but is a proven technology used in other parts of the UK and throughout the world.

All technological options would involve building large-scale industrial plants and significant HGV movements to and from the plants. All such facilities are subject to stringent regulations on emissions and safety standards enforced by the Environment Agency.

By responding to the questions in this questionnaire you will be helping us review and finalise the strategy and action plan. Send your comments back to:

Surrey Local Government Association Waste Strategy
Freepost SEA12430, Thornton Heath, CR7 7XT

Thankyou for participating in this consultation.

This leaflet is printed on paper from sustainable forest reserves and is fully recyclable with no harmful residue.





Response form

Please fill in this form and return it to the freepost address overleaf. The consultation runs from **22 May to 3 July 2006**.

Title **First name**

Last name _____

Job title
(where applicable)

Organisation
(where applicable)

Address

Postcode _____

Telephone

Email

Reference ID
(from letter)

Age Under 18 18-24 25-54 55-64 65+
(optional)

 **Data Protection**

Surrey Local Government Association (SLGA) is working with Dialogue by Design (DbyD), an independent consultation company, to conduct this survey. Any personal information you provide will be processed by SLGA and DbyD, in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998, to assist in the preparation of the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS) and related waste planning issues. **We cannot make use of responses which are given to us confidentially as the public have a right to examine representations made.**

If you do not wish to be consulted in the future please put a cross in the box below and ensure that you have filled in your name and address so that we can remove you from our database.

Please do not contact me for further consultation on the JMWMS.



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**I would like to sign up to the
Surrey waste minimisation pledge**

(Please make sure to add your e-mail address
to the address details in the form on the left.)

Q1. Please indicate the **THREE** most important factors
that would allow you to contribute to waste minimisation,
like this: **x**

- Information (media campaigns, newsletters)
- Incentives (prizes, giveaways, subsidies)
- Courses and seminars
- Local face-to-face meetings with experts
- Enforcement, e.g. fines
- Other (please write details in the box below)

Q2. Please indicate which **THREE** of the following
facilities would **MOST** assist you to increase your
recycling and composting efforts, like this: **x**

- Space to store recyclables
- Improved recycling facilities at Civic Amenity Sites
- More community recycling banks
- Improving range of materials collected at kerbside
- Working with retailers to reduce packaging
- Other (please write details in the box below)

**Please turn over and fill in
the reverse of this form**

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Q3. Which of the following measures would you support? Please indicate like this: **x**

Measure	Yes, I would support	No, I would not support
Pay as you throw: a separate charge for more than a standard quantity of waste per household	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Various promotional initiatives, e.g. prizes for the best recyclers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Changing the frequency of waste collections	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Restriction on the amount of waste collected, e.g. a limit on black sacks or, if wheelie bin, no side waste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q4. Please indicate, like this **x**, which **THREE** criteria are the most important in determining the process used to treat the waste that is left over after as much as possible has been reduced, recycled or composted.

- Cost
- Location (local sites must be found)
- Environmental impact
- Legislation and regulation
- Recovery rates, e.g. energy, material
- Traffic impact
- Other (please write details in the box below)



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Q5. There are differing views on the best ways of disposing of the waste that cannot be recycled or composted. This is a complex subject. The options include, for example, biological treatment, and energy from waste via incineration, touched on in this leaflet under "Recovery and disposal of remaining waste".

Do you have any comments on the best way to deal with the waste left over after minimisation, recycling and composting?

If you are interested in reading more about the strategy and its proposed activities and in having the opportunity to comment in more detail, you can see the whole document and accompanying local and county action plans at your local library or civic centre or **you can also participate in this consultation online by going to www.surreywaste.info**

Please send the completed form to:
**Surrey Local Government Association Waste Strategy,
FREEPOST SEA12430, Thornton Heath, CR7 7XT**

Thank you for taking time to complete this form

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