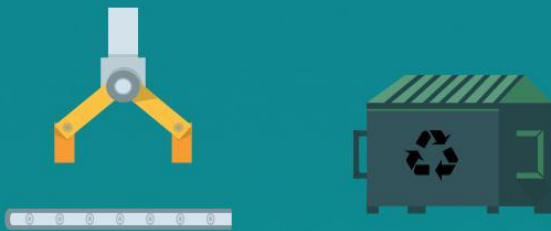


# Merseyside Recycling and Waste Authority

# Seasonal Update - Spring 2016

## Waste Management Contract



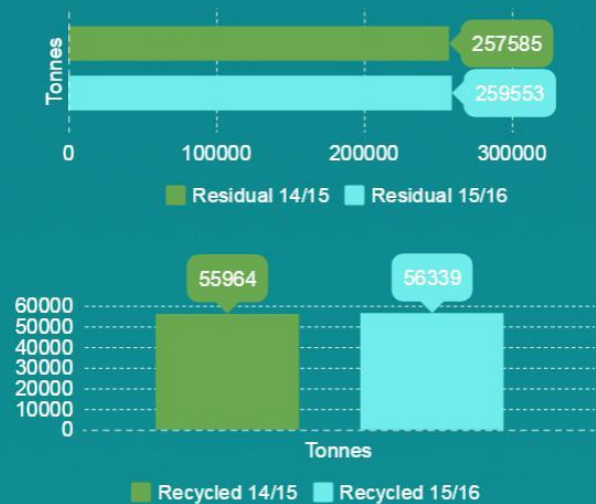
94%

Recycled at our Materials Recovery Facilities

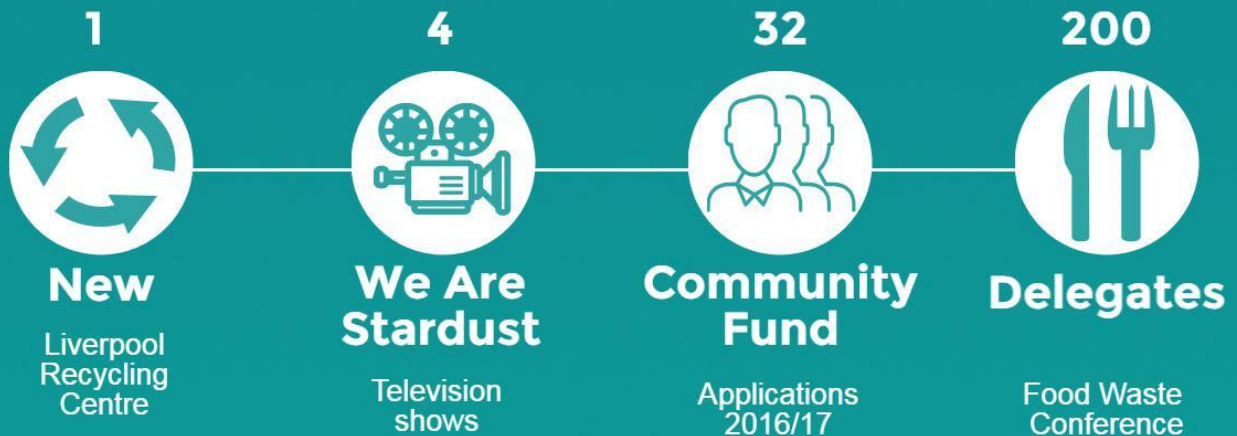
75%

Material diverted from landfill at Recycling Centres

## Merseyside waste Qs 1, 2, 3



## - MRWA in numbers -



## Our Budget



2015/16 - Through use of interim waste contracts we've saved £2.3m

2016/17 - Authority Revenue Budget set at £75m

Waste Levy - frozen for the seventh year in a row

## Old Swan Recycling Centre opens for business

Merseyside Recycling and Waste Authority (MRWA) delivered an early Christmas present for the region by cutting the ribbon on a new £1.4 million Household Waste Recycling Centre, in Liverpool.



The new Old Swan Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) will provide facilities for members of the public to bring all sorts of household items from paper, cardboard and bottles, to larger items such as white goods, televisions and furniture, plus lots more beside.

### **Carl Beer, Chief Executive of MRWA, said:**

“This is a modern, efficient and well laid out waste recycling facility, and is good news for residents in the north of the city because they will now have a much shorter drive to recycle their unwanted items.”

The new Recycling Centre will handle up to 15,000-tonnes of recyclable material each year and provide a greater range of recycling containers and a canopy to shield visitors from bad weather. The facility will be managed by MRWA’s contractor Veolia.



## Budget setting and Levy Mechanism

On Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February, our Members approved the Revised Budget for 2015/16 and the Revenue Budget for 2016/17, which included a range of savings proposals and cost cutting measures. The Budget ensures that we can maintain a sound financial position and continue to provide an effective disposal service.

### Revised 2015/16 Budget

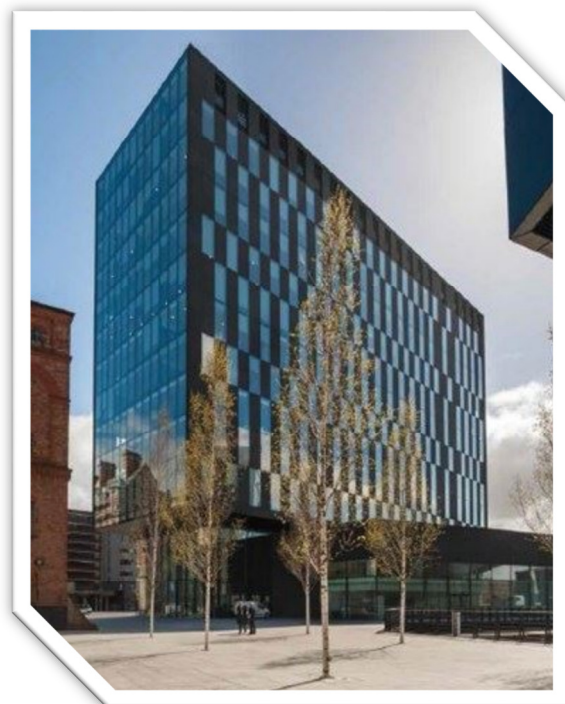
Our projected level of spending for 2015/16 is likely to be £2.322million lower than originally approved. This has been achieved through continued use of interim contracts to divert waste from landfill, and which hadn't been anticipated in last year's budget. In addition there was a significant difference between the amount of recycling credits budgeted for and those expected to be claimed by Councils in the year. Finally, delays in commencing operations at the Old Swan Recycling Centre have meant there was one-off operational savings which is seen as a windfall in 2015-16.

As part of our continuing drive for efficiency, the way the organisation utilises its resources will continue to be reviewed during the next budget cycle.

### Revenue Budget for 2016/17

For the coming year, our Members were asked to set a revenue budget of £75.4M, which reflected the removal of cushioning of £6M provided by the Authority in the 2015-16 budget, as well as the additional cost pressure from the new Old Swan HWRC, the cessation of interim contracts and the introduction of the Resource Recovery Contract without any significant cost mitigation from potential income sources.

In consultation with Members (through workshop presentations and the Members Forward Planning Panel) a number of savings proposals were developed and were included in the budget estimates in an effort to reduce the Authority's costs and the impact of the Levy for 2016-17.



The savings agreed include the removal of Third Party Textile Recycling Credits, withdrawal of the Apprentices Programme, closure of the Bidston Visitor Centre and a review of the Household Waste Recycling Centre service provision. Some of the savings can be implemented straight away; others will involve further discussions and agreement with Councils.

### **Overall Levy and apportionment**

Our Members also considered how much of the Authority's reserves should be used to cushion increases in the Levy to District Councils and it was agreed to freeze the overall Levy for the seventh year running, which required a contribution from the General Fund of almost £9.9M. Members also discussed an alternative method of apportioning the Levy but this required the agreement of all five Merseyside Councils. Unanimous agreement was not received subsequently and so the Levy was apportioned on the previously agreed basis.

Members also agreed to a wider strategic review of waste management in the Liverpool City Region. This review will take into account collection, treatment and disposal together with a review of governance arrangements and the Levy mechanism.

## Resource Recovery Contract

Work is continuing on the £1bn Resource Recovery Contract (RRC) with construction of our sites in Knowsley and Wilton getting closer to completion. The contract will see almost all of Merseyside and Halton's residual (black bag) household waste diverted from landfill via our contractor SUEZ.

At the Kirkby Rail Transfer Loading Facility (located on the Knowsley Industrial Estate) work is continuing on the waste reception bunkers, the installation of weighbridges and modifications to the existing railway infrastructure.

At the Wilton International Energy from Waste facility (located just outside of Middlesbrough – *pictured below*) rail lines are currently being installed and some elements of the site are entering the commissioning stage. It is currently expected that the commissioning phase will commence from soon and that the facilities will become fully operational after October 2016.

The Resource Recovery Contract will minimise our reliance on landfilling and deliver environmental and financial benefits for Merseyside and Halton.



## Community Fund 2016/17

The Expressions of Interest deadline for the MRWA and Veolia Community Fund 2016/17 passed on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, with 32 applications received by the Authority. These applications will now be assessed and, if successful, approached and asked to provide a more detailed Fund entry.



Successful applicants can be awarded up to £25,000 for schemes which operate across Merseyside and Halton, and £8,000 for projects which work solely at local authority level. Projects will have nine months to deliver their schemes and will be expected to launch in June.

The Community Fund has been running annually since 2006. The impact of the 2014/15 Fund saw 160 full time equivalent jobs created or safeguarded, participation by 322 volunteers, 743 tonnes of waste material diverted from landfill and £74,300 of equivalent landfill costs avoided.

Previous Community Fund projects have included providing free packs of re-used furniture to vulnerable individuals or families in critical need; holding workshops across the region to help improve peoples' skills to repair and re-use/upcycle and sell unwanted furniture and textiles; and converting three vacant Housing Association units into community shops to sell items for re-use.

## Waste Management and Recycling Contract - Performance Update

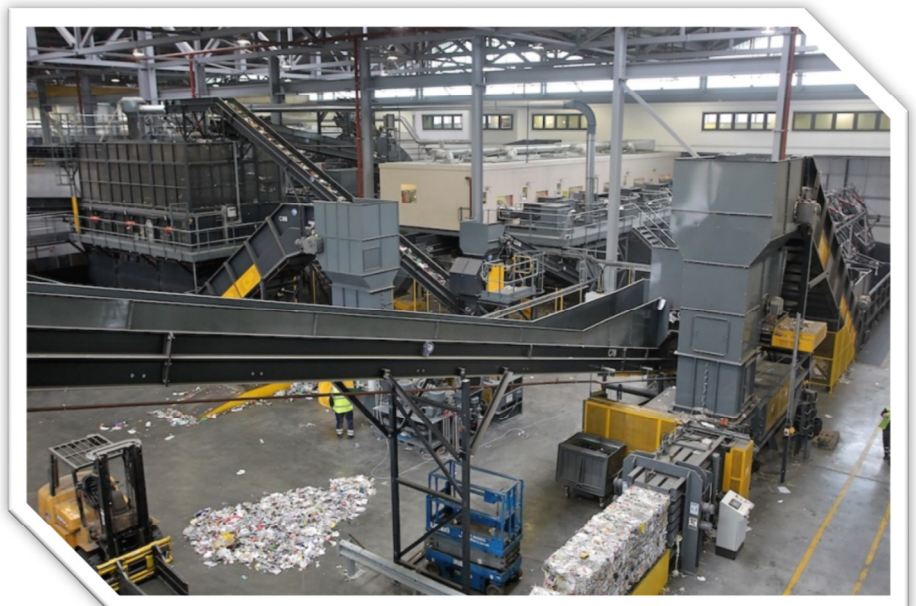
For 2015/16 year-to-date, we have received 134,000 tonnes of waste at the 15 Household Waste recycling Centres across Merseyside and Halton, which are operated by our contractor Veolia. This is an increase of 6,000 tonnes against last year (4.5%). 67.5% is currently recycled and 75% is diverted (including rubble). This is an excellent over-performance against a recycling target of 52.91%.

In particular, Sefton Meadows Recycling Centre (*pic right*) has proven itself as Merseyside's best performing Recycling Centre with 76.62% of the material delivered through its doors diverted from landfill in quarter 3 of 2015/16. It also was the best performing facility in terms of the amount of material recycled over the year at 70.45%.



## Materials Recovery Facilities - Service Performance Update

For 2015/16 year-to-date, we have received 64,000 tonnes of co-mingled waste from various Merseyside councils and Halton. The material is processed at our two Materials Recovery Facilities (MRFs) at Bidston and Gillmoss (*pic right*). Currently 94% of the materials are recycled. This is an excellent over-performance against a target of 91%.



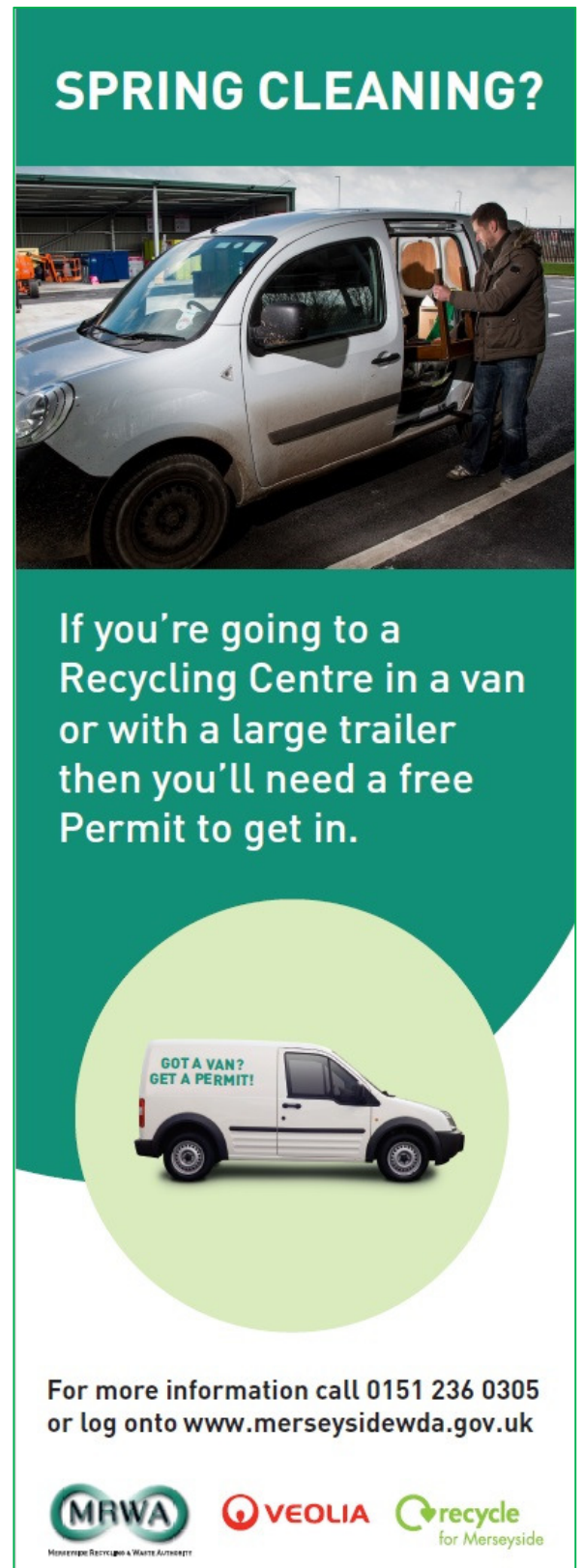
## Van Permit Push at Mersey Recycling Centres

“Got a van? Get a Permit!” is the message coming from MRWA this springtime as we front a campaign reminding people that if they want to access the region’s Household Waste Recycling Centres in a van or with a large trailer then they will need a Permit.

Introduced in October 2009 the Permit Scheme was put in place to prevent traders and commercial operators from accessing the region’s Recycling Centres, which are designated for use by householders only. Since then, over 278,000 permits have been issued to Merseyside householders.

Throughout March and April MRWA will be running a series of adverts in local newspapers (*pic right*) and news websites, contacting van-hire companies with information, and handing out leaflets at all 14 of Merseyside’s Recycling Centres to remind people of the scheme.

Those applying for permits will need to supply their name, address and vehicle details to help identify commercial and trade operators. Residents using such vehicles at any Merseyside Recycling Centre should ring Tel: 0151 236 0305 or log onto [www.merseysidewda.gov.uk](http://www.merseysidewda.gov.uk) before their next visit.



**SPRING CLEANING?**

If you're going to a Recycling Centre in a van or with a large trailer then you'll need a free Permit to get in.

GOT A VAN?  
GET A PERMIT!

For more information call 0151 236 0305  
or log onto [www.merseysidewda.gov.uk](http://www.merseysidewda.gov.uk)

**MRWA**  
Merseyside Recycling & Waste Authority

**VEOLIA**

**recycle**  
for Merseyside



## The National Sustainable Food Cities Conference

MRWA were sponsors of a major sustainability conference which has just been hosted in Liverpool (21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> March). The National Sustainable Food Cities Conference took place at the University of Liverpool Life Sciences Building on Crown Street, with 200 delegates visiting from more than 50 towns, cities, boroughs from across the UK.

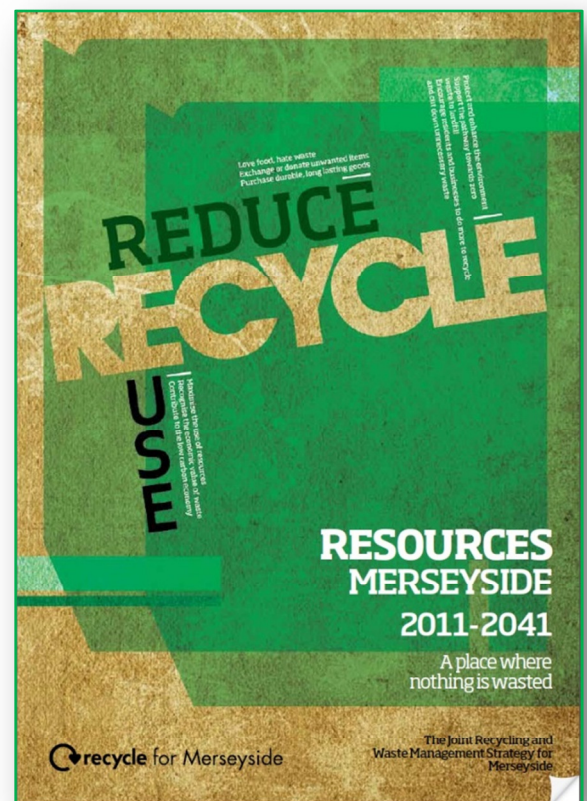


Whilst here, delegates debated topics such as - Who is responsible for healthy eating? Can a re-localised food economy work? Can a food system which feeds nine billion people work in harmony with Mother Nature?

## Monitoring the environment

We recently published the *Strategic Environmental Monitoring Report 2014/15* – a document which monitors the performance of Resources Merseyside (the Joint Recycling and Waste Management Strategy for Merseyside) and in particular, it's ten strategic aims and objectives. Findings include:

- The WMRC contract achieved a net reduction of 10,900 tonnes of carbon emissions (compared to 87,000 tonnes in the 2009 baseline)
- 33,000 tonnes less waste was disposed at landfill compared to the previous year.
- Our Recycling and Waste Contract secured 265 jobs. Additionally, the Community Fund was able to support 160 Full Time Equivalents.



**The full report can be found as an attachment to this Seasonal Update.**

## Euro Funding

Last year, as part of the 'Prewastec' project, we participated in a consortium bid for EU Horizon 2020 funding which would support the development of local reuse hubs or networks across the region to divert more material away from landfill. It would also have provided residents and communities with the necessary skills to do this. Unfortunately, in December we were advised that the bid was unsuccessful. Although the bid failed in getting through the second round, there was positive feedback for the case study being proposed by the Liverpool City Region partners.

We are continuing to seek appropriate funding opportunities to develop this work and other aspects of the circular economy in the region. For example, we have recently provided another potential project with a letter of support. The 'Waste2Ore' is another EU Horizon 2020 funding bid and will focus on improving metals recovery from incinerator bottom ash using novel biotechnology. This would involve partners from the wide-reaching, European-funded *Wastecosmart* project including C-Tech Innovation based in South Wirral and the Energy from Waste specialist AEB Amsterdam. We will announce more details as and when appropriate.

## Lights, camera, action...

Our series of commissioned short films - We Are Stardust – have been getting plenty of air play recently. The four films (which focus on community champions in re-use and waste prevention) have been repeatedly shown on the local station Bay TV Liverpool, as well as other

networks in Belfast, Brighton and Cambridge. They're also available on our [www.youtube.com/merseysidewda](http://www.youtube.com/merseysidewda) page. As well as the main films, this also includes shorter versions which focus solely on the various projects we're involved in, such as schools education and Love Food Hate Waste.

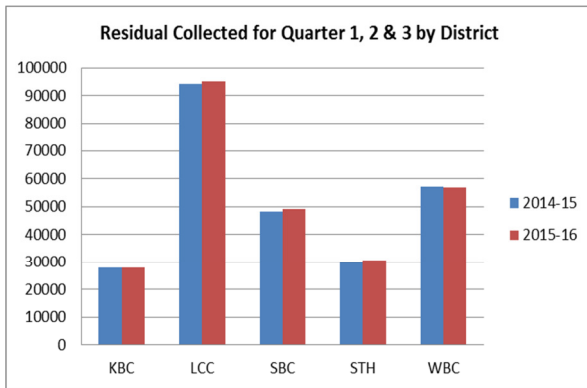
*On Twitter? Follow us @MerseysideRWA, or take a look at our [www.facebook.com/MerseysideRWA](http://www.facebook.com/MerseysideRWA) page.*



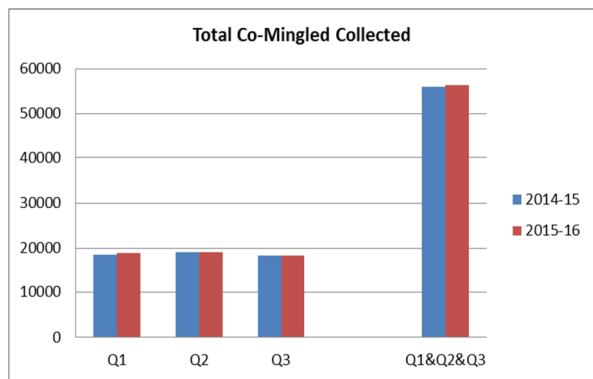
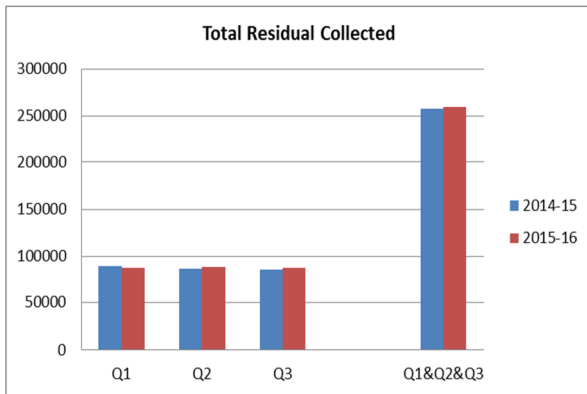
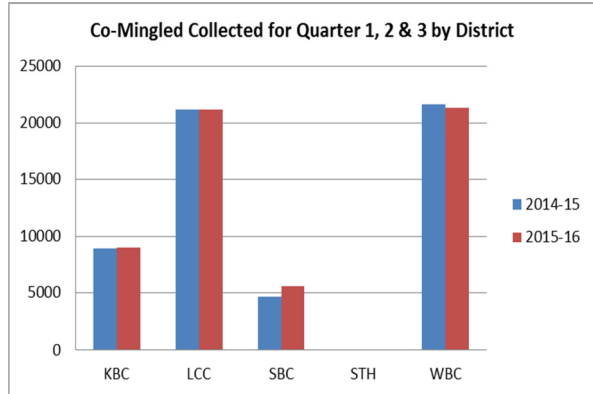
## 2014/15 Quarter Waste Statistics by Merseyside District (tonnes)

Knowsley, Liverpool, and Wirral continue to deliver Residual (i.e. black bin bag) waste and Co-mingled (i.e. recycled) materials to the Authority under the Waste Management and Recycling Contract, whilst Sefton deliver Residual waste and card and plastic recyclates, and St Helens deliver Residual Waste only.

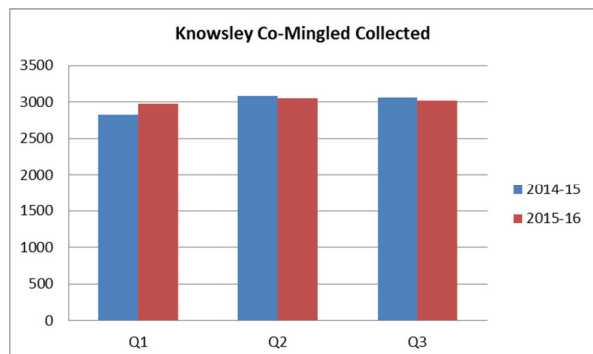
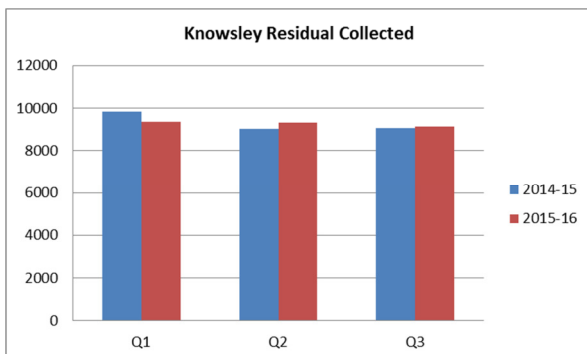
### RESIDUAL



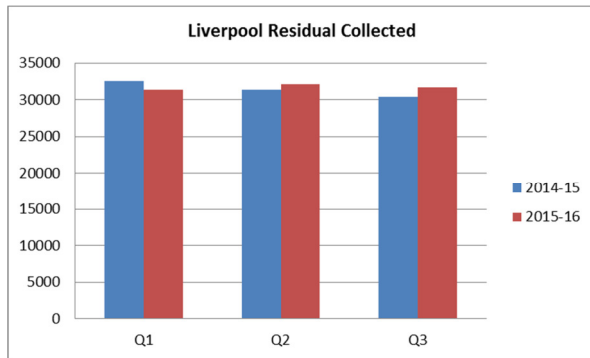
### RECYCLED (CO-MINGLED)



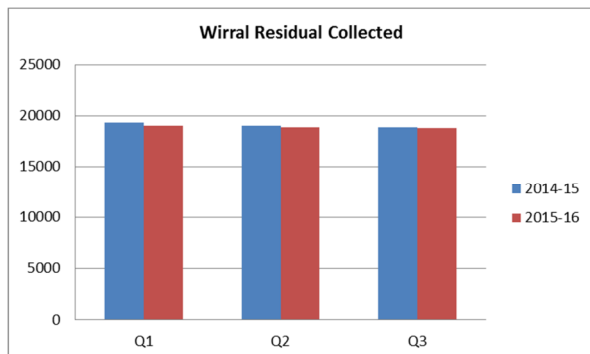
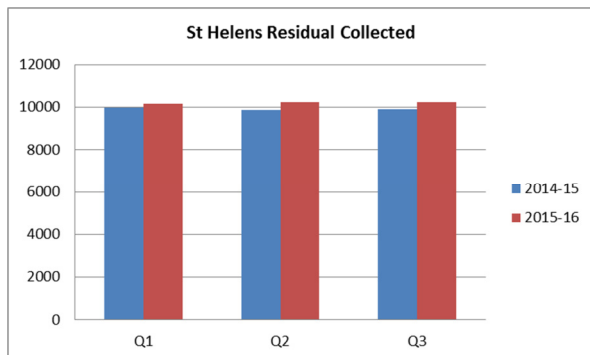
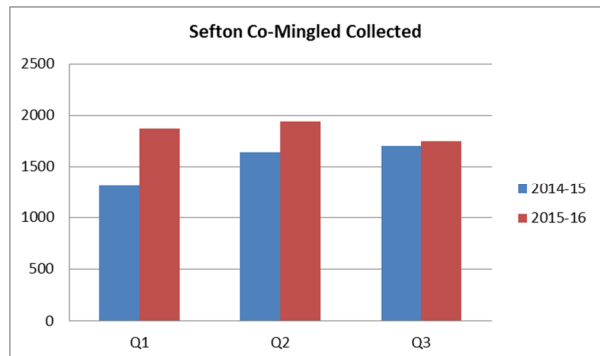
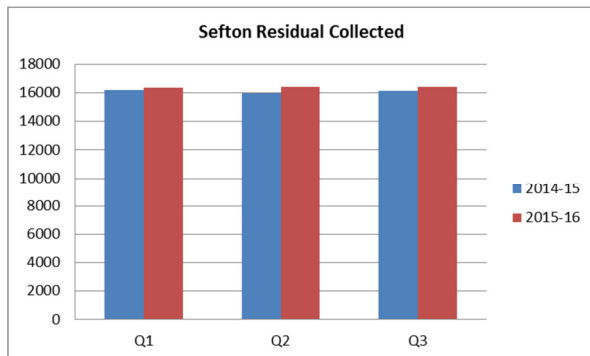
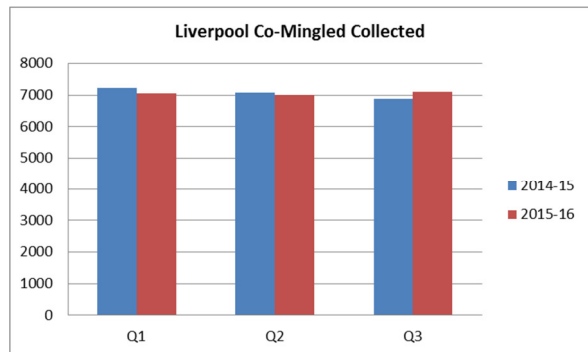
### District Collections



## RESIDUAL

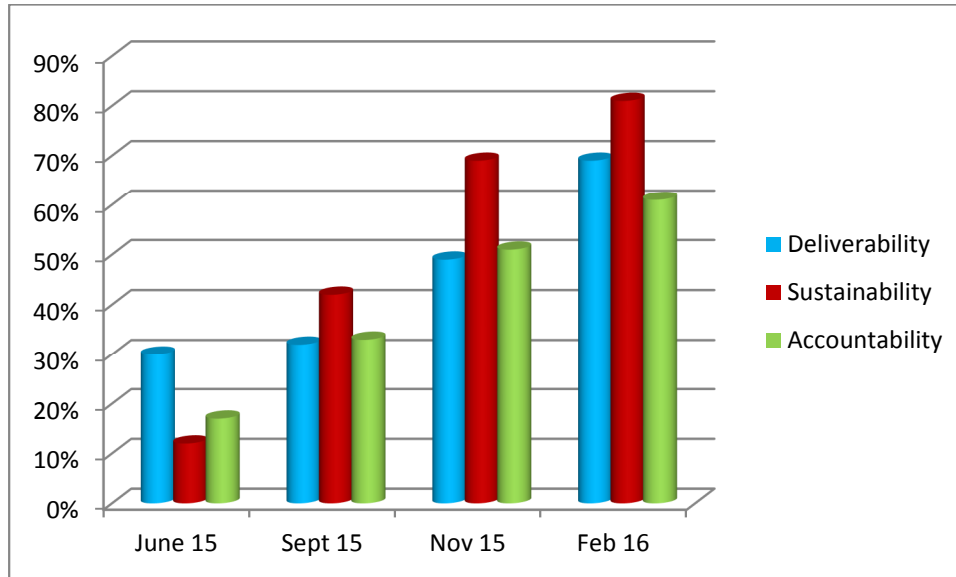


## RECYCLED (CO-MINGLED)



**PERFORMANCE SUMMARY – To February 2016**

**Figure 1 Overall Progress towards completion of Service Delivery Plan 2015-16**



**SUMMARY - Performance Reports completed - February 2016.**

There has been an overall increase of 42% progress towards completion in this reporting period. Across the board, we currently stand at 70.3% completion although it should be noted that some objectives span across future years and progress for the year could never reach 100%.

Since November 2015, 14 objectives have been completed. The number behind plan has almost halved and work has commenced on 3 out of 8 objectives which were previously reported as not started. Of the 2 remaining objectives not started, one relates to slight delays in the construction phase of the RRC and commissioning is now due to start early in 2016/17. The other is the Skills Gap Analysis which is not due to complete until the RRC is operational and will also be carried forward to next year.

Objectives flagged as behind plan are mainly strategy related and have been affected by recent plans to carry out a Strategic Review. Where applicable, these will be rescheduled as part of the development of the Service Delivery Plan for 2016/17.

**Figure 2 Current Number Of Projects By Category Under Objectives**

