



MERSEYSIDE RECYCLING & WASTE AUTHORITY

**MERSEYSIDE... A PLACE
WHERE NOTHING IS WASTED**

MRWA PERFORMANCE REPORT

Quarter 4

January to March 2013 - 2014

Section 1 – Summary

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Section 1 - Summary

Summary of Performance against Targets set within the Corporate Plan

Improvement Target Corporate Aim 1: Operations	Target Description	Target 2013/14 (unless stated)	Actual figures for 2013/14	Is the performance on target?
To deliver the performance targets specified in the Authority's waste contracts as a minimum	HWRC Recycling and Composting	52.91%	65.52%	✓
	HWRC Diversion Rate	64.02%	73.03%	✓
	KCM Diversion Rate	89.23%	91.57%	✓
	Organic Waste Diversion Rate	98.20%	99.92%	✓
Household Waste Recycling (Merseyside Only)	Merseyside Performance including MRWA & Districts	37.04%	39.00% (annual forecast)	✓
Improvement Target Corporate Aim 2: Governance & Resources	Target Description	Target 2013/14	Actual figures for 2013/14	Is the performance on target?
Sickness	To manage sickness absence to within the top quartile of local authorities	2.76%	4.92%	✗
Education	To ensure that Veolia facilitate visits to the Recycling Discovery Centres	6500 Visitors	7011	✓
Improvement Target Corporate Aim 3: Partnership	Target Description	Target 2013/14 (unless stated)	Actual figures for 2013/14	Is the performance on target?
Household Waste (Merseyside Only)	To reduce total waste arisings (Before Re-Use, Recycling or Treatment)	1,180 Kg/Household (by 2030)	999 Kg/Household (annual forecast)	✓

Section 2 - CommentaryCorporate Aim 1- Operations***To deliver the performance targets specified in the Authority's waste contracts as a minimum***

“Recycling and Composting performance across Household Waste Recycling Centre's (HWRC's) has continued to improve in 2013/14. Veolia achieved a Recycling and Composting rate of 65.52% across 16 HWRC's, a 7.72% increase on the previous year, exceeding the contractual target of 52.91%. 73.03% of household waste delivered to HWRC's was diverted away from landfill. 153,888 tonnes of waste was handled in 2013/14 an increase of 12.25%. The amount of waste landfilled at HWRC's decreased by 9% a result of the excellent recycling rates being achieved.

2013/14 represented the first full contract year for the new Kirkby and Huyton HWRC developments. Both demonstrated excellent performance achieving Recycling and Composting rates of 64.15% and 75.83% respectively.

MRWA and Veolia are always exploring new materials to recycle at HWRC's to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill. The introduction of Carpet and Mattress recycling service in 2013/14 contributed towards improved recycling rates. Veolia recycled 4,766 tonnes of carpets and mattress contributing an extra 4% towards recycling performance.

In 2013/14 the MRF service achieved a recycling rate of 91.57% exceeding the adjusted target of 89.23%. The facilities sorted 76,025 tonnes of contract material.

The Waste Management and Recycling Contract, awarded to Veolia, provides a variety of services including HWRC's, Waste Transfer Stations, MRF's and bulk transport to disposal/treatment points. There are a variety of contract targets governing the performance of each type of facility, some of which have been set out above. Veolia met and exceeded all contractual recycling targets for 2013/14”.

Neil Spencer – Assistant Contracts Manager

Corporate Aim 2 – Sickness***To manage sickness absence to within the top quartile of local authorities***

“The Authority continues to manage its sickness absence through the Sickness Absence Policy and Procedures. The current figure of 4.92% is higher than the current Local Authority target figure of 2.76% and is in part due to long term sickness absence. The Authority is a relatively small employer and as such long term sickness absence has a greater impact on the overall sickness absence percentages. This can be illustrated by excluding long term sickness which gives a revised figure of 2.14%. Continued use of the Sickness Absence Procedure coupled with appropriate intervention through Health and Wellbeing initiatives will enable the Authority to manage sickness absence more effectively”.

Paula Pocock – Assistant Corporate Services Manager

Corporate Aim 3 – Partnership

To reduce the total waste arisings per household to 1,180kgs by 2030

“Current data is only available up to Quarter 3 due to the reporting and validation schedule for Waste Data Flow which captures all municipal collected waste for the Authority and the Merseyside councils. Based on the information available, Household waste arisings in Merseyside have continued to fall, showing a 1.7% reduction in the first three quarters of 2013/14 compared to the same period in 2012/13. For information, the comparison between 2011/12 and 2012/13 showed a reduction of 0.93%. Final outturn figures will be available shortly but based on current information, the total waste arisings per household on Merseyside could be as low as 999kg.”

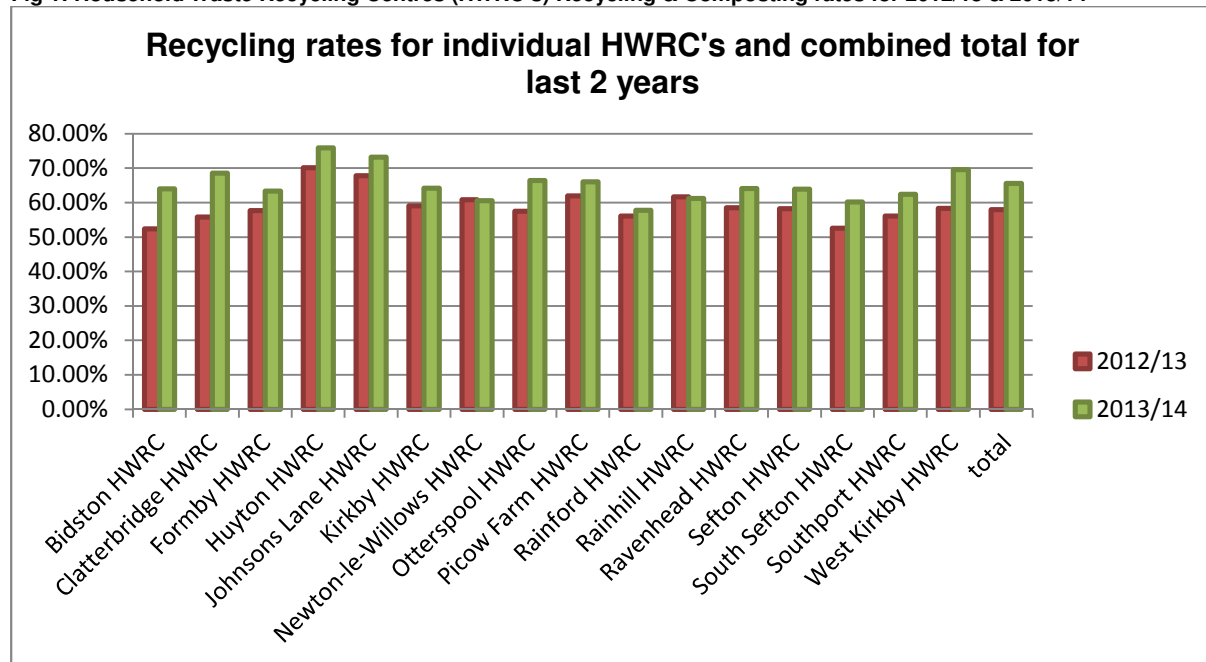
Mandy Valentine –Corporate Services Manager

Section 3 – Detailed Analysis

Corporate Aim 1- Operations

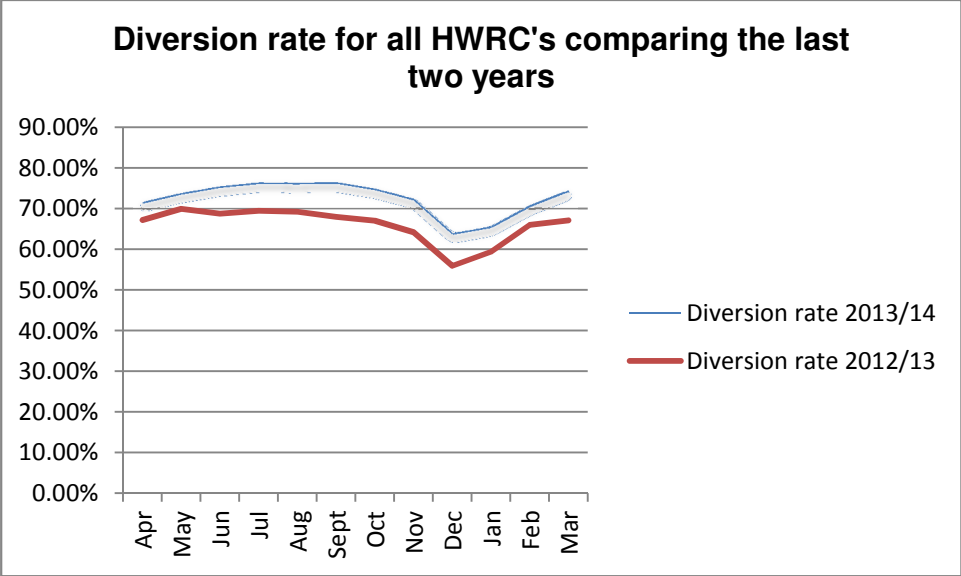
To deliver the performance targets specified in the Authority's waste contracts as a minimum

Fig 1: Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC's) Recycling & Composting rates for 2012/13 & 2013/14



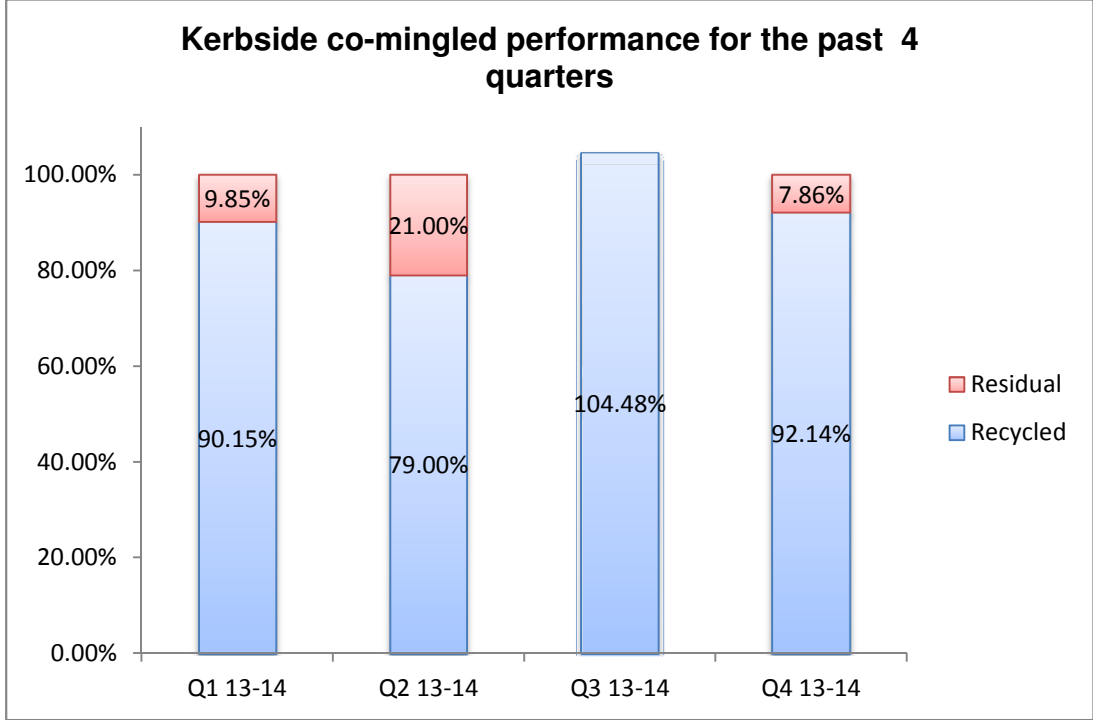
- The above graph shows the total recycling and composting rate for the 16 individual HWRC's in Merseyside and Halton for 2012/13 & 2013/14.
- All sites saw an increase in their recycling & composting rates in 2013/14 except for Newton-le-Willows and Rainhill.
- The combined recycling & composting rate for the HWRC's for 2013/14 is 65.52% against a target of 52.91%.
- Ravenhead HWRC closed for refurbishment in Q3 and reopened on 31st March and as such there is no data from November to March for this site.

Fig 2: HWRC Diversion Rates by Month for the past 2 years



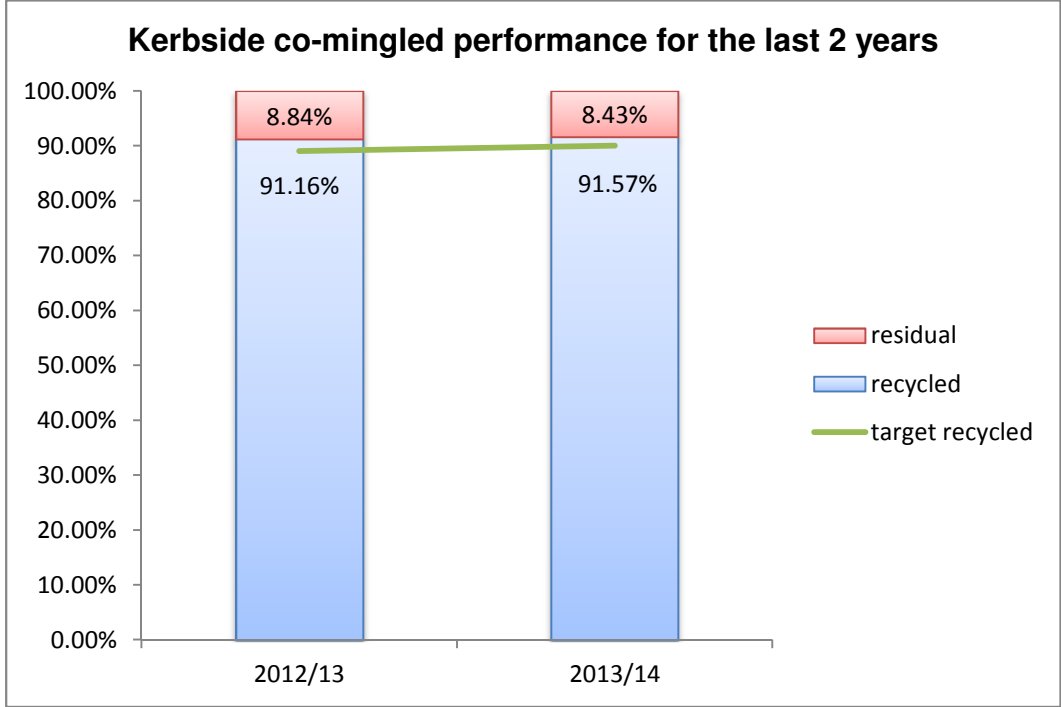
- The graph shows the HWRC tonnage diverted (Recycled, composted and reused) from landfill for the 16 HWRC's across Merseyside & Halton and compares 2012/13 & 2013/14. Fluctuations shown in both years are as expected due to seasonal influences.
- The target for diversion from landfill for 2013/14 is 64.02%. The performance for 2013/14 is 73.03%. The annual diversion rate has improved from 66.64% in 2012/13 to 73.03% in 2013/14.
- Ravenhead HWRC closed for refurbishment in October 2013 and reopened again on 31st March 2014, therefore there is no data for this site for 5 months.
- It should be noted that 'HWRC Diversion from landfill' includes rubble, whereas HWRC recycling shown in other charts does not.

Fig 3: KCM Performance



- The above chart shows the KCM (comingled) performance by quarter for the past 4 quarters.
- The MRF performance of 104% for quarter 3 was a result of sending out more processed material than the WCAs delivered over this quarter. The processed material had built up over previous months, but was sent out when the market conditions were suitable.
- Veolia have exceeded the annual Diversion Target of 90% by achieving 91.57% of waste recycled cumulatively for the year.

Fig 4: KCM Performance for the last 2 years

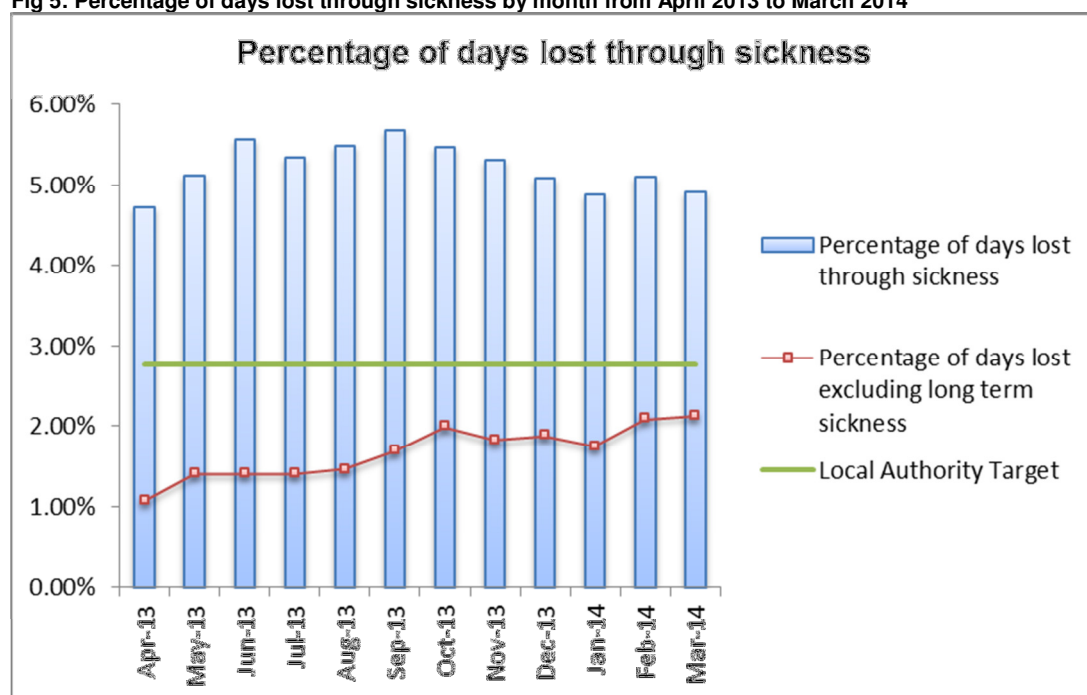


- The above chart shows that 91.57% of the waste that entered the MRF during 2013/14 was recycled, this is compared to 91.16% in 2012/13.

Corporate Aim 2 – Resources

To manage sickness absence to within the top quartile of local authorities

Fig 5: Percentage of days lost through sickness by month from April 2013 to March 2014



- The above graph highlights the percentage of days lost through sickness from Apr 2013 to March 2014. Each monthly reporting figure is calculated on a rolling 12 month basis (e.g. the sickness statistic for June 2013 covers July 2012 to June 2013).
- The Authority's target is based on published figures for local authority sickness levels and is set at 2.76% for 2013/14. The current figure for sickness for March 2013 is 4.92%. When long term sickness is excluded the figure is reduced to 2.14%.

Table 1: Sickness in Days per Employee

	Days lost through sickness	Days lost excluding long term sickness	Local Authority Target
Mar-13			
Percentage	4.92%	2.14%	2.76%
Number (per Person)	11.83 days	5.16 days	6.89

Table 1 above incorporates the past 12 months, (Apr 2013 to Mar 2014)

- The above table looks at the number of days lost per employee.
- The percentage of days lost through sickness for Quarter 4 is 4.92%. When long term sickness is excluded from this figure the sickness level is reduced to 2.14%.
- The overall levels of sickness are higher than the Local Authority target of 2.76%.

To deliver educational opportunities at the Authority's facilities**Table 2: Educational opportunities from 1st April to 31st March 2014**

Yearly Total 2013/14		Number of People	Number of events
Veolia Target 6500	Schools Bidston	158	5
	Community to Bidston MRF	339	9
	Schools Gillmoss	3558	245
	Community to Gillmoss	473	41
	Outreach	421	31
	Other (Veolia staff etc)	1093	12
	Total	7011	263
Eco Centre Target 5750	Schools to Eco Centre	2071	69
	Adults to Eco Centre	988	5
	Outreach	8763	2
	Total	11822	76
	Opportunities to see on Concourse. Note: not towards target	443,914	
MRWA 9,000	Waste Prevention Engagement (including LFHW)	15548	39
	Education & Awareness	627	20
	Total Engagement	16175	59
	Opportunities to see at events	417,236	
Other Delivery Organisations	Waste Prevention Engagement	90	6
	Programme engagement	591	2
	Total	681	8

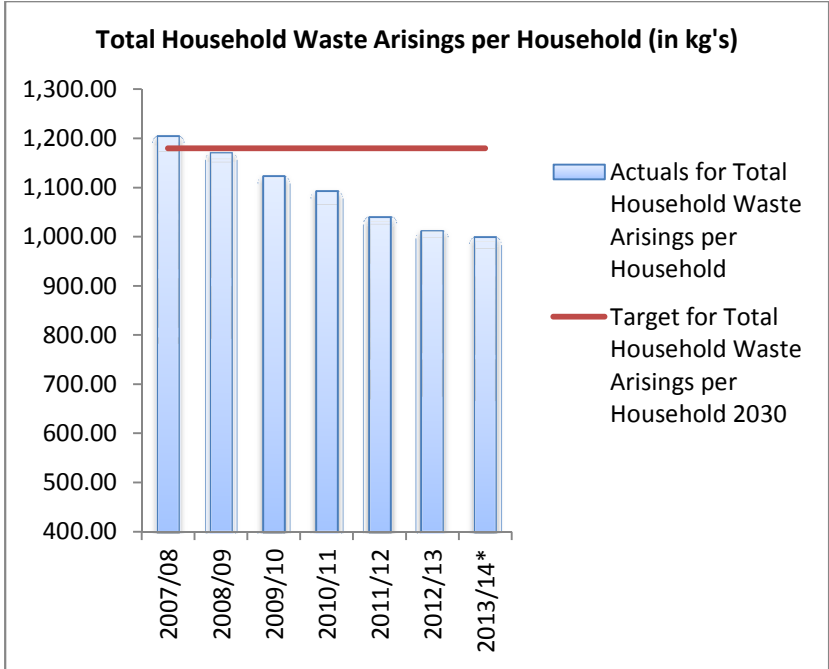
Totals Educational Engagement for 2013/14	Total Number of people engaged	Total Number of Engagement Events
		35689

- The above table shows the number of people who were directly engaged with through Veolia's Educational programme, the Eco Centre, MRWA waste prevention engagement and other delivery organisations.
- Veolia exceeded the target of 6500 visitors for the calendar year Jan 2013 to Dec 2013 with 6605 visitors and for April 2013 to Mar 2014 achieved 7011 visitors.

Corporate Aim 3 - Partnership

To reduce total household waste across Merseyside per household to 1180kg by 2030.

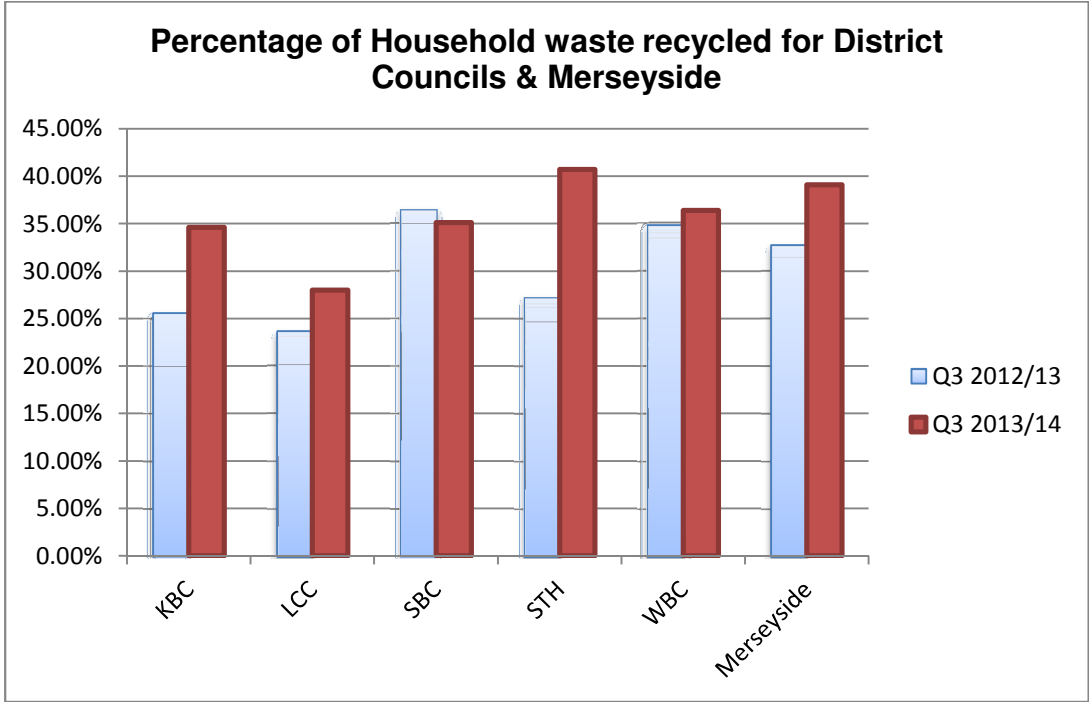
Fig 6: Total Household Waste per Household Compared to Target



- This target is drawn from the Joint Recycling & Waste Management Strategy for Merseyside which has a target of reducing the total amount of waste arisings produced per household on Merseyside by 8% by 2030.
- The graph above shows that Merseyside has seen a reduction in the kg of household waste per household since 2007/8.
- The figures for 2013/14* are a forecast (999kg per household), and whilst performance is comfortably within target, the challenge for Merseyside will be to limit any increases in waste arisings in the coming years as the economy picks up.
- The targets set in the Joint Recycling & Waste Management Strategy for Merseyside is to reduce the total amount of waste arisings produced per household on Merseyside to 1,227 kg by 2020 and 1,180kg by 2030.

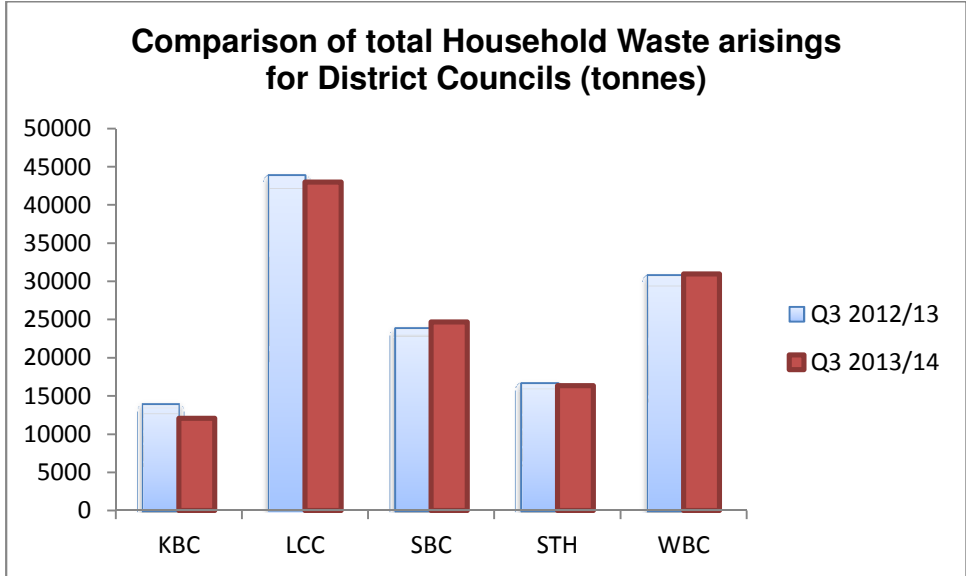
FIGURES 6, 7 AND 8 BELOW USE THE LATEST DATA AVAILABLE FROM WASTEDATAFLOW WHICH IS QUARTER 3

Fig 7: Percentage of household waste recycled



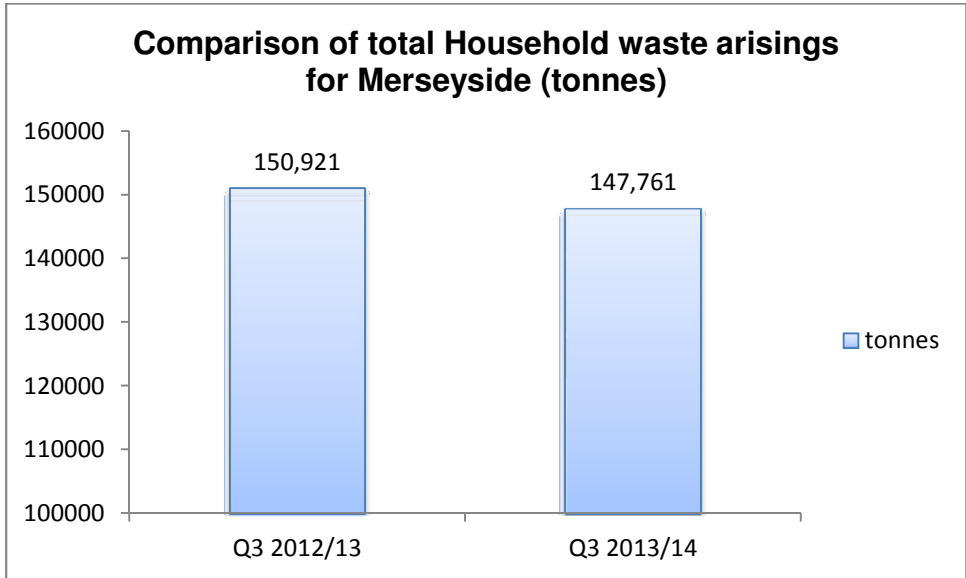
- The above chart shows a comparison of the percentage of household waste recycled for each of the District Councils and Merseyside for Quarter 3 in 2012/13 and Q3 in 2013/14.
- All have shown an increase in the amount of household waste recycled when comparing Quarter 3 across the 2 years with the exception of Sefton. St Helens achieved the biggest increase from 27.20% to 40.70%
- Merseyside is currently forecasted to exceed its annual target of 37.04% by achieving around 39% of waste recycled.
- Data taken from Wastedataflow. The final outturn for 2013/14 is currently being validated and annual performance is expected to be available shortly.

Fig 8: Comparison of Household waste arisings for District Councils



- The above chart shows that all District Councils, with the exception of Sefton & Wirral, saw a reduction in household waste arisings when comparing data for Q3 in 2012/13 to Q3 in 2013/14. There was an overall reduction in tonnage of 1.7% between Q3 2012/13 and Q3 2013/14 when adding all of the District Councils together
- Data taken from Wastedataflow.

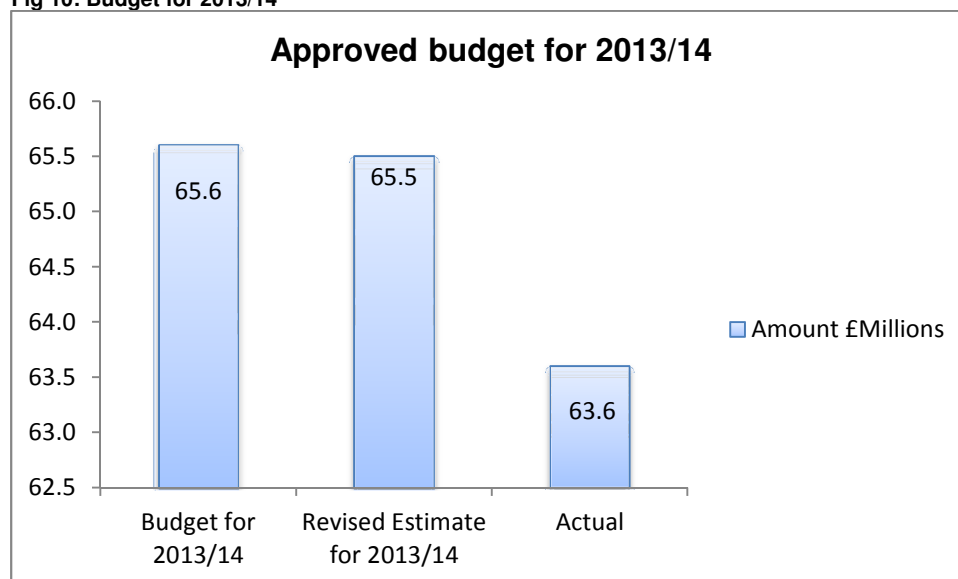
Fig 9: Comparison of Household waste arisings for Merseyside



- When comparing the data for Quarter 3 across two years the total household waste arising for Merseyside has decreased from 150,921 tonnes in Q3 2012/13 to 147,761 tonnes for Q3 in 2013/14.
- Data taken from Wastedataflow.

Financial Information

Fig 10: Budget for 2013/14



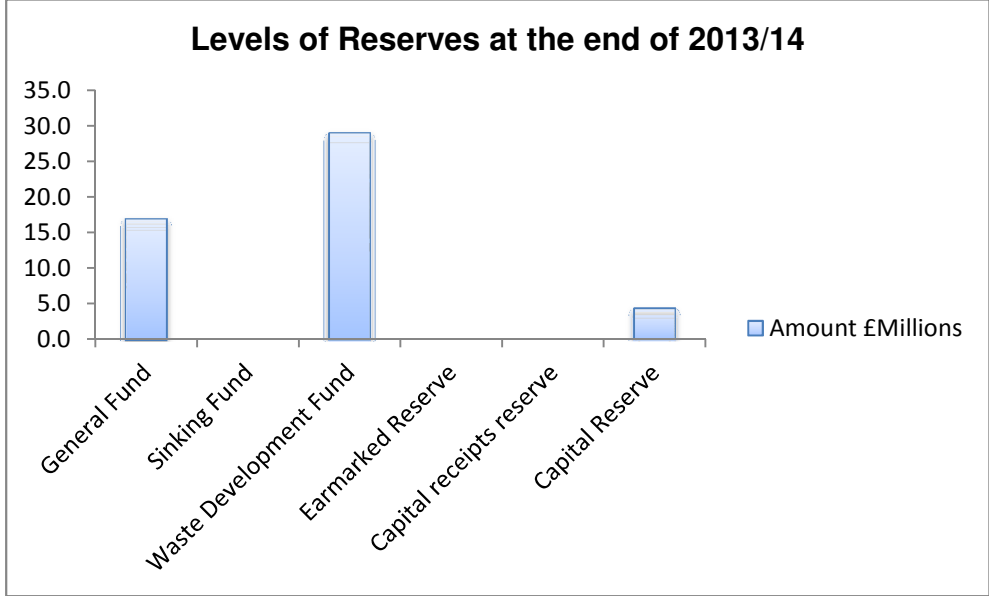
- The Authority's actual expenditure at outturn was lower than expected at the budget and the revised estimate. This was largely due to the success of the interim contract arrangements that are in place which have allowed the Authority to reduce the amount of waste being treated in landfill in the short term, and therefore to make savings on the costs of landfill tax.

Table 3: Approved Capital Programme & Expenditure for 2013/14

	Capital Programme for 2013/14 (£)	Actual Capital Expenditure 2013/14 (£)
HWRC Replacements	2,008,000	1,010,205
Closed Landfill and Facilities Costs	400,000	107,485
Other Costs		31,879
Total	2,408,000	1,149,569

- The capital programme for 2013-14 was based on the Authority's plans to develop two HWRC sites, in the event only one was developed, at Burtonhead Road in St Helens, in consequence the capital programme was underspent. The second HWRC development, in Liverpool, is now planned to be concluded in 2014-15.

Fig 11: Levels of Reserves at the end of 2013/14



- The strategy for the Authority’s reserves was confirmed by Members at the revised estimate. The General Fund, which has grown as a result of savings will be applied over the medium term to keeping the impact of the Levy on Districts as low as possible. The capital reserve which is available to support capital spending was not required to be used to support as much capital expenditure as had been planned, as the capital programme experienced some slippage, it remains available to support capital spending in 2014-15. The remaining capital receipts reserve was used in full. The Sinking Fund, as agreed by Members, has been transferred in full to a new Waste Development Fund, which has been used in the new year to support District Councils in their pursuit of the objectives within the Joint Waste Strategy.

Section 4 – Special Focus Report

Summary of Authority Activity for the past 12 months

It's been another important year for waste management on Merseyside. During 2013/14 there have been many developments and improvements all in an effort to reduce the amount of waste we send to landfill, increase our recycling rates and improve our services for our residents.

On 23rd December, 2013 The Resource Recovery Contract (RRC) procurement was completed and a deal was signed with Sita Sembcorp UK saving the Authority an estimated £600 million compared to landfill. In addition, the Authority concluded the negotiations with Halton Council and signed an Inter Authority Agreement (IAA), which governs the contractual relationship between the Council and the Authority during the RRC.

Away from the RRC, we continue to invest in our Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs). We completed major expansion work at our Ravenhead (St Helens) site which has introduced new access roads, a modern split level layout and a canopied skip area

Unfortunately we closed our Rainford site in St Helens as its size and capacity meant that it was costing too much to run and didn't deliver value for money for the majority of Merseyside taxpayers, but hopefully the newly expanded and improved Ravenhead HWRC should more than make up for it.

There were a number of campaigns in 2013/14 with the aim of improving recycling rates across Merseyside and these included: 'What's in your black bag', a campaign asking resident to think about what they put in their bin bags and if this could be reduced. Free recycling bags in exchange for electrical items to prevent precious metals entering landfill and a joint initiative between MRWA and Liverpool City Council to crackdown on the misuse of Recycling centres by businesses and traders. All of these efforts and continued commitment by our residents meant that our recycling & composting rate at our HWRC's for 2013/14 was 65.52%, a significant increase on 57.93% achieved in 2012/13.

The past success of our Community Fund meant that we tripled the amount of funding available to groups in 2013-2014, with £230,000 being utilised by 16 groups across the region for on-the-ground, waste reduction projects.

Finally, towards the end of 2013/14 city planners gave the green light for a new £1.4 million HWRC in Old Swan Liverpool. This site will be equipped to collect a wide range of household materials for recycling and will allow residents in the North of the city easier access to recycle their unwanted materials. The site is due to open towards the end of 2014 / early 2015.

As you can see there is a lot going on and a lot to look forward to, and each step we make moves us closer to making Merseyside a place where nothing is wasted.

SAVINGS

- We have chosen SITA UK as the contractor for our 30 year Waste Resource and Recovery Contract (RRC). This will give us an estimated £600 million worth of savings over landfill costs and deliver a high efficiency Energy from Waste facility with Combined Heat and Power to deal with 430,000 tonnes of waste which would otherwise be buried in landfill.
- Whilst 2012/13 was the final year of the Landfill Allowance Scheme, final trades for the year were completed in 2013/14 and resulted in a net saving of £594k due to improved diversion rates and a very competitive trade for allowances.

EXISTING CONTRACTS

Waste Management & Recycling Contract

- The Waste Management and Recycling Contract, awarded to Veolia, provides a variety of services including HWRC's, Waste Transfer Stations, Material Recovery Facilities (MRF's) and bulk transport to disposal/treatment points. There are a variety of contract targets governing the performance of each type of facility, some of which have been set out above. Veolia met and exceeded all contractual recycling targets for 2013/14.
- During 2013/14, residents visiting the HWRC's were asked to complete a satisfaction survey. The results showed that 99% of visitors were satisfied, and 92% were very satisfied, with the overall HWRC service (MRWA's annual customer satisfaction survey) reflecting the excellent customer service provided by Veolia's HWRC service.
- MRWA and Veolia's Trade Waste Recycling Centre (TWRC) service extended to Huyton HWRC. The Bidston and Huyton TWRC service increases the utilisation of MRWA's assets, providing affordable recycling services to SME's.
- The Contracts Section maintained the Commercial Vehicle Permit Scheme across 14 HWRC's. During 2013/14 25,495 applications representing 19,062 unique addresses were processed. 690 internet applications were refused due the applicant being a trader or householder that did not require a permit. This excludes Halton who operate their own permit scheme.

Partnership Working

We have continued to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill, increase recycling and reduce costs by working closely with our Council partners. Here are a few examples:

- The most significant joint working project during 2013/14 was the move to Managed Weekly Collections (MWC) by 3 Councils. During autumn 2013 Knowsley, St.Helens and Liverpool introduced MWC whereby householders receive alternate weekly collections of residual waste and recycling. The two-weekly collection of waste and recycling significantly altered delivery profiles to MRWA's 4 Waste Transfer Stations and 2 MRFs. Significant changes to the collection services of 3 councils, representing 53% of the Council waste handled by MRWA, required extensive joint working with Councils and Contractors to ensure delivery of new collection arrangements with no detriment to the level of service.
- 'On street' recycling, such as litter bins is an opportunity for councils to recycle more, but can be challenging to implement due to obstructive costs. In 2013/14 MRWA worked in partnership with Sefton and Liverpool Councils to recycle 1,100 tonnes of litter bin waste.
- St.Helens introduced a food waste collection service towards the end of 2013 and we worked closely with Veolia to mobilise a food waste composting service. Along with Sefton Councils existing food waste deliveries MRWA expect to compost 4,500 tonnes of food waste in 2014/15.

- MRWA worked closely with Sefton Council to introduce a kerbside Plastic and Cardboard recycling Service. In partnership we delivered the initial rollout of the scheme providing delivery points and recovering over 400 tonnes of plastic and cardboard ahead of a further roll-out in 2014/15.

Interim Contract & Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority (GMWDA) Contract

To reduce costs and the amount of waste sent to landfill, MRWA secured treatment arrangements (Energy from Waste) for residual waste to compliment its landfill arrangements. These arrangements include the Interim Waste Treatment Framework and a Section 101 Agreement with a Local Authority. During 2013/14 MRWA treated 129,291 tonnes of waste under its treatment arrangements and sent 275,887 tonnes to landfill. Overall residual waste arisings were 405,180 tonnes during 2013/14, a 3% reduction against the previous year. As a result of MRWA's treatment arrangements and a reduction in residual arisings, residual waste disposed to landfill reduced by 33%.

IMPROVEMENTS & CAMPAIGNS

Various HWRC performance improvement projects have been undertaken during 2013/14.

1) What's in your black bag?



PICTURE CAPTION : Cllr Laura Robertson-Collins, Chair of Liverpool City Council's Neighbourhoods Select Committee (centre) with MRWA Chief Executive, Carl Beer (left) and Mike Carroll (right) from Veolia help to launch the black bag campaign at Otterspool Household Waste Recycling Centre

A campaign to improve recycling rates at Household Waste Recycling Centres was rolled out across Merseyside. The education campaign launched by Merseyside Recycling and Waste Authority (MRWA) and its contractor Veolia, focuses on black bin bags of household 'waste' which are sent to landfill. This campaign has already proved a huge success after trials in St Helens.

It involves staff at Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) asking visitors to think about what materials can be recycled at their local HWRC's and consider how they can reduce the amount of 'black bin bag' waste going to landfill.

The campaign provides members of the public the opportunity to learn more about what can and can't be recycled at HWRC's whilst encouraging people to sort recyclable materials at home.

2) Merseyside Recycling & Waste Authority seeking electrical waste boost



In January 2014 Merseyside's residents were able to get their hands on free recycling bags in exchange for unwanted or broken electrical items.

The giveaway involved all 13 Merseyside Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) with the aim to stop precious metals used in electronics and electrical equipment ending up as landfill.

Visitors to the region's HWRCs were able to get a free heavy duty recycling bag in exchange for broken or unused small electrical and electronic waste items – anything from hairdryers, hair straighteners and children's electronic toys to radios, DVD players, mobile phones, kettles, toasters, power tools and more.

Household Waste Recycling Centres are one of the few places that householders can recycle small electrical items. The scheme was organised by Merseyside Recycling and Waste Authority (MRWA) and Veolia Environmental Services.

3) Recycling delight as Huyton hits new heights



Left to right: Cllr Graham Morgan, Chairperson of Merseyside Recycling and Waste Authority, Carl Beer, Chief Executive, Merseyside Recycling and Waste Authority, Adrian Jefferies, Veolia Environmental Services Area Operations Manager, Chris Broadfoot, Veolia Environmental Services Huyton HWRC Foreman and Phil Quinn, Veolia Environmental Services HWRC Manager,

Since it was opened in July 2012 the Huyton HWRC on Wilson Road, Huyton Business Park, has continued to improve recycling levels and divert more waste away from landfill. During the summer of 2013, recycling and diversion peaked at a record 85% of the waste accepted at the site. This level of recycling performance has never been seen before on Merseyside* and Huyton HWRC's performance can now be compared to the best Centres in the UK.

**In 2004/05 at its previous location on Ellis Ashton Street, Huyton HWRC recycled 11% of material brought to it. In 2012/13 the new HWRC recycled 70%.*

4) Commercial crackdown at Recycling Centres



The joint initiative between Merseyside Recycling and Waste Authority (MRWA) and Liverpool City Council is aiming to help crackdown on the misuse of local Recycling Centres by businesses and traders who attempt to dispose of their waste at the sites.

The initiative, which is being piloted at Otterspool Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) on Jericho Lane in Liverpool, involves environmental enforcement teams from Liverpool City Council holding regular sessions at the Centre and, where necessary, conducting investigations against vehicles suspected of carrying trade waste. The exercise allowed Enforcement Officers to have a presence at the HWRCs and to work alongside the HWRC Recycling Assistants.

AWARDS



Merseyside Recycling and Waste Authority (MRWA) has been recognised for its work in delivering positive health initiatives to its 36 Liverpool city centre staff after being assessed by Health@Work, the independent charity that looks to work with organisations to help create healthier and happier employees.

An official Certificate of Accreditation was recently presented to MRWA Chief Executive Carl Beer and the MRWA Corporate Services Team by Health@Work's Sean Corcoran. (see picture below).

The Workplace Wellbeing Charter is an opportunity for employers to demonstrate their commitment to the health and wellbeing of their workforce. There are three levels to the Charter: *Commitment*, *Achievement* and the highest attainable level, *Excellence*. In March 2014 MRWA was assessed and accredited with '*Excellence*' in five of eight standards of health & wellbeing: Leadership, Attendance Management, Alcohol and substance misuse, Smoking and Healthy Eating.

In the other three standards – Health & Safety, Mental Health & Stress and Physical Activity – MRWA was accredited with an '*Achievement*' rating.



MRWA and the Waste Partnership won the LARAC 2013 Award for Best Waste Minimisation or Prevention Project and the Silver Zero Hero Award standard for its 2012-13 waste prevention programme.

The Merseyside and Halton Waste Partnership, which consists of Merseyside Recycling and Waste Authority and Halton, Knowsley, Liverpool, Sefton, St Helens and Wirral councils, picked up the prize at the LARAC* Celebration Awards 2013.

The first placed award came in the 'Best Waste Minimisation or Prevention Project' – runners up were North London Waste Authority and Hertfordshire County Council. The local Partnership project prioritised the reduction of food waste, clothes and textiles re-use, the prevention of junk mail and promoted home composting.

The campaign reached 1.5million residents through a combination of newspaper, magazine and radio advertising, attendance at local festivals and events to give out information and advice, press and media releases, website provision through www.recycleformerseysideandhalton.com, provision of 'No Junk Mail' stickers, and waste prevention information messages on the sides of bin collection vehicles throughout the region.

The judges felt the project "demonstrated clear savings for the councils involved with an impressive tonnage of material collected across Merseyside."

This is waste that is no longer going to landfill, with a reduction of more than 16,000 tonnes less of household waste being generated on Merseyside.





Image G31A7250 – Presentation of the CEEQUAL certificate. Caption: Left to right: Carl Beer, MRWA Chief Executive, Perry Shard, CEEQUAL, Cllr Graham Morgan, MRWA Chairperson, Phil Ross, Cheetham Hill Construction

The redeveloped Ravenhead Recycling Centre in St Helens, Merseyside, received a top environmental accolade following a complete revamp.

Its recent relaunch followed a six month closure to completely redevelop the site, making it more accessible and improving facilities to maximise recycling performance.

As part of the construction, MRWA has worked with its contractors Cheetham Hill Construction to achieve a top rating as part of CEEQUAL which is a sustainability assessment, rating and awards scheme for civil engineering.

The Authority and Cheetham Hill Construction were thrilled to announce at the launch recently that they had been awarded an 'Excellent' rating as part of the CEEQUAL assessment, making the Ravenhead Centre one of the greenest and sustainable on Merseyside.

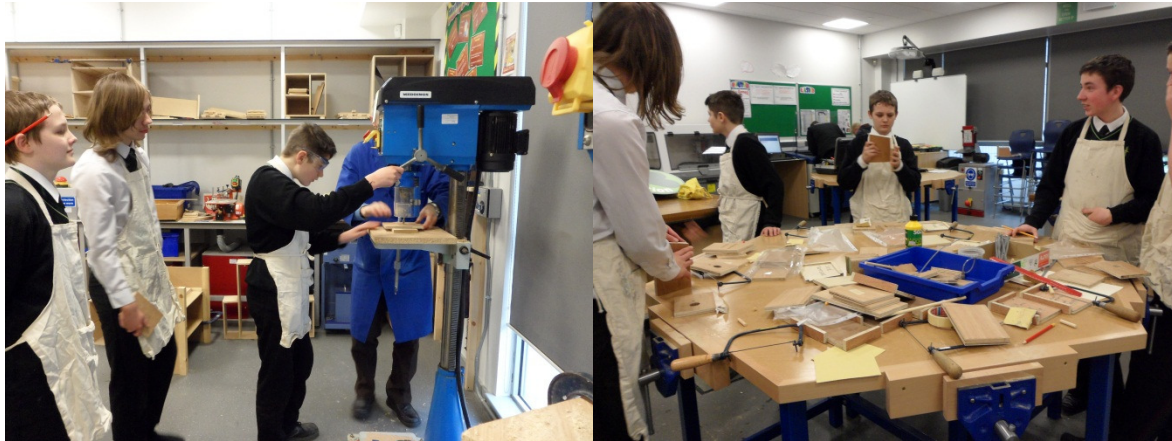
The CEEQUAL assessment takes into account a number of factors when judging the new centre and these include:

- *Ecology and biodiversity*
- *People and community*
- *Land use and landscape*
- *Energy and carbon.*

The 'People and Communities' Sections of CEEQUAL relate to the local community who may be affected by any redevelopment works. It is within the definition of 'community' that the potential effect on the wildlife must also be considered as the environment is also considered a neighbour.

As part of the consultation and engagement with the local Community, an arts feature and bird boxes were commissioned for the redevelopment of the Ravenhead HWRC. Working with Cheetham Hill Construction (the Construction Contractor) Hope Academy, a Secondary school in Newton-Le-Willows and a local Community Artist Bernadette Hughes, preparation work began in February 2014.

Design workshops were developed to complete a mosaic sculpture as a legacy for the site and bird boxes were constructed from recycled pallets from the construction works.



Making the Bird Boxes

Officers from MRWA and Cheetham Hill provided waste management sessions in school to raise awareness around landfill, recycling and the need for the new HWRC.

Bernadette Hughes led a design workshop for the mosaic, pupils really enjoyed participating in the creation of this Arts Feature.

Officers and Cheetham invited a group from the local University of the Third Age to visit the HWRC site during the construction works. The group enjoyed a tour of the site asking many questions relating to the construction works and waste management issues. Members of U3A also added their little bit to the mosaic.



Pupils creating pieces from recycle tiles for the mosaic.



The finished Mosaic at Ravenhead HWRC with pupils and a representative of U3A.



Bird boxes, insitu and pupils from Hope Academy showing their work.

This Community Engagement project contributed, in a small way, to the successful achievement of CEEQUAL Excellence Award for the Ravenhead HWRC redevelopment. We also made good relationships with Hope Academy School and local residents.

The Ravenhead facility is MRWA's third to gain the CEEQUAL award, following Kirkby and Huyton Household Waste Recycling Centres.

PROJECTS

Community Fund

More than a dozen community projects that work to cut food waste, and recycle or reuse everything from textiles to furniture and school uniforms were selected to spearhead a £235,000 waste initiative across Merseyside and Halton.

A total of 16 groups were each awarded up to £20,000 from Merseyside Recycling and Waste Authority and Veolia Environmental Services Community Fund 2013-2014, to deliver activities designed to have a direct impact on the amount of waste sent to landfill. The successful projects included:

- ✓ Plans to work with students to cut waste and litter and a project re-using furniture to help vulnerable families make a fresh start
- ✓ A project to promote textile recycling and teach basic skills in clothing repair
- ✓ Establishing a parents centre and nursery equipment swap shop where parents can get advice on healthy eating and preventing food waste, and reusable nappies
- ✓ A community project working with schools to promote reuse of uniforms
- ✓ Creation of a community garden to promote recycling
- ✓ Work with companies, schools and community organisations to teach people to cook and to prevent /reduce food/drink waste

LOOKING FORWARD

Liverpool is to get a new £1.4 million Household Waste Recycling Centre after city planners gave Merseyside Recycling and Waste Authority the go-ahead to the Old Swan scheme.

The Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) off Cheadle Avenue in Old Swan will provide badly needed facilities for the north of the city and relieve pressure on the Otterspool site in Aigburth – currently the only HWRC within the Liverpool City Council boundary.

It will be equipped to collect a wide range of household materials for recycling, including: car batteries, cardboard, engine oil, garden waste, paper, furniture, rubble, scrap metal, textiles, drinks cans, timber, glass and soil. The new site is due to open at the end of 2014.

**For further information or to provide feedback on the contents of this
performance report, please contact:
Jane Nolan on 0151 255 2537
or email jane.nolan@merseysidewda.gov.uk**