



Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority  
6th Floor, North House  
17 North John Street,  
Liverpool, Merseyside L2 5QY



Tel: 0151 255 1444  
email: [strategy@merseysidewda.gov.uk](mailto:strategy@merseysidewda.gov.uk)

A large, dense pile of garbage, including plastic bags, paper, and other debris, filling the frame. The text is overlaid in the center. 

**Don't let it  
all go  
to waste...**



Last year, Merseyside produced over 800,000 tonnes of household waste. But only 10% of it was recycled, leaving more than 700,000 tonnes of waste to go in our landfill sites. That's like scrapping more than 5,000 double decker buses.

And if we carry on increasing the amount of waste we produce at the rate we are now, our problem will double in the next 20 years.

That's why Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority and the District Councils across Merseyside are producing a 25-year Joint Waste Strategy. It sets out our targets for the amount of waste we're aiming to re-use and recycle. But we need your help too...

# Don't waste this opportunity to win £500

The amount of waste we produce in Merseyside is increasing every year. We are looking for your views on how we tackle this issue.

Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority (MWDA) and the five District Councils on Merseyside are now looking at what we should do with the waste we produce and we want to know what you think.

It is essential to find a solution that is financially acceptable, technically possible, and reduces the negative impact on the environment.

Please answer the few quick questions enclosed and return by 4th March 2005. You will not only get your say in how we manage your waste but MWDA is also offering you the chance to win £500! Everyone who returns a completed form will be entered into the free prize draw.

To help you decide, here's a simple guide to the alternatives for waste treatment and disposal in the future.

## 1 Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT)

MBT plants sort out materials for recycling then use biological processes to break down the organic waste before making this into fuel or compost which can be used in an Energy Waste facility to produce heat and/or electricity.

There are two main ways to do this:



**MBT with the manufacture of fuel for energy recovery** – The material is made into what is known as a refuse derived fuel (RDF). This can be used by industry to replace fossil fuels such as coal in an industrial energy plant or in a special Energy from Waste (EfW) plant (a type of small power station) to produce electricity.



**MBT for compost** - The organic waste is biologically broken down to produce a solid material which can be used as a compost.

## 2 Energy From Waste (EfW)

Several alternatives are available:



**Mass Burn Incineration** - Waste is burnt at very high temperatures which produces heat and gases. The gases are cleaned before being discharged to the air. The heat is used to turn water in pipes surrounding the furnace into steam. The steam is used to drive generators which produce electricity. This can be sold to the National Grid.

---



**Pyrolysis** - This is the breakdown of waste by heating it without any air being present. It produces a fuel which can be used to produce energy. This can be used together with MBT options talked about in section 1.

---



**Gasification** – This is where waste is heated without burning but with air being present. The gas can be used to create energy. Gasification can be used together with the MBT options talked about in section 1.

---



**Anaerobic Digestion** – The biological breakdown of waste in sealed containers with no oxygen. Gas is created which can be used to produce energy. This is similar to the process used in sewage treatment works.

And finally the current way of dealing with the majority of the waste

## 3 Landfill



This is where waste is tipped into a hole in the ground. Once the landfill site is full, it is capped with soil. Inside, the waste begins to break down which creates gas. This gas is collected and can then be used to create electricity.

The Government is restricting the amount of waste we can send to landfill because of environmental concerns. In order to make sure that we meet targets we will be fined a maximum of £150 per tonne if we go over our allowance. These fines come into place from 1st April 2005 so we must change now how we deal with our waste.

# How would you like us to deal with your waste?

Please answer the following questions and return this form in the envelope provided by 4th March 2004. Everyone who returns a completed form will be entered into the prize draw to win £500.

**Q1** Should we aim to recycle at least 40% of our waste? (Please tick one box)

- strongly agree
- agree
- disagree
- strongly disagree














**Q1b** If you strongly agree/agree would you be prepared to:  
(Please tick each box you agree with)

- Reduce the amount of rubbish which you create (e.g. buying products with less packaging, using refills, reusing paper as scrap).
- Compost grass, hedge clippings, vegetable peelings in your own garden
- Separate out your recycling from your refuse – e.g. newspapers, glass, cans and plastic – so it can be picked up at the kerbside by your council.
- Separate and take your recyclables to a local Household Waste Recycling Centre, bottle or paper bank etc.

**Q1c** If you strongly disagree/disagree, then please give your reasons.

**Q2**

As part of the new 25-year Joint Waste Strategy we will need a mix of the facilities talked about in sections 1 to 3 (Please note that a small amount of landfill will always be necessary). The final decision will also have to take into account the costs of the technology and the ability to meet our requirements.

OPTION	RECYCLING	MECHANICAL BIOLOGICAL TREATMENT	ENERGY RECOVERY	LANDFILL
Option 1				
			Mass burn incineration with energy recovery	
	40%		50%	10%
Option 2				
		MBT for energy recovery	Energy recovery	
	40%	Which is used in	50%	10%
Option 3				
		MBT for compost		
	40%	50%		10%
Option 4				
			Anaerobic Digestion	
	40%		50%	10%

**Q2b**

Please rank each option from 1 to 4 with 1 being your favourite option and 4 being your least favourite option?

Option	1	2	3	4
Rank				

**Q3**

Would you object if a facility were to be built within 500 metres or 1/3 mile of your house? (Please tick relevant box)

Recycling Facility	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Mechanical Biological Treatment Facility	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Energy from Waste Facility	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Landfill	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

**Q4**

Please enter which district you live in - ie which district you pay your district council tax. (Please tick one box)

Knowsley <input type="checkbox"/>	Liverpool <input type="checkbox"/>
Sefton <input type="checkbox"/>	St Helens <input type="checkbox"/>
Wirral <input type="checkbox"/>	

Please put your contact details here so that you can be entered into our prize draw:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Any information submitted to MWDA will be stored in accordance with the Data Protection Act

Please tick if you would like to receive a copy of the feedback document?

By email  Paper copy

If you require this information in another format eg large print, audio cassette or in another language please Tel: 0151 255 1444 or email: [strategy@merseysidewda.gov.uk](mailto:strategy@merseysidewda.gov.uk)

**Thank you for your help and good luck in the prize draw!**