

# UPDATE - WINTER 2015



## Five Community Fund projects well underway



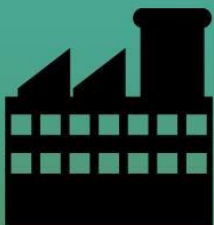
New Waste Composition analysis - 1st phase complete



Interim contracts saving  
£3,000,000  
over landfill costs



New Re-use strategy for Merseyside adopted



# 10 MONTHS

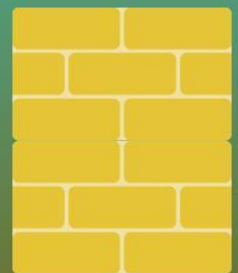
...until operations begin for Resource Recovery Contract

- Energy from Waste plant in Wilton on schedule

- Kirkby Rail Transfer Station on track



## Old Swan Recycling Centre nearing completion



## Resource Recovery Contract



Both sites of the £1bn Resource Recovery Contract (RRC) - which will see almost all of Merseyside and Halton's residual household waste diverted from landfill - are still under construction.

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

The Energy from Waste facility (located on the Wilton International Site just outside of Middlesbrough – *pictured below*) is undergoing general construction works, as well as the installations which connect what were individual components of the facility. Work has also commenced on the container off-loading gantry crane which will receive and deposit the containers delivered via the Rail Transfer Loading Station.

The overall project is continuing to plan and is due to be fully operational by October 2016.



## Old Swan Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC)

Construction is continuing to bring a brand new Recycling Centre to Liverpool (*pictured below*). Cheetham Hill Construction Ltd started works on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2015 and to date all earthworks have been completed, services have been installed, and a retaining wall constructed.

Works have been completed on the erection of both the WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment) enclosure and the canopy which has been placed over the area where the recycling containers will sit.



Works are progressing to programme and on budget and is almost complete. The facility is expected to be open to the public on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2015. (More details will be announced through [www.merseysidewda.gov.uk](http://www.merseysidewda.gov.uk).)

Continuing in its success, we have once again submitted our Recycling Centre development for an environmental and sustainable construction award scheme – CEEQUAL; and the project team has made a commitment to achieve a minimum standard of 'Very Good', aspiring to 'Excellent'. A time capsule has also been included in construction of the site, and will be re-opened in the year 2040!

## Trade Waste initiative

For the past two years MRWA and Veolia have offered a trade waste recycling scheme to help manage business, industrial and commercial waste. Our Trade Recycling Centres offer a 'pay by the load' recycling and waste disposal service to businesses and traders.

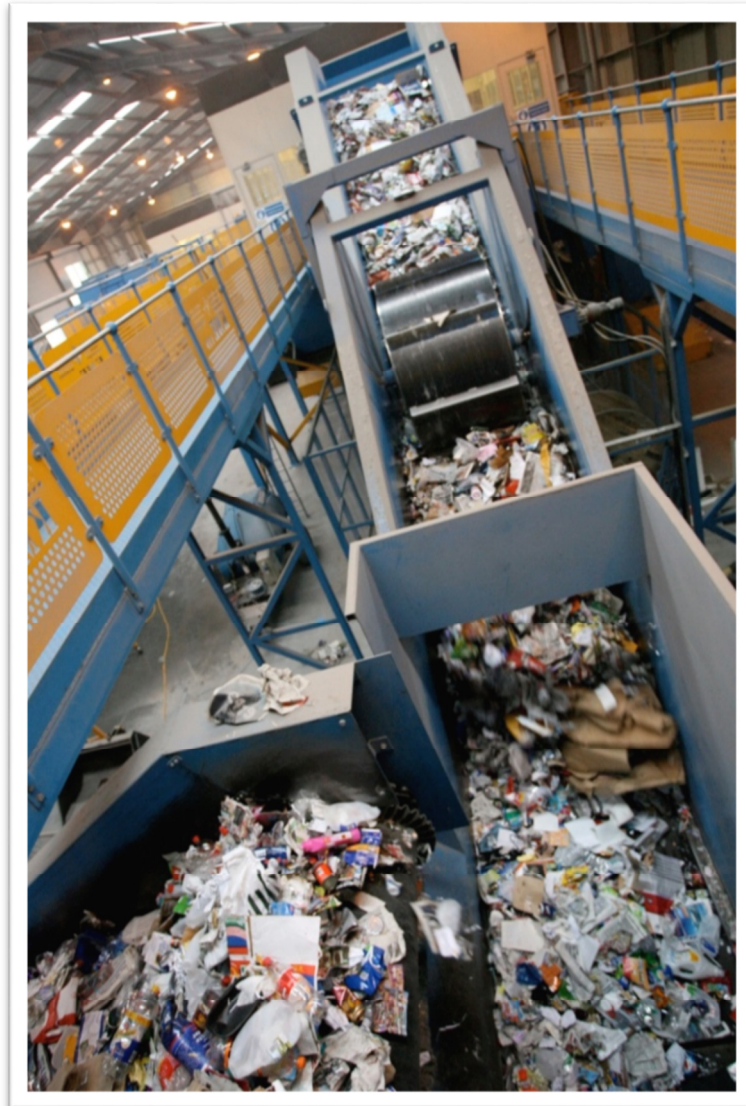
Once registered all a business needs to do is sort their waste and recyclable items and visit the Centre to deposit the items in the marked containers. Disposal costs are based on the size of vehicle and the materials looking to be disposed. There are two Trade Waste Recycling Centres on Merseyside – Bidston and Huyton. For more information see: <http://www.merseysidewda.gov.uk/waste-recycling/trade-waste/>



## Bidston MRF upgrade

Our Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in Wirral, will see a major overhaul by Veolia next year.

The Bidston facility – which opened in 2007 - will undergo £750,000 of improvements which will see two new optical sorters installed into the process. The upgrade is specifically designed to increase the quality of paper products but will have a positive impact across all output materials.



The opportunity will also be taken to reconfigure the process with further conveyors installed to ensure as much recyclable material is captured. This upgrade will not only safeguard current outlet routes for materials but will also open up new opportunities for the facility

It's anticipated that the MRF will close for around two weeks, with materials continuing to be collected at the site to avoid disruption to services, and then transported to the Gillmoss MRF instead. The Bidston Household Waste Recycling Centre will remain open as normal.

## The Big Freeze

On Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October and 20<sup>th</sup> November we teamed up with Love Food Hate Waste to help deliver “The Big Freeze” – a fun and interactive educational event in Liverpool city centre.

Set in a giant inflatable freezer on Church Street the events focussed on how people can reduce their food waste and save money by using a fridge and freezer.

The events attracted 650 people overall and were part of the Ten Cities Challenge, a two-year nationwide project looking to reduce the amount of food and drink thrown away by householders.



## Landfill and interim contracts

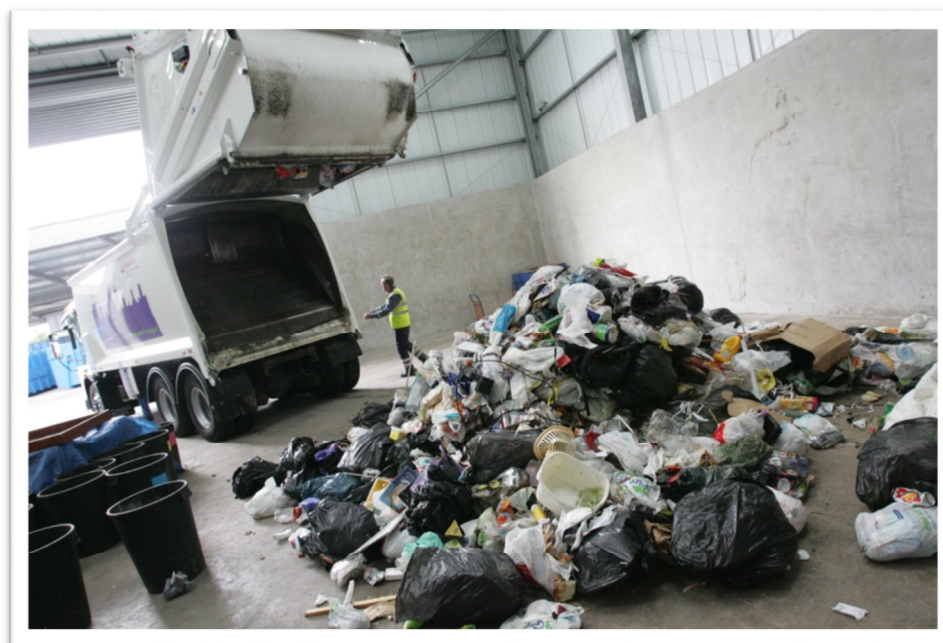
The Authority has extended the number of interim contracts they have for 2015/16 which will see less waste going to landfill. The agreements with GMWDA, FCC and Veolia should see 146,000 tonnes of material diverted from landfill in 2015/16. This brings the total of waste handled by interim contracts to 360,000 tonnes, with savings of over £3million over the three years compared to landfill costs. The interim contracts are in place up until the commission stage of our Resource Recovery Contracts begins accepting waste in 2016.



## The Merseyside and Halton Waste Composition Analysis

A new research project is currently being undertaken which will help us better understand the types of waste that are being recycled and thrown away by local residents.

When complete, the Merseyside and Halton Waste Composition Analysis – being delivered on behalf of the Merseyside and Halton Waste Partnership (Halton Council, Knowsley Council, Liverpool Council, MRWA, St Helens Council, Sefton Council and Wirral Council) – will inform both MRWA and the District Councils on recycling and waste collections and facilities, improving performance and increasing recycling rates.



The project involves the analysis of the contents of recycling, residual and green and food waste from kerbside collections and waste and recycling received at Household Waste Recycling Centres across Merseyside and Halton. The bin waste will be analysed to look at its content of plastics, metals, glass, paper and other materials, and then disposed or recycled in the usual way and in a safe and confidential manner. At the kerbside the contents of bins will be emptied into a large open sack and this will be transported in a vehicle to a central location locally for analysis and then recycled or disposed of in the usual way. A similar process will happen at the Household Waste Recycling Centres. The analysis is in two phases – Nov/Dec 2015 and March 2016.

This really useful piece of research will identify the types and quantities of waste being thrown away, and help us and local Councils across Merseyside update our waste strategy and ultimately improve waste and recycling collections.

This survey is being carried by Amec Foster Wheeler E&I UK Ltd and Axion Consulting Limited who have conducted similar analyses for other local authorities.



## Re-use for Merseyside

MRWA Members have approved a brand new re-use strategy for Merseyside. This strategy will look at making the most of opportunities for individuals, communities and businesses to re-use, repair or upcycle goods they buy rather than throw away valuable and sometimes scarce resources. Unwanted goods can be swapped, or donated to be re-used through business exchanges, entrepreneurs, social enterprises, community organisations and charities.

The Strategy's key recommendations are:

- Establish Re-use shops at Household Waste Recycling Centres (NB. A YMCA-operated Community Re-use Shop was opened at South Sefton HWRC in June 2015 – *pictured below*);
- Develop re-use, repair and upcycling activities and support skills/training and volunteering opportunities in the Third Sector and in the community to influence behavioural change;
- Support the development of a business resource efficiency programme;
- Develop an on-line Re-use Resource Exchange;
- Review recycling credit scheme and explore awarding discretionary re-use credit payments
- Increase communications through social media and the development of a Re-use for Merseyside and Halton website;
- Engage with Registered Social Landlords and residents and encourage re-use of household goods;
- Increase textile re-use by growing capacity in order to develop and resource projects;
- Investigate how to increase re-use of Trade Waste at HWRCs.



The medium to long-term objective of the new Strategy is to develop a co-ordinated network for community development in re-use and repair skills across a number of current waste streams. This should help develop transferable skills, support volunteering and moving people into jobs within the Circular Economy.

## Community Fund 2014/15

This year's Community Fund is well underway with several of the projects well into delivering what they promised to do, with the ultimate aim being to recycle, reuse and prevent waste, save money and avoid landfill.



- Billinge Horticultural Society: Billinge Community Allotments Project - using £1,800 from the Fund this project is transforming a disused St Helens sports field into community allotments, and has installed 36 water butts which means gardeners now have water supplies on tap for each plot to help grow their own fruit & vegetables and reduce food and packaging waste.
- Granby Toxteth Development Trust Making L1578 Greener: Part of the project (awarded £8,000 by our Fund) includes Community Living Room workshops – an initiative open to all residents in the Smithdown Road area of Liverpool. This aspect of the project is looking to strengthen links with the city's Roma population through a series of re-use and recycling workshops. The Trust has recruited a development worker and interpreter and have run sessions on cutting home fuel bills, re-use and recycling. Other partners include Liverpool Council, Riverside Housing and the Big Lottery.
- Groundwork Cheshire, Lancashire and Merseyside: Project Up – Awarded £19,500, Project Up have been running free furniture restoration workshops throughout the region to help people learn new skills, repair furniture and stop materials going to landfill.
- Legh Vale Primary School: The Haydock Permaculture Garden Project - Pupils (who received £4,400 of funding) have begun to renovate their grounds into a permaculture showcase using re-used and recycled materials (*pictured above*). When finished the space will be used for teacher training sessions and family events.
- Wirral Change: The Sew Together Project (*pictured below*) – The £8,000 provided by ourselves funded two thirds of this project, which aims to stop almost ten tonnes of textiles from going to landfill. Around 160 women from different communities will complete six week sewing courses, with their newly acquired skills contributing to a series of eight quilts which will go on show once the project is complete. The project featured on BBC Radio Merseyside's Breakfast Show.





## We are Stardust

Earlier this year, as part of our Waste Prevention Programme, we commissioned a filming project focused on community champions in re-use and waste prevention wrapped around an overall story about the journey of waste in the circular economy. The brief was for positive upbeat stories from around the region. As a result, Brightmoon Media have produced four 30-minute programmes which will be shown and repeated on Bay TV Liverpool up until Christmas. MRWA also have the rights to use the films.



## New clocking system

A new online clocking system was implemented in May and has proven to be an effective and efficient way of recording time and attendance for our staff.

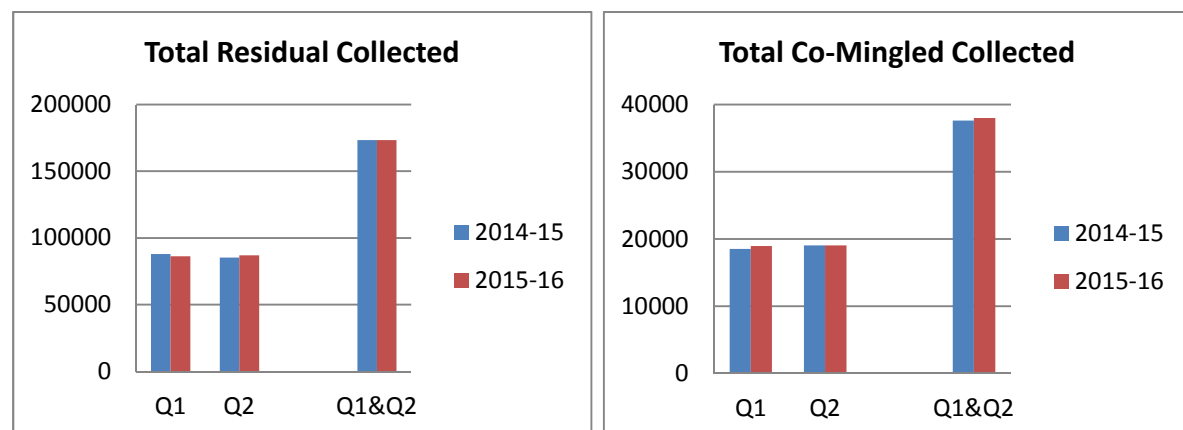
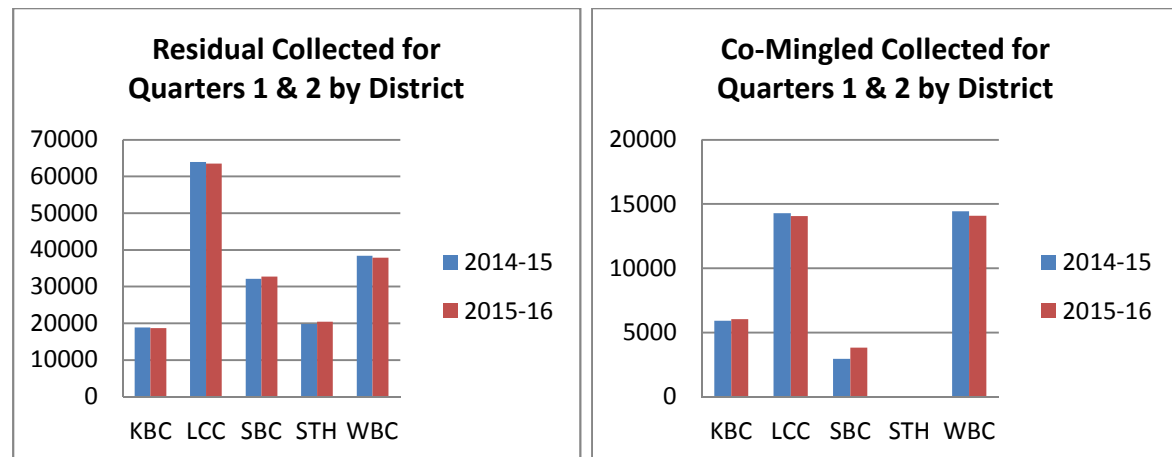
Employees are now able to request annual leave, flexi leave and time off for appointments through the online system and managers are able to view, edit where required and authorise time and attendance details online rather than dealing with lots of attendance sheets as was the case previously.

The system is capable of generating a whole host of reports and statistics that can be used to monitor sickness absence levels, holidays taken and time taken to authorise requests.

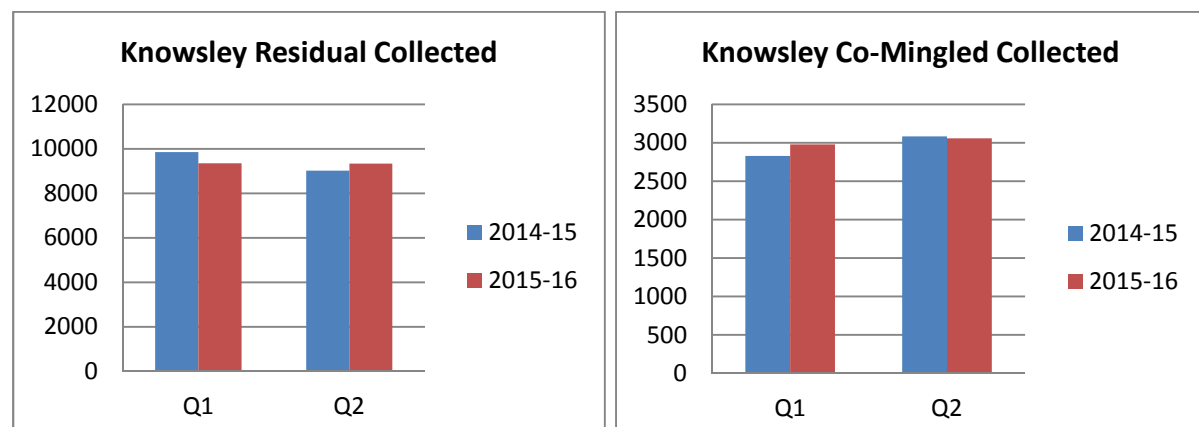
## 2014/15 Quarter Waste Statistics by Merseyside District (tonnes):

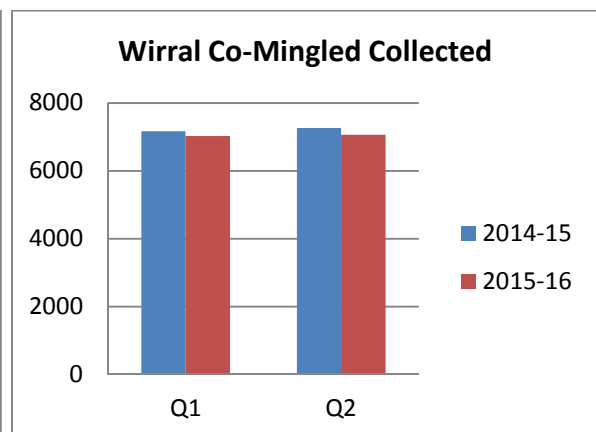
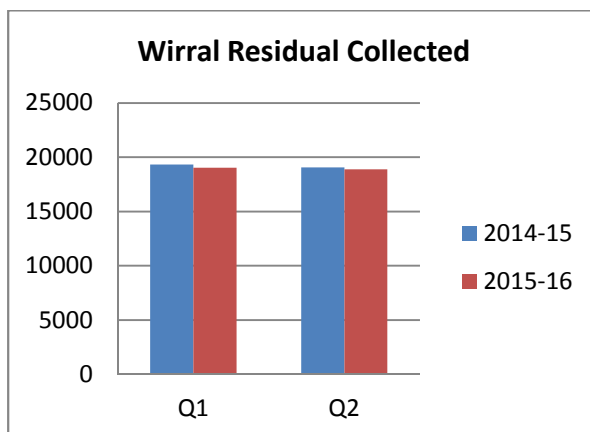
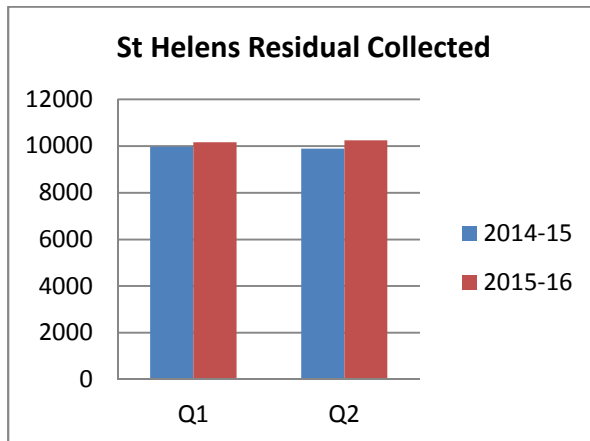
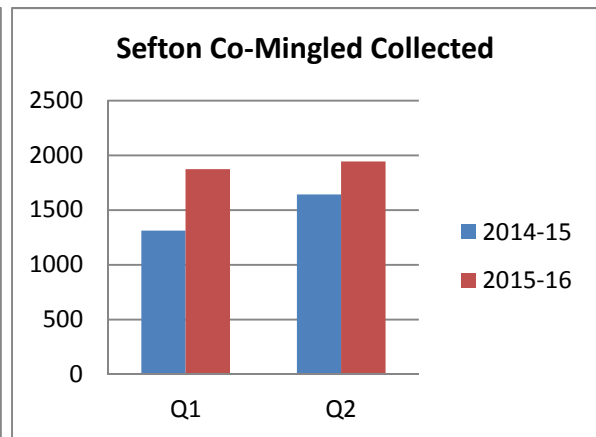
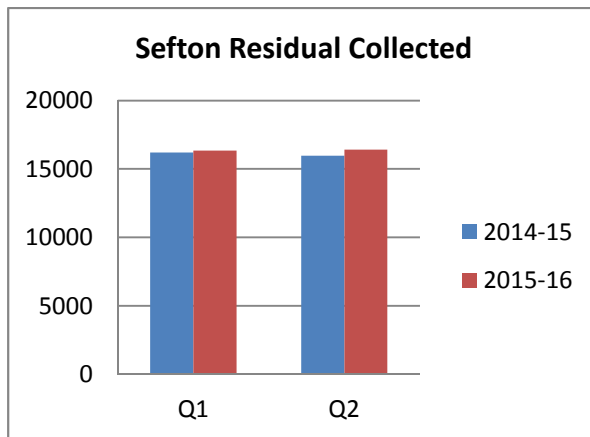
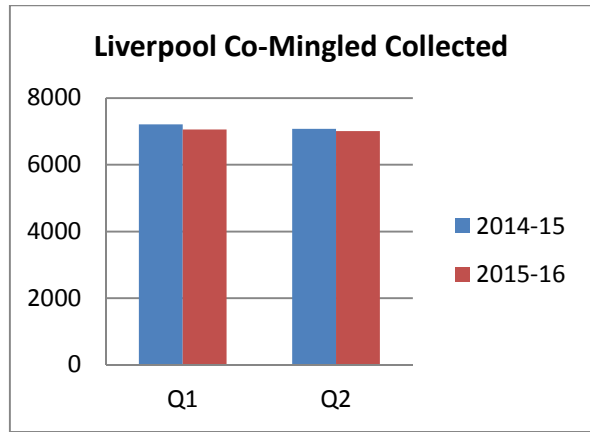
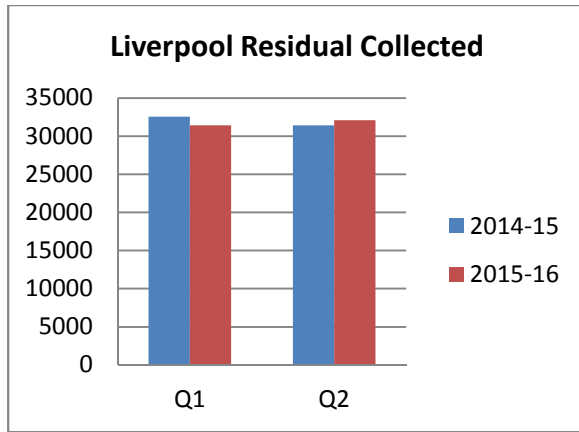
Knowsley, Liverpool, and Wirral continue to deliver Residual waste and Co-mingled recycle to the Authority under the Waste Management and Recycling Contract, whilst Sefton deliver Residual waste and Card and Plastic recyclates, and St Helens deliver Residual Waste only.

(There have been no significant operational changes for districts for the period analysed.)



### District Collections







CORPORATE AIM 1 - DELIVERABILITY				
We will ensure that waste delivered to us is managed sustainably				
<b>Our Key Priorities in 2015/16:</b>				
We will continue to manage our contracts and our facilities to achieve the best economic, environmental and community outcomes for Merseyside and Halton. Particular focus will be on:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mobilising the Resource Recovery Contract (RRC)</li> <li>Continuously improving the performance of the Waste Management and Recycling Contract (WMRC) through active engagement with our contractor, our partner councils and the community</li> <li>Managing residual waste to provide the best environmental and economic options available through interim treatment and landfill.</li> <li>Delivering a new Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) in Merseyside.</li> <li>Continuously improving the environmental management and aftercare of the Authority's closed landfill sites.</li> </ul>				
			Not Started	Behind Plan
			On Plan	Achieved
Resource Recovery Contract (RRC)	1.1.1	(EfW Wilton): Complete procurement and manufacture of process plant & equipment by February 2016. Continue with construction works and mechanical installations in accordance with agreed programme.		
	1.1.2	(Knowsley Rail Transfer Loading Station (RTLS)): Complete construction works by February 2016 and commence commissioning and testing of the plant and equipment in accordance with the agreed plan.		
	1.1.3	Complete arrangements to ensure adequate commissioning waste is provided to SITA.		
	1.1.4	Establish and maintain the community liaison group for the Knowsley Rail Transfer Loading Station.		
	1.1.5	Establish and maintain the community fund for the Knowsley RTLS.		
	1.1.6	Establish and test the management information system for the contract.		
	1.1.7	Ensure the RRC operational arrangements integrate with District Councils and the Authority's Waste Management and Recycling and Landfill contracts.		
Waste Management and Recycling Contract - District Council Waste	1.2.1	To meet or exceed the diversion rate targets for commingled and organic wastes in the WMRC for 2015/16. (90% diversion rate for co-mingled and 95% diversion for organic waste)		
	1.2.2	To manage deliveries of waste to the numerous interim treatment facilities and landfill sites in accordance with contractual requirements and to minimise costs.		
	1.2.3	To commence deliveries to the new Resource Recovery Contract to allow commissioning of the Rail Transfer Loading Station in Kirkby.		
Waste Management and Recycling Contract - Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs)	1.3.1	To manage the HWRC Service and meet or exceed the WMRC's contractual performance standards and targets to minimise the total cost of MRWA's waste management and recycling services.		
	1.3.2	Project Removed November 2015		
	1.3.3	To work with Veolia to promote the Trade Waste Recycling Service provided at the Bidston and Huyton HWRCs.		
	1.3.4	To review the opening times at HWRCs to determine how savings can be achieved while considering any risks to maintaining high recycling levels and customer satisfaction across the HWRC Service.		
	1.3.5	Following the completion of the Old Swan HWRC development, to manage the opening of the new HWRC including a communications programme to promote the facility and working with Veolia to complete all necessary actions to allow the HWRC to open as planned.		
Re-use Shops (WMRC)	1.4.1	To open a Re-Use Shop in South Sefton HWRC for a 12 month trial period and to evaluate its success.		
	1.4.2	To develop a Re-Use Shop at Old Swan HWRC subject to planning consent and the success of the trial at South Sefton.		
Landfill Contracts	1.5.1	To manage the Authority's landfill requirements to ensure sufficient capacity up to the mobilisation of the Resource Recovery Contract.		
	1.5.2	To carefully manage waste to landfill, whilst maximising deliveries to interim disposal facilities, in order to satisfy complex contractual requirements and to minimise waste disposal costs including Landfill Tax throughout the year		
Interim Contracts	1.6.1	Ensure that the agreed tonnages are delivered to the Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority and FCC contracts to achieve budget savings.		
	1.6.2	Complete the market testing project.		
Old Swan Waste Recycling Centre	1.7.1	To deliver a new Household Waste Recycling Centre, open to the public by December 2015		
	1.7.2	To achieve a minimum CEEQUAL award of 'Very Good', aspiring to 'Excellent' for the facility.		
	1.7.3	To deliver the new Household Waste Recycling Centre on time and to budget.		
Closed Landfill Site Aftercare	1.8.1	To undertake scheduled maintenance activities for plant and equipment at the Authority's closed landfill sites.		
	1.8.2	To undertake scheduled environmental monitoring activities at the Authority's closed landfill sites in compliance with set guidelines.		
	1.8.3	To successfully pass the external audit of the Environmental Management System; maintaining accreditation.		
	1.8.4	To undertake a review of the leachate treatment and drainage systems at Bidston Moss Community Woodland and Foul Lane closed landfill site to determine if financial savings can be made against trade effluent discharge costs.		

## Service Delivery Plan 2015/16:

## Tracker against MRWA Corporate Objectives



CORPORATE AIM 2 - SUSTAINABILITY				
<b>We aim to reduce the amount of waste produced on Merseyside, increase the proportion of waste reused and recycled and promote the sustainable management of waste through the Waste Hierarchy</b>				
<b>Our Key Priorities in 2015/16:</b>				
We will continue to work towards these targets, and sepccifically in the coming year we will:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and review our strategies to reflect the wider circular economy and resource resilience issues.</li> <li>Reduce waste and promote recycling and re-use through education and awareness initiatives, including the Waste Prevention Programme.</li> <li>Continue to work in partnership with the district councils to support the development of improved collection and treatment options.</li> <li>Continue to develop and manage the Authority's Community Fund to deliver projects that support the Authority's corporate aims.</li> </ul>				<div>Not Started</div> <div>Behind Plan</div> <div>On Plan</div> <div>Achieved</div>
Strategy Review	2.1.1	Preparation of the scope and timetable for the Joint Recycling & Waste Management Strategy Review	<div></div>	
	2.1.2	Seek Authority approval to the key phases of the Strategy review programme	<div></div>	
	2.1.3	Award a waste composition tender for completion by March 2016 (Joint Recycling & Waste Management Strategy Review)	<div></div>	
Re-Use Strategy	2.2.1	To approve the Re-Use Strategy and deliver projects with partners by March 2016.	<div></div>	
European Funding Projects	2.3.1	To input into the development of the Climate Metropole project by March 2016.	<div></div>	
	2.3.2	To develop the scope for the Prewastec project as a regional partner and support the grant application to the European Union in early 2016.	<div></div>	
Waste Prevention Programme	2.4.1	To complete a waste prevention work programme by March 2016 that enables residents to reduce waste through changes in their behaviour.	<div></div>	
	2.4.2	Review the Authority's waste prevention database in 2015 and identify future needs/benefits	<div></div>	
10 City Challenge	2.5.1	Deliver an online diagnostic food waste tool for use by householders as part of the 10 City Challenge working with WRAP and Tesco	<div></div>	
	2.5.2	Deliver a Food Champions Network including use of a private social media group as part of the 10 City Challenge working with WRAP and Tesco	<div></div>	
	2.5.3	Deliver an additional 11 cookery clubs by December 2015 to complement the Mersey Waste Muncher community fund programme.	<div></div>	
	2.5.4	Deliver a second Love Food Hate Waste (LFHW) campaign funding an additional 189 banners on district Refuse Collection Vehicles.	<div></div>	
	2.5.5	Develop engagement with local Tesco store community champions on LFHW and wider recycling initiatives.	<div></div>	
	2.5.6	Identify additional LFHW events to be funded by WRAP.	<div></div>	
Waste Development Fund	2.6.1	Receive letters of assurance from each District Council, in line with the Memorandum of Understanding, confirming how they have used their portion of the Waste Development Fund to further the shared objectives of the Joint Waste Strategy, or how they plan to in the future.	<div></div>	
	2.6.2	Prepare a report to the Authority in September 2015 to confirm how the funds have been used by Councils in the last financial year as required under the Memorandum of Understanding.	<div></div>	
Joint Efficiency Savings	2.7.1	To produce a proposal paper for Leaders based on the feasibility of joint service provision and to identify the cost/benefit impact of joint working options.	<div></div>	
Joint Performance Savings & Improvements	2.8.1	To work with Liverpool City Council to complete the trial of a new collection system for commingled recyclable materials in high density housing and to review and disseminate information on its outcome.	<div></div>	
Community Fund	2.9.1	To ensure all Community Fund projects funded in 2014-15 are completed and a final outcome report produced.	<div></div>	
	2.9.2	To seek Member approval to a list of applicants who will be invited to submit final project plans by May 2015.	<div></div>	
	2.9.3	Develop proposals for a further annual Community Fund scheme by February 2016 for Member approval.	<div></div>	
Partnership Support	2.10.1	Identify opportunities for further support to districts for apprenticeships in waste and recycling during 2015-16.	<div></div>	
	2.10.2	Report outcome of pilot apprenticeship support scheme by February 2016.	<div></div>	
	2.10.3	To advise senior officers and districts on relevant policy matters and provide appropriate consultation responses during the year.	<div></div>	
	2.10.4	To manage the partnership website and keep it up to date with practical waste prevention, re-use and recycling information to stakeholders during the year.	<div></div>	



CORPORATE AIM 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY					
We will conduct the Authority's business effectively and efficiently and we will fulfil our obligations to the highest standards.					
<b>Our Key Priorities in 2015/16:</b>					
We will continue to apply high standards to the way in which we conduct our business and specifically in the coming year we will:					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manage the Authority and its resources efficiently, effectively and appropriately and improve how we manage and report our performance.</li> <li>Improve the way we communicate and consult with our key stakeholders.</li> <li>Ensure our actions comply with our policies and procedures, are within the law and that decisions are taken appropriately.</li> <li>Review the Authority's resource needs and develop Members and Officers to make the best effective use of resources to deliver the Authority's Corporate Aim</li> </ul>					
			Not Started	Behind Plan	Achieved
<b>Levy &amp; Budget Strategy</b>	3.1.1	To deliver a workshop with Members on the Authority's levy and budget strategy early in 2015/16 to enable officers to develop forward budget options.			
	3.1.2	To develop an options paper setting out alternative levy apportionment methodologies.			
<b>Financial Management</b>	3.2.1	Closedown of the accounts, preparation of the statement and the extensive supporting working papers, detailed liaison with external audit and publication of the statement of accounts on time with few audit adjustments.			
	3.2.2	Preparation of the budget and levy to support the Authority's activities and priorities, maintaining financial security while mitigating the impact of the Levy on Councils wherever possible.			
	3.2.3	Assessment of preparations for the Resource Recovery Contract and payment mechanism, stress testing interfaces with other contracts, preparing reporting structures and detailed reconciliations dependent upon the outcome of scenario planning.			
<b>Performance Management</b>	3.3.1	Approval of the Service Delivery Plan.			
	3.3.2	Development and production of a revised quarterly and annual performance reporting regime to support Members in making informed decisions on the direction of the Authority.			
<b>Corporate Services</b>	3.4.1	Review the Comment and Complaints Procedure to ensure improvement in response time by June 2015.			
	3.4.2	Establish a new programme of time and attendance key indicators by Sept 2015 which support a greater efficiency of time management throughout the Authority.			
<b>Communications</b>	3.5.1	Establish a baseline to evaluate the current effectiveness of internal communications by April 2015.			
	3.5.2	Evaluate the impact of the redesigned and rebranded internal communications delivery 'In the Know' by April 2016.			
	3.5.3	To develop an External Communication Improvement Plan by April 2016.			
<b>Corporate Governance</b>	3.6.1	Maintain good standards of governance across all aspects of the Authority including decision-making and financial management.			
	3.6.2	Strengthen and improve the Authority's systems of internal control and governance arrangements through the delivery of the Corporate Governance Action Plan 2015/16 and any agreed recommendations by the Authority's auditors.			
	3.6.3	Prepare the Annual Governance Statement to be approved no later than 30th June 2015.			
<b>Governance of Mersey Waste Holdings Ltd</b>	3.7.1	Return of surplus funds to the Authority as agreed.			
	3.7.2	Delivery of landfill contract tonnages for the Authority.			
	3.7.3	Approval by the Authority of the framework for the development fund, and individual schemes within the framework where they are significant.			
<b>Organisational Development</b>	3.8.1	Undertake a Skill Gap Analysis to identify potential areas where skills and knowledge transfer is needed, due to current establishment review, no later Oct 2016.			
	3.8.2	Deliver a new Corporate Training and Development Plan by April 2016 which supports the changes within the establishment by ensuring our staff have the appropriate skill and knowledge to deliver our future services.			
<b>Member Training</b>	3.9.1	An Annual Member Training and Development Plan will be developed in consultation with Members to include study tours, workshops and an induction process for new Members.			