



Waste Management Plan 2015-2021.

Briefing Note

In 2001 Ireland was divided into 10 Regions for the purposes of Waste Management Planning. There followed 2 Waste Plan Cycles from 2001 to 2005/6 and from 2005/06 to 2011/12. Much was achieved during this period with significant advances with regard to recycling targets, a reduction in the dependence on landfill as a disposal option and the embedding of waste prevention initiatives in Local Authorities. In July 2012 The Minister for the Environment issued a policy statement "A Resource Opportunity- Waste Management Policy in Ireland" which stated that:-

" local authorities undertaking their waste management planning responsibilities, guided by the programme of reform of local government structures which is currently underway, will significantly reduce the number of regional formations,(currently 10) to no more than 3."

In October 2012 the Minister indicated a reconfiguration of the Regions in the "Action Programme for Effective Local Government - A Guide to Putting People First". The Waste Management Regions were reconfigured in line with the Assembly Regions proposed.

Following the evaluation of the existing waste plans in line with the EU Waste Framework Directive the local authorities of the three proposed regions agreed to prepare waste plans on the new regional basis and the current waste regions were born:

The Eastern and Midlands Waste Region	Population 2.2M	12 Authorities
The Southern Waste Region	Population 1.5M	10 Authorities
The Connacht Ulster Waste Region	Population 0.84M	9 Authorities

The CCMA, Environment Sub Committee, subsequently facilitated a process to designate lead authorities for the three regions and:

Dublin City Council was designated for the Eastern and Midlands Region
Limerick/Tipperary County Councils for the Southern Region and
Mayo County Council for the Connacht Ulster Region

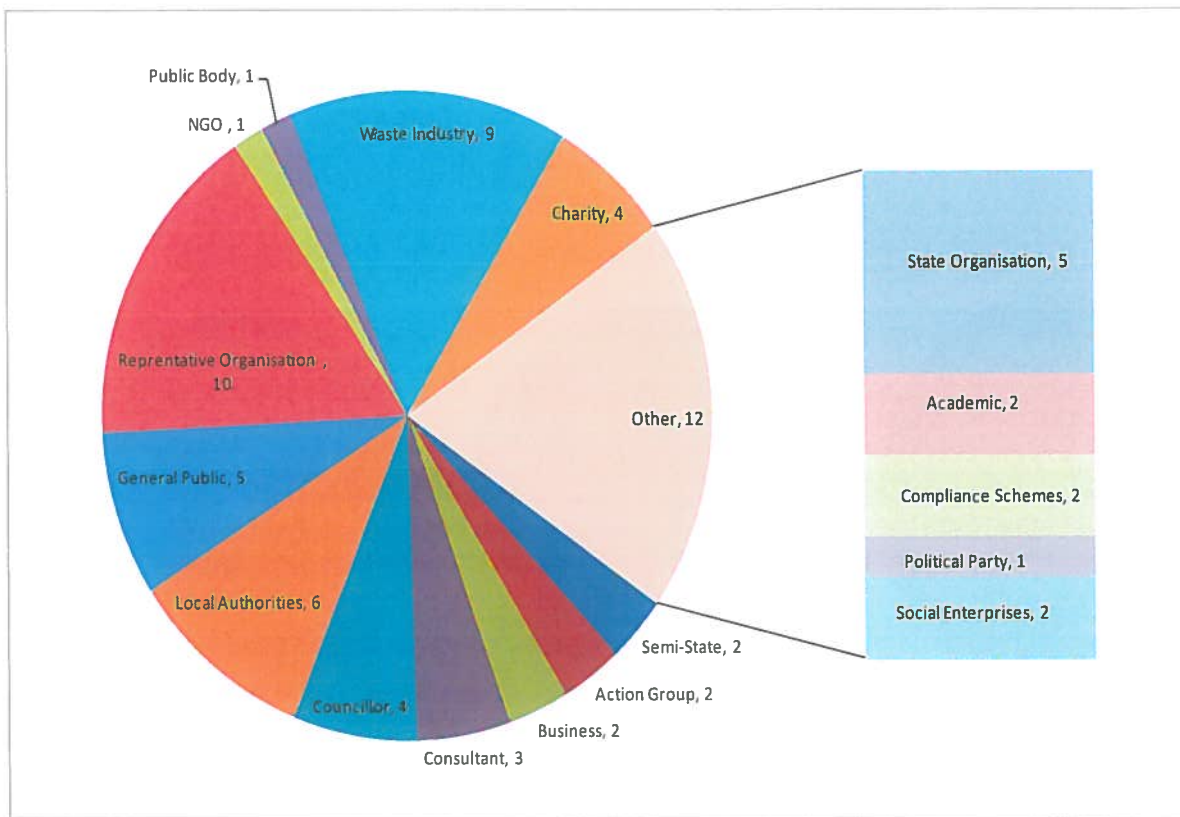
Preparation of the regional waste plans began in Q4 2013, in accordance with the European Communities (Waste Directive) Regulations, 2011 and the Waste Management (Planning)

Regulations, 1997, and culminated with the publication of the three Regional Waste Management Plans on the 12th of May 2015.

The Plan has been prepared by the Lead Authorities supported by the National Coordinating Committee for Waste Management Planning, The Regional Waste Steering Group, Individual Local Authorities and the RPS Group in respect of the SEA/AA and common elements of all regional plans.

In the course of the development of the plan policies the local authorities have considered many factors including the findings of the evaluations of the previous plans and the successes achieved. Policy development has also taken account of European and national waste legislative requirements and environmental impact has been considered throughout the evolution of the plans and the submissions received during the consultation phases.

There was a pre-draft public consultation advertised in 2013 and in addition to this, briefing sessions were held for stakeholders including Elected Members, Irish Waste Management Association representing waste contractors and the Environmental Pillar. In addition several national organisations were also consulted including Repak, Irish Water, An Bord Pleanala and Cement Manufacturer's Ireland. The DECLG also set up an Advisory Group representing the stakeholders including the environmental pillar. A Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) consultation phase was also published in June 2014. The Draft Plan and associated Environmental Documents were published on the 18th of November and all three Draft Regional Plans were launched nationally on that date. The public consultation period commenced on the 18th of November and ran until the 30th of January 2015. Following the public consultation a total of 61 submissions covering all policy areas were considered before the final plan was published in May 2015. A summary graph below details the source of the submissions received.



The preparation of the plan has been funded by the local authorities of the region on a population basis and the national cost of SEA / AA has been shared by the regions on a population basis.

The plan structure consists of five parts as follows:

Executive Summary

Part 1.0 Background

Part 2.0 Present Position

Part 3.0 Implementation

Appendices

Part 1 - Background sets out the strategic vision for the plan:

The strategic vision of the regional waste plan is to rethink our approach to managing wastes, by viewing our waste streams as valuable material resources which can lead to a healthier environment and sustainable commercial opportunities for our economy.

The strategic vision is supported by 8 overall objectives which in turn are supported by policy statements. The plan contains three headline performance targets in addition to the mandatory targets which must be achieved over the life of the plan.



PART 2 PRESENT POSITION

Data on generation of household, municipal waste, priority wastes and other non-municipal waste has been collated for the plan. Data on the destinations of these waste streams has also been collated and the biggest change is the move away from landfill disposal over the last few years and this illustrated in the graph below. The increase in the landfill levy has moved residual waste towards thermal recovery solutions in Ireland and abroad.

Municipal Waste - Household	2010	2011	2012
Household waste managed(Kerbside)	567,608	581,818	560,786
Household waste collected from CA and bring sites (excluding WEEE and batteries) ¹	103,893	92,463	91,464
Household waste collected from other bring facilities (PTUs) and direct to landfill ¹	n/a	n/a	3,145
Bulky household waste ^{1,2}	24,493	32,995	26,054
Total Municipal Waste - Household	695,964	707,276	681,449

¹ EPA NWR/LA Returns

² National Waste Collection Permit Office

In 2012 approximately 80% of the permanent private households within the EMR were signed up to a kerbside collection service with generally a higher participation rate in urban areas.

The quantity of unmanaged household waste generated in the EMR was estimated at 63,333 tonnes, which represents about 19% of the household waste generated in the region. The challenge of addressing the quantity of unmanaged waste in the region will be tracked over the course of the plan period.

This section also highlights the issues that local authorities have with dealing with aftercare of existing landfills, closing landfills with space. This section also deal with developing a road map for managing high risk (Class A) historic and legacy landfills over the lifetime of the plan.

PART 3 Implementation

The plan contains over 54 policy statements which are embedded throughout the plan in the relevant chapters and summarised in **Chapter 19 Policy Actions and Targets**. Just over 50% of the policy statements are targeted directly at the Local Authority Sector and there are 63 actions identified to give effect to the policies described.

The balance of the policies are directed at the sector in general and are designed to give a clear indication as to what the plans support in particular in relation to the provision of waste infrastructure locally, regionally and nationally.

Each of the 63 actions targeted at the local authority sector have an associated: **Expected Time Line** for completion, **Target** which describes the outcome required, **Indicator** by which the action can be measured and a **Responsibility** for the completion of the action typically by the Lead Authority or individual Local Authorities.

Almost 70% of the 63 actions identified for the local authority sector will be lead by the Lead Authority illustrating the importance of the role of the lead authority in the implementation of the plan. The balance of the actions will be lead directly by the individual local authorities.

In policy terms the plans support the implementation of legislation, the prioritisation of waste prevention, the transition from a waste management economy to a circular economy, increased coordination at all levels, consistent and coordinated enforcement and regulation, the protection of the environment and human health and the proactive management of wastes not currently subject to either EU or National legislation or regulation.

The plans further support the provision of waste infrastructure in keeping with the proximity and self sufficiency principles and in the context of the level of current waste authorisations issued regionally and nationally. The plans support the provision of specific

quantities of both thermal recovery treatment and biological treatment based on projections of waste arising and current authorised capacities.

There will be an annual review of performance under each policy heading conducted by the Regional Waste Management Office and an Annual Report will be prepared focusing on the progress of plan implementation across the region.

A detailed presentation will also be made at the meeting and will cover the submissions, main policies and role of Regional Office.

Ends.

The Eastern-Midlands Waste Region encompasses the following local authorities:

Dublin City, Dún Laoghaire -Rathdown, South Dublin, Fingal, Wicklow, Kildare, Laois, Offaly, Westmeath, Longford, Meath & Louth.

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