

Report on	Northern Ireland Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste Management (LACMW) Report for January – March 2020
Date of Meeting	8 September 2020
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Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

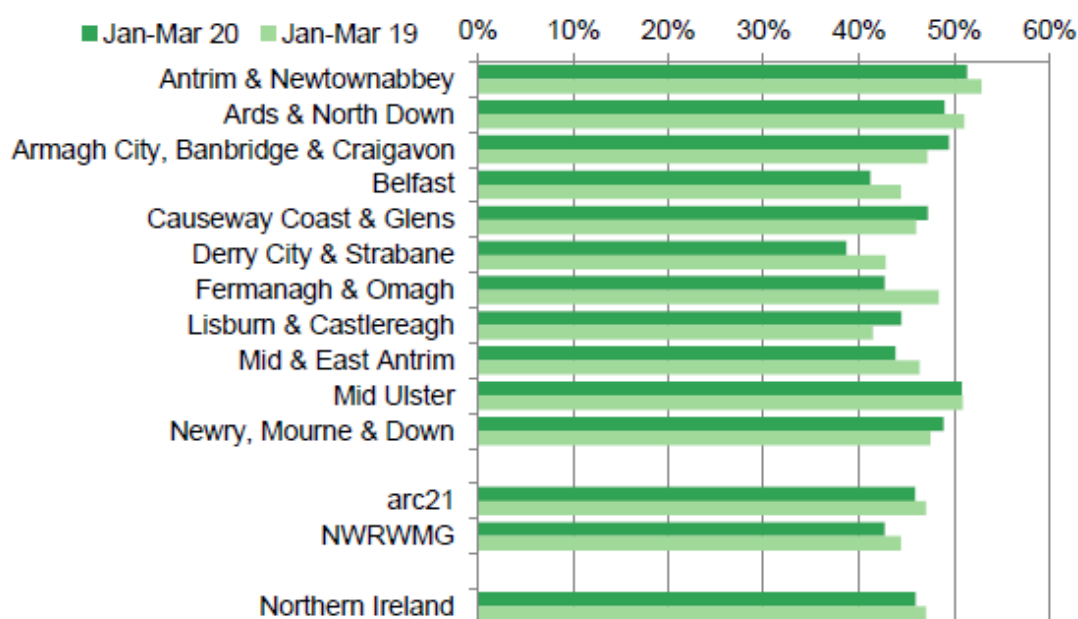
1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update members on the Council's performance in relation to recycling and landfill diversion targets as outlined in the NIEA Northern Ireland Local Authority Waste Management Statistics Report for Quarter 4 of 2019/20, January to March 2020.
2.0	Background
2.1	<p>The above (provisional) report was published on 13th August 2020 by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA). The data in the report is based on quarterly returns made to Wastedataflow, a web-based system, used by all local authorities throughout the UK to report on local authority collected municipal waste (LACMW). A full copy of the report (including appendices) can be accessed via below:</p> <p>https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/northern-ireland-local-authority-collected-municipal-waste-management-statistics-january-march-2020</p>
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p><u>Waste Arisings:</u></p> <p>Northern Ireland's Councils collected 225,476 tonnes of Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste (LACMW) during January – March 2020. This was 0.9% lower than the 227,597 tonnes collected during the same three months of 2019.</p> <p><u>Recycling and Composting:</u></p> <p>The Northern Ireland household waste only preparing for reuse, dry recycling and composting rate was 46% between January - March 2019, a 1% decrease on the 47% recorded during the same three months of 2019. The proportion of household waste sent for preparing for reuse was 0.1 per cent, dry recycling made up 26.1 per cent and composting was 19.7 per cent. Last year the equivalent rate for reuse was 0.2 per cent, whilst the dry recycling and composting rates were 26.5 per cent and 20.3 per cent respectively.</p> <p>At Council level, household waste recycling rates varied from 38.7% in Derry City & Strabane Council to 51.4% in Antrim & Newtownabbey.</p>

Six of the eleven councils reported decreased household recycling rates compared to January to March 2019, the largest of which were recorded in Fermanagh & Omagh and Derry City & Strabane. Lisburn & Castlereagh reported a 3.0 per cent increase to their household recycling rate.

In Mid Ulster the recycling rate was 50.8%, second only to Antrim & Newtownabbey, (Please see Fig. 1 below). For Mid Ulster, this is identical to the household recycling rate achieved in the same quarter in 2019. However this quarterly rate, when combined with the rates achieved during the previous three quarters, confirms that Mid Ulster achieved the highest household recycling rate of all eleven Councils during the 2019/20 year.

Fig. 1. Household waste preparing for reuse, dry recycling and composting rate by council and waste management group

Northern Ireland, Comparing January - March 2019 and January – March 2020.

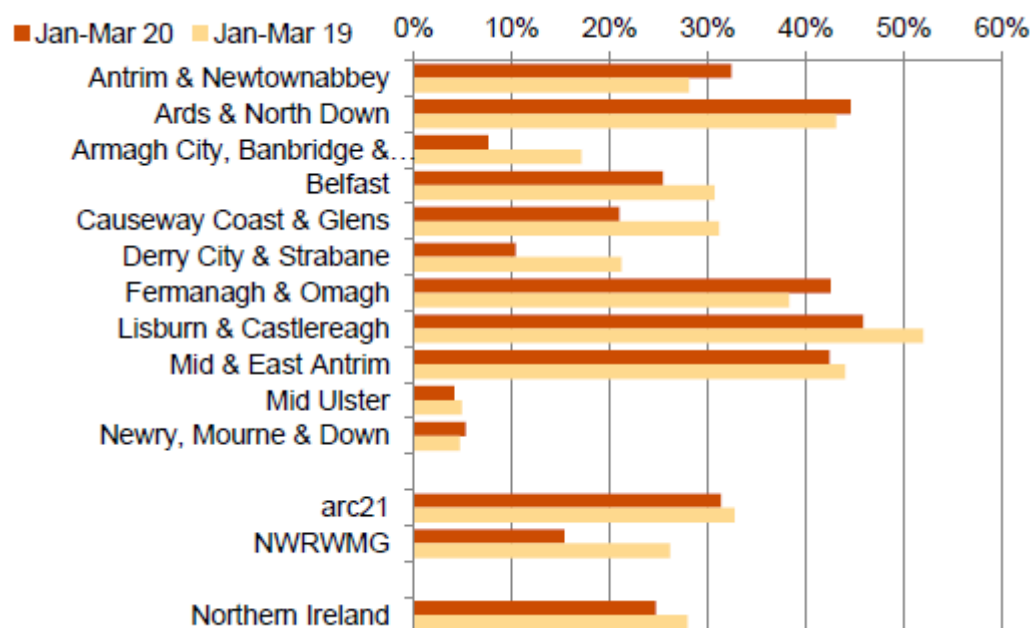


Waste to Landfill:

The quantity of Local Authority Municipal waste sent to landfill decreased by 14.3%, from 65,141 tonnes during January to March 2019 to 55,849 tonnes between January and March 2020. This gave a quarterly landfill rate for Northern Ireland of 24.8%, which was lower than the 28.6% recorded during the same quarter of 2019 and the lowest landfill rate ever for the January to March quarter.

Mid Ulster recorded a household waste landfill rate of 4.2%. Mid Ulster's landfill rate is the lowest of all 11 Councils, (Newry, Mourne & Down Council had a slightly higher landfill rate of 5.4%). (Please see Fig. 2 below):

Fig. 2. Household waste landfilled by council and waste management group, Northern Ireland, comparing January to March 2019 and January to March 2020.



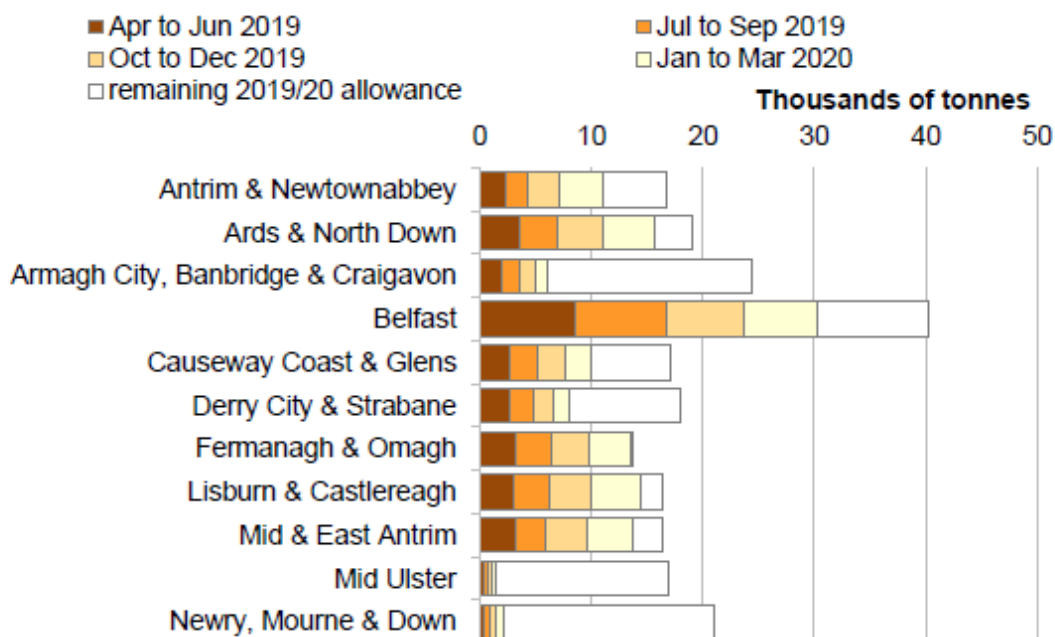
Biodegradable Waste to Landfill:

The Landfill Allowance Scheme (NI) Regulations 2004 (as amended) place a statutory responsibility on councils, in each scheme year, to landfill no more than the quantity of biodegradable LAC municipal waste (BLACMW) for which they have allowances.

With regard to the Northern Ireland Landfill Allowance Scheme (NILAS) allocation Mid Ulster District Council utilised only 2.7% of the available annual allowance (16,932 tonnes) during the January - March 2020 quarter i.e. landfilled only 464 tonnes of Biodegradable Local Authority Collected Biodegradable Municipal Waste (BLACMW). This was the lowest utilisation of all eleven Councils (as illustrated in Fig. 3 below). This brings the total allocation used by Mid Ulster during 2019/20 to 8.9% of the annual allowance. Again this is the lowest usage of the annual allowance of all eleven Councils.

A draft reconciliation report for 2019/20, (the fifteenth scheme year of NILAS) was received from the NIEA on 13th August (copy attached). This states that the total amount of BLACMW sent to landfill by Mid Ulster District Council for the scheme year was 1,505 tonnes equating to 8.89% utilisation of the 16,932 allowances (tonnes) available.

Fig. 3. Biodegradable LAC municipal waste allowance sent to landfill by council,
Northern Ireland, January - March 2020.



4.0 Other Considerations

4.1 Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications

Financial:

Failure to meet NILAS targets could result in NIEA fines and EU infraction proceedings.

Human: A significant amount of time is spent by the Recycling Officers in gathering, collating and submitting the necessary data for quarterly WDF and NILAS returns

Risk Management:

Failure to meet NILAS targets could result in NIEA fines and EU infraction proceedings.

4.2 Screening & Impact Assessments

Equality & Good Relations Implications: None

Rural Needs Implications: None

5.0 Recommendation(s)

5.1 Members are asked to note and invited to comment on the content of this report.

6.0 Documents Attached & References

6.1 Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste Infographic Q4 2019-20

6.2 Draft NILAS Reconciliation from NIEA – 13th August 2020