Report on	Annual NIEA Waste Management Statistics and NILAS Reports
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Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes		
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	Х	

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To inform members of the content of the NIEA Northern Ireland Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste Management Statistics 2016/17 Annual Report and the Annual Northern Ireland Landfill Allowance Scheme 2016/17 Annual Report as published on 30 th November 2017.
2.0	Background
2.1	The Waste Management Statistics report provides both summary and detailed figures on the amount of local authority collected municipal waste in Northern Ireland during 2016/17 and is available via the below link (copy also attached): https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/northern-ireland-local-authority-collected-municipal-waste-management-statistics-2016 The NILAS report covers the twelfth scheme year of the Landfill Allowances Scheme (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2004 summarising Council compliance with the scheme
	during 2016/17 and is available via the below link (copy also attached): https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/published-waste-data
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste Management Statistics Annual Report Northern Ireland's Councils collected 985,994 tonnes of LAC municipal waste in 2016/17. This was a 1.7% increase on the 969,157 tonnes collected in 2015/16. Household waste accounted for 88.8% of total LAC municipal waste. In 2016/17, 44.4% of household waste was sent for preparing for reuse, dry recycling and composting, 2.2 percentage points higher than the 2015/16 rate of 42.2%. At council level, rates varied from 39.4% in Belfast to a high of 51.6% in Mid Ulster. This is official confirmation that Mid Ulster District Council achieved the highest household waste recycling rate of all eleven Councils during 2016/17; and the first to achieve/exceed the 50% statutory target set for 2020.

3.2 Northern Ireland Landfill Allowance Scheme (NILAS) Annual Report 2016/17

In 2016/17 the total amount of Biodegradable Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste (BLACMW) which was permitted to be sent to landfill was 262,856 tonnes. In Northern Ireland the total amount of BLACMW reported to have been sent to landfill was 204,380 tonnes i.e. 22.3% of landfill allowances were not utilised. This was an increase of 1.3 percentage points compared to 2015/16 (21.0%).

All eleven Councils in Northern Ireland achieved their 2016/17 landfill allowance obligations by diverting BLACMW from landfill. However, two councils (Fermanagh & Omagh District Council; and Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council) had a deficit of allowances for the 2016/17 scheme year and so were only able to meet their allowance obligations by receiving a transfer of allowances from other councils with a surplus.

As approved by the Environment Committee in September Mid Ulster District Council transferred a total of 380 allowances (tonnes) to Fermanagh & Omagh District Council. The transfer of these allowances ensured Fermanagh & Omagh District Council did not exceed its allowances for the 2016/17 scheme year.

Following this transfer the NIEA issued the final reconciliation for 2016/17 on 30th November which confirmed that Mid Ulster District Council utilised just 73.09% of its (post transfer) annual landfill allowance of 19,851 tonnes i.e. landfilled 14,509 tonnes during the scheme year leaving a surplus of 5,342 tonnes.

4.0 Other Considerations

4.1 Financial & Human Resources Implications

Financial: None

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.

4.2 Equality and Good Relations Implications

The fact that Mid Ulster District Council was the top performing local authority in Northern Ireland over the course of the year with respect to the amount of household waste recycled was recognised in the press e.g. Belfast Telegraph – copy of article attached.

4.3 Risk Management Implications

During August 2017 the NIEA conducted an audit of data submitted in Waste Data Flow as Monitoring Authority under Regulation 11 (5) of the NILAS Regulations for the January to March 2017 period and were satisfied with the data submitted by the Council.

5.0 Recommendation(s)

5.1 Members are asked to note and invited to comment on the performance of the Council in respect of waste management as outlined in this report.

6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1 6.2	Copy of annual NIEA Waste Management Statistics and NILAS reports for 2016/17 Belfast Telegraph article