

Report on	Northern Ireland Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste Management (LACMW) Report for October to December 2020
Date of Meeting	11 th May 2021
Reporting Officer	Mark McAdoo, Head of Environmental Services
Contact Officer	Mark McAdoo, Head of Environmental Services

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

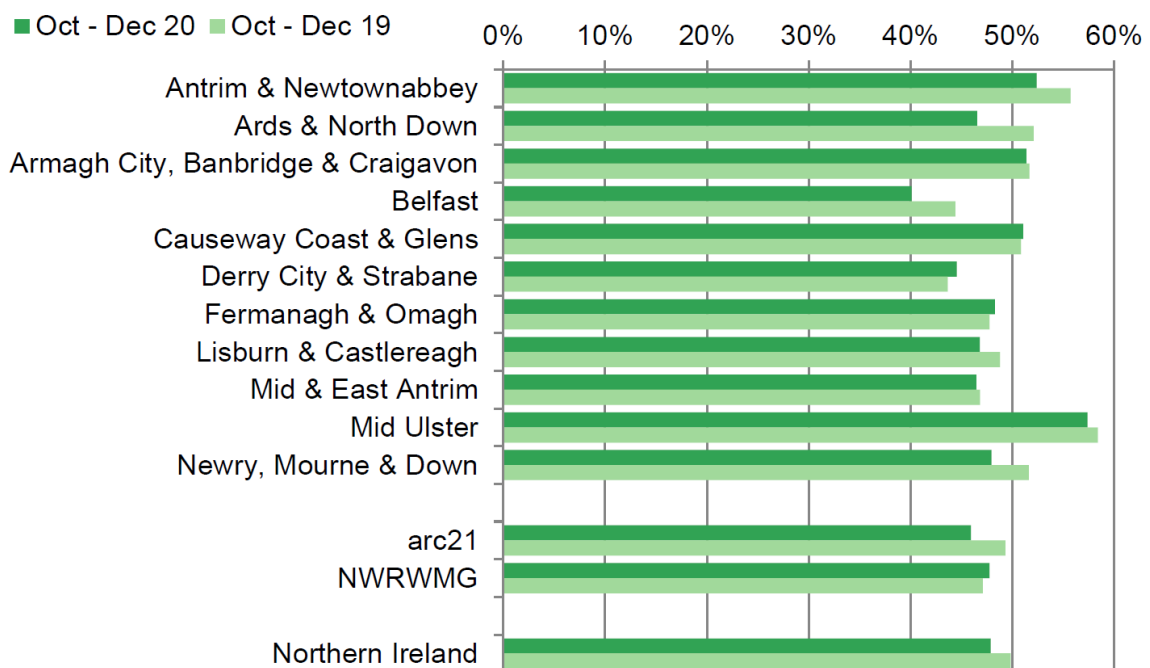
1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update members on the Council's performance in relation to recycling and landfill diversion targets as outlined in the NIEA Northern Ireland Local Authority Waste Management Statistics Report for Quarter 3 of 2020/21 from October to December 2021.
2.0	Background
2.1	<p>The above report was published on 22nd April 2021 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). This publication provides information on local authority collected municipal waste from household and non-household sources and recycling and landfill rates in Northern Ireland.</p> <p>Headline figures are shown in the attached infographic with the full report available via the below link:</p> <p>https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/northern-ireland-local-authority-collected-municipal-waste-management-statistics-october-december-2020</p>
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p><u>Key Points:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northern Ireland's councils collected 255,810 tonnes of waste during October to December 2020 which was 9.2 per cent higher than the same three months in 2019. During October to December 2020, 47.3 per cent of waste collected by councils was sent for recycling, 1.6 per cent lower than the recycling rate for October to December 2019. The landfill rate for waste collected by councils recorded a new low of 23.3 per cent in October to December 2020, a fall from 75.4 per cent in October to December 2006 and from 24.1 per cent during October to December 2019.

- More than a quarter (26.4 per cent) of waste arisings were sent for energy recovery in October to December 2020, compared to 23.8 per cent in October to December 2019, and 0.5 per cent during the same quarter in 2009.
- Household waste accounted for 89.3 per cent of all waste collected during this period.
- The recycling rate for household waste was 47.9 per cent, down from 49.8 per cent in October to December 2019. The landfill rate for household waste was 23.2 per cent, a fall from 23.8 per cent compared to the same quarter last year.

3.2 **Waste to Recycling:**

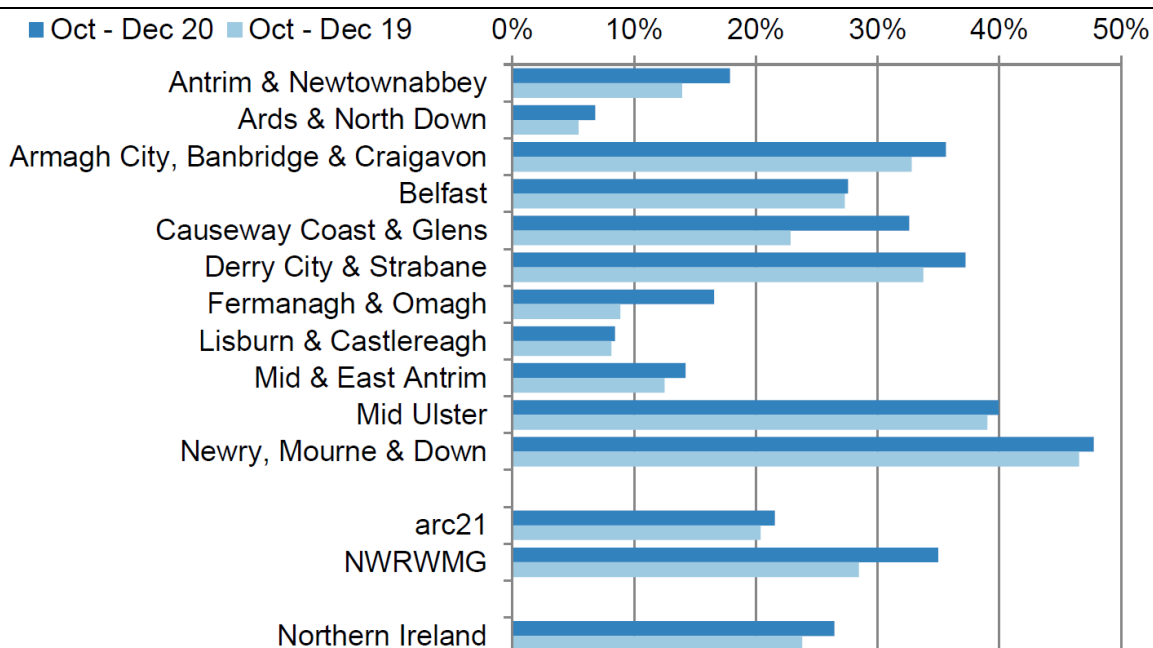
There were 121,058 tonnes of waste sent for preparing for reuse, dry recycling and composting between October and December 2020. The waste recycling rate was 47.3 per cent. This was a decrease of 1.6 percentage points on the 49.0 per cent of waste sent for recycling between October and December 2019.

Most Councils (as illustrated in the below graph) reported decreased household recycling rates compared to July to September 2019. **However, Mid Ulster once again achieved the highest recycling rate of all eleven Councils for the quarter, recycling 57.4 per cent of household waste:**



3.3 **Waste to Energy**

Between October and December 2020, 67,623 tonnes of waste arisings were sent for energy recovery. This gave a waste energy recovery rate of 26.4 per cent, higher than the 23.8 per cent rate reported for the same period in 2019. In each year, the majority was mixed residual waste with a smaller proportion from specific streams, e.g. wood. Mid Ulster had the second highest energy recovery rate at 40.0 per cent (as illustrated in below graph):

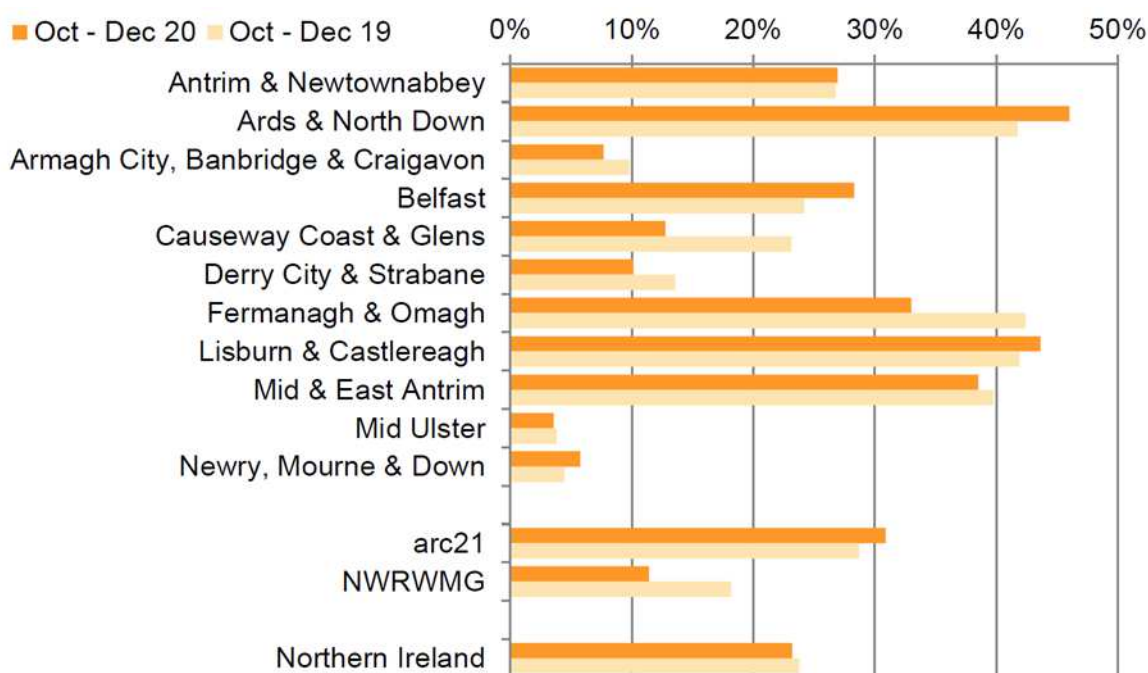


3.3

Waste to Landfill:

The quantity of municipal waste sent to landfill increased by 5.7 per cent, from 56,488 tonnes during October to December 2019 to 59,683 tonnes between October and December 2020. This gave a quarterly landfill rate of 23.3 per cent for October to December 2020 which was lower than the 24.1 per cent recorded during the same quarter of 2019. The latest quarterly landfill rate for household waste only is 23.2 per cent, a further reduction on the 23.8 per cent recorded during the same three months of 2019.

Mid Ulster achieved the lowest landfill rate of all eleven Councils for the quarter, landfilling only 3.6 per cent of household waste (as illustrated below):



	The landfill rate has now reached its lowest ever level for October to December. The long term trend has seen the October to December household waste landfill rate fall consistently from 73.5 per cent in 2006 to 23.2 per cent recorded in 2020. Note that the landfill rate exhibits seasonality and the April to June and July to September quarters tend to have lower rates than October to December and January to March. The seasonality stems from the higher level of compostable garden waste arising during spring and summer.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: Failure to meet statutory waste targets could result in infraction proceedings and fines.
	Human: A significant amount of time is spent by the Recycling Officers in gathering, collating, and submitting the necessary data for quarterly WasteDataFlow returns.
	Risk Management: Failure to meet waste targets would result in reputational damage.
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 the performance of the Council as outlined in this report.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste Infographic Q3 2020-21.