

Report on	Northern Ireland Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste Management (LACMW) Annual Report for 2020/21
Date of Meeting	11 th January 2022
Reporting Officer	Mark McAdoo, Assistant Director - Environmental Services
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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 Annual Report for 2020/21.
2.0	Background
2.1	<p>The above report was published on 25th November 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-2020</p>
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p><u>Key Points:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is the first annual waste report covering the period when measures were introduced in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. • Northern Ireland councils collected 1,031,169 tonnes of waste during 2020/21 which was 3.2 per cent higher than that collected in 2019/20. During 2020/21, 50.0 per cent of waste collected by councils was sent for recycling, 1.1 per cent lower than the recycling rate for 2019/20. • The landfill rate for waste collected by councils recorded a new annual low of 22.8 per cent in 2020/21, a fall from 74.0 per cent in 2006/07 and 24.0 per cent in 2019/20. • A quarter of waste arisings were sent for energy recovery in 2020/21, compared to 22.1per cent in 2019/20, and 0.4 per cent 11 years ago.

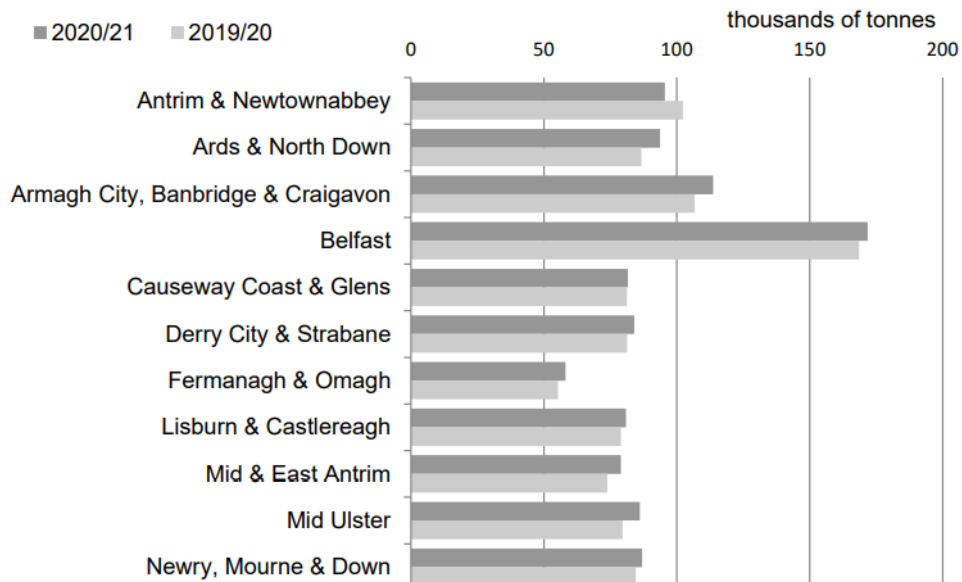
- Household waste accounted for 89.6 per cent of all waste collected during 2020/21. The recycling rate for household waste was 50.9 per cent while the landfill rate for household waste was 22.4 per cent. Fermanagh & Omagh generated the smallest amount of household waste per capita at 438 kg whilst Antrim & Newtownabbey recorded the largest at 543 kg per capita.
- The household waste recycling rate of 50.9 per cent has once again met the Northern Ireland Waste Management Strategy target to recycle 50 per cent of household waste by 2020. This target was first met in 2018/19. The 2020/21 figure is a decrease of 1.0 percentage points compared to the previous year.
- There were 126,404 tonnes of biodegradable waste sent to landfill during 2020/21, similar to the quantity reported in 2019/20.

3.2 **Waste Arisings:**

In 2020/21, Northern Ireland's councils collected 1,031,169 tonnes of waste. This was a 3.2 per cent increase on the 998,985 tonnes collected in 2019/20. Whilst the tonnage of waste collected at kerbside increased by 12.0 per cent during 2020/21 compared to the previous year, waste collected at civic amenity sites fell by 14.1 per cent. The extra waste collected at kerbside and bring sites is likely to be a consequence of people spending more time at home due to Covid-19 restrictions, for example, working from home, the closure of schools, bars and restaurants. Whilst Recycling Centres (civic amenity sites) were closed many will have utilised their kerbside collection more fully.

Most councils (as illustrated in the below graph) reported increased waste arisings compared with 2019/20. Mid Ulster waste arisings increased by 8.0% in the last year, which was the second largest increase of the 11 Councils:

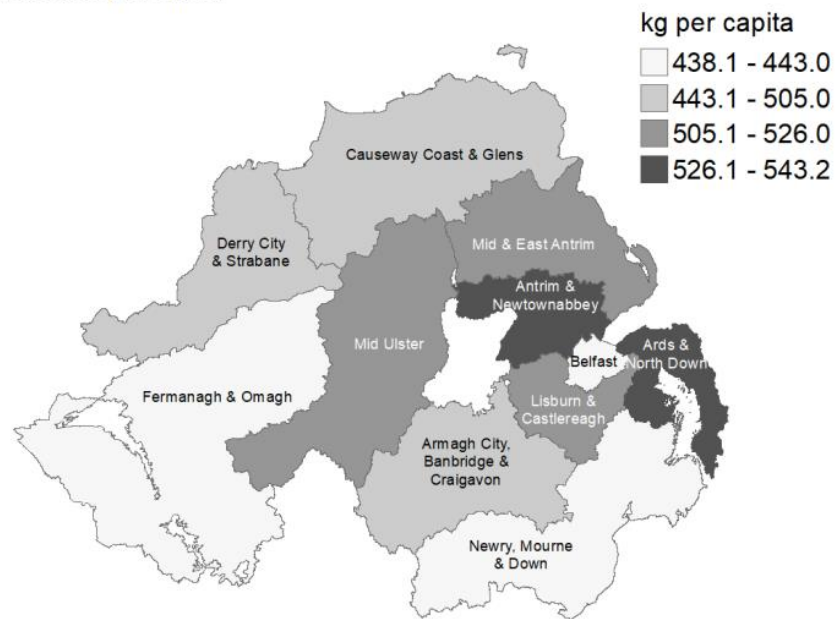
Northern Ireland, 2019/20 and 2020/21, KPI (j)



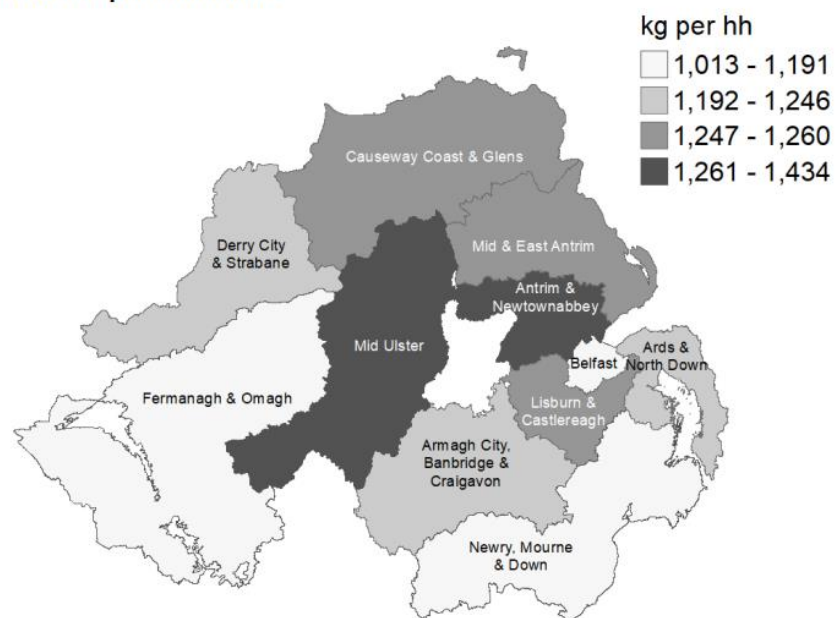
In Northern Ireland there were 488 kilogrammes (kg) of household waste collected per capita (per head of population) and 1,207 kg per household during 2020/21, compared to 465 kilogrammes (kg) of household waste collected per capita and 1,160 kg per household during 2019/20.

The infographics below show the household waste generated across the 11 councils on a per capita and per household basis. The largest quantity per household was recorded in Mid Ulster at 1,434 kg per household. Mid Ulster was the joint 3rd highest on a per capita basis at 515 kg per capita indicating larger household sizes in the district. The high waste arisings per households in Mid Ulster is, in part, be due the provision of 240l brown bins to all households for food and garden waste collections. This can be seen in the relatively higher tonnages collected for composting compared to some other Councils who provide smaller kitchen caddies for food waste only.

Household waste per capita



Household waste per household



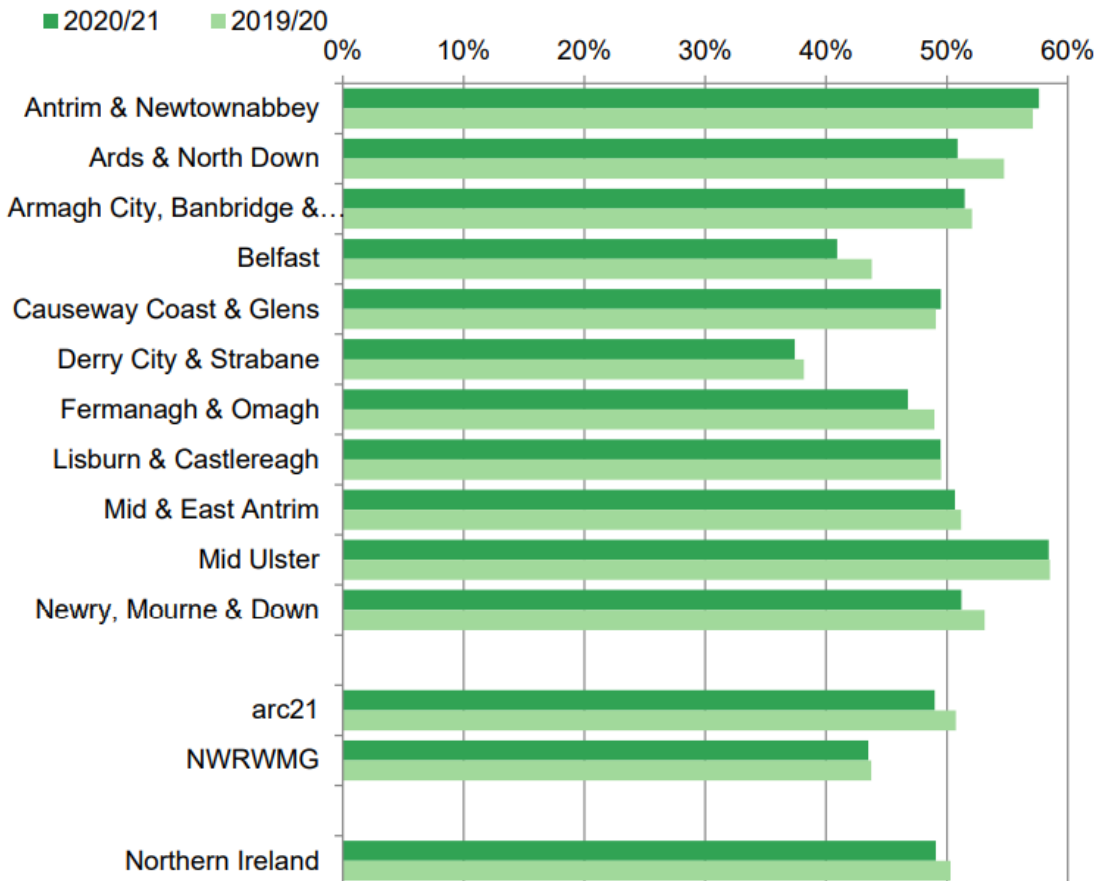
3.3 Waste to Recycling:

In 2020/21, the tonnage of waste sent for preparing for reuse, dry recycling and composting increased by 0.9 per cent to reach a record high of 515,183 tonnes. The recycling rate was 50.0 per cent, 1.1 percentage points lower than the recycling rate recorded in 2019/20. The

reuse and composting rates remained similar to those reported in 2019/20, however the dry recycling rate decreased by 0.9 percentage points.

Most Councils (as illustrated in the below graph) reported decreased household recycling rates compared the previous year. **However, Mid Ulster actually recorded an increase and again achieved (for the sixth year running) the highest household recycling rate of all eleven Councils for the year, recycling 58.9 per cent of our household waste:**

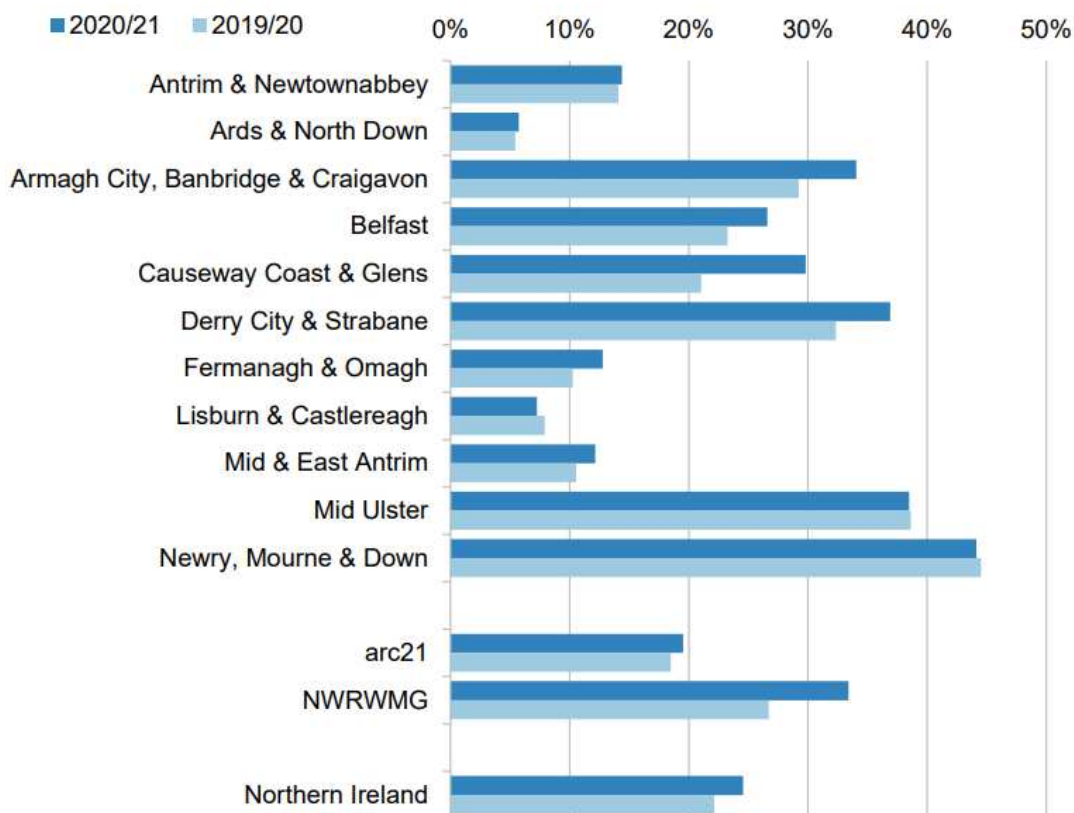
Northern Ireland, 2019/20 and 2020/21



3.4 Waste to Energy

In 2020/21, 253,180 tonnes of waste arisings were sent for energy recovery. This gave an energy recovery rate of 24.6 per cent, higher than the 22.1 per cent recorded in 2019/20. 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 38.5% as can be seen in the chart overleaf:

Northern Ireland, 2019/20 and 2020/21

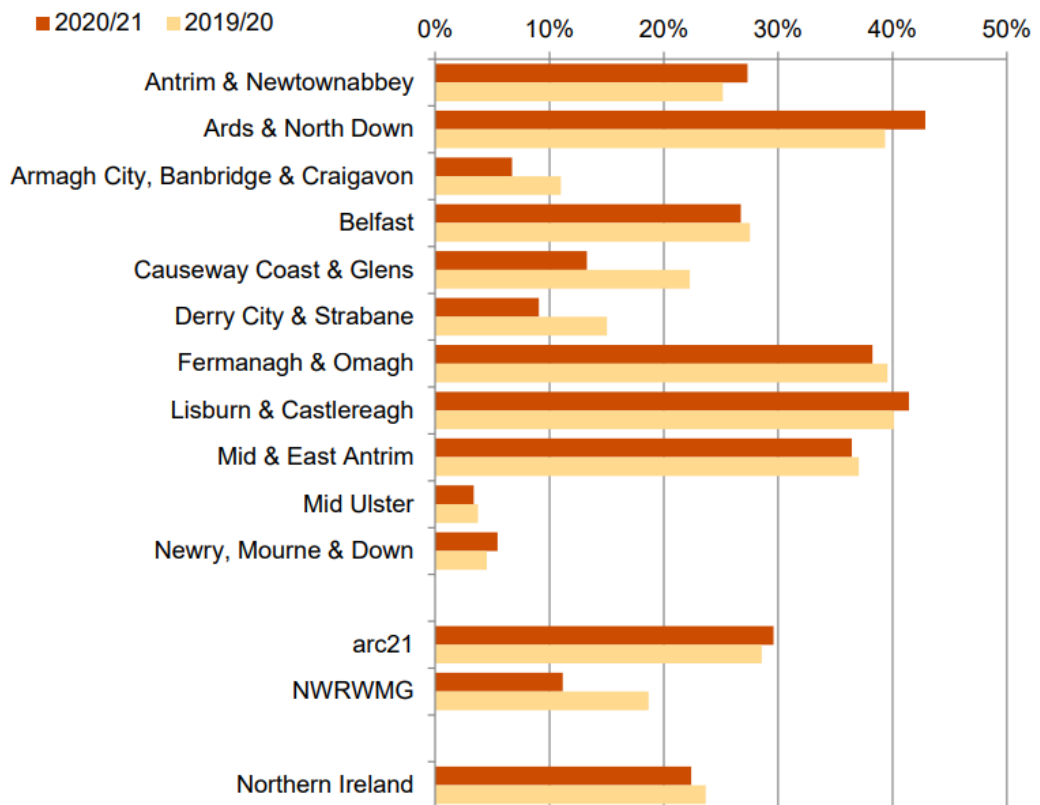


3.5 Waste to Landfill:

The quantity of waste sent to landfill decreased by 2.2 per cent from 240,220 to 234,956 tonnes between 2019/20 and 2020/21. This gave a landfill rate of 22.8 per cent for 2020/21, 1.3 percentage points lower than the 24.0 per cent recorded in 2019/20 and the lowest ever recorded. Similarly, the landfill rate for household waste has recorded a new low of 22.4 per cent in 2020/21, a drop of 1.2 percentage points on the 2019/20 rate of 23.7 per cent and a fall from a high of 72.3 per cent in 2006/07.

Mid Ulster achieved the lowest landfill rate of all eleven Councils at 3.4 per cent, one sixth of the Northern Ireland rate of 22.4 per cent (as illustrated overleaf):

Northern Ireland, 2019/20 and 2020/21, KPI (b)



4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: Failure to meet waste targets could result in 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 2020-21.