

<b>Report on</b>	Northern Ireland Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste Management (LACMW) Annual Report for 2023/24
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	14th January 2025
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Mark McAdoo, Assistant Director: Environmental Services
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Karl McGowan, Waste & Sustainable Development Manager

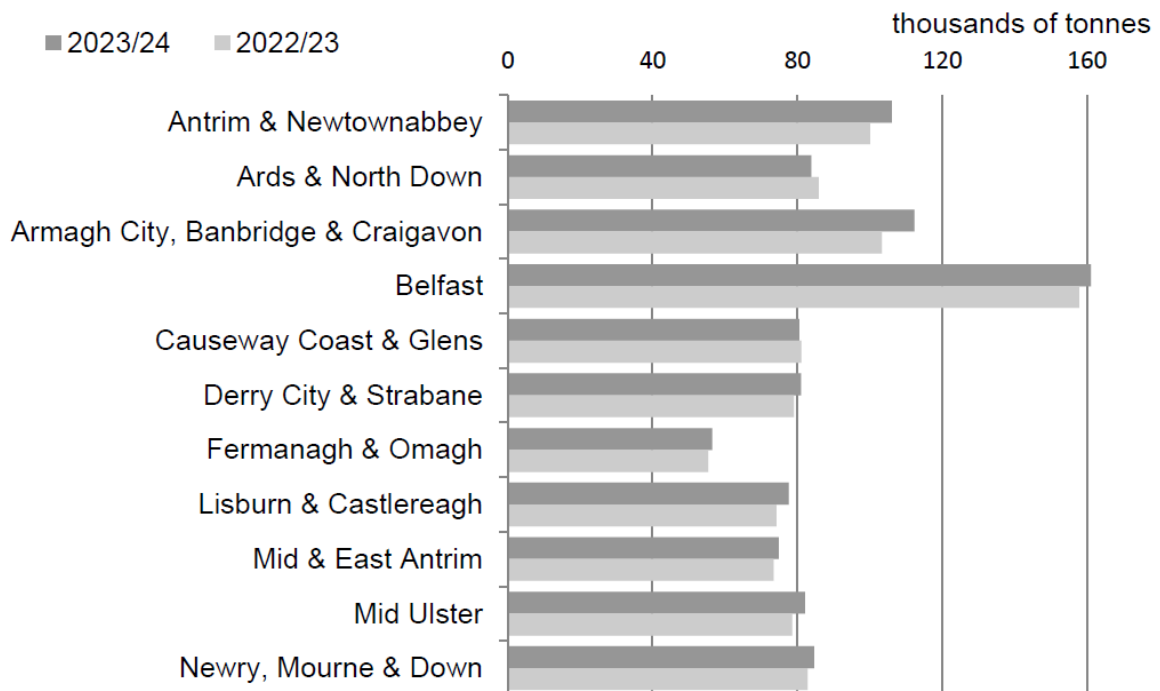
<b>Is this report restricted for confidential business?</b>  If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	Yes	
	No	X

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
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 2023/24.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	<p>The above report was published on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2024 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><a href="https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/northern-ireland-local-authority-collected-municipal-waste-management-statistics-2023">https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/northern-ireland-local-authority-collected-municipal-waste-management-statistics-2023</a></p>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	<p><b><u>Key Points:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Northern Ireland's councils collected 1,000,681 tonnes of waste during 2023/24 which was 3.0 per cent higher than the amount collected in 2022/23.</li> <li>During 2023/24, 50.5 per cent of waste collected by councils was sent for recycling which was higher than the 49.7 per cent recycling rate reported in 2022/23.</li> </ul>

- The landfill rate for waste collected by councils was 18.4 per cent in 2023/24, a fall from 74.0 per cent in 2006/07 and 23.1 per cent in 2022/23.
- In 2023/24, 29.7 per cent of waste arisings were sent for energy recovery. This compares to 25.4 per cent in 2022/23 and 0.4 per cent in 2009/10.
- Household waste accounted for 87.5 per cent of all local authority collected waste during 2023/24. The recycling rate for household waste was 51.1 per cent whilst the landfill rate for household waste was 18.0 per cent.
- Belfast generated the smallest amount of household waste per capita at 405 kg whilst Antrim & Newtownabbey recorded the largest at 545 kg per capita.
- There were 95,425 tonnes of biodegradable waste sent to landfill during 2023/24, a decrease of 21.7 per cent from the quantity reported in 2022/23 (121,925 tonnes).

3.2

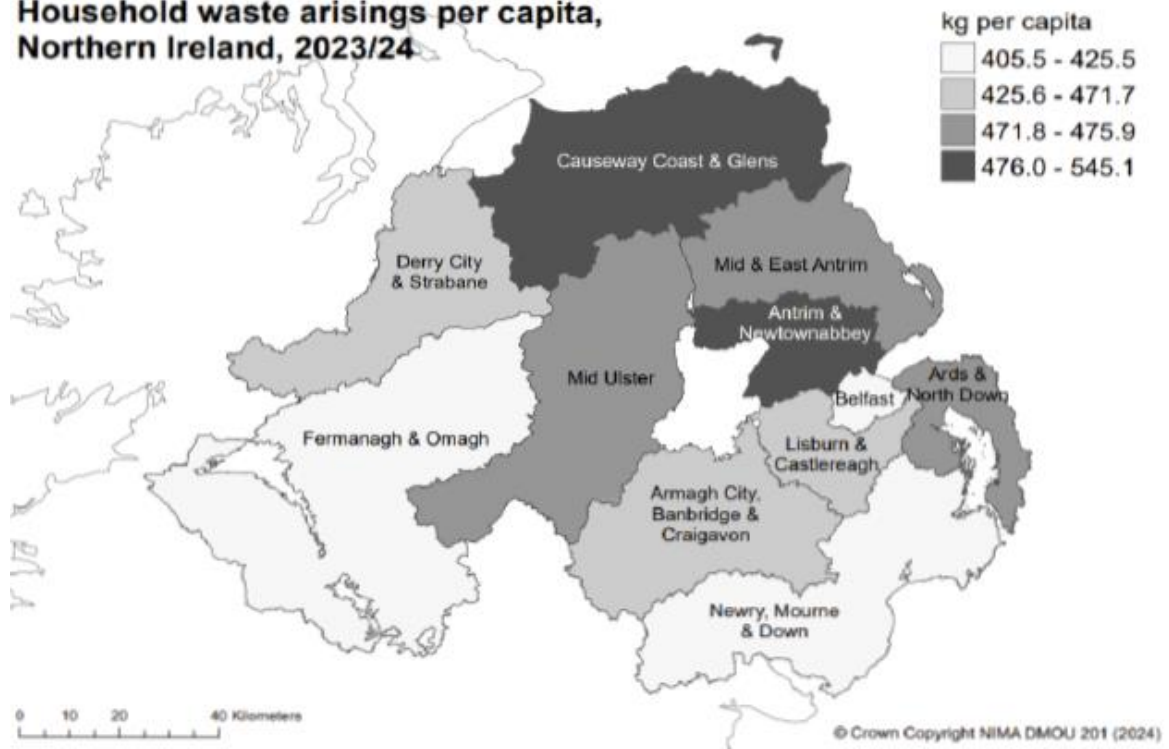
**Waste Arisings:**



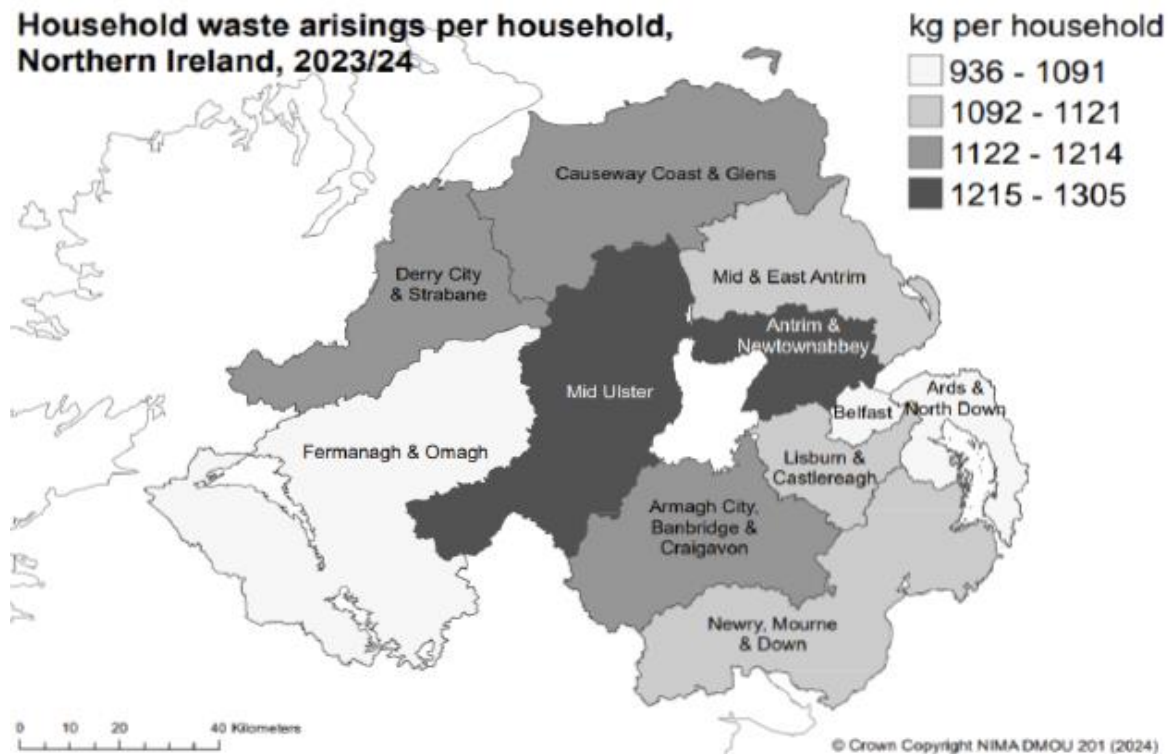
In 2023/24, Northern Ireland’s councils collected 1,000,681 tonnes of waste. This is 3.0 per cent higher than in 2022/23 when 971,936 tonnes were collected. The tonnage of waste collected at kerbside increased by 2.2 per cent during 2023/24 compared to the previous year, whilst waste collected at civic amenity sites increased by 6.5 per cent.

Mid Ulster waste arisings of 82,075 tonnes have increased by 4.4 per cent when compared with the previous year. Across the 11 Councils (as illustrated in the above graph) 9 reported waste increases.

### Household waste arisings per capita, Northern Ireland, 2023/24



### Household waste arisings per household, Northern Ireland, 2023/24



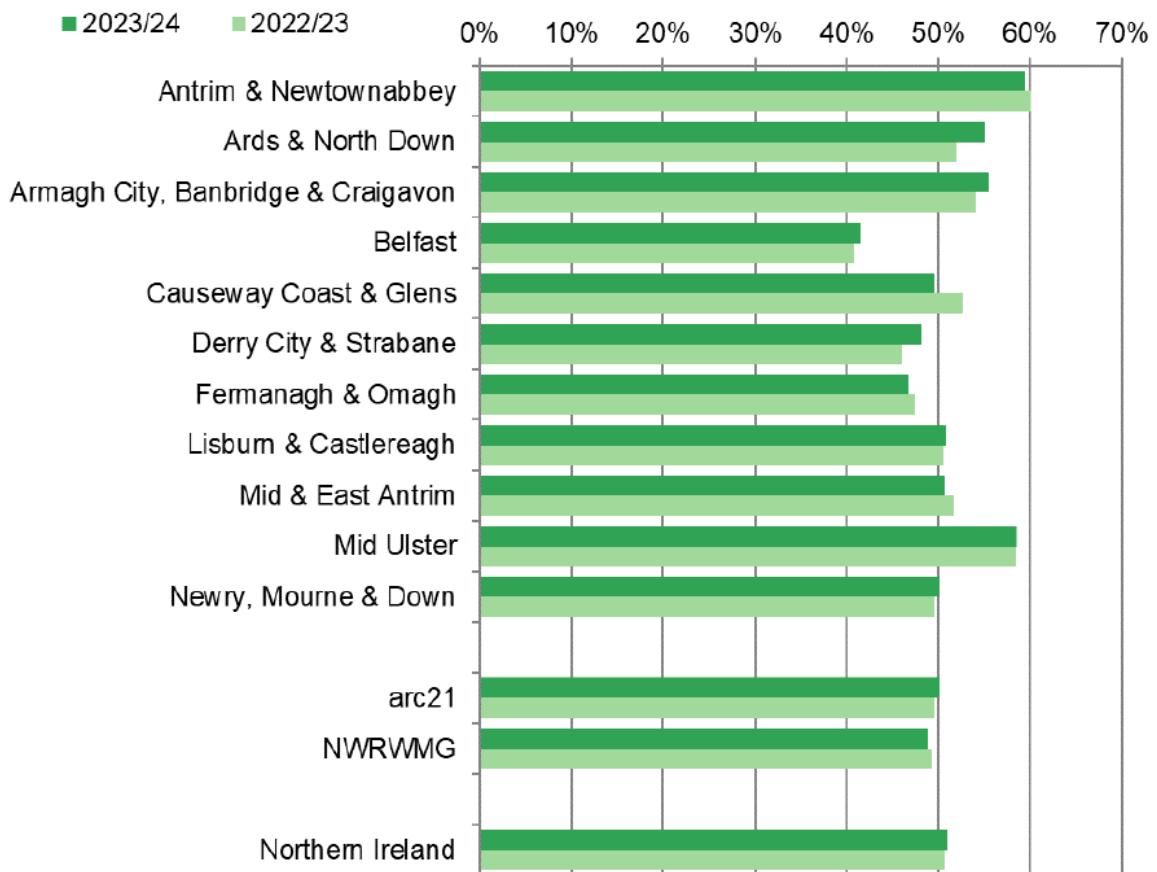
There are two key performance indicators which look at household waste arisings in more detail by considering household waste arisings per capita, KPI (p), and per household KPI (h). In Northern Ireland there were 458 kilogrammes (kg) of household waste collected per capita and 1,118 kg per household during 2023/24,

compared to 443 kilogrammes (kg) of household waste collected per capita and 1,091 kg per household during 2022/23.

The infographics above show the household waste generated across the 11 councils on a per capita and per household basis. Mid Ulster had the joint largest quantity per household, along with Antrim & Newtownabbey, at 1,305 kg per household (an increase of 28 kg per household or 2.1 per cent). Mid Ulster however, was only the joint 3<sup>rd</sup> highest on a per capita basis at 476 kg per capita (an increase of 16 kg per capita) indicating larger household sizes in the District.

**Waste to Recycling:**

3.3 In 2023/24, the tonnage of waste sent for preparing for reuse, dry recycling and composting was 505,647 tonnes. The recycling rate was 50.5 per cent, 0.9 percentage points higher than the recycling rate recorded in 2022/23.



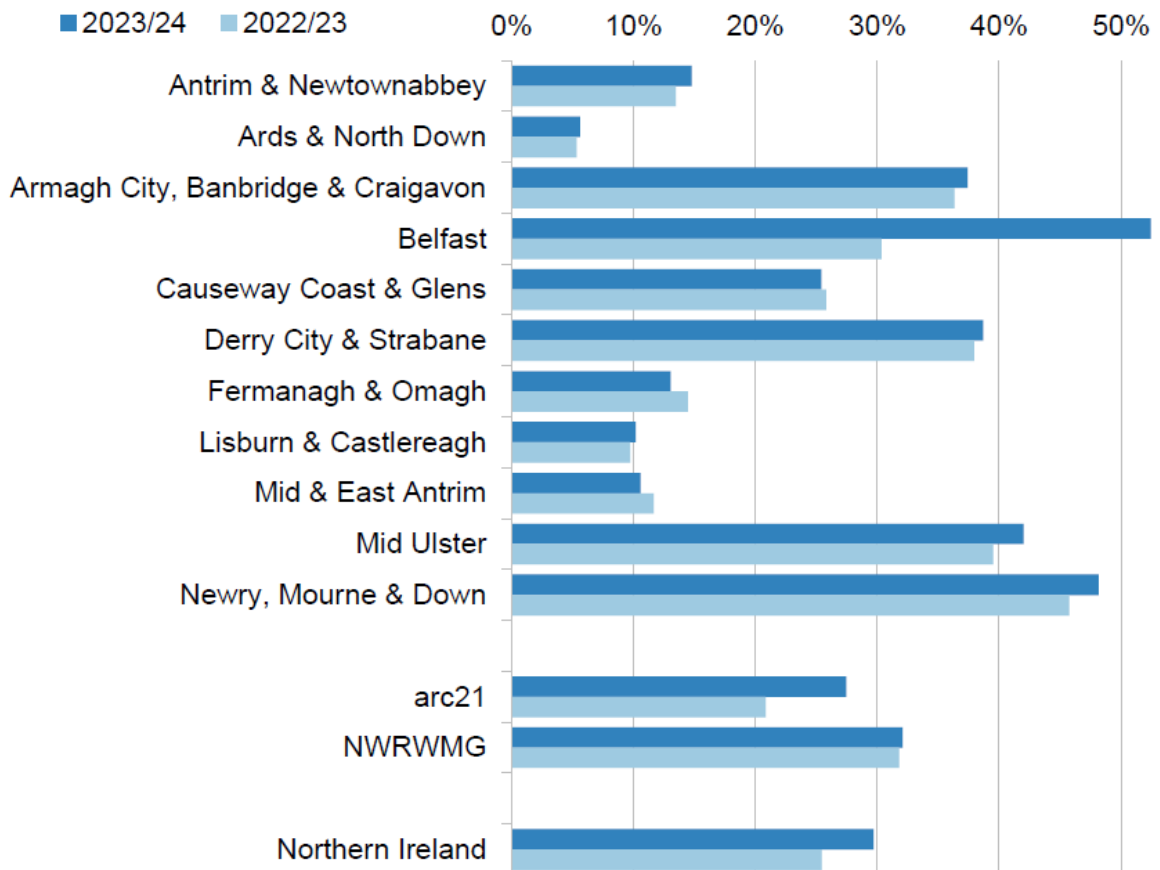
Most Councils (as illustrated in the above graph) reported either increased or similar household recycling rates compared the previous year. Mid Ulster again achieved the second highest recycling rate of all eleven Councils for the year, recycling 58.6 per cent of household waste, a 0.2 per cent increase on the previous year.

3.4 **Waste to Energy**

In 2023/24, 297,262 tonnes of waste arisings were sent for energy recovery. This produced an energy recovery rate of 29.7 per cent, higher than the 25.4 per cent

recorded in 2022/23. The majority of energy recovery is derived from mixed residual waste with a smaller proportion from specific streams, e.g. wood. Generating energy from waste by incineration is preferable to landfill, although preparing for reuse, dry recycling and composting are preferable to both.

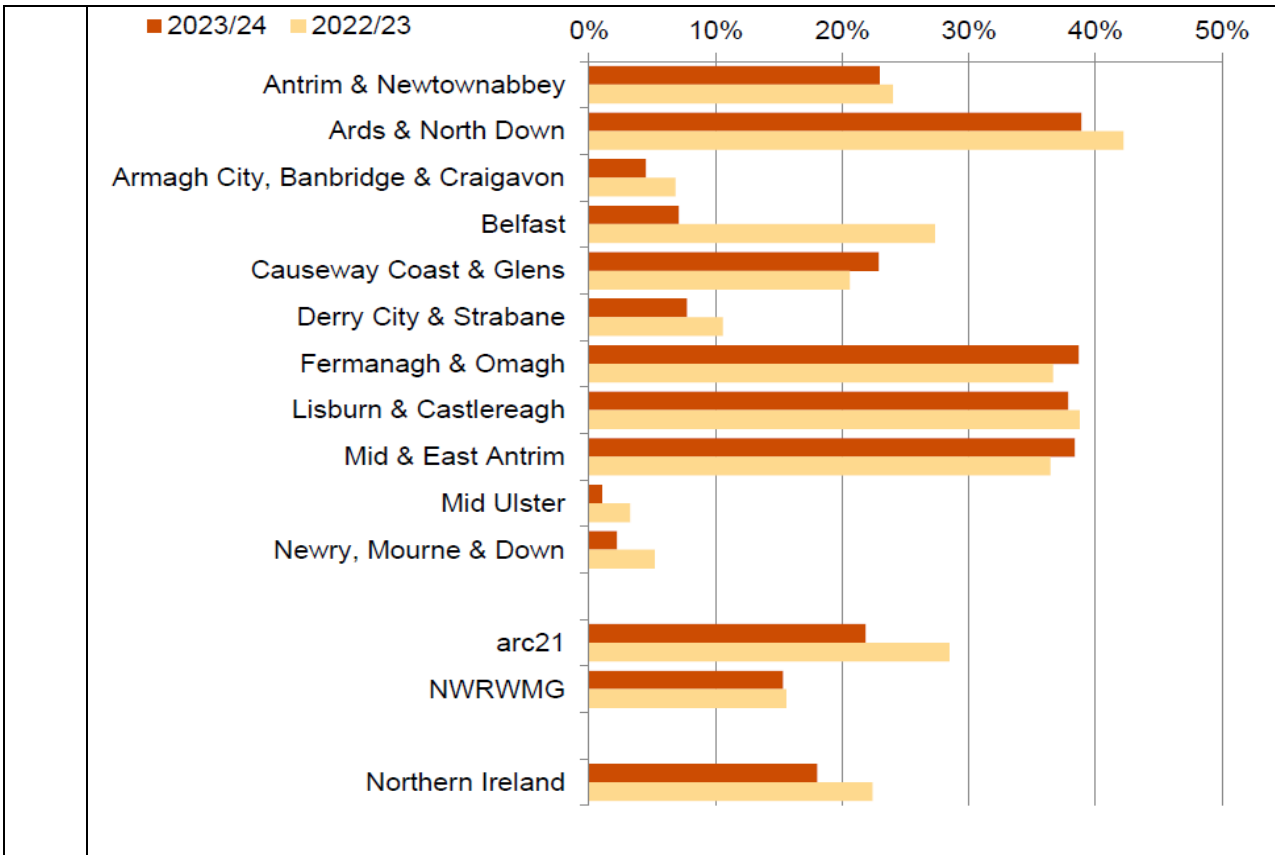
Seven councils reported an increase in the energy recovery rate in 2023/24 compared to 2022/23. Mid Ulster had the third highest energy recovery rate at 42.0 per cent (an increase of 2.5 per cent) as can be seen in the chart below:



### 3.5 Waste to Landfill:

The quantity of waste sent to landfill decreased by 18.3 per cent from 225,000 to 183,748 tonnes between 2022/23 and 2023/24. This produced a landfill rate of 18.4 per cent for 2023/24, 4.8 percentage points lower than the 23.1 per cent recorded in 2022/23 and the lowest rate ever recorded. The landfill rate for household waste also recorded its lowest value in 2023/24 at 18.0 per cent, a decrease of 4.4 percentage points from 22.4 per cent in 2022/23.

Mid Ulster again achieved the lowest landfill rate of all eleven Councils at 1.0 per cent (a decrease of 2.2 per cent), considerably lower than the Northern Ireland average (as illustrated in the chart below):



<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b>
	Financial: None
	Human: A significant amount of time is spent by the Waste and Recycling Officers in gathering, collating, and submitting the necessary data for quarterly WDF returns.
	Risk Management: Failure to meet waste targets would result in reputational damage to the Council.
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b>
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: None
	Rural Needs Implications: None
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	Members are asked to note the performance of Council as outlined in this report.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
6.1	Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste Infographic 2023-24.

# Waste Collections by NI Councils 2023/24

## Waste collected by NI Councils



## Recycling



50.5%

Higher than 49.7%  
in 2022/23

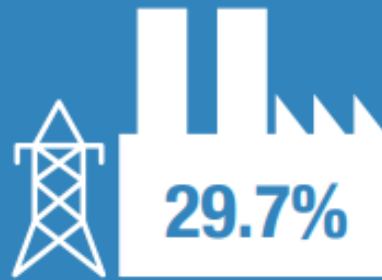
Recycling, energy recovery and landfill rates of LAC municipal waste 2023/24 compared to 2022/23.

## Landfill



lower than 23.1%  
in 2022/23

## Energy Recovery



higher than 25.4%  
in 2022/23

*Sustainability at the heart of a living, working, active landscape valued by everyone.*



Northern Ireland Environment Agency  
Gníomhaireacht Comhshaoil Thuaisceart Éireann  
Norlin Airlan Environment Agency



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Agriculture, Environment  
and Rural Affairs  
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An Roinn  
Talmhaíochta, Comhshaoil  
agus Gnóthaí Tuaithe

Department of  
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an' Kintra Matters