



HERTFORDSHIRE WASTE PARTNERSHIP

MEMBERS' GROUP

25th January 2010

Item 6: HWP Performance Indicators - Update

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1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To present the latest set of performance indicators for the Hertfordshire Waste Partnership.
- 1.2 The data presented below is a summary of each of the performance indicators. Further information can be found in Appendix A including definitions, the relevant background to each indicator as well as a number of the indicators broken down by authority.
- 1.3 Please note that the results are based on confirmed tonnages for quarter 1, provisional tonnages for quarter 2 and projected tonnages for quarter 3. Results maybe subject to change once each constituent authority has confirmed their entries on Wastedataflow.

2 Background

- 2.1 Based on confirmed, provisional and projected tonnages changes to household waste figures across Hertfordshire for the period April to December are as follows :-

CATEGORY	2008/09	Apr – Sept '09
RECYCLING	118,509	-356
COMPOSTING	111,009	2930
RESIDUALS	293,334	-18,789
TOTALS...	522,853	-16,214
RECYCLING RATE	43.9%	47.8%

- 2.2 As we can see recycling and composting taken together has seen a small increase in the tonnages across the County. However, the figures also show that there has been another significant reduction in residual tonnages as the effects of the recession continue to be reflected.

3 PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SUMMARY - NARRATIVE

HWP PI	Commentary
PI 1 Percentage of Household Waste Recycled	Based on the first 9 months the HWP recycling rate is on course to above target for the year. However, recycling tonnages are slightly down so far this year countered by increases in the tonnage sent for composting as well as further significant reductions in the level of residual household waste. Quarterly results shown in paragraph 4.1.2.
PI 2a Residual Household Waste Per Household	Residual wastes tonnages have declined by over 18,780 tonnes in first 9 months of 2009/10. The report suggests aligning residual waste targets with those being proposed as part of the future Regional Spatial Strategy as discussed in paragraph 4.2.4.
PI 2b Residual Household Waste Per Head	
PI 3 Different materials collected per household (kgs)	Drops in paper and glass have a resulted in a decline dry recyclable tonnage during the first 6 months. However, expansion of kerbside recycling services for organics has resulted in an increase of 1800 tonnes from April – September 2009 compared to the same period last year. The 6 month target is based on tonnage profiles from 2008/09. Amber rating indicates a deviance of <15%.
PI 4 Percentage of municipal waste land filled per household	As noted above the continued decline in residual waste is helping to meet targets for the progressive reduction in the percentage of municipal waste sent to landfill.
PI 5 Value for Money	The financial impact of HWP activities continues to generate savings and additional income which out weigh the costs of the Partnership unit.
PI 6 HWP Communications	2009/10 is establishing a baseline for this indicator. Consequently no comparisons with previous years are available.
PI 7 NI 195 Cleansing	Due to a change in definition (following implementation of the new national indicator set) 2009/10 will establish a baseline for this indicator.

4 PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SUMMARY - DATA

4.1 HWP PI 1 (NI 192) - Percentage of Household Waste Recycled & Composted

4.1.1 Targets for the period 2010/11 to 2012/13 were agreed at the Heads of Waste group meeting in November and are as follows :-

2009/10 - 45.5% (revised upwards due to 2008/09 performance)
 2010/11 - 47.0%
 2011/12 - 48.6%
 2012/13 - 50.0%

4.1.2 Results :-

Year / Quarter	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Final
2009/10	49.17%	48.08%	45.77%		
2008/09	45.7%	46.4%	43.8%	39.2%	44.0%
Performance	Based on results for the quarters 1 - 3 overall HWP performance remains above target.				

Data Sources: 2008/09 – Wastedataflow
 2009/10 – WMU Spreadsheet – Best Value Tonnages 2009-10 (as of 18.01.10)

4.1.3 A breakdown for each authority is shown in Appendix A.

4.2 HWP PI 2a – Residual Household Waste per Household

4.2.1 Target for 2009/10 – 688kgs per household per annum.

4.2.2 Results :-

Per household	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Final
2009/10	152	149	135		
2008/09	173	160	148	157	637
Performance	Based on results for the quarters 1 - 3 overall HWP performance remains above target.				

Data Sources: 2008/09 – Wastedataflow
 2009/10 – WMU Spreadsheet – Best Value Tonnages 2009-10 (as of 18.01.10)

4.2.3 A breakdown for each authority is shown in Appendix B.

4.2.4 At the HoWG meeting on the 5th November 2009 it was agreed that future residual waste targets would be aligned with those detailed in the Regional Spatial Strategy. Therefore, subject to the current review of that plan, a target of reducing residual waste to 500kgs per household by March 2032 has been set. Interim targets will also be set locally in order to track progress towards this long term goal.

4.3 HWP PI 2b – Title - Residual Household Waste per Head

4.3.1 Target for 2009/10 – 300 kgs per head per annum

4.3.2 Results :-

Per head	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Final
2009/10	65.24	63.74	58.07		
2008/09	74.57	69.71	64.30	67.86	276.45
Performance	Based on results for the quarters 1 - 3 overall HWP performance remains above target.				

Data Sources - conversion of 'Per Household' data using current population figures for Herts.

4.4 HWP PI 3 (a-e) – Recycling & Composting Materials collected / Household (kgs)

4.4.1 Reporting frequency – half yearly

4.4.2 Target for first 6 months of 2009/10 – see breakdown below.

4.4.3 Results :-

Material	Annual Target (kgs)	Profile (Apr-Sept)	Half Year Target (kgs)	Results HWP Average
Glass	65	50.06%	32.54	28.22
Paper	120	52.53%	63.04	41.17
Plastics	11	47.03%	5.17	5.13
Cans	9	50.12%	4.51	4.33
Compost	220	64.20%	141.24	134.95
Totals...	425	n /a	246.50	213.80

*Data Sources: 2009/10 – WMU Spreadsheet – Best Value Tonnages 2009-10 (as of 13.01.10)
NB - Profiles based on 2008/09 tonnages*

4.4.4 Amber rating used where result is 15% or less below the relevant target. Red rating used where the difference below target is greater than 15%. A breakdown for each authority is shown in Appendix C.

4.5 HWP PI 4 – Municipal waste land filled per household as a percentage

4.5.1 Target for 2009/10 – 54%

Year / Quarter	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Final
2009/10	49.54%	48.09%	50.44%		
2008/09	50.7%	48.7%	51.1%	58.1%	52.0%
Performance	Based on results for the quarters 1 - 3 overall HWP performance remains above target.				

Data Sources: 2008/09 – Wastedataflow
2009/10 – WMU Spreadsheet – Best Value Tonnages 2009-10 (as of 18.01.10)

4.5.2 Running totals for 2009/10 for each authority are shown in Appendix D.

4.6 HWP PI 5 – Value for Money

4.6.1 Reporting frequency – quarterly

4.6.2 Target – to achieve savings on an annual basis that out weigh the costs of the Partnership unit (jointly funded costs only).

4.6.3 Results – shown below is the latest schedule approved by the HoWG :-

Date	Savings	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
15.12.08	Paper Consortium	£1,648,502	£2,207,391	£1,506,529
04.08.09	Kitchen Caddies	£155,365	£0	£0
04.08.09	HEF Grant 2009/10	£8,000	£0	£0
04.08.09	Tesco Funding	£17,518	£0	£0
25.08.09	Other	£214	£0	£0
Sub Total...		£1,829,599	£2,207,391	£1,506,529

Date	Costs	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
4.6.09	Salary Costs	£94,000	£94,940	£95,889
04.08.09	WasteAware Costs	£40,000	£40,400	£40,804
Sub Total...		£134,000	£135,340	£136,693

Net Savings	£1,695,599	£2,072,051	£1,369,836
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4.6.4 Schedule updated to take into account changes in projected paper tonnages managed via the paper consortium. Further commentary detailed in Appendix E.

4.7 HWP PI 6 – Hertfordshire Waste Partnership Communications

4.7.1 Reporting frequency – quarterly

4.7.2 Target – to increase the “opportunities to see and hear” promotional material put out by the WasteAware subgroup.

4.7.3 Definition – “Opportunities to See & Hear” are defined as the number of times a person is likely to see an advertisement or how many times a specific audience is exposed to the same advert. Application of this approach in Hertfordshire has seen 68 distinct “opportunities” developed by the HWP demonstrating the depth of the annual WasteAware campaign.

4.7.4 Results – see schedule circulated separately as Appendix F.

4.8 Indicator - HWP PI 7

4.8.1 Title – (NI 195) Cleansing

4.8.2 Reporting frequency – every four months including April - July, August - November and December – March.

4.8.3 Targets – baseline being established in 2009/10

4.8.4 Results – the results for tranches 1 and 2 are shown below. The figures in brackets are the changes since the previous inspection :-

2009/10 Tranche 1	NI 195a litter	NI 195b Detritus	NI 195c Graffiti	NI 195d Fly Posting
Broxbourne	6 (+1)	2 (-4)	0 (-3)	0 (0)
Dacorum	8 (0)	17 (+7)	8 (+4)	3 (+2)
East Herts	1 (-1)	7 (-5)	0 (-2)	0 (0)
Hertsmere	17 (-1)	37 (-3)	12 (+2)	2 (-1)
North Herts	7 (+1)	39 (-5)	3 (+1)	1 (+1)
St Albans	9 (0)	17 (+6)	8 (+8)	3 (+3)
Stevenage	2 (-2)	9 (+1)	2 (+1)	1 (+1)
Three Rivers	3 (-3)	14 (+3)	5 (-2)	3 (+2)
Watford	5 (0)	8 (-1)	7 (+1)	1 (0)
Welwyn	4 (-2)	4.5 (-1.5)	0 (-1)	0 (0)
Average	6.2 (-0.7)	15.45 (-0.25)	4.5 (+0.9)	1.4 (+0.8)

Data Source: Response from District Councils – November 2009

2009/10 Tranche 2	NI 195a litter	NI 195b Detritus	NI 195c Graffiti	NI 195d Fly Posting
Broxbourne	9 (+3)	17 (+15)	3 (+3)	1 (+1)
Dacorum	3 (-5)	6 (-11)	3 (-5)	0 (-3)
East Herts	2 (+1)	3 (-4)	1 (+1)	0 (0)
Hertsmere	2 (-15)	3 (-34)	1 (-11)	0 (-2)
North Herts	4 (-3)	19 (-20)	3 (0)	1 (0)
St Albans	16 (+7)	14 (-3)	0 (-8)	0 (-3)
Stevenage	4 (+2)	14 (+5)	1 (-1)	0 (-1)
Three Rivers	3 (0)	14 (0)	10 (+5)	3 (0)
Watford	6 (+1)	7 (-1)	5 (-2)	1 (0)
Welwyn	6 (+2)	7 (+2.5)	0	0
Average	-0.7	-5.1	-1.8	-0.8

Data Source: Response from District Councils - January 2010

- 4.8.5 Lower figures represent better results whilst minus figures in brackets reflect improvements in performance since the last inspection. The figures indicate general improvements across the board in results for tranche 2 compared to tranche 1.
- 4.8.6 Following presentation of this report at the Directors' meeting December it was agreed that under the auspices of the Better Places to Live Partnership (part of the Local Strategic Partnership) each constituent authority would put together an action plan for improving performance in each area examined under the NI 195 regime.

5 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 That the Members' group notes the report.
- 5.2 That this report is updated at the HWP Member's meeting on the 26th April 2010.

APPENDIX A

A.1 HWP 1 (NI 192) Percentage of Household Waste Recycled & Composted

A.1.1 *Reasons for including this measurement:* A national indicator. An historic measurement that has stood the test of time and rarely challenged by councils as unreliable. An indicator the community, councillors and officers recognise as a measurement of success of recycling / composting services. The indicator will measure the level of recycling performance as an aggregate of authorities within Hertfordshire.

A.1.2 Outcome: the outcome will reinforce partnership ownership of recycling performance across the County and will indicate whether the HWP is on course to achieve household waste targets detailed in the joint municipal waste management strategy.

A.1.3 The Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy contains a target to recycle / compost 50% of household waste by 2012.

A.1.4 Following discussion at the HWP Directors' meeting in December 2008 an interim target of 42.5% was agreed for 2009/10. However, this target was achieved by March 2009.

A.1.5 In the absence of revised targets for the period to March 2013 a straight line projection indicates recycling targets of 45.5%, 47.0%, 48.6% and 50.0% by March 2010, March 2011, March 2012 and March 2013 respectively. NB – these targets were subsequently approved at the HoWG meeting on the 5th November 2009.

A.1.6 Shown below are recycling rates for each constituent authority for quarters 1 - 3 for both 2009/10 and 2008/09 :-

Authority	2009/10			2008/09			Difference		
	Qrt 1	Qrt 2	Qrt 3	Qrt 1	Qrt 2	Qrt 3	Qrt 1	Qrt 2	Qrt 3
BBC	39.6	39.2	33.8	37.5	38.1	33.6	2.1	1.1	0.2
DBC	50.6	49.9	47.9	50.5	50.8	45.9	0.1	-0.9	2.0
EHDC	39.3	37.4	43.7	39.7	39.1	33.9	-0.4	-1.7	9.8
HBC	45.3	39.8	40.2	45.8	40.6	41.3	-0.5	-0.8	-1.1
NHDC	51.3	51.9	46.9	52.2	52.7	50.4	-0.9	-0.8	-3.5
SADC	53.8	52.5	50.0	46.1	48.6	48.7	7.7	3.9	1.3
SBC	33	32.7	32.5	34.0	32.6	26.9	-1	0.1	5.6
TRDC	52.7	51.9	48.5	53.0	51.6	48.3	-0.3	0.3	0.2
WBC	44.4	41.8	38.1	44.0	42.5	39.2	0.4	-0.7	-1.1
WHBC	35.9	35.1	36.4	35.8	33.7	29.6	0.1	1.4	6.8
Herts CC	70.0	70.6	68.9	52.0	59.7	65.0	18	10.9	3.9
HWP	49.1	47.9	45.6	45.6	46.3	43.7	3.5	1.6	1.9

APPENDIX B

B.2 HWP 2a & b (NI 191) Residual Household Waste Per Household / Head (kgs)

B.2.1 *Reasons for including this measurement:* A national indicator. An indicator that assists in monitoring the level of residual household waste sent to landfill. The indicator measures performance towards minimising waste to landfill.

B.2.2 Outcome: the outcome will reinforce partnership ownership of minimising residual waste across the County and will indicate whether the HWP is on course to achieve targets detailed in the joint municipal waste management strategy.

B.2.3 Target for 2009/10 (a) - 688kgs per household per annum
(b) - 300kgs per head per annum by 2010/11

B.2.4 Whilst the PI originally proposed was intended to be based on kilograms per household the narrative also included discussion around assessing tonnages on a per head basis in line with targets detailed in the JMWMS.

2009/10 Residual Waste Per Household Per Authority & Change Compared to 2008/09									
Authority	Q1	+/-	Q2	+/-	Q3	+/-	Q4	+/-	Total
Broxbourne	156	-13	154	-4	154	-2			-20
Dacorum	123	-4	122	+1	110	-9			-12
East Herts	159	-2	155	0	122	-33			-35
Hertsmere	138	-2	145	-1	133	-2			-6
North Herts	122	-8	115	-1	113	+3			-6
St Albans	109	-26	109	-14	108	-3			-44
Stevenage	164	-4	155	-7	141	-18			-29
Three Rivers	121	-3	117	-5	118	-3			-11
Watford	130	-2	128	-3	124	-5			-11
Welwyn	174	-3	172	0	154	-16			-19
Herts CC	15	-12	14	-6	11	-2			-20
HWP	152	-21	149	-11	135	-13			-44

APPENDIX C

C.3 HWP 3 (a-e) Recycling and Composting Materials collected per household (kgs)

C.3.1 Reasons for including this measurement: an indicator that assists in monitoring the level of a council's recycling performance. The 5 materials will enable each authority to assess the success of a particular style of collection for a specific material. Materials assessed in this measure include glass, paper, plastic, cans and compost (compost includes garden and kitchen wastes).

C.3.2 Outcome: Assist in identifying best practice; as well as under performance for a particular material. This will enable the partnership to better target resources and gives important success indicators to lower performers.

C.3.3 The PI is currently measured in twice a year – April to September and October to March.

C.3.4 Targets for 2009/10 –

Glass - 65kgs / Organics - 220kgs / Paper - 120kgs / Cans - 9kgs / Plastics - 11kgs

C.3.5 Shown below are the provisional results for quarters 1 and 2. The first table shows the actual tonnages recovered during the first 6 months. The data shows that authorities that place some form of restriction on residual waste capacity through either container size or frequency also achieve higher levels of recycling.

Table 1 - Recycling per household 2009/10 (kgs) - Quarters 1 & 2							
Key	District	Glass	Paper	Plastic	Cans	Compost	Total
1	Broxbourne	26.94	40.38	9.67	4.87	105.74	187.60
2	Dacorum	34.82	47.08	7.01	4.34	153.42	246.67
1	East Herts	24.93	43.52	0.61	2.00	122.13	193.20
2	Hertsmere	13.30	42.24	6.53	6.65	140.31	209.03
2	North Herts	34.20	44.20	3.81	3.95	165.10	251.26
2	St Albans	32.78	46.80	5.42	5.99	154.82	245.82
3	Stevenage	26.11	36.65	---	3.34	87.20	153.31
1	Three Rivers	32.01	43.24	6.04	6.04	172.99	260.32
1	Watford	29.24	35.43	5.49	5.58	119.89	195.63
3	Wel / Hat	27.91	32.15	1.56	0.57	127.90	190.08
	HWP Average	28.22	41.17	5.13	4.33	134.95	213.29

KEY TO COLLECTION SYSTEMS		
1. Restricted Weekly Collections	2. Alternative Weekly Collection	3. No Restriction

NB - Hertsmere does not currently collect glass from the kerbside.

C.3.6 Table 2 below shows changes in performance compared to the first 6 months of 2008/09 :-

Table 2 – Changes Compared to Quarters 1 & 2 2008/09							
Key	District	Glass	Paper	Plastic	Cans	Compost	Total
1	Broxbourne	1.71	-4.42	3.31	1.26	-0.68	1.18
2	Dacorum	-0.10	-8.97	0.42	-0.72	1.08	-8.29
1	East Herts	-2.88	-7.30	-0.04	0.07	-1.39	-11.55
2	Hertsmere	-0.63	-9.74	0.16	0.26	0.83	-9.11
2	North Herts	-0.87	-14.42	0.11	-0.49	-3.61	-19.28
2	St Albans	3.26	-10.34	0.83	0.94	20.91	15.60
3	Stevenage	-2.04	-8.28	---	-0.96	1.08	-10.20
1	Three Rivers	-2.34	-8.16	-0.04	0.40	-1.17	-11.31
1	Watford	-2.82	-5.99	0.37	0.49	1.22	-6.73
3	Wel / Hat	-0.41	-7.01	-0.04	-0.19	10.90	3.25
HWP	HWP AVG	-0.71	-8.46	0.57	0.11	2.92	-5.64

C.3.7 The results include tonnages from both kerbside collection services and bring banks.

APPENDIX D

D.4 HWP 4 (NI 193) Municipal Waste Landfilled per Household as a Percentage

D.4.1 Reasons for including this measurement: A national indicator. An historic measurement. An indicator that assists in monitoring the level of municipal waste sent to landfill. The indicator measures performance towards minimising waste to landfill

D.4.2 Outcome: the outcome will reinforce the partnership ownership of reducing all types of municipal waste sent to landfill.

D.4.3 Reporting frequency – quarterly.

D.4.4 Target for 2009/10 – 54%

Authority	MSW	Tonnage diverted	% Diverted	Tonnage Disposed	% Disposed
Broxbourne	39,658	13,194	33.27%	26,464	66.73%
Dacorum	59,691	26,353	44.15%	33,338	55.85%
East Herts	55,559	21,689	39.04%	33,870	60.96%
Hertsmere	40,931	14,766	36.08%	26,165	63.92%
North Herts	53,259	24,051	45.16%	29,209	54.84%
St Albans	51,162	25,648	50.13%	25,514	49.87%
Stevenage	34,298	10,163	29.63%	24,135	70.37%
Three Rivers	37,496	16,993	45.32%	20,503	54.68%
Watford	35,297	12,329	34.93%	22,968	65.07%
Welwyn	49,306	15,821	32.09%	33,485	67.91%
Herts CC	88,740	62,146	70.03%	26,594	29.97%
	545,397	243,152	44.58%	302,245	55.42%

APPENDIX E

E.5 HWP 5 – Hertfordshire Waste Partnership Value for Money

- E.5.1 Following discussion it was recognised due to the nature of the HWP work programme that it could be difficult to identify a traditional performance indicator that could be measured on an annual basis for which targets could be set.
- E.5.2 The changing nature of the HWP work programme means that issues are picked up and dealt with within a specific time frame. As issues are resolved the work programme moves on to identifying new problems and service developments that need to be tackled.
- E.5.3 The need for financial efficiency is a common theme running through all work streams. By their nature the financial issues at any given point in time will be temporary in nature dependent on the complexity of the host work stream being discussed. This makes annual comparisons based on the traditional PI approach difficult.
- E.5.4 As a consequence it was agreed that this performance indicator take the form of a log with supporting narrative against each entry. Primary responsibility for completing the log rests with the Heads of Waste group who decide which savings are genuinely derived through partnership working and which would have been realised anyway.
- E.5.5 Supporting narrative for the current entries is shown below. Narrative is only included for entries over £5000 in value as detailed below :-
- **HEF Grant.** Following an application made in March 2009 HEF finally agreed to award funding of £8000 to the HWP to support the WasteAware Co-ordinator's post in 2009/10. In turn this will allow existing HWP contributions to be re-organised to fund the purchase of additional merchandise in support of this year's WasteAware campaign.
 - **Kitchen Caddies.** Savings generated from the joint procurement exercise carried out during the summer of 2009. The revised savings figure takes into account the purchase of 30,000 kitchen caddies by Welwyn Hatfield.
 - **Paper Consortium.** Based on the staggered starts for entry into the consortium and prevailing tonnages at the time of letting the contract the breakdown in the schedule represents the anticipated additional income. Projections have been revised (downwards) based on recent trends and feedback from each constituent authority.
 - **Tescos Funding.** Following a series of meetings a total of £17,518 of 'in kind' funding was secured from Tesco's to support the 2009/10 WasteAware campaign. The funding was used to provide 9 road shows at various Tesco's stores throughout Hertfordshire, over 39,000 recipe cards, additional staff resource in the form of Tesco's demonstrators, poster advertising on TOMRA machines, the WasteAware Logo on the Tesco's website (store locator), and displays on Tesco community notice boards.

- **Salary Costs.** These are the projected salary costs presented to the HoWG at the meeting on the 4th June 2009. These figures do not include the costs of the Partnership Support Officer as this post is wholly funded by HCC.
- **WasteAware costs.** This a summary figure for the various activities undertaken by the WasteAware group as previously approved by the HoWG.

E.5.6 Once better data becomes available savings linked to the abandoned vehicle contract will also be included.

E.5.7 Packaging Consortium. The HWP has completed the procurement phase with the contract formally awarded at the Welwyn Hatfield cabinet meeting on the 8th December 2009. All 11 constituent authorities have committed tonnage to the new consortium with the total commitment now 34,200 tonnes with an anticipated financial benefit of approximately £561,000 per annum. Subject to successful completion of the procurement process the new consortium contract starts in February 2010 with prices fixed for the first 2 years. However, the additional income accrued under this contract will not be entered into the log until the actual contract starts.

APPENDIX F

F.6 HWP 6 – Hertfordshire Waste Partnership Communications

- F.6.1 Previously the HWP agreed to include a measure to assess the impact of the Partnership's communication efforts with chosen methods including advertising equivalency and the numbers of school talks.
- F.6.2 However, there were significant difficulties with obtaining advertising equivalency data from various constituent authorities.
- F.6.3 To address this and following a series of discussions the decision was taken to replace both of these measures with a performance indicator based on the number of 'Opportunities to See and Hear'.
- F.6.4 This approach is much more wide ranging than advertising equivalency and illustrates the depth and coverage of the current WasteAware campaign.
- F.6.5 Importantly the data is also much easier to provide with input now being received from all 11 authorities.
- F.6.6 The latest data available has been circulated separately.

APPENDIX G

G.7 HWP 7 – (NI 195) Cleansing

G.7.1 2008/09 was the first year of reporting for NI 195. Prior to this cleansing issues had been assessed via BV199 introduced as a new performance indicator in April 2003. Its purpose was to measure the impact of a combination of litter and detritus upon standards of local environmental quality across a range of different land use types and socio-demographic areas. This replaced the former assessment of cleanliness standards based solely upon the percentage of streets considered to be of a high or acceptable standard determined by reference to the degree of litter present at the time of inspection.

G.7.2 The inclusion of detritus into the inspection process was seen as the first stage of a comprehensive suite of measures to broaden assessment and now also includes fly-posting, graffiti and fly-tipping. This supports the notion that poorly maintained areas will continue to suffer from the blight of poor overall environmental quality perpetuating the cycle of decline unless remedial action is taken.

G.7.3 In April 2008 as part of the move to the new national indicator set the Department for Communities and Local Government announced that the issues covered by BV199 would be reported as NI 195 covering four elements – litter, detritus, graffiti and fly posting. The main differences between the indicators are :-

- Litter and detritus is reported as two separate elements, rather than combined.
- The seven point grading system, with intermediate grades has been retained, but the former BVPI B/C grade has been relabelled as B- to make the grading system more consistent.
- Authorities are also given credit for elements graded as B-, where standards fall just below satisfactory. This grade is now given a weighting of 0.5, whereas the former BVPI grade B/C and current NI 195 grades C, C- and D have a weighting of 1, thus giving recognition and reward where standards are near to satisfaction when calculating the overall scores.
- The definitions of housing land uses have been updated to reflect changing conditions including the impact of new planning policies, such as the 'right-to-buy' and a continuing increase in car ownership.
- The labels 'Primary' and 'Secondary' attached to retail and commercial areas have been changed to 'Main' and 'Other' to reflect the way most people see them and to make them more easily understood.

G.7.4 The inspection schedule for NI 195 is broken down into 3 separate tranches per annum including April – July, August – November and December to March. Data for each period will be reported when available.

G.7.5 For comparison purposes results for BV199 from 2005/06 to 2007/08 are shown below and were taken from the Audit Commission website :-

NB – ‘*’ next to a result indicates the data was qualified as a result of audit.

2007/08	BV199a	BV199b	BV199b	BV199d
Broxbourne	5.9	2	0	4
Dacorum	9.7	4	1	2
East Herts	9.8	1	0	3
Hertsmere	11.0	8	1	3
North Herts	6.5*	1*	0*	1
St Albans	9.0	2	2	4
Stevenage	6.0	1	0	3
Three Rivers	10.2	8	2	1
Watford	10.7	13	1	4
Welwyn	13.0	2	1	3
Average				
	9.7	2.2	0.6	2.3
Top quartile				
	6.0	0.0	0.0	1.0
Median				
	9.0	1.0	0.0	2.0
Bottom quartile				
	12.0	3.0	1.0	3.0

2006/07	BV199a	BV199b	BV199b	BV199d
Broxbourne	9.2*	5*	0*	1
Dacorum	12*	5*	2*	1
East Herts	4.6	2	0	4
Hertsmere	20.0	11	1	2
North Herts	9.8*	1*	0*	1
St Albans	14.0	0	0	1
Stevenage	7.0	0	0	2
Three Rivers	10.9	9	3	3
Watford	10.4	15	3	4
Welwyn	15.0	1	1	3
Average				
	11.1	2	1	2
Top quartile				
	6.0	0	0	1
Median				
	10.7	1	0	3
Bottom quartile				
	15.0	4	1	3

2005/06	BV199a	BV199b	BV199b	BV199d
Broxbourne	17.4	3	0	n / a
Dacorum	16.0	1	1	n / a
East Herts	9.8	2	1	n / a
Hertsmere	6.0	1	1	n / a
North Herts	8.4	1	0	n / a
St Albans	12.0	5	0	n / a
Stevenage	13.0	2	0	n / a
Three Rivers	15.7	14	5	n / a
Watford	13.6	17	4	n / a
Welwyn	11.0	3	4	n / a
Average	13.7	3	1	n / a
Top quartile	8.0	0	0	n / a
Median	12.0	1	0	n / a
Bottom quartile	19.0	4	1	n / a