

Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Lincolnshire



CONSULTATION – SUMMARY STRATEGY DOCUMENT

This document is a summary of the draft Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS) for Lincolnshire. The summary forms Chapter 1 of a much longer overall document, but is here presented separately. If you would like to see the full document, please see section 1.6 for how to do so.

The full draft JMWMS sets out how the organisations which form the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership (LWP) will work together to deliver waste management services which protect the environment and provide value for money.

Feedback is invited from anyone with an interest in our waste services, and will be considered in finalising the Strategy before it is adopted by each LWP authority at the end of the process.

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1 Summary

This Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS) for Lincolnshire sets out how the eight local authorities of Lincolnshire and the Environment Agency will work in partnership to protect the environment by delivering sustainable waste management services and to establish best value waste management practices.

1.1 This version of the Strategy

This draft version of the Strategy has been prepared and revised in discussion with the members of the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership (LWP).

Whilst this remains a draft document, open to change in response to further feedback, it is presented in this full form (rather than simply a summary or introduction) so that it is possible to understand both what the LWP are seeking to achieve and how we propose to go about doing so. This may mean that, in places, the text refers to things in the past tense to things which we are anticipating to have happened by the time the final Strategy is published.

Feedback is welcomed from anyone with an interest in our waste services, including the public, and will be considered in finalising the Strategy before it is adopted by each LWP authority at the end of the process.

1.2 Layout of the document

In addition to this summary, the Strategy includes the following chapters.

2. Introduction

Gives more detailed background information about why we need a new Strategy.

3. What are the key legislative drivers?

Background information which has been taken into account in shaping the Strategy.

4. How has the strategy been developed?

Details of the process followed to develop this Strategy.

5. Where are we today?

An assessment of the Partnership's current services and future needs.

6. What are we aiming for?

Our vision and objectives for what we want to achieve.

7. How will we get there?

Sets out the types of action identified to fulfil our objectives – These will be expanded upon in further detail in a separate Action Plan to be updated annually.

8. The next steps: Monitoring, implementing and reviewing the strategy

How we will check that we are fulfilling our objectives.

This document also includes a number of appendices which give further explanatory details to support the main text.

1.3 Where are we today? (see Chapter 5)

In order to consider what we would like to achieve and how we might do so, it is important to establish where we are starting from. Chapter 5 sets out detailed information, including:

- An analysis of the nature and performance of existing services;
- The impact of any service changes already firmly planned (if any);
- Projections of future waste quantities; and
- The impact of changes in waste quantities on overall performance if no changes, other than those already firmly planned, are introduced.

This information makes it clear that, whilst we have achieved a lot in recent years, we now face a number of challenges, such as:

- A growing population producing more waste each year;
 - Funding from central government decreasing each year;
 - A falling recycling rate locally and a stalled rate nationally;
 - Waste going into the wrong bin – A quarter of what we receive in our recycling collections is not recyclable, whilst a quarter of what we receive in our general waste collections is actually recyclable.
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1.4 What are we aiming for? (see Chapter 6)

The Lincolnshire Waste Partnership vision for this Strategy is:

“To seek the best environmental option to provide innovative, customer-friendly waste management solutions that give value for money to Lincolnshire.”

In order to work towards this vision, the Partnership has also developed and agreed a set of high-level objectives, which are key drivers for the delivery of this strategy. In line with the vision, each of these objectives is to be considered in the light of the Partnership’s shared values that:

All Objectives should ensure that services provided under the Strategy represent the best possible environmental option which gives value for money for Lincolnshire residents.

The ten objectives are as follows:

Objective 1.	To improve the quality and therefore commercial value of our recycling stream.
Objective 2.	To consider moving towards a common set of recycling materials.
Objective 3.	To consider the introduction of separate food waste collections.
Objective 4.	To explore new opportunities of using all waste as a resource in accordance with the waste hierarchy.
Objective 5.	To contribute to the UK recycling target of 50% by 2020.
Objective 6.	To find the most appropriate ways to measure our environmental performance, and set appropriate targets.
Objective 7.	To seek to reduce our carbon footprint.
Objective 8.	To make an objective assessment of whether further residual waste recovery/disposal capacity is required and, if necessary, seek to secure appropriate capacity.
Objective 9.	To regularly review the LWP governance model in order to provide the best opportunity to bring closer integration and the implementation of the objectives set by the strategy.
Objective 10.	To consider appropriate innovative solutions in the delivery of our waste management services.

1.5 How will we get there? (see Chapters 7 & 8)

In order to achieve these objectives, this Strategy will be accompanied by a separate Action Plan detailing what will be done when and by whom. The Action Plan will be reviewed and revised annually to ensure that it remains up to date and addresses any new challenges arising during the lifetime of the Strategy.

Chapter 7 sets out some of the themes which need to be reflected in the action plan:

- **Seeing the wider picture**
 - Developing links with other local authorities
 - Engaging with the commercial sector
 - Addressing any waste processing capacity gaps
- **Balancing economic and environmental benefits**
 - Ensuring value for money
 - Caring for the environment
- **Reviewing what we collect and how**
- **Getting our messages across**
 - To the Lincolnshire public – e.g. What to put in which bin
 - To the national government – We need to try to influence national strategy & policy to tie in with our own
 - To other stakeholders – Parish Councils, Environment Agency, etc.

- To the commercial sector – To waste producers as well as waste businesses

We will also (as detailed in Chapter 8) need to ensure that we keep working to achieve our objectives throughout the lifetime of this Strategy. This will include:

- **Monitoring the strategy** – Measuring our performance both in existing ways (such as recycling percentage) and in new ways which better reflect how we are doing compared to our strategic objectives.
- **Implementing the strategy** – Ensuring that our work is:
 - Appropriately funded,
 - Done in partnership across the members of the LWP, and
 - Properly focussed through the use of an action plan.
- **Reviewing the strategy** – This will, in line with government guidance, happen at least every five years, and will also need to react to changing circumstances such as the UK's departure from the European Union.

1.6 What happens now?

At this stage, it is important to us that we understand what others think about what we are proposing in this Strategy. In view of that, we are now asking for views from:

- Lincolnshire residents;
- Councillors at Parish/Town, District and County level;
- Waste management businesses;
- Neighbouring local authorities; and
- Anyone else with an interest in waste management in Lincolnshire.

This consultation process will last from April to June 2018. During that time, we will be doing our best to make sure we publicise it as widely as possible but, if you know someone who might be interested, please let them know.

In line with our vision for this JMWMS, to choose the "best environmental option" and "give value for money", we believe that it would not be appropriate to print thousands of pages of paper when many people will prefer to read and respond online. Please be assured, however, that we are happy to provide paper copies for anyone who wants them.

1.6.1 Reading and Responding Online

For most people, the easiest way to view and to comment on the Strategy is via our dedicated page at the Recycle for Lincolnshire website:

<https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/recycle-for-lincolnshire/waste-strategy-for-lincolnshire/>In addition to the main Strategy document itself, you will also find there further information about the JMWMS

process, and a number of related documents including the draft Environmental Report for the accompanying Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).

Your comments are welcomed via the online survey which is also available at the same web address.

1.6.2 Reading and Responding In Other Ways

If you would prefer to read a paper copy of the documents, you can view them:

- By visiting the main office of any of the eight LWP Councils; or
- At your local library.

If you would like your own paper copy of any or all of the documents, you can get hold of them:

- By printing them off from our website – Although please be aware that the full set of documents is quite large; or
- By post, email or telephone – Please either contact any LWP Council using their usual details, or contact the County Council as follows.

Post:	Waste Strategy Lincolnshire County Council Lancaster House 36 Orchard Street Lincoln LN1 1XX
Email:	wastestrategy@lincolnshire.gov.uk
Telephone:	01522 782070

1.6.3 Reviewing Your Comments

Once all comments have been received and the consultation process has finished, from July we will consider what final changes need to be made to the Strategy, and each LWP member authority will then adopt it through its own formal processes.

Of course, that is only the first part of the story, as we'll then need to move ahead with working to achieve our objectives.