

## WasteDataFlow

WasteDataFlow was developed under the guidance of CIWM (EB), with funding from Biffaward and the Defra Landfill Tax Credit Scheme SWM Legacy Fund. Responsibility for co-ordinating the system in the UK has now passed to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra).

### Objective

Until 2004 municipal waste data were collected annually from Waste Collection Authorities (WCAs), Waste Disposal Authorities (WDAs) and Unitary Authorities by a variety of government departments, agencies, institutions and other organisations. These manual surveys were acknowledged to have certain weaknesses both in terms of frequency and definitional issues and were rarely perceived to provide real benefit to the data provider.

The objective of WasteDataFlow was to create one online reporting infrastructure leading to more accurate data collected more regularly and efficiently, available for access and/or publication on a timely basis. The system would also support the monitoring authorities' mandate to monitor progress against Article 5 of the Landfill Directive.

For local authorities, the aim was to create a system that delivered added value in terms of clarity, ease of use and in managing local data needs for reporting and strategic planning purposes. The database should also offer streamlined and transparent access to performance benchmarking across authorities sharing common demographic, geographic and waste management characteristics.

### Project Partners

The Chartered Institution of Wastes Management (CIWM)

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)

Department for Transport, Local Government and the Regions (DTLR)

Scottish Executive

Welsh Assembly Government

Department of the Environment Northern Ireland (DOENI)

Audit Commission

Audit Scotland

The Environment Agency (EA)

Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA)

Local Government Association (LGA)

Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA)

# CIWM (RPM)

CIWM Research and Project Management

Northern Ireland Local Government Association (NILGA)

Improvement and Development Agency for Local Government (IDeA)

National Association of Waste Disposal Officers (NAWDO)

Waste Resources Action Programme (WRAP)

Environmental Services Association (ESA)

## Status

Stage 1 - A scoping study designed to map existing data sources, define user requirements and specify data needs was undertaken with funding from Biffaward in 2002.

Stage 2 In 2003, CIWM (EB) commissioned Enviros to supervise the IT development and pilot trials with Defra Legacy funding. WasteDataFlow went live on 30th April 2004 with registration by authorities in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. The system went live in Scotland from April 2006.

Stage 3 - Defra host WasteDataFlow and are using the system for collecting Municipal Waste Survey data and monitoring LATS. Quarterly online returns have replaced previous paper surveys with summary data now published 3 months (Wales) to 7 months (England) after the end of each quarter supplanting annual results with lesser detail which were habitually 18 months out of date.

Further information and statistical reports can be accessed at the website:

[www.wastedataflow.org](http://www.wastedataflow.org)

## CIWM (RPM)

Formally CIWM (EB)

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