



WasteDataFlow Newsletter

ISSUE 6

Welcome to the Spring 2008 edition of your WasteDataFlow Newsletter

This is the sixth quarterly newsletter and is aimed at providing Local Authority Users, External Users and other interested parties with an update on the WasteDataFlow system including any new developments and performance.

If there are specific topics that readers would like to see covered in future newsletters, please provide feedback through the User Groups or the WasteDataFlow Helpdesk.

England GO Meetings

The WasteDataFlow team for England (Defra and Enviro, with the Environment Agency) have now completed presentations at each of the Government Office regions.

This was a very successful campaign and raised and answered many LA questions.

We are pulling together and formatting an aggregated set of questions and answers to go on the WDF website for 2nd June

Did you attend and find it useful? Do you wish you had attended? Would you like us to run these again during the next 12 months? – send your feedback to the helpdesk.

In this issue

- New EA FAQs for England
- Modified questions for 2008/9
- Reports for Scotland
- New CA site questions for Northern Ireland

Back Allocation

In England there has been some discussion on the allocation of certain waste streams between WDAs and WCAs. This is known as Back Allocation and the WDF team have written a guidance sheet which can be read here: <http://www.wastedataflow.co.uk/documents/GuidanceManual/Back Allocation Factsheet vfd.pdf>

New National Indicator (NI) Reports

We have now released the England NI reports onto WasteDataFlow. To access these go to the Summary Reports screen (as you would for BVPIs). Select PIs and now in the Report dropdown you will see a set of reports for NI191, 192 and 193.

Where the indicators are applicable there are separate reports for collection and disposal authorities. There are individual reports for each NI which include some detailed tonnages underlying the numerator and denominator. There is also a summary report for all 3 NIs together.

Reports can be run for 2007/8 data for information, but clearly these PIs only apply for 2008/9 onwards.

HANDY HINTS

- Don't forget the ? button on data entry offers advice on how to use the question.
- Many of the guidance PDFs are now accessible from the Help menu.
- Local Authority Admin users, you can see the progress of your quarterly return by clicking the + on the validation page.
- Please use the audit trail to check what was changed and by who in your returns.

NEWS

- England Q4 data has started validation.
- Northern Ireland CA site specific questions are going live.
- Scotland Summary reports are going live.

User Groups

England

The England User Group met on the 5th March. The papers and results from the meeting are available on the WasteDataFlow website under "Who's Who" then "Project Management". This was the 6th meeting and was well attended. The key topics of conversation were what to do next in the development of the WasteDataFlow software and how will the new National Indicators work. To find out who your User Group representative is or read the User Group documentation please go to the main web site at: <http://www.wastedataflow.co.uk/htm/partners.aspx>

Scotland

The Scottish WDF User Group met on 4th March. The new format of a rota system with 18 local authority representatives has proven very popular. The next User Group (June) may be open to all local authorities so that further training can be given on new developments in WDF before submission of Q1 08/09 data in August.

Local authorities were briefed on the forthcoming changes to the WDF questions and on the XML upload tool. SEPA made a demonstration of uploading data and encouraged local authorities to use this new functionality. Local authorities were very positive about the tool as they recognised it would decrease the chance of transcription errors and therefore improve the robustness of their data.

Andy Mackenzie from North Lanarkshire Council volunteered to attend the WDF OG in London. This is the first time a local authority representative has agreed to attend the meeting. Hopefully Andy or another representative will continue to attend these meetings in the future.

Northern Ireland

The most recent Northern Ireland User Group was the 14th May 2008. The group are focussing on the development of new reporting functions, and extended civic amenity site questions. The User Group are also placing an emphasis on improving data quality with a view to reducing the queries from EHS during the validation process. Minutes from the meetings are published on the EHS website: www.ehsni.gov.uk/waste/municipal_data_reporting.htm.

Wales

The next Wales User Group meeting has been scheduled for the 24th June. If there is anything you would like added to the agenda please contact your representative:

- North - Wayne Anderson (Wrexham)
- South East - Alan McCoy (Cardiff)
- South West - Roy Probert (Swansea)

Selection List Updates

The waste destinations for Northern Ireland were updated on the 23rd May. This will be updated quarterly and reflect the current EHS public register.

The England and Wales waste destination update was also completed on the 23rd May.

Scotland had an update to the destinations in Scotland on the 6th May

England Level 35 Roll-Back

For England the next three months are the data-entry period for Quarter 4 2007/8 data.

This must be submitted by the 30th June, and validated by the 31st July.

As the final quarter of the year there is an absolute need to hit that deadline.

Therefore Level 35 roll-back requests must be submitted by the 15th July.

The validation team have 30 days from date of submission to complete a validation, so if you want the option of a Q4 Level 35 roll-back you must have your return to level 30 by 13th June.

A message from the Environment Agency for English Local Authorities

LATS Municipal waste FAQs

The Agency has recently published more specific Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) to help local authorities with LATS. The FAQs are to be read in addition to the statutory guidance on municipal waste issued by Defra and WAG in 2005. The FAQs are available on the Agency's website:

http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/commondata/acrobat/lats_las_faq_1963495.pdf

They are to be applied from 1 April 2008 and are offered as specific worked examples to help local authorities have clarity on what needs to be reported for LATS. We are not looking to apply the FAQs retrospectively and the main aim is to ensure clarity and consistency of reporting from 2008/9 onwards.

General queries on the FAQs can be directed in the first instance to our National Customer Contact Centre on 08708 506 506. If you have a more specific query and would prefer to speak to a member of the team, then please contact:

Ian Smirthwaite	– 0114 280 0628
Darren Royle	– 0114 280 0625
Ade Adewale	– 0114 280 0631
Simon Threlkeld	– 0114 280 0626
Steve Sanderson	– 0114 280 0633

We are actively encouraging feedback on the FAQs. You can either speak to us directly on the above numbers, or complete the customer satisfaction form and email us at enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk, please add <<LATS CWM feedback>> in the email subject line. A copy of the customer satisfaction form is available on the WDF website http://www.wastedataflow.co.uk/documents/Customer_Satisfaction_Review_Performance_Management_assessment.xls

Materials Recovery Facilities

Thank you to over 200 English authorities who responded with MRF information recently. We appreciate the time spent completing questionnaires, and during such a busy period. The data provided has helped us get a clearer understanding of practices across England. Having analysed the data, we are currently assessing policy and operational implications. We will communicate outcomes shortly. This may include application of a default reject rate for a minority of authorities' WDF data.

LATS visits resumed

In April we resumed our visit programme to unitary and waste disposal authorities in England. Visits take two days and their purpose is to review processes and systems in place to collect, quality assure and report LATS data. Already we have seen 35 of the 121 authorities. Findings are published as individual reports on our website. The link is <http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/1745440/444663/landfill/1764524/1693182/986852/1102546/1848019/?version=1&lang=e>.

We will visit the remaining UAs and WDAs during 2008/9, making contact during the year to arrange a mutually convenient date. You will be provided in advance with details about the scope of the visit, type of records and information we will need to see.

Landfill Allowances Schemes

England

Environment Agency's LATS web site is: <http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/> click on Waste > Local Authority > Landfill Allowance Schemes. You can contact us at: The National Customer Contact Centre: 0870 850 6506

Scotland

The Landfill Allowance Scheme for Scotland is currently under review. The Scottish Ministers made an announcement on the 24th January setting new targets for Scotland and the review of the Landfill Allowance Scheme is a result of this. The Scottish Government will involve CoSLA and SEPA in the consultation.

Northern Ireland

All 26 district councils, and waste management groups, in Northern Ireland were issued with a six month NILAS progress report at the end of January. The six month progress report indicated that Northern Ireland's district councils had utilised 39.95% of available allowances for the scheme year.

EHS have published quarterly key performance indicators for the second and third quarters of 2007/08. www.ehsni.gov.uk/waste/municipal_data_reporting.htm

*Please note: The data is provisional and will not be revised or finalised until year end verification is complete. Six district councils have had audits undertaken since November 2007 for July to September 2007 and October to December 2007 data.

EHS have recently published the results of the Northern Ireland waste compositional study: www.ehsni.gov.uk/waste_compositional_study_2007-08_full_report.pdf. The study indicates that the current BMW percentage in Northern Ireland is 64%.

Wales

All data for Q1-3 has been rolled up and validated. As with Q1 and 2, all authorities are within allowance in Q3. For the year so far 18 authorities are under 90% of allowance, and the remaining within 100%.

Response Rates

England

Quarter 1 2007/8 has been completed, as has Quarter 2.

We had 349 Q3 2007/8 returns submitted by the Local Authorities by the deadline, this is only 89% so a reduction on Q2. As of 30th April, all 394 returns for Q3 07/08 had been received of which 368 were validated up to level 35. Returns for quarter 4 are coming in: of the 186 which have been started so far, 37 have been submitted and 8 validated.

Scotland

The deadline for submission of Q4 was the 12th May. Nineteen local authorities (59%) submitted the data by the deadline. Ten local authorities submitted their annual question (last update 26 May).

The deadline for submission of Q3 was the 11 February. Nineteen local authorities (59%) submitted the data by the deadline; a further ten submitted data within a week and two local authorities exceeded two weeks in submitting the data.

Northern Ireland

The validation process for quarter 3 was started in mid February by EHS. The waste management groups assisted in ensuring that data returns were submitted promptly and in encouraging district councils to make use of the validation summary spreadsheets. 17 out of 26 district councils submitted data to level 35 prior to the deadline at the end of February. The remainder were received by 4th March. All district councils have had their data for the third quarter of 07/08 validated by EHS. The quarterly data has been published on the EHS website: www.ehsni.gov.uk/waste/municipal_data_reporting.htm. *Please note: The data is provisional and will not be revised or finalised until year end verification is complete.

Wales

The number of authorities reporting data on time has improved every quarter this year. For Q3 86% were on time despite problems with WDF near the deadline date. However 2 authorities rolled up over 7 days after the deadline, a decline from Q2. Data for Q4 should have been rolled up by the 30th April.



System Developments

The key new development that will be coming out in the next few weeks are some modifications to the way certain questions work, and some new questions.

For Northern Ireland district councils there will be a change to two questions Qu16 and Qu23 that will enable data for CA sites to be entered against the CA site rather than just as a total. Each district councils will have the relevant sections of their data entry screen populated with the details of the relevant CA site as per the EHS public register, and will be required to enter data for each site. Reporting these figures per CA site is a condition of EHS waste management requirements. This functionality within WDF will negate the need for district councils to submit separate returns to EHS via the electronic quarterly waste return.

For Scotland, Qu63a will be modified to allow the disposal tonnages for each treatment in Qu59 to 63 to be categorised by source (household, commercial, industrial, or other non-household). This change will give more accurate reporting.

For England and Scotland there is a new question, Qu70. This asks for a breakdown of the tonnage sent for recycling out of the treatment processes reported in Qu59, Qu60 and Qu64 to be broken down by material type.

These questions will all be available for data-entry for quarter 1 of 2008/9.

Five brand new municipal waste reports for Scotland are now available online via the WasteDataFlow website. These reports show the tonnes of municipal waste recycled/reused, composted, landfilled, recovered and managed overall. They are available to all registered public users of WDF and, importantly, can be downloaded in Excel format. The reports were designed by SEPA and developed under contract with Enviro. They can be accessed here: <http://www.wastedataflow.co.uk/reports/default.aspx>

New Question Screen Shots

Question 70 (England & Scotland)

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Question 63a (Scotland)

Enter Data For: **Mar 08** Question: **Q063a: Breakdown of input tonnage Q19-63**

Q063a: Of the total tonnage input reported in Questions 59, 60, 61, 62 and 63, what is the tonnage breakdown by source?

Buttons: [Ques List](#) [Next](#) [Save](#) [Cancel](#)

Total tonnage input recorded in Questions 59, 60, 61, 62 and 63	MET	Anaerobic Digestion (w/leuc)	Anaerobic Digestion (organic)	In-Vessel	In Windrow or Other
0	0	0	0	0	0
+ Tonnage from household sources	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
+ Tonnage from commercial sources	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
+ Tonnage from industrial sources	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
+ Tonnage from other non-household sources	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Totals	0	0	0	0	0

Comments:

Question Complete: [Top](#)

Question 16 (Northern Ireland)

Enter Data For: **Mar 08** Question: **Q016c: Recycling tonnes CA**

Q016c: Tonnes of material collected for recycling/reuse at CA Sites operated by LA or its contractors by CA Site

Buttons: [Ques List](#) [Next](#) [Save](#) [Cancel](#)

Load comments only from: [GO](#)

CA Sites: **1795 - 3 C Waste Ltd - ST7 2HH**

Material	Tonnage collected for recycling	Tonnage collected for recycling but actually rejected / disposed	Tonnage collected for reuse	Tonnage collected for reuse but actually rejected / disposed
+ Green glass	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
+ Brown glass	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
+ Clear glass	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
+ Mixed glass	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
+ Paper	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
+ Card	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
+ Books	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
+ Mixed paper & card	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
+ Steel cans	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
+ Aluminium cans	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Question 23 (Northern Ireland)

Enter Data For: Mar 08 Question: Q023: Waste disposal

Q023: Please provide details of other waste collected for disposal. (The destination of the residual is required for authorities in Wales only.)

Buttons: Ques List, Next, Save, Cancel

Load comments only from: [dropdown] [GO]

Waste type	Item	Data
+ Collected household waste : Regular Collection	Tonnage	[input field]
+ Collected household waste : Other	Tonnage	[input field]
	Percentage weighed	[input field]
	Destination of residual	[dropdown menu]
Civic amenity sites waste : Household		
CA Site		1916 - 1st Choice Skip Hire - L33 7XB
Tonnage Collected		[input field: 5303]
Percentage Weighed		[input field: 100]
Destination of Residual		[dropdown menu: Non Hazardous Landfill]
CA Site		2163 - Shanks Waste Services Limited - BD4 9JE
Tonnage Collected		[input field: 1917.71]
Percentage Weighed		[input field: 100]
Destination of Residual		[dropdown menu: Non Hazardous Landfill]
Totals		Tonnage Collected 7220.71
Civic amenity sites waste : Non Household		
CA Site		1916 - 1st Choice Skip Hire - L33 7XB
Tonnage Collected		[input field: 1000]
Percentage Weighed		[input field: 100]
Destination of Residual		[dropdown menu: Non Hazardous Landfill]
CA Site		2163 - Shanks Waste Services Limited - BD4 9JE
Tonnage Collected		[input field: 500]
Percentage Weighed		[input field: 100]
Destination of Residual		[dropdown menu: Non Hazardous Landfill]

HOW TO CONTACT US

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