What is the data from WasteDataFlow used for?

This fact sheet is intended to provide a brief overview of how the data Local Authorities (LAs) submit via WasteDataFlow is used:

- To enable LAs to **run reports** for various key waste statistics **to inform LA planning and waste management.** The reports also enable LAs to **benchmark their performance** against other waste authorities and to **monitor their progress** over time.

- To produce **National Statistics** on municipal waste arisings.

  - **England**: *Defra Waste Statistics*
  - **Wales**: *Welsh Government*
  - **Northern Ireland**: *Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs*
  - **Scotland**: *Scottish Environment Protection Agency*

- To provide data on waste from households[1] for the **Waste Framework Directive.**

- To provide an **evidence base** to guide government, policy for example the Resources and Waste Strategy 2018, the Waste Management Plan for England 2021, The Environmental Improvement Plan 2023, The Waste (Scotland) Regulations, Towards Zero Waste: One Wales One Planet 2010, The Northern Ireland Waste Management Strategy 2013 - 2020.

- Waste data is provided to number of public bodies and WasteDataFlow was designed to **replace various separate waste data surveys**, for example those carried out by:
  - Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA)
  - Welsh Local Government Association
  - Zero Waste Scotland

- WRAP (Waste & Resources Action Programme) use the data to update their Local Authority Waste and Recycling Information Portal.

- To provide a **public resource** for waste data.

- Data is also used to answer **Parliamentary Questions**, **public enquires** and provided to organisations and research institutions for **research projects** on waste and recycling as well as providing accurate information to support **private sector investment** decisions.

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[1] The "Waste from households" metric was introduced in April 2011 to provide a harmonised UK indicator with a comparable calculation in each of the four UK countries. It replaced "Household waste", which was the metric used for reporting in **EU Waste Statistics Regulation data Returns.**

Relevant links

Defra Waste Statistics
https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-environment-food-rural-affairs/series/waste-and-recycling-statistics

Welsh Government
https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue

Northern Ireland Department of the Environment
https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/published-waste-data

Scottish Environment Protection Agency
https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/waste/

European Commission, Eurostat: Waste Statistics
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics_explained/index.php/Waste_statistics

CIPFA
http://www.cipfa.org.uk

WRAP
http://laportal.wrap.org.uk/