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4th September 2006



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ERM

To Richard Farhall,

East Sussex Municipal Waste Management Strategy

I am writing to you to ask you for your comments on the Draft East Sussex Municipal Waste Management Strategy.

The enclosed leaflet gives the background to the strategy and asks for your comments. The full documents are available at the council offices, libraries and on the County Council website.

Please take some time to read the documents and make comments. Your feedback will be very gratefully received.

Yours sincerely

Philip Short
Consultant

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Managing our household waste

Where we are now

How we manage our waste is an important issue. Even though we have been improving our performance by reusing and recycling materials, especially over the last year, we need to do more. In 2004/2005, we recycled 24% of the 277,000 tonnes of municipal waste (of which 94% is household waste) we produced in East Sussex. However, 197,930 tonnes (76%) still goes to landfill.



Continuing to throw away waste costs us money, is a waste of resources and damages our environment. We're also running out of landfill space, without any way of replacing it, and with the increasing pressure of government targets and legislation this means we have to recycle more and significantly reduce the amount of waste we send to landfill.



What we need to do

We need to reduce, reuse and recycle our rubbish to cut down the amount we throw away and the resources we take from the planet. By making small changes right now, we can all make a big difference for the future.

How are we going to do this?

The District and Borough Councils and the County Council of East Sussex have been working together to prepare a joint municipal waste management strategy, which will help us decide and plan how we can manage our waste throughout the period from 2006 to 2020. We have looked at a range of options in preparing the draft strategy, for example:

- reducing and reusing waste;
- recycling and composting waste that is produced; and
- dealing with any waste that can't be reused or recycled.

We have considered the effects the strategy will have on the environment by carrying out a 'strategic environmental assessment'. We have used the results of this process to make sure the strategy covers all of the relevant environmental issues.

What does the strategy cover?

The strategy covers:

- waste collected from households;
- recycling collections;
- waste taken to recycling banks;
- collections of bulky household waste;
- street sweepings;
- collections of household clinical waste;
- waste collected from some businesses; and
- waste that has been fly-tipped (illegally dumped).



The strategy does not cover most industrial, commercial, building or demolition waste as this waste is not currently the responsibility of the local authorities. Also, the strategy does not look at where waste-management facilities are as this is included in another document called the Waste Local Plan.

What are our aims?

Over the next 15 to 20 years, we aim to change the way that waste is managed in East Sussex.

To do this, we have agreed the following aims.

- To reduce the amount of waste we produce and increase the amount we reuse to become one of the top-performing local authority areas in the country.
- To increase the amount of waste we recycle or compost to become one of the top-performing local authority areas.
- To manage the other waste in an appropriate way, making the best use of modern technology.
- To improve our waste facilities and services, making them accessible to everyone.
- To make sure that our strategy is delivered effectively, by working together.

What can you do?

To find out more about the strategy you can view it in full on www.eastsussex.gov.uk/haveyoursay, or you can visit the council offices listed below, where copies will be available.

Lewes District Council, Southover House, Southover Road, Lewes, BN7 1DW

Eastbourne Borough Council, 68 Grove Road, Eastbourne, BN21 4UH

Hastings Borough Council, Hastings Information Centre and Town Hall, Queens Road, Hastings, TN34 1QR

Wealden District Council, Pine Grove, Crowborough, TN6 1DH

Rother District Council, Community Help Point, Amherst Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, TN39 3LG

East Sussex County Council, County Hall, St Anne's Crescent, Lewes, BN7 1UE

Please let us know your views and comments on our strategy by filling in the form attached and sending it to us at the Freepost address, or filling in a form on-line and e-mailing it to rethinkrubbish@eastsussex.gov.uk

The closing date for replies is 15 October 2006.

Please phone 01273 482323 if you have any questions about this questionnaire or if you need a copy of it in a different format, such as in large print, in Braille, on cassette tape or in a different language.



Wealden
District Council

Rother
District Council
Walking towards Excellence



Hastings
Borough Council



Have your say

We believe that the views of local people and other people who have an interest in managing waste are important. To make sure that the strategy meets local people's needs, please spend some time answering the following questions.

We will treat all responses as confidential and only use them for research purposes.

1 How much do you agree with the suggestions in this strategy for how we will manage our waste in the future?

Strongly agree

Agree

Neither agree
nor disagree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

2 If you disagree with our suggestions, why is this?

3 Thinking about ways to reduce the amount of waste we produce, how effective do you think the following could be?

Section A Please mark an 'x' in each row in section A to show how effective you think each suggestion is.

Section B Please rank the suggestions in order of how effective you think they are. Please write 1 against the most important, 2 against the second most important, 3 against the third most important and 4 against the fourth most important.

	Section A					Section B
	Very effective	Effective	Neither effective nor ineffective	Ineffective	Very ineffective	Order of importance
Limiting the amount of household rubbish we collect	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Asking residents to recycle	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Subsidised compost bins	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reducing packaging	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Providing advice on how to reduce junk mail	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Promoting real-nappy schemes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Running waste-awareness information education programmes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Collecting other materials	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

If so, what materials?

4 How should we recover energy from waste that is left after recycling and composting?

How should we get rid of waste that is not recycled?

5 Do you have any other ideas for reducing the amount of waste we produce?

At the moment, across the county, on average it costs £41.50 per household per year to have your waste collected and recycled. To achieve higher targets for recycling, we will need to spend more money to provide vehicles, staff and equipment to provide these extra services. We would like to know your views on the following.

6 Would you be prepared to pay for an extra service? Yes No

If "Yes", how much for every household each year?

To help make sure that we take account of everyone's views, please could you answer the following questions.

Are you: male? female?

What age were you last birthday?

What is your postcode?

What is your ethnic origin?

Do you consider yourself to be disabled?

Yes

No

Where did you get your copy of this survey?

Please send your response to:

Freepost LW43

Waste Management Team

County Hall

St Anne's Crescent

Lewes

BN7 1UE.

Or e-mail: rethinkrubbish@eastsussex.gov.uk

By 15 October 2006



Thank you for taking part in this survey. Your views are very important to us.