

Summary Points for Paper

An estimated 37% of the 246KT of paper and card consumed in Hampshire households is currently captured for recycling.

Project Integra has long-term contracts in place for the reprocessing of News and PAMS. These contracts would be able to absorb additional material without incurring any penalty.

Improved capture and quality could be achieved through household awareness schemes and education

If the capture rate could be increased to 60%, an additional 55KT per year would be recovered and the overall household waste recycling rate boosted by 9%.

The quality of segregated paper will become increasingly important as re-processors will have greater choice of supplier and the impact of standards such as BSI EN643 that set out various quality standards for recycled paper depending on end use.

The other potential large gain is in the commercial sector. This is born out by the SEEDA study that suggests the commercial & industrial capture rate is only just above 20% (Viridis on behalf of SEEDA (January 2003). The Viridis figures suggest a total of 417KT of paper and card in the Commercial waste stream, but should be treated with caution as calculations are not consistent even within their own report.

A recent comparative study by the European Topic Centre on Waste and Material Flows, commissioned by the EU looked at nine LCA (Life Cycle Analysis) studies. Most of the studies show that recycling has a better environmental profile than either landfill or incineration.

<http://waste.eionet.eu.int/Publications/Working%20documents/LCA1>

UK manufacturers will not be able to absorb the predicted increase in recycled paper coming on stream. WRAP is looking to develop new UK markets but paper is a globally traded commodity. There is currently export to Europe but main market is likely to be China. Several large mills (up to 3MTpa) are coming on stream, massively increasing demand for fibre, but China does not have adequate local resources (ie forests nor post consumer paper) to feed these.

WRAP has commissioned research into the viability of a market de-inked pulp (MDIP) facility. Early results suggest this is unlikely to be viable but work will continue.

SMEs need to be persuaded that there are opportunities for avoiding landfill costs but not income generation. There are three main options to trial:

- Collection of mixed dry recyclate from rear of shops, offices etc along with household recyclate.
- Placing communal facilities on well-managed industrial estates.

- Give SMEs access to HWRCs (current small scale trial underway)

Industry representatives felt that bulk storage and handling facilities for collected paper and card could be provided relatively easily if demand was sufficient.

For reasons of efficiency and occupational health & safety, future MRF and other processing systems will become more automated with the longer term aim of eliminating manual involvement altogether.

In relation to the population at large, we should promote continuity of “material separation mentality” at home, work, leisure, shopping etc.

Option One – Status Quo

- Packaging Regulations – provide little incentive for further progress as targets are already met.
- Recovery rate will increase through improved household kerbside schemes being rolled out by PI partners. However most households in Hampshire now have a kerbside recycling service and therefore provision of further bins, boxes and refuse freighters in areas already covered would not significantly boost capture.
- There may be limited scope for allowing access by SMEs to some HWRCs, but many are already under severe capacity pressure.
- Project Integra is currently developing a communications and awareness strategy that aims to boost the capture and quality of material in areas already served by kerbside schemes. While some authorities have embarked on intensive campaigns, these have been in conjunction with roll out of new systems and containers. There is no real precedent to show how much impact these will have in isolation from a systemic change, although PI have estimated that a further 7KT could be obtained.
- **New Infrastructure Required:**
 - Collection – facilities and capacity at HWRCs to receive commercial sector materials.
 - Handling – Local players in the market for commercial paper and board have sufficient storage and handling capacity to substantially increase throughput, although this cannot be quantified.
- **Impact on Recycling Rate** – diversion of paper is predicted to increase recycling rate by around 1%.

Option Two – Stretching Best Practice

- Trial provision of:
 - shared “bring” facilities in locally managed industrial estates. These would be either serviced free of charge – or at least at lower cost than current commercial rates for mixed waste - by

- paper re-processors provided they were managed sufficiently well to avoid contamination, half loads etc
 - back door collection from SMEs such as shops and offices in high street or in mixed residential areas
 - Provide and promote HWRC access to SMEs – likely to require much larger facilities “super HWRCs”
- The best capture rates of mixed recyclate, of which paper is the largest portion, is achieved by authorities using Alternate Weekly Collections systems. An ambitious target of 60% diversion through AWC combined with more effective communications and awareness would divert a further 55KT per year from final disposal and boost the county domestic recycling rate by 9%.
- MRS partners and signatories commit to procurement policies and targets that increase the amount of recycled fibre products purchased. Progress toward the targets could be audited by peer-groups.
- Transport links. The fact that paper is a global commodity and that the larger UK re-processors are already some distance from Hampshire makes sea shipping a viable consideration.
- Future MRFs should aim to be fully automated
- **New Infrastructure Required:**
 - Collection – facilities and capacity at HWRCs to receive commercial sector materials, bins for “backdoor” collection from SMEs and or shared facilities on managed industrial estates.
 - Handling – Local players in the market for commercial paper and board have sufficient storage and handling capacity to substantially increase capture of paper and card although this cannot be quantified.
 - Processing. The UK market demand for recycled fibre is currently met and therefore additional material is likely to be either exported , or displace other material which will then be exported.
- **Impact on Recycling Rate** – increasing diversion of household paper and card would divert a further 55KT per year from final disposal, increasing the domestic recycling rate by 9%.
- **Impact on residual waste stream.** Doubling capture from the commercial waste stream would divert a further 90KT from landfill.