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5.0 IMPLEMENTATION OF WASTE MANAGEMENT POLICY OVER THE RELEVANT PERIOD

5.1 General

5.1 (a) Proposals for Monitoring of Implementation of the Plan

The Council will establish a Steering Committee to progressively set and review targets for waste reduction, waste disposal and other related matters. The steering committee will be required to report on a bi-annual basis to the Council.

5.1 (b) Measures to Provide Ongoing and Improved Data Regarding Waste Management

Under the Waste Management Act the Council's powers with regard to the permitting of private operators have been strengthened. The Council will insist that accurate data on collection recovery and disposal be reported on a regular basis and included in an overall database. The Council will incorporate information being collated by industries as part of their IPC licensing procedures. This data will be collected by the Steering Committee and included in the six-monthly reports to Council. A programme will be established to collect information on waste flows and correlate TFS and C1 shipment information and, in particular, the collection of information on waste production from non-IPC licensed industries.

5.2 Roles and Responsibilities

5.2 (a) Description of Roles

The roles of participants in waste management in the County are set out in Table 5.1.

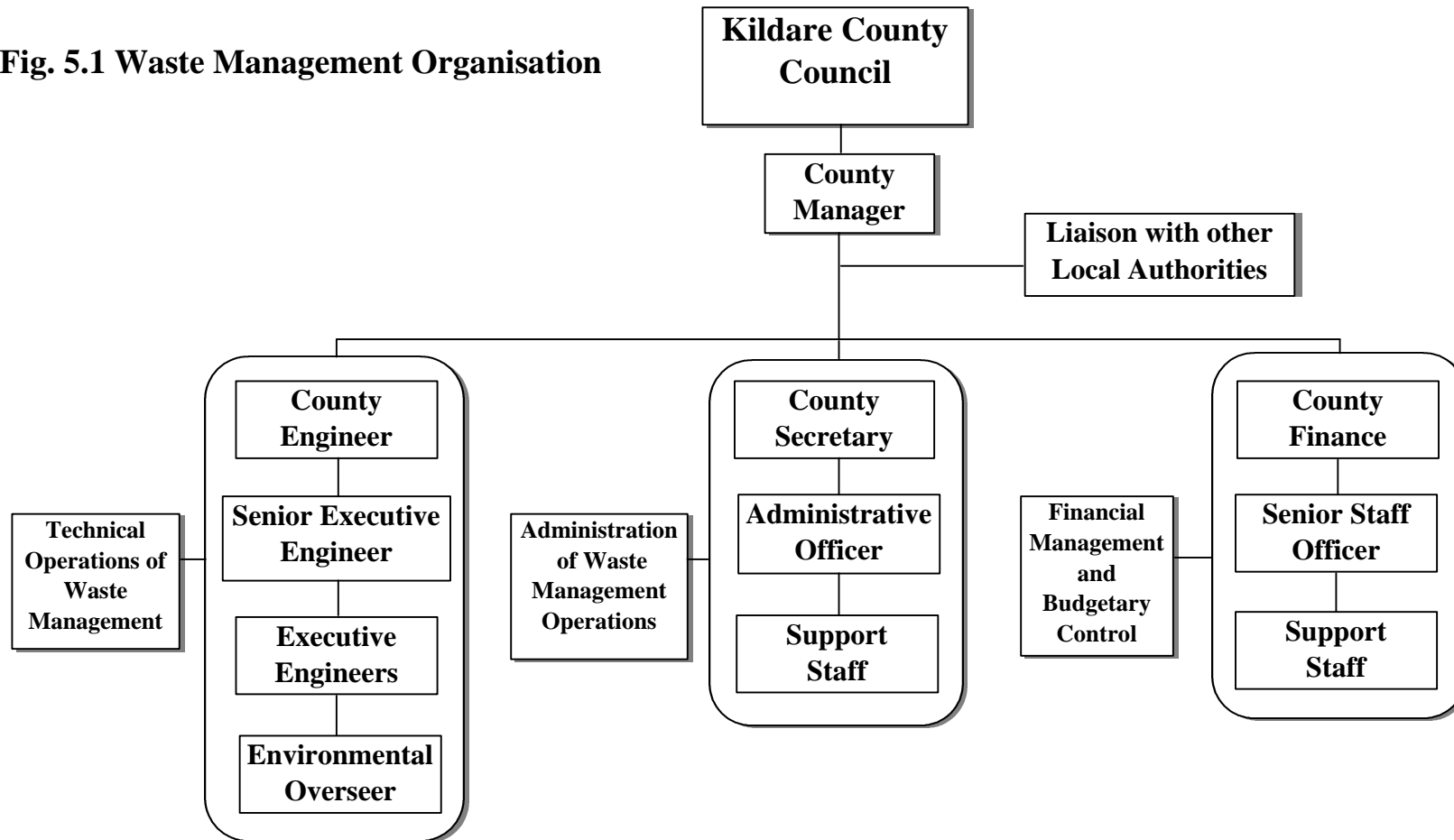
Table 5.1 Roles of participants in waste management.

| AGENCY | ROLES |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Kildare County Council, | Overall control of waste management in the County. Planning and control of developments within its own functional area. Control of C1 and TFS notes. Implementation of the Waste Management (Packaging) Regulations. Waste Collection. Recovered waste collection. Final disposal of waste. Educational programmes and dissemination of information. Litter Control. |
| Athy U.D.C., Naas U.D.C. | Planning and control of developments within its own functional area. Waste Collection. Recovered waste collection. Litter Control. Educational programmes and dissemination of information. |
| Private Interests | Waste Collection. Recovered waste collection. Waste minimisation (packaging). Segregation and collection of selected recyclables. Establishment of selected bring banks. Final disposal of waste. |
| Environmental Protection Agency | Waste management licensing, Overview of waste management planning, Publication of waste management guidance documentation or codes of practice, Monitoring and investigation of environmental quality and pollution, Proposed National Hazardous Waste Management Plan |
| The Public | Participation in waste minimisation programmes. Home composting. Separation at source. Litter control. |

5.2 (b) Organisational Arrangements and responsibilities within the Local Authority

The organisational arrangements in Co. Kildare are summarised in Figure 5.1..
 The proposed programme for implementation is given in Figure 5.2

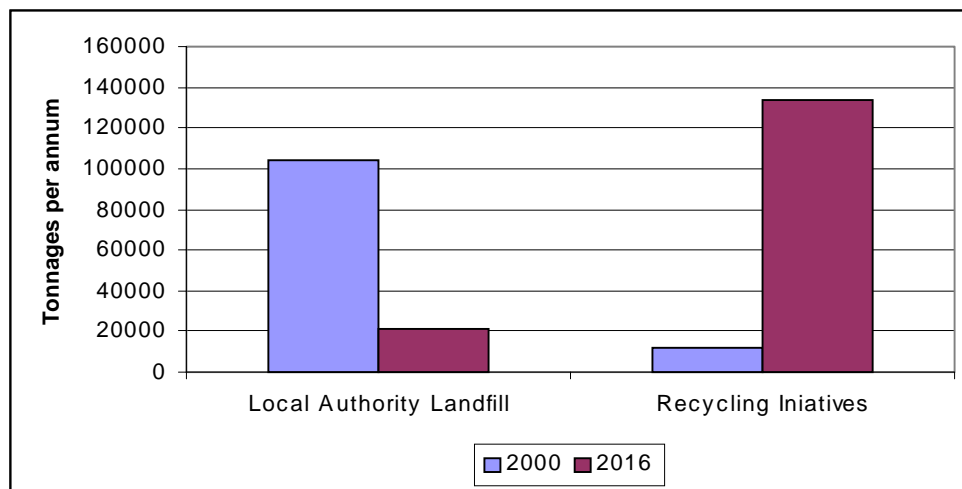
Fig. 5.1 Waste Management Organisation



5.2 (c) Encouragement of Support of Waste Management Policies

The Council is aware of the need to promote participation in waste avoidance, reduction, reuse and recycling, if the regulatory targets are to be met. It is the Councils hope that by presenting a pro-active environmental awareness campaign, behavioural changes will be encouraged and the people of Kildare will take ownership of the existing waste management problems. Figure 5.3 illustrates some of the important required changes in waste management practice to be achieved.

Figure 5.3 Required Change in Waste Management Practise, 2000-2016



Based on 1998 waste arisings

The Council will **require** private interests and the public to support waste management policies by:-

- the further development and implementation of the polluter pays principle (weighing);
- identification of the sources of waste so that specific streams, e.g. packaging waste can be eliminated at source;
- notification/liaison with waste producers in order to encourage compliance with policies;
- recourse to law particularly with regard to litter and reduction of packaging waste;
- consider the prohibition of certain waste streams from disposal to landfill (C&D Waste);
- permitting of private waste operators.

The Council will **encourage** support of waste management policies through:-

- education, particularly at school level;
- advice, particularly in relation to outlets for recyclables;
- publication of newsletters and web page;
- development of a logo for waste management;

- leadership by introducing an environmental management system to cover all of the Council's activities;
- continued encouragement for the introduction of home-based biodegradable waste composting.

The Council will continue to **support** the public involvement in the implementation of waste management policies by:-

- co-financing (with community groups) the establishment of litter bins and community composting facilities in remote areas;
- assisting community groups (provision of schemes, described later in 5.3(b)) in local clean-up campaigns;
- the development of civic amenity facilities in conjunction with the provision of premises for recycling and repair/renovation activities;
- upgrading of information technology to permit efficient access to information;
- increasing the density of drop-off centres in rural areas;
- introducing kerbside collection in several towns;

5.3 Waste Prevention and Recovery

5.3 (a) Promotion of Public Awareness

Kildare County Council operates and sponsors a number of programmes which are aimed at increasing public awareness and the availability of information on matters relating to the management of waste in the County. The Council believes the public will make more informed decisions and understand the decisions that the local authority makes by educating them with regard waste management issues and strategies.

The Council is also aware of the need to promote participation in waste reduction and recycling, if the regulatory targets are to be met. It is the Council's hope that by presenting pro-active and consistent messages repeatedly, behavioural changes will be encouraged, acknowledged and reinforced. Promotion of public awareness with regard to waste management in the county will be achieved by deployment of a three-way campaign incorporating information, education and enforcement.

The Council has an active information programme on waste management that includes:

- Internet Web-Site, this continually updated site gives details of waste management schemes and services provided by the Council (www.kildare.ie/CountyCouncil).
- The publication of a quarterly environmental newsletter (also reproduced on the Internet web-site). The newsletter gives details and contacts for

various schemes and provides information on up-coming environmental events within the Council.

- An advertising campaign which includes advertisement of National Spring Clean, assistance Schemes and recycling.
- The Council has fully supported National Spring Clean in 1999 and 2000 by supplying skips and materials for organised clean-up events.

The Council's schools programme includes the following events and schemes:

- Schools Education Programme for primary and secondary schools. This initiative focuses on litter and recycling. It enables students to develop their own ideas on these topics.
- Primary schools poster competition. This is an annual competition with a different theme each year. In 1998, the theme was 'litter'. In 1999, the theme was 'Clean up Kildare'. It is hoped to run this competition again.
- Secondary school debating competition. This competition, held in 1999 and 2000 was co-sponsored by the Educational Building Society. Wide ranges of environmental issues were debated over the course of these debates.
- The Green Schools Programme, run jointly with An Taisce, aims to promote sustainability within schools. To date, 30 schools have registered for this programme.
- The Down to Earth Theatre Company has been retained to perform their "Bin There – Dump That" play in six schools in 1998 and 1999. The new production for 2000 "Message in a Bottle" will be booked for 2000.
- A Junior Litter Warden Scheme will be introduced in schools in September 1999 involving primary school students in litter awareness and localised clean-ups. Prizes will be awarded to the best kept schools.
- A Christmas Card Competition will be run in secondary schools in September, the winning entry may be chosen as the Kildare County Council Christmas card.

Enforcement of the Litter Pollution Act is effected by means of:

- *The appointment of Litter Wardens.* The Council's first full-time Litter Warden was appointed in June 1998. A second Litter Warden was appointed in May 1999. The Litter Wardens also have the responsibility for investigating reports of illegal dumping and the issuing of litter fines where evidence is found. To date, 2000 fines have been issued. One of the first duties of the Litter Wardens is to embark on an information campaign, advising the general public, commercial and industrial premises of their responsibilities under the Litter Pollution Act.
- *Schools Visits.* The Litter Wardens will also be engaged on school visits as part of the education programme and will be involved in the Junior Litter Warden Scheme.
- Unpaid litter fines and more serious littering offences will be prosecuted through the court system as necessary.

5.3 (b) Infrastructural Support of Waste Minimisation and Recovery

The Council operates a number of infrastructural support schemes that are designed to assist the local community in their endeavours to clean up their environment and recover wastes. These schemes may be briefly summarised as follows:

- (i.) *Home Composting Scheme.* The Council has supplied over 600 composting bins at a subsidised price of IR£20. The Council holds a strong view on the benefits of composting the organic fraction of household waste and will be advertising the scheme again in 1999.
- (ii.) *Skips Scheme.* The Council provided 183 skips to residents associations and community groups for 'clean-up' initiatives in 1998. The scheme will be run again in 1999 in conjunction with the National Spring Clean.
- (iii.) *Litter Bins Scheme.* The Council provides grants of 50% up to a maximum of IR£400 towards the provision of litter bins by residents and community groups. A total of 6 bins were supplied in 1998. The Council will be advertising the scheme again this year, seeking sponsorship from businesses.
- (iv.) *Wheeled Bins for Residents Associations/Tidy Towns Groups.* Under this scheme, which operates all year round, the Council provides wheeled bins and free collection to residents associations and tidy towns groups to assist in on-going anti-litter endeavours. Forty-three bins were supplied in 1998.
- (v.) *Tidy Towns Grants.* The Council has provided grants to participants in the National Tidy Towns Competition (IR£300 per participant) with prizes of IR£300 presented in December. This year the Council proposes to pay initial grants on entry to enable the group carry out work prior to adjudication.
- (vi.) *Kerbside Type Collection:-* Kerbside collection will be introduced to Naas; Newbridge; Kildare; Celbridge; Leixlip; Maynooth and Athy within the period of this plan.
- (vii.) *Recycling Bring Centres.* There are currently 20 bring centres located throughout the county for the recovery of recyclable materials such as glass, cans and textiles. These collection centres are provided and operated by private concerns assisted by Kildare County Council. It is the Council's intention to increase the number of these sites so as to provide one per 1,000 population in rural areas.

5.3 (c) Co-operation with Voluntary Organisations

Every effort will be made to alert voluntary organisations within the county of the need for a greater effort at recycling. The employment of a professional public relations organisation will be considered to design and orchestrate the initial campaign. The Council's web site will advocate responsible use of the drop-off centres provided. The web site will also encourage responsibility for

the environment giving advice, news and statistics in relation to waste management.

5.3 (d) Segregation and Separate Collection of Recoverable Waste

The Council will arrange for the provision of a kerbside collection system for packaging waste and newsprint to all households in Naas; Newbridge; Kildare; Celbridge; Leixlip; Maynooth and Athy. The Council will keep under review the number and size of towns proposed.

These towns had a combined population in excess of 70,000 persons in 1996 representing 52% of the County total at that time. It is clear that both the Liffey Valley towns and the central area towns are likely to experience sustained expansion in the short to medium term. The proportion of the County population residing in these areas is thus set to increase further in future years. It is estimated that this measure will result in the recovery for recycling of 10% of household waste in the County.

The establishment of three civic amenity centres will further encourage and facilitate the segregation and separate collection of recoverable waste, as will the increased number of drop-off centres in rural areas to one for each 1,000 persons.

The Council will provide, or arrange for the provision of, a waste processing and biological treatment plant. The facility will be capable of being extended in future if or when additional organic wastes are directed there.

5.3 (e) Home Composting of Organic Household Waste

The Council currently operates a home-composting scheme whereby the Council offers composting bins at a subsidised price to the public. The Council has supplied approximately 600 bins since the scheme began. The Council holds a strong view on the benefits of composting the organic fraction of household waste and will be advertising the scheme again in 2001. A survey of users was carried out in 2000. The vast majority of people were extremely happy with the bins and intend to continue using them. It is anticipated that such a survey would look at the problems encountered by those using the bins, if any, and provide recommendations for future users of the scheme. The Council will also issue a copy of the ENFO leaflet on home composting with all new bins supplied. Furthermore the Council will consider the possibility of implementing 'Community Composting' schemes.

5.3 (f) Involvement of County Council in Waste Recovery

The establishment of three civic amenity centres will further encourage and facilitate the recovery of recyclable waste, as will the increased number of drop-off centres in rural areas to one for each 1,000 persons and the provision of a kerbside collection service in the main towns of the county. The Council will

examine the feasibility of recovering energy from the landfill gas at Silliot Hill landfill.

g) The Scope for Energy Recovery from Waste

In the medium to long term, Kildare County Council, in order to maximise diversion of waste from landfill in accordance with national policy (“Changing Our Ways”), will consider alternative arrangements for the disposal of residual waste in co-operation with neighbouring Local Authorities. The Council will examine the feasibility of recovering energy from landfill gas at Silliot Hill.

5.3 (h) Targets for Waste Recovery

Table 5.2 includes a summary of the recycling and recovery targets Kildare County Council must achieve to meet national targets (Recycling for Ireland, 1994 as amended), the Packaging Directive, the EU Landfill Directive and the objectives set out in the recent policy statement entitled “Waste Management – Changing Our Ways”.

Table 5.2 Summary of the Targets to be met by County Kildare

| WASTE | 2001 | 2005/6 | 2009 | 2013 | 2016 |
|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Municipal to be recycled | 20% ¹ | | | 35% ⁴ | |
| Household to be diverted from landfill | | | | 50% | |
| Packaging Waste to be recycled | 25% ² | 50% ² | | | |
| Biodegradable Municipal waste to be diverted from landfill | | 25% ³ | 50% ³ | | 75% ³ |
| Biodegradable (Municipal & Industrial) | | | | 65% ⁴ | |

All targets based upon 1998 arisings aprt from Landfill Directive targets

Notes:-

1. “Recycling for Ireland” (1994)
2. Packaging Directive Targets
3. Proposed Landfill Directive Targets (based upon 1995 arisings)
4. “Changing Our Ways” (1998)

The Council seeks to achieve these targets through a combination of the following:

- The introduction of higher landfill charges as an economic incentive;
- The introduction of community based composting and the continued encouragement of home-composting;
- The development of new drop-off centres to ensure a true density of one per 1,000 population in rural areas;
- The introduction of kerbside collection of recyclables at Naas, Newbridge, Kildare, Celbridge, Leixlip, Maynooth, and Athy.

- The implementation of the Waste Management (Packaging) Regulations with particular emphasis on industrial companies that have not joined REPAK or another approved scheme.
- The establishment of state-of-the-art civic amenity centres.

5.3 (i) Consultation and Co-ordination of Measures with other Local Authorities

The Council will have due regard to developments in or by adjoining local authorities. The Council will examine the feasibility of directing all, or a proportion of, Co. Kildare's waste to suitable facilities in the Dublin, Midland or South-East Regions as and when these are proposed/developed. The possibility of co-operating with Co. Wicklow with regard to the management of waste generated in the west of that county will be examined.

5.4 Management of Packaging and Packaging Waste

Packaging is defined in the National Waste Database as "any material, container or wrapping, used for or in connection with the containment transport, handling, protection, marketing or sale of any product or substance". The most common materials used in packaging are paper, glass, plastic, metals, ferrous metal and aluminium.

The Waste Management (Packaging) Regulations, introduced on 1 July 1997, require that a producer of packaging waste must either join an approved scheme or take steps themselves to assist the recovery of packaging waste on their own premises.

So-called *major producers* (i.e. a company which places more than 25 tonnes pa of packaging onto the Irish market and which has an annual turnover in excess of IR£1m) have additional responsibilities where they choose not to join an approved scheme. They must accept or collect packaging waste from third parties and prepare and make available waste recovery plans and reports and register with their local authority.

There is only one approved scheme in existence at present. This is the user-funded organisation, REPAK, established under the auspices of the Irish Business and Employer's Confederation (IBEC). Membership of REPAK guarantees compliance with the Regulations for member companies and releases (major) producers from the potentially onerous requirement to accept or collect waste from third parties. 82 companies operating in Kildare have joined Repak. Two companies have made inquiries with regards registration with the County under the Regulations.

Commerce and industry must thus themselves ensure compliance with the requirements of the Packaging Regulations (by joining REPAK or otherwise) including the achievement of nationally agreed recycling targets (a minimum of 27% of packaging waste to be recycled by 2001). REPAK has an additional commitment to provide (financial) support to organisations engaged in the recovery and recycling of household packaging waste.

5.5 Waste Collection and Disposal

5.5 (a) Rationalisation of Existing Waste Collection, Handling and Disposal Infrastructure

The operational efficiency of the majority of waste collection services in Co. Kildare is essentially a matter for the private sector. Kildare County Council do have a regulatory function with regard to private waste collectors and are very much involved in the management and supervision of its own waste collection service (O'Hagan). With the closure of the Silliot Hill landfill site the counties direct involvement in waste disposal operations will cease for a period. During this period, waste will be transported to a baling station and then transferred to Arthurstown Landfill for disposal.

5.5 (b) The Proximity Principle

The Council has always sought to implement the proximity principle in its management of waste and will continue to do so during the currency of the Plan.

5.5 (c) The Application of the Polluter Pays Principle

The polluter pays principle is currently being applied in the County through collection and disposal charges. During the currency of this Plan the Council will assess the feasibility of introducing more direct systems, e.g. pay by weight.

5.5 (d) Consultation and Co-ordination with other Local Authorities

The Council will have due regard to developments in adjoining authorities. In order to maximise diversion of waste from landfill in accordance with national policy ("Changing Our Ways"), the Council will consider alternative arrangements for disposal of residual waste in co-operation with neighbouring Local Authorities. The Council will co-operate with Co. Wicklow concerning the future treatment and/or disposal of wastes generated in the western part of the county.