

Environmental Report

'Charting the success of the
seeds we've planted'



April 08 - March 09

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Highlights

- A £1.2 million investment in increased recycling capacity is resulting in an extra 100,000 tonnes of waste being recycled per year
- 12,000 tonnes of green waste is now being made into nationally accredited compost
- Approval granted for a new green power plant that will provide power for around 4,000 homes
- Small businesses embrace co-mingled waste collection and recycling scheme
- Landfill tax credits generate more than £600,000 for use by Yorventure in community and environmental projects across the region
- A partnership between Yorwaste and York Hospital is diverting hundreds of tonnes of non-clinical waste from landfill

Foreword

A huge incentive to move waste away from landfill

Yorwaste, like many companies, has not been immune from the effects of the global recession. However, we offer affordable, high quality services to our customers, whilst adhering to well established environmental principles, and produce high quality recycled materials that will always be in demand. Therefore, I believe we are in a better position than many others in our sector.

The UK exports the vast majority of the recyclate it recovers, which naturally brings its environmental credentials into question. Reprocessing capacity in the UK is woefully short of what is required if we are to achieve anything like an environmentally sustainable model where we are largely responsible for reprocessing what we recycle.

Whilst there are already good facilities for newspaper and glass, there is simply not enough capacity to take it all and more investment needs to be made in new reprocessing capacity.

With the landfill tax escalator of £8 per annum now extended to 2013, a landfill tax of £72 per tonne will provide a huge incentive to drive change and persuade industry to invest in alternatives to landfill. By delivering alternative ways of dealing with waste, Yorwaste believes it is positioning itself to capitalise on the increasingly onerous tax burden having to be borne by our customers.

The Government's energy policy represents another fiscal measure to attract investment in new and emerging technology which is able to convert waste into renewable energy.

More locally it is with regret that I have to report the receipt of two enforcement notices issued by the Environment Agency in respect of our landfill operations at Harewood Whin and Skibeden.

The standard of operation in respect of leachate and landfill gas control fell well below what is required and normally achieved.

Significant improvements to management, operating procedures and infrastructure has now restored confidence and the Environment Agency's most recent audit has confirmed both sites are operating to a satisfactory standard.

To assist the control of landfill gas an additional 2MW of generating capacity has been installed which takes the Company's total capacity to just under 7.4MW across four facilities.

Steve Grieve
Managing Director

'Yorwaste believes it is positioning itself to capitalise on the increasingly onerous tax burden having to be borne by our customers.'





Yorwaste's holistic waste proposition

don't waste waste

The creation of waste is often considered a physical process that results as a consequence of some of our regular activities such as production and consumption. It might be said that adopting such an ambivalent view to waste highlights a disregard for our natural resources. Instead we might want to reflect upon a more radical psychological change whereby we closely examine the resources we use pre production and consumption and attempt to design waste out of our activities.

A year ago Yorwaste unveiled its new slogan, 'don't waste waste', with the underlying message to all organisations to reflect upon the waste they produce and carefully consider the way they manage that waste.

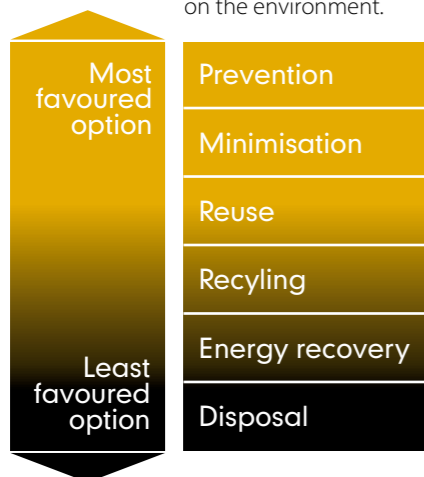
Fast forward 12 months and with the recession biting and both companies and the public having to tighten their belts, this slogan has become very prophetic. Where once we were a throwaway society people are now recognising the need to make things go further and, as a result, everyone is becoming more aware of their own carbon footprint and the effect it can have on the environment.

Now, and in the future, companies like Yorwaste, who used to be seen as the people who took the rubbish away, have a big part to play in helping people and organisations to manage their carbon footprint.

Yorwaste will not only be assisting customers move their waste management up the traditional waste hierarchy but we may also, in the future, provide support in other areas which contribute to their carbon footprint, such as water and energy consumption. We are already discovering that these sorts of environmental issues dovetail with our own core business activities.

Waste is often considered as one of the key components to the carbon debate and in taking this approach Yorwaste envisages becoming a key "green business partner" for organisations seeking to reduce their carbon footprint, providing a 'wrap-around' consultancy by offering advice on waste minimisation and prevention, and supporting other environmental considerations.

As the "green business partner" of choice, Yorwaste has a vital role to play in helping organisations achieve this goal.



A year in review

Over the last 12 months, thanks to new investment and initiatives, tremendous strides have been made by Yorwaste to help its stakeholders divert waste from landfill and promote recycling. Over the next three pages we provide a summary of the main highlights.

Green power

In January 2009, approval was granted for a new green power plant in York.

A joint venture between Yorwaste and renewable energy company Bioflame will see a new electricity generating station constructed at Harewood Whin - Yorwaste's resource recovery centre, near York.

When it is operational the station, which will be fuelled by waste wood, will export 2.5MW of electricity from the site to the national grid. This will be enough electricity to power around 4,000 homes.

Tony Sharkey, Yorwaste Director of Future Developments, said: "We already have a generation capacity of 5.2MW of electricity at Harewood Whin from landfill gas, so this new investment will make the facility one of the largest renewable electricity generating sites in the whole of Yorkshire."

Extra recycling capacity

Yorwaste has completed a £1.2 million investment in increased recycling capacity at two of its North Yorkshire facilities.

The extension of facilities at Seamer Carr, Scarborough, and Tancred, near Catterick, will enable Yorwaste to recycle an extra 100,000 tonnes of waste per year.

At Seamer Carr, a new 1,500 sq metre facility is now handling construction and demolition waste, as well as general recyclable material. At Tancred, a new 600 sq metre facility is handling general recyclable materials.

Tim Reay, Yorwaste Divisional Director for North Yorkshire, said: "The increased capacity these new facilities provide is a demonstration of our confidence in the long-term market for recycled materials."

Small business recycling scheme

A new waste recycling and collection service for small businesses in York and North Yorkshire has been launched.

The multi-material co-mingled recycling service aims to help businesses to recycle more of their waste materials.

Yorwaste's Sales & Marketing Manager, Ken Davidson, said: "Small businesses often want to do their bit to protect the environment but either can't find a contractor willing to collect small volumes of mixed materials on a regular basis or are unsure of the business case for recycling."

"We are solving these issues with this service and, in the process, championing the environmental aspiration of the SME sector."

A recent survey by the Waste Resource and Action Programme (WRAP) revealed that more than a quarter of the companies who recycled waste at work said saving space was a motive for starting the scheme, while more than a third said recycling had improved their reputation within the local community.

One of the first organisations to join the scheme was Scarborough Building Society.

'Yorwaste has completed a £1.2 million investment in increased recycling capacity at two of its North Yorkshire facilities.'



Harewood Whin

Green power generation boost

Yorwaste has increased the amount of electricity it generates from its Harewood Whin landfill site near York to 5.2MW.

In total, the three new generators, fuelled by gases produced by decomposing landfill materials, provide 2MW of electricity to the national grid.

Yorwaste Managing Director Steve Grieve said: "This is an ecologically important development as it involves the sustainable generation of electricity without leaving a major carbon footprint.

"Furthermore, it is good news for local residents as this development, coupled with the other steps we have already taken, will significantly reduce any possible problem with odours.

"The Harewood Whin gas field has been extended into the operational area of the landfill site, thereby drawing off gases which might otherwise have escaped into the atmosphere, causing unpleasant smells."

Focusing on construction

A dedicated, socially responsible waste management service for the construction industry is now in operation.

Covering the whole waste management process, from collection to disposal, YorSkip is able to supply construction companies with the essential data they need for site waste management plans. This includes comprehensive recycling statements and a full-audited trail of the material collected.

YorSkip's fleet of hooklift and skip vehicles offer customers a wide choice of container size, so they can choose the most cost-effective solution for their needs.

The new service complements environmental performance indicators and site management that construction companies are now introducing.



Construction waste

yorskip

Yorwaste compost proves a major success

Green waste collected from thousands of homes in the Richmondshire and Hambleton areas is now finding its way back into the gardens of people who recycled it in the first place.

Yorwaste has received national accreditation to sell the compost it produces at its Tancred site near Scorton.

Staff at Tancred had to continually improve the standard of compost it was producing in order to meet the strict criteria needed for the national accreditation, known as PAS 100 Quality Protocol.

A total of 12,000 tonnes of green waste (grass, leaves, weeds, branches etc) collected from kerbsides in the Richmondshire and Hambleton area each year is taken to Tancred for composting, so people who buy the compost from the site are effectively putting it back in their gardens and helping the environment.

'the only site of its kind in the region with the capability of processing co-mingled recyclable material.'

£800,000 recycling investment

Yorwaste's new £800,000 Scarborough Resource Recovery Centre (SRRRC) at Seamer Carr was officially opened in May 2008.

The technologically-advanced centre processes the materials collected through the blue bin recycling scheme. It incorporates a household waste recycling centre, energy generation from methane gas, composting facilities, as well as landfill, and is the only site of its kind in the region with the capability of processing co-mingled recyclable material.

The SRRRC has the capacity to handle 98 tonnes of waste per seven-hour shift and is already recycling close to 100% of the material it handles.

Harry Briggs, Recycling Development Officer for Scarborough Borough Council, said:

"The results of the recycling scheme are very encouraging. By improving our recycling rates, we are diverting material away from landfill, therefore making the borough of Scarborough a 'greener' place to live and visit."



Scarborough Resource Recovery Centre

Picture courtesy of Scarborough Borough Council



Hospital contract

Yorwaste is now in the second year of a three-year contract to manage the recycling and disposal of hundreds of tonnes a year of non-clinical waste from York Hospital.

As well as cardboard and newspaper, the hospital is now recycling material such as office paper, inkjet toners, tin cans, glass and plastic.

It is estimated the hospital generates around 600 tonnes of non-clinical waste per year, in addition to 120 tonnes of cardboard and 40 tonnes of newspapers and magazines.

York Hospital's Portering and Environment Manager, Andy Sanderson, said: "We are a responsible producer of waste and take our environmental responsibilities very seriously.

"We awarded the contract to Yorwaste because we needed a contractor who could work with us to maximise the proportion of waste we recycle."

Environmental Performance Review

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Benchmarking performance

As a member of the Environmental Services Association – the UK's waste and recycling trade body – Yorwaste is committed to using the indicators adopted by the association to measure and publicly report on our environmental performance.

The indicators, developed by environmental charity the Green Alliance, allow us to benchmark our environmental performance with the whole of waste management industry, providing a set of measurements that are readily understandable.

The indicators allow all the company's stakeholders to:

- Benchmark our environmental performance
- Provide consistent information on the organisation's carbon footprint and identify the most significant contributors to this footprint
- Identify the most significant environmental impacts and focus resources appropriately
- Establish clear, meaningful environmental performance goals and targets.

Our performance against the environmental performance indicators relevant to Yorwaste's activities during 2008/09 is detailed over the following pages. It was clear during the later part of 2008 that the ongoing economic downturn and resultant impact on the global recycling markets would lead to a reduction in the quantities of waste and recycle being handled. These unprecedented events have had an impact on the company's performance against its key environmental performance indicators.



Climate change

Indicator: Carbon footprint

Outcome: **NO** Target not achieved

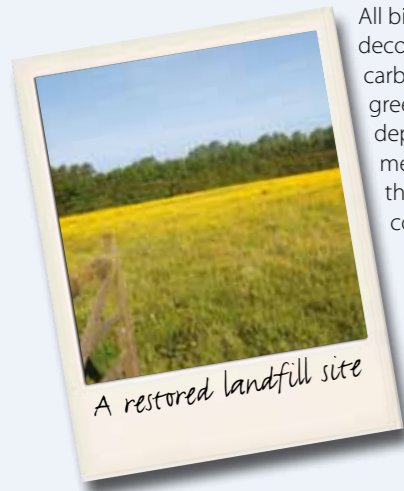
The waste management sector has a particularly influential role in managing climate change as its operations have the potential to be a very significant source of greenhouse gas emissions.

The relatively intensive use of vehicles and heavy plant to transport and handle waste and recycle materials will result in the release of greenhouse gases, but most significant are the potential emissions from landfill sites.

All biodegradable waste deposited in a landfill site will decompose and release gases, consisting primarily of carbon dioxide and methane, an extremely potent greenhouse gas. Every tonne of biodegradable waste deposited in a landfill can produce up to 10m³ of methane per year, for many years to come. It is therefore essential that these gases are adequately controlled.

Through its recycling activities the waste management sector can also have a significant positive impact climate change. The well worn message of "reduce, reuse, recycle" has been used by environmentalists for many years, and the waste management sector has developed around facilitating the reuse and recycle elements of this message. This makes good sense from both a business and environmental perspective.

Yorwaste is committed to minimising its own contribution to climate change, and also to managing the waste and recyclable materials to make best use of its resources. The company has quantified its carbon footprint in terms of equivalent CO₂ emission per tonne of waste handled in the table below. The actual emission of greenhouse gases per tonne of waste handled was above the target figure for the period. This is a direct result of the reduced waste inputs during the period due to the economic downturn.



| | Tonnes (CO ₂ Equivalent) | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | 2005/06 | 2006/07 | 2007/08 | 2008/09 |
| Process related emissions | | | | |
| Landfill gas emissions Including: Passive venting, flared & power generation | 157,183 | 162,757 | 173,193 | 180,059 |
| Transport related emissions | | | | |
| Transport related emissions including waste transport vehicles and company cars | 1,877 | 1,471 | 2,186 | 2,524 |
| Energy consumed | | | | |
| Electricity | 437 | 377 | 391 | 401 |
| Plant & equipment | 2,411 | 2,302 | 2,483 | 2,661 |
| Total emission | 161,908 | 166,907 | 178,254 | 185,644 |
| Energy exports | | | | |
| Electricity generated from LFG | -17,121 | -17,551 | -15,996 | -13,544 |
| Net total CO₂ equivalent emission | 144,787 | 149,356 | 162,258 | 172,100 |
| Tonnes of waste handled | 1,011,553 | 1,005,394 | 1,131,760.9 | 991,078 |
| CO₂ equivalent emission per tonne of waste handled (Target = 0.15) | 0.14 | 0.15 | 0.14 | 0.17 |

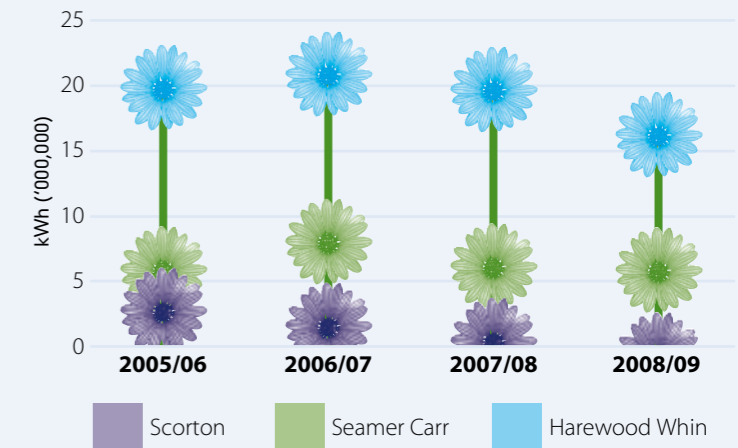
Indicator: Electricity generated

Outcome: **YES** Target achieved

During the period 2008/09, more than 31,500MWh of green electricity was produced at Yorwaste sites through the collection and combustion of landfill gas.

The electricity produced was exported directly to the National Grid and effectively replaced electricity which would have been generated using traditional fuels. We estimate that the electricity generated at Yorwaste sites has avoided emissions equivalent to nearly 13,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide.

The electricity generated during the period would be enough to provide for the needs of approximately 7,000 households, and the site breakdown is as follows.



Indicator: Installed electricity generation capacity

Outcome: **YES** Target achieved

The gas generated by the natural decomposition processes within landfill sites (landfill gas) consists of up to 65% methane, making it an excellent fuel.

This gas may be used to generate green electricity which can be sold into the National Grid. As a result, landfill gas is considered to be a valuable economic resource.

The uncontrolled release of landfill gas into the atmosphere is environmentally unacceptable due to both the possible climate change impacts and also the local air pollution and odour issues it may cause.

Therefore, capture and utilisation of landfill gas for electricity generation, wherever it is economically viable, is a key element in fulfilling Yorwaste's dual commitment to maximising the value derived from waste, whilst minimising any environmental impacts.

During the reporting period an extra 2MW of installed capacity was added to the existing 3.2MW at Harewood resulting in over 5.2MW of capacity for the whole site.

Electricity is currently generated at three of Yorwaste's landfill sites. The total installed generation capacity at each site, at the end of the reporting period is detailed to the right.

Towards the end of the reporting period, a new 1.136MW generator was installed at the Skibeden site to replace the existing gas flare. This brand new installation is currently undergoing commissioning and will come on line in 2009/10 bringing the total capacity to over 8.5MW across all sites.

| Site | Capacity (MW) |
|---------------|---------------|
| Scorton | 0.8MW |
| Seamer Carr | 1.4MW |
| Harewood Whin | 5.2MW |
| Total | 7.4MW |

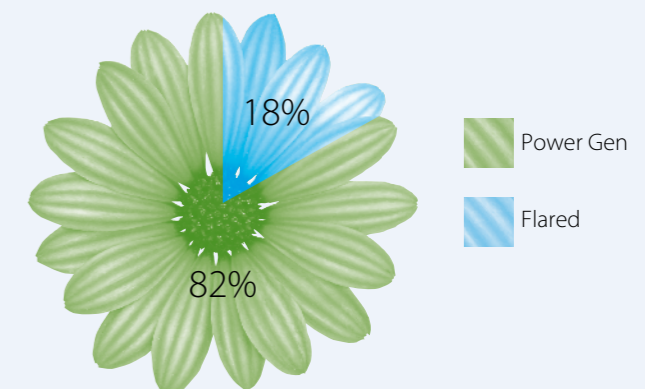
Indicator: Proportion of gas flared, used for power generation

Outcome: **YES** Target achieved

Given that landfill gas is such a valuable energy resource, but with the potential to have significant environmental impacts if not adequately controlled, all Yorwaste landfill sites are engineered to maximise the collection of the gas generated in the site. It is not always economically viable to utilise the collected gas to generate electricity, particularly at smaller sites. In such instances the collected gas is safely combusted in a gas flare in order to reduce the environmental impact of releasing methane, and also to reduce the possibility of odorous emissions.

Gas collection systems can never be 100% effective and it is inevitable that some gas will escape and be passively vented to atmosphere, particularly from newly developed areas of landfill prior to final capping. It is always the aim of Yorwaste to minimise such losses. The chart opposite summarises the utilisation of collected landfill gas across all Yorwaste sites during the period.

In the coming year it is planned to make improvements to the modelling techniques used to determine landfill gas production and emission rates. This work will further improve our understanding of the carbon footprint of landfill operations.



Transport

Indicator: Commercial fleet fuel consumption (miles per gallon)

Outcome: **NO** Target not achieved 


At the core of Yorwaste's business is the collection and transport of the various recycle and waste streams generated by our customers. The company operates an extremely varied fleet of road vehicles in order to provide this service and one of our most significant business costs is the fuel used to operate these vehicles. The combined fleet of road vehicles consumed nearly 1 million litres of fuel during the period, resulting in the emission of 2,500 tonnes of carbon dioxide.

Therefore a key area of focus for our Fleet Managers is the active management of fuel consumption, to minimise the potential financial and environmental

impacts. Yorwaste has continued to make significant investments, replacing older, less efficient vehicles with newer greener vehicles which meet the highest emission standards. The maintenance regime implemented across the whole fleet ensures that all vehicles operate at their maximum efficiency.

All Yorwaste drivers undergo regular driver training, which includes the SAFED driver training initiative aimed at developing fuel efficient driving techniques. With these systems in place, the company again fell just short of its challenging target of 9mpg, with an average performance for the period of 8.6mpg.

Indicator: Fuel consumption

Outcome: **NO** Target not achieved 

The performance of the commercial fleet and materials handling plant in terms of litres of fuel used per tonne of waste handled is summarised in the table below.

The target of 1.35 litres per tonne was not achieved because of an increase in fuel usage due to longer distances being travelled, the increased processing of waste with plant and equipment and reduced waste inputs.

| | 2006/07 | 2007/08 | 2008/09 |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Fuel consumed by transport fleet (litres) | | | 941,615 |
| Fuel consumed by plant equipment (litres) | | | 992,836 |
| Total fuel consumed (litres) | | | 1,934,451 |
| Waste handled (tonnes) | | | 991,079 |
| Litres per tonne waste (Target = 1.35) | 1.40 | 1.35 | 1.95 |



Land use and wildlife

Indicator: Mass of green waste composted

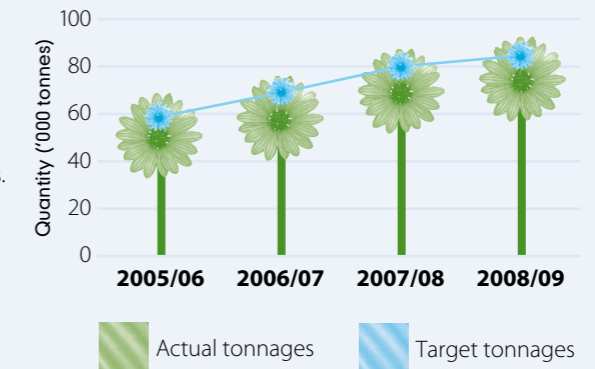
Outcome: **YES** Target achieved 

The composting of green waste has significant environmental benefits, both in terms of diverting materials away from landfill disposal, and also creating a valuable product. Once fully composted, the material produced on Yorwaste sites is predominately used as a restoration material on the site. Such use minimises the need to import large quantities of soils, thereby reducing vehicle movements.

Yorwaste undertakes composting operations at four locations: Harewood Whin, Seamer Carr, Tancred and Skibeden. The quantity of green waste processed at these facilities has steadily increased over recent years.

During the period, the compost produced at the Tancred site successfully obtained accreditation to the PAS100 quality control standard, confirming its status as a high quality product. This material will now be marketed as an alternative to traditional soil conditioner and compost materials.

Yorwaste set a target of processing 85,000 tonnes of green waste through its composting facilities for the period 2008/09. The actual quantity of green waste diverted from landfill and composted at the four sites during the period was more than 87,000 tonnes.



Indicator: Site restoration

Outcome: **YES** Target achieved 

An essential part of the management of landfill operations is the development and implementation of a long term plan to ensure that all sites are ultimately returned to a useful purpose once the site reaches the end of its operational life.

These restoration plans are different for each site and aim to ensure that the site is left in a safe and environmentally acceptable state for future use. All plans are agreed in consultation with interested parties such as the Environment Agency and Planning Authority.

Yorwaste currently manages eight landfill sites, of which three are now fully closed and undergoing restoration and landscaping. Extensive work has taken place during this period to ensure that environmental control is maintained over landfill gas and leachate issues, such that, these sites may ultimately be returned to general agricultural use.

Yorwaste set a target of restoring 58% of the total area of its landfill sites by the end of the period. This target has been fully achieved, with in excess of 60% of the total land area being restored.

Indicator: Biodiversity & habitats

Outcome: **YES** Target achieved 

Yorwaste takes seriously its responsibility for managing the large areas of land under its control in an environmentally sensitive way. Wherever possible, the company will ensure that once its operations are complete in an area, the land is managed so as to maximise the environmental benefit and improve biodiversity. Restoration schemes are developed for all landfill operations and agreed with all relevant stakeholders. The company seeks the advice of ecologists in order to ensure that these plans make best use of the land to create wildlife habitats from once operational areas.

Yorwaste set a target for the period of maintaining its biodiversity strategy.

The strategy, established and implemented through the site restoration plans, is monitored via regular

surveys carried out by independent consultants. These extensive surveys have been carried out by ecologists to determine the state of the natural environment on and around our sites. They ensure that restoration plans are being effective and wherever practicable recommendations for further improvements are incorporated into future schemes.

Yorwaste targeted to implement a programme of work to improve wildlife habitats on sites

In line with previous years, the company has developed an annual programme of aftercare and maintenance work to ensure that the wildlife habitats on all sites are being maintained. The findings and recommendations of the ecological surveys are used to review these programmes on an annual basis.

Regulatory compliance

The regulatory pressures on operators of waste management facilities in the UK are significant and ever increasing. All operators fall under the inspection regime of the Environmental Agency, who regularly assesses the environmental compliance performance of operators, as part of their permitting regime.

Indicator: Number of enforcement notices

Outcome: **NO** Target not achieved 

Regulatory compliance remains a key area of focus for Yorwaste, and the company remains committed to ensuring full compliance with all relevant legislation and operating all sites to the highest possible standards. It is therefore disappointing to report that during the period, the company was issued with two enforcement notices by the Environment Agency.

A Notice was issued at the Harewood Whin Site in July 2008 relating to the control of odorous emissions from the landfill operations. On receipt of the notice, a programme of engineering work was agreed with the EA to improve the landfill gas containment and collection systems in specific areas of the site. In addition, a temporary gas flare was installed, pending the completion of a project to install a new power generation plant. This programme of work was completed to the satisfaction of the Environment Agency by the end of 2008.

A second Notice was issued at the Skibeden Landfill Site during October 2008 relating to management of leachate and control of landfill gas within the terms of

the site permit. In response to this notice, a significant programme of work was agreed with the Environment Agency which included both short term fixes to the issues identified, as well as long term engineering solutions which should prevent any reoccurrence of the particular operational problems faced by this site. In addition, a review of the management systems on the site has been carried out along with additional training for the relevant personnel.

The programme of work was implemented during late 2008 and early 2009, to the satisfaction of the Environment Agency.

During both of the incidents, the company has worked closely in consultation with the EA to minimise any environmental impact at the site and reduce the risk of any re-occurrence of the issues. As a result of these incidents and a subsequent review of the management systems in place, the resources within the compliance function have been considerably increased.

Indicator: Progress with Permit improvements

Outcome: **YES** Target achieved 

Working in conjunction with the Environment Agency, the company is currently progressing environmental improvement plans at the Harewood Whin, Tancred and Caulklands sites, with completion of conditions such as the installation of additional environmental monitoring boreholes at the Tancred site.

Whilst every effort is made to progress these plans within the original timescales, it has been necessary to agree extended timescales with the Environment Agency for some actions.

Environmental management systems

Indicator: Proportion of sites certified to ISO14001

Outcome: **YES** Target achieved 

Yorwaste considers its Environmental Management System (EMS) to be an essential business tool and the company is committed to the ISO14001 ethos of continuous environmental improvement. The electronic EMS implemented at all sites ensures that all personnel are aware of their environmental responsibilities, and the actions they must take to ensure that all potential impacts are being adequately managed. The Yorwaste Environmental Management System has been certified to ISO14001 by Lloyds Register Quality Assurance (LRQA) since 2001 and as such is well established across all operations. The

electronic EMS model used throughout the company has now been incorporated into the operations of subsidiary companies such as MRES and ERC.

The company is currently undertaking a major review of its business systems in response to the changing economic environment, and the external certification of the EMS is currently being reviewed. However Yorwaste remains committed to maintaining the highest standards of environmental performance and will continue to operate an EMS in line with the requirements of ISO14001 across all operations.

Waste minimisation and resource productivity

Indicator: Relative amounts of material recovered from the waste stream as a proportion of the total waste handled

Outcome: **YES** Target achieved 

A key focus for the company is the development of schemes to divert materials away from landfill and extract maximum value from resource through recycling wherever possible. The tonnages of recyclate material processed through Yorwaste facilities were maintained despite the economic downturn and the major impact on the global recycling markets during late 2008. The targets set for recovery of materials from the waste stream during 2008/09 are detailed in the table below.

Targets were achieved in most recycling areas, with the exception of wood, where tonnages have seen a significant decline. The volumes of paper and cardboard and dry recyclable materials such as plastic, glass and cans, which are processed through the company's two materials recycling facilities at Seamer and Hessay, have shown a significant increase over the previous period.

| | 2005/06 Outcome | 2006/07 Outcome | 2007/08 Outcome | 2008/09 Target | 2008/09 Outcome |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Green waste composted | 69,800 | 73,279 | 84,254 | 85,000 | 87,451 |
| Wood recycled | 11,900 | 16,461 | 19,244 | 21,000 | 13,511 |
| Paper & card recycled | 20,239 | 21,460 | 26,092 | 26,000 | 29,253 |
| Dry recyclables | 23,500 | 35,073 | 36,095 | 35,000 | 45,651 |
| Total material handled | 1,011,553 | 1,005,394 | 1,131,761 | 1,049,000 | 991,078 |
| Cathode Ray Tubes processed through the ERC facility | 51,000* | 61,252* | 110,130* | 90,000 | 107,895* |

All quantities measured in tonnes except * which is CRT Units

Indicator: Household waste recycling rates at centres managed by Yorwaste

Outcome: **YES** Target achieved 

A key focus of the personnel tasked with operation of Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC) is the maximisation of material recycling rates. One standard way of measuring the recycling rate at a HWRC is the Best Value Performance Indicator (BVPI). Targets are set for site operators relating to the diversion of materials away from landfill and into the recycling streams.

The performance against the BVPI targets across the six sites managed on behalf of North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) and City of York Council (CYC) is detailed below:

| | 2008/09 Target | 2008/09 Outcome |
|--|----------------|-----------------|
| City of York Council recycling target* | 60% | 62% |
| North Yorkshire County Council recycling target* | 55% | 62% |

* Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC)

Neighbourliness

Yorwaste is committed to being a good neighbour and engaging with all interested parties in relation to existing and proposed operations at our sites.

Indicator: Stakeholder feedback

Outcome: **NO** Target not achieved 

Yorwaste set itself the target for 2008/09 of reducing the number of justified stakeholder complaints relating to its operations. During 2007/08, the average number of complaints relating to landfill operations was 1 per site and the number relating to household waste recycling centres (HWRC) was 0.3 per site.

Following a period of a number of years where the level of stakeholder complaints has been significantly reduced, it is disappointing to report that the operational issues at Harewood Whin and Skibeden, described earlier in this report, resulted in an increase in the feedback at these sites relating to odour control. As a result, the average number of complaints across all landfill sites rose to 2 per site. The company takes such feedback extremely seriously and has worked hard to address the operational issues at these sites, and ensured that the likelihood of future complaints is much reduced.

The number of complaints relating to activities at HWRC's also increased to an average of 1.2 complaints per site.

Yorwaste also measure positive customer feedback relating to site operations in the form of customer compliments. During the 2008/09 period the mean number of complimentary communication received from HWRC customers was 2.2 per site.

Indicator: Community consultation and liaison groups

Outcome: **YES** Target achieved 

At a number of Yorwaste sites, formal community liaison groups have been established for many years. These groups provide a vital link for clear communication between the company and the local community. The groups are made up of local residents and include representatives of the parish council and other local interest groups. Community representatives are kept informed

of site developments and any changes to operations. Members have the opportunity to raise any concerns they have about the activities of the company and formal feedback is given where appropriate. Currently the company has formal liaison groups established at the Harewood Whin, Caulklands, Skibeden and Tancred sites. Further groups will be established with the local community wherever this is appropriate.

Indicator: Site educational visits

Outcome: **YES** Target achieved 

As part of the company's ongoing desire to increase public awareness of the environmental issues facing the modern waste management and recycling industries, Yorwaste has opened its doors to interested parties throughout the period.

The company has hosted numerous site visits and guided tours from a diverse range of educational, community and industrial groups. Tours have taken place at Seamer Carr, Harewood Whin, Tancred and Hessay sites. In addition, open days, attended by the local community, have been held at the Harewood Whin and Hessay sites.

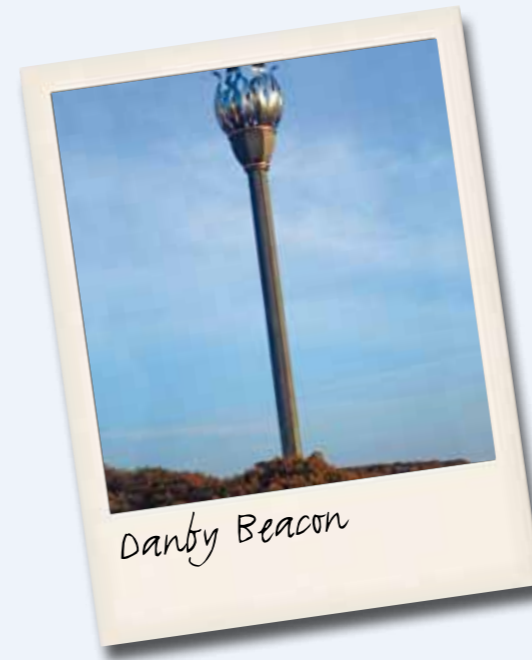
It is hoped that these visits provide the interested parties with a clearer understanding of our business, and go some way to improve the perception of the waste management industry among the public.

Projects

Indicator: **Funding of community and environmental projects** Outcome: **YES** Target achieved 

Yorventure Ltd is an independent not-for-profit Environmental Body that distributes grants to community and environmental projects through the Landfill Communities Fund with landfill tax credits generated by Yorwaste.

During the period, more than £600,000 has been awarded to fund projects close to Yorwaste landfill sites. Some of the more significant schemes were:



Danby Beacon

Danby Beacon

Yorventure awarded a grant of £15,000 for the construction of a new Beacon at Danby. Some form of Beacon has been on the site since the Napoleonic wars, the last Beacon having been vandalised in 1990. Danby Beacon is an historic site both in terms of the Beacon itself, but also as a site of archaeological importance being sited on top of a Bronze Age barrow, a scheduled ancient monument.

East Cowton play area

A grant of £17,780 was awarded to the East Cowton Play Area Committee to replace the existing play equipment, which was old, worn, and presented safety concerns. Before embarking on this project all families, including the children in the village, were surveyed for their ideas. The outcome of this consultation identified the age range of children wishing to use the area and prioritised the types of equipment they would like to see installed. The new equipment includes an adventure play unit, swings, trim trail, springy toy and safety surfacing.



East Cowton play area

Earswick scented garden

A Yorventure grant of £17,816 was made towards this project to create a scented/sensory garden on the site of a redundant bowling green with the village of Earswick. The bowling green had been unused for over six years and a public consultation identified the need for a community outdoor space, accessible to all.



Earswick scented garden

Projects continued

Old Park Plantation Pathways

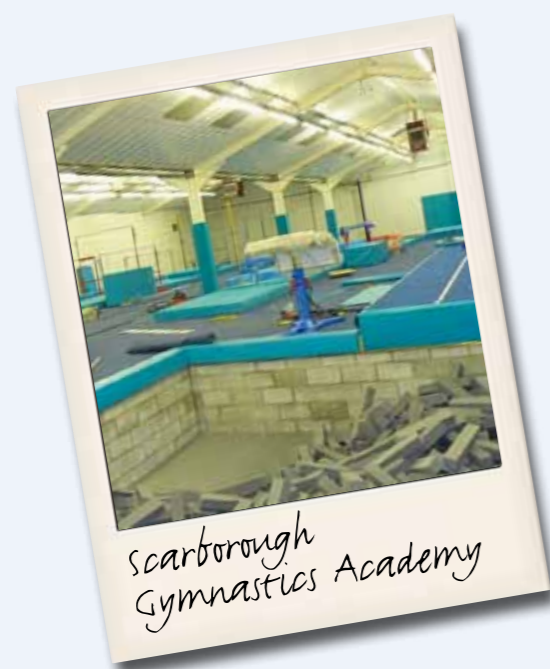
The Wildlife Habitat Protection Trust had been gifted a mature un-managed woodland, which the Trust is developing into a Woodland Nature Reserve. Fencing and tree work, replanting and ground clearance had been undertaken and a wildlife pond and viewing area created in the centre of the woodland. In order to enable the general public and supervised school visits to take place an accessible footpath into the centre of the woodland was required. Yorventure awarded a grant of £25,000 to the Trust to lay the footpath, which has opened up the area for the whole community, but in particular to people with disabilities.



Old Park Plantation Pathways

Scarborough Gymnastics Academy – ‘Gym for All’

The Scarborough Gymnastics Academy secured funding to renovate a building to create a dedicated facility, enabling the club to increase provision and make the sport more accessible to the wider community. The Club approached Yorventure for funding towards the provision of equipment for the new centre, and were awarded a grant of £17,134 for a landing area/activity pit, floor level trampoline, adjustable bars and soft play equipment. This created opportunities for a range of groups including competition and recreational gymnasts, adults, pre-school and disability groups.



Scarborough Gymnastics Academy

Appendix

Yorwaste’s environmental performance summary 2008/09

| | Outcome |
|--|--------------|
| Climate Change | |
| Continue the programme to reduce the emission of greenhouse gases | Achieved |
| Endeavour to maintain an emission level of 0.15 tonnes of CO2 per tonne of waste handled. | Not achieved |
| Increase installed electricity generation capacity at landfill sites. | Achieved |
| Transport | |
| Manage the Yorwaste fleet so as to deliver an average fuel consumption performance of 9mpg. | Not achieved |
| Manage fuel consumption across all activities to deliver a performance of 1.35 litres per tonne of waste. | Not achieved |
| Land Use and Wildlife | |
| Ensure that site restoration plans are managed so that the total area of restored landfill increases to 60%. | Achieved |
| Increase composting operations to treat 85,000 tonnes of greenwaste. | Achieved |
| Develop a biodiversity strategy for the company and implement a programme of work to improve wildlife habitats on sites. | Achieved |
| Regulatory Compliance | |
| Comply with all regulatory requirements and manage operations so as to receive zero enforcement notices & prosecutions | Not achieved |
| Progress permit improvement programmes within agreed timescale | Achieved |
| Environmental Management Systems | |
| Maintain ISO14001 certification at all sites | Achieved |
| Carry out environmental awareness refresher training with all employees. | Achieved |
| Waste Minimisation / Resource Productivity | |
| Quantities of waste materials recovered from waste streams: | |
| Greenwaste: 85,000 tonnes | Achieved |
| Wood: 21,000 tonnes | Not achieved |
| Paper & card: 26,000 tonnes | Achieved |
| Dry Recyclables: 35,000 tonnes | Achieved |
| Cathode Ray Tubes processed through ERC: 90,000 units | Achieved |
| Achieve BVPI recycling target for CYC HWRC's of 60% (excluding inerts) | Achieved |
| Achieve BVPI target for NYCC HWRC's of 55% (excluding inerts) | Achieved |
| Neighbourliness | |
| Reduce the number of complaints received per site for both landfill and HWRC operations. | Not achieved |
| Yorwaste will continue to support educational programmes through site visits wherever operational activities permit. | Achieved |



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Contact details:

Yorwaste Limited, Mount View, Standard Way, Northallerton, DL6 2YD.

Tel: 01609 774400 Fax: 01609 772327 Email: info@yorwaste.co.uk

www.yorwaste.co.uk

