



# The Survey of Industrial and Commercial Waste Arisings in the North West

## Frequently Asked Questions

Our sincere thanks to you for agreeing to take part in this important regional survey. We will aim to collect the information we need with minimal impact on your business or your time. As a preparation for your survey visit, we have prepared a number of “Frequently Asked Questions” to help explain what we are aiming to do, and why:

### **Why is this survey being carried out?**

Primarily this survey is required by the planning authorities in the North West. This data is required to assess the progress in diverting waste from landfill, and recycling and reuse, but also to help identify market gaps and the need for new waste recycling or treatment facilities.

As a nation, we still depend heavily on landfill for the disposal of our wastes. The increasing pace of change in the legislative, technical and economic conditions affecting the North West mean that in the future new waste management infrastructure in the form of treatment, recycling and reprocessing plant will be required to replace our historic reliance on landfill.

The information collected in this survey will be used to project what types and size of new waste facilities will be required for the future management of commercial and industrial wastes in the North West and to help plan facilities regionally and support planning applications locally.

This survey could well help to provide you with local waste management facilities to help you manage your waste, and your waste costs.

### **What will I get from being involved in the survey?**

During the survey, the surveyor will pass on information on a range of free support services which will help you reduce your waste, keep up to date with environmental legislation or reduce your waste bills.

An important aim of this survey is to provide better facilities in the North West for the recycling, recovery or disposal of your waste, so there should be longer term benefits to your business too.

### **Who is doing this survey?**

This survey is being carried out by trained independent surveyors who are delivering this survey on behalf of the local authorities of the North West and 4NW. The surveyors are not employees of either of these organisations and cannot deal with other Council matters.

### **How was I selected?**

We need to survey 1,000 commercial or industrial companies. To be able to give results which are statistically valid, companies who take part in this survey are selected completely at random, based upon their size and type of business. You have

therefore been randomly selected from basic contact data provided by the Office of National Statistics.

### **What does the survey entail?**

We need to collect basic information about what waste you produce, quantified as much as possible, and what happens to that waste. To be able to aggregate this data properly, we will also need to check the size of your company against the data we have, and your type of business. To achieve this, a surveyor will visit your site at a mutually agreed time and date, to conduct a survey interview and take a short tour of your facilities, to spot any materials which you may not consider waste, or are insignificant to you but important to the survey. The surveyor will enter this data on a laptop on site.

He/she will arrive with a range of personal safety equipment, but if you have particular site requirements, can you please let us know beforehand or have the requisite safety equipment available.

### **Will my confidentiality be compromised?**

No. We take Data Protection and Commercial Confidentiality very seriously. Your company details will only be used by the personnel booking the visits and those carrying out the survey. Information collected from you will only be used for the purpose of this survey, and will be aggregated so that it will not be possible to identify individual company data. The survey will culminate in an analysis at local authority and regional level, and only aggregated data will be used for this.

### **Will my data be passed on to my local Council, the Environment Agency or other Government Agencies for any other purpose?**

No. Your data will only be used for the purpose of this survey. It will be kept secure and will not be passed on to anybody not connected with delivering the survey. The independent surveyors used are not government employees, they are not interested in how you run your operations or looking for infringements of waste legislation, and are not permitted to use the data they collect for any other reason than to deliver the survey.

Company or waste data or observations made during the survey visit, will not be forwarded to or used by any Government Agency.

### **What is expected of me?**

If you prepare for the visit of the surveyor, then he/she will be able to complete their survey in an effective and timely manner, and leave you to get on with your real work! If you are able to collect appropriate consignment notes, transfer notes or invoices or other documents which evidence waste quantities, this would be very useful.

Before the survey we will supply a hard copy of the survey form. If you look through this, this should help you identify any other information you may need to complete the survey.

### **How long will the survey take?**

This will depend on your company's size and complexity. We aim to have most surveys complete within half an hour, for larger sites it may take longer than this.

### **Where can I find out more?**

Check our website at [www.wastesurvey.com](http://www.wastesurvey.com), email us at [info@wastesurvey.com](mailto:info@wastesurvey.com), or call Jill Sykes on 01274699400.