

## **NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**Minutes of Neighbourhood Services Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 23 February 2022 at 6.00pm in the Mourne Room. Downshire Civic Estate, Downpatrick and via MS Teams.**

**Chair:** Councillor A Finnegan (Chamber)

**Members:** Councillor T Andrews (Chamber)  
Councillor P Brown (Teams)  
Councillor C Casey (Teams)  
Councillor W Clarke (Teams)  
Councillor D Curran (Chamber)  
Councillor G Malone (Teams)  
Councillor D Murphy (Teams)  
Councillor O Magennis (Teams)  
Councillor K McKeivitt (Teams)  
Councillor M Ruane (Teams)  
Councillor H McKee (Teams)  
Councillor M Ruane (Teams)  
Councillor G Stokes (Teams)  
Councillor D Taylor (Teams)

**Officials in Attendance:** Mr J McBride Director Neighbourhood Services (Acting)  
Mr K Scullion, Assistant Director Facilities Management and Maintenance  
Ms S Murphy, Acting Assistant Director Waste Management  
Ms P McKeever, Democratic Services Officer  
Ms C McAteer, Democratic Services Officer

**Also in attendance:** Mr A Cassells SIB Advisor to Neighbourhood Services

Mr T Walker, Acting Chief Executive Arc 21

### **NS/009/2022: APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

Apologies were received from Councillor Owen.

### **NS/010/2022: DECLARATIONS OF "CONFLICTS OF INTEREST"**

No declarations of conflicts of interest were made.

**NS/011/2022: ACTION SHEET OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 26 JANUARY 2022**

Read: Action Sheet of the Neighbourhood Services Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 26 January 2022. *(Circulated)*.

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Magennis, it was agreed the Action Sheet of the Neighbourhood Services Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 26 January 2022 be noted and actions removed as marked.**

**PRESENTATIONS**

**NS/012/2022: PRESENTATION ON ARC21**

Tim Walker, Acting Chief Executive, Arc21 gave a presentation to Committee on the background to Arc21; their Governance structure; details on contract annual tonnage 20/21; the Waste Management Plan; consultation responses and future challenges. (presentation attached).

**Q & A SESSION**

- Q - £42m in savings to Councils – what time frame has this been over.
- A - this is over the 6 Councils and its £42m of deferred expenditure – if Councils were sending this waste to landfill they would have paid £42m more than they actually paid.
- Q – a lot of consultation being sent to Arc21 particularly from the Departments – will this lead to any significant legislation.
- A – there is going to be a change in our complete landscape around waste in the next decade e.g. extended producer responsibility; deposit return schemes; consistency around collection; the plastic packaging tax – all these things will be changing the landscape around how waste was going to be managed and the idea was to encourage better quality and quantity of recycling from the householder by applying a collateral pressure through taxes and by providing a reward through incentives. It would apply throughout the chain so for Councils the EPI (extended producer responsibility) would provide the opportunity for Councils to increase how much they got back from the producers of packaging based on how well the recycling material was collected and what level of quality they were able to provide back. He said what would be done in 10 year's time would not be what was being done now and would be very different than what was done 10 years ago.

The Chair thanked Mr Walker for his presentation.

## **FACILITIES MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE**

### **NS/013/2022: NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES WORKING GROUP MEETING 3 FEBRUARY 2022**

Read: Report dated 23 February 2022 from Mr K Scullion, Assistant Director of Facilities Management and Maintenance re: action sheet and associated papers from the Neighbourhood Services Working Group Meeting of 3 February 2022. *(Circulated)*.

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Curran, seconded by Councillor Murphy, it was agreed to approve the report and recommendation to note the report.**

**AGREED: It was also agreed officers contact Councillor Curran regarding the possibility of earlier opening times of the toilets at the Quoile.**

### **NS/014/2022: CHRISTMAS ILLUMINATIONS AND CELEBRATIONS GROUP MEETING – 20 JANUARY 2022**

Read: Report dated 23 February 2022 from Mr K Scullion, Assistant Director of Facilities Management and Maintenance re: action sheet from the Christmas Illuminations and Celebrations Group Meeting held on 20 January 2022. *(Circulated)*.

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Murphy, seconded by Councillor Magennis, it was agreed to note the contents of the report and the Action Sheet of the Christmas Illuminations Group meeting held on 20 January 2022 and to approve the recommendations as set out in Sections 2.3 to 2.5.**

### **NS/015/2022: REVISION OF FACILITY MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT CHARGES FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2022/2023**

Read: Report dated 23 February 2022 from Mr K Scullion, Assistant Director of Facilities Management and Maintenance re: revision of Facility Management and Maintenance Department charges for financial year 2022/2023. *(Circulated)*.

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Curran, it was agreed to recommend adoption of the Facility Management and Maintenance Department charges as set out in Appendix 1, circulated at the meeting, for the financial year 2022/23.**

**It was also agreed that officers consider the 3 scenarios referred to by Councillor Andrews i.e. if administration fees charged for headstone erections could be waived for under-18 burials along with the administration fees for post 3.00 pm burial times and cremation charges and that a report be brought back to the Neighbourhood Services Committee for consideration.**

**NS/016/2022: OPENING AND CLOSING ARRANGEMENTS FOR VEHICULAR ACCESS TO WARRENPOINT CEMETERY**

Read: Report dated 23 February 2022 from Mr K Scullion, Assistant Director of Facilities Management and Maintenance re: opening and closing arrangements for vehicular access to Warrenpoint Cemetery. *(Circulated)*.

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor McKevitt, it was agreed to note the contents of the report and to recommend agreement to the installation of an automated barrier system at Warrenpoint Municipal Cemetery to control vehicular access, subject to the completion of a satisfactory business case.**

**It was also agreed, at the request of Councillor Ruane, that appropriate signage be put in place in advance to advise of this change and also that a message be put out on social media.**

**Councillor McKevitt asked that officers ensure a grit box was placed in the cemetery and kept replenished.**

**WASTE MANAGEMENT**

**NS/017/2022: FLEET REPLACEMENT PLAN UPDATE**

Read: Report dated 23 February 2022 from Ms S Murphy Acting Assistant Director Waste Management regarding fleet replacement programme update. *(Circulated)*.

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Magennis, it was agreed to note the content of this report.**

NOTED: During discussion on potential delays to delivery times for vehicles ordered, Sinead Murphy advised that she was aware that suppliers had cancelled some other Councils orders for electric vehicles. However she also noted Council had been advised that some of the

larger RCVs on order would hopefully be delivered within 28 weeks after order.

Mr McBride said in relation to a Plan B, if there were delays in supplying vehicles, the Council had given authority that where a vehicle was beyond economic life and a new delivery had not yet been received, that short term hire could be used.

**NS/018/2022: ENFORCEMENT IMPROVEMENT PLAN UPDATE**

Read: Report dated 23 February 2022 from Ms S Murphy Acting Assistant Director Waste Management regarding enforcement improvement plan update. *(Circulated)*.

NOTED: Members welcomed the report and said it was time that the Council was getting serious about the problem of dog fouling and putting forward pro-active proposals for the use of eco spray; graphics on footpaths

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Clarke, it was agreed to note the content of this update report and approve the recommendation of an awareness campaign to highlight the problem of dog-fouling, including the use of an eco-spray.**

**It was also agreed Mr McBride investigate issues relating to the lack of bin provision in Newcastle centre, particularly on the routes into the town and also why a number of bins were out of circulation in the town centre, particularly the solar powered ones, many of which had plastic bags over them which stopped them being used. Mr McBride to ensure the relevant officer contact Councillor Clarke about these issues.**

**NS/019/2022: WASTE MANAGEMENT SCALE OF CHARGES 2022/2023**

Read: Report dated 23 February 2022 from Ms S Murphy Acting Assistant Director Waste Management regarding waste management scale of charges 2022/2023. *(Circulated)*.

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Murphy, it was agreed to approve the proposed waste management services scale of charges 2022/23 as set out in Appendix 1, circulated at the meeting.**

## **EXEMPT INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **ITEMS RESTRICTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 1 OF SCHEDULE 6 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (NI) 2014**

Items 12, 13, 14 and 15 are deemed to be exempt under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 – information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

**On the proposal of Councillor Murphy, seconded by Councillor Magennis, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on these items.**

**NS/020/2022: MINUTES OF ARC 21 'IN COMMITTEE' JOINT COMMITTEE MEETINGS – FRIDAY 3 DECEMBER 2021 AND TUESDAY 7 DECEMBER 2021**

Read: Minutes of Arc 21 'In Committee' Joint Committee Meetings held on Friday 3 December and Tuesday 7 December 2021. *(Circulated)*.

**NS/021/2022: ARC21 JOINT COMMITTEE MEMBERS' MONTHLY BULLETIN – 27 JANUARY 2022**

Read: Arc21 Joint Committee Members' Monthly Bulletin held on 27 January 2022. *(Circulated)*.

**NS/022/2022: WASTE MANAGEMENT PROCUREMENT UPDATE**

Read: Report dated 23 February 2022 from Ms S Murphy Acting Assistant Director Waste Management regarding waste management procurement update. *(Circulated)*.

**NS/023/2022: ELECTRICAL MAINTENANCE AND MINOR PROJECTS PROCUREMENT UPDATE**

Read: Report dated 23 February 2022 from Mr K Scullion, regarding electrical maintenance and minor projects procurement update. *(Circulated)*.

Councillor Andrews proposed, and Councillor Curran seconded, to come out of closed session.

When the Committee was out of closed session the Chairperson reported the following had been agreed:-

NS/20/2022 - Arc21 Special Joint Committee Meeting in Committee Minutes Friday 3 December 2021 and Arc21 Special Joint Committee Meeting in Committee Minutes Tuesday 7 December 2021

**AGREED:**               **On the proposal of Councillor Curran, seconded by Councillor Andrews, it agreed to note these Minutes.**

NS/21/2022 - Arc21 Joint Committee Members' Monthly Bulletin held on 27 January 2022

**AGREED:**               **On the proposal of Councillor Magennis, seconded by Councillor Finnegan, it agreed to note this bulletin.**

NS/22/2022 - Waste Management Procurement Update

**AGREED:**               **On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Casey, it agreed to note the Waste Management procurement update.**

NS/23/2022 - Electrical Maintenance and Minor Projects Procurement Update.

**AGREED:**               **On the proposal of Councillor Curran, seconded by Councillor Andrews, it agreed to note the electrical maintenance and minor projects procurement update.**

## **FOR NOTING**

### **NS/024/2022:    DAERA RECYCLING STATISTICS**

Read:                    Correspondence from DAERA re: recycling statistics.  
***(Circulated)***.

NOTED:                 Councillor Casey said it was concerning to note the information on the tonnage of refuse lifted on the Councils in the north, over 276K tonne; recycling plateaued; landfill had increased and energy recovery had decreased. He asked if there was a trend or what were Councils doing wrong.

In reply Mr McBride said Councils were seeing the impacts of the Covid pandemic where there was increases particularly in residual or black bin waste. He said DAERA had set up a Joint Working Group with the 11 Councils to analyse the data to find out why this was the case. He said Newry, Mourne and Down were still one of the lowest Councils who sent waste to landfill and did not use its allocated landfill allowance. He noted that the Council's recycling rate had plateaued and said there was going to have to be transformational change in terms of citizen behaviours and what Local Government did to meet future recycling targets.

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Finnegan, seconded by Councillor Andrews, it was agreed to mark this correspondence noted.

**NS/025/2022:** **ARC21 JC MINUTES  
FRIDAY 3 DECEMBER 2021**

Read: Arc21 JC Meeting Minutes held on 3 December 2021 (*Circulated*).

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Finnegan, seconded by Councillor Andrews, it was agreed to mark this correspondence noted.

**NS/026/2022:** **ARC21 JC MINUTES  
TUESDAY 7 DECEMBER 2021**

Read: Arc21 JC Meeting Minutes held on 7 December 2021 (*Circulated*).

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Finnegan, seconded by Councillor Andrews, it was agreed to mark this correspondence noted.

**NS/027/2022:** **HISTORIC ACTIONS TRACKING SHEET**

Read: Historic Actions Tracking Sheet (*Circulated*).

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Finnegan, seconded by Councillor Andrews, it was agreed the Historic Actions Tracking Sheet of the Neighbourhood Services Committee Meetings be noted and actions removed as marked.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 7.15 pm.

For adoption at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 7 March 2022.

**Signed:** **Councillor A Finnegan**  
**Deputy Chairperson of Neighbourhood Services Committee**

**Signed:** **Mr J McBride**  
**Director of Neighbourhood Services (Acting)**

**Neighbourhood Services Committee  
Newry, Mourne & Down District Council**

**23 February 2022**

Tim Walker  
Chief Executive

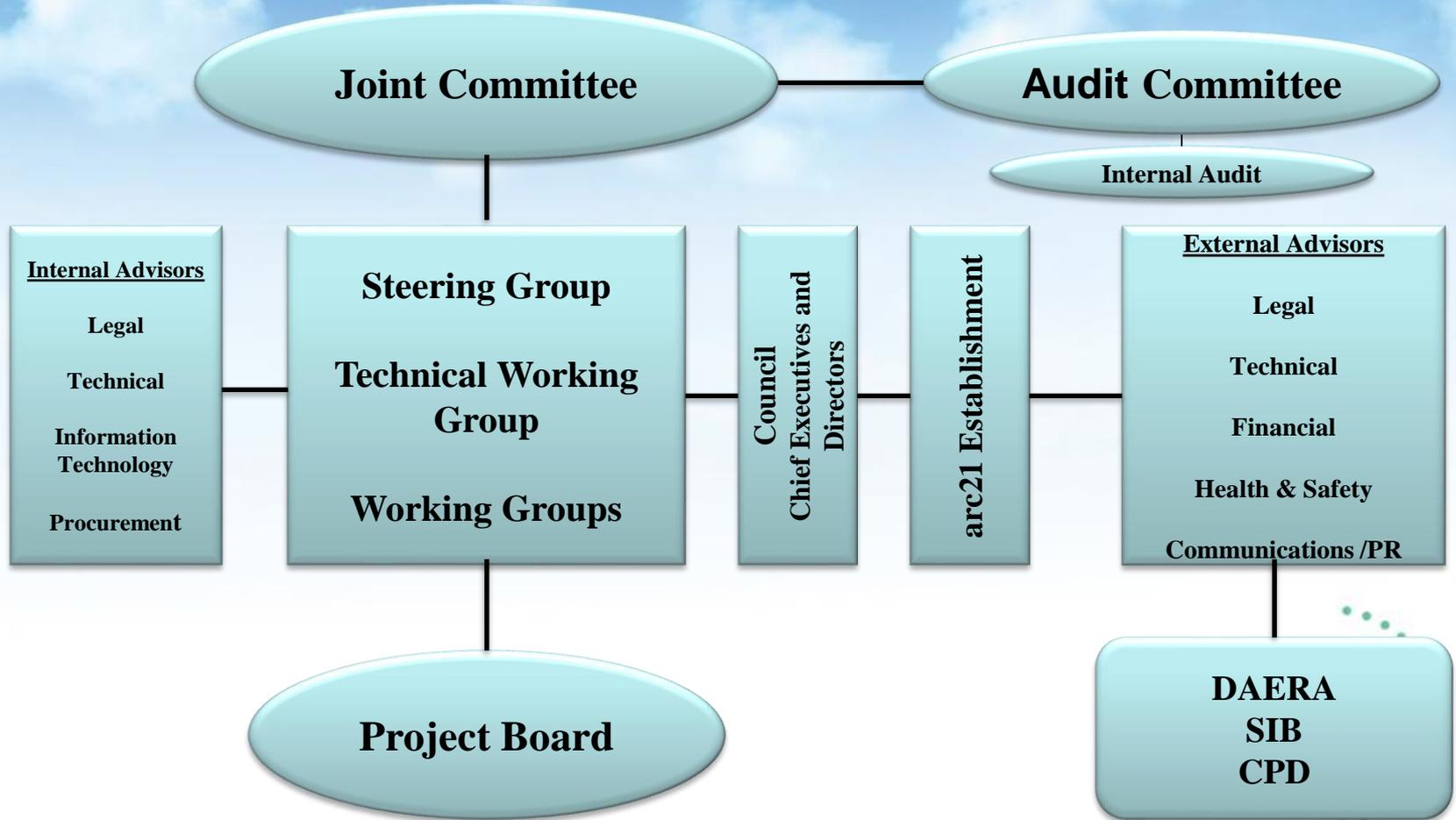


# Background

- arc21 – a contracting authority representing 6 councils in NI
- Established in 2003 and incorporated in 2004
- arc21 supports its partner councils by assisting them in discharging their legal requirements
- We also seek to drive innovative waste management programmes which includes developing infrastructure
- Currently working with the councils to develop a single (new) Waste Management Plan for NI
- Increasingly considering climate crisis, energy & circular economy issues for councils

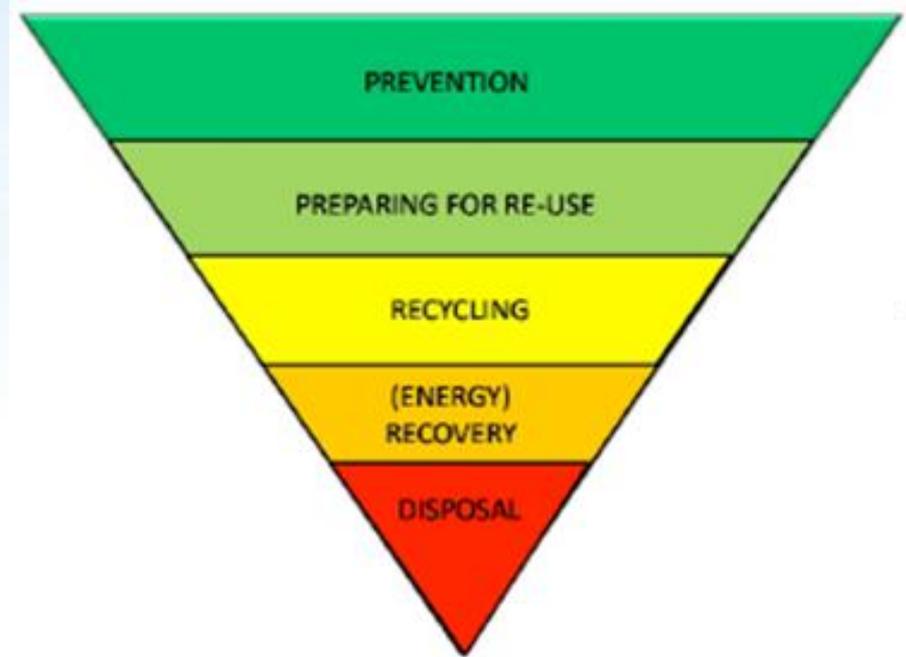


# Governance Structure



# What do we do?

- Advocacy
- Planning & Policy
- Procurement
- Compliance & Contract Management
- Outreach



# What have we achieved together?

- Recycling rates have risen sixfold
- £120M value of waste treated by core contracts in last 5 years
- Treated c1.7M Tonnes of council collected waste in last 5 years
  - 837K Tonnes to Landfill Contracts
  - 852K Tonnes diverted to other Treatment contracts
- £42M savings achieved by diversion compared to landfill
- Future proofed proposals to **maintain statutory obligations**
  - protect the environment & public health
  - safeguard ratepayers & council finances
  - support the Circular Economy

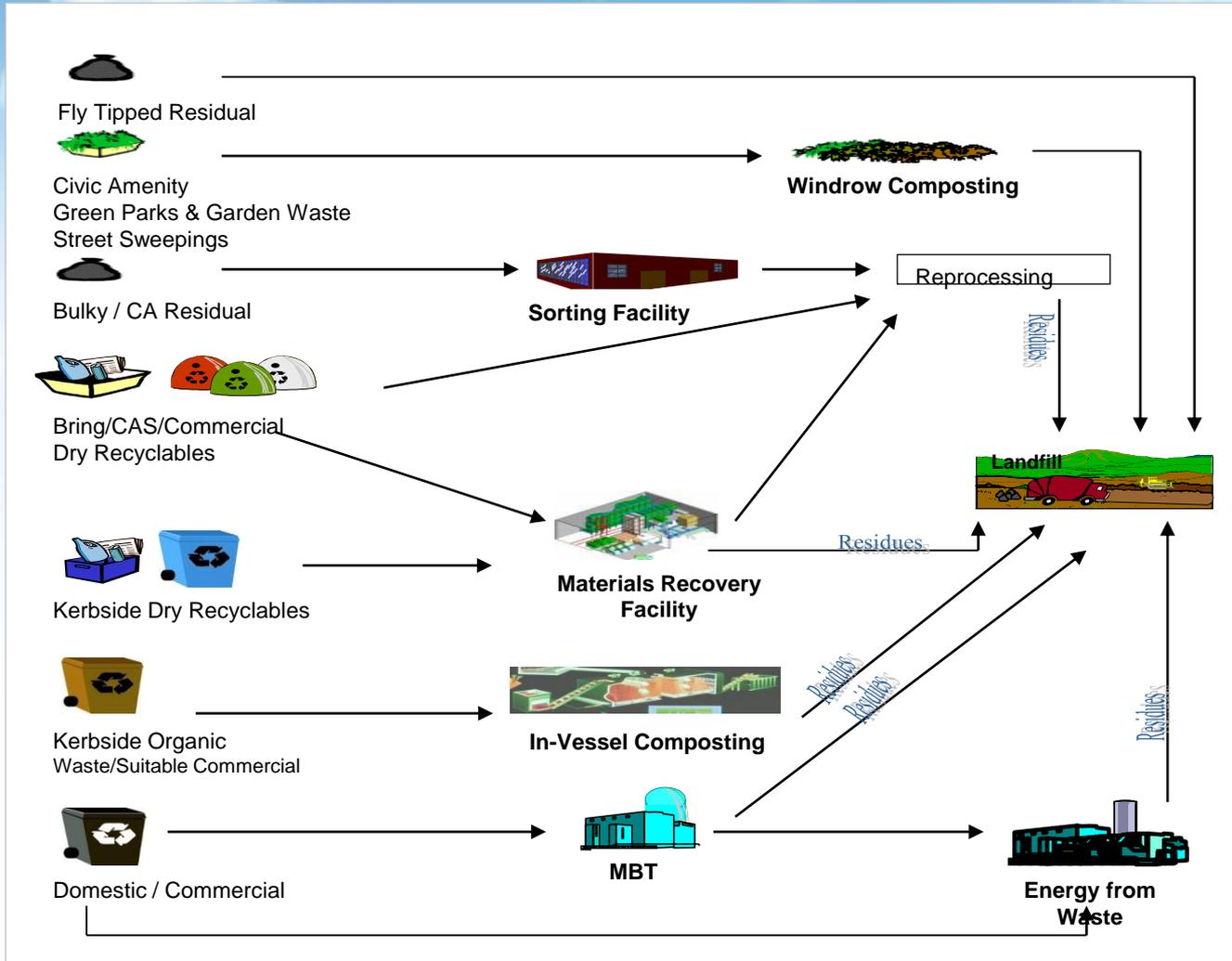


# Contract Annual Tonnage 20/21

	<b>Annual Tonnage 20/21</b>
MRF Lot 1	<b>32,631</b>
MRF Lot 2	<b>15,374</b>
Bring	<b>9,303</b>
Organics Type 1	<b>26,993</b>
Organics Type 2	<b>123,623</b>
Landfill	<b>158,629</b>
Street Sweepings	<b>8,101</b>



# Waste Management Plan



# Consultation Responses 2021-2022

Consultation	Organisation	Submission
Local Government Pension Scheme (NI) - amendments to the statutory underpin	DfC	29-Jan-21
Discussion Document on a Climate Change Bill	DAERA	01-Feb-21
NI Executive Programme for Government	NI Executive	22-Mar-21
ISNI Call for Evidence	SIB	10-May-21
Consultation on the Draft Policy Statement on Environmental Principles	DEFRA	02-Jun-21
Introduction of a Deposit Return Scheme in England, Wales and Northern Ireland	DEFRA	03-Jun-21
Packaging and packaging waste: introducing Extended Producer Responsibility	DEFRA	03-Jun-21
Industry Consultation: Shaping our Electricity Future	SONI	14-Jun-21
Circular Economy Strategic Framework - Call for Evidence	SIB	06-Jul-21
Consultation on policy options for the new Energy Strategy for Northern Ireland	DfE	02-Jul-21
Carrier Bag Levy NI Consultation	DAERA	30-Jul-21
Survey on Guidelines on Promoting People-first PPP WtE Projects for the CE	UN ECE	29-Oct-21
Proposed amendments to the Local Government Pension Scheme (NI)	DfC	10-Dec-21
Consultation on the draft Green Growth Strategy for Northern Ireland	DAERA	21-Dec-21
Consultation on proposals for the Reduction of the usage of Single-use Plastic (SUP) Beverage Cups and Food Containers in Northern Ireland (NI)	DAERA	14-Jan-22
Draft Environment Strategy	DAERA	18-Jan-22
Landfill Tax: Call for Evidence Ensuring the tax continues to support environmental objectives	HM Treasury	22 Feb 22

# Future Challenges

- Waste Policy
- Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)
- Deposit Return Schemes (DRS)
- Residual Waste Treatment:
  - Interim arrangements
  - Longer term – Residual Waste Treatment Project



# Residual Waste Treatment Project



# Discussion

