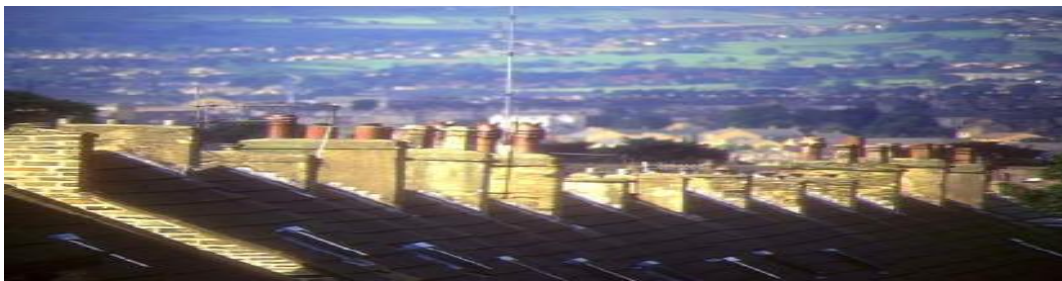


A Green Manifesto for Bradford District



Waste Management



ShIPLEY Green Party
April 2010



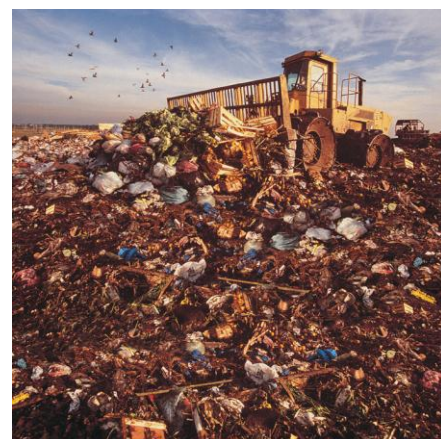


Waste Management

The issue

It is a scandal that every British person produces half a tonne of household waste per year. We want an integrated plan for Bradford that reduces, reuses and recycles our waste rather than throws it away. We see waste as a resource rather than a problem to be buried in the ground.

Our Zero Waste Strategy would maximise re-use and recycling, minimise waste and reduce consumption. Encouraging households and business to do more with fewer resources will help the whole community, the local economy and create jobs in the local waste reduction sector.



In Bradford

In Bradford, just 28% of domestic waste is recycled or composted, the other 72% goes to landfill. We export this waste to Wakefield and Craven because our district has run out of available landfill sites.



Many residents ask us when they are going to be able to recycle more of their household waste. Yet household recycling is being rolled out across the district in a piecemeal fashion thanks to chronic under-investment in waste management over the past decade and a lack of political ambition.

Even more worryingly, Bradford's Conservative Executive has refused to rule out the introduction of incineration of waste in the district, despite the environmental and health risks associated with this method of waste disposal.

What would a Green Council do?

A green council would:

- ▶ reduce the amount of materials used by Bradford Council and introduce a purchasing policy to ensure that all materials are sourced from sustainable suppliers wherever practicable within the constraints of British and EU law;
- ▶ launch a study of the district to identify the key resources used, where they originate from and where they end up (landfill, recycled and reused);
- ▶ finalise a Zero Waste strategy with a view to eliminating any landfill waste in the district by 2020. This strategy would involve widespread consultation with all significant producers and handlers of waste. External funding would be sought to promote the Bradford District as a pilot Zero Waste region – we secured £50,000 for this purpose in the 2006-7 budget;
- ▶ set high local recycling and composting targets of 75% by 2015;





- ▶ reject incineration as a solution to the Bradford District's waste (even as an 'energy from waste' process) because incinerators produce dangerous emissions and toxic ash residues that threaten local people's health and the environment - incinerators also psychologically undermine efforts to reduce, reuse and recycle waste;
- ▶ collect the widest possible range of materials door-to-door, including plastics, paper, cardboard, glass, tin, clothing, books, toys and biodegradable waste;
- ▶ initiate and support public education campaigns, especially via households and schools, to reduce resource consumption and increase the reuse and recycling of waste;
- ▶ facilitate the delivery of eco-efficiency training courses to local businesses and other organisations;



Real Life Nappy Mountain

- ▶ support the development of a comprehensive Bradford-wide real nappy scheme and offer incentives for using real nappies (nappies alone constitute around 5% of the volume of domestic waste);
- ▶ develop easy access facilities for the recycling of hazardous chemicals, engine oil and oil filters, including selling back recycled oil;
- ▶ set up and maintain an internet-based exchange service for business and community use, developing the model already used successfully by the Freecycle network;
- ▶ open "Urban Mine" stores to sell second-hand and reclaimed products and materials such as construction and DIY materials;
- ▶ encourage neighbourhoods to share and reuse waste building and DIY materials (wood, piping, paint etc) through the use of community sheds as collection and distribution points;
- ▶ convert civic amenity sites so that they can also perform a function as local re-use and recycle centres;
- ▶ support the provision of cost-price compost bins to local residents to recycle organic materials, sourcing them where possible from local reused waste materials;
- ▶ encourage and, if necessary, coordinate community composting schemes in cooperation with local allotment associations;
- ▶ seek to establish and encourage community organisations that can renovate and redistribute tools;
- ▶ promote furniture renovation in partnership with local schools and voluntary organisations for creative, educational and profit-sharing purposes;
- ▶ encourage and, where appropriate, subsidise new business ventures that reuse waste materials;
- ▶ enforce existing anti-litter laws, improve street cleansing and introduce on-street recycling skips;
- ▶ investigate the potential of local, small scale mechanical-biological treatment (MBT) for residual waste, with the residuals from this process going to landfill and not for refuse-derived fuel.



Timber recycling centre in Oxford

