

2 Recommendations

Action Plan: Schools and Community Recycling and Waste Management in Newcastle, 2008-2011.

NB It is useful to read these with reference to the responses from the Feedback Event (Chapter 12).

	Recommendations (NB. not ranked in order of importance)	Action	Rpt ref.	Potential People involved?	Time frame
Champions					
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raise the profile of school recycling champions 	Promote a higher profile in schools for environmental co-ordinators, to lead on recycling initiatives	6.2	Govt; Ofsted; NCC Children Services; schools governors; Head teachers	Ongoing
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EnviroSchools champion green initiatives in schools but are reactive to demand 	Address patchiness by encouraging a more pro-active approach to recycling via EnviroSchools; link to new kerbside collections	6.3.4	BAN Waste; EnviroSchools NCC Neighbourhood Services	2008/9
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Motivation for schools (and groups) can come through incentives and recognition 	Local sponsorship would be one way of increasing incentives and recognition, which in turn encourage others. Self-managed schemes such as certificates from the internet are not onerous for schools or groups.	6.3.5	BAN Waste? Local companies? Little Wasters?	
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate community focus group 	Could link schools/community focus group for recycling; link with awards incentives scheme?	7.6	NCC wards; Env. Partnership; schools	

Information					
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disseminate info. on resources to take forward the National Framework on Sustainable Schools 		6.2.1	NCC Children Services	2008/9
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the schools S3 (Sustainable Schools) Toolkit 	Develop a communication strategy that will engage schools with improvements through use of S3	5.3.1	NCC Children Services; NESPSS	2008/9
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support from green agencies for schools- signposting needed 	Work with EnviroSchools to provide clearer information on input from other agencies on green issues	6.3.5	BAN Waste; EnviroSchools	
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disseminate info. on Reduce, Re-use, Recycle and Repair 	Produce local directory of Reduce, Re-use, Recycle and Repair, with particular attention to community group needs	7.3.7	BAN Waste NERWAI	
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide guidance information for community groups 	Fund information pack through e.g. Community Engagement Fund? + Mentors for new system	8.3	BAN Waste; Newcastle Healthy City; NERWAI	
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools would benefit from more info. about systems; diagrams of who is responsible for collecting what 	Compile info. about systems, responsibilities, practical needs; and share good practice	6.3.3	NCC / BAN Waste Partnership?	
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote pupil-led "summit" and info. exchange on waste 	Encourage start of recycling and waste e-newsletter (age 11 upwards). Encourage involvement from DoE Award Scheme, Green Clubs, Wildlife Watch, Schools Councils	6.3.3	EnviroSchools; Ban Waste	
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools and groups need information on recyclate collectors and values 	Produce lists of local recyclate collectors, and materials from which money can be made	6.3.6	NCC / BAN Waste Partnership?; NERWAI	Ongoing
13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is demand to understand "the recycling trail" 	Provide reliable information about what happens to recyclates. This could be a key driver in encouraging people to recycle more	7.3.7	NCC / BAN Waste Partnership NERWAI	

14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Groups are unsure of Council recycling provision 	Provide clear information on service provision for community groups	7.3.3.	NCC Neighbourhood Services: NERWAI	2008/9
Advocacy					
15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate feasibility of using the Waste and Purchasing “Doorway” to introduce a methodology to schools for S3 	Methodology could include target-setting. More funding would encourage higher priority for Sustainable Schools	5.3.1 6.3.4 6.3.5 6.3.7	BAN Waste NCC Children Services; NESPSS WRAP	
16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Involve NESPSS in delivery model for S3 toolkit 	Development of this model has begun	6.3.4	NESPSS	2008/9
17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools and community groups should get free disposal, + an appropriate charge for collection, consistently. Opaque at present. 	BAN Waste to recommend to NCC Neighbourhood Services. Costs need to be clarified and clear cost structures made and published	5.4.2 6.3.6	NCC / BAN W Partnership	
18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NCC need to develop its policy re waste definitions to reflect the agreed position between DEFRA and LGA when this is concluded. 		5.4.2	NCC Neighbourhood Services; GONE	
19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bin access can be difficult; vandalism a problem in some areas 	Audit all schools (and interested community groups) for access to bins and seek funding sources to screen bin areas sympathetically. Build on former SCRAP survey	6.3.3 7.3.7	NCC EnviroSchools; BAN Waste	
20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set up more community recycling centres or hubs; identify funding to support this. 	Hubs to be set up where there are clusters of groups, and/or where there is lack of kerbside collection service	7.3.4	NCC / BAN W Partnership	
21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage scrutiny of PFI contracts for better recycling. 	When PFI contracts for new schools are initiated or reviewed, encourage scrutiny for best-practice recycling standards, and allow schools to input.		NCC Children’s Services; Univ. Newcastle	

Income Generation					
Brokerage					
22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BAN Waste (or other VCS group) could act as a broker to promote recycling credits to the voluntary and community sector 		8.1.1	BAN Waste; NCC Neighbourhood Services; NCVS/ NESEP.	
23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote recycling credits to VCS to increase re-use of e.g. furniture, bikes 		8.1.1	BAN Waste; NCC Neighbourhood Services; NCVS; NERWAI	
Income from recycling					
24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate collection of cans for schools and community organisations 	Promote sale of sorted metals, particularly in secondary schools; link with Business/ Enterprise	6.3.2	NCC EnviroSchools; BAN Waste; NCC Neighbourhood Services; NCVS	
25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote textile recycling 	Continue to monitor and support Rag Bag scheme and textile banks	6.3.2	NCC EnviroSchools; BAN Waste; NCC Neighbourhood Services; NCVS	
26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plastic bottles recycling up in schools, can recycling down; investigate 	Encourage waste audits in schools and groups	6.3.2 7.3.7	NCC EnviroSchools	
27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add cardboard to paper recycling collection 			NCC Neighbourhood Services: NER	
28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inform west end community groups of cardboard and paper recycling scheme in Newcastle 			BAN Waste; NCVS	
29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore different types of composting in schools, e.g. wormeries 	Follow up BAN Waste's wormeries pilot scheme (ends summer 2009)	6.3.2	BAN Waste; EnviroSchools; Schools	
30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore siting paper banks near community centres 	Follow up discussions with Abitibi and potential income from paper collections		BAN Waste: Abitibi: NCVS	
Funding Sources					

31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to look at smaller grants to deal with specific issues. 	Look carefully at smaller grants because they also require high levels of time and quality control	10.5		2008-11
32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More time invested in developing VCS input into recycling and waste issues at a strategic level could prove useful in delivering a 'sustainable' solution to dealing with community and schools recyclates 	Consider larger and more long-term grants based on developing key strategic working partnerships	10.5		
Partnership working / Structure					
33	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate and promote use of communal waste collection sites through schools and community groups 	Investigate through schools/ governors/ parent-teacher bodies/ schools councils	6.3.2	NCC EnviroSchools; BAN Waste	
34	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charges to community groups and schools are confusing and seem different 	Clarify how groups and schools are charged	7.3.7 8.3	BAN Waste; NCC Neighbourhood Services; Schools; Community groups	
35	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate partnerships for delivery of Sustainable Schools "doorway" activities 		6.3.4	EnviroSchools; NWT; NESPSS	
36	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Co-mingled collection of waste from schools could be in blue bins 	NCC is planning determine how many blue bins could be provided to schools, + extra collections of e.g. bulk cardboard. Audit to be undertaken.	6.3.2	NCC Neighbourhood Services	
37	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools can gain by working together 	Encourage neighbouring or associated schools to work together to find solutions to cost-saving through co-operative waste systems	6.3.6 7.3.7	NCC Children's Services/ EnviroSchools	
38	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skills and ideas can be shared between groups 	Promote schemes such as In Kind Direct (diverting ends of line from landfill); produce Directory	7.3.7	BAN Waste /NCC Partnership? NERWAI	
39	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instigate follow-up work in larger community centres and public buildings on waste 	With partners, promote data on collections, audit, and champions schemes. (Also in shared management	7.3.1	NCC Every Action Counts?	

		building such as MEA House, Cale Cross House).			
40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore scope within existing partnerships and networks that currently exist at a Newcastle and regional level, not usually associated with smaller VCS organisations, to jointly address issues of schools and community approaches to waste and recycling 	BAN Waste (and/or other VCS organisations) can look at investing time to develop into new, or renewed partnerships to address already identified agendas to minimise waste. This could have long term benefits for those VCS organisations.	9.4	BAN Waste VONNE NCVS	
41	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small businesses, community groups and schools should be considered together to make the optimal and manageable collection rounds. They face similar barriers and needs. 	Articulate reliability, flexibility and clear costs and benefits for any collection service. Consider small businesses, community groups and schools together to optimise manageable collection rounds.	10.1	BAN Waste Partnership /NCC NER etc	
42	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BAN Waste to reaffirm and reappraise their current structure & aims, before considering any radical changes to accommodate new ways of working 	Explore options to the best possible structure for a potential future model; there are no easy answers, but there <u>are</u> answers	11	BAN Waste	

Links with other plans and strategies					
43	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A joined-up approach to Climate Change Strategy has been started but does not include impact on Children's Services policies 	Review Climate Change Strategy, identify connections with Sustainable Schools "doorway" topics, e.g. Purchasing and Waste, Buildings and Grounds, Travel and Traffic	6.3.7	NCC Environment Scrutiny Panel; NCC Children's Services; BAN Waste Partnership	
44	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check which national indicators would support action in sustainable schools 	Include appropriate indicators in Local Area Agreements or other government performance assessments	6.3.7	NCC Environment Scrutiny Panel; NCC Children's Services; BAN Waste Partnership	2008 /09

We suggest adding another column to this table, "Success Criteria", on the right-hand side.

These criteria should be set and agreed by all parties affected by the proposed action. An example from recommendation 1 is as follows:

Recommendations	Action	Rpt ref.	People involved	Time frame	Success criteria
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raise the profile of school recycling champion 	Promote a higher profile in schools for environmental co-ordinators, to lead on recycling initiatives	6.2	Govt; Ofsted; schools governors; Head teachers	Ongoing	Increased numbers of environmental co-ordinators recognised by whole school bodies

Similarly, the time frame for carrying out these actions needs to be agreed by all partners.