
Alex Attwood MLA
Minister of the Environment
Clarence Court, 10-18 Adelaide Street
Belfast BT2 8GB

Chris Lyttle MLA
Northern Ireland Assembly
Parliament Buildings
Stormont

13 September 2011

AQO 6 AQO 299/11-15

Chris Lyttle MLA has asked:

To ask the Minister of the Environment to outline his Department's plans to increase levels of recycling.

ANSWER

The Department recently consulted on a new recycling policy which included new, more ambitious targets for the recycling of municipal waste. As a result the Department intends to set a target of 60% municipal recycling by 2020. I am actively considering a higher target. Concurrently more accurate information on the Commercial & Industrial waste arisings is being developed and, based on this information, the Department will seek to set challenging recycling targets for Commercial & Industrial waste.

Accordingly, the Department is considering future legislation and other interventions, on how to establish a comprehensive regime of

incentives and sanctions across all sectors of waste management to encourage the best outcomes consistent with targets and to promote resource efficiency including recycling.

The Department's Rethink Waste Programme also has a series of measures to promote and support waste prevention and recycling including capital and revenue funds and a communications' action plan. The Department also funds Waste and Resources Action Programme to delivery these measures.



Signed:

Alex Attwood MLA

Date:

14 September 2011