

Local Authority Clients Leading the Way

Health and Safety Management of Waste and Recycling Services Update May 2010

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Overview



- Context
- Nature of the Problem Statistics
- HSE programme of Work
- •Guidance WASTE 23
- Common Issues
- Personal experience
- Questions and answers

Nature of the industry >> nature of the guidance



- Industry diverse and growing
- Rapidly changing processes/facilities
- Public interface and impact
- Political hot potato at local and national levels
- Both public and private sector delivery
- Poor health and safety performance







Health and Safety Performance



- •Fatal rate for workers
- 2x that of construction
- •6x all manufacturing industries
- •9x "all industries" rate
- Only agriculture is worse at 10x "all industries" rate
- <u>Fatal and major" injuries</u> 50% higher than the construction
- All injury rate over 4x the "all industries" rate
- 2003-2008 the overall **injury rate** decreased by 12% = 600 fewer injuries in for example 2007/8.



HSE's programme of work with industry

Five delivery mechanisms to the programme covering: stakeholder engagement, communications, inspection and enforcement, research and standard setting.

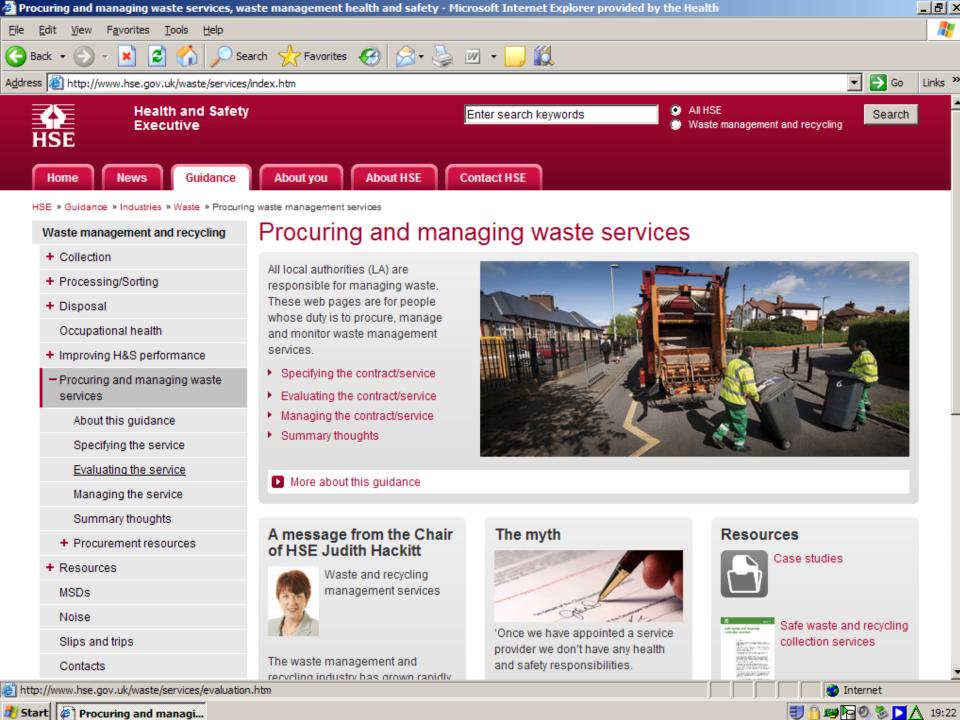
Numerous work streams in W&R programme, but key elements at this time are:

- Influencing LAs health and safety in managing delivery of waste services
- Lead Inspector initiative with national waste management companies
- Inspection of "hot spots"

LA context and influence



- •80% of all waste/recycling accidents occur during collection activities, typically collection of household and trade waste.
- •LAs are the key local decision makers on the waste/recycling processes overall, and on collection practices in particular.
- •As client, LAs have significant influence on how the contract/service will ultimately be delivered.
- LA response to monitoring data and feedback key to service improvement.
- LAs can deliver the service in-house or contract out.





General

- Putting a service out to contract does not transfer all risks –
 CIWM wording
- Consolidates current practice (but not universal practice)
- Health and safety must be integral part of the procurement process
- Competence and involvement
- Sensible risk management look for optimal solutions



- Design and specification
 - Recognise the inevitable link between the specification and the subsequent control of risk.
 - Avoid being too prescriptive or detailed (allow contractor innovation).
 - Embed a service development agenda into the specification
 - Expect the need for variations, and build in mechanisms accordingly



- Evaluation and selection
 - Assess health and safety via statements of safe working practice (not in isolation)
 - Get the health and safety weighting right
 - Know the strengths and weaknesses of PQQ schemes
 - Have a sensible policy on past HSE enforcement
 - Value for money across the contract lifetime does not necessarily equal cheapest bid



- Management of the contract
 - Develop more of a partnership approach
 - Monitor the things that matter
 - Have effective contract safety review and response mechanisms
 - Have a single co-ordinating point within the LA

Case Studies



- Available on the website
- •We are looking for others if you have a good story to tell

Common Issues



- HSE Strategy
- Leadership
- Worker Involvement

- Competence
- Control
- Cooperation
- Communication

Inspection Experience



Rounds Safe by Design

- Direction of Travel eliminate reversing
- Avoid hotspots
- Single-sided collection
- Route risk assessments
- Driver and crew decision making

Competence



Crews

- Reversing Assistants
- Risk Assessment
- Manual Handling
- General Health and Safety
- Equipment

Supervision

- Managers
- Supervisors

Monitoring and Supervision



- Training completed in line with published guidance
- Operational pressures
- Administration of the system
- Lack of time for direct supervision
- •Roles and responsibilities unclear Driver / Team Leader / Supervisor

Result

- Poor practice creeps back without check
- •Risk to crews and public increases significantly
- Increased risk to Council / Contractor



Next steps – by Local Authorities

- Check-out the guidance and case studies on the website
- •Self-review against the principles in the guidance:
 - Organization, arrangements and procedures
 - Competency of those involved
 - •Leadership involvement of senior management and elected members
 - Involvement of other departments & employees
- Act within your Authority
- •Share and help between LAs and contractors



Next steps – by HSE

- HSE Inspection phase
 - Due to commence Autumn 2010
 - Phased over three years
 - Priorities for targeting:
 - Those where contracts due for renewal
 - Newly formed unitary authorities
 - Newly formed Joint Waste Authorities or local authorities operating in partnerships
 - Policies and control measures assessed and practice tested by site visits, action plans drawn up as required
- •Follow up and re-assess one year later



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Any Questions



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www.hse.gov.uk/waste/services

