

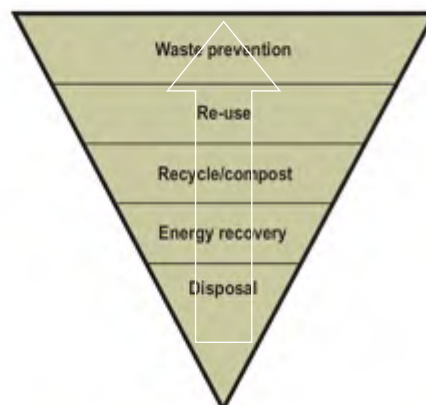
Waste prevention: a policy perspective

Roy Hathaway

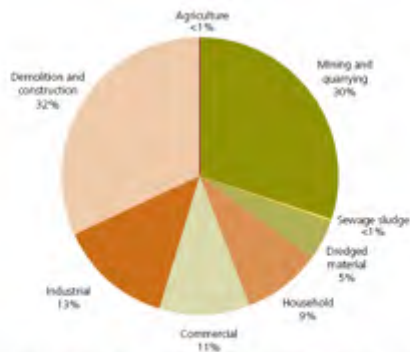
Defra

30 November 2009

The England Waste Strategy 2007



Waste comes from all parts of the economy, not just from households

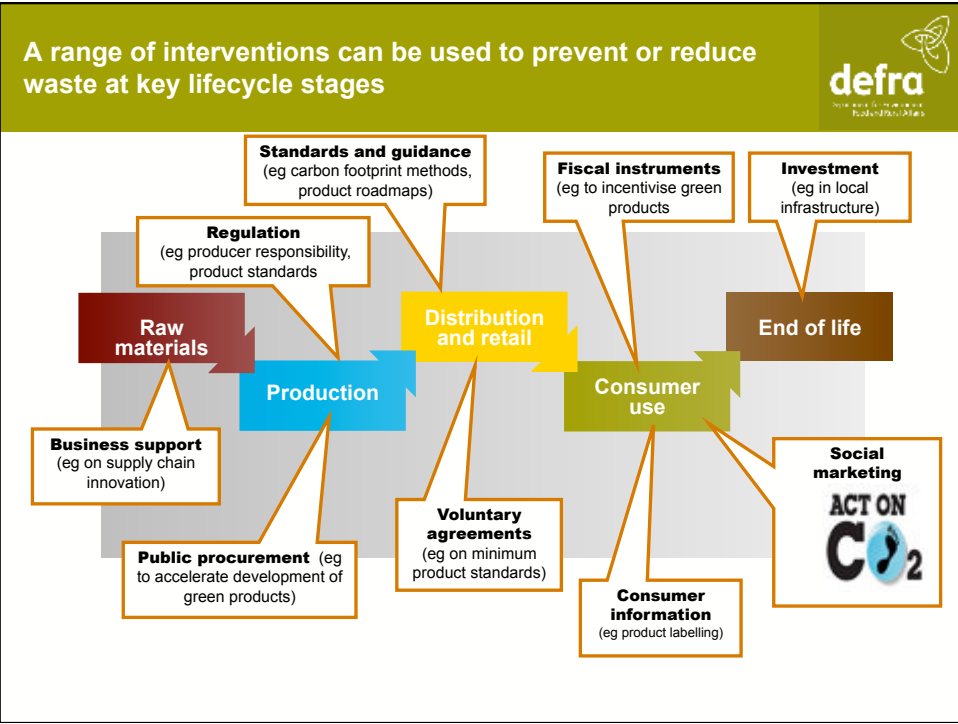
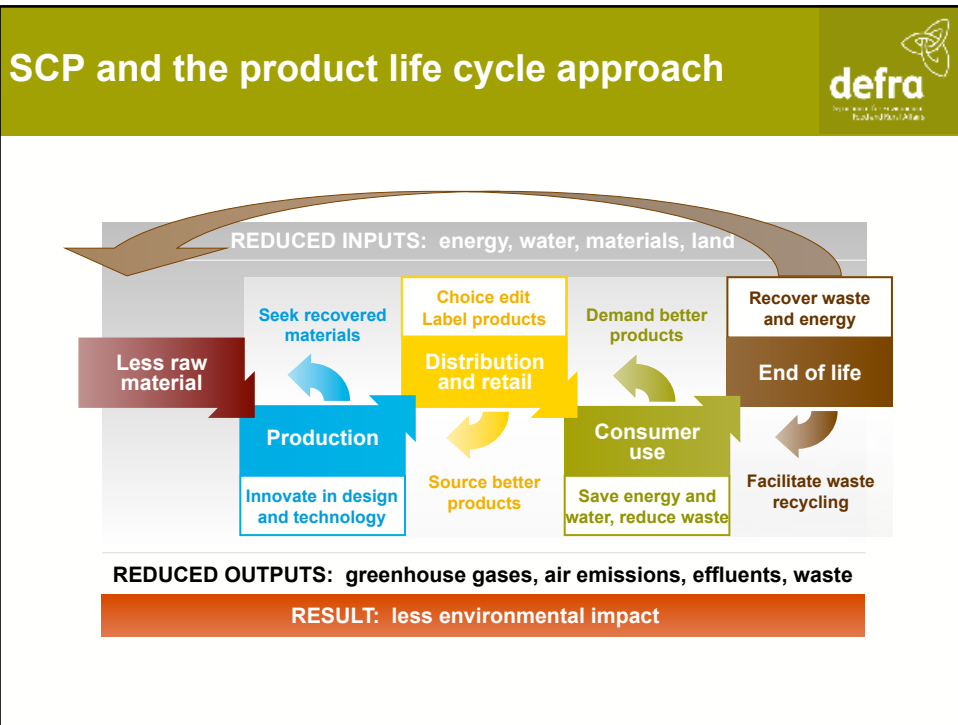


Source: Agriculture – Environment Agency Agricultural Model (2004); Mining and Quarrying – British Geological Society/Defra (2004); Construction and Demolition – Survey of Activities and Use of Alternatives to Primary Aggregates in England, 2005; Construction, Demolition and Excavation Waste, Report for Communities and Local Government by Capita Symonds (2007); Commercial and Industrial – Environment Agency Commercial and Industrial waste survey (2004 estimates based on 2002/03 data); Household – Defra WasteDataFlow (2004/05); Sewage Sludge – Water UK (2005); and Dredging Spoils – CEIAS (2004)

Waste prevention – policy objectives



- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions, both direct and indirect
- Improve resource efficiency in use of energy and materials and so conserve finite resources
- Protect the environment and human health, including from hazardous wastes and illegal disposal
- Decouple waste growth from economic growth
- Reduce household waste generation by 50% by 2020 compared to 2000 levels



Some examples of current policy interventions on waste prevention - 1



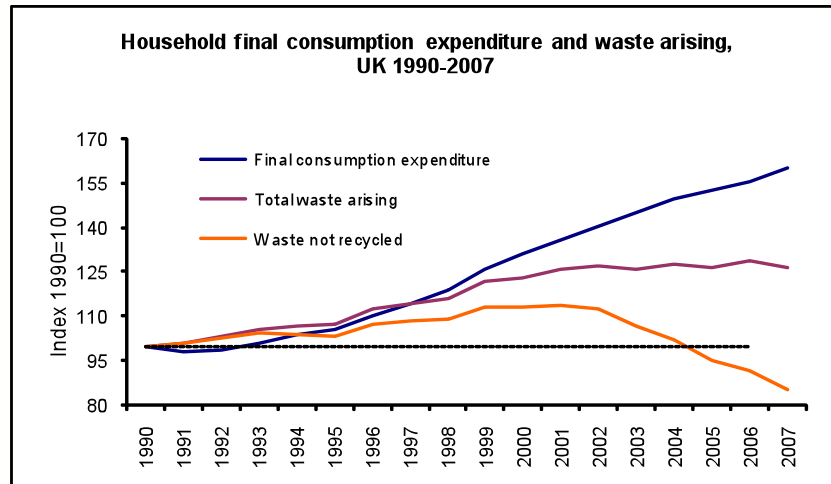
- Consumer information and behaviour change: e.g. “love food hate waste”, “Reduce, reuse, recycle, remember”
- Advice and support to business on resource efficiency from WRAP and others, including “Can you afford not to?”
- Voluntary agreements: e.g. the Courtauld Commitment, the construction sector commitment, plasterboard
- Product road maps: e.g. Sustainable clothing action plan
- Regulatory approaches: e.g. Site Waste Management Plans
- Government procurement: “Buy sustainable”

Some examples of current policy interventions on waste prevention - 2

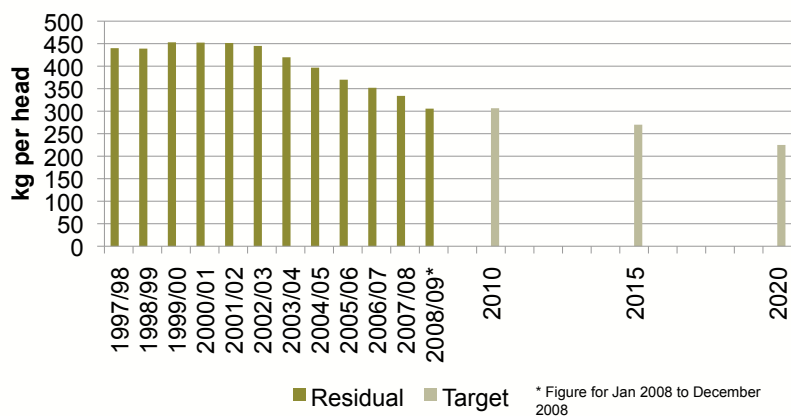


- The UK Packaging Strategy: focus on “optimisation”, e.g. eco-design, refillable/reusable containers, better enforcement against excess packaging
- Commercial and Industrial Waste policy: possible standard on waste minimisation
- Sustainable event management
- Zero waste places: working with local communities
- Social enterprises/third sector reuse schemes
- Research: household waste prevention

Progress so far: decoupling of household waste



Household waste per head after (kg) including targets in 2010, 2015 and 2020



Looking ahead: the revised Waste Framework Directive



- Waste Hierarchy will have legal effect as a “priority order”
- Member States to establish waste prevention programmes by December 2013
- Evaluate possible measures to address the design, production, distribution, consumption and use phases
- Aim is to break the link between economic growth and environmental impacts associated with waste
- Benchmarks and indicators to be adopted
- Commission to share information on best practice and develop guidelines to assist Member States with WPPs.

Waste prevention: a policy perspective



Thank you for your attention!

