



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government

WRITTEN STATEMENT BY THE WELSH ASSEMBLY GOVERNMENT

Title: Consultation on a revised National Waste Strategy, *Towards Zero Waste - One Wales: One Planet*
Date: 29 April 2009
By: Jane Davidson, Minister for the Environment, Sustainability and Housing

I am announcing today the start of a 12 week consultation on the Welsh Assembly Government's revised National Waste Strategy, *Towards Zero Waste - One Wales: One Planet*.

The Welsh Ministers have a duty under Section 44(A) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 to prepare a statement ("the strategy") containing their policies in relation to the recovery and disposal of waste in Wales. Ministers have agreed to review the current waste strategy, *Wise about Waste*, which was published in 2002.

I believe that the proposed strategy sets a bold, new vision for sustainable waste management in Wales. It sets out what we need to do in order to help Wales become a one planet nation by 2050 by significantly reducing waste's contribution to our ecological footprint. It is designed to help address a major challenge facing society by explaining how we can achieve a more equitable use of the world's resources. It also explains how changes in how waste is managed can help tackle the causes of climate change. As a result, we will need a better network of collection, treatment and disposal facilities. These systems, along with the need for improved technologies and product design, will create some real opportunities for new green jobs in Wales.

The proposed strategy highlights the need for taking a long term view, diverting waste away from landfills and increasing levels of re-use and recycling substantially. Importantly, the real reductions in ecological footprint

will come only by reducing the amount of waste we produce – recycling alone is not enough. This will require a change in the way products are made and packaged, and in what we all buy and how we prepare our waste for collection.

There will be three consultation events for stakeholders throughout Wales, and the consultation document will also be available to view on the WAG web site. Assembly Members will be able to give me their views on this consultation in a Plenary debate on 19 May 2009.
