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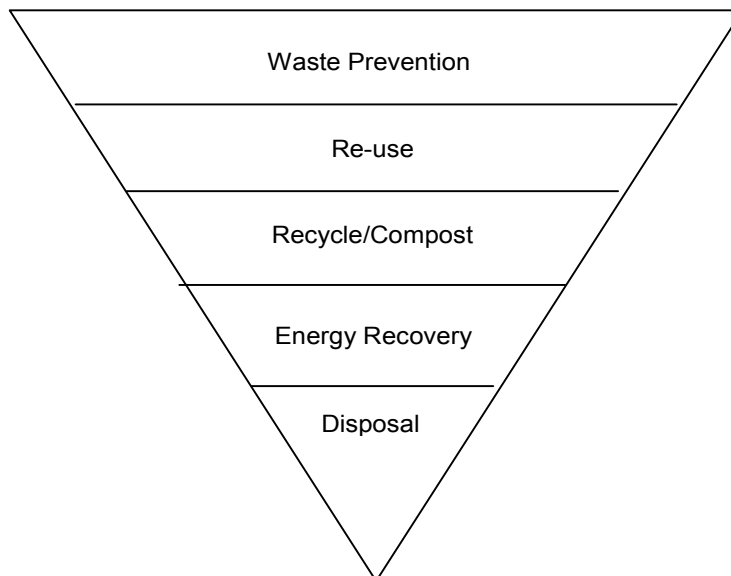
**OVERVIEW OF SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
PORTFOLIO**

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1. Since the last meeting of Council, the following are the main areas of work undertaken under the Sustainable Environment and Climate Change Portfolio:

- (a) The new Waste Treatment Plan has been operating since September and I had the pleasure on 4 December to officially open the plant with John Wade. I know officers are currently organising a number of visits for Members who are interested to visit the facility to see how waste is treated and materials recycled.

The Council has now also taken a major step in delivering one of the key objectives in our Waste Management Strategy (Tees Valley Waste Management Strategy) which is to move towards zero landfill. This has been achieved by our contractor Wades sending the output from the MBT plant which would have otherwise been landfilled to an energy from waste plant. This approach is consistent with the European Waste Framework Directive, the National Strategy and our own Strategy. Waste prevention being at the top of the hierarchy, moving through other options re-use, recycling/composting, energy recovery and landfill at the bottom of the hierarchy.



Over a period of time not only will the Council move towards and exceed 50% recycling, we will also see significant reductions in the amount of waste being landfilled to less than 20%.

Both myself and officers will continue to work hard with the contractor to continue to drive performance forward with a view to increasing re-use, recycling/composting and minimising landfill.

- (b) 10:10 Campaign Pledge – The Council has signed up to the 10:10 Campaign which is a national campaign launched in March 2009 with the aim of reducing carbon emissions by 10% during 2010. By signing up to the Campaign this Council shows continued commitment to reducing its carbon footprint and to act as a catalyst for other groups, organisations and individuals across the Borough.
  - (c) In November, I attended the Greener Theme Group meeting which considered a variety of issues including the local food agenda, progress on the Local Transport Plan, the need to move forward on climate change adaptation, and a preview of the Beauty and the Bike film.
  - (d) I also attended a showing of the "Age of Stupid" film, hosted by the Friends of the Earth, at the Quaker Meeting House which was followed by an interesting discussion on the issues raised.
2. The following items relate to initiatives that are contributing to the Climate Change Agenda, details of which are covered in other Portfolio reports.

### **Transport**

- a) Traffic management schemes - South Park Footpath/Cycleway Link; Green Lane resurfacing; the Haughton cycle route
- b) Road safety education and training – pedestrian training; cyclist training.
- c) School Travel Plans – Sustainable Travel Zone maps; Medal Motion ‘Race to the South Pole’ campaign; Bike Club small grant scheme; Bike It Breakfasts and Brighter Biker days; Sustrans Beauty and the Bike campaign
- d) Workplace Travel Plans – County Durham and Darlington PCT Travel Plan; Workplace Cycle Challenge 2010; DCSF Travel Plan
- e) Supported bus services
- f) Community Rail Partnership
- g) Tees Valley Metro
- h) Cycle Demonstration Town Project.

**Councillor Nick Wallis**  
**Sustainable Environment and Climate Change Portfolio**