



Waste minimisation plan

2009-2012

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Old wooden pallets used by Bardon Vectis on the Isle of Wight find a new lease of life as 'eco-garden' walling at a botanical garden.



Aggregate Industries UK Limited is a major producer and supplier of a wide range of construction and heavy building materials including aggregates, asphalt, ready-mixed concrete and precast concrete building products. Aggregate Industries is committed to the protection and enhancement of the environment and communities in which it operates and has a long established environment and community policy. This corporate waste minimisation plan has been developed to deliver some of the broader set of environmental aims outlined in the environment and community policy.

The Government has set targets for reducing waste in the construction industry as outlined in the Government's Strategy for Sustainable Construction (June 2008) and Progress Report (September 2009). As a major supplier to the construction industry, we recognise the responsibility we have to support our customers in achieving these targets. We are committed to playing our part through our work with the Strategic Forum for Construction and have signed up to WRAP's 'Halving Waste to Landfill' initiative as well as the Construction Products Association's target to reduce packaging supplied on construction products.

In developing this plan for the UK business, we have engaged in consultation to understand the needs of the business, expectations of our stakeholders and additional regulatory considerations.



Objectives

The Strategy for Sustainable Construction set a target of 50% reduction in construction, demolition and excavation waste sent to landfill in 2012 compared to 2008. Further to this, the Construction Products Association has committed to a 20% reduction in construction packaging waste by 2012 (also compared to 2008). Aggregate Industries has committed to both these industry targets and, since we believe it is possible to further reduce the waste we send to landfill, have stretched the first by committing to zero waste to landfill by 2012.

Objective 1: Zero waste to landfill in 2012

Objective 2: Reduce packaging supplied to customers by 20% in 2012 compared to 2008

Both objectives are bold targets that will be challenging to achieve. Objective 1 requires 100% compliance by all Aggregate Industries UK sites and businesses. In doing so, the challenge is set to all employees of our operating businesses to reduce the waste generated and then ensure that any waste that cannot be avoided is not disposed to landfill. Objective 2 is more clearly linked to specific product groups but will still require a collaborative effort in ensuring that we reduce our waste impact.

This corporate plan sets out the different stages or tasks required to achieve these objectives. Progress against the objectives will be monitored throughout the lifetime of the plan to 2012, at which point we will review the effectiveness of the plan and develop a programme of further improvements following 2012.



Our waste in numbers

In 2009, we disposed of 52,500 tonnes of waste to landfill, attributing over 37% of the waste we produced. Of the total waste we generated, 86,600 tonnes (61%) was recycled and 2,000 tonnes (2%) was recovered.

In 2009, 641,800 tonnes of recycled material were sold by Aggregate Industries UK, a large volume of which is imported but then reprocessed internally for use in our manufactured products. In 2009, 4.2% of input materials in our manufactured precast concrete, ready-mixed concrete and asphalt products were recycled materials.

In 2008, we supplied 16,181 tonnes of packaging around products to our customers. While in 2009 this reduced to 10,557 tonnes (35% reduction in 2009 compared to 2008) we need to ensure that this reduction can be maintained as operations and our customers change in response to the current economic downturn and changes in how we report the packaging provided to our customers.

Objective 1: Zero waste to landfill in 2012

Task 1: Reduce, reuse, recycle and recover waste generated

The waste management hierarchy is a generally accepted framework setting out the order in which options for waste management should be considered based on their relative environmental impact. The waste management hierarchy is presented below.



Zero waste to landfill will only be achieved through incorporating the waste management hierarchy into all business operations. There will need to be a combined effort by all employees working at our sites to reduce, reuse and recycle all waste in order to achieve our target of zero waste to landfill. This will need to cover office and welfare waste as well as operational areas. In addition to being the 'right thing to do', there are clear benefits to reducing the waste we send to landfill through reduced waste costs and revenue generating through additional recycling. It should also allow us to compete for green or sustainable contracts, something that will be of increasing importance in the future.

Task 2: All sites to have and maintain a site waste management plan

So we can understand the waste generated by our operations and to assist in identifying where we need to be focusing efforts for diverting waste to landfill, all sites (including offices and contracting hubs) will develop and maintain a site waste management plan. The site waste management plan will identify the preferred waste treatment options and also track waste management practices against the waste management hierarchy described in task 1. Site waste management plans will need to be in place at all sites by quarter 1, 2011 and reviewed at least annually.

Task 3: All sites to have a competent waste champion to implement the plan

The success of this plan is dependent on all sites and operations implementing the requirements. We therefore need to ensure there are sufficiently trained and competent people to achieve this.

Each site will have at least one person responsible for the championing of the corporate plan and the site waste management plan (where there are a number of small sites it may be more appropriate to have a divisional regional waste champion). Additional training will be provided to these waste champions to enable them to promote waste minimisation best practice at their site/regional level. Waste champions should be identified by quarter 1, 2011 while it is expected that any training will be completed by quarter 3, 2011.



Task 4: Establish a waste minimisation steering group

A waste minimisation steering group will be established in quarter 1, 2011 comprising senior business champions representing all business divisions. Central procurement will also be represented to ensure that waste collection contracts can be optimised and aligned with our objectives as far as possible.

The waste minimisation steering group will regularly review and provide updates to the business on progress against the objectives. This group will identify possibilities for promoting best practice and guidance in minimising waste, whether waste is being minimised on or offsite, and lastly whether regional or divisional assistance might also be appropriate.

Task 5: Review and track waste monitoring data

We currently report waste generated and disposed of via the monthly Envoy monitoring submissions. Changes to the way we reported in 2008 and 2009 identified that we had been previously under-reporting the waste generated from our sites.

In 2010, we have changed the reporting mechanisms and these improvements should lead to a better understanding of the waste generated and how we deal with these at site, regional and national levels. The steering group will review the monitoring data at least quarterly to ensure that all parts of the business are reporting the waste generated and disposal routes to allow timely identification of issues or areas where concentrated efforts will be needed to meet the target.



Task 6: Create markets for the reuse of the waste we produce

One way to reduce the waste we handle and send to landfill is to look at opportunities for processing or reusing waste materials produced by our activities, turning our waste products into a saleable commodity. There may be opportunities to develop markets for processed or recycled aggregates for use in our own products or for sale to others and also the opportunity to reduce the national burden of waste by increasing the recycled contents of our products (whether sourced internally or externally).

Some of the waste we generate currently does not have a market value so we will need to actively seek new markets for these waste streams. The challenge in achieving zero waste to landfill is to identify and understand waste that cannot currently be reused or recycled, to understand their properties so we can turn the waste into a resource for ourselves or our customers.

Task 7: Work with suppliers to reduce packaging supplied to our operations

Some of the packaging waste supplied to our businesses cannot currently be recycled, either because of the quantities we generate or because there is no recycling potential.

In order to meet the target of zero waste to landfill, we will need to work with our suppliers to identify the packaging types that currently are landfilled to reduce these or to find alternative means of disposal, for example through take back schemes, changing the packaging supplied or developing methods of recycling.



Objective 2: Reduce packaging supplied to customers by 20% in 2012 compared to 2008

Task 8: Identify packaging supplied to our customers

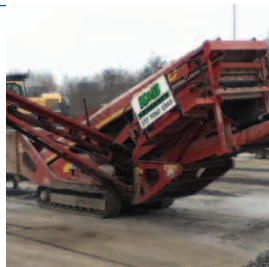
While initiatives are in place by some sites/businesses regarding the reduction in packaging supplied around our product, there is currently no coordinated effort in achieving this objective. Under the Producer Responsibility Obligations (Packaging Waste) Regulations 2007 we are required to pay a proportion of the cost of the recovery and recycling of packaging used to protect our products during transport to their point of use or sale. We have been complying with this through a membership scheme which requires we report annually the amount of packaging supplied with our products.

The waste minimisation steering group will review the data reported since 2008 to identify options for reducing the volume of packaging supplied, but also to identify options for providing packaging with a higher reusable, recyclable or recoverable content. One member of the waste minimisation steering group will have responsibility for regular reporting of packaging data (not currently reported on the Envoy system) and as a champion of best practice in packaging reduction.

Task 9: Reduce packaging supplied to customers

While in 2009 we recorded a 35% reduction in the packaging supplied, it is likely that this is due in part to the economic downturn. We need to ensure that this reduction can be maintained as operations and our customers change in response to the economic climate and that we continually improve how we report the packaging provided to our customers.

The challenge in maintaining this lower level of packaging will require coordination with customers, transport hauliers and other end users to ensure that products can be supplied without increases in damage or other quality impacts whilst meeting our second objective. As part of the regular review process, the waste minimisation steering group will review packaging data and also promote best practice and guidance on initiatives to reduce packaging supplied around our products. It is expected that the steering group will need to be informed by those individuals in the business that are responsible for packaging or have already had successes in reducing packaging supplied.



Summary

	Due date	Responsibility
Objective 1: Zero waste to landfill in 2012		
Task 1: Reduce, reuse, recycle and recover waste generated	2012	All employees
Task 2: All sites to have and maintain a site waste management plan	Q1 2011	Site/regional managers
Task 3: All sites to have a competent 'waste champion' to implement the plan	Q3 2011	Site/regional managers
Task 4: Establish a waste minimisation steering group	Q1 2011	Waste minimisation steering group
Task 5: Review and track waste monitoring data	Ongoing	Waste minimisation steering group
Task 6: Create markets for the reuse of the waste we produce	2012	To be led by waste minimisation steering group but also regional/divisional managers where appropriate
Task 7: Work with suppliers to reduce packaging supplied to our operations	2012	To be led by waste minimisation steering group but also regional/divisional managers where appropriate
Objective 2: Reduce packaging supplied to customers by 20% in 2012 compared to 2008		
Task 8: Identify packaging supplied to our customers	Q1 2011	To be led by waste minimisation steering group but also regional/divisional managers where appropriate
Task 9: Reduce packaging supplied to customers	2012	To be led by waste minimisation steering group but also regional/divisional managers where appropriate

Review

The implementation of this company plan and its suitability will be subject to regular review by the waste minimisation steering group. Performance on the objectives in this plan will be reviewed on a quarterly basis and reported in our sustainability report annually.





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