

Information further to Ministerial Answers

**Information further to OAQ19503 issued by the Minister for Environment,
Sue Essex, on 1 November 2002**

To Jonathan Morgan:

On 16 October 2002 I agreed to give you details of which local authorities have initiated composting schemes and their degree of success. I have received the attached information from the Environment Agency Wales, which should provide you with sufficient information on both the home and municipal composting aspects.

At the moment there are no targets or plans for targets for home composting because of the difficulties in measuring the volume and content of home composting and because some householders may not be able to perform composting (e.g. flat dwellers, the infirm, disabled people etc.). The majority of responses from local authorities and professional bodies to the National Assembly for Wales's 2001 consultation on 'Managing Waste Sustainably' indicated that meaningful and measurable home composting targets were not feasible.

2000/01		
AUTHORITY/SCHEME TYPE	Compost No. Sites	Compost Tonnes
<i>Kerbside Collections</i>		
Rhondda Cynon Taf	1	454
<i>Bring Sites</i>		
Blaenau Gwent	-	
Bridgend	-	-
Caerphilly		345
Cardiff		-
Carmarthenshire	3	1,542
Ceredigion		
Conwy	3	5,027
Denbighshire		
Flintshire		
Isle of Anglesey		
Gwynedd		
Merthyr Tydfil		
Monmouthshire	3	463
Neath Port Talbot		
Newport	1	1,000
Pembrokeshire	6	2,341
Powys	14	1,476
Rhondda Cynon Taf		
Torfaen	1	507
Vale of Glamorgan	2	678
City and County of Swansea	6	4,585
Wrexham		
<i>Non-household</i>		
Rhondda Cynon Taf		10
City and County of Swansea		489
Total		18,917

Source: Municipal Waste Survey.

Distribution of Home Composting Bins from 1996-2001

1,000s of bins	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
Numbers distributed (composters and others)	1	2	24	10	10
<i>% of local authorities distributing free</i>	13	11	19	6	6
Total number of local authorities distributing	8	13	16	16	18
% of all local authorities distributing bins within specified year	36	57	73	73	82

Notes

'Composter' includes aerobic composting bins.

'Other' includes aerobic designs (digesters) and wormeries.

High in 1998-99 due to NPT13420 free bins provided.

Percentage of local authorities in 1999-2001 with established centralised composting schemes and number that have evaluated

	1999-2000	2000-01
Established schemes	25%	18%
Completed evaluations and will proceed	20%	18%
Completed evaluations and will not proceed	0%	5%
Have not costed scheme	40%	36%
No response to questions	15%	23%