

Case Study: Managing Gully and Road Sweeping Waste



“The project enabled Local Authorities in the North East to address the environmental and legal issues of dealing with this type of material and make informed decisions on the various options available to them within the region and the new ways of dealing with gully waste being developed in the industry”.

John Shepherd, North East Improvement and Efficiency Partnership (NEIEP)

The Problem

Gully waste and street sweepings can account for a considerable amount of Local Authority (LA) waste. In the North East of England (NE) this type of waste was being handled in a variety of different ways at a considerable cost (principally landfill).

With a reduction of sites available in the region for the disposal of liquid forms of gully waste, and subsequent impact in costs, it was essential to identify new cost effective treatment and disposal options.

The Solution

The North East Improvement and Efficiency Partnership commissioned Valpak to identify gully waste treatment options best suited to Local Authorities in the North East of England. The aim was to reduce the amount of this material ending up in landfill and provide significant cost savings. This work included:

- assessing current gully waste arisings, material handling issues and treatment costs
- identifying the impact of relevant legislation and fiscal drivers
- reviewing alternative treatment technologies / service providers and assessing them against a list of set criteria to identify a shortlist best suited for LAs in the North East of England

Project Benefits

The results of the project were given to Local Authorities in the North East, providing them with:

- an overview of the current situation
- a comprehensive report detailing the treatment process, operational requirements, output material, costings and procurement options for key gully waste treatment technologies and service providers
- a geocoded map, illustrating current facilities in the region, enabling LAs to develop spatial strategies for introducing new facilities in the region
- details of potential cost savings of up to £160,000 per annum following a payback period and based on an average sized North East LA

