

Presentation to Joint Committee on Environment and Local Government

Household Waste Recycling

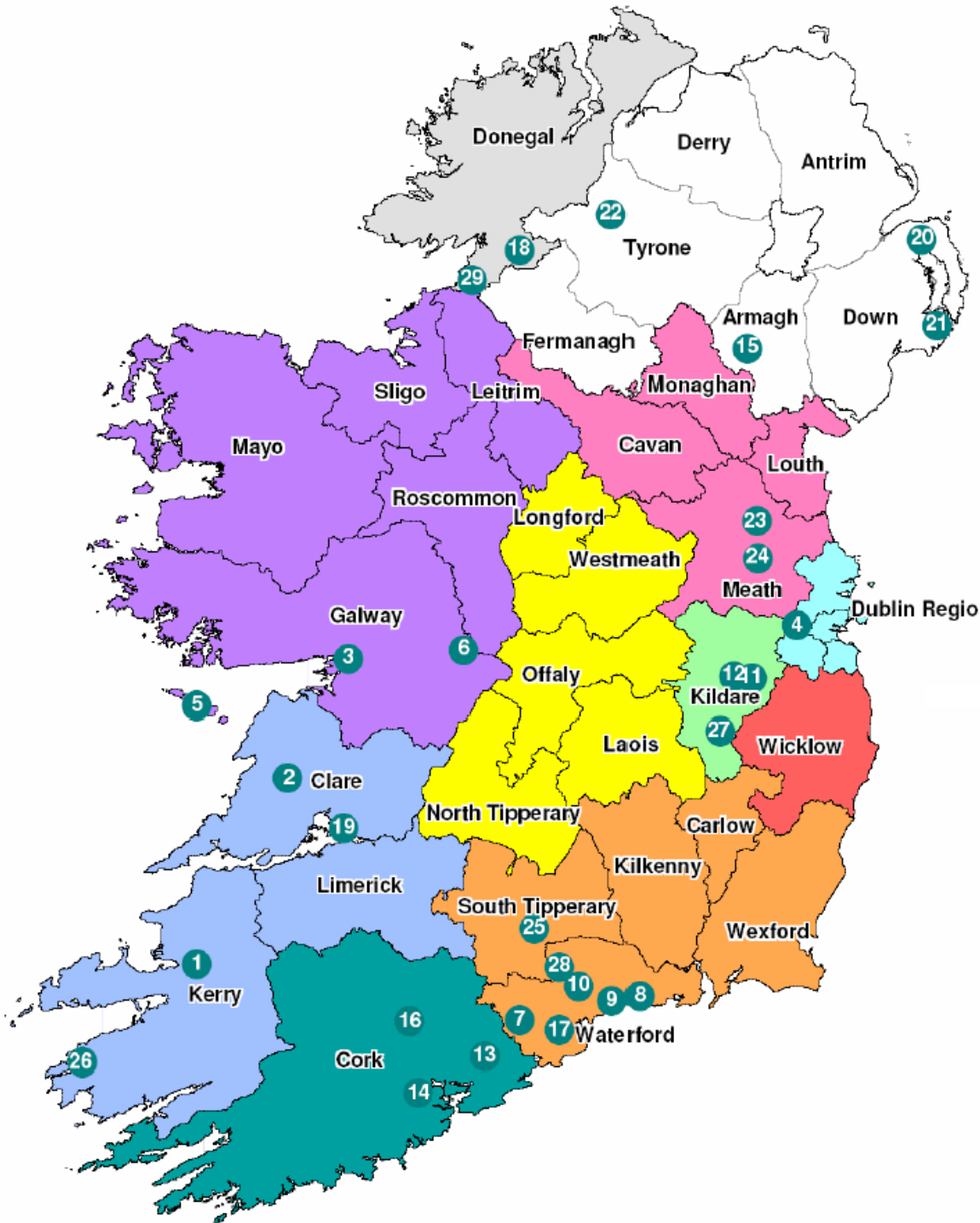
Conor McGovern, Chair Cré (Greenstar)

Conall Boland, Cré (RPS)



Cré

- Cré is Irish Composting Association
- Membership - 60+ organisations and individuals.
 - Composters (treating household & other wastes)
 - Local authorities
 - Equipment suppliers
 - Engineering consultancies
 - Waste management companies
- Not-for-profit association
- Activities; Themed seminars, newsletter, information dissemination, training, www.cre.ie, liaison with regulators, project development.



1	Kilroney Composting Site	3,000
2	Inagh Waste Management Facility	2,000
3	Carrowbrowne Waste Recovery Facility	10,000
4	Lucan Green Waste Composting	5,000
5	Aran Islands Recycling Scheme	500
6	Ballinasloe Composting Site	1,000
7	Lismore Recycling Centre	500
8	Tramore Recycling Centre	1,000
9	Dungarvan Recycling Centre	1,000
10	Waterford City Composting Facility	10,000
11	Silliot Hill, Kildare	5,200
12	Kildare Sludge Plant	5,200
13	CTO Middleton	3,000
14	Kinsale Road Facility	2,000
15	Keady Composting Facility	65,000
16	McGill Facility	10,000
17	Cappoquin Facility	10,000
18	Enviro Grind Ltd.	3,000

20	Robert Delaney	10,000
21	Down District Council Composting Site	1,800
22	Simproulreland Ltd.	4,000
23	Organic Gold	3,000
24	AES, Navan	10,000
25	Miltown Composting Facility	6,000
26	Iveragh Co-Op	5,000
27	BEOFS	5,000
28	Kilgreany	5,000
29	Ballyshannon	5,000

Industry status

83,505 tonnes organics (10%) recovered 2004

- Source segregation & bring centres
- Domestic and commercial organics (municipal)
- Public and private collections

Significant home composting (30,000 tpa)

Also have

- Treatment of mixed waste
- Sewage sludges
- Industrial wastes/sludges



Possibly another
80,000 tonnes



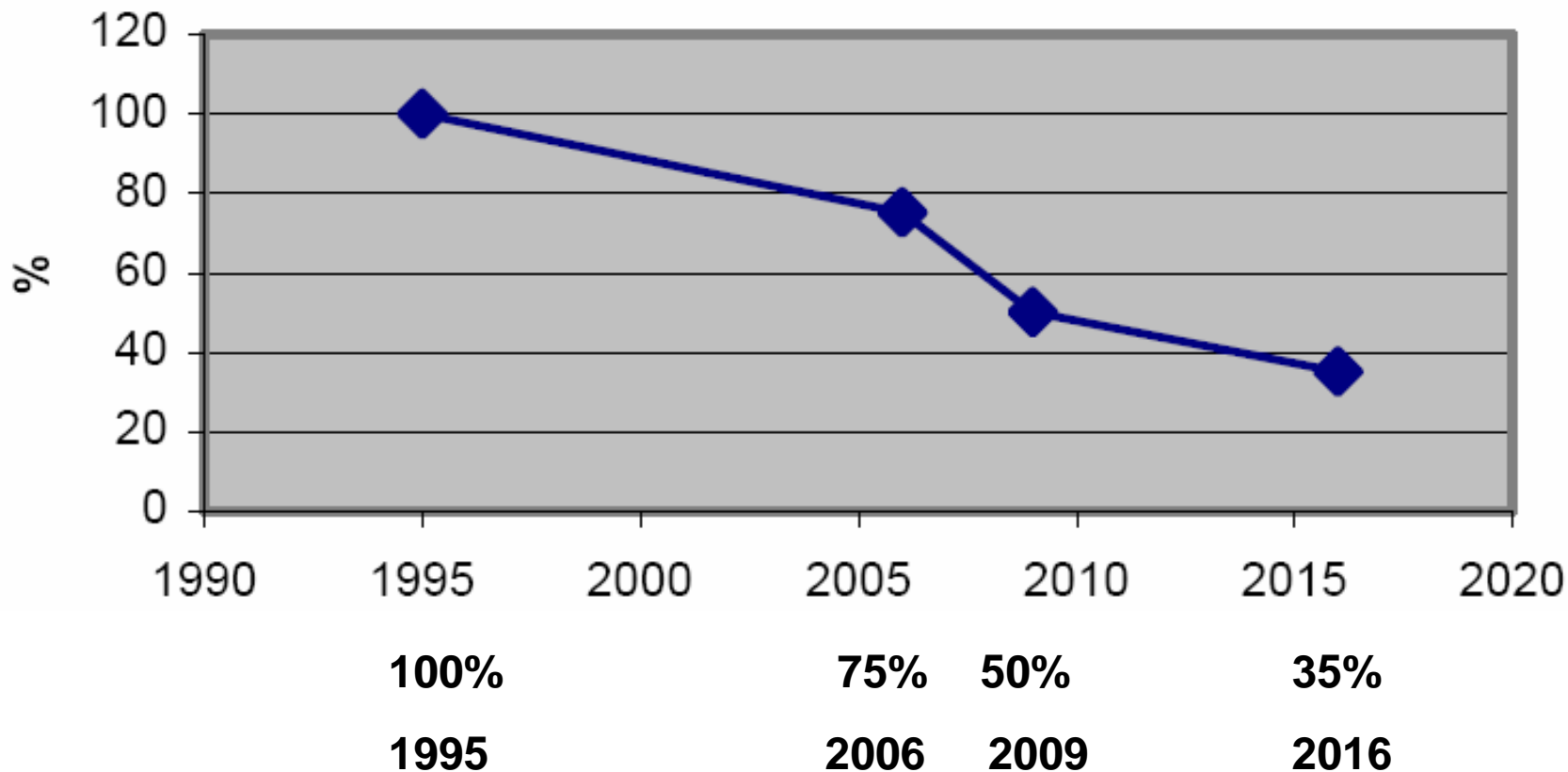
Central Composting Facilities

Home / worm Composting

Main points today

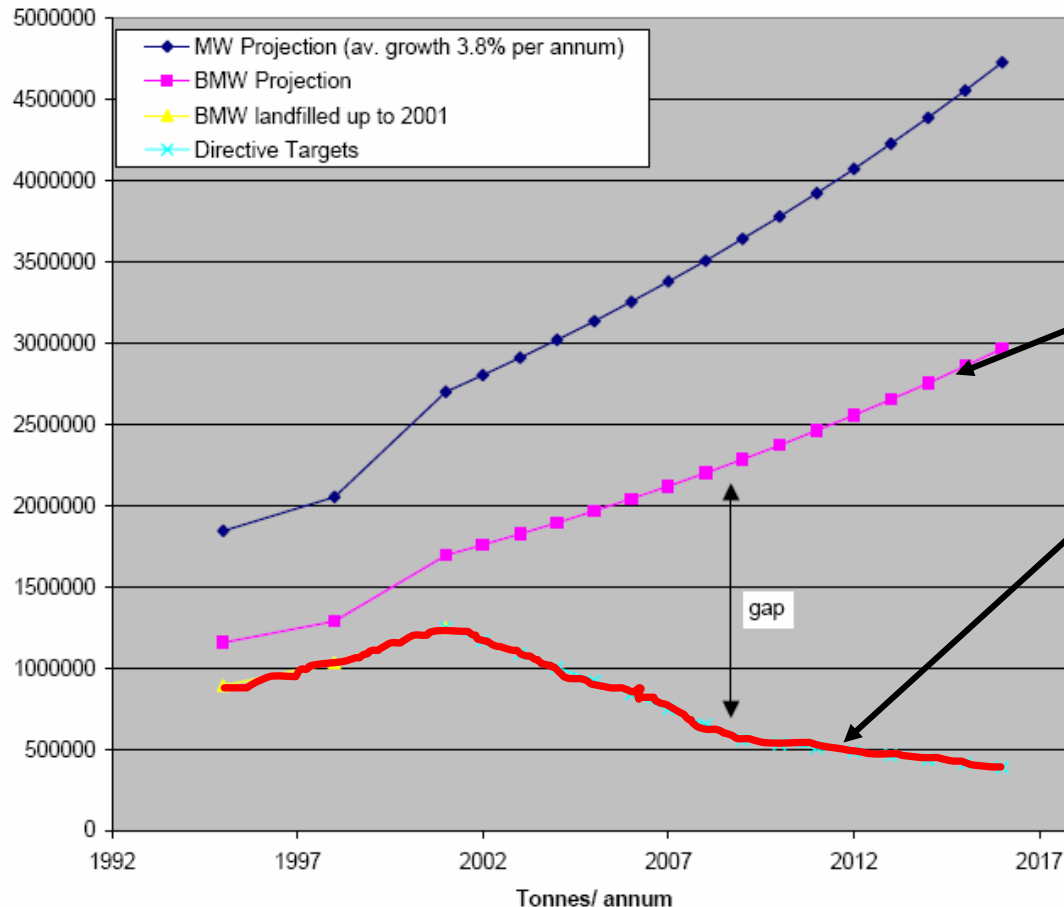
1. Landfill Directive – Action needed
2. Source Separation Policy: “Brown bin” collection
3. Compost Quality Assurance Proposal
4. Markets Development for compost
5. Training Scheme for composting

Landfill Directive



BMW = 74% of MSW - Paper/card, Organics, Textiles, Wood.

Projected Situation



“Gap” to be recovered increases every year as;

• Waste production grows with inflation

• Landfill allowance drops

Recovery rates not kept up;

Need 2* 2004 rates in 2006!!

Need 3* 2004 rates in 2009!!

We need to respond by dramatically expanding our composting capacity!

Ireland should...

- Eliminate policy deficit
 - Same situation in Europe also
 - Harms project “deliverability”
- Finalise/Publish National Response
 - National Biowaste Strategy
 - Indicate attitude to derogation of targets to 2010
 - Ensure that derogation (if availed of) does not allow recovery rates to slip
- Continue support for all forms of composting/ organic waste treatment to increase recycling and reduce disposal.

Ref UK LATS, good or bad, it brought focus.

Source Separation

- Clean Waste - high quality compost
 - Public participation and satisfaction
 - Collection alternated with black bin to reduce costs (costs still increased though)
 - In line with European Policy (??)
 - Works well in urban areas/ higher density
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- Realistically, not all organic waste can be source separated
 - Treatment of 'mixed waste compost' plays increasing role in biowaste recovery rates.



- Brown bin collection in place in Galway (city and county), Waterford (city and county), Fingal





Compost Quality Standard

- Quality mark is required to encourage public and landscapers to use the products
- Ireland has no standard currently (unlike other countries)
- Cré has made a proposal to EPA ERTDI to part-fund & develop a Quality Standard for compost
- Standard for both source segregated and mixed waste derived compost is recommended
- **A relatively modest investment needed by Government to support this vital initiative – Your Support is Required.**

Market Development

- Market development projects are needed
- Little output from Government “Market Development Group” to date
- Cré should be represented on this group
- **Projects and funding for compost market development urgently needed**
 - Standard for source segregated and mixed waste derived compost
- Without markets, composting will be more expensive and the householder will lose confidence.

Public and private support

- Grant aid for composting facilities would be beneficial
- So far only public sector composting plants have been funded.
- This is welcome but private composting firms should also benefit

Anti-competitive

Difficulties in planning

- Mixed waste feedstock used to refuse
- Requirement to roof all activity expensive (10 weeks retention)
- Local authorities can find their “hands tied”
- Composting should be a favoured solution

Training

- Training facility operators will provide for better operation of composting facilities which will in turn prevent these plants from impacting upon local communities.
- Cré has developed and provided an *ad-hoc* training course on a voluntary basis.
- Cré is now working to develop a certified training course in association with the Institutes of Technology and possibly Fás
- **Government support for this initiative is requested.**

Conclusions

- Composting can recycle up to 35% of household waste contributing significantly to Landfill Directive targets
- Government Action in these areas can help Cré make this a reality:
 - Publish National Biowaste Strategy
 - Take account and give guidance for mixed waste compost
 - Support Source Separation where suited Support Cré in:
 - Developing a compost quality assurance scheme
 - Establishing a certified training course
 - Improve National Market Development initiatives
 - Grant aid for all practitioners
 - Support composting project in planning process and by policy