

Planit-WASTE



The Need

The UK produces around 330 million tonnes of waste annually - a quarter of which is from households and businesses. The cost of waste disposal is a major problem for Local Authorities. Waste costs and Government imposed penalties are increasing. The public and private sector need to come up with radical solutions to resolve these issues.

The Challenge

The learning solution needed to look at waste in terms of the big picture. Waste is not simply a technical or an economic problem. It cannot be isolated from social problems and certainly not environmental issues.

Waste needs to be thought of in terms of sustainability.

Key Objectives & Messages

- Improve the understanding of the growing waste problem.
- Improve the understanding of the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme (LATS) and waste technologies.
- Considering diversion (from landfill) versus trading strategies.
- Ensure that waste management is thought of in sustainable terms.
- Improve decision-making and problem solving in waste management issues.
- Encourage a partnership approach to tackling waste management issues.

The Solution

In partnership with Defra, pixelfountain have developed Planit-WASTE, a learning-simulation that models a county with three districts, all with different socio-economic, environmental and waste profiles.

At the start of the simulation they are not dealing very well with the problem of waste. Pressures from central government, rapidly reducing landfill and the need for more sustainable waste management are driving the need for change.

The guiding principles of Planit-WASTE are the waste hierarchy and sustainability, the delegates need to keep this in mind as they put forward solutions.

Who might Benefit from the Training

- Local Authority Officers
- Local Authority Members
- Managers and Decision Makers
- Individuals involved in procurement
- Individuals involved in waste partnerships
- Individuals who work in the waste industries



Interactive scene painted in water colour

“Scenario was fantastic – made things very clear about how [waste management] works”



The Workshop

The Planit-WASTE learning-simulation is used as a training aid within an interactive workshop.

The workshop simulates 10 years (over 4 rounds) in the life of the local area. Target years are simulated to take account of the new policy and legal framework. Delegates are given the role of one of the three Collection Authorities, the Disposal Authority or the Waste Industry.

As teams, they are responsible for improving the strategic waste management of the virtual area. If delegates want to achieve the goal of sustainable waste management, they have to negotiate, work together, consider the wider community and think strategically.

The interconnectedness of the problem is explained in the learning-simulation in a way not possible with traditional learning approaches.

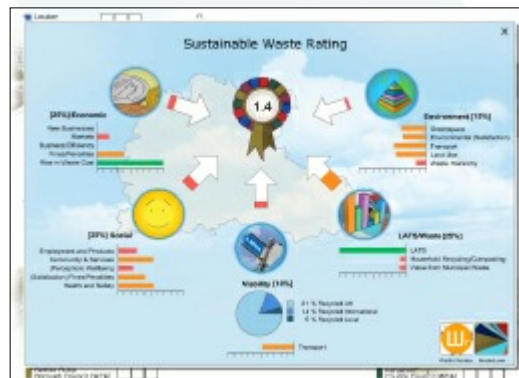
The workshop includes action planning, which translates the learning into tangible actions to improve the waste management of the area.

“As actions were put forward, the simulation gave results for you to see. You could understand the inter-relationships between all the partners, methods and facilities.”

Proven Approach

Using an interactive model within workshops is a proven yet innovative learning approach that allows delegates to experience issues and work together to solve problems.

The approach offers the best of traditional and electronic methods. pixelfountain has delivered around 450 successful workshops and trained over 6,000 people using this approach.



Benefits of the Approach

- Generates **“real” understanding** by allowing delegates to “experience” the problem, and so build their understanding and improve their analytical and decision-making skills.
- Promotes **joined-up thinking**, which places understanding in a wider context and enables the development and mainstreaming of creative solutions.
- Highlights **strategic thinking**, which encourages the development of sustainable solutions.
- Improves **collaborative working**, breaks down silos and encourages buy-in.
- Focuses on **implementation** in terms of real-world problem solving and resourcing.



Are you interested in an innovative approach to waste?

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