LONDONWASTE LIMITED (Registered Number 2732548)

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1997



PANNELL KERR FORSTER Chartered Accountants

LONDONWASTE LIMITED (Registered Number 2732548) ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1997

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LONDONWASTE LIMITED REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1997

OFFICERS AND REGISTERED OFFICE

Directors:

J Pearson

(Chairman)

R Barlow

P Carneau

P Cunneen

(Appointed 9 July 1997) (Resigned 9 July 1997)

M Dewar J Lebel I Perry D Sargent

N Young

Secretary:

D Sargent

Registered Office:

Edmonton Power Station, Advent Way, Edmonton,

London N183AG.

LONDONWASTE LIMITED . DIRECTORS' REPORT

The directors submit their report and the accounts for the year ended 31 December 1997.

RESULTS AND DIVIDENDS

The profit for the year after taxation was £3,575,000. The directors propose a dividend of £2,745,000.

REVIEW OF THE BUSINESS

The Company's main activities are the disposal of waste and the generation of electricity.

The Company has continued to expand its waste management operations with a consequent increase in turnover and underlying profitability. The major capital works carried out at the energy from waste plant in 1996 with the prime purpose of achieving high quality air emissions has been operating successfully since installation. The new costs from this environmentally beneficial project have now been absorbed and for this reason, the overall Company profit is slightly lower than in 1996. The Company entered into a contractual arrangement in 1997 which should allow residues from the energy from waste plant to be recycled. This, together with other business development actions, is expected to contribute to rise in profitability in 1998.

EVENTS SINCE THE YEAR END

There have been no events since the balance sheet date which in the opinion of the directors need to be drawn to shareholders' attention.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

The Company, in addition to obtaining ISO 9002 quality accreditation in 1997, has also obtained accreditation as a reprocessor under the new Packaging Waste Regulations. By taking part in this important recovery and recycling initiative, the Company expects to generate re-investment funding to allow expansion of the Company's commercially viable recovery and recycling operations.

DIRECTORS

The directors who served during the year are set out on page 1.

None of the directors has, or has ever had, any interest in the shares of the company.

AUDITORS

A resolution to reappoint Pannell Kerr Forster as auditors will be proposed at the forthcoming annual general meeting.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

D SARGENT Secretary

11 March 1998

.LONDONWASTE LIMITED STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that year. In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.



AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF LONDONWASTE LIMITED

We have audited the financial statements on pages 5 to 16 which have been prepared under the accounting policies set out on page 9.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described on page 3 the company's directors are responsible for the preparation of financial statements. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those statements and to report our opinion to you.

Basis of opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Auditing Standards. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at 31 December 1997 and of its profit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

PANNELL KERR FORSTER

Panell Ker Forster

Chartered Accountants

Registered Auditors

London

11 March 1998

LONDONWASTE LIMITED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1997

	Notes	1997 £'000	1996 £'000
Turnover	2	35,361	30,300
Cost of sales		25,448	21,389
Gross profit		9,913	8,911
Administrative expenses		3,926	3,877
Operating profit		5,987	5,034
Interest receivable	5	878	1,525
Interest payable and similar charges	6	(1,308)	(806)
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	7	5,557	5,753
Tax on profit on ordinary Activities	. 8	(1,982)	(2,134)
Profit for the year before dividends		3,575	3,619
Proposed dividend	9	(2,745)	(2,744)
Retained profit for the financial year		830	875
Profit and loss account at 1 January 1997		1,450	575
Profit and loss account at 31 December 1997		2,280	1,450

Londonwaste Limited has no recognised gains or losses other than the profit for the year.

All items stated in the profit and loss account relate to continuing business.

LONDONWASTE LIMITED BALANCE SHEET 31 DECEMBER 1997

			<u>1997</u>		1996
	Notes	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
FIXED ASSETS Tangible assets	10		55,428		56,558
CURRENT ASSETS Stocks Debtors Cash at bank and in hand	11 12	1,672 23,273 1,369		1,186 19,891 1,540	
		26,314		22,617	
CREDITORS Amounts falling due within one year	13	12,944		17,514	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			13,370		5,103
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	Γ		68,798		61,661
CREDITORS Amounts falling due after more than one year	14		20,120		13,918
PROVISION FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES	15		2,492		2,387
NET ASSETS			46,186		45,356
CAPITAL AND RESERVES Called up share capital Share premium Profit and loss account	16 17 17		41,612 2,294 2,280		41,612 2,294 1,450
EQUITY SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS	18		46,186		45,356 ======

Approved by the board on 11 March 1998

IPEARSON Director

Director

Director

LONDONWASTE LIMITED • CASH FLOW STATEMENT YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1997

	<u>Note</u>	1997 £'000	<u>1996</u> £'000
Reconciliation of operating profit to net cash inflow from operating activities			
Operating profit Depreciation (Increase) in stocks (Increase) in debtors (Decrease)/increase in creditors		5,987 3,242 (486) (4,002) (1,994)	5,034 2,203 (25) (1,192) 4,407
		2,747	10,427
Cash flow statement			
Net cash inflow from operating activities		2,747	10,427
Returns on investments and servicing of finance	Α	(477)	768
Taxation (including advance corporation tax)		(1,576)	(620)
Capital expenditure	Α	(5,221)	(11,883)
		(4,527)	(1,308)
Equity dividends paid		(2,744)	(2,478)
		(7,271)	(3,786)
Financing	Α	7,100	4,300
(Decrease)/increase in cash		(171)	514
Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net debt			
(Decrease)/increase in cash in the period		(171) 900	514
Cash used to repay loan Cash from new loan advanced		(8,000)	(4,300)
Change in net debt		(7,271)	(3,786)
Net debt at 1 January 1997		(13,260)	(9,474)
Net debt at 31 December 1997		(20,531)	(13,260)

· LONDONWASTE LIMITED NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1997

A	Analysis of cash flows for headings netted in the	cash flow statement	:	<u>1997</u> £'000	1996 £'000
	Returns on investments and servicing of finance Interest received Interest paid	:		879 (1,356)	1,525 (757)
	Net cash (outflow)/inflow from returns on investm	ents and servicing of	finance =	(477)	768
	Capital expenditure Purchase of tangible fixed assets		_	(5,221)	(11,883)
	Net cash outflow from capital expenditure		=	(5,221)	(11,883)
	Financing Debt due within one year: Repayment of loans Debt due after more than one year: New loans		-	(900) 8,000 	4,300
В	Analysis of net debt	At 1 January 1997 £	Cash flow £	Other non-cash changes £	At 31 December 1997 £
	Cash at bank and in hand	1,540	(171)	-	1,369
	Debt due after one year Debt due within one year	(13,918) (882)	(7,982) 882	1,780 (1,780)	(20,120) (1,780)
		(13,260)	(7,271)	-	(20,531)

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of the accounts of the company are described below.

(a) Historical cost convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

(b) Depreciation

Freehold land is not depreciated. Other tangible fixed assets are written off over their estimated useful lives on a straight line basis at the following annual rates:

Leasehold land

Buildings

Plant and machinery

Fixtures, fittings and equipment

Motor vehicles Computer equipment - 5% per annum on cost

- 5% per annum on cost

- 6%% per annum on cost - 121/2% per annum on cost

- 10% - 20% per annum on cost

- 25% per annum on cost

(c) Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

(d) Deferred taxation

Provision has been made for deferred tax using the liability method to the extent that it is probable that a liability will crystallise.

(e) Operating leases

Leasing charges in respect of operating leases are recognised in the profit and loss account over the lives of the lease agreement as incurred.

(f) Pensions

The company operates a defined benefit scheme providing benefits for employees additional to those from the state. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the company to the fund in respect of the year.

(g) Turnover

Turnover represents invoiced sales less allowances, trade discounts and value added tax.

2	TURNOVER

	The analysis of turnover, all of which arose within the United Kingdom, is as follows:	1997 £'000	1996 £'000
	Waste Disposal Electricity Generation	19,107 16,254	15,296 15,004
		35,361	30,300
3	STAFF COSTS		
	Wages and salaries Social security costs Other pension costs	6,359 507 538	6,047 504 542
		7,404	7,093
	The average monthly number of persons employed by the company during the year	was 216 (1996:	216).
4	DIRECTORS' EMOLUMENTS	<u>1997</u> £'000	<u>1996</u> £'000
	The remuneration of the directors of the company comprises:		
	Emoluments	169	161
		Number	<u>Number</u>
	Number of directors to whom benefits are accruing under defined benefit schemes	2	1
5	INTEREST RECEIVABLE	1997 £	<u>1996</u> £
	Bank interest Interest receivable on loan to related undertaking Add: Deferred interest	92 786 -	56 749 720
		878	1,525

The interest receivable on the loan to a related undertaking is only realised upon the use by the company of landfill space owned by the related undertaking. The interest receivable that was deferred in the 1995 accounts was released during the 1996 accounting period.

6	INTEREST PAYABLE AND SIMILAR CHARGES	<u>1997</u> £'000	<u>1996</u> £'000
	Loans wholly repayable within five years Loans wholly repayable within five to ten years Other loans	224 1,071 13	455 344 7
		1,308	806
7	PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION		
	Profit on ordinary activities before taxation is stated after charging the following:		
	Depreciation of tangible fixed assets Directors' emoluments (note 4) Auditors' remuneration - audit - other fees Operating lease payments - land and buildings - other Hire of plant and machinery	3,242 169 17 3 82 111 318	2,203 161 16 9 77 72 69
8	TAX ON PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES		
	The charge for the year comprises:		
	Corporation tax at 33% and 31% (1996:33%) Deferred taxation	1,807 175	1,509 625
		1,982	2,134
9	DIVIDENDS		
	"A" ordinary shares "B" ordinary shares	1,338 1,407	1,335 1,409
		2,745	2,744
	See note 16 (ii) for details of the dividend rights attached to the shares.		

10 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Freehold land and buildings £'000	Leasehold <u>land</u> £'000	Capital work in progress £'000	Plant and machinery £'000	Fixtures fittings equipment £'000	Motor vehicles £'000	<u>Total</u> £'000
28,039 49 -	140	242 872 (95)	31,149 492 95	449 512 -	929 187 -	60,948 2,112
28,088	140	1,019	31,736	961	1,116	63,060
1,663 816	14	- -	2,237 2,114	160 140	316 165	4,390 3,242
2,479	21	-	4,351	300	481	7,632
25,609	119	1,019	27,385	661	635	55,428
26,376	126	242	28,912	289	613	56,558
	1,663 816 25,609	land and buildings £'000 £'000 28,039 140 49	Freehold land and Leasehold in buildings land £'000 £'000 £'000 28,039 140 242 49 - 872 - (95) 28,088 140 1,019 1,663 14 - 7 2,479 21 - 25,609 119 1,019	Freehold land and buildings £'000 Leasehold progress £'000 Work machinery £'000 28,039 140 242 31,149 49 - 872 492 - - (95) 95 28,088 140 1,019 31,736 1,663 14 - 2,237 816 7 - 2,114 2,479 21 - 4,351 25,609 119 1,019 27,385	Freehold land and Leasehold in Plant and buildings land progress #2'000 £'000	Freehold land and buildings £'000 Leasehold £'000 in progress £'000 Plant and £'000 Fixtures fittings equipment £'000 Motor vehicles £'000 28,039 140 242 31,149 449 929 49 - 872 492 512 187 - - (95) 95 - - 28,088 140 1,019 31,736 961 1,116 1,663 14 - 2,237 160 316 816 7 - 2,114 140 165 2,479 21 - 4,351 300 481 25,609 119 1,019 27,385 661 635

Freehold land and buildings include assets not depreciated at a gross book value of £11,750,000.

11	STOCKS	<u>1997</u> £'000	1996 £'000
12	Consumables DEBTORS	1,672	1,186
	Trade debtors Amounts owed by related undertakings Advance corporation tax Other debtors Prepayments and accrued income	7,728 14,269 686 17 573	4,912 13,230 1,305 8 436
		23,273	19,891

£686,000 (1996: £686,000) of Advance Corporation Tax is recoverable in more than one year.

13	CREDITORS	<u>1997</u> £'000	<u>1996</u> £'000
	Amounts falling due within one year: Bank loans and overdraft (see note 14) Trade creditors Amounts due to related undertakings Corporation tax Other taxation and social security Other creditors Accruals and deferred income Proposed dividends	1,780 1,982 2,217 2,757 743 2 718 2,745	882 2,949 1,647 3,145 303 24 5,820 2,744
		12,944	17,514
14	CREDITORS		
	Amounts falling due after more than one year: Bank loans Loans from related undertaking	18,320 1,800 	12,118 1,800 13,918

The bank loans are secured by a fixed and floating charge over the freehold property, all existing assets as at 13 November 1995 and all assets relating to work carried out under the Retrofit contract including any replacement or upgrades thereof.

Interest on the long term loan is at the rate of LIBOR plus 0.9%. (Balance as at 31 December 1997: £14,100,000). Interest on the shorter term loan is at the rate of LIBOR plus 0.75%. (Balance as at 31 December 1997: £6,000,000).

The bank loans are repayable as follows:

Within one year Between one and two years Between two and five years After five years	1,780 1,760 11,280 5,280	882 1,765 8,794 1,559
	20,100	13,000

PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES 15

525 175 - 700 	132	(202)	319	2,387 307 (202)
700			<u>-</u>	
	132			
oration		341	319	2,492
	n tax at 31% (1996:	33%) on:	<u>Potential an</u> <u>1997</u> £'000	nd provided 1996 £'000
			1,778 (78)	1,861 (336)
			1,700	1,525
			Number	£'000
			21,705,937 21,705,937	21,706 21,706
er 1997			43,411,874	43,412
			21,705,937 19,705,937 2,000,000	21,706 19,706 200
er 1997			43,411,874	41,612
			ly paid tly paid	21,705,937 er 1997 43,411,874 21,705,937 21,705,937 19,705,937 2,000,000

The "A" and "B" shares rank pari passu in all respects whether or not they are fully paid except in respect of the following:

Upon any resolution for the removal of a director appointed by the "A" shareholders the holders of the "B" shares shall collectively be entitled to 1 vote and the holder of the "A" shares shall collectively be entitled to 2 votes and vice versa.

(ii) <u>Dividends</u>

The "A" and "B" shares rank equally for dividend subject to the "A" shareholder's ongoing commitment to make special contributions to the Londonwaste Limited Pension Scheme as long as the employees that were transferred on vesting from the North London Waste Authority are still in service, such special contributions being deducted from their share of the dividend.

Additionally, if the net after-tax profits of the company should exceed 12% of the company's turnover in any financial year after 31 December 1998 then a dividend will be declared in respect of at least an amount equal to the excess, and the shareholders shall be entitled to the excess dividend in the proportion 75% to the "A" shares and 25% to the "B"shares.

17	RESERVES			Share Premium £'000	Profit and loss account £'000		
	At 1 January 1997 Retained profit for the period			2,294	1,450 830		
	At 31 December 1997			2,294	2,280		
18	EQUITY SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS			<u>1997</u> £'000	1996 £'000		
	The reconciliation of movements in shareholders	s' funds is as fol	lows:				
	Profit for the financial period Dividends			3,575 (2,745)	3,619 (2,744)		
				830	875		
	Balance at 1 January 1997			45,356	44,481		
	Balance at 31 December 1997			46,186	45,356		
19	OPERATING LEASES						
	At 31 December 1997 the company has annual commitments						
	under operating leases as follows:	Land and Buildings <u>1997</u> £'000	Plant and Machinery <u>1997</u> £'000	Land and Buildings <u>1996</u> £'000	Plant and Machinery 1996 £'000		
	The state of the same area.	_	28	_	17		
	Expiring within one year Expiring between two and five years	-	129	-	36		
	Expiring in more than five years	80	-	76 			
		80	157	76	53		
20	CAPITAL COMMITMENTS			1997 £'000	1996 £'000		
	Authorised and contracted			1,879	198		

21 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The company had provided a performance bond to the North London Waste Authority of £510,000 (1996: £475,000) at the year end.

22 PENSIONS

The company operates a defined benefits pension scheme which is split into two parts, one of which is closed to new members. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company. The contributions are determined by a qualified actuary on the basis of a triennial valuation using the projected unit method. The most recent valuation was at 1 January 1997. The assumptions which have the most significant effect on the results of the valuation are those relating to the rate of return on investments and the rates of increase in salaries and pensions. It was assumed that the investment returns would be 9% per annum, that salary increases would average 6% per annum and that present and future pensions would increase at the rate of 4% per annum.

The pension charge for the period was £538,000 (1996: £542,000).

The most recent actuarial valuation showed that the market value of the scheme's assets was £2,609,000 and that the actuarial value of those assets represented 92% of the benefits that had accrued to members, after allowing for expected future increases in earnings. This deficit is largely represented by the shortfall arising on the transfer of benefits from the Local Authority Scheme and will be met by making special contributions for individual members affected at each year end, at a rate to be calculated by the Actuary, and a lump sum contribution will not be required.

The contributions for the employer and employees will be 12.3% and 5.8% respectively on the closed part of the scheme, and 10.7% and 5% respectively for the ongoing part of the scheme.

23 CONTROLLING AND RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

The directors are of the opinion that the company is jointly controlled by S.I.T.A. (GB) Limited (SITA) and the North London Waste Authority (NLWA).

NLWA

NLWA uses the company's facilities for the disposal of domestic, commercial, industrial and civic amenity waste under commercial contracts and is responsible for £12,671,000 (1996: £11,621,000) of the total turnover disclosed in the accounts. Included within trade debtors as at 31 December 1997 is an amount due from NLWA to the company of £2,454,000 (1996: £889,000).

In addition at 31 December 1997 NLWA owed the company £394,000 (1996 :£200,000 owed to NLWA). A further amount for £440,000 is included in prepayments relating to landfill tax not yet reclaimed from NLWA.

SITA

SITA, through a subsidiary, provides the company with landfill space which has cost the company £51,000 (1996: £519,000) less volume user discounts where appropriate, which includes the liability for landfill tax and a contribution to the operating costs of the subsidiary, Midland Land Reclamation, whose landfill site they used. It also provides the company with technical expertise and has charged the company £778,000 (1996: £1,460,000 relating to 1995 and 1996) in management fees for this service relating to 1997. Nene Valley Waste, another subsidiary has been used for transport and tipping of lime residue during the year which has cost £275,000.

The company also has a £1,800,000 (1996: £1,800,000) loan from SITA which is interest free and due for repayment by 1 June 1999 at the latest.

As part of the original financing arrangements SITA received a loan from Londonwaste of £12,000,000 on which interest is charged at the rate of 6% per annum.

At 31 December 1997 the company had the following balances with SITA:

At 31 December 1997 the company had the roller and germany	<u>1997</u> £'000	<u>1996</u> £'000
Loan due from SITA Amounts due to SITA Amounts due to Midland Land Reclamation (included in trade creditors) Amounts due to Nene Valley Waste (included in trade creditors)	13,876 4,017 15 32	13,230 3,247 519