

WASTE : THE CHOICE

LANDFILL

- Burial
- early landfills not sealed.
- rainwater causes leaching.
- this can dissolve toxic chemicals, heavy metals, plastics, solvents, dioxins.
- This produces a toxic LEACHATE that can enter the aquifer/water table to affect water supplies and cause health problems.
- rubbish decay can produce Methane which is a greenhouse gas contributing to global warming/climate change.
- Vermin (rats), smell.
- Uses land; rural lanes may suffer congestion and pollution due to lorries

↑ Methane can fuel electricity generation.

↑ New sites have impermeable membrane or compacted clay to prevent leachate.

— leachate transferred to ponds and treated

↑ Reclaimed sites may be reused

INCINERATION

- Burn waste at high temperature,
- creates toxic gases such as dioxins that cause air pollution and health problems.
- Some greenhouse gases also leading to global warming/climate change.
- Resulting ash has chemical toxins which needs burial.
- has been spread on land causing pollution
- Expensive to build, large initial outlay.
- Few jobs created
- Transport costs/pollution

↑ Energy recovery, heat to produce electricity.

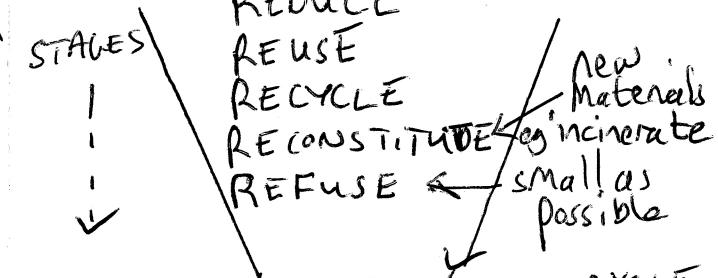
↑ Modern filtering cuts toxic emissions.

— UK emission standards are high.

↑ Scrap metal left over can be sold.

RECYCLE

- Metal/cans/plastic/bottles/wood/card board/paper.
- part of the waste continuum



- May UPGRADE or DOWNGRADE
- downgrade/cycle limited.
- Government, EU, and council initiatives/targets.
- Conserves resources.
- Saves energy; lower costs; less landfill; less incineration.
- Education of homeowners and manufacturers to reduce packaging.

↓ Large initial investment.

↓ Large collection, transport and processing costs.

↓ Dangerous chemicals and plastics sent to NICs/NEE eg CHINA - now banned.