

Presentation to APSE Scotland - Waste & Recycling Network



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Neighbourhood Operations
Development Manager

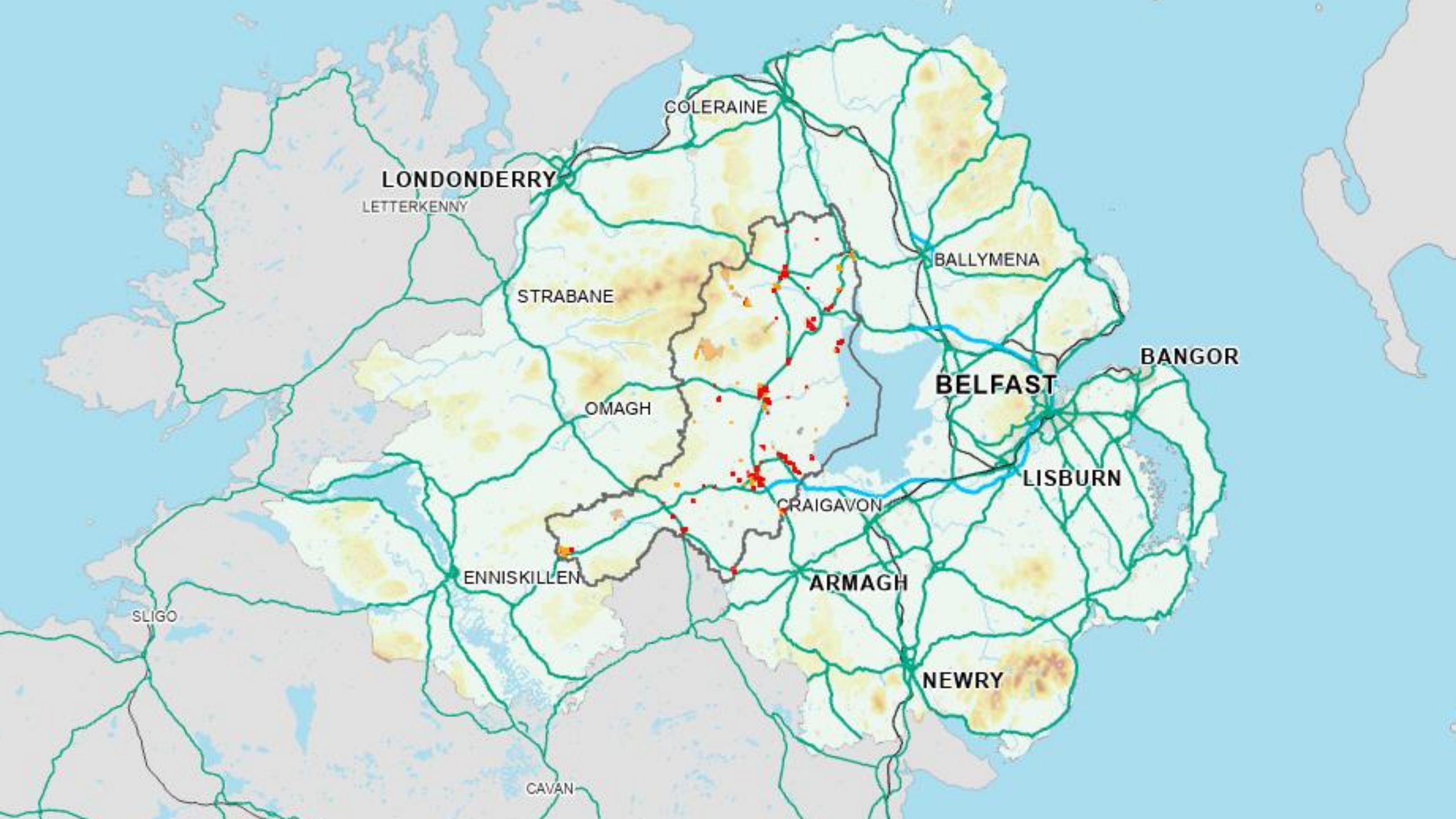
7 November 2025



Comhairle Ceantair
Lár Uladh
Mid Ulster
District Council

Environmental Services - Mid Ulster

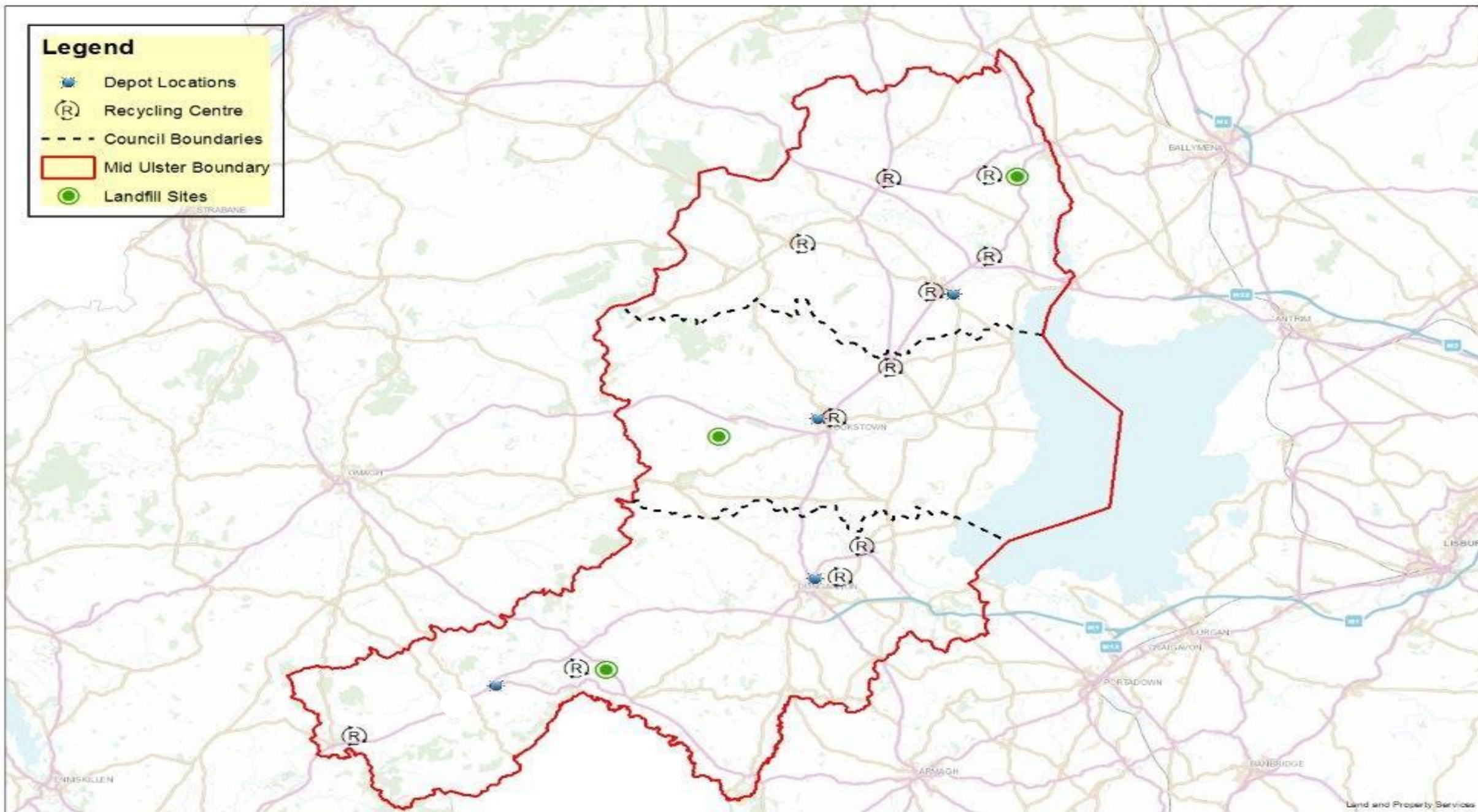
- Annual Expenditure - £18m
- Employees - 280 No.
- Responsibilities include:
 - Refuse and recycling kerbside collections (58,000 households)
 - Provision of Recycling Centres
 - Waste transfer facilities
 - Landfill site management/aftercare
 - Waste recycling, treatment and processing
 - Street cleansing and removal of fly tipping
 - Environmental Education and Awareness
 - Grounds Maintenance
 - Cemetery Provision
 - Old Burial Grounds
 - Maghera Walled Garden

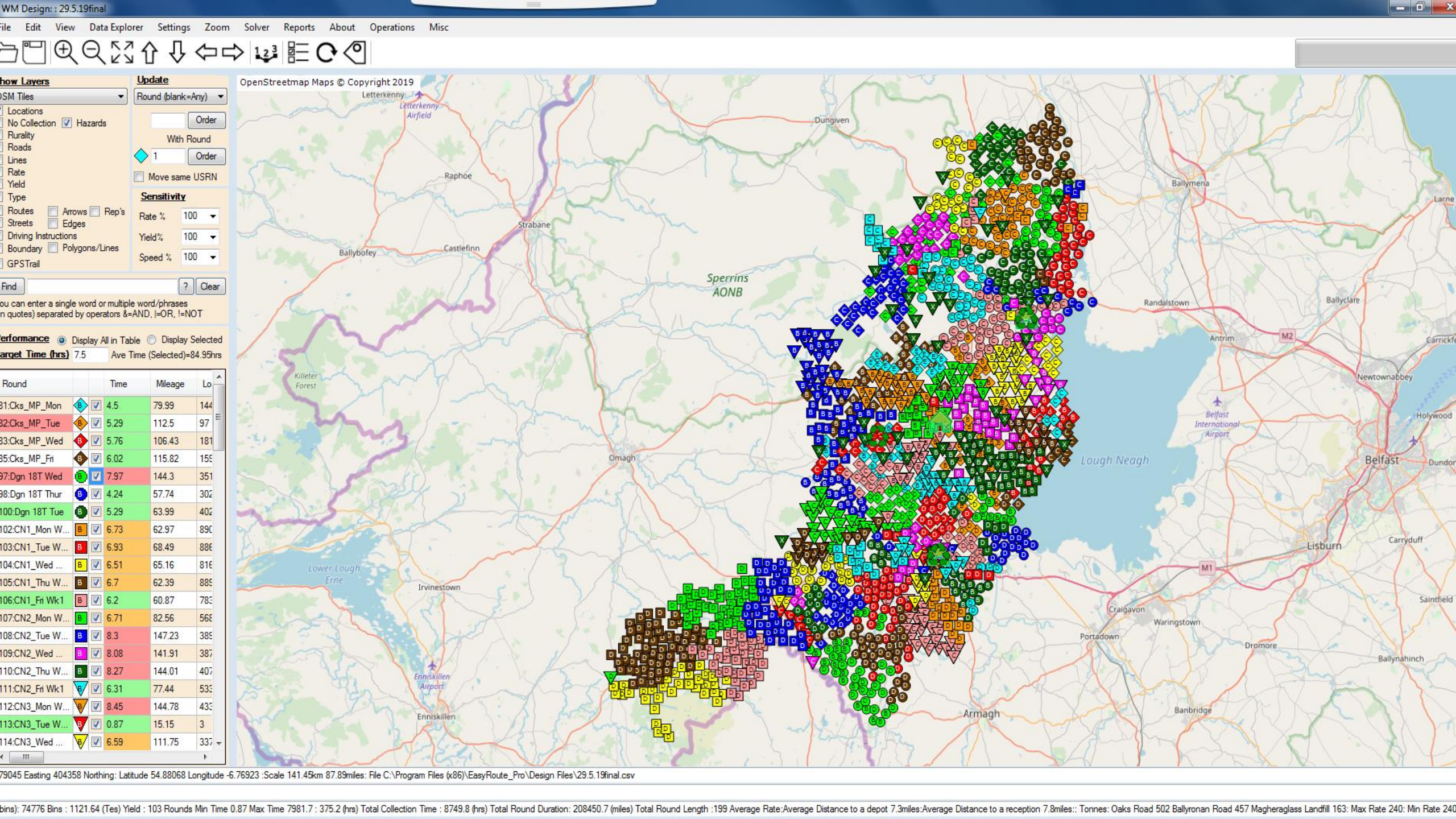


Legend

-  Depot Locations
-  Recycling Centre
-  Council Boundaries
-  Mid Ulster Boundary
-  Landfill Sites

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District wide coverage with “3 bin system”

Brown	Food and Garden waste
Blue	Mixed Dry Recyclables
Black	Residual waste





Harmonisation of Collections

- Review of Public Administration in Northern Ireland, RPA implemented 1st April 2015
- Three bin system synchronised across the new District
- Magherafelt area introduced OAVs around 2010
- MUDC refuse collection route optimisation in 2018
- 3 OAVs introduced onto Cookstown routes in 2019
- 3 OAVs commenced in rural Dungannon in 2022
- 3 OAVs to complete rural Dungannon starting 2026



SLF



Side Loader

Side loaded refuse collection vehicles allow one-man operation with RH or LH drive chassis. Loading is carried out from the cab with a Joystick or from an operation station beside the lifter. The product line includes fixed bodies with swing compactor (SLF XL) or pendulum press compactor (SLF) with various lifter versions.

Description

- the side loader SLF has a smooth body wall and is available with volumes of 18 and 22 cbm.
- lifter control is via joystick
- emptying by tipping of the body by approx 40° to the rear

Lifter

- clamp lifter (grabber) for emptying of 60/80 L and 120/240 L container
- laterally extendable, pickup of containers to a distance of 2,600 mm measured from the outer edge of the vehicle
- alternatively, Flex-lifter with lifting comb for 120 to 360 L containers

Compaction

- by means of paddel-compactor
- the movement is carried out by 2 double acting hydraulic cylinders

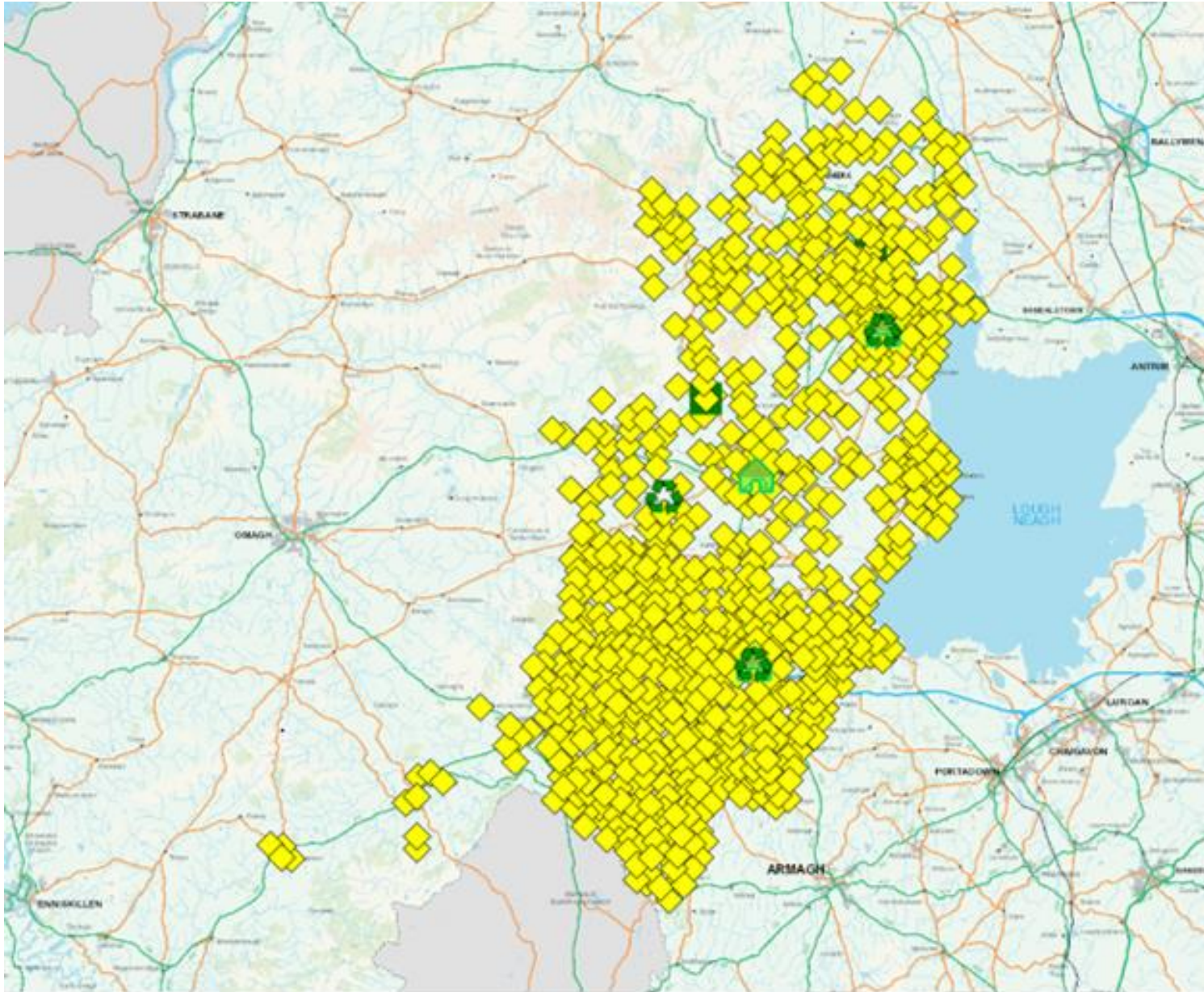
Advantages

- extremely low noise compaction process
- fitted as standard with an electric central-lubrication system for body and lifter
- body operation via ergonomic colour-graphics display terminal with plain text error display
- optimal axle-load distribution
- extremely high payload for a side loader
- with the clamp lifter (grabber) also pickup of dustbins without parallel alignment to the roadside

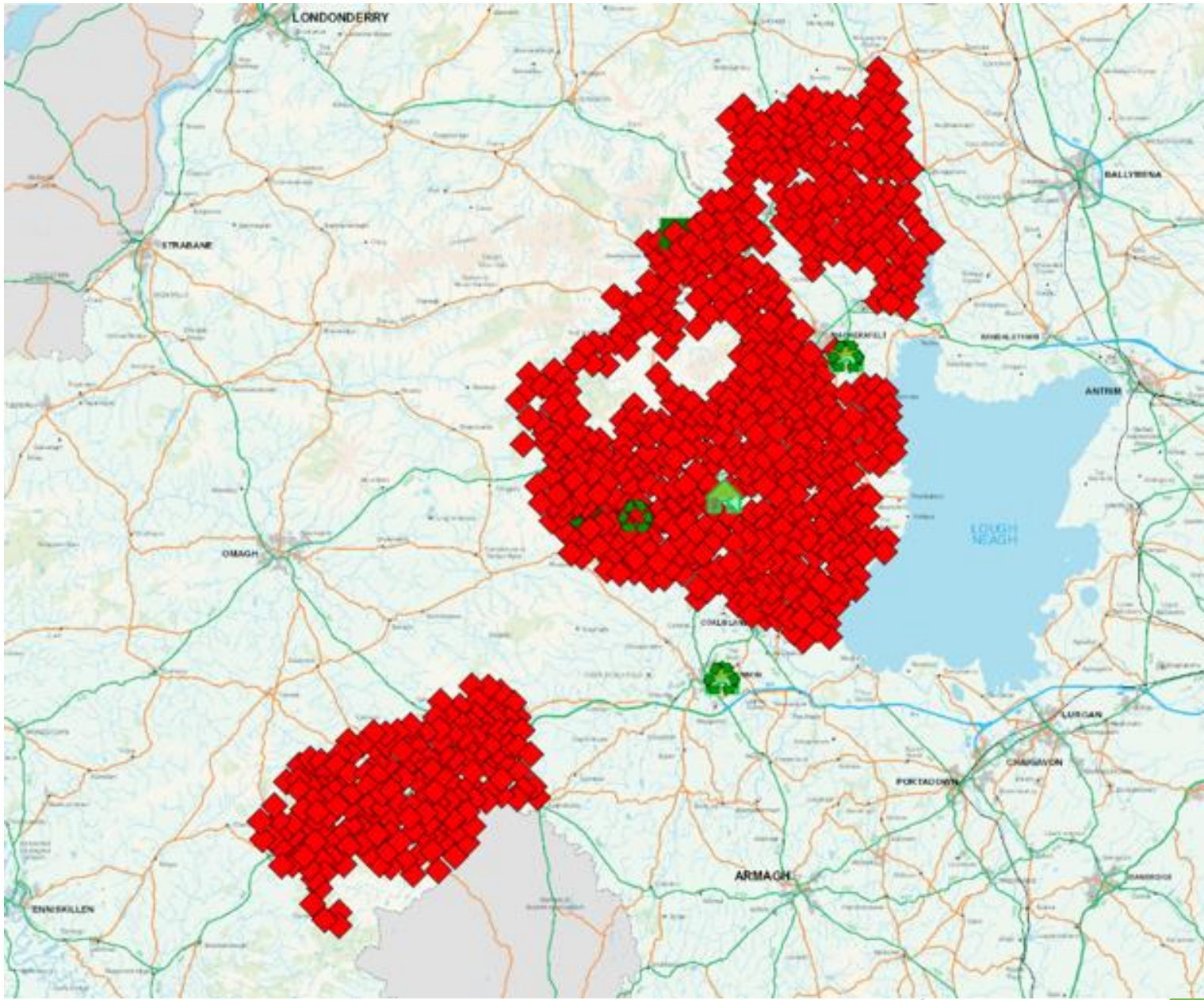
Current Situation

- 9 OAVs operating daily plus 3 spare
- Scania and Volvo LH drive chassis with Zoeller SLF bodies
- Approximately 22% coverage with 13,000 households serviced with OAV collections
- 6 black/blue routes alternating fortnightly
- 3 brown bin OAVs, each following 2 routes fortnightly
- Currently 9 drivers operating OAVs
- Average 420 bins per OAV per day - all rural
- Urban crews on 26t or 32t RCVs, 1100 bins per crew per day
- Other daily refuse collection fleet consists of;
 - 20 x 32t and 26t RCVs
 - 2 x 18t RCVs
 - 3 x 7.5t MacPac's

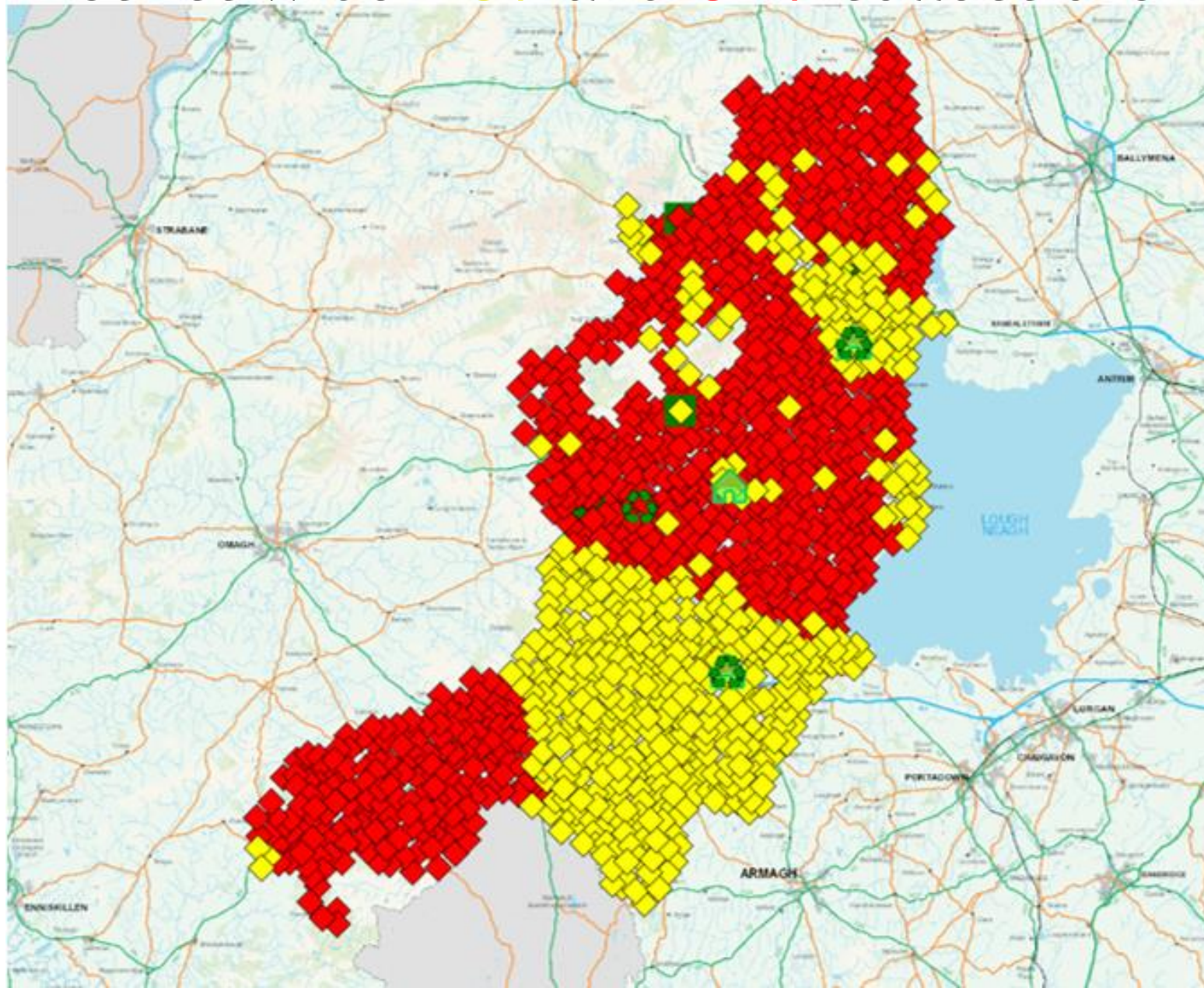
RCV Collections



OAV Collections



District wide **RCV** and **OAV** collections



Benefits of using Side Loading OAV's

- Longer vehicle service life typically > 10 years
- Staff who were loading bins released for other duties e.g. second loader on urban routes
- Speed of collections, increased pick-up rate in rural areas
- Reduction in total number of refuse collection vehicles
- Consistency across depots and legacy areas
- Increased driver and operative safety on 60mph roads
- Increased staff wellbeing

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Difficulties and challenges

- Driver skills and responsibilities
- Driver JD now includes the requirement to become competent on OAVs within first 6 months before post is established
- Single sided collections - increased mileage on some routes
- Balancing routes on an all-rural and all-urban basis
- Multiple bins at the end of lanes
- Bin positioning on some smaller rural roads
- Replacement rate for bin lids increased
- Various / different OAV configurations - lessons learned e.g. RHD

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- Currently only £20k difference between a 26T RCV vs 26T OAV

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- Educating Householders

Setting Your Bin Out Correctly For Collection by Our One Armed Vehicle

Watch our video at www.midulstercouncil.org/onearmedvehicle



Make sure the handles of your bin are facing away from the road and towards your property and that your bin isn't tight up against a wall, fence or hedge.

Make sure your bin is within 2.5m or 8ft of the roadside.





If you have 2 bins being collected on the same day, place them slightly apart (approx. 0.3m or 1ft) to give the vehicle's arm enough space to work correctly.

This side must face the road.

**Please remember
to leave your bin
out by 7.30am
on collection day.**



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Moving Forward

- 30% household coverage by 2026 (approx. 18,000)
- Plans to add approximately 4,500 households to OAVs with 2 new routes planned to commence January 2026
- Driver training, continuing to offer skills development
- 12 OAVs out daily by 2026 plus 3 spare one per depot
- Further 3 staff to reallocate to other duties or crews

