

# Annual Report 2017



AVFALL SVERIGE

# Avfall Sverige in two minutes

## Avfall Sverige

(Swedish Waste Management) has been the municipalities' trade association in the field of waste management and recycling since 1947. Avfall Sverige's members ensure that waste is collected and recycled in all Swedish municipalities. We perform our work on behalf of society: in an environmentally sound, sustainable and long-term manner. Our vision is "Zero Waste". We strive to prevent waste, promote reuse and ensure that the waste produced is recycled, recovered and managed in the optimal manner. Municipalities and their enterprises are the ambassadors, catalysts and guarantors of this change.



Our logo – in its entirety – is an "impossible object", where the inside of the cylinder gives the impression of being larger than the outside. This reflects the truth that waste is so much more than rubbish.

## Members

Avfall Sverige represents its members – municipalities, local government associations, municipal enterprises and municipally-owned regional enterprises in waste and recycling. Our members represent the entire population of Sweden. As cooperation between municipalities increases, a growing number of municipalities are being represented by a smaller number of members. The organisation also includes about a hundred associate members who are manufacturers, consultants and contractors active in waste management.

227

★ ★ ★  
municipal

145

★ ★ ★  
associated

## Board of directors

The Board of Directors of Avfall Sverige is composed of eighteen directors, ten of whom are elected representatives and eight of whom are civil servants. The directors are active in municipalities, local government associations, or municipal enterprises. The aim is for the composition of the Board to reflect the association's membership in terms of its organisational structure, size and geographical distribution. The Board shall also achieve the most equal gender distribution possible. The Board meets at least four times each financial year. Meetings are convened by the Chairman.



## Adm. Office

Avfall Sverige's Administrative Office has a staff of 19 employees. The Administrative Office is located in Malmö. There is also a satellite office with two employees in Stockholm. The Board determines the direction of the Administrative Office, whose work is led by the Managing Director.



## Advisory services

The members of Avfall Sverige have access to - and become part of - the highest collective competence in waste management in the country. Members can make use of Avfall Sverige's specialist expertise via reports, templates and guides, or by contacting the office directly. This also applies to legal questions and questions about communication.

## Working groups

Working groups are an important link between the membership and the Administrative Office, as well as member-to-member. The results of working group activities include courses and theme days, development projects and knowledge management. The working groups are an important internal base for establishing support for Avfall Sverige's positions on various legislative and lobbying issues. The working groups are divided into nine areas. The working groups each contain a number of operational groups and networks.

## Development projects

The Development Committee contributes to development within the waste industry and consists of the chairmen of the working groups, one other representative from the municipalities, and the Managing Director of Avfall Sverige. The Committee decides which projects should be given the go-ahead and allocates the funds for their completion. The working groups for energy recovery, biological treatment and landfill have their own development initiatives which they fund and have decision-making authority over. The results of development initiatives are communicated in reports and at courses and theme days.



## Training

Avfall Sverige arranges a large number of courses, theme days and conferences every year to enhance skills and give members the opportunity to exchange experiences. The training programme enjoys broad support among the working groups, with activities based on the needs of members.



## Lobbying

Avfall Sverige's commission includes regular and extensive interaction with the Riksdag, the Government Offices of Sweden, government agencies, organisations and opinion makers. Avfall Sverige actively contributes opinions ahead of political decisions through its official consultative responses and correspondence. Avfall Sverige is engaged in lobbying within the EU. This is done through both the Government Offices of Sweden and through European organisations such as MWE, CEWEP, etc. Avfall Sverige is part of the ISWA global network.

- CEWEP – Confederation of European Waste-to-Energy Plants
- MWE – Municipal Waste Europe
- ISWA – International Solid Waste Association
- ECN – European Compost Network



## Financing

The organisation is financed by revenues consisting of approximately equal proportions of membership dues and fees and income from commercial activities such as courses, conferences, consulting assignments, publications, etc. All members pay dues and a service fee. In addition, municipal members pay a development fee.

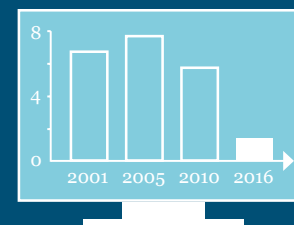
## Communication

The key objectives of Avfall Sverige's joint communication are to increase knowledge about Swedish waste management and about the role of the municipalities. The joint communication is in the form of campaigns with different themes. The theme for 2015–2018 is prevention and reuse. Avfall Sverige publishes the industry journal Avfall och Miljö [Waste and Environment] and a newsletter. On its website, Avfall Sverige presents news and makes materials available for download. Those interested can also register for Avfall Sverige's courses, conferences and theme days on the website.



## Avfall Web

Avfall Sverige's statistical tool, Avfall Web, makes it possible for municipalities to make comparisons and perform benchmarking and follow-up. The reporting also serves as the basis for the national household waste statistics that Avfall Sverige publishes in the report "Swedish Waste Management" and in an annual statistical report at the county and municipal levels. Avfall Sverige also delivers statistics to government agencies, including the Energy Agency, the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (Swedish EPA) and Statistics Sweden (SCB).



# 2017 in brief

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### AVFALL SVERIGE – SWEDISH WASTE MANAGEMENT

- Avfall Sverige's training programmes have been quality certified in accordance with ISO 9001:2008 since 2008. Beginning in 2018, the certification covers all Avfall Sverige operations.
- Multiple projects related to the role of municipalities in waste management of the future were initiated. The working groups, Development Committee and Board have been involved in different scenario studies. The projects will be reported at the annual meeting in Skellefteå in 2018.
- A new 22-point proposal was presented for more economical use of resources with clear and long-term distribution of responsibilities and roles for Swedish waste management.
- Statistics for 2016 were presented at the annual meeting in Örebro in May 2017. A decrease in the amount of household waste could be noted for the first time in a long time.

### TOTAL QUANTITY OF TREATED HOUSEHOLD WASTE 2016

	Millions of tonnes	Kg/person	Change %, comp. 2016
Material recycling	1,615,170	161.6	-2.3%
Biological treatment	757,480	16.2	3.9%
Energy recovery	2,262,610	226.4	-0.9%
Landfill	31,000	3.1	-19.1%
<b>Total quantity treated</b>	<b>4,666,260</b>	<b>466.8</b>	<b>-0.8%</b>

## SWEDEN

- Minister for the Environment Karolina Skog took the initiative to discuss waste responsibility issues and invited the entire waste industry to a round table discussion. In addition to the collection of packaging and recyclable paper, the collection and recycling of household waste was addressed on a more general level. A broad political agreement in the Riksdag ((the Swedish Parliament) on new waste rules was the objective, but this was not achieved during the year.
- Issues related to waste prevention, reuse and the aim of climbing higher up the waste hierarchy remained on the agenda in 2017. The investigation “Från värdekedja till värdecykel” [From Value Chain to Value Cycle] was presented and contained a number of proposals that showed the central role that the municipalities play in the transition to a circular economy. In its consultative response, Avfall Sverige welcomed several of the proposals.
- In a petition to the Ministry of the Environment and Energy in October, Avfall Sverige proposed a review of the definition “waste comparable to household waste” since the definition remains unclear. The need for a review became even clearer when the Swedish EPA published a guide about grease waste and grease separator sludge that was totally at odds with previous standard practice and the municipalities' handling of this type of waste.
- In 2016, the Government launched an investigation into the need to introduce a tax on waste incineration. The investigation was also linked to EU's system of trade with emission allowance. The investigation was tasked with conducting a basic analysis of waste incineration conditions in Sweden. Through a supplemental directive, the investigation was later tasked with drafting a concrete incineration tax bill. Both Avfall Sverige and the Government's own investigator found that the proposed SEK 100/tonne for all waste to incineration would be an ineffective instrument of

control. It is important to increase the proportion of waste sent to material recycling, but there is a risk that a tax would have the opposite effect. One reason is that the municipalities do not have authority over the collection of packaging and recyclable paper. This area is the producers' responsibility, and they are not affected by the tax.

- Swedish biogas was threatened by imported gas, which receives both production support in its country or origin and tax breaks in Sweden, making it less expensive than Swedish biogas. Imported biogas with double support and lack of long-term instruments of control in Sweden make the future of domestic biogas uncertain. During the year, Avfall Sverige has worked with several other players to try to save Swedish biogas production. As a result of this, an investigation will be launched. However, there is no indication of when or if the investigation directive will come to fruition.
- In a petition to the so-called Blåljusutredningen [investigation into measures to protect emergency response workers], Avfall Sverige proposed that sanitation workers should also be included in the investigation because this occupational group is also subjected to threats and violence.
- The Government submitted a draft bill to the Council on Legislation proposing a general right to contractual cooperation for municipalities and county councils. The proposal means that municipalities and county councils would have the opportunity to transfer the execution of tasks to each other. The draft bill is based on a proposal submitted by the parliamentary municipal investigation in October 2017. The proposed amendments are recommended to enter into force on 1 July 2018.

Great support for saving Swedish biogas!



## EU

- The proposal for a revised Waste Directive, which was presented in 2015, was discussed within the EU during the year. In December, the European Council and the European Parliament agreed on the main features of the Waste Directive, which will lead to a more circular economy.
- Plastic and marine pollution received a great deal of national and international attention in 2017. The Swedish Government launched an investigation to review the possibility of reducing the negative effects of plastic. The United Nations Sea Conference dealt largely with how plastic litter affects the seas. Avfall Sverige was the main sponsor of a report called Prevent Plastic Marine Litter Now, which was drafted by the International Solid Waste Association (ISWA). The report shows the importance of effective waste management to address the problem. The first EU strategy for plastic was presented by the Commission as part of the transition to a more circular economy. According to the strategy, all plastic packaging and half of all plastic waste within the EU must be recycled by 2030, the consumption of disposable plastic must be reduced, and intentional use of microplastics must be limited. In addition, the strategy aims to reduce littering and the use of fossil raw materials in the production of plastics. The strategy met both applause and criticism when it was presented.

The EU's first strategy for plastics has been adopted and is part of the transition to a circular economy.



# Waste management for societal development

**The waste industry has changed radically since our eight original members founded what is now Avfall Sverige in 1947. Nowadays, we consider waste a resource and part of a growing circular economy. At the same time, hazardous substances must be removed from the cycle and waste management must work at the day-to-day level. Issues related to waste management, recycling and how these societal functions should be performed are still hot topics.**

## **WHAT IS AVFALL SVERIGE'S MOST IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO SOCIETAL DEVELOPMENT?**

“Our members handle important societal functions within everything from ensuring good health by making sure waste is collected to maintaining an environmental and an economic perspective through reuse and recycling. We work together to champion a climate and environmental policy. Waste management is a concrete example of this,” says Avfall Sverige's Managing Director Weine Wqvist.

“Waste management is a critical function in society. If collection does not work, it is a matter of just days before it becomes a huge problem. When we talk about waste management, we often speak about environment and resources – and that's good and important. But, unless the daily operations work properly, there will be chaos,” says Avfall Sverige's Chairman Claes Thunblad.

“A concrete example of how the municipalities can influence societal development is Avfall Sverige's long-term ‘Miljönär’ campaign for prevention, which serves to highlight initiatives in the municipality that promote sustainable consumption and a more sustainable society, thereby showing that the municipalities are being proactive in taking responsibility,” says Claes. He continues.

“Avfall Sverige represents all of municipal Sweden, making us a strong player capable of getting our shared issues onto the agenda. Making sure that the right issues are discussed leads societal development forward.”

## **WHAT ARE AVFALL SVERIGE'S STRENGTHS AND WHAT CHALLENGES DOES IT FACE?**

“As an organisation, we have a strong position (as evidenced by surveys) that enables us to take action in our various missions. We must be able to advise members and make sure they are well informed. We must also serve as a spokesman for our members and spearhead our own initiatives,” says Weine.

“There are many issues for us to work with. Prioritising where to invest our resources is a constant challenge. At the same time, it is important to look at the big picture when it comes to waste management; almost everything is connected in some way. One issue can then be the link to another and be joined with other issues,” says Claes. Weine then continues.

“We have many members who differ greatly and prioritise different issues. This is both a challenge and a strength. Ensuring firm support for an issue can take some time, but when we are then ready to move forward we are extremely strong!”

## **AVFALL SVERIGE IS ONE OF SEVERAL PLAYERS WORKING IN SWEDISH WASTE MANAGEMENT. WHAT ROLE DO YOU PLAY?**

“Avfall Sverige is a driver and initiator in terms of the development of Swedish waste management, but we are also an implementer together with our members, who work with the issues concretely every day,” says Claes, who in his role as municipal commissioner in Järfälla is in close contact with the daily work in a municipality.

“It is clear that the more we move up the waste hierarchy, the more we share the work with others. And we all benefit from this cooperation. You can't work alone and focus on a single issue. The issues are too complex for this nowadays. We welcome other strong players who can help us drive our issues forward – it is then we will succeed,” he continues.

## **THE MEMBERS ARE VERY COMMITTED TO THE WORK OF AVFALL SVERIGE. WHAT RESULTS HAS THIS PRODUCED?**

“In order for Avfall Sverige to be able to represent all of its members, they must get involved and feel that they can take part and influence what issues we work with and how. And they do! This, in turn, enables Avfall Sverige to influence issues both in Sweden and within the EU – something that would be difficult for individual members to do,” says Weine.

“The membership creates a foundation for Avfall Sverige that enables us to be the strong force that is required to get things done. Our strength is that we bring the entire industry together,” he continues.

## **HOW DOES AVFALL SVERIGE WORK TO ACHIEVE ITS OBJECTIVES AND ITS VISION?**

“In order to come closer to Avfall Sverige's vision and achieve our objectives, it is crucial to develop effective instruments of control and clear objectives at the national and local level. We follow up this work via Avfall Web, indicators, key figures, etc.” says Weine.

“The municipalities need a bigger mandate to take action on the issues. If the members can decide more locally, they can also work better to champion the issues. This applies, for example, to the issue of municipal collection of all household waste, which is crucial for achieving the objectives,” says Claes.

#### **WHAT MEMBER ISSUES WERE MOST IMPORTANT IN 2017?**

“Decisions were made on a number of important internal issues during the year, such as a new structure for the working groups, a new communication strategy, and a new website. A large strategic project on the future of waste management and the role of the municipalities was launched. The Board, Development Committee, working groups, and a huge number of other members have been involved in this work. The results will be reported at the annual meeting in Skellefteå. A common factor in all of these projects is that their aim is to make Avfall Sverige an even stronger representative of its members with a view towards the future,” says Claes. Weine continues.

“The strategic project on the role and responsibility of municipalities in waste management 2025 is the third comprehensive strategy study commissioned by Avfall Sverige. We can see that the pace of change is picking up. Ten years passed between the first and the second study, while the third was commissioned after just six years.

“Not only waste management, but also society in general are in a transition period – and everything is moving quickly! Many issues are being turned on their heads, and new technologies and new players are entering new markets. It is important to gather knowledge that the members can use in their strategic analysis,” he says.

#### **WHAT EXTERNAL ISSUES WERE MOST IMPORTANT IN 2017, AND WHAT EXPECTATIONS DO YOU HAVE FOR 2018?**

“Among the many issues that Avfall Sverige worked with during the year, a few stand out a little more than others. One that comes to mind is fairer conditions for biogas, which is being threatened by competition with imported

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biogas. Another important issue that needs a solution is municipal collection responsibility for all household waste, including packaging and newspapers.

The issue is at a standstill – we want to see action! Various issues will also be on the table in 2018. Examples of these include plastics, instruments of control for waste incineration, prevention and reuse, and waste policy within the EU. In all of these, Avfall Sverige has played an active role in driving the issues forward,” says Claes.

“We participated in the circular economy investigation, we helped shine the spotlight on the biogas issue, and we were active in the investigation related to a new municipal law and related to how bilateral cooperation between the municipalities would work. Most of these issues affect a number of members directly, and we have been able to drive the issue clearly forward because the members stand united behind us,” continues Weine.

“It is particularly important that the policy puts its foot down in relation to two issues: collection responsibility and the conditions for biogas. The issues will not disappear from the agenda,” he says.

“We had hoped that the Government would have begun to take action to implement the proposals in the circular economy investigation during the year, and clarified the role and responsibility of the municipalities in these issues. It's a shame that it was not accomplished as it could delay the work we need to do to move up in the waste hierarchy,” says Claes.



“Several of the current issues have one thing in common – producers must take greater responsibility in order for us to climb higher in the waste hierarchy. In real terms. This means that they need to start taking action as early as the design stage and in production. And it means that there will be more players actively participating and actively contributing to the circular economy,” continues Weine.

#### **2018 IS AN ELECTION YEAR – WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR AVFALL SVERIGE?**

“Waste issues are well anchored in all of municipal Sweden. We do not anticipate any changes. They are well integrated in the climate and environmental issue, and are also linked to the enterprise and industry policy and the civil society policy. Waste management gives birth to new industries and can be used for labour market initiatives,” says Weine. Claes continues.

“At the municipal level, waste issues are rather apolitical. They will be there and must be included when the policy is being defined. There is a great political consensus among our members.”

Claes Thunblad  
*Chairman of Avfall Sverige*

Weine Wiquist  
*Managing Director of Avfall Sverige*

# Avfall Sverige's mission, governance and organisation

**Avfall Sverige is the municipalities' trade association in the field of waste management. Avfall Sverige's members ensure that waste is collected and recycled in all Swedish municipalities. We perform our work on behalf of society: in an environmentally sound, sustainable and long-term manner. Our vision is "Zero Waste". We are taking action to minimise waste, promote reuse and ensure that the waste produced is recycled, recovered and managed in the optimal manner. Municipalities and their enterprises are the ambassadors, catalysts and guarantors of this change.**



## MEMBERSHIP AND ORGANISATION

Avfall Sverige is a membership organisation that represents the interests of its members in contacts with decision makers, government agencies, organisations, and the media. Through working groups, training and other contacts, the Administrative Office acquires information, knowledge and awareness of members' preferences in order to present their opinions in a widely supported and credible manner.

There are two categories of members at Avfall Sverige:

- Municipalities, municipal enterprises, municipal associations, etc. whose work is based on public duties and tasks. These members have the right to vote at annual meetings and make decisions on Avfall Sverige's statutes and policies, etc.
- Associate members are private sector stakeholders, including suppliers of services and equipment and consultants.

Members have access to the largest waste management network in Sweden with all the opportunities it brings for exchanging experiences and spreading knowledge. Members also get discounted fees for courses and conferences, subscriptions and other publications. Moreover, members have the exclusive right to participate as exhibitors at the annual meeting.

## ANNUAL MEETING AND THE BOARD

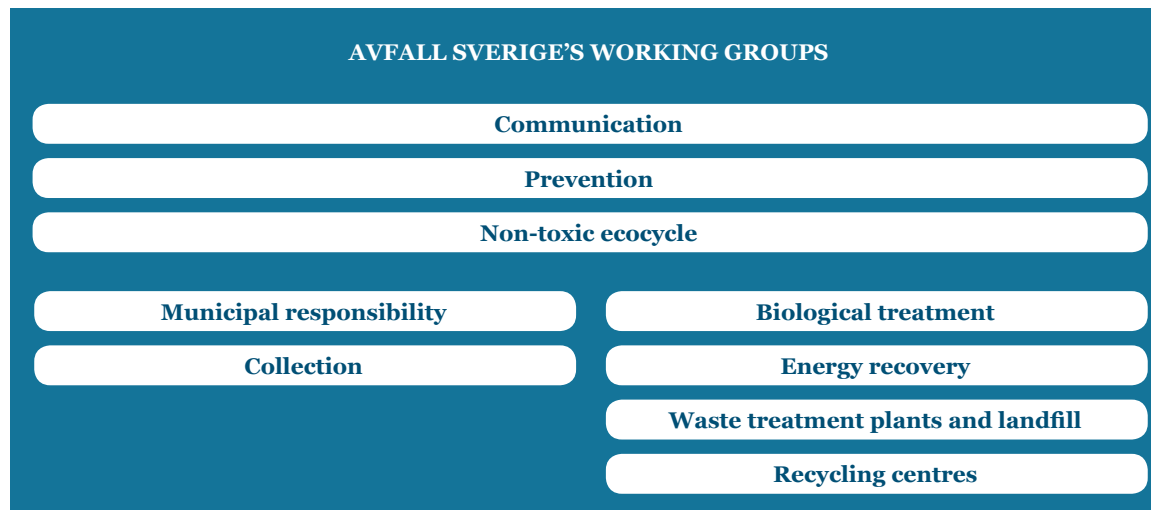
Avfall Sverige's highest decision-making body is the annual meeting, which makes decisions regarding bye-laws, policies, budget framework, the Board and the Nominating Committee. In specific matters, Avfall Sverige's opinions and positions are established by the Board after being prepared by working groups, networks, the Development Committee and the Administrative Office. With respect to more significant issues concerning matters of responsibility, Avfall Sverige cooperates with the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SALAR).

Avfall Sverige's Board consists of 18 directors, of whom ten are elected representatives and eight are civil servants, and whose term of office is two years.

### Membership development in 2017

Avfall Sverige has a total of 372 (375) members. The number of municipal members declined from 232 to 227 through municipal collaboration but, as before, 289 out of Sweden's 290 municipalities are represented either directly or through regional enterprises and local government associations. There were 145 (143) associate members.





Three new members were elected to the Board at the 2017 annual meeting. The Managing Director of Avfall Sverige is the recording secretary for the Board, which met four times in 2017.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

The Nominating Committee has seven members. The Nominating Committee’s brief states that it should “strive to ensure that the structure of the board reflects the association’s membership in terms of its organisational structure, size and geographical distribution, and strive to achieve the most equal gender distribution possible”.

The principal auditor and one alternate auditor are elected to serve for a period of one year at the annual meeting.

**ANNUAL MEETING AND AUTUMN MEETING 2017**

The 2017 annual meeting was held in Örebro and 557 (547) people attended. The traditional Avfall Sverige exhibition, where corporate members display their products and services, attracted 38 (29) exhibitors.

The 2017 annual meeting resolved to raise the dues and service fees for 2018 by 2.2 percent (2.1 percent

2017), with salary adjustment during the year given as the underlying reason. The development fee will remain unchanged at SEK 1.30 per capita and year, of which SEK 0.30 per capita is earmarked for internal, operational projects the same as in 2017 and SEK 0.2 per capita is earmarked for the “Miljönärvänlig” communication campaign.

As a whole, the fees increased by 0.9 percent since about half of the fees is made up of the dues and service fees and the other half is the development fee.

Technology and system solutions of the future was the theme of Avfall Sverige’s 2017 autumn meeting. The meeting was held in Stockholm and attended by 390 (466) people.

**AVFALL SVERIGE'S OPERATIONS – FOR ITS MEMBERS AND IN SOCIETY**

Avfall Sverige’s mission includes strengthening its members’ expertise in waste management and recycling through advisory services, training, projects and partnerships. At the same time, Avfall Sverige shall represent its members in various contexts and champion waste issues in societal debate. The views and needs of the members are ascertained, among other things, via working groups and development projects, during courses and other

training, or through various collaborations such as statistics collection and joint communication campaigns.

**AVFALL SVERIGE'S WORKING GROUPS**

Member competence is developed by exchanging experiences and sharing knowledge and information. The majority of the exchange of experience takes place in the nine working groups. The working groups are an important link – both member-to-member and between the Administrative Office and the members – because much of the exchange of experience occurs there. A lot of the legwork for the lobbying is also done in the working groups. It is the needs of the members that steer which issues are addressed and are driven forward to decision makers and government agencies. As a result, the working groups are also an important base for gaining support for Avfall Sverige’s positions on various legislative and lobbying issues. The results of working group activities include courses and theme days, development projects and other knowledge management activities.

The working groups meet at least twice a year and maintain continuous contact. Avfall Sverige’s advisory consultants take part in working group meetings as the secretary. No less than 250 member representatives are involved in at least one working group or one of its oper-

ational groups. Within the working groups, there are 15 different operational groups, where members work with issues related to specific operational areas.

Information from the working groups is disseminated via the organisation or via regional networks and articles in the Avfall och Miljö magazine and via Avfall Sverige's website. Courses, theme days and conferences are other important opportunities for exchanging experience. In 2017, all members of Avfall Sverige were given the opportunity to follow the activities through special newsletters from each working group.

### INTERNAL NETWORKS

Experience is also exchanged through the various networks that exist within Avfall Sverige. One example is the corporate group which consists of representatives from associated private companies. Another network is Avfall Sverige Yngre, which is for people under the age of 36 who work with waste issues, and the network for school information experts. There is also a network for waste technicians, waste information specialists, procurement specialists, engineers and operating technicians at biogas plants and safety advisory consultants. There is also a network that handles issues concerning the minimisation and reuse of waste.

A large proportion of Avfall Sverige's members also meet in various regional networks. There are about 20 regional networks that include a total of about 250 municipalities. The regional networks have established contacts with advisers at the Avfall Sverige Administrative Office.

### NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION AND NETWORKS

External collaboration benefits Swedish waste management and the members of the association. Avfall Sverige collaborates extensively with other organisations in Sweden and abroad.

At the national level there is ongoing collaboration with the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SALAR), Swedenergy, the Swedish Gas Association, and the Swedish Water and Wastewater Association, among others. Avfall Sverige's Managing Director is

also a board member of the Keep Sweden Tidy Foundation. Avfall Sverige also plays a role in the standardisation work of the SIS, the Swedish Standards Institute.

### EU AND INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

Swedish waste management is guided by EU legislation, which also sets requirements for how waste management should be developed. Avfall Sverige's lobbying efforts within the EU are therefore important for both its members and Swedish waste management. Lobbying efforts within the EU are channelled through the Swedish ministries and authorities, and often carried out through different cooperative bodies. One such body is the Brussels-based organisation Municipal Waste Europe (MWE). The organisation represents the interests of municipalities and municipal enterprises in the EU. MWE thus represents industry bodies that are responsible for public waste management on behalf of 340 million people in 16 counties. Avfall Sverige is one of the founders of the organisation.

Within the EU, Avfall Sverige also acts through CEWEP (Confederation of European Waste-to-Energy Plants), which represents the interests of stakeholders in the energy recovery sector. Together with MWE and CEWEP, Avfall Sverige continued to be active in the BREF process in 2016. A BREF (Best available techniques REference document) is the official EU document describing the best available techniques for an industry. Avfall Sverige is a member of the Swedish EPA's collaboration forum for BREF and also participates in the process in other ways.

ECN (European Compost Network) works with issues related to sustainable recycling practices in composting and other biological treatment processes of organic resources. Avfall Sverige's advisory consultants contribute their particular expertise in each organisation.

Even outside of the EU, Avfall Sverige champions issues related to better waste management, particularly related to the minimisation of waste, through active participation in ISWA (International Solid Waste Association), where Avfall Sverige's Managing Director has served as a member of the board since 2016.

Avfall Sverige collaborate with the Nordic colleagues through the Nordic Waste Group (NWG).

Some of Avfall Sverige's members jointly fund a role called International Coordinator. The role of the coordinator is to be a clear point of contact with the Swedish waste industry for international contacts as well as for Swedish actors who operate, or intend to operate, on the international market.

### DEVELOPMENT OF THE INDUSTRY THROUGH TRAINING INITIATIVES

Avfall Sverige has an extensive training programme designed to increase the level of knowledge and competence in the industry.

In total 1,833 people (2,362) took part in some 30 Avfall Sverige training sessions in 2017. The direction of the training programme is supported by the working groups and therefore caters for the needs of members and the industry alike.

Avfall Sverige conducts regular surveys of members' views of its activities. The latest survey, conducted in 2016, showed that Avfall Sverige members are very satisfied with the training offered.

### ADVICE TO MEMBERS

Members can make use of Avfall Sverige's specialist expertise via reports or by contacting the Administrative Office directly. The advisory services are highly appreciated, with advice provided by phone and email and through guides and handbooks.

Agreement templates and standard agreements are also included in the service provided to members.

Avfall Sverige often acts as intermediary between members and others who can contribute more knowledge and experience on various issues.

### Avfall Sverige has representatives in the following external networks:

- Working group Sevilla: Network for EU-related issues (BREF) – Swedish EPA and industry.
- Working group Circular economy: Network – Swedish EPA and industry.
- Avfallsrådet: Swedish EPA. Exchange of information on waste issues and the work of the Swedish EPA. SALAR and a representative of one municipality also participate.
- Batteriåtervinningen: An initiative of Swedish battery producers to inform the Swedish people about the importance of turning in batteries for recycling.
- Elreturrådet: Consultation body for nurturing cooperation agreements between municipalities and El-Kretsen regarding electronic waste. SALAR and three municipalities participate as representatives of the municipalities.
- Energiforsk: Collaboration on energy issues, heating technology, and ash-related issues.
- Expert group Milestones, Swedish EPA/SMED: Follow-up of the milestones and objectives in the national waste plan.
- HUT – Hållbar Utveckling Skåne: Waste minimisation network.
- Keep Sweden Tidy: Collaboration on littering and communication issues.
- Klimatbokslutsnätverk för energiåtervinningsanläggningar: Climate balance sheet network for waste-to-energy plants.
- Mistra Future Fashion: Sustainable textile management
- Swedish EPA, BREF Waste treatment: Collaboration forum.
- Swedish EPA, BREF Waste incineration: Collaboration forum.
- National biogas strategy: Network for creating conditions for continued development of biogas use.
- Nedskräpningsnätverket: Anti-littering network made up of the Swedish EPA, Keep Sweden Tidy and SALAR.
- Nätverk matavfallsinsamling: GR, Food collection network for municipalities in the Gothenburg region
- Re:Source, Strategic innovation programme.
- SaMMa: Network for the reduction of food waste
- SGBC (Sweden Green Building Council): Revision of the Miljöbyggnad 3.0 standard
- SIS Standardisation work TK252 waste management equipment
- SIS TK/TK 535 Characterisation of waste, soil and sludge
- SIS Coordination group Sustainable and smart cities and communities TK 588
- SIS Air quality TK 423/AG5 plus Solid recovered fuel TK 412 + CEN TC 343
- SALAR – Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions: Collaboration on various issues.
- SNV Food issues ETS.
- StatSam: Statistics collaboration with players who have the same underlying data as Avfall Web.
- Swedish Radiation Safety Authority; Participation in the Waste Management Board that gives the Government advice on waste management issues, decision proposals, etc.
- Swerea: Test bed for textile recycling.
- Swerea: Test bed for plastic recycling.
- Textile industry's textile network: University of Borås, Swedish EPA.
- Advisory council RKK: IVL's advisory council for resource-efficient recycling and consumption.

### Quality certification

Avfall Sverige's training programme has been quality certified according to ISO 9001:2008 since 2008. In 2016, the decision was taken to expand the certification to include all Avfall Sverige operations. New certification and recertification in accordance with the new ISO 9001:2015 standard was carried out in October 2017. As of 2018, all operations are certified. Certification is an effective tool for steering and managing operations. It meets the demands of members and other stakeholders to make continuous improvements.



*Stefan Fölster was one of the speakers at the autumn meeting, which focused on the technology of the future.*



# Lobbying to champion waste issues

## **Avfall Sverige represents its members in contacts with government agencies and decision makers at both the national and European levels.**

As a representative of the municipalities and their waste management, Avfall Sverige plays an important role as consultative body and actively contributes opinions ahead of political decisions through its official consultative responses. The organisation therefore has ongoing contact with the Riksdag and Government, as well as with a number of authorities in issues related to waste management and recycling. In addition to consultative responses, Avfall Sverige provides opinions on issues affecting the industry.

Avfall Sverige bases its standpoints on the general positions adopted in 2014, and its members' interests in the issues at hand. The standpoints serve as guidance for what positions and actions the organisation takes to develop waste management and the role of the municipalities.

Avfall Sverige is often part of various expert and reference groups linked to government investigations. For example, Avfall Sverige's Managing Director served as an expert in the incineration tax investigation, which

submitted its report at the end of 2017. In addition, the Managing Director participated in the discussions about collection responsibility initiated by the Minister for the Environment. At meetings with the Government Offices, MPs, government officials and government agencies, Avfall Sverige is often represented by the Managing Director and various consultants. Board representatives and members are also welcome to participate.

On several occasions during the year, Avfall Sverige – along with its allied organisations Swedenergy, the Swedish Gas Association, and the Swedish Water and Wastewater Association – organises meetings with MPs and attends municipal days and congresses arranged by the parties represented in the Riksdag.

In Almedalen 2017, Avfall Sverige organised its own seminar, and co-organised another seminar together with the allied organisations indicated.



### **Study trip to Scotland 2017**

Every four years, Avfall Sverige's Board takes a study trip to expand their knowledge of waste management, exchange experiences, and study how other countries handle waste management. This could involve anything from the role and organisation of the municipalities to technology and plants. In autumn 2017, the Board travelled to Edinburgh, Scotland. Several study visits were conducted, and the Board met with representatives of eight companies and organisations: The Government Offices of Scotland, Zero Waste Scotland, SEPA (the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency), Edinburgh City Council, the Levensat sorting plant, the Kelda digestion plant, the Viridor glass recycling plant, and the University of Edinburgh.

## **AVFALL SVERIGE'S CONSULTATIVE RESPONSES AND CORRESPONDENCE IN 2017**

### **Ministry of Finance**

CONSULTATIVE RESPONSE: Memorandum – Some excise tax issues ahead of the budget bill for 2018

### **Kiwa Sverige AB/Consultation group for wastewater treatment plants**

CONSULTATIVE RESPONSE: Requirement specification for certified installations of small wastewater treatment plants

### **Ministry of the Environment and Energy**

CONSULTATIVE RESPONSE: Memorandum – Unauthorised waste transport

CONSULTATIVE RESPONSE: Memorandum – Reduced environmental impact of fuels

CONSULTATIVE RESPONSE: Report on Sweden's implementation of the Aarhus Convention

CONSULTATIVE RESPONSE: EU Commission proposal for renewable energy for the period 2020-2030 – COM(2016)767

CONSULTATIVE RESPONSE: Remittance of the National Interest Investigation's report Planning and decisions for sustainable development (SOU 2015:99)

CONSULTATIVE RESPONSE: Swedish EPA's report on measures to reduce littering

CONSULTATIVE RESPONSE: Proposal for the Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 2011/76/EC on the limitation of the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment

CONSULTATIVE RESPONSE: Consultative document of the Energy Commission's report Concentrated efforts for the energy of the future (SOU 2017:02)

CONSULTATIVE RESPONSE: Consultative document of the memorandum Implementation of the ILUC Directive

CONSULTATIVE RESPONSE: Consultative document of the memorandum Reduction obligation for reducing greenhouse gas emissions from petrol and diesel fuel

CONSULTATIVE RESPONSE: Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management's report Clearer rules for small wastewater treatment plans with associated impact assessment

CONSULTATIVE RESPONSE: Swedish EPA's report on two assignments: Improved waste statistics and traceability system for hazardous waste, plus non-hazardous construction and demolition waste

CONSULTATIVE RESPONSE: Consultative document regarding the investigation on Instruments of control for preventing waste as a means of promoting a circular economy, dir. 2016:3

CONSULTATIVE RESPONSE: The Swedish EPA's proposal for the Swedish implementation of Directive (EU) 2015/2193 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2015 on the limitation of emissions of certain pollutants into the air from medium combustion plants

CONSULTATIVE RESPONSE: More detailed provisions on end products in legislation on sustainability criteria for biofuels and liquid biofuels

CONSULTATIVE RESPONSE: Consultative document of memorandum with proposals for amended regulations for water environments and hydropower

CONSULTATIVE RESPONSE: The Swedish EPA's investigation on the impact of the Agency's proposal of a national phosphorus regulation based on the EU Commission's proposal for fertiliser product regulation

CONSULTATIVE RESPONSE: Microplastics – the Swedish EPA's report on government commission on sources of microplastics and proposed measures to reduce emissions in Sweden

### **Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency**

CONSULTATIVE RESPONSE: Comments ahead of harmonisation meeting on 13-17 March 2017 for regulations on the transport of dangerous goods by road and rail

Comments: Revision of packing instruction P801 (Canada)

### **Swedish EPA**

CONSULTATIVE RESPONSE: Comments on the IPPC Agency's draft of BAT conclusions ahead of the final working group meeting within the framework of revising the BREF waste management document

CONSULTATIVE RESPONSE: Guidance NFS 2016:13 – for enterprises

CONSULTATIVE RESPONSE: Proposal for amended regulations on emissions trading

### **Swedish Board of Agriculture**

CONSULTATIVE RESPONSE: Swedish Board of Agriculture's regulations on organic production and control of organic production

### **Swedish Radiation Safety Authority**

CONSULTATIVE RESPONSE: Consultative document of proposal for regulations concerning clearance of materials, building structures and areas

CONSULTATIVE RESPONSE: Consultative document of proposal for regulations concerning naturally-occurring radioactive material and building materials

### **Swedish Energy Agency**

CONSULTATIVE RESPONSE: Consultative document regarding regulations on sustainability criteria for biofuel and liquid biofuels

### **Ecolabelling Sweden**

CONSULTATIVE RESPONSE: Mini consultative document – Proposal of alternative environmental requirements for restaurants in the criteria for 055 Hotels, Restaurants and Conference Facilities

CONSULTATIVE RESPONSE: Consultative document of proposal for new criteria for packing liquid food products

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

### **Blåljusutredningen**

PETITION: Include sanitation workers in the investigation's consideration and proposal

### **EU Commission**

PETITION: Clarification of the scope of the EU ETS is needed – Waste incineration plants

### **Ministry of Finance**

PETITION: Comments on Discussion data and questions regarding the design of a waste incineration tax – Investigation of financial instruments of control for electricity and heat production with the EU ETS and financial instruments of control for waste incineration

### **Ministry of the Environment and Energy**

PETITION: Review of the definition of “waste comparable to household waste”

### **Swedish EPA**

PETITION: Supplementary guidance on the definition of household waste – grease waste and grease separator sludge

### **Swedish Board of Agriculture**

PETITION: Regarding validation of thermophilic digestion technology during anaerobe digestion

## **AVFALL WEB AND ANNUAL STATISTICS FOR THE INDUSTRY**

Avfall Sverige's statistical tool, Avfall Web, is the basis for the national waste statistics on household waste that Avfall Sverige compiles every year and publishes in the report “Swedish Waste Management”. 92 percent of the municipalities reported their data on quantities of food and residual waste in the tool in 2017. A report containing statistics at the regional and municipal level, with information retrieved from Avfall Web, is also published once a year. The goal is for Swedish municipalities and waste facilities to draw benefit from Avfall Web. A growing number of municipalities are discovering the tools and functions in the system and the comparison and benchmarking possibilities it offers.

Avfall Sverige supplies statistical data to the Swedish Energy Agency, the Swedish EPA, SCB, the Environmental Objectives Portal [county administrative boards' follow-up of environmental objectives at county level] and the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SALAR) report on Kommunens Kvalitet i Kortet [Municipal Quality in Brief]. Avfall Sverige works to improve coordination, increase usability and create better understanding of Swedish waste statistics. The aim is for reporting in Avfall Web to increase, which in turn would increase the benefit it provides.

## **COMMUNICATION TO DISSEMINATE KNOWLEDGE**

Communication and statistics are important tools for championing waste issues in society. The aim is for Avfall Sverige to be the media's natural contact point in various waste issues. Today, many media items are based on the fact finding of Avfall Sverige. The media is also contacted proactively, for example through personal visits and a targeted newsletter highlighting current waste issues.

In 2017, Avfall Sverige issued 35 (24) press releases. Several of them resulted in news reports in various media. One of the hottest issues in 2017 was the issue of threats and violence at recycling centres. Other issues that received great attention are waste statistics via the Waste Trend tool, and the “Household waste in figures” report – particularly in local media.

Avfall Sverige also takes part in debate on an ongoing basis. 7 (3) opinion pieces (sometimes together with other actors) and 2 (2) replies to other opinion pieces were published in 2017. The debate stage was dominated by the crisis that domestic biogas production is facing. Other opinion pieces dealt with topics such as the proposed tax on waste for incineration and the importance of phasing out toxic substances in order to improve material recycling.

## JOINT COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN 2017

The joint campaign “Miljönär-vänlig” continued in 2017, with a focus on prevention and reuse. The campaign, which was launched in 2015 on the initiative of Avfall Sverige's members, is built around the “Miljönär-vänlig” eco-label, which recognises enterprises that promote sustainable consumption through repairing, sharing and reusing. By the end of 2017, approximately 1,000 enterprises in 165 municipalities had been granted this sustainability label. The campaign won the award Columbi Ägg 2017, which is the Dagens Samhälle newspaper's competition for best campaign.

One of the overall objectives of Avfall Sverige's joint communication, which has been running since 2006, is to help increase the knowledge about Swedish waste management and the role of the municipalities.

In 2017, the European Week for Waste Reduction (EWWR) project was held for the ninth time. In the project, all EU Member States address the question of how to minimise waste in different ways, all in one and the same week. With the help of the Swedish EPA, Avfall Sverige served as national coordinator for the entire duration of the project.



## MAGAZINE, NEWSLETTER AND WEBSITE

Avfall och Miljö [Waste and Environment] is a trade magazine for waste management and recycling professionals. The magazine publishes five issues a year, with 2,300 copies (2,200 copies) per issue. It is also available in a digital version on our website.

During the year, Avfall Sverige issued 24 (21) newsletters. The newsletters, which are issued as needed, are available in both digital and printed versions. Previously, there were also digital newsletters with information about projects and reports and about the training programme. Starting in 2018, these have been merged into a joint digital newsletter.

News and other materials are also available for download from Avfall Sverige's website. Some of the material, like guides and reports, is for members only and is password protected. It is also possible to register for courses, conferences and theme days via the website. The number of website sessions fluctuates between 15,000 and 18,000 per month and is increasing steadily. The number of users is also increasing. In January 2018, Avfall Sverige launched a brand new website, exactly 20 years after the very first one – which at that time was rvf.se.

## SOPOR.NU

Avfall Sverige is now also responsible for maintaining the national waste portal [www.sopor.nu](http://www.sopor.nu). The portal was established in 2002 and is a joint initiative of the Swedish EPA, El-Kretsen, Elektronikåtervinning i Sverige, Förpacknings- och Tidningsinsamlingen and Avfall Sverige. The portal has about 7,500 visits per month. During the year, [sopor.nu](http://sopor.nu) was updated and its content further developed with items such as a new national sorting guide.

## CERTIFIED RECYCLING AND RECOVERY AND VOLUNTARY COMMITMENT

Avfall Sverige's certification system for digestate and compost – SPCR 120 and SPCR 152 – has existed for 18 years and 18 plants were certified in 2017. Certification is optional and is based on meticulous quality documentation and transparency in terms of environment and quality. The entire chain from raw material to final product is regulated by uniform criteria based on environmental protection and user needs.

The system was developed in consultation with the agriculture and food industry, compost and digestate producers, soil producers, government agencies and scientists.

Avfall Sverige has also introduced a voluntary commitment to perform emission inspections at biogas and refining plants. With this commitment, the plants agree to regular inspections and, if necessary, correction of emissions. To increase knowledge about digestate, Avfall Sverige has developed a website with in-depth information, [www.biogodsel.se](http://www.biogodsel.se).

# Avfall Sverige's finances

## REVENUE

Avfall Sverige's activities are mainly budget-based and they follow the mission statement that is approved through the general budget at the annual meeting and through the detailed budget by Avfall Sverige's Board. Revenues are made up, in basically equal proportions, of membership dues and fees on the one hand and income from commercial activities such as courses, conferences, consulting assignments, publications, etc., on the other. Income in 2017 amounted to SEK 51.5 million (48.6 million in 2016).

All members pay membership dues and a service fee. These fees for 2017 were increased by 2.1 percent compared with the previous year. Membership dues account for 10 percent of the total fee, while the service fee to the service company accounts for 90 percent. Dues and fees are established at the annual meeting.

Dues and service fees for municipal members (municipalities, municipal enterprises and similar) are based on the size of the population. The fee is degressive; that is, it decreases in proportion to the increase in the population. Municipal members' dues and service fees correspond to SEK 1.0 per capita, on average. Municipal members also pay a development fee, which was SEK 1.0 (1.0) per capita in 2017 and SEK 0.3 per capita earmarked for internal development projects.

Special development investments are also made by approximately 100 members of the landfill, waste-to-energy and biological treatment working groups. The investments are earmarked for projects within each of the fields. The funds, totalling SEK 5.1 million in 2017, are invested by the members of each working group and are not subject to a decision by the annual meeting.

For associate members (consultants, suppliers, contractors, recycling firms, etc.), the fee is a fixed charge at two levels, depending on the size of the company.

## EXPENDITURE

Avfall Sverige's costs consist mainly of operating expenses for projects and commercial activities. There are also the customary costs for premises, personnel, etc.

## PROFIT AND LOSS

Turnover in 2017 amounted to around SEK 51.1 (48.6) million. The association Avfall Sverige and the service company Avfall Sverige AB are reporting a combined loss of SEK 0.2 million (SEK -0.3 million). Equity in the association and the company amounts to around SEK 13.3 million.

INCOME STATEMENT SEK million (consolidated)	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
<b>Net sales</b>					
Membership and service fees	12,213	15,467	17,194	16,662	17,157
Development & information fee/project	8,837	8,263	9,770	9,297	10,803
Landfill, Waste-to-energy, Bio-recovery initiative	2,894	5,525	5,378	5,252	5,961
Other	20,553	18,518	18,753	17,368	17,597
<b>Total net sales</b>	<b>44,497</b>	<b>47,773</b>	<b>51,094</b>	<b>48,579</b>	<b>51,518</b>
<b>Operating expenses</b>					
Development & information fee/project	-9,052	-8,500	-10,061	-9,316	-10,774
Landfill, Waste-to-energy, Bio-recovery initiative	-2,808	-5,525	-5,375	-5,252	-5,812
Other operating expenses	-14,099	-13,784	-14,841	-13,461	-13,649
Total operating expenses	-25,959	-27,809	-30,277	-28,029	-30,235
Personnel expenses	-16,353	-17,262	-15,912	-16,817	-4,108
Other external expenses	-2,998	-3,309	-4,120	-4,083	-16,903
Operating profit/loss	-813	-606	785	-350	272
Financial revenue	799	462	114	17	-3.6
Profit after finance	-15	-145	899	-333	268
Current tax	-1		-92	0	-89
Tax, previous year					-206
Deferred tax	89	104	-30	71	44
<b>PROFIT/LOSS FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>-41</b>	<b>777</b>	<b>-262</b>	<b>17</b>
Equity	12,584	12,542	13,321	13,059	13,276
Debt/equity ratio	16%	15%	16%	16%	17%

Note. Initiatives are recognised as income in relation to marginal expenses from 2012. No Information fee. 2013-15

The overview is adjusted in accordance with consolidated accounting rules, which means that the figures differ from the compilation in Appendix 11.a.1





Networking and the exchange of experiences are the most important elements at Avfall Sverige's various events.

# Project initiatives that develop the industry

**In our dream world of the future, zero waste is created and our shared resources are utilised optimally. Avfall Sverige champions issues and runs projects in accordance with the waste hierarchy and with the aim of achieving better waste management in society. The organisation invests significant resources in projects intended to move the industry forward.**

Avfall Sverige's development initiative began in 1998. Since then, more than 480 development projects with a total cost of approximately SEK 110 million have been approved. Together with its members, Avfall Sverige has successfully developed the waste industry since that time through relevant, accessible and useful projects.

The projects are based on member involvement, including through the working groups, which gives them a firm footing within the association. The projects must also be relevant to the majority of Avfall Sverige's members.

In addition, Avfall Sverige conducts development projects throughout the entire breadth of its operations, and has ongoing projects that focus on technology, economy, law, social and behavioural issues, and information and communication issues.

The knowledge, experience and results gains from the projects are made available to our members and are of practical use in their work. The results of the development initiatives also fill an important function in Avfall Sverige's work of representing the members across a variety of contexts.

The majority of development projects are reported on Avfall Sverige's website as reports. Isolated reports and handbooks are also published in printed format. Reports can also serve as the basis of courses and theme days. A large number of projects originated from questions brought up in the working groups, which makes them especially important for the members.

## DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Avfall Sverige's Board appoints the Development Committee, which consists of the association's working group chairmen, one other representative of the municipalities, and the Managing Director of Avfall Sverige. The Committee decides which products should be granted funding and how the funds should be allocated. The Development Committee meets four times a year.

The joint development initiative of Avfall Sverige is based on the annual development fee which is paid by all municipal members. The fee for 2017 was SEK 1.3 per capita, of which SEK 0.3 per capita was allocated to internal projects closely related to operations. In 2017, the development initiative received SEK 10 million (SEK 9.6 million in 2016).

## OTHER DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

Three of the working groups have their own development initiatives, which they fund and decide on themselves. These working groups are energy recovery, biological treatment and landfills.

The working group for energy recovery decided to establish a joint development initiative as early as 1990. This has a strong connection to technical operations issues. Since the start, 197 projects have been launched for around SEK 45 million. The initiative is funded by all Swedish waste incineration plants in the working group, totalling SEK 3.91 million in 2017 (3.9).

A special development initiative in the field of biological treatment was established in 2006, and 26 plants invested SEK 505,000 (540,000) in joint development projects in 2017. A committee has been appointed by the funding plants to take decisions regarding the financial means and allocate them among the projects. So far, 79 projects have been launched.

**The priorities of the development initiative must reflect Avfall Sverige's vision and long-term objectives.**

**The initiative has had three focus areas:**

- **Minimisation and recovery**
- **Consumer behaviour**
- **Raw materials and disposal**

Sweden has approximately 80 landfill facilities, of which 29 made a joint investment of SEK 710,000 (690,000) in development projects during 2017. Here as well, the projects are more or less operational in nature. Since the start in 1997, 109 projects have been launched for around SEK 16.1 million.

### REPORTS

The results of Avfall Sverige's development initiatives are presented first and foremost in the form of reports. Since 2008, the reports are distributed in electronic form only. Printed summaries are distributed to inform members about the contents of the reports.

A total of 38 (33) reports were published in 2017. Other ways to communicate results and expertise are also used, such as theme days and courses, press releases, articles in the Avfall och Miljö magazine and on the website. Each report is summarised in English, and a small number of the reports are translated into English in their entirety.

Through its development activities, Avfall Sverige has become an important player for driving the industry forward and takes part in a number of initiatives in research and development at universities and institutes that are funded by other parties, mainly the Government.

### INTERNAL PROJECTS

The 2013 annual meeting approved a revised allocation of fees, which permits the Avfall Sverige Administrative Office to carry out internal projects. This has made it possible to take rapid action to implement measures that will result in better service to our members. These projects may, for instance, be linked to activities arising from current policy issues or to targets or activities included in the business plan.

Templates, handbooks and guides published on Avfall Sverige's website are examples of such initiatives. 100 projects have been carried out since the start in 2013.

### AWARD OF SCHOLARSHIPS

Avfall Sverige has been awarding scholarships within the waste management and recycling field every year since 2005. The scholarships are awarded for the most deserving papers and degree projects at the undergraduate level at Swedish universities. The award decision is made by the Development Committee, and 31 scholarships were awarded between 2005 and 2017.

In 2017, two scholarships of SEK 15,000 each were awarded to a paper on slag for use as a carbon dioxide sink and to a paper on industrial symbiosis indicators.

### RE:Source

The strategic innovation programme RE:Source was launched in 2016. The programme is backed by the Government through the Swedish Energy Agency, the Swedish Research Council Formas, and Vinnova. Avfall Sverige has been actively involved in the work of RE:Source. The first stage runs 2016–2018, and the entire programme is expected to run a total of twelve years. 35 projects were launched in 2017.

RE:Source is led by RISE in collaboration with Chalmers Industriteknik, IVL Swedish Environmental Research Institute, and Swerea. Avfall Sverige is represented on the programme board of Re:Source through its Managing Director, who serves as vice chairman.



The Avfall Sverige exhibition in Örebro attracted 38 exhibitors and over 500 annual meeting participants.

# Knowledge bank

Avfall Sverige publishes approximately 40 reports annually. Some 20 guides have also been published since 2010. Templates and handbooks are also important working materials for the employees of Avfall Sverige members, so they are updated continuously. The knowledge bank is a section of the website where Avfall Sverige members can download the material.

## REPORTS PUBLISHED IN 2017

- The microbiology of biogas production
- 2017:01 Underlying data for the waste regulations of the Waste Regulation Ordinance
- 2017:02 Who are the polluters? Allocation of emissions from energy recovery
- 2017:03 Stabilisation of lead in fly ash from waste incineration through ageing and carbonation in contact with moisture and air
- 2017:04 Decision-making support for recycling granulated slag in specific asphalt-covered construction structures
- 2017:05 Benchmarking for more efficient biogas production
- 2017:06 Industry-wide agreement for quality assurance of waste fuel
- 2017:07 Particles in leachate from landfills and contaminated water from landfill sites – significance and separation
- 2017:08 Neighbourhood collection – investigation of a collection system for the future
- 2017:09 Life cycle analysis of mechanical residual waste sorting – Energy and greenhouse gas performance
- 2017:10 Use and modification of metal-separated granulated slag – potential and matching, AMOD
- 2017:11 Safety at recycling centres
- 2017:12 Pre-project prior to system study of mechanical sorting and source sorting
- 2017:13 Sorting experiments with Swedish residual waste in ROAF's sorting plant

- 2017:14 General information about and experiences from municipal reuse centres
- 2017:15 Sustainability criteria for biogas. An overview of data and methods
- 2017:16 Capacity study 2017
- 2017:17 Handbook for waste prevention in the municipality. Method and inspiration.
- 2017:18 Waste prevention – testing and development of method
- 2017:19 Kerbside collection of packaging and recyclable paper in the SAMSA area
- 2017:20 Template for the procurement of waste collection services
- 2017:21 Where does hazardous waste go? A summary of Swedish hazardous waste treatment in Sweden and Europe
- 2017:22 Basis for decision making on introduction of new collection systems. Mapping and analysis
- 2017:23 Right item to the right treatment. Material recycling, waste incineration and the detoxification of society
- 2017:24 Dioxin and waste incineration
- 2017:25 Contractors for household waste collection 2016
- 2017:26 Household waste in figures
- 2017:27 Polar circle – circular economy policy
- 2017:28 Characterisation of surface water from different types of activities and waste
- 2017:29 Treatment and taxation of wet waste
- 2017:30 The handling of radioactive material in waste for incineration
- 2017:31 Manual for hand-picking analysis of household food and residual waste
- 2017:32 Instruments of control for biogas
- 2017:33 Suitable instruments of control for Swedish-produced biogas after 2020
- 2017:34 Application of the law on tax on waste
- 2017:35 Important properties of food waste collection bags

- 2017:36 Handbook for assessing leachate and contaminated surface water at waste treatment plants
- 2017:37 Change in behaviour in diversity areas
- 2017:38 Communication support for prevention coaches

## GUIDES

- Guide #1: The role of municipalities in the collection of packaging and return paper (last revised January 2018)
- Guide #2: Introduction of systems for the collection of source-separated food waste
- Guide #3: Exemptions from the municipal waste management regulations (currently under revision)
- Appendix to Guide #3: Examples of case law relating to exemption from refuse collection and waste collection charges
- Guide #4: The definition of household waste (last revised January 2018)
- Guide #5: Property owners' observance of the requirements in the waste regulations: Limits on the municipal responsibility for the collection of household waste in relation to assistance and support from the social services board (revised August 2016)
- Guide #6: Introduction of systems for the curbside collection of packaging and return paper (revised October 2016)
- Guide #7: Indication of location of household waste collection (revised August 2016)
- Guide #8: Shared waste containers (revised August 2016)
- Guide #9: Legal conditions for prevention and reuse (last revised April 2017)
- Guide #10: Directive 2014/24/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council on public procurement (revised January 2017)



- Guide #11: Directive 2014/23/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council on the award of concession contracts (revised January 2017)
- Guide #12: Recommendation regarding environmental accounting of waste incineration with energy recovery
- Guide #13: Recommendation regarding environmental accounting of waste incineration with energy recovery
- Guide #13: Sustainable occupational health and safety during sludge collection from private sewers
- Guide #14: Rules on bankruptcy in relation to disposal of household waste and the debt collection of waste collection charges (revised August 2016)
- Guide #15: Food waste collection – what applies under animal by-products legislation?
- Guide #16: Accounting for the municipal waste industry – Recommendations for reporting revenue and investments and for special reporting
- Guide #17 Guidance to the Public Procurement Act (2016:1145) (last revised September 2017)
- Guide #18 Guidance to the Concession Procurement Act (2016:1147) (last revised September 2017)
- Guide #19 Phosphorous filters – handling and replacement
- Guide #20 Adoption and revision of the Waste Regulation Ordinance

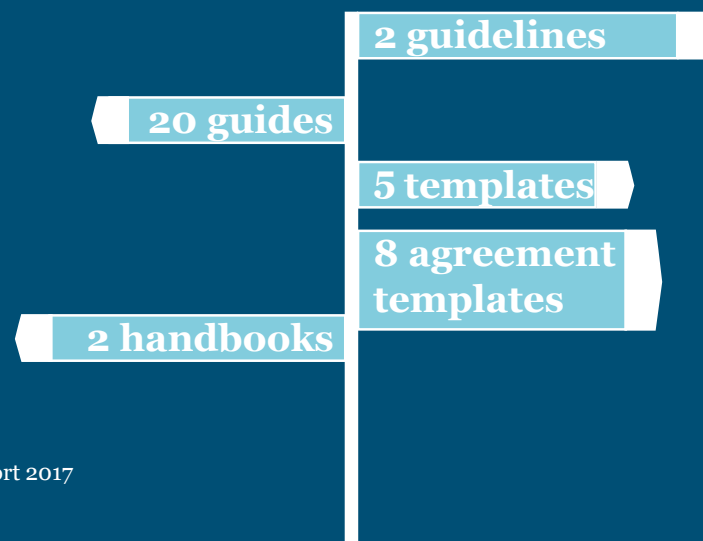
### TEMPLATES AND GUIDELINES

- Template for the procurement of waste collection services
- Template for the procurement of waste receptacles
- Template for the procurement of bags and bag-folders for food waste
- Template for the procurement of recycling centre operation
- Template for the procurement of sorted food waste treatment
- Guidelines for the procurement of hand-picking analysis of household food and residual waste
- Guidelines for the procurement of waste treatment services
- Agreement template for granting use of municipal land (public space that has undergone detail planning) for the installation and operation of a recycling station
- Agreement template for granting use of municipal land (public space that has undergone detail planning) for the construction and operation of a recycling station
- Agreement template for the lease of land without a detail-planned area when indicating the location for household waste collection

- Agreement template for the lease of land within a detail-planned area when indicating the location for household waste collection
- Agreement template for waste collection service provider's use of municipal land for the installation of bottom-emptying waste containers
- Agreement template for waste collection service provider's use of private land (not detail-planned municipal land) for the installation of bottom-emptying waste containers
- Agreement template for granting use of municipal land for the installation of collection containers in a public space that has undergone detail planning
- Agreement template for granting use of land for the collection of products for recycling

### HANDBOOKS

- Handbook for waste disposal areas
- Handbook for hazardous waste from households



# Avfall Sverige's training initiatives

**An important element of Avfall Sverige's mission is to increase knowledge and develop skills and competence within the industry. For this reason, it runs an extensive training programme through courses, theme days and conferences. In 2017, Avfall Sverige arranged 30 (48) training sessions in the form of courses, theme days and conferences to further enhance competence and increase the exchange of experiences in the industry.**

In total, 1,833 people (2,362) took part in these events during the year. In addition, 290 (306) licences to its various web courses were sold in 2017.

The aim is for the training to maintain high quality and be useful in daily work. Evaluations show that ninety-eight percent of course participants recommend Avfall Sverige's courses and theme days to others.

## CONFERENCES:

- Annual meeting
- Autumn meeting
- International Beacon conference on energy recovery

## COURSES:

- Recycling centre personnel (three sessions)
- Basic course in Avfall Web
- Basic course in energy recovery
- Construction of tariffs
- Basic course in waste legislation
- Basic course in waste planning
- Hazardous household waste at recycling centres (three sessions)

- Water treatment at waste treatment plants
- Customer service at recycling centres (two sessions)
- Waste legislation, advanced course
- Waste prevention – a course in coaching
- Waste legislation, environmental impact assessment of waste treatment activities
- Operational course in energy recovery
- Certification of digestate

## THEME DAYS:

- News in the area of waste legislation
- Reuse
- Waste fuel and waste ash
- Digestate in organic farming
- News in the area of biological treatment
- Administration and accounting in waste management
- Communicating change
- A tax on waste incineration – what would it mean



# Organisation

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Elected representatives

- Claes Thunblad (Social Democratic Party), Chairman, Järfälla
- Johan Algernon (Moderate Party), Täby
- Robert Forsman (Green Party), Eskilstuna Energi & Miljö
- Robin Holmberg (Moderate Party), Vice Chairman, Ängelholm
- Kenneth Holmström (Moderate Party), Gästrike återvinnare, Gävle
- Per-Erik Johansson (Social Democratic Party), Vakin, Umeå
- Åsa Johansson (Social Democratic Party), Hagfors
- Pär Jönsson (Moderate Party), Östersund
- Ann-Mari Nilsson (Centre Party), Jönköping
- Steve Sjögren (Social Democratic Party), KSRR, Kalmar

### Civil servants

- Gunilla Carlsson, SYSAB, Malmö
- Mile Elez, Tekniska verken i Linköping
- Carina Färm, VafabMiljö Association of Local Authorities, Västerås
- Kajsa Lager, Renova, Gothenburg
- Agneta Lantto Forsgren, Skellefteå
- Lisbeth Martinsson, Dala Vatten och Avfall, Leksand
- Lars Persson, Avfallshantering Östra Skaraborg, Skövde
- Krister Schultz, Stockholm Vatten och Avfall

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

- Mikael Gäfvert (Moderate Party), REKO Sundsvall, Convenor
- Christer Akej (Moderate Party), Österlens kommunala renhållning, Simrishamn
- Petra Rönnholm (Social Democratic Party), Ecocycle and Water, City of Gothenburg
- Elisabeth Johansson, Vakin, Umeå
- Pär Larsson, Karlstad Energi
- Kim Olsson, NSR, Helsingborg
- One vacancy

## AUDITORS

### Members

- Maria Antonsson (Green Party), Stockholm Vatten och Avfall
- Erik Mauritzson, Certified Auditor, EY

### Deputies

- Bo Jonsson (Centre Party), Västervik Miljö & Energi
- Thomas Hallberg, Certified Auditor, EY

## CHAIRMEN OF AVFALL SVERIGE'S WORKING GROUPS 2017

- Waste treatment plants: Carl Odelberg, Njudung Energi, Vetlanda
- Biological treatment: Per-Erik Persson, VafabMiljö Association of Local Authorities, Västerås
- Energy recovery: Ulf Kullh, Umeå Energi
- Minimisation: Jill Nyqvist, Gästrike Återvinnare, Gävle
- Non-toxic ecocycle: Liselott Myrbråten, Tekniska Verken i Linköping
- Collection: Hans Zackrisson, Renova, Gothenburg
- Municipal responsibility: Marita Söderqvist, Stockholm Vatten och Avfall
- Communication: Teresa Frykman, Sörab, Vallentuna
- Recycling centres: Carina Eklund, Sysav, Malmö

## DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE 2017

Maria Sigroth, Gothenburg Region Association of Local Authorities, is the chairman of the Development Committee and Per-Erik Persson, VafabMiljö, is the vice chairman. The remaining members of the committee are the chairmen of Avfall Sverige's working groups and the Managing Director of Avfall Sverige, Weine Wiqvist. During the year, Per Nilzén, Director of Development, served as report presenter and Anna-Carin Gripwall, Director of Communications, served as a co-opted member.

# Employees

**In 2017, Avfall Sverige's Administrative Office had 19 employees, of which two worked at the satellite office in Stockholm. The Administrative Office shares its office space with the Swedish Organisation for Local Enterprises (KFS).**



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*Avfall Sverige is the municipalities' trade association in the field of waste management.*

*Avfall Sverige's members ensure that waste is collected and recycled in all Swedish municipalities. We perform our work on behalf of society: in an environmentally sound, sustainable and long-term manner.*

*Our vision is "Zero Waste".*

*We are taking action to minimise waste, promote reuse and ensure that the waste produced is recycled, recovered and managed in the optimal manner. Municipalities and their enterprises are the ambassadors, catalysts and guarantors of this change.*



# AVFALL SVERIGE

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