

Your invitation to a workshop on

'Urban waste transitions: connecting innovation, infrastructure and households'

Sponsored by cities@manchester & [The Sustainable Consumption Institute](http://www.sustainableconsumptioninstitute.ac.uk)

at The University of Manchester on Friday 28th September 2012

Harold Hankins Building (HH10.04/10.05)

There is still much work to be done on integrating the literatures on infrastructure innovations, socio-technical transitions and the dynamics of everyday practices. The aim of this workshop is to focus specifically on municipal waste and bring together colleagues from different disciplines to review progress in the field and discuss how to further conceptual developments. The focus on urban waste follows from the observations that managing waste is integral to 'sustainable urban transformation' and that effective waste management contributes significantly to public health, environmental sustainability and economic development. But it is also an inherently urban challenge. Further, cities are arenas through which innovations and transformations in waste infrastructures might take hold (Hodson and Marvin, 2009). Households are central to any such strategy and yet, these are seldom informed by understandings of what people actually do 'behind closed doors' (Bulkeley and Gregson, 2009). More generally it can be noted that within the field of consumption studies, relatively little attention has been paid to issues of production, innovation, governance and infrastructure (although see Fine and Leopold, 1993; McMeekin et al, 2002; Southerton et al, 2004; Glucksmann, 2009; Shove and Walker, 2010). Practically, making explicit theoretical connections will help to generate understandings that will perhaps better inform interventions in urban waste problems and influence sustainable transformations in socio-technical systems.

Workshop programme

- 09.30- 10.00 *Coffee and registration*
- 10.00 **Socio-technical transitions to sustainability: An introduction.** Frank Geels, The Sustainable Consumption Institute, University of Manchester
- 10.30 **The Intermediary Organisation of Low Carbon Cities: a conceptual framework and comparative analysis.** Simon Marvin (Durham University) and Mike Hodson (University of Salford)
- 11.15 *Coffee break*
- 11.30 **What is New Infrastructure Development? A Lifecycle Perspective.** Nuno Gil, Manchester Business School
- 12.00 **Scalar strategies in governance of waste.** Simin Davoudi, Newcastle University
- 12.45 *Lunch*
- 13.45 **Economising municipal waste: UK resource recovery as marketisation.** Nicky Gregson, Durham University
- 14.15 **Environmental Policy, Waste Practices and the 'Wastogenic Environment'.** Alan Metcalfe, University of Portsmouth
- 15.00 *Coffee break*
- 15.15 **Round table: Methodological, practical and policy challenges.**
 - Tom Quested, WRAP
 - Andrew Darnton, AD research and analysis
 - John Bland, Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority
 - Catherine Alexander, Durham University
- 16.30 *Close*

Organised by David Evans (SCI, UoM Sociology), Sally Gee (MIOIR, SCI) and Elvira Uyerra (MIOIR, SCI).

To register please visit <http://sci28septemberurbanwaste.eventbrite.com/> . For more information please contact slobhan.drugan@manchester.ac.uk or sally.gee@mbs.ac.uk .