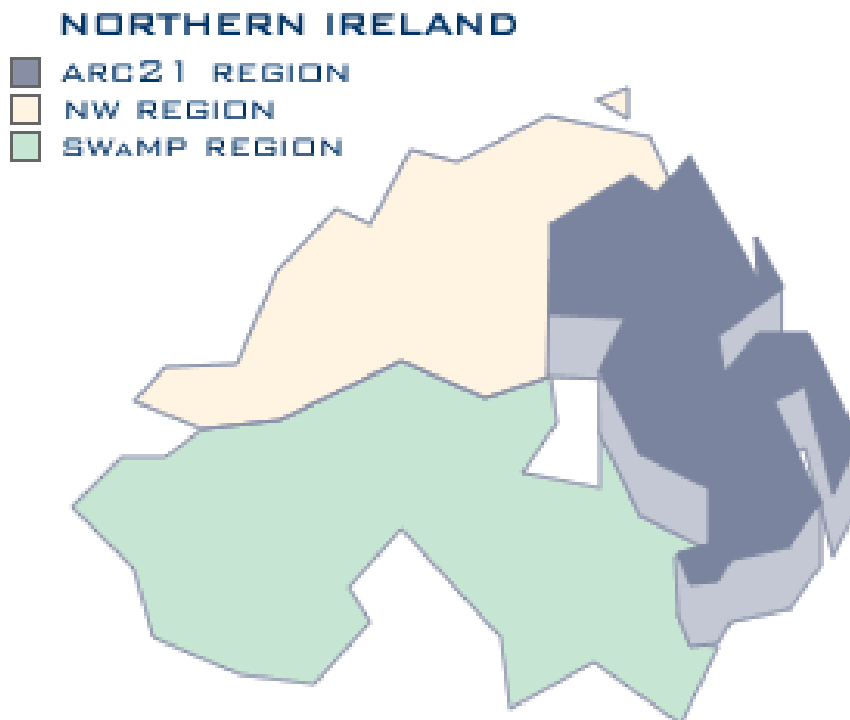


Who is arc21?



arc21 are a group of 11 councils in the northeast region of Northern Ireland who have agreed a partnership approach to the development of a waste management plan.

arc21 was created for a number of reasons including Northern Ireland and European Union legislation. The Northern Ireland Waste Management Strategy stated that waste management plans must be submitted on behalf of partnership groups rather than from individual Councils.

Another reason for the development of the arc21 group was in order for Councils to procure waste treatment facilities as a group therefore reducing the costs for individual local authorities.

The eleven councils who form the group include Antrim, Ards, Ballymena, Belfast, Carrickfergus, Castlereagh, Down, Larne, Lisburn, Newtownabbey and North Down.

Together they produced a waste management plan by 2001 containing targets and objectives, which acted as the foundations for the joint waste strategy.

The arc21 region accounts for approximately 57% of the municipal waste produced in Northern Ireland. This is produced by 54% of Northern Ireland's total population within an area covering just 3,522km², or 25% of the Northern Ireland total.