

Business of Recycling Wales - Webinars

Hospitality Sector 4 November 2024 3:30 pm

Questions & Answers

This document presents WRAP Cymru’s answers to the questions delegates asked during the Hospitality Sector webinar.

Code of Practice - [Separate Collection of Waste Materials for Recycling: A Code of Practice for Wales | GOV.WALES](#)

[The Business of Recycling Wales Guidance for all workplaces \(wrapcymru.org.uk\)](#)

<p>Why does the new regulation require us to separate our recycling rather than doing mixed recycling?</p> <p>Ensuring the correct materials are placed in the correct bins is very difficult for caravan sites where we rely on our customers to follow the rules properly.</p>	<p>The Regulations set out the separation requirements in Wales with the aim of ensuring that waste is managed in a manner that promotes high-quality recycling.</p> <p>Recyclable waste materials collected all together in mixed or “co-mingled” streams and then sorted afterwards leads to cross contamination and also high levels of non-target material being mixed up with the recycling. This in turn significantly reduces the quality of the recyclate and the resulting levels of recycling achieved.</p> <p>Sometimes the contamination can be so severe that the entire load has to be rejected and sent for incineration or landfill, thereby losing all recycling benefits. By keeping the recycling separate, the evidence shows it results in reduced contamination, higher rates of recycling and higher quality recyclate that can then go back into the economy.</p> <p>Section 3 of the Code explains this in more detail.</p> <p>There are posters available to download from the Business of Recycling Wales site that lists clearly which items are recyclable. There will soon be materials available on the website to help provide information to your guests on how they can comply with the requirements.</p>
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	<p>You will need to ensure that the recycling bins are clearly labelled, the recycling system in place is communicated to staff and visitors and sufficient containers are provided for your staff and guests to use it correctly by using the new assets.</p> <p>You are advised to monitor the effectiveness of your recycling system and make any change needed to ensure it is working well. It is also recommended to speak to your waste collector about contamination tolerance and the procedures they have for dealing with contamination.</p> <p>The Code of Practice (paragraph 7.37) contains more detail on steps you are advised to take in relation to contamination.</p>
<p>Whose responsibility is it to provide segregated external bins such as carparks or drive thrus – the operator or the landowner?</p>	<p>The occupier is responsible for complying with the regulations and complying with the separation requirements.</p> <p>See section 5.8 of the Code of Practice</p>
<p>Question for Sarah Ivory: Is waste separated in your hotel rooms or when the cleaners collect?</p>	<p>Reply from Sarah Ivory: In our hotels, guests are asked to leave any recyclable material on the side for housekeeping to collect separately.</p>
<p>How will the recording and slides of this webinar be shared?</p>	<p>An email will be sent to all delegates who registered to attend the webinar including the recording of the webinar, the slide deck and the answers to these questions.</p> <p>It will also be on the Resources page of the Business of Recycling Wales website.</p>
<p>With the inclusion of cups and tetra Pak in recycling bins, how are they being segregated at the waste facilities, to ensure they are dealt with correctly?</p>	<p>The co-collection of recyclable waste plastic, metal, cartons and other similar fibre-plastic based composite packaging in a single stream can facilitate high quality recycling because separating the waste materials effectively from each other is achievable using simple sorting equipment after collection. It is important to check with your waste producer.</p>

<p>What approach do you recommend businesses take for delivering cleaner recyclates at minimal to no cost?</p>	<p>Recyclate such as plastic, metal and cartons, that may be contaminated with food or drink should be rinsed before placing in the recycling container.</p> <p>Cardboard contaminated with food or drink should be placed in general waste.</p> <p>Ensure the materials are kept separate from each other, ie so any food or drink residue on plastic items does not mix with any paper or cardboard.</p> <p>The Code of Practice states that the recycling should be free from significant contamination. We would advise you to discuss contamination with the waste collector to see what needs to be done.</p>
<p>How are you dealing with liquid contamination from disposable cups being placed in recycling bin?</p>	<p>If you have a lot of cups and liquid waste in your bins you could provide a liquid bin alongside a cup container</p> <p>You should talk to your waste contractor about the cleanliness level they require and solutions they may be able to provide.</p>
<p>Are businesses to wash waste items before disposal?</p>	<p>The Code of Practice states that you must ensure that the packaging items placed in each recyclable waste stream are empty of their contents and are clean. Other non-packaging items need to be free of significant contamination.</p> <p>The degree of acceptable contamination is likely to vary based on the requirements of different re-processors and their requirements should be followed to avoid waste collectors rejecting contaminated loads. Your waste collector should be able to provide advice on this.</p>

	<p>The advice to householders is to rinse tins etc which may be all that is required.</p>
<p>Can de-watered food waste still be put in food waste bin?</p>	<p>Food waste disposal equipment (for example macerators) or other forms of food waste treatment equipment (for example dewatering or enzyme digesters) cannot be used in non-domestic premises to discharge food waste or liquid derived from food waste to a drain or sewer.</p>
<p>Assume recycling regs only apply to waste generated on site rather than from customers bringing other waste to site</p>	<p>All waste produced on site, regardless of the source of the waste material, will be subject to the separation requirements.</p>
<p>What is happening to reduce waste in supply chain as we are not seeing any reduction in volume or change or nature of packaging from supply chain.</p>	<p>There are currently additional policy and legislative drivers being implemented across the UK that will look to address packaging materials produced further up the supply chain.</p> <p>Please do have conversation with your suppliers to see if there is any potential to work together to reduce supply chain waste, i.e. returnable transit packaging.</p>

<p>Most waste created on an open event site is created by the public and not by the organisers/contractors.</p> <p>Who is responsible for the waste and recycling in on street litter bins used and the waste that comes from fast food premises that are operating within an open event site when there are road closures?</p>	<p>As the event organiser you are responsible for all the waste generated on the 'premise' or event site, produce by the public, contractors, vendors and organisers.</p> <p>Any waste going into street litter bins that the Local Authority manage do not fall under the requirements of the workplace recycling law.</p> <p>It would be advisable for the event organiser to place additional bins around the area where there is expected to be high footfall of event visitors which would need to have separate bins for recycling as well as general waste.</p> <p>There is no specific requirement for a sort before collection.</p> <p>However, you need to take reasonable steps to ensure the material collected is as uncontaminated as possible. However, if the event bins become highly contaminated, you will need to discuss this with your waste collector.</p> <p>You should also review what else you can do to improve compliance with the separation requirements.</p> <p>Section 7.7 of the Code of Practice includes some more information on contamination.</p> <p>We would advise including something on waste management and the separation requirements within communications you have with any contractors and stall holders and consider including in any contracts.</p>
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