

# WORKPLACE RECYCLING LAW IN WALES Webinar for waste collectors

7 February 2024

Cymru yn ailgylchu Wales recycles

Apur a Cherdyn



Gweithredu ar Hinsawdd Cymru

Papur a Cherdy

Climate Action Wales

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### Workplace Recycling Law Wales

- Introduction
- The new law
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#### **About WRAP**

- WRAP (the Waste and Resources Action Programme) is a climate action NGO working around the globe to tackle the causes of the climate crisis and give the planet a sustainable future. We were established in the UK in 2000; we now work in 40+ countries.
- Working around the globe with governments, businesses, and citizens, our mission is to make the world a more sustainable place. We bring people together, we act on the facts, and we drive change.
- We are working with Welsh Government to provide support to implement the new Workplace Recycling law.

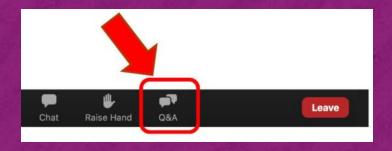


### Webinar housekeeping

- Please ask questions use the Q&A button
- We will answer questions at the end



- We will be sharing the recording of the webinar
- A copy of the slides will be available (in English and Welsh)





### **New Regulations - 6th April 2024\***

- All workplaces such as businesses, public sector and charities will need to **separate their recyclable materials** in the same way most households already do.
- Bans on the disposal of all food waste to sewer from non-domestic premises.
- Bans on specified separate recyclable waste streams going to incineration plants and landfills.

Applies to all waste and recycling collectors and processors who manage **household-like waste** from workplaces.

\*Hospitals (NHS and private) have an additional two years to comply with the separation requirements. The ban on food waste to sewer applies from 6th April 2024.



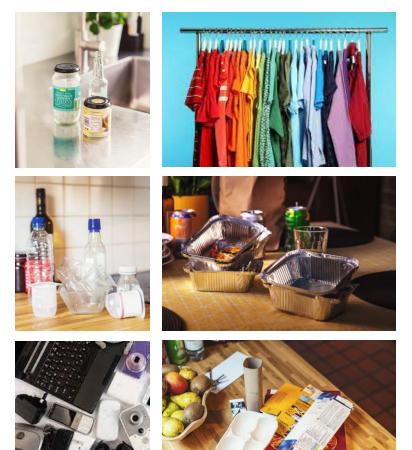
### Household-like waste

- Waste materials like those found in households
- Commonly collected by local authorities from households
- Also includes unsold small waste electricals and unsold textiles

Does not include:

- Construction waste
- Industrial waste
- Agricultural waste

Except for commonly recycled waste materials like those found in households.





### Why?

- Wales is already really good at household recycling, currently 1st among the UK nations for household recycling 65%.
- 3rd best nation in the world for household recycling.
- The aim is to ensure high recycling rates across all sectors, not only households.
- Over 70% of materials in the commercial waste stream could be recycled.





### Why?

#### **Recycling reduces carbon emissions**

- 45% of carbon emissions are due to products we purchase
- 90% of biodiversity loss and water stress comes from resource extraction

#### Increasing recycling also:

- increases the amount and quality of recycled materials that can then be used by Welsh manufacturers and reduce the use of virgin materials;
- supports workplaces to minimise waste and potentially save money;
- helps the economy to create a greener Wales.



### Why?

# This will enable a consistent recycling system wherever anyone works, rests or plays.



#### Why separate materials?

- To promote high quality recycling
- More likely to result in closed-loop recycling
- Better environmental outcomes

#### WHO?

Including:

- agricultural premises;
- bars and public houses;
- bed and breakfasts, hotels;
- bus stations, railway stations, seaports, 
   airports, heliports;
   airports, heliports;
   airports, heliports;
   bit display stations, seaports, seaports,
- campsites and caravan parks (but not

   individual caravans);
   individual caravans);
- care homes, residential care homes and
   nursing homes;
- cinemas;
- community centres and village halls;
- construction sites;
- educational establishments such as universities, colleges and schools;
- entertainment and sports venues, including leisure centres;
- factories;

- film and television production sets;
- garages for vehicle servicing and repair;
- garden centres;
- heritage buildings;
- holiday parks and resorts;
- hospitals;
- libraries and museums;offices;
- outdoor markets
- pharmacies, doctors' surgeries, dental surgeries, optometrists, opticians, podiatrists and other primary care facilities;
- places of worship;
- prisons;
- restaurants and cafes;
- service stations and petrol stations;



- shops and shopping centres;
- showgrounds;
- sports grounds and stadia;
- take aways & mobile food vendors;
- theatres and arts venues;
- venues for temporary events such as festivals and shows, including outdoors events;
- warehouses; and
- workshops.

If you mainly have an on-line presence, you will still need to comply with the changes on any premises that you use.



# The new laws have three parts

- 1. The separation requirements
- 2. Incineration and landfill bans
- 3. A ban on the disposal of food waste to sewer





### **1. The separation requirements**

The following materials will need to be collected separately:

- Paper and card
- Glass
- Metal, plastic, and cartons (and other similar packaging, for example coffee cups)
- Food only for premises that produce more than 5kg of food waste a week
- Unsold small waste electrical and electronic equipment (sWEEE)
- Unsold textiles

Materials to be kept separate at point of presentation to waste collector Separately collected recyclable materials to be kept separate and not mixed



### **Code of practice**

Wight

- <u>Separate Collection of Waste Materials for</u> <u>Recycling: A Code of Practice for Wales |</u> <u>GOV.WALES</u>
- Practical guidance on how to comply.
- It is admissible as evidence in any legal proceedings and must be taken into account by a court when determining relevant questions.





### **Collector's separation requirements**

- Collect each recyclable waste stream separately
- Collection and subsequent handling of the waste must be sufficient to ensure that separation is maintained
- Unless you are a Local Authority, you do not have to collect the full range of recyclable waste streams

#### Glass



Glass	
What should be placed in the waste stream	What should NOT be placed in the waste stream includes:
Glass bottles used as packaging Glass jars used as packaging	Crockery (including ceramics and china) Drinking glasses Glass and ceramic cookware Light bulbs Metal jar lids or bottle tops (which should be placed in the metal stream) Mirrors Nail varnish bottles Sheet glass (including windowpanes, picture frame glass, car windscreens)
but excluding any waste categorised as hazardous under regulation 6 of the Hazardous Waste (Wales) Regulations 2005 or containing residues of, or contaminated by, waste or substances categorised as hazardous under regulation 6 of those Regulations	

Annex 1: Separate Collection of Waste Materials for Recycling: A Code of Practice for Wales (gov.wales)



### 2. Incineration and landfill bans

From 6 April the following bans will be in place:

# Incineration (separately collected materials)

- Paper and card
- Metals
- Plastic
- Glass
- Cartons
- Food
- All sWEEE
- Unsold textiles

#### Landfill (separately collected materials)

- Paper and card
- Metals
- Plastic
- Glass
- Cartons
- Food
- All sWEEE (includes unsold)
- All textiles (includes unsold)
- Ban <u>all</u> wood waste from non-domestic and domestic premises to landfill

### Incineration and landfill bans – textiles and sWEEE



- The separation requirements on waste producers only apply to UNSOLD textiles and sWEEE.
- Landfill and incineration ban applies to all the relevant materials where they have been separately collected (from any source) for the purpose of preparing for reuse or recycling.
- Applies whether separate presentation and collection was a requirement legal or a choice.
- sWEEE banned from both landfill and incineration

Textiles banned from landfill. Separately collected textiles (apart from unsold textiles) that can't be reused or recycled will need to go to incineration.

# 3. A ban on the disposal of food waste to sewer

- A ban on disposal of all food waste to sewer including via macerators, de-waterers or Enzyme treatment.
- This will divert waste food from disposal to Anaerobic Digestion (AD) and generate renewable energy.
- Food waste to be collected separately at source from all workplaces producing 5kg per week or more.









### **Enforcement of the new laws**

- Natural Resources Wales (NRW) is responsible for making sure that materials are being separated and collected correctly, and that the ban on recycling going to incineration and landfill is being followed.
- Local Authorities are responsible for making sure the ban on food waste going to sewer is followed.
- If you do not comply with the law, it could mean a fine for your workplace.
- Occupiers of premises are responsible and liable for the actions of their staff.

How to Get Ready – advice for waste collectors

Read the Code of Practice – it contains all the detail about how to comply with the regulations

Separate Collection of Waste Materials for Recycling: A Code of Practice for Wales | GOV.WALES







#### Advice for waste collectors - 1

- Communication with your customers:
  - New streams containers and collection frequencies
  - Clear labelling of the streams
  - Provide advice to avoid contamination
  - How they can support their staff and customers to use the service correctly

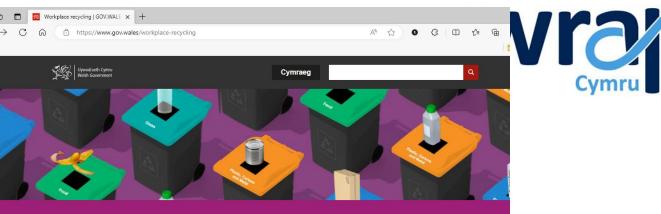
• Materials are available from WRAP for free



### Advice for waste collectors -2

- Additional information to customers:
  - End destinations for the materials collected
- Means of separation must be sufficient to keep the separate streams separate
- Survival bags are NOT recommended
- Plan measures to take should customers not complying
  - provide advice and guidance
  - ultimately option to refuse to collect highly contaminated material

How to Get Ready – advice for your customers



#### Workplace Recycling, let's get it sorted.

#### Workplace recycling is changing

From 6 April 2024, it will become law for all businesses, charities and public sector organisations to sort their waste for recycling.

It also applies to all waste and recycling collectors and processors who manage household-like waste from workplaces. The Welsh Government is introducing this law to improve the quality and quantity of how we collect and separate waste.

#### What waste needs to be separated

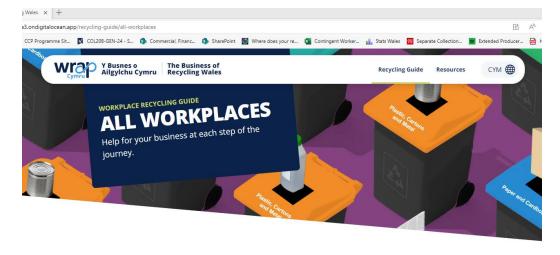
The following materials will need to be separated for collection, and collected separately:

- Food
- Paper and card
  Glass
- Welsh Government webpage
- General guidance on the changes
- Code of Practice
- Workplace recycling | GOV.WALES
- gov.wales/workplacerecycling



# WRAP Cymru Support

#### New 'Business of Recycling Wales' website



#### **Guidance for all workplaces**

The new recycling law applies to all workplaces in Wales.

This is a summary of the changes and offers tips on how you can get ready.

The law comes into effect on 6 April 2024. It means all workplaces such as businesses, public sector and charities will need to separate their recyclable materials in the same way most households already do.

It also applies to all waste and recycling collectors and processors who manage household-like waste from workplaces.

#### Covered in this guide

What is the new law?

How to get ready

<u>How the law will be enforced</u>
<u>Further support and guidance</u>

businessofrecyclingwales.com

# Materials Icons

Workplace Recycling: imagery for recycling signage and containers | WRAP (wrapcymru.org.uk)



cardbord a phapur cardboard & paper



gwastraff bwyd food waste

poteli a jariau gwydr glass bottles & jars



plastig, cartonau a metel plastic, cartons & metal











## Posters

## Easily Customisable Posters





# General guidance



Simple guide on website for all sorts of businesses:

- Outlines the new laws
- Gives practical tips on how to get ready
  - bins
  - health and safety
  - working with waste collectors
- Support available



#### Which sector is your workplace in?

Guidance to help you improve your current waste collection and ensure your workplace is fully compliant with the new regulations. If you consider your business to be an SME, it's also worth checking the guidance for Small & Medium Enterprises.



 
 Residential settings
 Outdoor events

 Nursing homes, residential care homes and prisons
 Indoor or outdoor events, fairs, concerts, festivals
 Leisure facilities and entertainment

Campsites, caravan parks, bed & breakfasts, hotels.

If you can't find a suitable sector, check the general guidance for all workplaces.

Sector specific guides



#### Guidance for the education sector

Change sector

This guide, prepared by WRAP Cymru, should be read in conjunction with the <u>Separate Collection of Waste Materials for</u> <u>Recycling: A Code of Practice for Wales</u>. This guide provides supplementary advice for individual sectors and should not be read as standalone guidance.

This guide is aimed at all educational settings in Wales including state and private schools, as well as further and higher educational establishments such as colleges and universities.

#### Covered in this guide

- Why you need to recycle?
- <u>Preventing waste in the first place</u>
- How to arrange a new recycling service
- · Food waste and hygiene

**Content overview** 

<u>Resources</u>

- · How to better understand your waste and recycling
- How to comply with the new Workplace Recycling law
- Space for your bins?
- Engaging with staff and pupils



# Sector Guides

# WRAP Cymru Webinars



# Sector specific webinars, on how to comply with the new regulations for the following sectors:

- Small and medium size businesses (SMEs) 30 Jan 10am
- Entertainment and leisure facilities (including campsites, chalets, lodges, hotels, caravans) 31 Jan 10am
- o Retail 6 Feb 10am
- Residential settings (including care homes) 6 Feb 2pm
- Hospitality and food services 7 Feb 10am
- Waste Collectors 7 Feb 2pm
- Outdoor events 8 Feb 2pm
- Education settings and universities 20 Feb 10am

# Food waste collections



- Premises that produce over 5kg of food in any 7day period must have food waste collections.
- Premises producing less than 5kg can opt for food waste collections or use the non-recyclable bin for food waste.

# Workplaces that produce and handle food waste

- Hotels
- Restaurants
- Cafés
- Takeaways
- Catering businesses (including those at events such as food stalls and events)
- Shopping centre food courts
- Sports stadiums

- Canteens
- Pubs
- Offices with canteens, cafes or staff kitchen facilities
- Schools, colleges, prisons, nursing homes and hospitals and
- Any other workplaces that serve food.





#### WRAP provides support for food businesses to reduce food waste via:

- <u>The Guardians of Grub</u> campaign supports Hospitality and Food Service businesses to reduce the alarming amount of food wasted every single year. *guardiansofgrub.com*
- <u>WRAP Food Waste Reduction Roadmap Toolkit</u> is an industry wide roadmap and toolkit that helps food businesses take targeted action to reduce waste in their own operations, their supply chain and from consumers.

wrap.org.uk/resources/tool/food-waste-reduction-roadmap-toolkit



## Summary

- 6 April 2024
- Applies to all workplaces
- Requirement to separate for recycling
- No food waste to sewer
- Bans on certain waste streams going to incineration and landfill



## Workplace Recycling (Wales)

Workplace Recycling Wales Feb 2024

## Seismic Shift or subtle gradual change?

Biffa

2013/2014 Environment Bill White Paper consultation : included a consultation on separation duty

Environment Bill became the on Environment (Wales) Act 2016 – Regulations expected to be made after Jan 2017

2019 consultation on Increasing Business Recycling in Wales: set out the preferred option - Project Implementation team set up then put on hold

2022-2023 Consultation on the Workplace Recycling Legislation and Statutory Code of Practice – Project Implementation team re-started

WESA



## Welsh Environmental Services Association (WESA)



The workplace recycling requirements have been a regular topic of discussion at WESA meetings (3-4 per year)

WESA members have reviewed the various consultations and responses have been produced.

Awareness raising has been key

Regular updates from Welsh Government WRAP Cymru and NRW

WESA

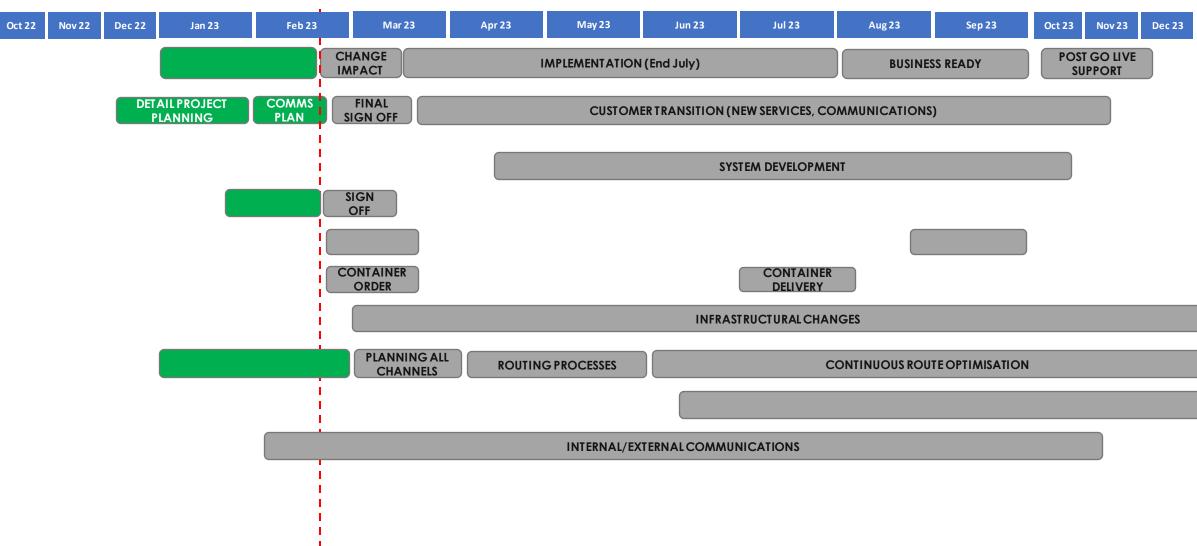




Offence	Proposed FMP
An occupier of non-domestic premises in Wales fails to present waste for collection (whether by a waste collection authority or by any other person) in accordance with the applicable separation requirements. (our customers)	£300
A person acting in the course of a business who collects controlled waste, or receives, keeps, treats or transports controlled waste, from non-domestic premises fails to do so in accordance with the applicable separation requirements.	<mark>£500</mark>
Operators of incineration and co-incineration facilities accept any of the specified, separately collected materials at their facilities.	<mark>£500</mark>
Operators of landfill facilities accept any of the specified, separately collected materials and/or any wood at their facilities.	<mark>£500</mark>
An occupier of non-domestic premises in Wales discharges food waste, or knowingly causes or permits food waste to be discharged, to the sewer.	£300

## High Level Journey





#### January 2024

- Stop selling Dry Mixed Recycling in Wales •
- Customer reporting begins
- Advised contamination customer education and support ٠
- Second customer communication with link to e-booklet and ٠ posters
- All DMR customers switched to Paper and Cardboard

#### What's changing?

The Welsh Government are introducing new regulations that require all businesses to separate key recyclable materials.

Biffa will now be required to collect, store and process recyclable materials separately.

From 06/04/2024, all Welsh Dry Mixed Recycling bins will be switched to Paper and Card bins.

> Customer requires a Plastic and Cans service, which will need to request this through the relevant sales channel.

#### **February**

- Relabelling of containers starts
- Mobilise February start customers'
- Weighing fitting for vehicles ٠
- Food and Glass vehicles delivered ٠

#### April

- SME customer survey
- Designs for vehicles to be fitted
- Review Proactive Calling
- Complete re-labelling process

#### March

- Mobilise March start customers'
- Daily/Weekly review of all changes

#### May

- Evaluating customers who haven't taken new service
- Monitoring Contamination levels •
- Monitor MRF output
- Review DMR rates for exempt customers

## Go live:





### **Customer Experience and common complaints**

Biffa

#### Undertaken sample analysis of customers mixed recycling:

- Dry Mixed Recycling container re-labelled for Paper and Card
- Additional services for Mixed Metals, Plastics and Cartons
- Existing services for Glass and Food Waste Collection

#### **Customer confusion around:**

Outside public areas on-site / offsite, Inside public areas

#### **Collection issues:**

Hospitals and Residential houses





# Thank you

Simon Rutledge <u>Simon.Rutledge@biffa.co.uk</u>

WESA - Sam Corp <u>s-corp@esauk.org</u>

Workplace Recycling Wales Feb 2024

Busnes | Business Cymru | Wales

# Business Wales

#### Get the support you need



January 2024

## Business Support

•Business Wales is the Welsh Government's fully-funded business support service, helping Welsh businesses and aspiring entrepreneurs to access the information, advice and support they require to start, run and grow their businesses.

•No matter where a business is in their life cycle, from start-up to growth phase, established, expanding or maturity, Business Wales has the skills, experience and knowledge to guide and assist the ambitions of business.

•The level of support is tailored according to the business need and we offer a mixture of online and face-to-face support, as well as workshops and individual advice.



#### What?

- General business advice
- Tendering advice
- Equality, diversity and HR advice
- International trade support
- Skills Gateway
- Business mentoring
- Decarbonisation

#### How?

- Online support
- Workshops & Webinars
- 121 support



## Decarbonisation Support

- Energy efficiency
- Environmental Management Systems
- Emission calculations
- Carbon reduction plans
- Renewables
- Waste management
- Green Skills
- Sustainable Transport
- Legal compliance
- Green Growth Pledge







Brian Hedges-Webb, B C Webb Media

Get fully funded support for starting your own business by clicking on the link above

"Business Wales has been a great mentor for our business, the speed of reply is incredible and is very important for any business and entrepreneur." Ammar Akhtar, Finalrentals Limited **Business** 

Get fully funded support for starting your own business by clicking on the link above

**Busnes** 

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Wales

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busnescymru.llyw.cymru businesswales.gov.wales



Busnes | Business Cymru | Wales

> Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government

# Any questions?





# Diolch Thank you

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