

WORKPLACE RECYCLING LAW IN WALES - C&D Sector

busnesoailgylchu.wrapcymru.org.uk

businessofrecyclingwales.com



Gweithredu ar
Hinsawdd Cymru
Climate
Action Wales

Y BUSNES O
AILGYLCHU
THE BUSINESS
OF RECYCLING

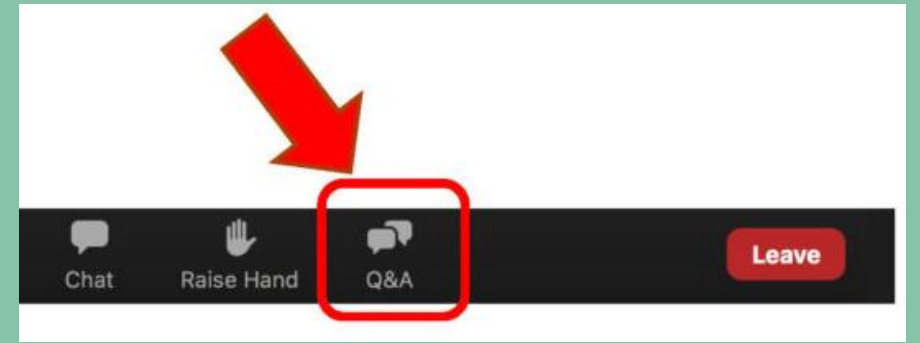


 Cymru yn ailgylchu
Wales recycles

Contents

- Introduction
- What the law covers
- Support available
- How to comply
- Case study
- Questions

Webinar housekeeping



- Please ask questions – use the Q&A button
- We will answer questions at the end
- If there are any we don't get to, we will send replies after the webinar
- We will be sharing the recording of the webinar
- A copy of the slides will be available (in English and Welsh)

About WRAP

- WRAP is a global environmental action NGO, transforming our product and food systems to create Circular Living.
- Practically what that means in Wales is that we are working with citizens, Welsh councils, Welsh Government and businesses to help change how we use and consume resources.
- This includes working with Welsh Government to support the new Workplace Recycling law.

New Law - 6th April 2024*

- All workplaces such as businesses, public sector and charities need to **separate their recyclable materials** in the same way most households 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 is applicable from 6th April 2024.*

Why?

- Wales is already really good at household recycling, currently 1st among the UK nations for household recycling – 66%.
- **2nd 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.**



Who?

- agricultural premises;
- bars and public houses;
- bed and breakfasts, hotels;
- bus stations, railway stations, seaports, airports, heliports;
- campsites and caravan parks (but not 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 need to comply with the changes on any premises that you use.

The law has 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 are to be collected separately:

- **Paper and card**
- **Glass**
- **Metal, plastic, and cartons** (and other similar packaging, for example coffee cups)
- **Food, including liquid 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



Household-like waste

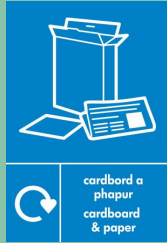
- The law only applies to waste materials like those found in households
 - **Paper and cardboard**
 - **Glass**
 - **Metal, plastic, and cartons** (*and other similar packaging, for example coffee cups*)
 - **Food** – *only for premises that produce more than 5kg of food waste a week*

Does not include:

- Construction waste
- Industrial waste
- Agricultural waste

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





	Yes	No
Paper & cardboard	Newspaper Office paper Envelopes Cardboard boxes	Padded envelopes Food contaminated items Stickers Wax, silicone and greaseproof paper
Glass	Glass bottles & jars	Light bulbs Sheet glass Mirrors
Metal, plastic, and cartons	Drink cans Plastic bottles Paper coffee cups Foil	Paint tins Gas canisters Scrap metal Bulk bags & film Rigid hard plastics
Food	Any food produced at home: Meat Vegetables Tea bags Coffee grounds	Any food not produced in a household setting Drink

2. Incineration and landfill bans

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 all wood waste from non-domestic and domestic premises to landfill

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.



**Construction &
Demolition waste**

Construction & Demolition waste streams

- In 2019 the Welsh Construction and Demolition (C&D) sectors generated an estimated **3.43 million tonnes (Mt)** of waste.
- The majority of C&D waste consisted of
 - Mixed wastes (including mixed aggregates) - **45%**
 - *Packaging material*
 - *Wood*
 - *Plastic*
 - *Inert*
 - Soil - **38%**
 - Aggregates - **7%**
 - Non-Metallic wastes - **3%**

Construction & Demolition waste streams

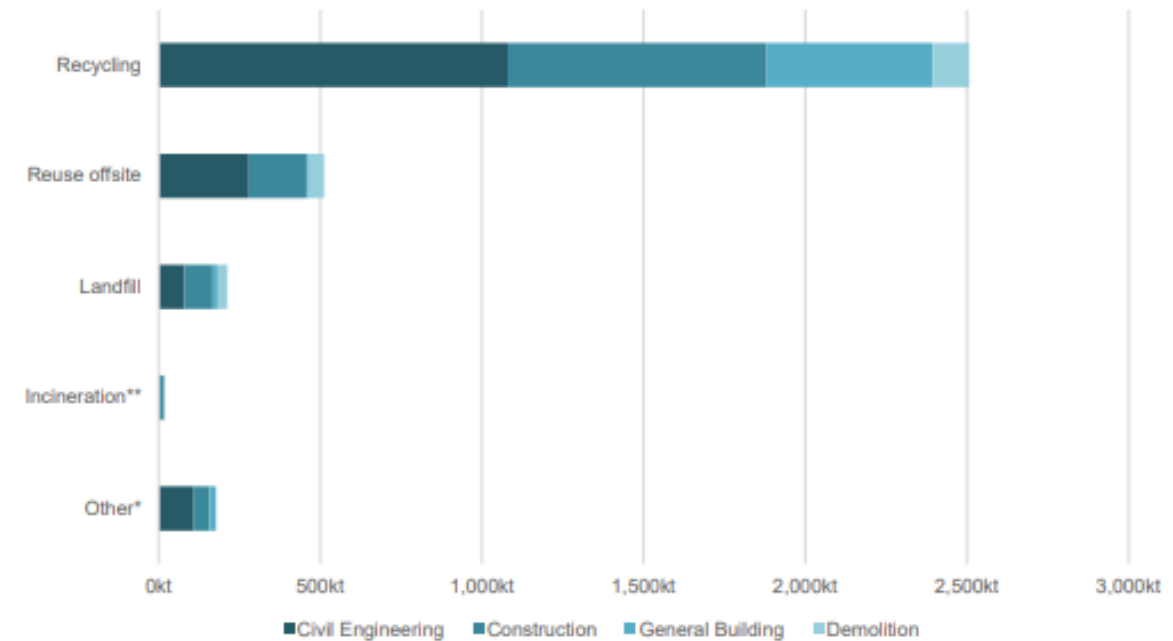
Table 2. Summary of the Recycling rate, Wales 2019

Materials included in Metric	Use of metric	Recycling rate
C&D Waste excl. Hazardous waste and Soil & stones	Measurement against Welsh government targets	93%
All C&D Waste	Measurement of overall sector performance	90%

The Recycling rate is comprised of Preparation for Reuse, Recycling, Composting and Backfilling. C&D Waste excl. Hazardous waste and Soil & Stones excludes Soil & stones with EWC code 17 05 04.

The C&D industry is recycling 90% of its waste!

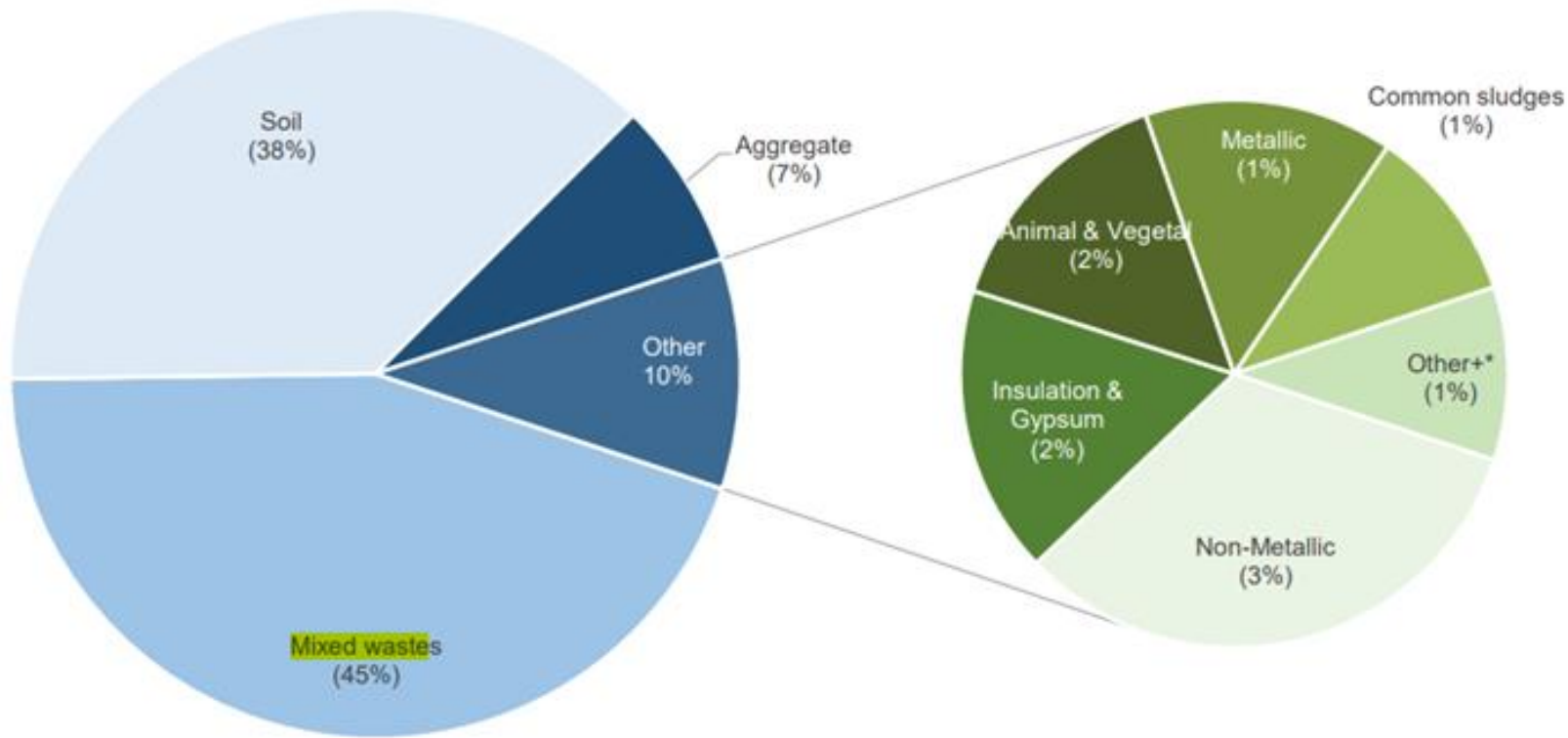
Figure 2: Total Construction and Demolition waste by Management Method, Wales 2019



*Other includes waste managed via Treatment, Backfilling, Composting, Other Recovery, Transfer Station and when management method was 'Don't Know'.

**Incineration includes both With and Without Energy Recovery.

Figure 12: Construction and Demolition waste by material stream, Wales 2019



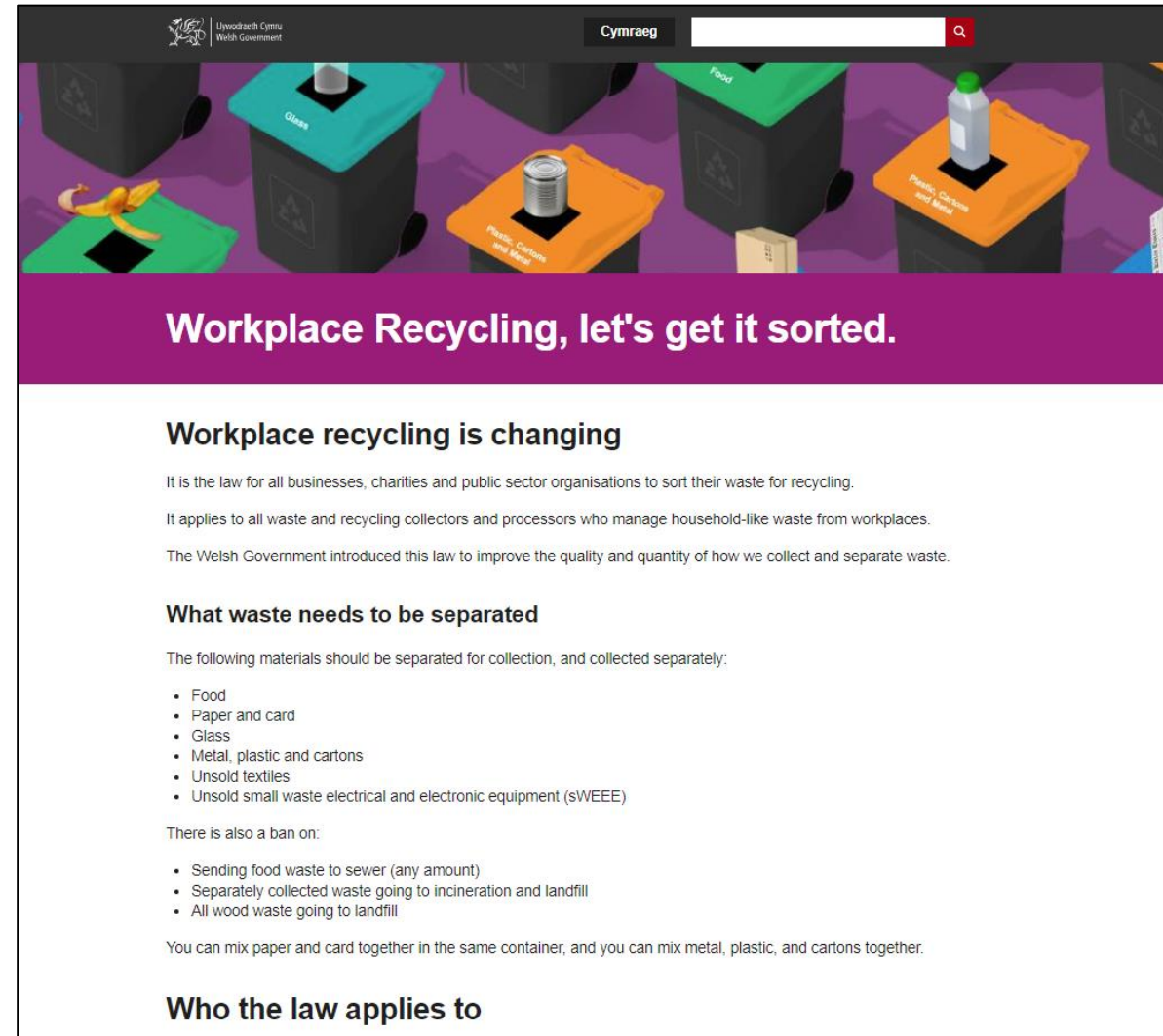
*Other+ includes Chemical wastes, Discarded Equipment and Other Mineral wastes.

Mixed waste was the most significant material stream in 2019, with an estimated 1.5 Mt generated across the sector, equivalent to 45% of total C&D waste, followed by Soil at 1.3 Mt (38%).

Support available

Welsh Government

- [Workplace recycling | GOV.WALES](#)
- Welsh Government webpage, includes a link to the Code of Practice
- General guidance on the changes
- There is a national media campaign promoting the new law



Workplace Recycling, let's get it sorted.

Workplace recycling is changing

It is the law for all businesses, charities and public sector organisations to sort their waste for recycling.

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

The Welsh Government introduced this law to improve the quality and quantity of how we collect and separate waste.

What waste needs to be separated

The following materials should be separated for collection, and collected separately:

- Food
- Paper and card
- Glass
- Metal, plastic and cartons
- Unsold textiles
- Unsold small waste electrical and electronic equipment (sWEEE)

There is also a ban on:

- Sending food waste to sewer (any amount)
- Separately collected waste going to incineration and landfill
- All wood waste going to landfill

You can mix paper and card together in the same container, and you can mix metal, plastic, and cartons together.

Who the law applies to

gov.wales/workplacerecycling



WG23-51



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Separate Collection of Waste Materials for Recycling

A Code of Practice for Wales



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



WRAP Cymru Support: Business of Recycling Wales website

busnesoailgylchu.wrapcymru.org.uk

businessofrecyclingwales.com

The screenshot shows the WRAP Cymru website homepage. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'Gwlad:' (Country) and links for 'England', 'Wales', and 'N.Ireland'. The main header features the WRAP logo and the text 'Y BUSNES O AILGYLCHU' and 'THE BUSINESS OF RECYCLING'. Below this, a large banner with a recycling bin background says 'AILGYLCHU YN Y GWEITHLE MAE'N BRYD I NI SORTIO HYN.' (Recycling in the workplace is what we need to sort this now). To the right of the banner, there are labels for 'Food', 'Plastic, Carton and Metal'. Below the banner, there's a section titled 'Adnodd dan sylw' (Key resource) with a document icon and the text 'Gweminarau i ddod: Cofleidiwch y newidiadau deddfwriaethol sydd ar y gorwel yng Nghymru' (Upcoming webinars: Note the legislative changes that are on the horizon in Wales). Below this, there's a section titled 'Bydd y Rheoliadau Ailgylchu yn y Gweithle newydd yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol i weithleoedd yng Nghymru wella'r ffordd y maent yn ailgylchu.' (The new Recycling Regulations in the workplace will make it necessary for workplaces in Wales to improve the way they recycle). At the bottom, there's a section titled 'Beth sy'n newid a pham' (What's changing and why) with a document icon and the text 'Mae'r cyfraith newydd yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol i holl weithleoedd, yn cynnwys busnesau, cyrff' (The new law makes it necessary for all workplaces, including businesses, public bodies).

The screenshot shows the WRAP Cymru website homepage in English. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'Country:' and links for 'England', 'Wales', and 'N.Ireland'. The main header features the WRAP logo and the text 'Y BUSNES O AILGYLCHU' and 'THE BUSINESS OF RECYCLING'. Below this, a large banner with a recycling bin background says 'WORKPLACE RECYCLING LET'S GET IT SORTED.' To the right of the banner, there are labels for 'Food', 'Plastic, Carton and Metal'. Below the banner, there's a section titled 'Featured resource' with a document icon and the text 'Webinars: Embrace the legislative changes in Wales'. Below this, there's a section titled 'The new Workplace Recycling Regulations require workplaces in Wales to improve the way they recycle.' At the bottom, there's a section titled 'What's changing and why' with a document icon and the text 'The new law requires all workplaces, including businesses, public bodies and the third sector, to separate these recyclable materials from their general waste.' At the bottom right, there's a collage of images showing various types of waste, including food leftovers, plastic bottles, and cardboard boxes.

WRAP Cymru Support

Sector specific guidance and support on how to comply with the regulations for the following sectors:

- Hospitality and food services
- Retail
- Small and medium size businesses (SMEs)
- Education settings and universities
- Residential settings
 - Residential Care Homes specific guidance
- Outdoor events (for example festivals)
- Entertainment and leisure facilities
 - Caravan, campsite and holiday parks specific guidance & communication resource

WRAP Cymru Support

Communication resources:

- Posters – A4, A5
- Potential for sector specific posters
- Bin stickers
- Material stream icons - including new stream
- User guide on how to make best use of the resources
- PowerPoint template to use in staff briefings
- Guides on how many bins you need

Any questions or suggestions please email:

WalesRecycles@wrap.org.uk

CymruYnAilgylchu@wrap.org.uk



How to implement the requirements

Waste review

Understand your waste and recycling

A waste review will identify what wastes are produced, in what quantities, and what recycling is already happening.

Areas generating waste include:

- **Kitchens, on-site cafés:**
 - **Food preparation areas** - food (spoilage and preparation waste), packaging such as metal, glass, cardboard, plastic films and wrapping
 - **Food consumption areas** - food (plate waste), packaging waste such as drinks cans, plastic and glass bottles, drinks cartons, cardboard, and paper
- **Staff room/mess room/office** - paper, food, and packaging materials
- **Sites** - packaging from items delivered to site, packaging brought onto site by staff

Waste prevention

Preventing how much waste you produce will help to save money

- Purchase recycled, refillable or reusable products wherever possible
- Provide water fountains for staff to use and avoid single use disposable alternatives
- Ask your suppliers to use returnable transit packaging that they collect from you when they next deliver
- Consider ways of going paperless
- Avoid over ordering supplies

Separate collections



Setting up a compliant recycling scheme

The responsibility to be compliant falls on the business owner

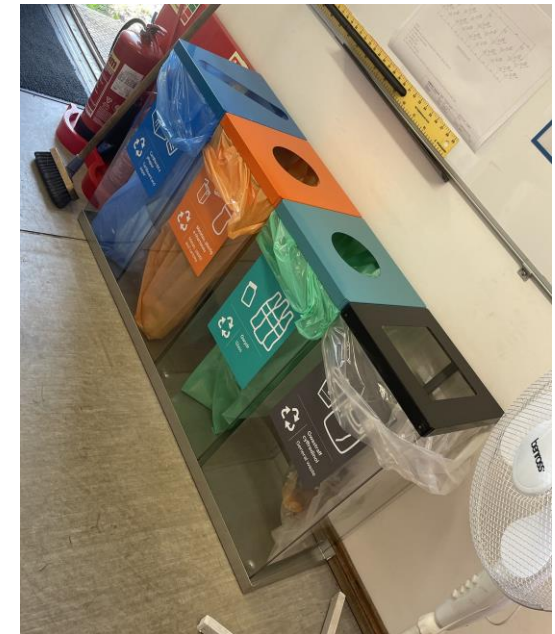
Consider the following:

- Whether having recycling collections on certain days of the week will help reduce build up wastes
- Maybe little and often works better for you
- Speak to your existing waste collector about your new recycling needs
- Get quotes from a range of collectors to get the best price and the most suitable service for you

Bins

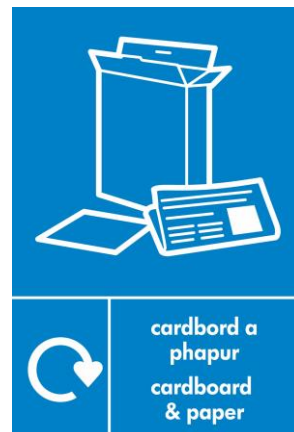
Any internal bins need to:

- Be safe and accessible for people, including users with disabilities, and your waste collector;
- Not cause obstructions, create a fire hazard or block escape routes;
- Provide sufficient capacity;
- Be close to where the waste and recycling is generated;
- Be tidy, clean, and free from clutter or loose waste; and
- Be secure and not allow waste or recycling to escape.

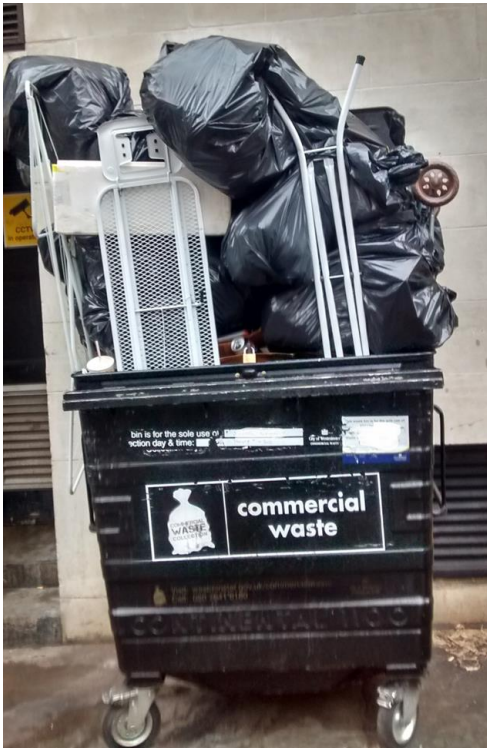


Bins

- **Clearly label all bins** to avoid confusion and make them easier for everyone to use.
- Make it easier for staff and customers to recycle than to put things in the general waste bin, by **placing a general waste bin alongside the recycling bins**
- Separate materials for recycling as **soon as they have been used**, rather than trying to separate them later.
- The recyclable materials must be presented for collection **separately from each other**.



Health & Safety



- Make sure your waste storage, and how you move it, minimises the risk of accidents.
- It is important that bins, and waste storage areas are the right size, easy to access, easy to move and do not block emergency exits.
- Check on any potential restrictions on waste containers left outside your premises as it is likely you will have more bins being collected.

For more information on Health & Safety and waste management

- Collecting waste and recyclables ([hse.gov.uk](https://www.hse.gov.uk))
- WISH Guidance – WISH ([wishforum.org.uk](https://www.wishforum.org.uk))

Staff training

- Ask for ideas on how a scheme may work or be improved
- Provide clear instructions on what they should do
- Provide training to permanent, seasonal and temporary workers
- Share information about recycling via regular communications
- Ask for feedback.

Myth Busting

<i>"Don't need to do anything, skips all gets sorted later for recycling"</i>	All obligated materials must be presented separately for collection. Co-mingling of these materials is no longer allowed
<i>"Only produce small quantities of waste"</i>	Still must be presented separately. Use smaller containers or bulk bags.
<i>"Not enough space for all the skips"</i>	You don't need a skip for every material stream. Skips to be used for bulky and high volume material, smaller bins or bulk bags for low volumes of material



Enforcement

- 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.

Enforcement



Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru
Natural Resources Wales

[Natural Resources Wales / Workplace Recycling – NRW approaches to regulating](#)

- NRW have 12 officers across Wales to help businesses and regulate the new requirements
- Their initial focus has been on ensuring businesses and waste collectors are aware of the new law
- Following the NRW regulatory principles, there is a focus on environmental outcomes
- The approach used is evidence and risk based
- If necessary, the full range of regulatory tools available will be used, including fines
- Occupiers of premises and sites are responsible and liable for the actions of their staff

Summary

- Law is now live
- Applies to all workplaces
- Requirement to separate for recycling
- No food waste to sewer
- Bans on certain waste streams going to incineration and landfill

**Any
questions?**



Thank you



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