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# RECYCLING & WASTE MANAGEMENT LEGISLATION GUIDE





# WALES

## SEPARATING WASTE MATERIALS FOR RECYCLING

This overview provides easy-to-read guidance to support your business with complying with the legal requirements of separating commercial waste materials prior to collection for recycling.

The link to the official document is included at the foot of the page and familiarisation with its contents is recommended.

### IMPORTANT PROCESS CONSIDERATIONS

- Commercial and municipal facilities such as businesses, public sector, and charitable organisations, must ensure they offer multi-stream recyclable waste at the point of collection for processing.
- The requirement to arrange waste into separate streams falls on those collecting or arranging the waste. In most cases, this is the business generating the waste, rather than the waste handling organisation.
- Once collected, multi-stream waste is kept separate in order to protect it from contamination so that that largest majority of it can be recycled.
- The earlier the multi-stream splitting of waste occurs in the process, the less need there is for work splitting waste at a facility, prior to collection for processing.



### SEPARATION REQUIREMENTS

In Wales, from 6<sup>th</sup> April 2024, new legislation will mean material that is prime for recycling must be separated prior to collection for processing off site and kept separate throughout waste processing activities.

There are six streams of recyclable waste defined within the new legislation which are referred to as a facility's "separation requirements".



**Food Waste** – for any facility creating more than 5KG of waste per week



**Paper & Card**



**Glass**



**Material Waste** – Metals, Plastics and other packaging of a similar composition



**Electronic Equipment**



**Unsold Textiles**

In addition to these requirements, commercial facilities are banned from disposing of food waste into the sewerage system and from allowing the specified waste streams going to incineration or to landfills.

The new legislation includes details on what organisations can expect to face as a result of non-compliance.

In relation to separation requirements, failure to comply can bring an unlimited fine and in place of prosecution, civil sanctions can be issued for failure to comply.

**THE REGULATOR FOR THE SEPARATION REQUIREMENTS IS NATURAL RESOURCES WALES.**

Full details of commercial requirements can be found in  
**["SEPARATE COLLECTION OF WASTE MATERIALS FOR RECYCLING – A CODE OF PRACTICE FOR WALES"](#)**

# ENGLAND SEPARATING WASTE MATERIALS FOR RECYCLING



This page provides an overview of the waste separation components of English legislation, what commercial requirements are included, and considerations businesses can make for optimal compliance. The full document can be reviewed from the link in the footer of this page and familiarisation with all relevant components is advised.

As in Wales, the English government imposes specific legislative requirements on commercial entities and the waste collected on, and transported from, their premises.

The principal piece of legislation that establishes the requirements for “recycling relevant waste” is the Environment Act 2021. Within the legislation, the government refers to the collection and processing of “recyclable relevant waste” defining this as being waste that falls within any of the recyclable waste streams and is of a description specified in the Secretary of State’s regulations.

## THE WASTE STREAMS THIS COVERS ARE AS FOLLOWS:



## WASTE COLLECTION SHOULD COVER:

Dry Mixed Recyclables | Food Waste  
Paper & Card | General Waste

## A NUMBER OF CONDITIONS ARE LAID OUT THAT COMMERCIAL ENTITIES NEED TO ADHERE TO IN ORDER TO BE COMPLIANT.

Firstly, recyclable relevant waste is to be collected separately from other waste. This means the isolation of waste streams to prevent the cross-contamination which can impede recycling efforts.

The second condition laid out in the legislation is that these recyclable relevant waste streams are to be collected for the intended purpose of recycling or composting.

Commercial facilities are required to split waste before collection for processing, and in order to do this without creating additional work processes within a facility, waste collection can be split at the point of user deposit within the facility. Front of house, this is the familiar recycling station, and back of house this can be dedicated waste streams, such as under counter containers.

The environmental legislation specifies that the person presenting relevant waste from a facility for collection and processing must present it in a separated way, in accordance with the arrangements detailed in the Environment Act 2021.

Where commercial organisations are found to be operating outside of regulations upon summary conviction or conviction on indictment, they are liable to receive a fine.

Full details of commercial requirements can be found in **“ENVIRONMENT ACT 2021”**  
Section 57 specifically deals with **MANAGING WASTE**

# RECYCLING PRODUCT SOLUTIONS

WE'RE COMMITTED TO MAKING PRODUCTS AS DURABLE AS POSSIBLE SO THAT THEY MEET THE LONG-TERM DEMANDS OF YOUR BUSINESS.



All of our waste and recycling containers are manufactured to stand the test of time and come with up to 10 year warranties to provide you with added peace of mind.

## WASTE DISPOSAL

Where waste is created, it must also be collected. Our product solutions help to centralise the accumulation of waste.

1

FRONT OF HOUSE



Slim Jim Recycling Station

Configure

### DECORATIVE RECYCLING

Modular, colour-coded solutions for collecting and recycling multiple waste streams at any facility.



Slim Jim Step-On

### STEP-ON CONTAINERS

Sealed lid containers that isolate germs and odours with risk-reducing foot operation to reduce contamination touchpoints.

2

BACK OF HOUSE



Slim Jim Vented

### SLIM JIM CONTAINERS

High capacity back-of-house containers that collect waste where it accumulates with a bag cinch system.



Brute

### WASTE STORAGE

Durable units designed to store waste from multiple points around a facility prior to being moved elsewhere.

3

WASTE MOVEMENT

## WASTE MANAGEMENT

Once waste has accumulated, it must be aggregated and moved to collection points ready to be taken off-site.

### HIGH CAPACITY TRUCKS

Large volume, mobile containers that move collected waste from back of house storage to collection points for off-site processing.



Mega Brute



Cube Truck



Tilt Truck

Find out how RCP can support you with  
your recycling and waste improvement efforts at  
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