

A GUIDE TO SIMPLER RECYCLING



For businesses, public sector organisation's and charities

WHAT IS SIMPLER RECYCLING ?

DEFRA's Simpler Recycling legislation has been introduced to address critical environmental issues which include:

- Improving Recycling Rates and move closer to the UK's target of recycling 65% of household waste by 2035.
- Simplify Waste Management by standardising recycling systems and materials across the country whether at home, in the workplace, or at schools.
- Cracking Down on Waste Crime which includes illegal dumping and improper disposal of waste.

The government is committed to moving towards a zero waste, circular economy:

The government are building a circular economy strategy and a series of sector based roadmaps for reform. This includes a long-term roadmap for the packaging sector.



Simpler Recycling in England will be an essential part of this mission. Alongside Extended Producer Responsibility for packaging and the Deposit Return Scheme for drinks containers, Simpler Recycling will make a significant step towards meeting their ambition to recycle 65% of municipal waste by 2035, and deliver greenhouse gas emissions savings equivalent to £11.8 billion.

This will improve recycling rates – household recycling rates in England have flatlined at around 44% to 45% since 2015. This policy will play a critical role in delivering emissions savings for the waste sector.

Simpler Recycling aims to ensure there is more recycled material in the products we buy, and that high quality recycled material can be sourced domestically, enabling packaging circularity in the UK. It will help to support more than £10 billion investment in the UK's recycling capability over the next decade.

WHAT IS THE TIMESCALE FOR SIMPLER RECYCLING IN ENGLAND ?



Phase 1 **31st March 2025**

From 31st March 2025, if you are a business with 10 or more full time employees (FTE's) Simpler Recycling Legislation states that you must have separate recycling collections, including a food waste collection service and present it in a manner that adheres to the new regulations.



Phase 2 **31st March 2026**

Local authorities will be required to collect the core recyclable waste streams from all households in England, including separate food waste collections (which can be combined with garden waste from households)



Phase 3 **31st March 2027**

Businesses with fewer than 10 FTE'S have until 31st March 2027 to comply,

The inclusion of plastic film and bags collections for businesses and households will be introduced.

Example:

- A business which has 12 sites with 1 FTE's at each site, must be ready by 31st March 2025
- A business which has 1 site with 10 FTE's, must be ready by 31st March 2025
- A business which has 3 sites with 3 FTE's at each site = 9 total FTE, must be ready by 31st March 2027

WHAT DOES SIMPLER RECYCLING MEAN FOR YOUR BUSINESS ?

- Evaluate current practices & identify area where improvements are needed to meet the new recycling requirements. This might include updating internal policies on waste management.
- Ensure you have the right containers & infrastructure in place to separate & store recyclable materials properly.
- Educate Employees to ensure they understand the rules and their role in ensuring compliance.

WHAT CAN CUMBRIA WASTE GROUP DO TO HELP YOUR BUSINESS ?

Cumbria Waste Group can provide flexible solutions to suit customer needs.

- We can audit your site and discuss your individual business needs in order to find solutions.
- We can provide containers to suit your infrastructure.
- We provide total waste management solutions and our expert team can advise and keep you up to date with changes to waste legislation, providing your business with peace of mind that you will be fully compliant.

WHAT ARE THE RECYCLABLE WASTE STREAMS?

There are six recyclable waste streams

Glass



- Glass packaging including bottles & jars

Food



- All food intended for human or household pet consumption
- Food waste from the processing or preparation of food, including inedible food parts such as bones, eggshells, fruit and vegetable skins, tea bags and coffee grounds

Metal



- Steel and aluminium tins and cans
- Steel and aluminum aerosols
- Steel and aluminium jars/bottle lids
- Aluminium foil
- Aluminium food trays
- Aluminium tubes

Plastic



- Plastic bottles made from polyethylene terephthalate (PET), polypropylene (PP), and high-density polyethylene (HDPE)
- Pots, tubs and trays made of PP
- Plastic packaging for food, drink and other liquids, including aseptic and chilled cartons

Paper & Cardboard



- All paper & card – except the following:
- paper or card containing glitter or foil
 - Laminated paper or card
 - Stickers or sticky paper
 - Padded lined envelopes
 - Paper & hardback books
 - Wallpaper

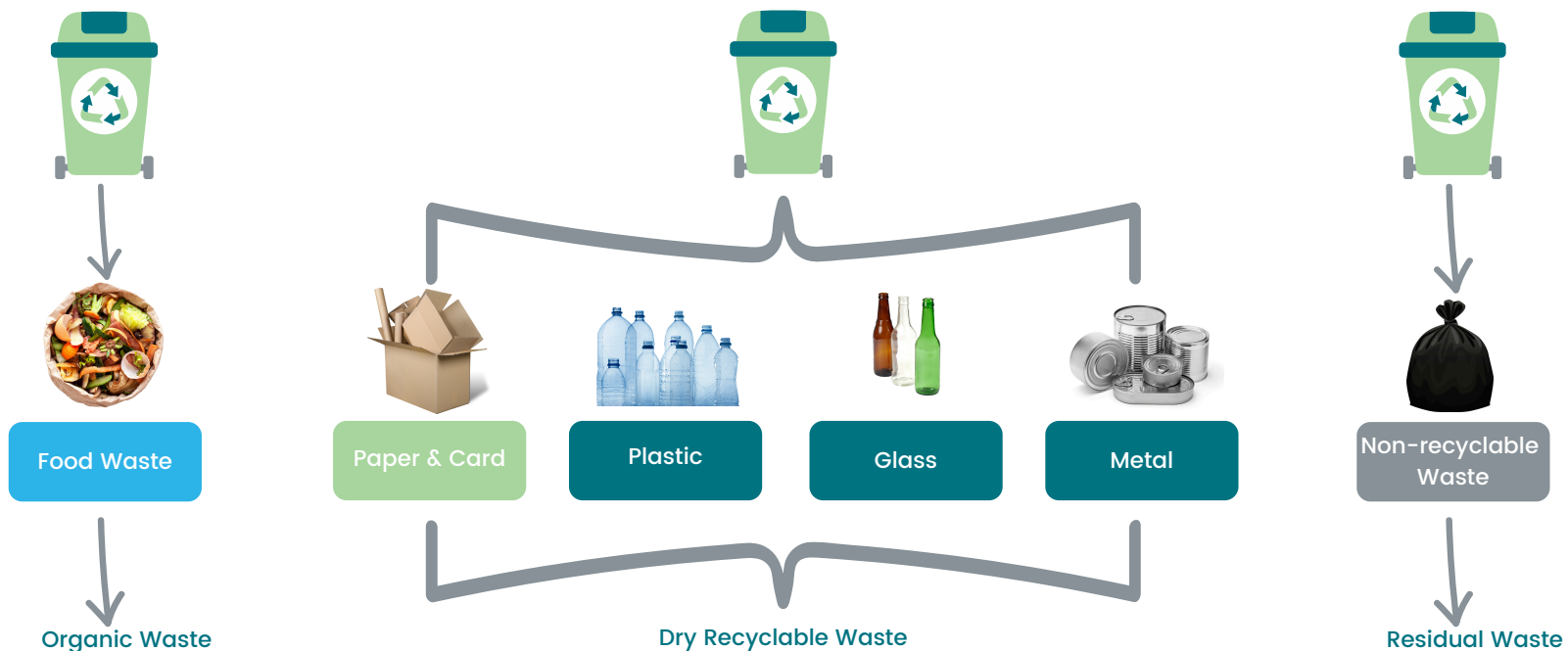
Plastic Film & Bags from 2027



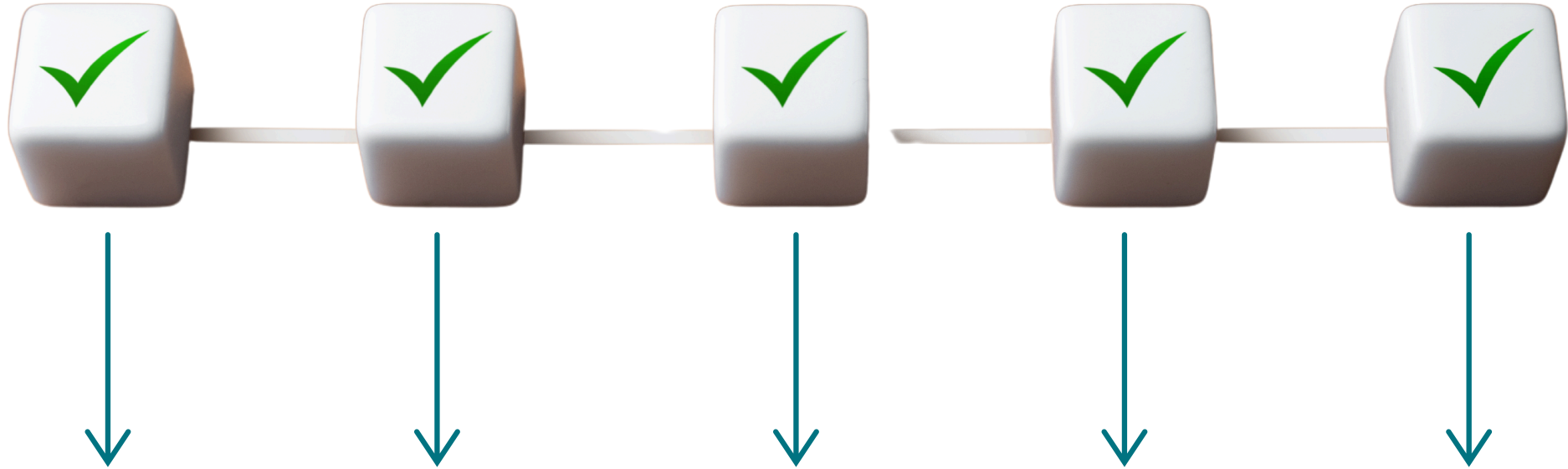
- Plastic film packaging and plastic bags made of mono-polyethylene (mono PP) and mixed polyolefins PE and PP

WHAT BINS DOES MY BUSINESS NEED?

- Under Simpler Recycling changes, all dry recyclables, such as plastic, metal and glass can be placed together in a single bin, and where appropriate can include paper & cardboard.
- By eliminating the need to separate materials into different containers it simplifies the recycling process and saves time.
- In addition, food waste will now be collected separately ensuring that organic material is disposed of in an environmentally friendly and efficient manner.



IMPLEMENTING SIMPLER RECYCLING



Understand your waste

- What type of waste do you produce?
- How much waste do you produce and over what period of time?
- Do you need more bins?
- What waste infrastructure do you already have in place?

Switch early

- Don't leave it too late to be compliant
- Speak to us soon to ensure your service is in place before the end of March
- Avoid fines

Check your internal waste arrangements

- Make sure your internal bins are labelled clearly and match those outside.
- Ensure they are in the most appropriate locations

Brief your team

- Clear signage on or above bins
- Check waste policies are up to date, and in line with Simpler Recycling.
- Ensure everyone who interacts with your waste are briefed on your waste policy, e.g cleaners.

Measure your success

- By separating your waste, more of it can be recycled. This can be measured through the reports provided by our team.
- Share your success and environmental impact with your team.

FAQ'S



What bins as a minimum do I need under Simpler Recycling Regulations?

You will need the following as a minimum, but Cumbria Waste will work with you to understand what is best for your individual business needs:

- Food Waste bin
- Recycling bin (DMR – Dry Mixed Recycling)
- Residual Waste bin



What happens if I do not have enough room for a minimum of 3 bins?

We have multiple bin/container sizes available and can flex collection schedules to suit your needs.



What are the minimum collection frequencies?

There are no minimum collection frequencies under Simpler Recycling.



What happens if I don't follow Simpler Recycling Regulations?

1. The waste producer or waste collector would be identified as non-compliant.
2. The Environment Agency (EA) would advise and provide guidance.
3. If the advice or guidance is ignored, a compliance notice would be served by the EA.
4. If the compliance notice is ignored then the EA can take action according to their enforcement and sanction policy.



Do I have to follow these Regulations?

It is the waste producers responsibility to present their waste, and the waste collectors responsibility to collect the the waste in accordance with Simpler Recycling.



If all the recyclables go in one bin, how do I know they will be separated out?

Cumbria Waste have invested millions of pounds in innovative technology to ensure we capture, separate and recover as much recycle as possible.



Will it be more expensive to have multiple bins?

Cumbria Waste provide competitive pricing, we will look at your current waste provision and frequency to see where efficiencies can be made.

Our video in the QR code gives you a glimpse of the journey of your waste once it arrives on our site.

