



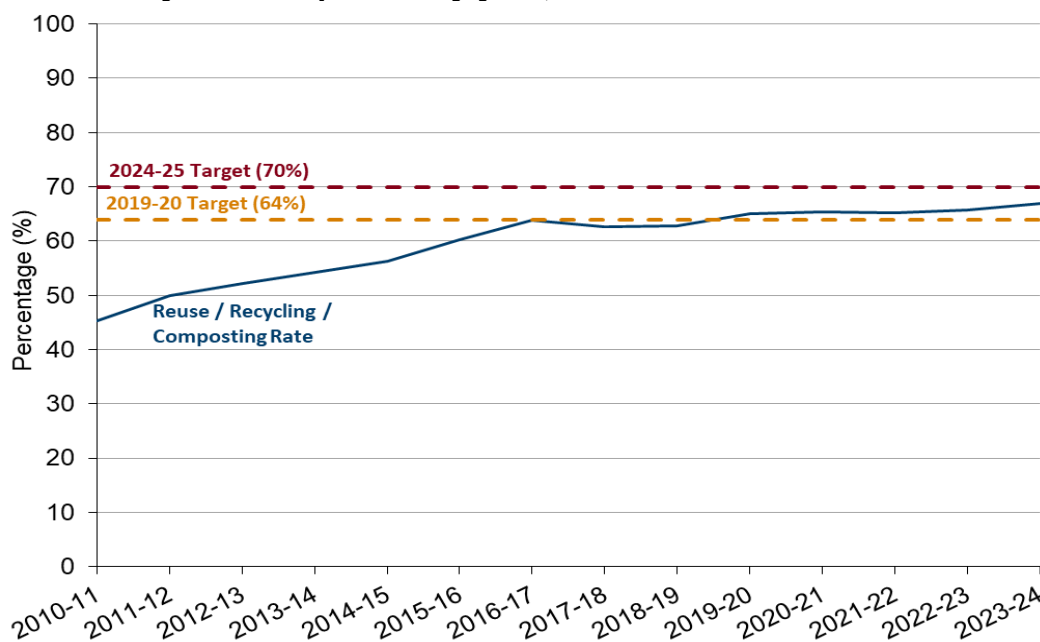
## Local authority municipal waste management, April 2023 to March 2024

31 October 2024  
SFR 100/2024

This annual statistical release reports on the municipal waste management of local authorities in Wales in 2023-24. In its current waste strategy '[Beyond Recycling](#)' (2021), the Welsh Government set statutory targets of recycling a minimum of 64% of waste by 2019-20, and 70% of waste by 2024-25. '[Beyond Recycling](#)' (2021), also includes other targets including one to reduce the total amount of household waste collected by 2050.

[Please see StatsWales for additional data at a national and local authority level.](#) A [Quality Report](#) is published alongside this document.

**Figure 1: Percentage of local authority municipal waste reused/recycled/composted by year, 2010-11 to 2023-24**



Description of Figure 1: A line chart to show the percentage of local authority municipal waste reused/recycled/composted between 2012-13 and 2023-24 for Wales as a whole. The chart shows that the recycling rate has generally increased since 2010-11. The Wales average meets the annual target for 2019-20 to 2024-25.

Source: WasteDataFlow

### About this Release

This annual Statistical release presents final results for 2023-24 from the Waste Data Flow system monitored by Natural Resources Wales. The release presents information on local authority municipal waste collected and sent for disposal from household and non-household sources.

We welcome feedback on the format of this Statistical First Release (please see [Further Details](#)).

### In this release

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## Main points

The recycling rate (i.e. the percentage of local authority municipal waste that was reused, recycled or composted) has increased considerably during the last two decades (from around 5% in the late 1990s).

The recycling rate (percentage of local authority municipal waste that was reused/recycled/composted) increased from 65.7% in 2022-23 to 66.6% in 2023-24. This Wales figure exceeds the 2019-20 target of 64% set in the '[Beyond Recycling](#)' (2021) Strategy, which must be met by all local authorities each year until 2024-25.

- 18 of the 22 local authorities hit or exceeded the 64% target.
- 15 of the 22 local authorities reported an increase in their recycling rate compared to 2022-23.
- 1.4 million tonnes of local authority municipal waste were generated in 2023-24. This is a slight increase (0.6%) on 2022-23, however, a decrease of 7% on 2021-22 and the second lowest recorded since 2001-02.
- Residual household waste per person decreased by 2.1%, falling from 172kg in 2022-23 to 168kg in 2023-24.

## Impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic had an impact on the collection and management of Welsh local authority municipal waste during 2020-21 and 2021-22.

During this period, the difference in how local authorities have been able to recover from the pandemic and the rate at which they have been able to do this varies. This should be taken into account when comparing the data with pre-pandemic periods, and between local authorities. It can be useful to recent results with 2018-19, as the last full pre-pandemic year to help give a fuller picture.

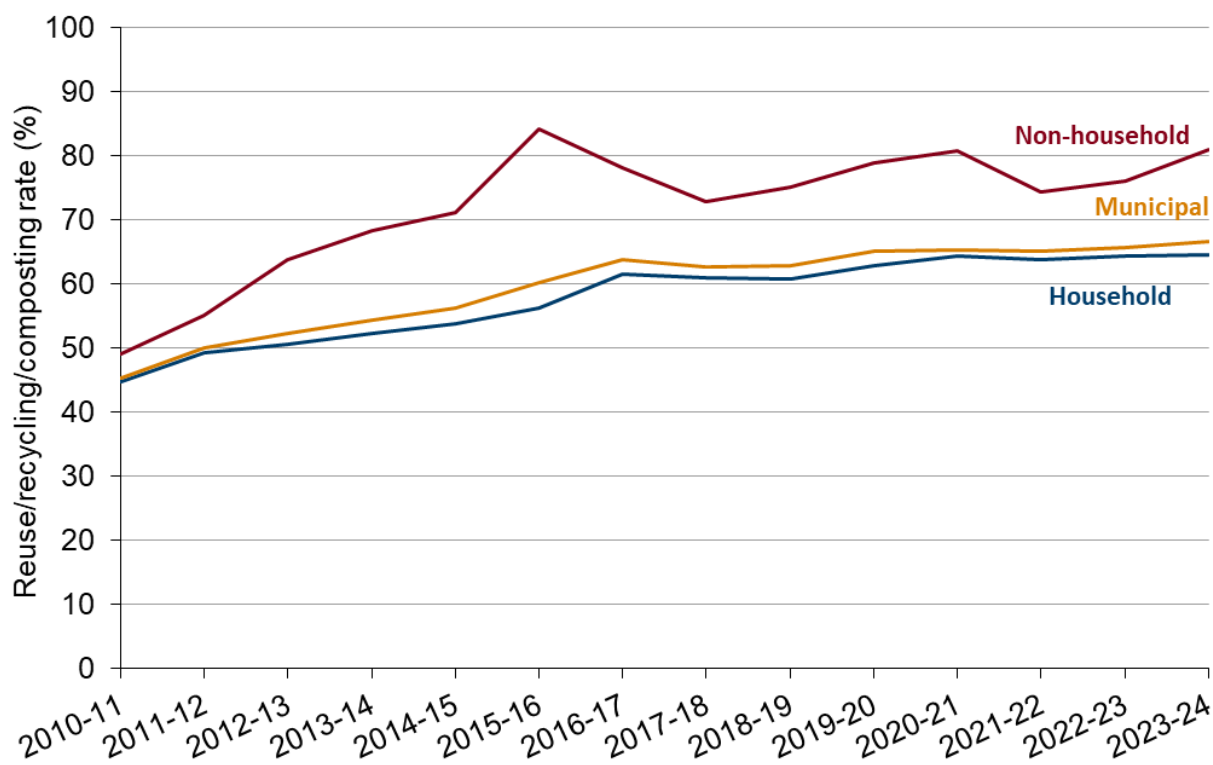
[Information on COVID-19 restriction is available in this timeline.](#)

## Local authority municipal (household and non-household) that was reused/recycled/composted

The headline recycling rate is defined as: the amount of local authority municipal waste (excluding abandoned vehicles) that was sent for reuse, recycling or composting divided by the total amount of waste in tonnes collected by or on behalf of local authorities. It includes both household and non-household waste. More information about recycling rates can be found on the [My Recycling Wales](#) website.

The overall recycling rate for Wales increased from 65.7% in 2022-23 to 66.6% in 2023-24.

**Figure 2: Percentage of local authority municipal waste prepared for reuse, recycling or composting in Wales, 2010-11 to 2023-24**



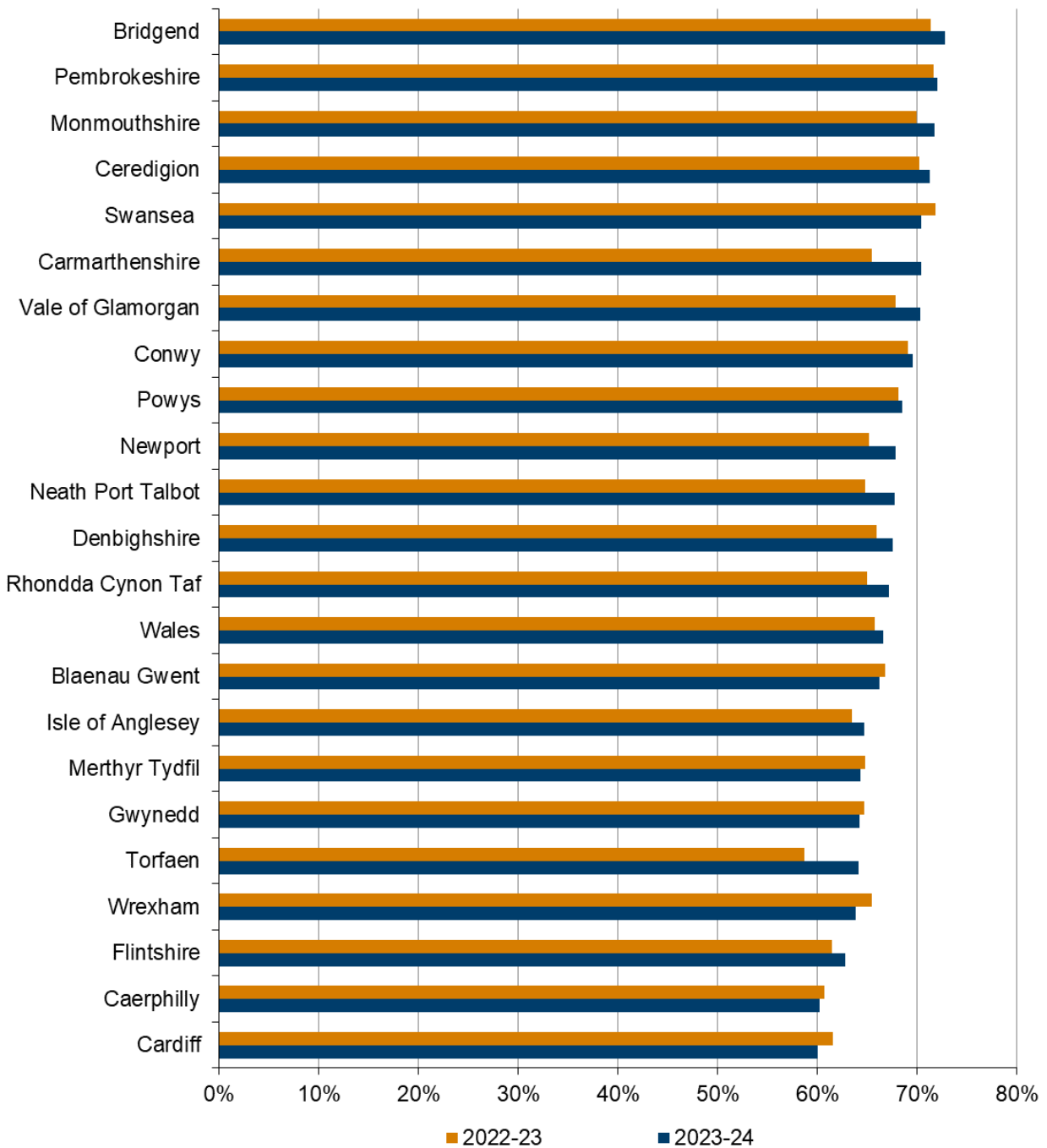
Description of Figure 2: A line chart to show the percentage of local authority municipal waste prepared for reuse, recycling or composting in Wales between 2010-11 and 2022-23. The chart shows that, generally, both household and non-household recycling rates have increased.

Source: WasteDataFlow

### Main points

- The household recycling rate increased from 64.3% in 2022-23 to 64.6% in 2023-24.
- In the same period, the non-household recycling rate increased by 4.9 percentage points to 80.9%.
- Household waste accounts for the majority of all municipal waste collected (87%), and therefore changes in household recycling rates have a greater impact on the overall recycling rate than the non-household recycling rate.

**Figure 3: Combined local authority municipal waste reuse/recycling/composting rates, by local authority, 2022-23 and 2023-24 [Note 1]**



Description of Figure 3: A comparative bar chart to show the combined local authority municipal waste reuse/recycling/composting rates by local authority for the years 2022-23 and 2023-24. The chart shows that 15 local authorities reported an increase in recycling rates compared to 2022-23.

Source: WasteDataFlow

[Note 1] Local Authorities are listed in order of municipal waste reuse/recycling/composting rates based on 2023-24 figures.

## Main points

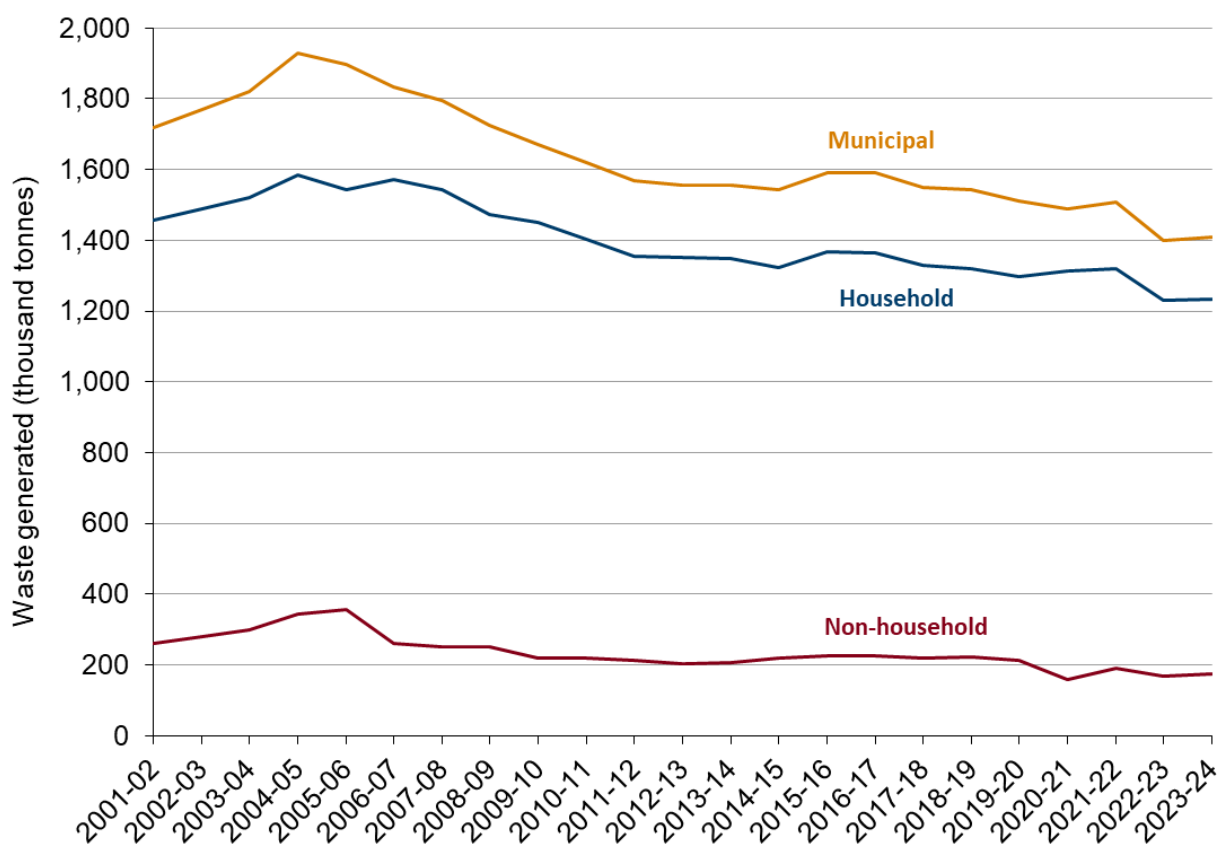
- 15 of the 22 local authorities reported an increase in their recycling rate compared to 2022-23 (Figure 3).
- Recycling rates across the local authorities varied from 60.1% in Cardiff to 72.8% in Bridgend.
- Under the [‘Beyond Recycling’ \(2021\)](#) strategy, recycling rate target for 2019-20 (64%) must be met by each local authority every year until the target increases to 70% (2024-25 onwards).
- 18 of the 22 local authorities met the statutory target of recycling at least 64% in 2023-24. The four that did not meet the target were: Cardiff, Caerphilly, Flintshire and Wrexham.
- Cardiff, Caerphilly and Flintshire also did not reach the target in 2022-23. Torfaen and Isle of Anglesey fell below the target in 2022-23 but have now exceeded it.
- 6 of the 22 local authorities have already met the 2024-25 statutory target of 70%: Bridgend, Pembrokeshire, Ceredigion, Swansea, Carmarthenshire and Vale of Glamorgan.

## Waste generated (collected)

'Waste generated (collected)' is defined as waste collected directly, or from sites, by local authorities. There are sometimes differences in the amount of waste generated and the amount of waste sent for disposal by a local authority. This is due to stockpiling of waste collected in a previous year, delays in reporting across periods, inconsistencies in measurement as waste is weighed when it is collected and again when it is sent for treatment, and loss in weight through various treatment processes.

In general, the total amount of local authority municipal waste generated has gradually decreased in Wales since the early 2000's (with some fluctuation in recent years).

**Figure 4: Total local authority municipal waste generated in Wales (thousand tonnes), 2001-02 to 2023-24**



Description of Figure 4: A line chart to show the total local authority municipal waste generated in Wales in thousands of tonnes between 2001-02 and 2023-24. The chart shows that there has generally been a decrease in waste generated and that a larger proportion of all municipal waste is generated from household waste.

Source: WasteDataFlow

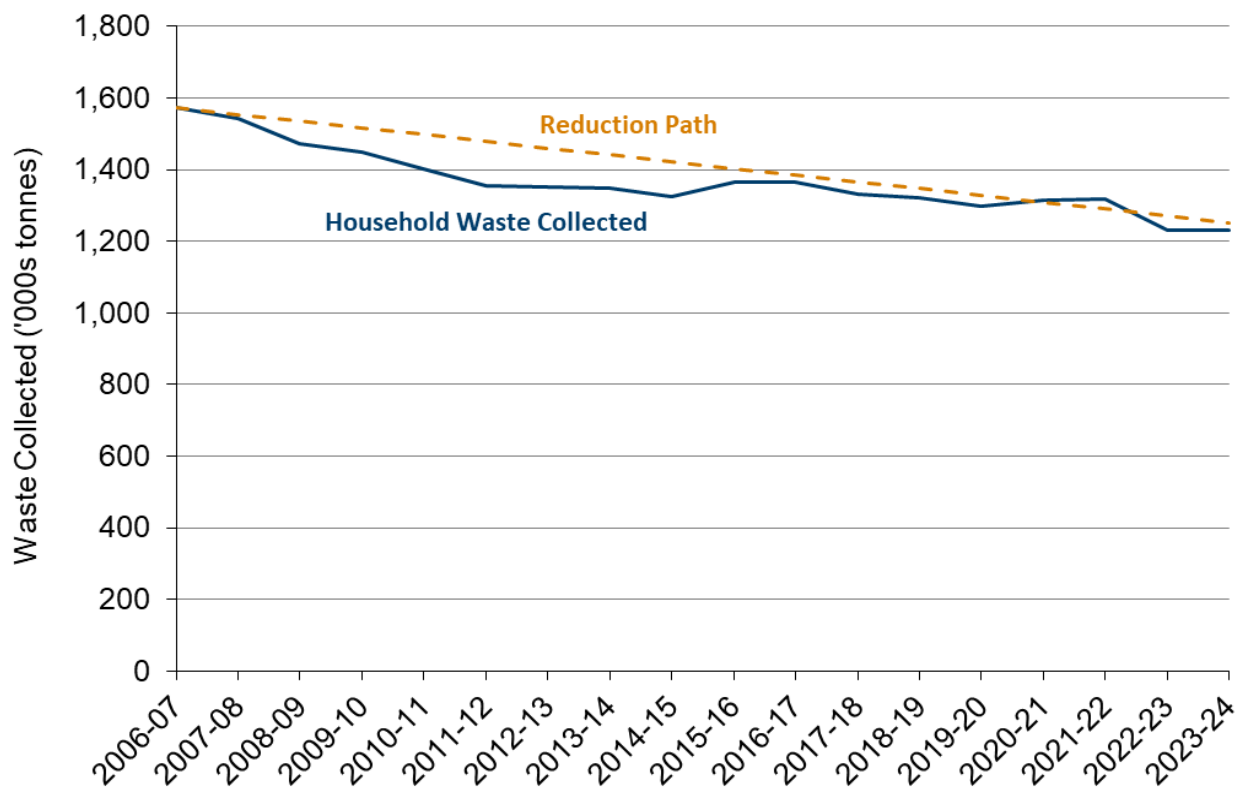
## Main points

- 1,409 thousand tonnes of municipal waste was generated in Wales in 2023-24. This is the second lowest total recorded since 2001-02, with the lowest being 1,400 tonnes in 2022-23. Household waste has decreased more in this period than non-household waste, accounting for 72% of the total decrease.
- Since 2001-02, municipal waste has decreased by 309 thousand tonnes, from 1,718 thousand tonnes to 1,409 thousand tonnes in 2023-24. This is an 18.0% decrease.
- Over the past year, the total amount of local authority municipal waste generated in Wales increased by 9 thousand tonnes, from 1,400 thousand tonnes in 2022-23 to 1,409 thousand tonnes in 2023-24 (Figure 4). This equates to a 0.6% increase.
- Between 2022-23 and 2023-24, the volume of household waste generated in Wales increased by 0.1% as well as the volume of non-household waste increasing by 4.6%.
- The fall between 2021-22 and 2022-23 is partially caused by readjustments following COVID-19 restrictions being eased, however it is still a significant fall from pre-pandemic levels.

During 2023-24, Natural Resources Wales increased validation of LA reported household and non-household splits of waste collected. This has helped to improve the accuracy of the estimated split for 2023-24. However, this needs to be taken into consideration when comparing to the splits from previous years.

As part of the '[Beyond Recycling](#)' (2021), strategy a target was introduced to reduce the total amount of household waste collected to 761 thousand tonnes by 2050. A reduction path was implemented from 2006-07 to reduce household waste by 18 thousand tonnes each year, starting in 2006-07 at 1,572 thousand tonnes, in order to reach the target. [Figure 5](#) shows the actual amount of household waste collected compared to the reduction path.

**Figure 5: Household waste collected in Wales from 2006-07 to 2023-24 (thousand tonnes) compared to the reduction path from 2006-07**



Description of Figure 5: Household waste collected in Wales from 2006-07 to 2021-22 in thousand tonnes compared to the reduction path of a 1.2% decrease in household waste collection from 2006-07. The chart shows that the amount of household waste collected has decreased with a similar trend to the reduction path, however in recent years the amount of household waste collected has stayed at a similar rate rather than decreasing.

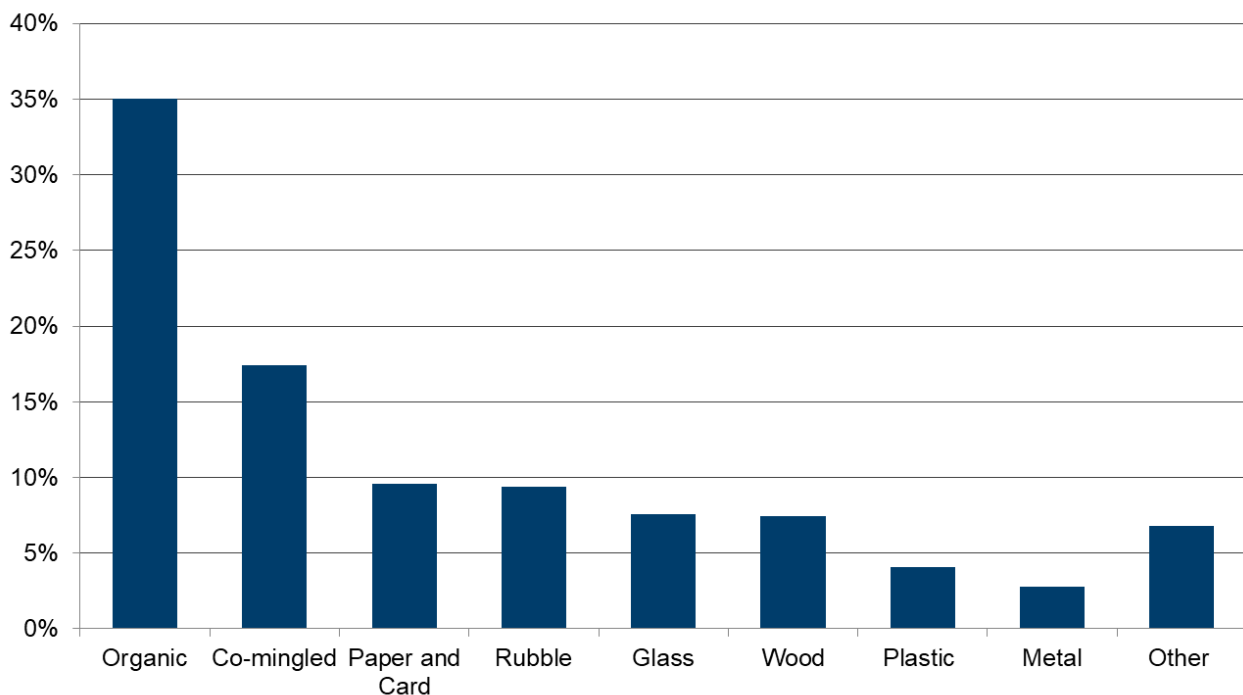
Source: WasteDataFlow

**Main points**

- The amount of household waste collected gradually decreased between 2006-07 and 2023-24, from 1,572 thousand tonnes to 1,232 thousand tonnes, before increasing slightly (0.1%) in 2022-23.
- The reduction in waste collected can be seen to generally follow the reduction path.
- Initially, the reduction in household waste was slightly larger than the steady decrease of the reduction path, peaking in 2011-12 when the amount of waste collected was 7.8 percentage points lower than the reduction path. In 2023-24, the amount of waste collected was 1.6% lower than the reduction path.



**Figure 6: Waste collected for reuse/recycling/composting in Wales by material, 2023-24 (%)**



Description of Figure 6: A bar chart to show the waste collected for reuse/recycling/composting in Wales by material for the year 2023-24.

Source: WasteDataFlow

### Main points

- The material distribution this year is very similar to last year, with only minor changes for some materials.
- Just over a third of all material collected for reuse/recycling/composting in 2023-24 was 'Organic' material (35.0%). Organic waste includes food, green (garden) and other compostable waste.
- 'Co-mingled' materials accounted for 17.4% of all waste collected of reuse/recycling/composting.
- Just 6.9% of waste collected for reuse/recycling/composting was classified as 'Plastic' or 'Metal'. 'Metal' and 'Plastic' make up the lowest identified material collected for reuse/recycling/composting.
- Plastic, metals, paper and glass are co-collected by some local authorities, and therefore are included in the 'co-mingled' category in [Figure 6](#).

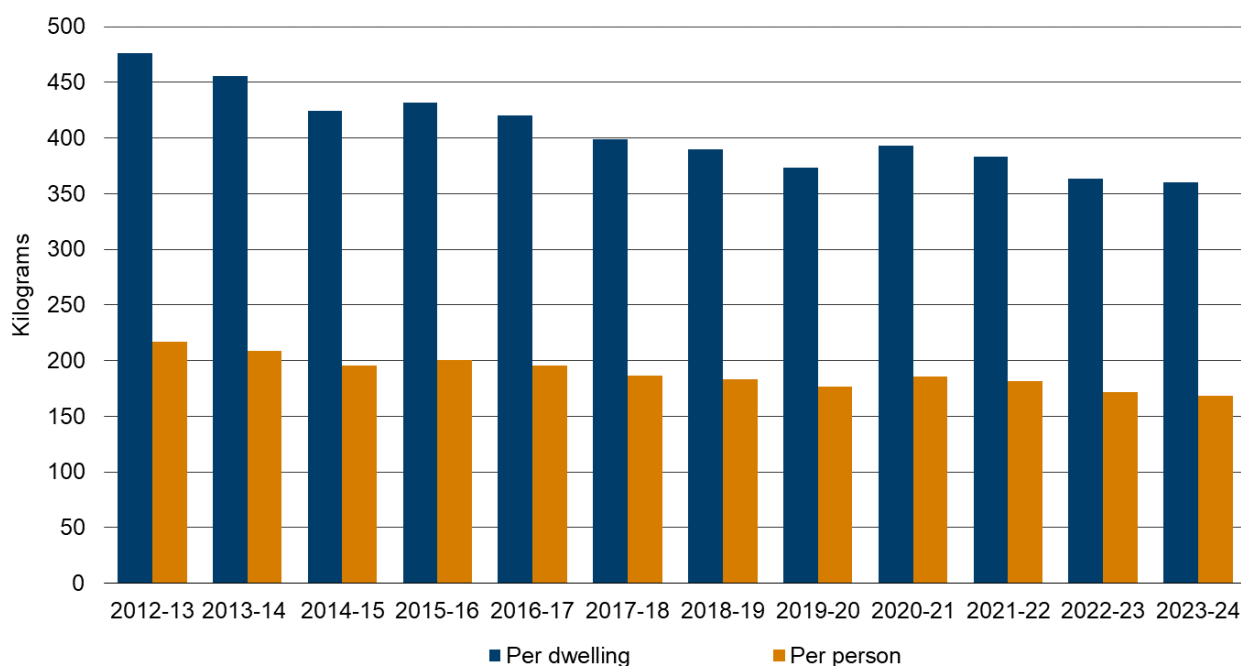
## Residual household waste

'Residual household waste' is waste generated that is not included in separate recycling or composting collection rounds. That is, household waste that is not prepared for reuse, recycling or composting. The amount of residual household waste per person forms one component of the Wellbeing of Future generation's indicator on waste (see [Related statistics](#) section).

[Residual household waste per dwelling is calculated using dwelling stock estimates obtained from StatsWales.](#)

[Residual household waste per person is calculated using population estimates obtained from the Office for National Statistics \(ONS\).](#)

**Figure 7: Residual household waste in Wales (Kilograms), 2012-13 to 2023-24 [Note 1]**



Description of Figure 7: A bar chart to show the residual household waste per person and per dwelling in Wales in Kilograms between 2012-13 and 2023-24. The chart shows that there has been a decrease in waste produced per person and per dwelling.

Source: WasteDataFlow, Welsh Government and ONS

### Main points

- Residual household waste per person decreased by 2.1%, falling from 172kg in 2022-23 to 168kg in 2023-24.
- Residual household waste per dwelling also decreased by 1.1%, falling from 364kg in 2022-23 to 360kg in 2023-24.

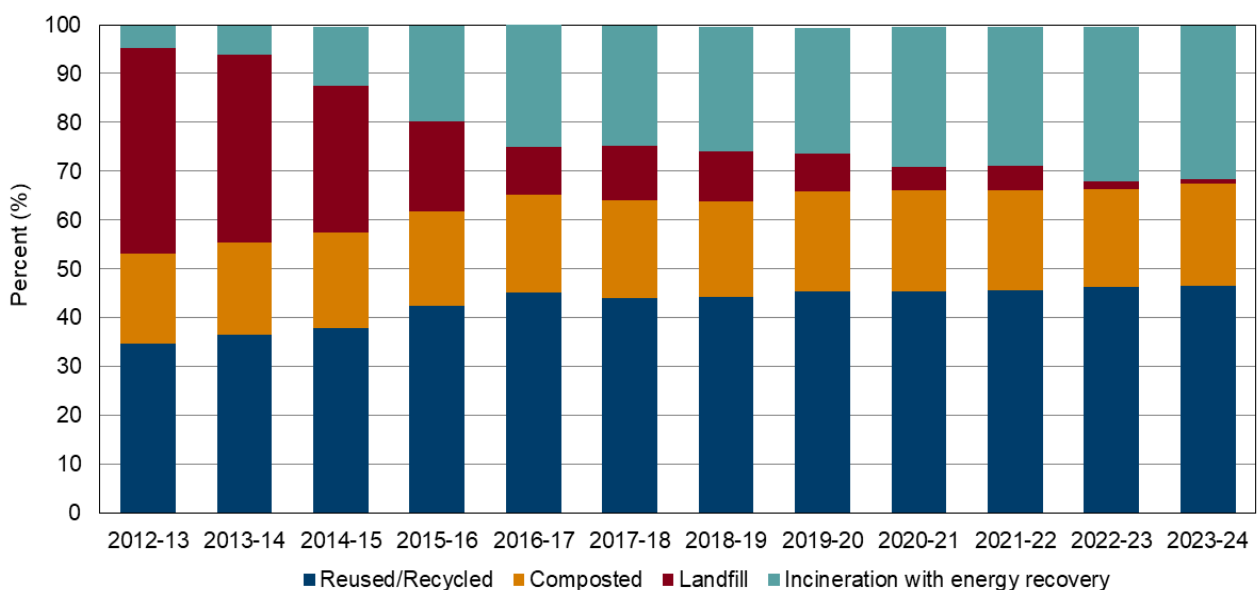
## Waste management (sent)

'Waste management' data is based on the amount of waste sent for disposal/treatment, rather than the amount of waste generated (collected) by local authorities. The treatment of waste can consist of physical, thermal, chemical or biological processes, including sorting, that change the characteristics of the waste in order to reduce its volume or hazardous nature, facilitate its handling or enhance recovery.

There are sometimes differences in the amount of waste generated and the amount of waste sent for disposal by a local authority. This is due to stockpiling of waste collected in a previous year, delays in reporting across periods, inconsistencies in measurement as waste is weighed when it is collected and again when it is sent for treatment, and loss in weight through various treatment processes.

Note that the figures for incineration are based on the net tonnages rather than the gross total sent for incineration. The net figures subtract the amount of residual ash used for recycling. See glossary for more detail.

**Figure 8: Waste sent for disposal/treatment by management method (%), 2012-13 to 2023-24 [Note 1]**



Description of Figure 8: A stacked bar chart to show the waste sent for disposal/treatment by management method as percentages between 2012-13 and 2023-24. The chart shows that the percentage of waste disposed at landfill sites has decreased whilst there has been a significant increase in waste disposed of through incineration. The percentage of waste being reused/recycled/composted has also increased substantially over the period.

Source: WasteDataFlow

[Note 1] Figure 8 is a summary of all waste managed during the period. It uses the total waste managed as a denominator as opposed to the total waste generated, therefore recycling and

landfill percentages are not directly comparable to national performance and local authority strategic indicators.

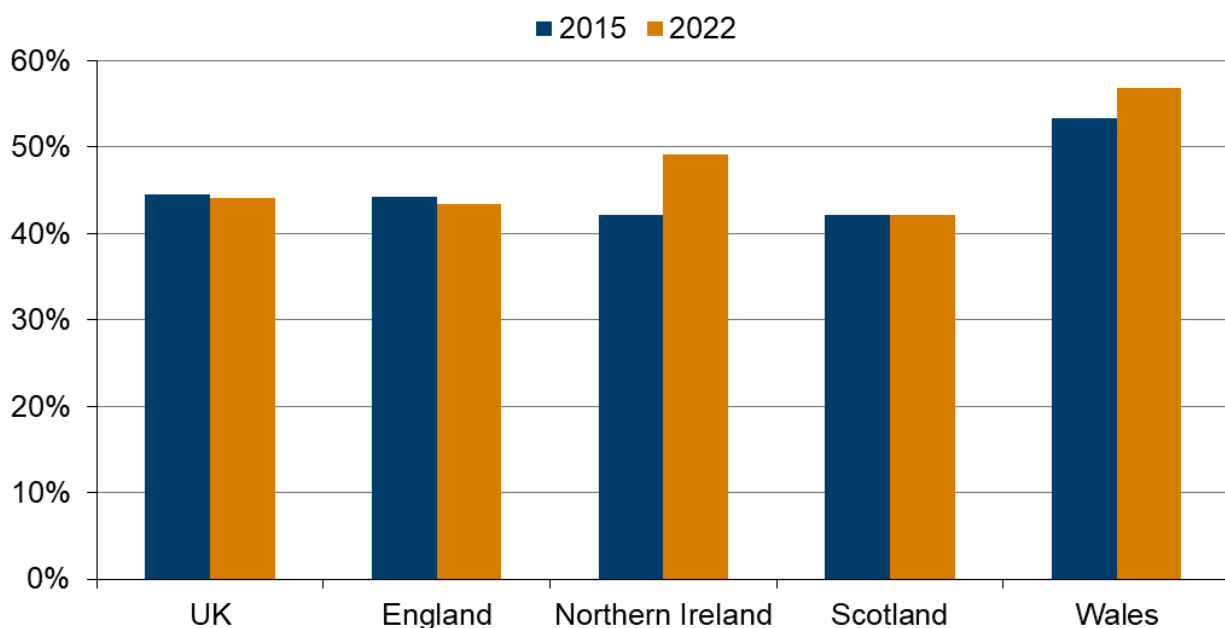
## Main points

- Between 2012-13 and 2023-24, the amount of waste sent for disposal/treatment has declined by 9%. However, there have been some considerable changes in management method.
- There has been a significant decrease in the proportion of waste disposed of via landfill (falling from 42.0% in 2012-13 to 0.9% in 2023-24).
- In contrast, there has been a substantial increase in the proportion of waste disposed of via incineration with energy recovery (rising from 4.7% in 2012-13 to 31.3% in 2023-24). The percentage of waste disposed of via incineration slightly decreased by 0.3 percentage points compared to last year.
- Of all waste sent for disposal/treatment in 2023-24, a total of 938 thousand tonnes were reused/recycled/composted. There has been no change to the amount of waste reused-recycled compared to last year, remaining at 46.4%.

## Related statistics

1. UK Data: Municipal waste management statistics are also published for other parts of the UK. [The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs publish an annual UK Statistics on Waste data set](#), which includes a 'Waste from households' recycling rate for each UK country. This is based on a methodology that is as consistent as possible across the UK, but differs slightly from the Wales household recycling rate appearing earlier in this release. Latest data shows that the Waste from households recycling rate for Wales is considerably higher than for the other UK countries.

**Figure 10: Recycling rate by UK country, 2015 and 2022 (%) [Note 1]**



Description of Figure 10: A bar chart to show the recycling rate by UK country as a percentage of household waste generated in 2015 and 2022.

Source: The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

[Note 1] The most recent data on household recycling rates by UK country is from 2022. In addition, the earliest data on the recycling rate of each UK country is from 2015, which is why comparisons are made between 2015 and 2022.

## Main points

- Wales is the only country in the UK with a household recycling rate higher than 50%.
- The household recycling rate in Wales has increased from 53.3% in 2015 to 56.9% in 2022.
- In England the household recycling rate decreased between 2015 and 2022, going from 44.3% to 43.4%. The household recycling rate in Scotland has remained the same between 2015 and 2022 at 42.1%.
- Northern Ireland saw the largest increase in household recycling rate, with it going from 42.1% in 2015 to 49.2% in 2022.

Waste collection and disposal are large devolved matters so there are difference in both policy and operation within the UK. The four countries have put together a document to show the similarities and differences within the UK to help reach consistent UK statistics: [Local Authority Waste Statistics – Recycling Measures](#).

2. Wellbeing of Future Generations: One of the national indicators relates to waste '[Amount of waste generated that is not recycled, per person](#)'. This is defined as the total amount (kg) of residual waste (i.e. waste that is not collected for reuse, recycling or composting) in Wales, by all sectors, on a per person basis. This indicator is calculated from three separate elements – Household waste, Construction & Demolition (C&D) Waste and Industrial & Commercial (I&C) Waste. Whilst the household element is updated quarterly, the latest [Construction & Demolition \(Natural Resources Wales\)](#) and [Industrial & Commercial \(Natural Resources Wales\)](#) data relate to 2019 and 2018 respectively. The amount of waste generated that was not recycled, per person in 2012 was 523kg. Of the total 1,650 thousand tonnes of waste not recycled, 545 thousand was from household waste, 138 thousand from Construction and Demolition waste and 966 thousand from Industrial and Commercial waste.
3. Landfill Allowances Scheme: [Natural Resources Wales published an annual report on the Landfill Allowances Scheme up until 2019-20](#). The purpose of the scheme is to ensure diversion of biodegradable municipal waste (BMW) from landfill. Welsh Government sets limits on the amount of BMW waste that local authorities in Wales can landfill.
4. [Local Authority Recorded Fly Tipping](#): A summary of fly-tipping incidents, enforcement actions and prosecution outcomes is published annually by the Welsh Government.



## Quality information

Detailed Quality Information, including the context of the release, its uses, strengths and limitations, data processing cycle and administrative data quality assurance information are available in the accompanying [Quality Report](#).

## Official statistics status

All official statistics should show the standards of the [Code of Practice for Statistics \(UK Statistics Authority\)](#).

These are accredited official statistics. They were independently reviewed by the Office for Statistics Regulation (OSR) in October 2020. They comply with the standards of trustworthiness, quality and value in the Code of Practice for Statistics.

It is Welsh Government's responsibility to maintain compliance with the standards expected of accreditation. If we become concerned about whether these statistics are still meeting the appropriate standards, we will discuss any concerns with OSR promptly. Accreditation can be cancelled or suspended at any point when the highest standards are not maintained, and reinstated when standards are restored.

Accredited official statistics are called National Statistics in the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007.

## Statement of compliance with the Code of Practice for Statistics

Our statistical practice is regulated by the OSR. OSR sets the standards of trustworthiness, quality and value in the Code of Practice for Statistics that all producers of official statistics should adhere to.

All of our statistics are produced and published in accordance with a number of statements and protocols to enhance trustworthiness, quality and value. These are set out in the Welsh Government's [Statement of Compliance](#).

These [accredited official statistics \(OSR\)](#) demonstrate the standards expected around trustworthiness, quality and public value in the following ways.

### Trustworthiness

Under regulation 6 of the Landfill Allowances Scheme (Wales) Regulations 2004 (LAS Regulations) and regulation 5 of The Recycling, Preparation for Re-use and Composting Targets (Monitoring and Penalties) (Wales) Regulations 2011, local authorities in Wales are required to report quarterly information on collected municipal waste; the amount of municipal waste sent to landfills and the amount of municipal waste sent to other facilities. This information is submitted by local authorities via WasteDataFlow. The monitoring authority (Natural Resources Wales) is then responsible for validation of this information.



## Quality

The monitoring authority (Natural Resources Wales) is responsible for the validation of waste data submitted to Waste Data Flow by local authorities. Reporting requirements are detailed in the Natural Resources Wales reporting protocol published on WasteDataFlow. The validation involves a procedure of checking that all relevant WasteDataFlow questions have been completed by the local authorities and any discrepancies in calculations between entered inputs and outputs are identified. Any anomalies are then communicated to the individual local authorities and remedial action is taken to resolve them. NRW also request local authorities to provide evidence in relation to their reported recycling data, which is an ongoing process during each validation quarter and throughout the scheme year.

The statistical release is then drafted by WG statisticians, signed off by senior statisticians and published in line with the [Code of Practice for Statistics \(UK Statistics Authority\)](#).

## Value

The purpose of the statistical release is to provide evidence for policy development; to allow local authorities to monitor and benchmark their service provision against all other local authorities in Wales; and to inform for the wider public about waste statistics across Wales. The statistical release also contributes towards the monitoring of the Welsh Government's waste strategy 'Beyond Recycling' (2021),

The release is as timely as possible whilst maintaining reliability, with annual data published around 7 months after the end of the end of the reference period.

You are welcome to contact us directly with any comments about how we meet these standards. Alternatively, you can contact OSR by emailing [regulation@statistics.gov.uk](mailto:regulation@statistics.gov.uk) or via the OSR website.

## Well-being of Future Generations Act (WFG)

The Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015 is about improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of Wales. The Act puts in place seven wellbeing goals for Wales. These are for a more equal, prosperous, resilient, healthier and globally responsible Wales, with cohesive communities and a vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language. Under section (10)(1) of the Act, the Welsh Ministers must (a) publish indicators ("national indicators") that must be applied for the purpose of measuring progress towards the achievement of the wellbeing goals, and (b) lay a copy of the national indicators before Senedd Cymru. Under section 10(8) of the Well-being of Future Generations Act, where the Welsh Ministers revise the national indicators, they must as soon as reasonably practicable (a) publish the indicators as revised and (b) lay a copy of them before the Senedd. These national indicators were laid before the Senedd in 2021. The indicators laid on 14 December 2021 replace the set laid on 16 March 2016 and this release includes 1 of the national indicators namely 'Amount of waste generated that is not recycled, per person'. This indicator covers the total amount (kg) of residual waste (i.e. waste that is not reused, recycled or composted) in Wales by all sectors, on a per person basis. Information included within

this release is used to calculate the 'Local Authority residual household waste' component of the national indicator. Information on waste from the industrial and commercial sector and the construction and demolition sector are not reported in this statistical release.

Information on the indicators, along with narratives for each of the wellbeing goals and associated technical information is available in the [Wellbeing of Wales report](#).

As a national indicator under the Act they must be referred to in the analyses of local well-being produced by public services boards when they are analysing the state of economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being in their areas.

The Act states national milestones must be set that "...the Welsh Ministers consider would assist in measuring whether progress is being made towards the achievement of the well-being goals." In doing so Welsh Ministers must specify how we know that a national milestone has been achieved and the time by which it is to be achieved.

National milestones are not performance targets for any individual organisation, but are collective measures of success for Wales.

Further information on the [Well-being of Future Generations \(Wales\) Act 2015](#).

The statistics included in this release could also provide supporting narrative to the national indicators and be used by public services boards in relation to their local wellbeing assessments and local wellbeing plans.

## Further details

The document is available here: <https://gov.wales/local-authority-municipal-waste-management>.

## Useful links

Current Welsh Government waste strategy "[Beyond Recycling' \(2021\)](#),"

Recycling in Wales '[My Recycling Wales website](#)'.

More general information can be found on the [Natural Resources Wales website](#).

## Next update

Local Authority Municipal Waste, 2024-25 – due to be published October 2025

## We want your feedback

We welcome any feedback on any aspect of these statistics which can be provided by email to [stats.environment@gov.wales](mailto:stats.environment@gov.wales).

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## **Glossary**

### **Co-mingled**

Recyclate consisting of different types of recyclable materials that are mixed together or unsorted such as paper, metal, plastic and glass.

### **Composting**

An aerobic, biological process in which organic wastes, such as garden and kitchen waste, are converted into a stable granular material which can be applied to land to improve soil structure and increase the nutrient content of the soil.

### **Compost-like output**

When mixed municipal solid waste is biologically treated in Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT) plants, the output is known as a 'compost-like-output'.

### **Dry recycling**

The recycling of dry materials, such as paper, card, cans, plastic bottles, mixed plastic and glass.

### **Household waste**

Materials collected directly from households (kerbside collections), taken to bring sites (including civic amenity sites) or collected by private and voluntary organisations not included elsewhere.

### **Incineration**

Incineration in this release is the net loss of LA collected municipal waste and is calculated by deducting any recovered outputs from total waste inputs to incineration. For example, where any incinerator bottom ash and incinerator metals are subsequently sent for recycling, these tonnages are deducted from incineration inputs to avoid double counting with Local Authority Recycling tonnages in the waste management table. This means that the total tonnages of local authority waste sent for incineration are higher than those displayed in the table, typically in the region of 25% more.

### **Incinerator bottom ash**

The ash that is left over at the bottom of an incinerator after waste is burnt.

### **Landfill sites**

Any areas of land in which waste is deposited are termed landfill sites. They are often located in disused mines or quarries. In areas where these are limited or no ready-made voids exist, the practice of landraising is sometimes carried out; waste is deposited above ground and the landscape is contoured.

### **Local authority municipal waste**

Household and non-household waste that is collected and disposed of by local authorities. It includes regular household collections, specific recycling collections, special collections of bulky items, waste received at civic amenity sites and waste collected from non-household sources (e.g.

rubble, incinerator residues, matter from beach cleansing and plasterboard). Local authority municipal waste excludes abandoned vehicles.

### **Non-household municipal waste**

All waste collected by an authority or its contractors, other than wastes within Schedule 1 and 2 of the Controlled waste Regulations 1992. This includes any other wastes collected by an authority, such as municipal parks and gardens waste, industrial or commercial waste and waste resulting from the clearance of fly-tipped materials.

### **Organic**

Organic waste includes food, green (garden) and other compostable waste.

### **Preparation for re-use**

Local authority municipal waste is prepared for re-use for the purpose of the targets when:

- (a) a waste product or component of a waste product has undergone a checking, cleaning or repairing recovery operation; and
- (b) the waste product or component of a waste product can be re-used for its original purpose.

### **Recycling**

Any recovery operation by which waste materials are reprocessed into products, materials or substances, whether for the original or other purposes. It does not include energy recovery and the reprocessing into materials that are used as fuels of backfilling operations.

### **Residual waste**

Waste that is not prepared for reuse, recycling or composting.

### **Reuse**

The use of household waste removed from the local authority collected municipal waste stream (e.g. furniture from households, including that collected on behalf of a local authority by third parties) for its original or a different purpose, without processing or treatment in a waste recovery operation, other than one which has the purpose of repairing or refurbishing the household waste.

### **Reuse/recycling/composting rate (statutory target definition)**

Percentage of local authority municipal waste generated that is recycled, reused or composted, calculated at time of distribution to landfill or recycling/composting contractors. This is, therefore, based on the amount of waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting, rather than collected for the purpose of being reused, recycled or composted.

### **Treatment**

Physical, thermal, chemical or biological processes, including sorting, that change the characteristics of the waste in order to reduce its volume or hazardous nature, facilitate its handling or enhance recovery.