

# The Journey of Waste & Recycling in the Scottish Borders





- What happens to the waste & recycling that you put in your bin's?
- Why its important to recycle?
- How we can all play our part?

# Some Rubbish Facts!



The UK produces 100+ million tonnes of waste each year!

The average UK family throws away 6 trees worth of paper each year.

The average household also throws away between £250 - £400 of edible foods every year.

# Waste Collection Services

Scottish Borders Council provides:

- Domestic kerbside collection service to all households (58,000)
- A food waste collection service to 24,000 households (Galashiels Inc. Tweedbank, Hawick, Jedburgh, Peebles, Selkirk)
- Trade recycling service to businesses / schools
- 7 community recycling centres
- 3 waste transfer stations & 3 reuse cabins



# Why do we need to recycle?

Use less of our planets valuable resources.

Reduce the need for new resources.

Reduce rather than replacing.

Reduces our pollution levels and the amount of energy needed to create new products.



# What can we recycle?

Aerosol cans - including nozzle

Aluminium foil, foil trays - clean and food free

Food and drinks cans, food and drink cartons

Cardboard & Paper boxes, cardboard boxes- cereal boxes, ready meal sleeves, magazines, newspapers, brochures

Plastics - carrier bags (no black bags), clean plastic food trays (no black trays), margarine tubs and yogurt pots, film and wrappers, plastic bottles (all types)

For more info go to [www.scotborders.gov.uk/recycling](http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/recycling)



# Recycling Points- Glass & Textiles

There are 73 locations of bottle banks across the area and textile banks

The locations of the recycling points can be found on the council's website



# Glass & Textile Recycling

Textiles are taken to Falkirk and sorted.

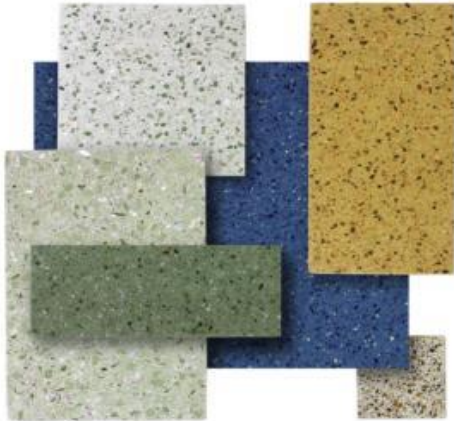
Materials don't have to be in perfect condition, there is still use for old, ripped items!

The contents of bottle banks are collected and taken for recycling.

The glass is crushed down then impurities and other materials are removed. The ground glass is called cullet.



# Recycled products



# Right bin, Right Stuff



Unnecessary waste is caused by placing rubbish in the wrong bin

If we don't do this it can cause contamination which means:

- Materials are not treated in the right way
- Increase in costs for the council & residents
- It can hurt the environment

**Do your bit, play your part and put  
the right stuff in the right bin!**

# Right Bin, Right Stuff!

## General Waste Bin "Do's and Don'ts!"

Do bag loose ash or vacuum dust and tie!

Do wrap up any sharp items placed in the bin to avoid injuring yourself or our crew!

Don't hazardous materials into the general waste



# Right Bin, Right Stuff!

## Recycling Bin "Do's and Don'ts!"

Do remove food residue from recyclable packaging

Do Wash & Squash Plastic Bottles

Do keep cardboard dry before collection

Don't put used tissues or paper towels in the recycling

Don't put glass or textiles in the recycling bin use the recycling collection points



**No Glass**

# The Cost of Plastic Pollution

**500 YEARS**  
FOR PLASTIC TO DEGRADE



**15,000**

**BOTTLES ARE THROWN  
IN EVERY MINUTE**



**2/3 SEA BIRDS**  
IN UK AFFECTED



**MARINE SPECIES**  
ARE AFFECTED FOR PLASTIC  
POLLUTION

# The cost of plastic pollution on nature

When plastic's are not disposed of responsibly it has a damaging and long lasting effect on animals and the natural environment!

We all have a responsibility to protect our wildlife and reduce our impact on them!



# SBC - Playing Our Part

- Individual office bins removed from each desk
- Shared recycling bins
- Purchasing review to make sure we are using products from sustainable sources where possible
- Running events to promote recycling and waste reduction
- PR campaigns



# SBC playing our part in schools

What has been achieved so far school catering ...

- Packed lunches are now available using re-usable plates & cutlery
- Packaging review - workshop supplier event
- Removed the use of plastic straws & plastic bags have been replaced with paper bags
- Peebles High School work to help become "plastic free"
- There is still a long way to go, are you playing #yourpart?



PLASTIC STRAWS



PLASTIC CUPS



PLASTIC BOTTLES



PLASTIC BAGS

# How can you play your part?

Follow the "3 R's" of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!

Avoid/reduce using "single use plastics" where possible!

Sort materials so the right stuff goes in the right bins to avoid contamination! At schools and at home ... get your family involved .. Teach them!

**REUSE**  
**REDUCE**  
**RECYCLE**



# Reduce where you can

Making shopping lists before you go to the supermarket

Buy products with less packaging

Compost any food waste

Avoid single use plastics e.g. use recyclable straws at home

Buy used or second items instead of new!



# Re-use & Recycle where you can

Take your own 'bags for life' when shopping

Donate to charity shops, re-use organisations or take to a re-use cabin

Be creative and repurpose!

Take glass bottles/containers to bottle banks

Take old or unwanted textiles to clothes banks



# How to contact us

0300 100 1800

E-mail the team

[Reducereuserecycle@scotborders.gov.uk](mailto:Reducereuserecycle@scotborders.gov.uk)

Visit the website

[www.scotborders.gov.uk/recycling](http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/recycling)