



# Let's be clear about recycling

Your guide to using your new recycling bags

Love the streets you live in



THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF  
KENSINGTON  
AND CHELSEA

# Your recycling bags are now clear

Unfortunately a few people are putting food waste, garden waste, clothing, electrical items and even dirty nappies in recycling bags. This means extra cost to Council Tax payers.

We are therefore switching to clear bags to encourage people to recycle responsibly and allow residents and recycling collectors to spot items that cannot be recycled.

The Council has to pay seven times as much for a contaminated load of recycling as it does for a clean load. In addition, if the contamination spreads throughout the whole load then absolutely nothing can be recycled. What a waste!

Recycling bags are for recycling only. They **must not** be used in place of black bags for general refuse.

You will continue to get a pack of recycling bags every three months. If you need more before your next delivery you can still obtain them from the following outlets:

- Chelsea Town Hall reception desk, King's Road, SW3
- Town Hall reception desk, Hornton Street, W8
- Market office, 72 Tavistock Road, W11
- Holland Park reception office, Stable Yard, Holland Park, W8

Please remember you will need to present the voucher delivered with your bags. This is to ensure that bags aren't taken by people who aren't entitled to them or misuse them.



**Let's be clear – recycling bags  
are for recycling only.**

# Why recycle?

**Recycling** is an easy way for us all to make a real difference to the environment. By choosing to recycle you are giving all of the items below a chance to be remade into something new, instead of being wasted.

# ✓ Yes please

We only want these **clean and dry** items in your recycling bag. Rinse any item that has contained food or drink and flatten cardboard, cartons and plastic bottles. Please do not recycle lids as they reduce the quality of the end product.

  <p><b>paper</b></p>	  <p><b>glass containers</b></p>	  <p><b>cartons</b></p>
<p>✓ card ✓ cardboard ✓ paper</p>	<p>✓ glass bottles ✓ jars</p>	<p>✓ cartons ✓ Tetra Pak</p>

  <p><b>metal containers</b></p>	  <p><b>plastic containers</b></p>
<p>✓ tins ✓ cans ✓ aerosols</p>	<p>✓ plastic bottles ✓ tubs and trays ✓ pots</p>

# X No thanks

Do not put any of these items in your recycling bag:



No food waste



No garden waste



No clothes, shoes or textiles



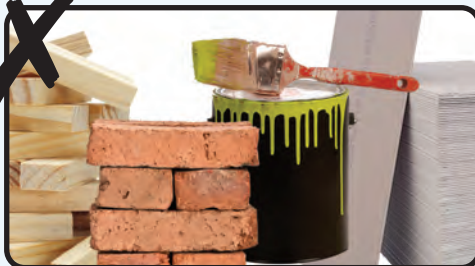
No mixed plastics/polystyrene or cling film



No nappies (including used nappies)



No foil



No wood and building/DIY material

Loads containing these items will have to be incinerated along with ordinary refuse and will cost the Council seven times as much. What a waste of resources and money!

**IF IN DOUBT, LEAVE IT OUT**

For more info please visit:

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

or call **Streetline 0207 361 3001.**

# How to recycle

Your recycling is collected at the same time as your general refuse – the recycling bag goes in a separate recycling compartment on the collection vehicle. If your property has a refuse storage area then you must use it and not the pavement. Only if you do not have a storage area can you put your refuse and recycling on the pavement – outside your own property **before 7am** on the morning of collection; not the night before.

To find out your collection days please call Streetline on 020 7361 3001.

## What happens to my recycling?

Your recyclable material goes to a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in Wandsworth where it is sorted into different material types. The materials are then bulked up onto pallets and most are sent to locations in the UK for reprocessing into recycled goods. Some materials are exported because of a shortage of processing need in the UK. These exports are strictly controlled by law and audited by the environment agency.

- **Paper and cardboard** – sent to various mills in Kent, the North West of England, Europe and China and recycled into office paper, newspaper, books and magazines. Cardboard is usually made into new boxes/packaging but can also be used for other purposes, such as animal bedding.
- **Glass bottles and jars** – mostly sent to a London-based aggregates company where they are washed, crushed and turned into a fine material like sand – this can be used for building or can undergo further treatment to become suitable for floor / wall insulation or lightweight construction aggregate.
- **Plastic items** – currently reprocessed in the UK and made into new bottles, bags, car parts and garden furniture.
- **Cans and aerosols** – sent to a reprocessing plant in the North West of England and recycled into a variety of products including new cans, bicycle frames, pipes and train tracks.
- **Food and drink cartons** – currently included with paper and cardboard. If the amount collected increases then they may have to be exported to Finland or Italy – the only places with mills specially designed for this material. Can be recycled into a number of products, from plasterboard liner to high strength paper bags and envelopes.

# Additional Services

## TRAID textile collections

Working in partnership with TR Aid (the textile recycling charity), the Council runs a scheme to recycle unwanted clothes, shoes and accessories.

Residents can arrange for collections by contacting TR Aid directly on **020 8733 258**, by email at **recycling@traid.org.uk** or via the online booking form at **www.rbkc.gov.uk/traid**

### Important – please:

- tie shoes in pairs
- ensure you have at least one bin liner's worth of clothing to make the collection worthwhile
- make sure shoes, clothing and accessories are clean and in good condition.

All profits raised from the scheme will go towards TR Aid's projects, fighting global poverty overseas and providing environmental education in the UK. For more information about the organisation visit **www.traid.org.uk**

## WEEE Banks

WEEE banks (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment) make it easier for residents to recycle small electrical items. There are six located at mini-recycling centres around the borough (see locations below) and residents can deposit small electrical items such as mobile phones, kitchen appliances, radios and electric toothbrushes in WEEE banks, but **not** larger items such as big televisions, fridges or freezers.

Residents can also take their WEEE to Smugglers Way Reuse and Recycling Centre, Wandsworth SW18 1JS for recycling.

For more information visit **www.wrwa.gov.uk**

### WEEE bank locations:

- Denyer Street Depot (off Draycott Avenue), SW3
- Tavistock Depot, Portobello Road (50 yards south of the Westway), W11
- Redcliffe Square, SW10
- Thurloe Square, SW7
- Co-op supermarket, King's Road (corner with Edith Grove), SW10
- Holland Park car park, Abbotsbury Road, W14

**Please do not put textiles or electrical items in your recycling bag or mixed recycling bank.**