



Resource London

Cost of contamination toolkit

**APSE Refuse and street cleansing
advisory group meeting**

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Resource London

Partnership between LWARB and WRAP

By 2020, London will have more harmonised, consistent and efficient waste and recycling services that will:

- Reduce the city's waste footprint and reinvigorate recycling to make a significant contribution towards the Mayor's ambition for London to achieve 65% recycling by 2030; and
- make a significant contribution towards England achieving its 50% household waste recycling target in 2020.

What is the Cost of Contamination toolkit?

- **Free online toolkit to help measure the true cost of contamination**
- **Measures reactive costs incurred by authorities, including:**
 - Gate fees
 - Staffing
 - Communications
 - Extra contractor fees
- **Purpose is to:**
 - Calculate the true cost of contamination in the recycling stream
 - Provide officers with evidence to secure internal resources and funding to help tackle the issue
 - Provide in-depth service information for reporting to members

Why was it developed?

- Contamination in recycling is a big issue for London boroughs
- Financial and performance implications for authorities
- Research (e.g. borough visits, LROG workshop) showed authorities did not appreciate the true cost of contamination
- Inconsistent approach to measuring the cost to the authority



How was the toolkit developed?

- Resource London and LEDNET commissioned Anthesis (a specialist sustainability consultancy) to develop the toolkit
- The structure and functionality of the toolkit was informed by discussions with Resource London, a working group (including local authority representatives, LARAC, WRAP and the ESA)
- 5 boroughs trialled the toolkit – testing different collection methodologies

London Environment Directors' Network
LEDNET

 **LARAC** | Local Authority Recycling
Advisory Committee

wrap

 **esa** | environmental
services
association

 **Anthesis**

 Resource London

The toolkit – live demo

The toolkit is hosted on the Resource London website

<http://resourcelondon.org/resources/toolkits/cost-contamination-toolkit/>



Welcome

Welcome to Resource London's cost of contamination toolkit for local authorities. Please be aware that macros must be enabled for the toolkit to work correctly.

The toolkit allows local authorities to **estimate the costs** that they incur from **current actions** to reduce contamination in their household dry recycling stream. The scope of the tool covers the recycling supply chain stages shown below, including activities directed at residents, undertaken by collection crews and during bulking and treatment of recycling.

The recycling supply chain:



There are six sections in the toolkit and there is a brief description of each on the right of this page. The user **navigates the toolkit** by clicking on the green buttons at the top of each page.

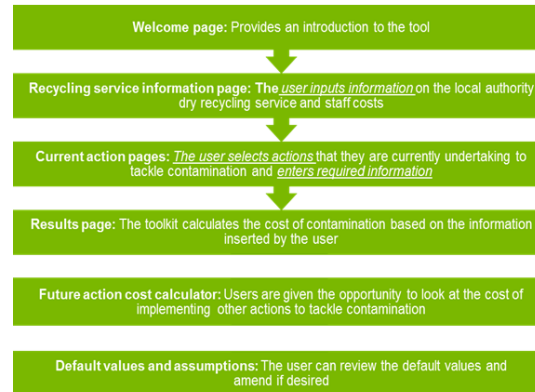
Users are required to enter information on their recycling service on the Recycling Service Information page, details of current actions to tackle contamination are entered on the Communications, Collection and Bulking and Treatment action pages. **Default values are provided** for some of the costs required by the toolkit, but cost calculations will be more specific with more bespoke information entered by the user.

A user guide for the toolkit is provided here:



The toolkit was designed and built by Anthesis Group in partnership with Resource London and the London Environment Directors Network (LedNet). Guidance and oversight was provided by a working group which included a number of London Boroughs (Lewisham, Newham and North London Waste Disposal Authority), LedNet, the Local Authority Recycling Advisory Committee (LARAC) and the Environmental Services Association (ESA). The London Boroughs of Bexley and Enfield also took part in the testing of the toolkit.

Overview of the pages in the cost of contamination toolkit:





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LWARB
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