

Implementation of a Kerbside Battery Collection Service

Julia Kerr, Technician Zero Waste

November 2025



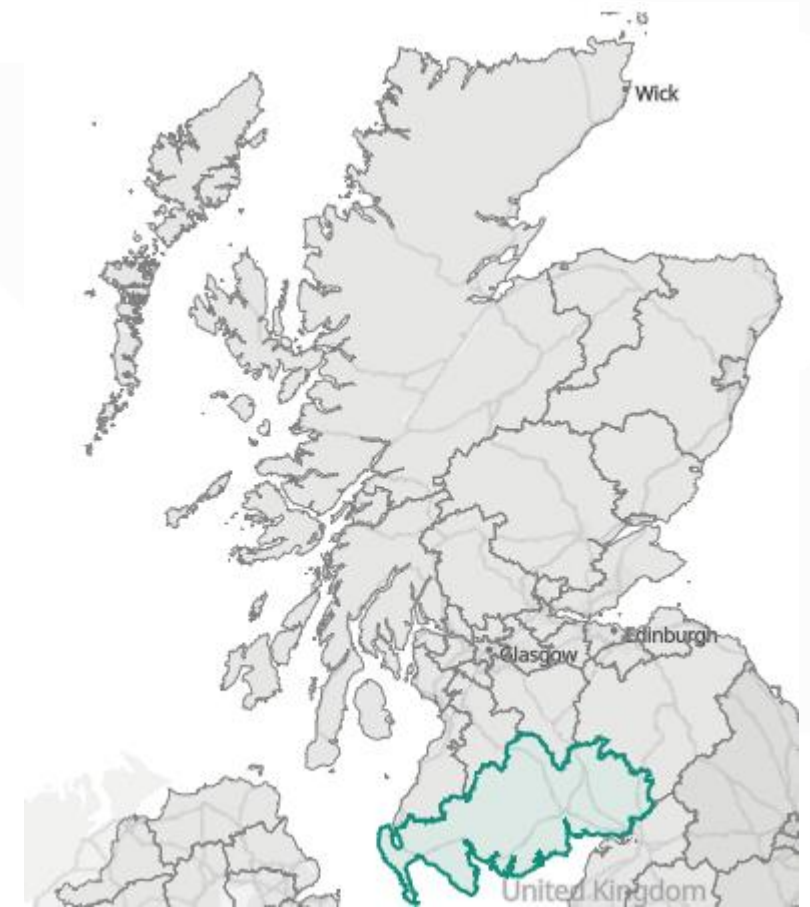
A wee bit about our region...

Third largest Local
Authority by area with
4201km of roads

Population
approximately
148,000

Approximately 78,000
households

6 main towns with
44.3% of area
classed as rural



What we wanted to achieve..



To offer a new and
easier method of
recycling to our
citizens

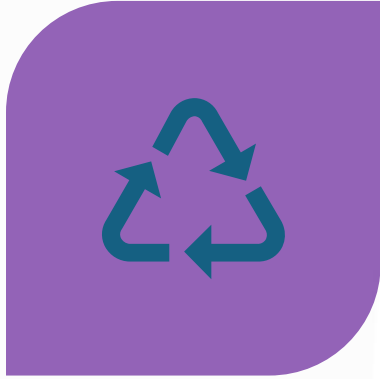
To remove batteries
from other waste
streams

To reduce risk of fires
and injuries



How we did it..

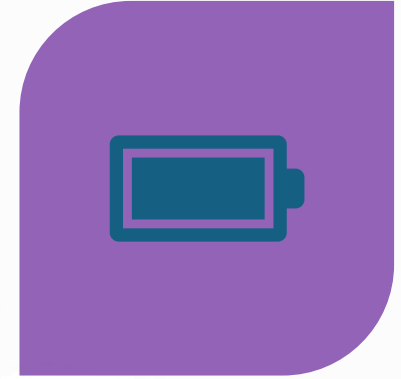




SUCCESSFUL APPLICATION TO SCOTTISH
GOVERNMENT'S RECYCLING
IMPROVEMENT FUND SMALL GRANT
SCHEME IN NOVEMBER 2023



SECURED JUST OVER £70,000
OF FUNDING



SERVICE FULLY ROLLED OUT BY
MID-SEPTEMBER 2024



Informing and
Engaging

Logistics



Informing and Engaging



Informing and engaging – our citizens

Don't Bin Your Batteries!

You can now recycle household batteries at the kerbside using your new pink battery recycling bag.



Please recycle all types of household batteries - including the ones from toys, laptops, mobile phones, watches and hearing aids!



Need more bags? Once we have collected your full battery recycling bag we will leave a new one under your bin lid. If you use a sack or communal bin please collect a new bag from a customer service centre or request online at: dumgal.gov.uk/wasterecycling

 **recycle** for Dumfries and Galloway

Dumfries & Galloway 

Recycling your household batteries at the kerbside is easy as 123

1

Place your used batteries in the pink bag.

2

Seal it when full.

3

Leave bag on top of your general waste or recycling bin (or sack).

Please **do not** place loose batteries on top of your bin - always use a battery recycling bag. Larger batteries that do not fit in the bag (e.g. car batteries) should be taken to a Household Waste Recycling Centre.

Discarded batteries are one of the major causes of fires across the waste industry.



Please don't throw away batteries in your bin - they can ignite or explode if not disposed of properly.



For more information
dumgal.gov.uk/wasterecycling
030 33 33 3000

Informing and engaging – our citizens



Dumfries and Galloway Council

3 September 2024 · 🌐

Our kerbside battery collection scheme is starting from next week. Safely dispose of your used batteries by placing them in the pink bag and leaving them on top of your bin. Our team will take the filled bag and leave you a new one. ♻️

Collection starts from 9 September. You can recycle all types of household batteries – including the ones from toys, laptops, mobile phones, watches and hearing aids. 🔋

#BatteryRecycling #GoGreen #DontBinYourBatteries

You can also collect a new bag from one of our customer service centres. Find out more here:
<https://orlo.uk/UnXb4>

**You can now
recycle batteries
at the kerbside!**



Dumfries and Galloway Council

@dgcouncil

It's easy to recycle batteries at the kerbside – simply fill your pink recycling bag, seal it when full and leave on top of your general waste or recycling bin (or sack).

Once collected we will leave a new one under your bin lid.

#DontBinYourBatteries

1

Place your used batteries in the pink bag.

2

Seal it when full.

3

Leave bag on top of your general waste or recycling bin (or sack).

ALL ♻️ recycle for Dumfries and Galloway



Informing and engaging – our citizens

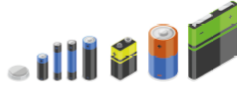
 **recycle** for Dumfries and Galloway

Don't Bin Your Batteries!

You can now recycle batteries at the kerbside using your pink recycling bag.



Need another bag?
Collect from a customer service centre or order online at dumgal.gov.uk/wasterecycling



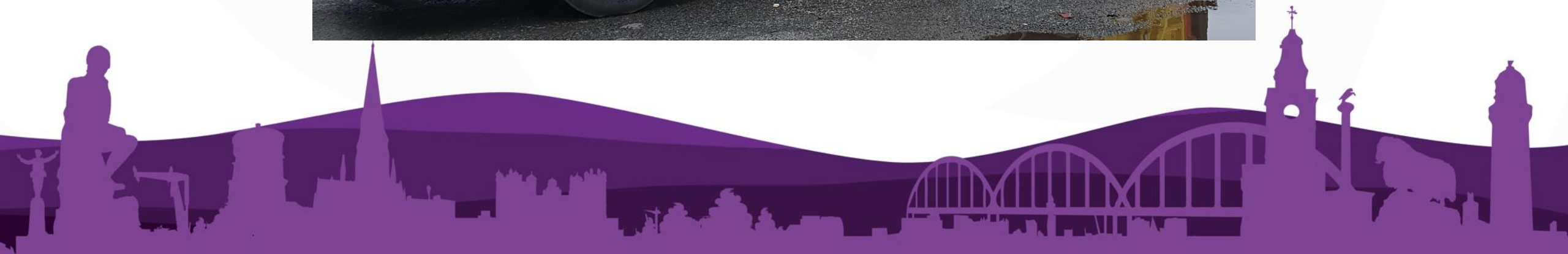

Scan me for more information or to order a new battery recycling bag

dumgal.gov.uk/wasterecycling
[#DontBinYourBatteries](https://twitter.com/DontBinYourBatteries)

Dumfries
& Galloway



Informing and engaging – our citizens



Informing and engaging – our staff



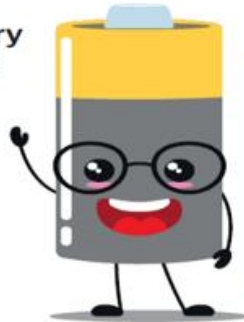
dumgal.gov.uk/wasterecycling
#DontBinYourBatteries

We could **not** take your battery bag today as it contained one or more items that cannot be recycled:

- Wrong battery type
- Vape
- Electrical devices/item
- Plastic lighters

We can only accept the batteries detailed on the front of this bag.

Please remove any wrong items and use a new bag for your next collection.



Scan for
more
information

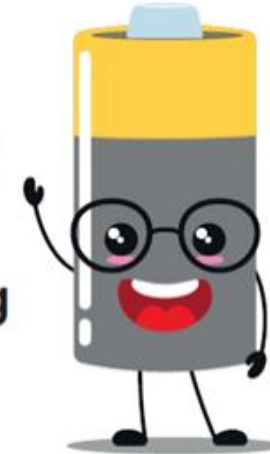
Dumfries
and Galloway



dumgal.gov.uk/wasterecycling
#DontBinYourBatteries

We could not take your battery bag today - our battery caddy was full.

Please put your bag out on your next collection day.



Scan for
more
information



Search for Dumfries and Galloway
battery recycling



Informing and engaging – our staff

Project Team



Informing and engaging – our staff

Briefing
Papers

Toolbox
Talks

Risk
Assessment



Informing and engaging – our staff

BRIEFING PAPER



**SAFETY
COMES
FIRST**

**ARRIVE SAFE
WORK SAFE
GO HOME SAFE**

WASTE SERVICE

No: 080

BATTERY RECYCLING PROJECT

A new kerbside collection that will enable all residents and businesses to recycle household batteries will be launched on 15 April 2024. This will increase recycling rates and reduce the risk of fires within RCVs and waste processing facilities.

Dumfries and Galloway Council successfully secured more than £70,000 of funding from Scottish Government's Recycling Improvement Fund to implement a kerbside battery recycling service.



Informing and engaging – our staff

TOOLBOX TALK



WASTE COLLECTION SERVICE

No. 016
VER 9

HOW TO SAFELY COLLECT HOUSEHOLD BATTERIES FROM KERBSIDE



Informing and engaging – our staff

Dumfries & Galloway Council

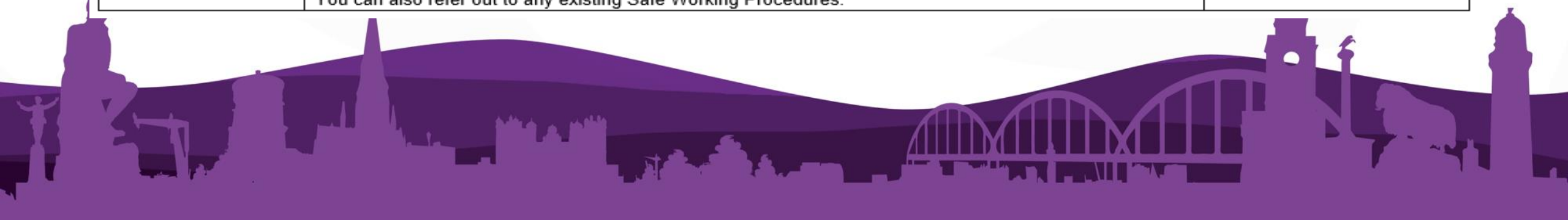


RISK ASSESSMENT FORM

RA REF NO:	BRP001	TITLE OF TASK ASSESSED:	Battery Collection	DIRECTORATE:	Economy & Infrastructure
SERVICE:	Waste	STAFF GROUP:	Collections	DATE:	05.07.2024

WHO IS AT RISK		SPECIFIC INFORMATION	LOCATION(S)	
Staff	☒	- Batteries if not disposed of properly, can be harmful to health and the environment. - Batteries when stressed beyond their design, malfunction creating excess heat initiating an irreversible thermal runaway. (Fire and explosion)	Council Property	☐
Service Users	☐		3 RD Party Premises	☐
Contractors	☐		Other Location	☒
Members of Public	☐			
New & Expectant Mothers	☐			
Young Persons	☐			

HAZARDS	I.e. what has the potential to do harm in terms of Location, Equipment, Activity, Person and Substance.	Risk Rating
GENERAL CONTROL MEASURES	What have you in place to avoid, reduce and manage risks) (Consider the RA control hierarchy – Eliminate, Reduce, Isolate, Control and then PPE. Always consider need for Provision of Information, Training, and Instruction & Supervision. You can also refer out to any existing Safe Working Procedures.	Likelihood L Consequence C



Logistics



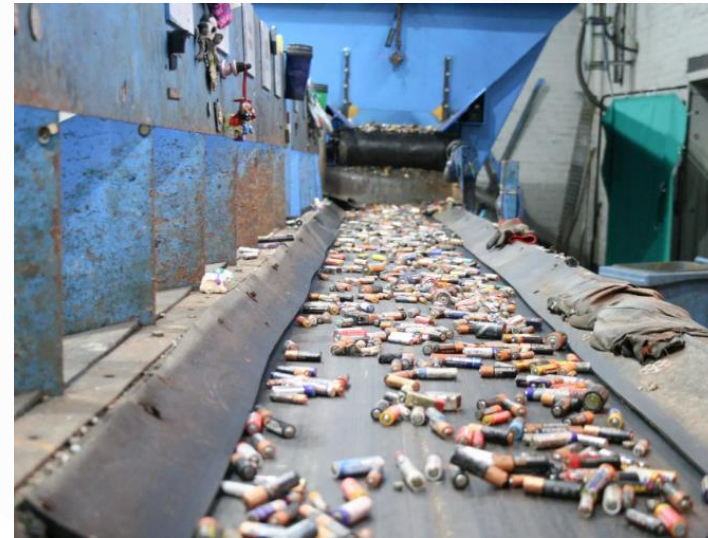
Logistics

- Collection boxes fitted to our refuse collection vehicles



Logistics

- Off-take arranged through European Recycling Platform (ERP) compliance scheme



Not all plain sailing.....



Not all plain sailing



Dumfries and Galloway Council

19 April 2024 · 🌐

COMING SOON! We're pleased that some of you have already received your new pink bags for recycling household batteries at the kerbside, but we didn't expect people to fill them and put them out so quickly!

We're delighted that you are keen and applaud your efforts to recycle, but we're really sorry that we are not quite ready to pick them up yet. Our Waste Team is working hard to prepare the roll out of this new service – we'll be ready to collect them in the coming weeks and we'll let you know the date as soon as we can.

You'll be able to recycle full, partially used, rechargeable and normal type batteries including AA, AAA, C, D, 6V, 9V, mobile phone, laptop, and button batteries soon.

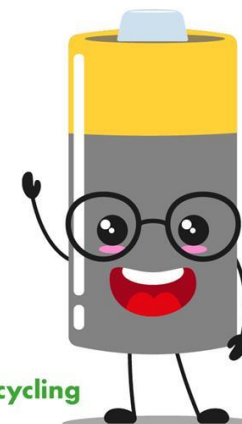
Thanks for your patience.

Find out more on our website: <https://orlo.uk/r3FUL>

...

 **recycle** for Dumfries and Galloway

**Please keep
hold of your
bag and we'll
let you know
when to put
it out for
collection.**



dumgal.gov.uk/wasterecycling
#DontBinYourBatteries

Dumfries
& Galloway 



Key results



New and easier method of recycling

Households engaged in using the service

Approx 80 - 90,000 bags issued

Significant amount uplifted at kerbside



Removing batteries from other waste streams

7.82 tonnes of batteries removed from the residual waste stream
and sent for recycling



Reducing risk of fires

Significant reduction in Helios system activations since the introduction of the service





Moving forward



Schools

Commercial





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