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WRAP

A framework for
**greater consistency in household
recycling in England**



Introduction



The short animation was to set the scene of

The Framework Consistency for Greater Consistency

Asked to speak about:

- **Consistency in collections from households**
- **What can we recycle – making it clear**
- **The issue with quality**

All fits into The Consistency Framework



Within the Framework – a 5 point action plan – focus of slides will be:



- 1) **Packaging:** rationalising plastics packaging and removing elements that hinder recycling
- 2) **Communications:** – the role of the whole supply chain, on pack labelling
- 3) **Collections:**
 - **Evaluating the case at a local level**
 - **Collections contracts**
 - **Bin colour consultation – launched last week**
 - **Recycling Guidelines**
- 4) **Infrastructure, reprocessing and markets:**
 - Future requirements – with a focus on dry recycling
 - **Material Quality and Markets**
- 5) **Policy review**

Packaging



Priority areas identified

Engaging with more brands, retailers, manufacturers to take it forward

Key areas:

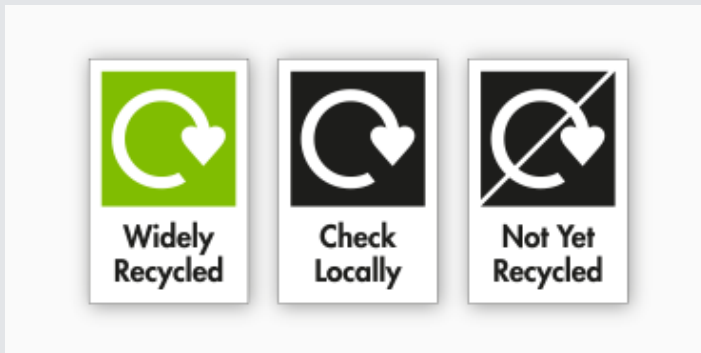
- PVC
- Black plastic (in conjunction with Recoup)
- Increasing recycled content
- Clear labelling



Communications



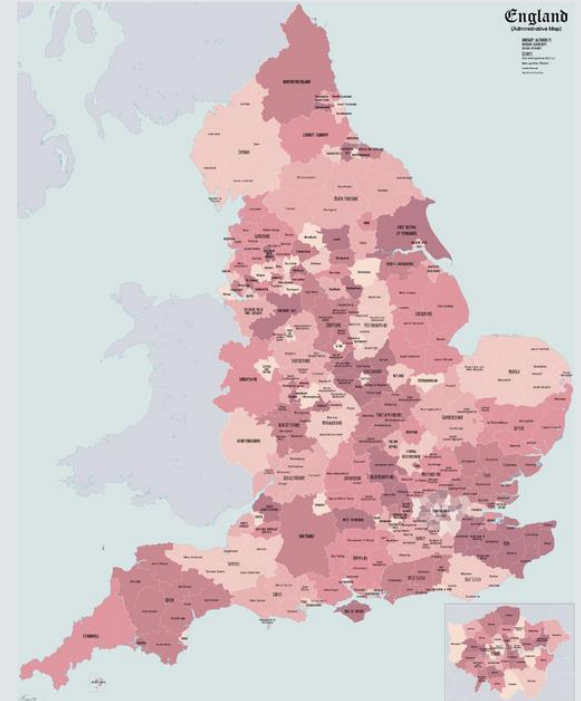
Coca-Cola – Recycling Love Story (2017)



Local authority collections work



- Evaluating the business case for Greater Consistency at a local level
- 18 LA areas covering 74 individual authorities
- Looking at:
 - Kerbside-sort, two-stream and comingled
 - Material streams
 - Specific and holistic costs and benefits
 - Mix of Two-tier and Unitary authorities



Pilot business case projects – key findings



- **Business case positive for a number of partnerships**
- **Key factors that have an impact on the business case**
 - Existing residual waste collection service
 - Disposal costs/ recycling credits
 - Level of service change required
- **Potential to balance out costs of introducing separate food collection through considering residual waste frequency and garden waste services**
- **Two stream and kerbside sort were generally lower in cost than commingled collections.**

Contract documentation under development



- **Working with the CIWM**
- **Reviewing template contract documents**
 - Specification
 - Conditions of contract
- **Important areas:**
 - Material quality and marketing
 - Sharing risk
 - Gain share and payment mechanisms



Bin colour consultation



National colour scheme for waste and recycling containers consultation

Responding to industry feedback, WRAP is conducting stakeholder consultation on the advantages / disadvantages of adopting a national colour scheme for household waste and recycling containers under the Framework for Greater Consistency in Recycling in England.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/G2RKY9K>

Please do contribute to this.



Bin colour consultation – this shows some of the areas – but do read it!



Communications to householders are simplified

Householder confusion about recycling is reduced

The speed of decision making around container colour will be quicker

Container costs are reduced

Quicker lead time to procure containers

Quicker delivery of orders

Loss of local identity

Increased householder confusion about recycling (e.g. in the short term as a result of changing from an established local scheme)

Increased costs resulting from new container purchasing

Increased costs resulting from communications in support of the new container colour scheme

Cost, if roll out were part of planned service change

Cost, if roll out were not part of planned service change

Decommission of existing bin stock

Cost of distributing new bin stock and collection of old stock

Operational and logistical challenge of distributing new bin stock and collecting old stock

Options

Timeframe

Advantages and disadvantages

What and how

Recycling Guidelines



The guidelines

These guidelines should not be simply copied into existing communications literature. They should be reviewed against existing arrangements. They are provided for:

- [Paper](#) (where paper is collected separately from card).
- [Card](#) (where card is collected separately from paper).
- [Mixed paper and card](#).
- [Metal packaging](#).
- [Glass packaging](#).
- [Plastic bottles](#) .
- [Mixed plastics](#) (plastic bottles and plastic pots, tubs and trays).
- [Food and drink cartons](#).
- [Food waste](#)
- [Garden waste](#)
- [No list](#) – items which should never be included in the recycling collection and can be applied to all materials as necessary.

Cross-industry involvement, including:



Agrivert

Alliance for Beverage Cartons and the Environment (ACE) UK;

Alupro;

Andigestion

Association of Anaerobic Digestion Operators (AADO)

Biogen

British Glass;

British Plastics Federation;

Confederation of Paper Industries;

Environmental Services Association

GWE Biogas

LARAC

Metal Packaging Manufacturers Association

Peter Mansfield and Associates

Recoup

Resource Association



Recycling guidelines – some examples



Plastic bottles, pots, tubs and trays

No thanks – put these in your general rubbish

- Black plastic – sorting equipment cannot detect the colour black and therefore it is not recycled³.

Glass bottles and jars

- Metal lids and caps can be put back on – these will be removed and recycled. These are different metals to cans/tins/aerosols so are recycled in a different way and by putting the lids/caps back on glass jars and bottles it reduces the chance of them getting lost through the sorting process.

Food waste

Only certified compostable bags that carry the European certification standard EN13432 can be included in garden waste collections.



Plastic bottles

Please remember:

- Empty and rinse items, squash and replace lids/tops.

What benefits can using the Guidelines provide?



- opportunities for more **consistent communications** to householders;
- improved **material quality** through the reduction in non-target and dirty materials;
- **increased capture** of target materials;
- **reduced costs** to local authorities, waste management companies and reprocessors;
- **increased revenue** to local authorities / waste management companies through the **sale of higher quality materials**; and
- more resilient to fluctuations in material markets as a result of improved **material quality**.

Material quality and markets



Consistency Framework emphasises the importance of quality.

Current issue:

In July this year, China notified the World Trade Organisation that it intended to forbid the import of 24 kinds of solid wastes by the end of 2017. This includes:

- Eight types of plastics waste (including LDPE, HDPE, PET, PVC and PS)
- One type of paper waste (unsorted mixed papers)
- Eleven types of textile wastes

Following this, in August, China announced that it would restrict the import of all other recycled materials to a maximum contamination level of 0.3 per cent.

Material quality and markets



We currently export over

- **one million tonnes of waste mixed papers**
- **180 thousand tonnes of waste plastic packaging**

to **China**.

This is c.

- **70% of our mixed paper exports**
- **25% of our plastic packaging exports.**

To ensure that we can continue to successfully market our post-consumer recyclable material it needs to be of **good quality**.

- Data from the MRF portal shows that we are not currently producing sufficiently high quality outputs.
- Meeting a maximum contamination level of 0.3% for paper exports to China will be very challenging with the systems we currently have in place.

Material quality and markets



For mixed papers, the market outside China is limited.

For plastics, the picture is more complex:

- **PET and HDPE plastic bottles** - strong markets (for example, for food grade bottles, pipes, polyester fibres) and are high value products. If the quality is good and contamination low, they will be easy to sell.
- **PP pots, tubs and trays** have good markets (for example, for construction and automotive products).
- **PET trays, PS and PVC** - The markets for these are very limited.

Material quality and markets



To address this, we need to :

- rationalise the polymers we use in packaging

(to HDPE/PET bottles and PP pots, tubs and trays).

- design packaging to be more recyclable
- have higher levels of recycled content (e.g. Coca Cola)

(WRAP working with stakeholders on the above)

- Consider our methods of collection carefully - are commingled collections fit for the future?
- Consider Deposit Return Schemes – perhaps for on-the-go?
- Consider whether we have to phase out collecting mixed paper.

Some questions to take away with you:



Where in collection, bulking, sorting and processing should quality be improved and how can you contribute?

- At the kerbside
- MRF inputs
- MRF outputs?

Could extending “producer responsibility” measures contribute to increasing quality?



All parts of the chain have a part to play in ensuring quality, enabling the materials to be successfully marketed....

We all have a contribution to make....



Thank you!

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