



Environment
Agency

Regulations for the Separate Collection of recyclables

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Because no one ever fly-tipped gold



or set fire to it



Why?

- ⇒ Meet EU Directives and other legislation
- ⇒ Support growth of UK recycling industry
- ⇒ Improve quality, quantity and value of recyclates
- ⇒ Help:
 - ⇒ waste collectors meet their legal obligations
 - ⇒ meet Defra England Quality Action Plan
 - ⇒ apply Waste Hierarchy
 - ⇒ to reduce landfill and emissions
 - ⇒ reduce incidents of fires, odour, flies
 - ⇒ reduce illegally described & exported 'RDF'

Separate Collection

- ➔ **Aim:** improve quality of recyclates by separating at source
- ➔ From 1 January 2015 must 'collect separately':
 - ➔ paper (and card)
 - ➔ plastic
 - ➔ cans
 - ➔ glass
- ➔ **When it is:**
 - ➔ necessary to 'recover' waste (produce high quality recyclates)
 - ➔ Technically, environmentally and economically practicable (TEEP)
- ➔ **Applies to public and private collections**

Separate Collection

- ⇒ Environment Agency regulator of legislation
- ⇒ We will use a risk-based approach
- ⇒ Local Authority Network produced own good practice to apply regulation:
 - ⇒ *'Waste Regulations Route Map, April 2014'*
- ⇒ Should commercial collection sector produce its own version?
- ⇒ Same commercial markets and regulations apply equally

Waste Regulations Route Map

April 2014

Local Authority Waste Network Chairs

Consultants: Eunomia

www.wrap.org.uk/sites/files/wrap/

[Waste%20Regulations%20Route%20Map%20April%202014.pdf](http://www.wrap.org.uk/sites/files/wrap/Waste%20Regulations%20Route%20Map%20April%202014.pdf)

What we are aiming for:



Not this:



Impact of the new Regulations

- ➔ Higher value of recovered material
- ➔ Lower waste & landfill costs
- ➔ Easier for producers to access separate collections
- ➔ Encourage collectors to increase separate collections
- ➔ Encourage improved material quality at MRFs

Regulation 13: separate collection duties

Covers collections of waste paper, metal, plastic and glass.

- ⇒ 13(2) applies to establishments or undertakings which collect the wastes
- ⇒ **13 (3) applies to waste collection authorities when making arrangements for collection of the wastes**

There must be separate collection of the wastes where both

- ⇒ necessary for recovery and to facilitate or improve recovery; and
- ⇒ technically, environmentally and economically practicable.
(TEEP)

WCA Survey - separate collections

321 WCAs and UAs contacted in April 2015

283 survey responses received

We asked about arrangements in 2015 for:

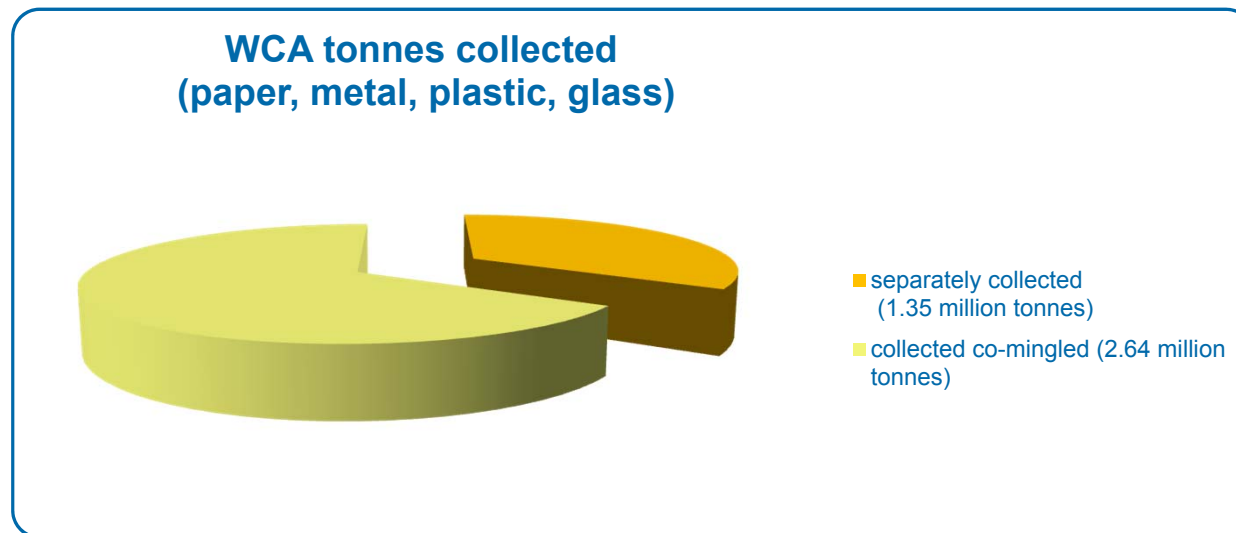
- Tonnages collected
- Collection methods
- Necessity and TEEP assessment
- Assessment outcomes

Results are published here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/waste-collection-authority-separate-collection-arrangements-survey-results>

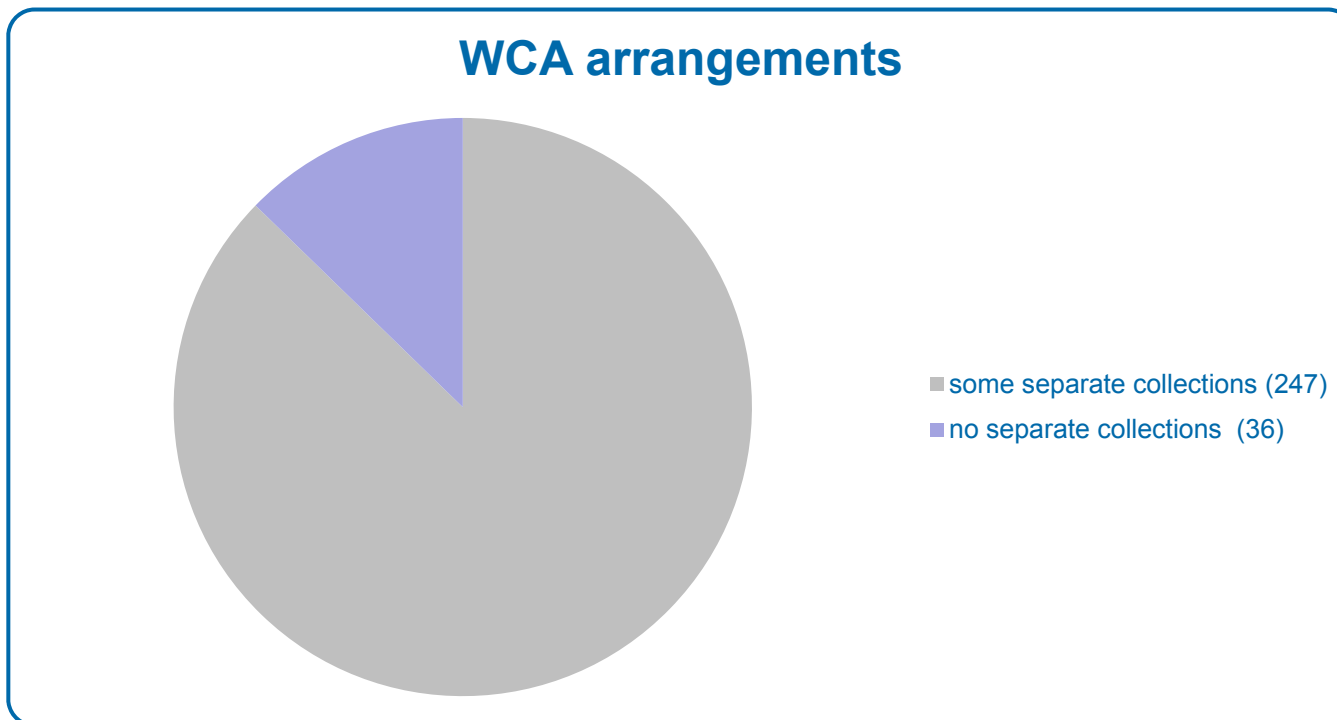
Survey Findings

⇒ Projected total tonnages



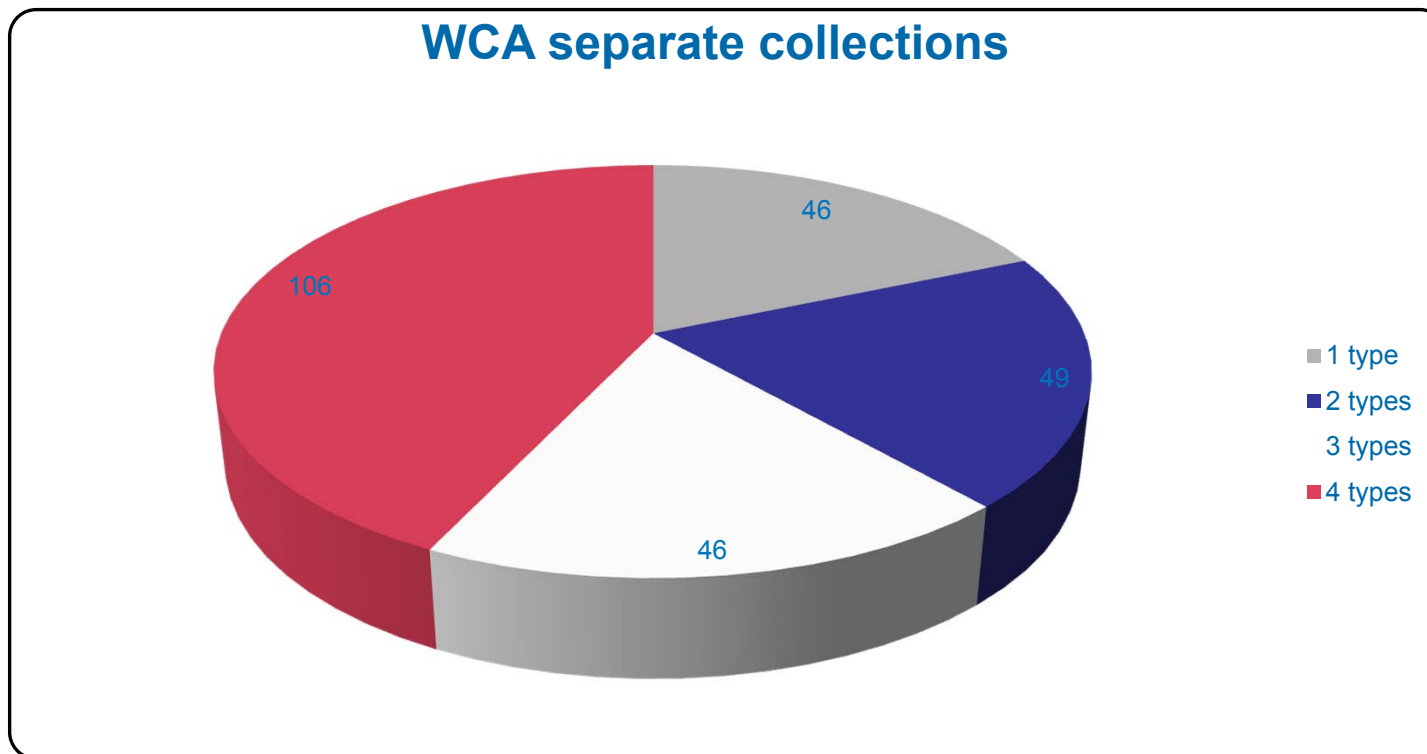
Survey Findings

➔ Collection Methods

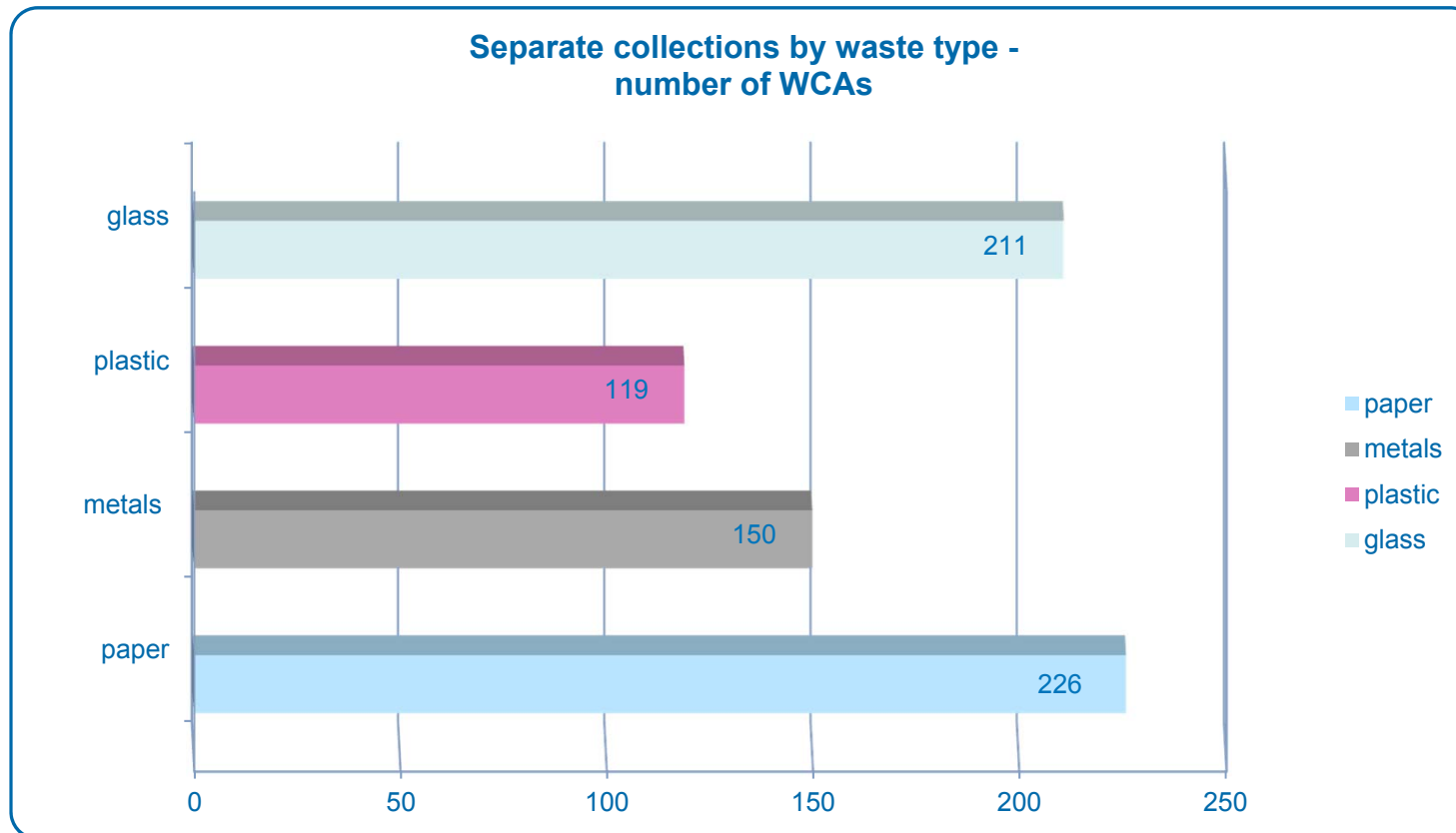


Survey Findings

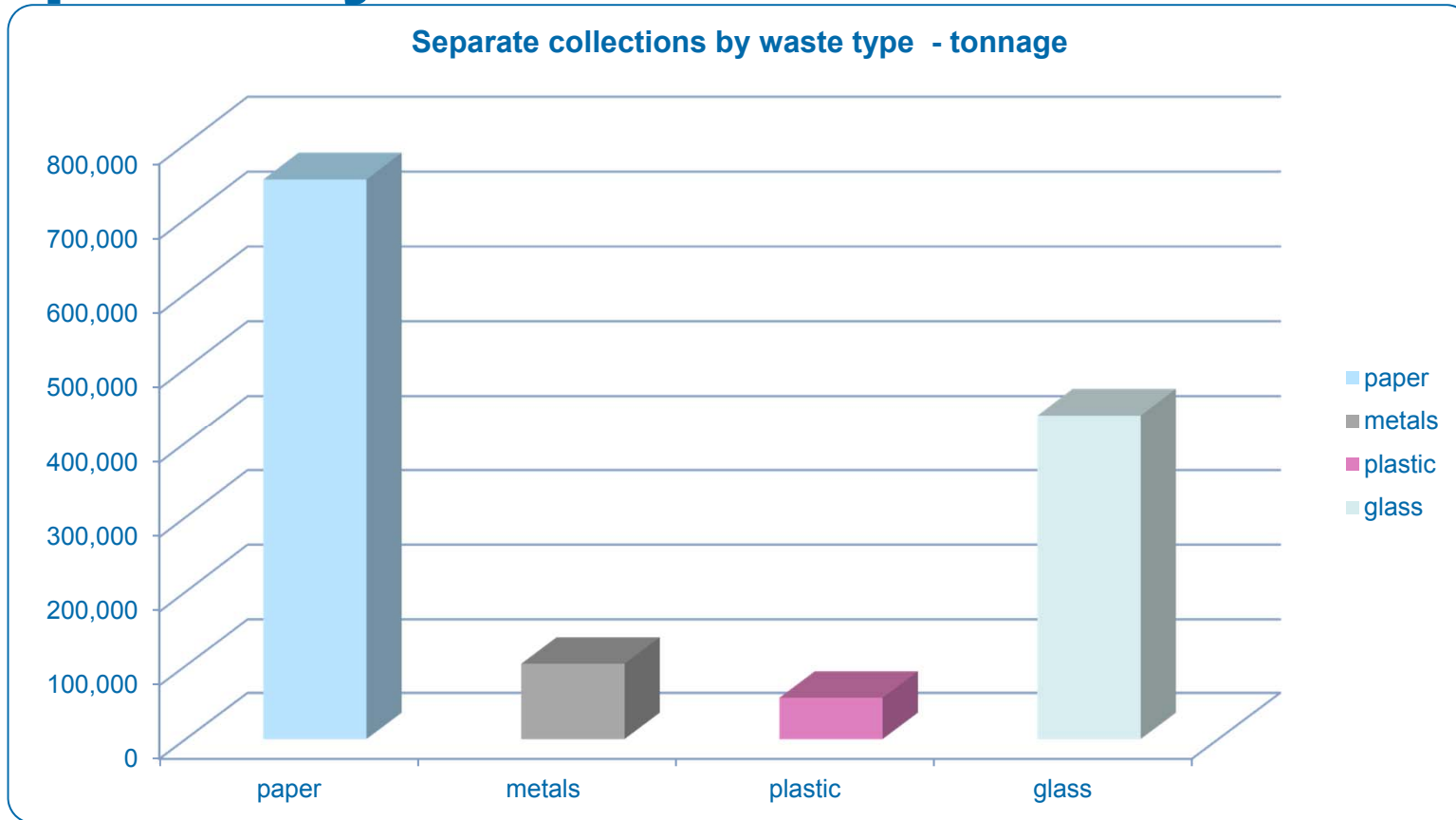
⇒ Types of waste collected separately



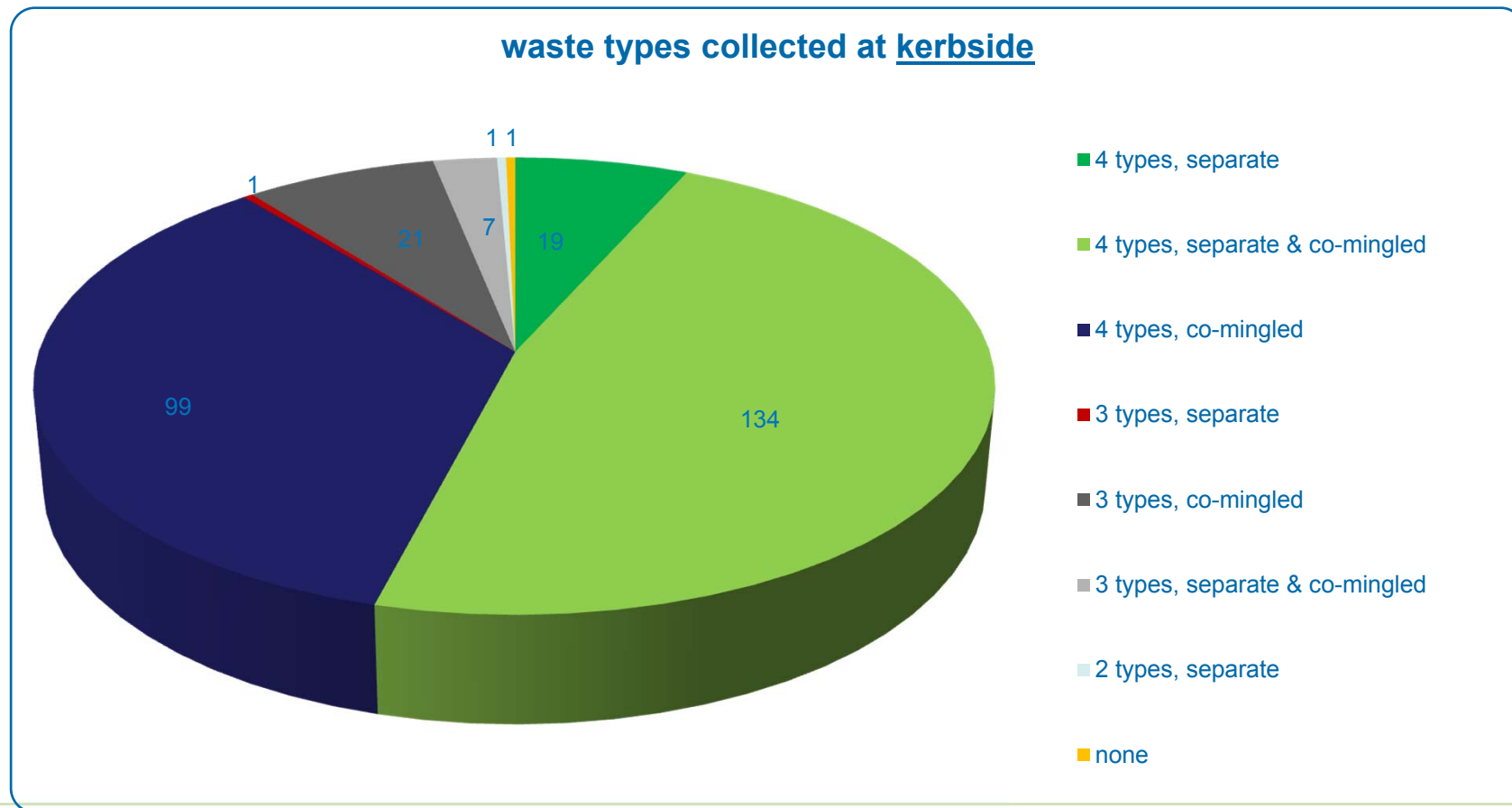
Survey Findings – separate collections by waste type



Survey Findings – tonnages separately collected

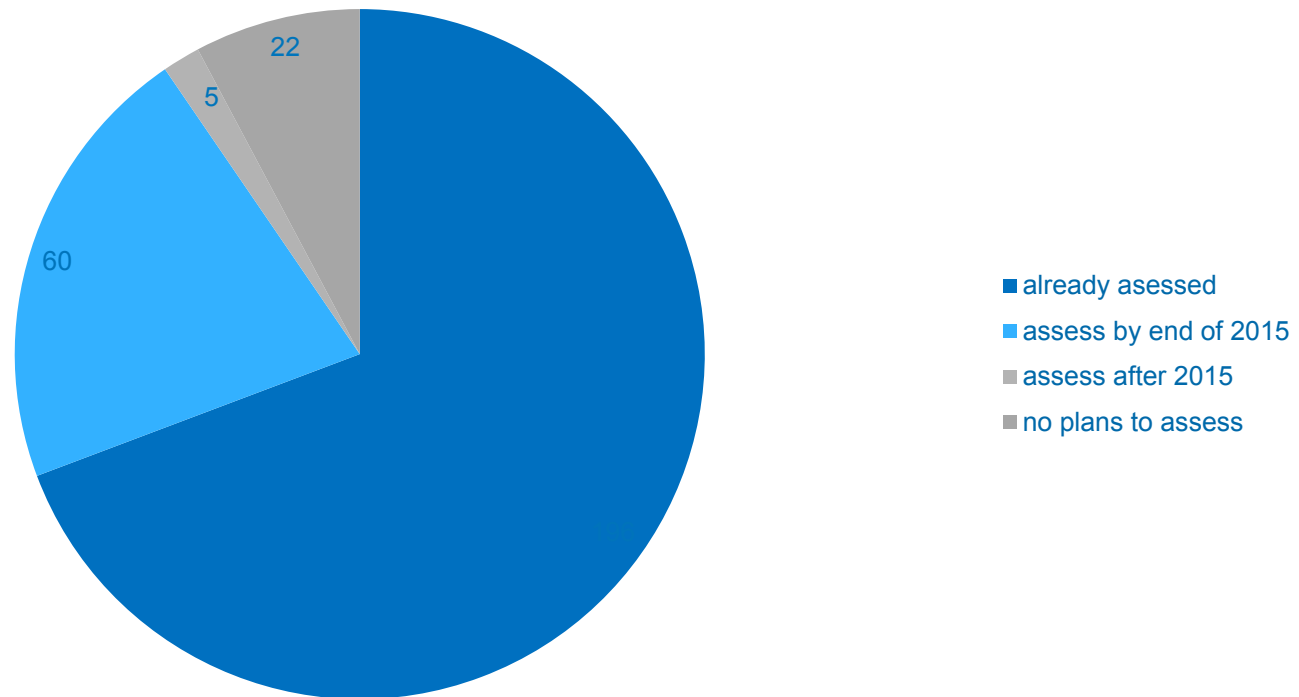


Survey Findings – kerbside collections



Survey Findings - Assessments

WCA Necessity and/or TEEP assessments



Survey Findings

co-mingling at kerbside (as % of total collections of the 4 wastes)	% reduction in kerbside co-mingling	kerbside co-mingled (tonnage)	kerbside separate (tonnage)	Tonnage change kerbside: from co-mingled to separate collection	separate collections at kerbside (as % of total collections of the 4 wastes)
65%	no change	2.6MT	1.0MT	no change	35%
60%	↓ 5%	2.39MT	1.21MT	210,000t	40%
55%	↓ 10%	2.19MT	1.41MT	410,000t	45%
50%	↓ 15%	1.99MT	1.61MT	610,000t	50%

Survey Findings

We would like WCAs to:

- ➔ keep better data on collection tonnages and types from non-kerbside collections
- ➔ review use of co-mingled collections at household waste recycling centres and bring sites where this applies
- ➔ make necessity and TEEP assessments publically available with suitable approval
- ➔ review outcome of necessity and TEEP assessments to ensure they remain valid, especially where outcome was for no change in collection arrangements
- ➔ complete assessments, if not yet completed

Environment Agency Role

EA enforces Part 5 of the Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011. This includes regulation 13.

We take a risk based approach achieve best outcomes.

Interventions can range from advice & guidance through to prosecution for an offence.

For Regulation 13, we can issue enforcement notices for non-compliance with regulation 13 (2).

Failure to comply with the notice would be an offence.

Summary

- ➔ Benefits for business, people and the environment
- ➔ Help improve the quality, quantity and value of recyclates
- ➔ Help increase recycling rates
- ➔ Help reduce illegal exports, fires and nuisance
- ➔ Environment Agency will help collectors to willingly meet the requirements
- ➔ Regulation will be risk-based

Thank you

➔ Any questions or comments?

➔ Written comments to:

➔ pandora.rene@environment-agency.gov.uk