

FOI Ref
9177

Response sent
21 Jun 2021

(CCC) Recycling Information

I firstly wanted to ask are you aware of what percentage of the residents in the area don't actually recycle?

Do you know roughly the amount of recycling you get sent every year in tonnes?

What percentage of recycling is turned away simply because it's not been cleaned?

One of the things we are looking at specifically is single-use plastic in the country, out of the plastic that's sent to you what would you say is the percentage that is actually non-recyclable?

We've been thinking especially about gluesticks, gluesticks do vary from the area, specifically in the local area do you advise that they just go into the landfill due to the adhesive?)

Response:

Our latest participation survey from 2015 showed a 91% participation rate for the use of our blue bin for recycling service.

We do have tonnage figures, which we publish on our website each quarter, at <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/bins/our-policy-and-performance/> .

In the last financial year (April 2020 – March 2021), 26,369 tonnes of material collected in the blue bins was sent for recycling.

In the last year , 5.6% of materials collected in the blue bins was rejected – this is due to incorrect or contaminated items being placed in the bins.

Approximately 6% of the plastic put into blue bins is items that we don't accept and can't recycle.

We will accept completely empty glue-stick tubes in the blue bin. If it's not possible to empty them they should be put in the black bin.

Further queries on this matter should be directed to foi@cambridge.gov.uk