

OUR PLEDGE

To reduce waste

Why does this matter?

England alone generates around
177m tonnes
of waste every year



This is a poor use of resources and costs businesses and household's money. It also causes environmental damage, for example, waste sent to landfill produces methane, a powerful greenhouse gas.

The UK Government
aspires to move towards a
**'zero waste
economy'**

This doesn't mean that no waste exists - it's a society where resources are fully valued, financially and environmentally. It means we reduce, reuse and recycle all we can, and throw things away only as a last resort.

To help people and organisations make the most of opportunities to save money by reducing waste, The Waste Prevention Programme for England has been launched. The programme sets out to:



Working with the food and drink sector to prevent food waste.



Making it easier for organisations to recycle more.



Making businesses responsible for what they produce so a proportion of materials they manufacture can be easily recycled.



Working with the waste industry to make it easier for organisations to recycle.



Working with local councils to improve waste collection services and infrastructure projects.



Supporting energy from waste where appropriate.



Addressing waste crime such as fly-tipping and the operation of illegal waste management sites.



Regulating landfill sites.



Working with the Environmental Agency to control hazardous waste.

What have we done in the past 12 months?



Identified sites which do not have recycling facilities and started to implement the appropriate internal and external waste bins.



Standardised our internal recycling, general and clinical waste bins and made it easier for our colleagues to procure these.



Conducted right sizing and collection frequency exercises with our waste contractors. This allows us to determine if our sites have the correct size waste bins and are on the correct collection schedule. This will allow us to recycle more and reduce our carbon impact



Developed waste training and toolbox talks for our colleagues.



Completed hundreds of pre-acceptance audits which helps us understand how clinical waste is being managed and how we can improve waste segregation.



Introduced a waste compactor at a highly utilised site which allows us to compact waste and reduce our waste collections.



Developed waste management procedures and guidance documents for colleagues to follow.



Standardised our pedal bin waste labels which indicates what can and cannot be disposed of in the receptacles.



What is our goal?

Our goal is to reduce our amount of waste and increase the amount of recycling as much as possible.

What's next?

We are going to build on our current procedures and processes by:



Increasing the use of dry mixed recycling on our sites.



Ensuring that waste is segregated as much as possible.



Reducing clinical waste where possible.



Carrying out bin sizing exercises to ensure that sites have the correct bin.



Introducing internal recycling bins in sites.

We will also be encouraging our employees to take an interest and active part in working towards our company goal.

Top Tips: How you can help reduce waste

- Ensuring that colleagues and those around you dispose of waste in the correct waste receptacle.
- Raise any issues around incorrect waste segregation.
- Help introduce recycling at your home or place of work.
- Do not use single use items such as water bottles, coffee cups and plastic bags.