

60129 Dry Recycling Materials

I am seeking access to the following information:

Do you currently operate a segregated or commingled kerbside collection service for dry recyclable materials?

This information is published on our website at:

<https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/whatgoesineachbin>

Do you have a policy or directive that specifies that all your kerbside-collected dry recycling materials should be recycled in the UK?

When we tender our services, we are aiming to demonstrate that they represent the best value, and we ask bidders to demonstrate their approach to a number of factors, including sustainability, so bidders will provide information about where the materials will go and seek to show that these are as sustainable as possible (as well as compliant with all relevant legislation).

While the market can sometimes make recycling of specific materials within the UK impractical/unmanageable, throughout the contract period we monitor the end destinations of waste streams to make sure they remain appropriate and sustainable.

- a. Please specify if there are different policies for different materials.

No.

For aluminium specifically,

- a. Who sorts and recycles your aluminium for you?

This information is published on our website at:

<https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/whathappenstorecycling>

- b. If outsourced, please specify the company or organisation?

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- c. Is your aluminium recycled in the UK?

Yes. This information is published on our website at:

<https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/whathappenstorecycling>

- d. How much annual income do you derive from the sale of recycled aluminium?

Approximately £38,000 last year.

- e. Does this income subsidise, or make a substantial contribution to, the cost of your whole recycling programme?

Yes, income from materials sent to the materials recycling facility (including aluminium) have a value and the contract includes an incoming sharing mechanism. The market value will fluctuate and any income shared with us goes back into the service, but this is not something

we can rely on (due to that fluctuation) and is modest compared to the cost of providing a service.

- f. What would be the impact to your overall recycling programme if you lost your entire aluminium recycling income?

Negligible

- g. Would you have to increase your Council Tax to compensate for such a loss?

Not directly. The entire Waste Management service costs just 4-5% of the Council's budget and income from aluminium is a small part of that so the impact would not be significant.

Are you a member of any local authority waste management partnership?

No.

a. If so, which one?

b. Does it operate its own Materials Recovery Facility?

c. Does it have a policy or directive to ensure that aluminium is recycled in the UK?

Not applicable.