

STRAIGHT[®]



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SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

Special Edition
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ARGYLL & BUTE

on target for 40%
recycling rate

ABERDEENSHIRE

targets food waste

FALKIRK

chooses Steelybin[®]
as trade waste solution

EDINBURGH'S

kerbside recycling scheme



How Scottish councils are rising to the
challenge of a zero waste society



Waste Aware
Scotland

ABERDEENSHIRE PROVES PILOT IS A SUCCESS

2008 saw Aberdeenshire Council expand its recycling services and become one of the first Scottish authorities to introduce a weekly food waste collection to residents. Aberdeenshire was also the first local authority to use Straight's 23 litre Kerbside Caddy, which has been specifically developed for the collection of food waste. This has since become the leading container used for this purpose across the whole of the UK.

Following a successful funding bid to the Scottish Government, Aberdeenshire Council decided to introduce a food waste trial across 5,000 households in the area. The twelve month trial has now finished and the Council says the scheme has enabled them to recycle 413 tonnes of food waste.

Due to the trial's success, the Council has already actioned plans to extend the food waste collection to a further 2,500 properties. At present, Aberdeenshire is collecting 7.5 to 8 tonnes of food waste each week from participating households. This is expected to rise to 12 tonnes per week with the addition of the extra properties.

The Council is also looking to modify its dry recycling scheme from fortnightly to weekly and will streamline the collection process by introducing a vehicle that takes both food waste and dry recyclables in a single pass.

Matt Davis, Waste Strategy Officer for Aberdeenshire Council said, "The trial was a great success and has been well received by residents because the scheme is so simple to use. If the new food and dry recyclable collection system is as successful, we hope to expand the service to cover a further 100,000 households. This will see all households in Aberdeenshire included on the food waste scheme."

The Council hopes to introduce the scheme to a further 100,000 properties.

The food waste collection could help Aberdeenshire increase its recycling rate by approximately 6% once the scheme is fully implemented. Matt Davis continues, "We would definitely recommend food waste collections to other local authorities who are looking to increase their recycling rate."

EDINBURGH BOXES CLEVER

According to figures released by SEPA (Scottish Environment Protection Agency), recycling rates in Scotland have shown a steady improvement with the national recycling and composting rate increasing to 32.9%.

The City of Edinburgh Council is developing its waste initiatives to prevent, minimise, reuse and recycle even more of its waste. Edinburgh Council currently has a recycling rate of 30% and runs a successful twin kerbside box recycling scheme.

The twin box service was originally established in June 2005 to enable the separation of materials, providing greater container capacity to collect even more recyclables. Although the collection has evolved to include flats and other multiple occupancy buildings, the basic foundations of the scheme have been maintained.

Jemma Blackwood, Project Officer, for Edinburgh Council said, "Using two boxes enables recyclates to be partially separated ensuring that the quality of collected materials is high and contamination issues are minimal. Kerbside boxes also allow a greater number of households to participate in the scheme, as not all properties have enough space to accommodate a wheeled bin."

Space-saving kerbside boxes are ideal for use in dense urban areas.

The scheme includes more than 125,000 properties and uses two of Straight's 55 litre Grab Kerbside Boxes to collect a range of recyclable materials. The Council recently purchased a further 6,000 boxes to extend its kerbside recycling service.

Working together to achieve a zero waste society.

Jemma Blackwood continues, "We aspire to meet all national targets and believe that a zero waste society is feasible if authorities, retailers and private waste companies work together and the legislative tools are available. We are currently exploring the idea of introducing a food waste collection and increasing the range of materials collected at the kerbside. We are also in discussions with neighbouring authorities regarding the waste treatment infrastructure."



T: 0113 245 2244



Over 400 tonnes
of food waste
recycled in
one year.

Aberdeenshire 
COUNCIL

FALKIRK SELECTS STEELYBIN®

Straight's product range includes container solutions that cater for every element of the waste stream including domestic, trade and organic waste, dry recyclables, hazardous waste and workplace recyclables.

One of Straight's most popular products used for the collection of trade waste is the 1100 litre Steelybin®. Certified to EN840 and fully compliant with noise level regulations, the Steelybin® offers unrivalled quality in terms of design and finish. Developed to achieve a standard beyond current market models, the Steelybin® offers customers industry leading excellence, but at a competitive price.

The Steelybin® incorporates a range of features as standard.

The Steelybin® incorporates a range of features as standard including Danish handles to improve the container's manoeuvrability in the safest way and a lid lock to prevent any tampering. A sump base also aids stability when the container is moved and a drain plug enables the discharge of any liquid, allowing the Steelybin® to be easily cleaned. The container also benefits from internally welded seams that prevent water ingress, increasing the Steelybin's longevity.

Falkirk Council recently purchased more than a hundred galvanised Steelybin® containers with black lids for use at commercial premises by Council trade waste customers. Some of the containers will also be used for communal domestic collections from flats and multiple occupancy properties.

The Danish handles enable the Steelybin® to be moved safely.

Martin Duffy, Area Estates Officer from Falkirk Council's Waste Management service said, 'We currently order in excess of one hundred Steelybin's per annum. The Steelybin® helps us to deliver a more efficient service to our customers. The Danish handles enable the bin to be manoeuvred with ease, which has helped our crews to collect waste more easily.'



l: www.straight.co.uk



Argyll and Bute on target to reach 40% recycling rate.

Last month saw Argyll and Bute Council roll out its new twelve month food waste collection trial to 12,500 properties. Argyll and Bute Council is already well on its way to achieving its recycling target of 40% by 2010 and 50% by 2013, with a current recycling rate of 36%. The Council believes that the new food waste trial will help them to increase this figure to meet these targets.

Alan Millar, Assistant Operations Manager of Waste Management for Argyll and Bute Council commented, "Achieving a zero waste society is a tall order for any local authority, but it is possible through time. Any recycling targets above 40% will require local authorities to look at further ways to divert waste away from landfill. Food waste collections will play a major role in ensuring that these targets are met."

Food waste collections will ensure that the Scottish Waste Strategy objectives are met.

Argyll and Bute chose to use Straight's 7 litre Vented Kitchen Caddy and 23 litre Kerbside Caddy for the new collection, following a tendering exercise. Alan Millar continues,

"The 7 litre Vented Kitchen Caddy and 23 litre Kerbside Caddy provide the ideal food waste collection system. We opted for the vented version to use with liners to ensure collections are hygienic and odours are minimised."

The 7 litre Kitchen Caddy tends to be the preferred size here in Scotland.

Argyll and Bute Council sought advice from Waste Aware Scotland, REMADE and WRAP, as well as other Scottish authorities such as Aberdeenshire, East Renfrewshire and Inverclyde prior to launching their trial. The Helensburgh and Lomond area, which is the most populated part of Argyll and Bute, was selected for the pilot scheme as it is within reach of suitable waste facilities to cater for the food waste collection.

Argyll and Bute hopes to expand the service to cover some of its islands, however, this is very much dependent on technology and budgets. Argyll and Bute Council consists of a multitude of small, but inhabited islands. If the food waste collection is introduced to other islands, additional waste facilities would be required. Alternatively, collected food waste could be transported to the mainland, although both of these options would require further funding.



Straight plc
No 1 Whitehall Riverside, Leeds, LS1 4BN
T: 0113 245 2244 F: 0113 245 2255
E: info@straight.co.uk I: www.straight.co.uk

