

## Response to Request for Information

Reference EIR 000294  
Date 14 June 2019

### *Recycling Waste from Wolverhampton Homes*

#### **Request:**

Hello, I would like to make a Freedom of Information Request on what Wolverhampton Council do with the mixed recycling waste that is picked up from the households in Wolverhampton, I have a number of specific questions

- 1) Can you tell me how much mixed recycling waste (in Tonnes) the Council picks up each week and provide the amount month on month for the last year.  
In respect of your above question, it has been established after careful consideration that the Council does not hold all of the information you require in the requested format. Monthly information relating to the time previous to September 2018 is held by the previous contractor.

Consequently, we are unable to provide all of the information your require in months, and are informing you as required by Regulation 12(4)(a) of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

However, please see below the information we are able to supply:

Weekly Collection Average = 347.6 tonnes

#### **2018-2019**

April, May and June = 4522.3

July and August = 3110.5

September = 1364.5

October = 1627.46

November = 1484.74

December = 1305.14

January = 1943.14

February = 1333.7

March = 1455.76

- 2) Can you provide me with details of what happens to all the mixed recycling waste  
All of our Mixed Recycling waste is tipped off at Crown Street Transfer station and then collected by UPM out Mixed Recycling Facility to be sorted and recycled.

- 3) Can you provide me details of the contract that the council has in place for the recycle the waste once it has been collected from the homes. Are the any clauses in the contract for the suppliers to actually recycle the waste and what are the actual amount of waste (in Tonnes and %) that is recycled. Also does this supplier send the waste out of the country for off-shore recycling and how does the council ensure that the waste is actually recycled and not sent to land fill or just dumped.

I am also particularly interested if there are targets in the contract to actually recycle the waste and what the providers actually achieve over the last 12 months.

A most recent list of City of Wolverhampton's recycling waste destinations:

<b>Collection</b>	<b>Destination</b>
HWRC	Various contractors
Kerbside DMR	UPM Shotton
Kerbside General	Crown Street Incinerator
Kerbside Garden	Veolia Coven

Our contract for Collect4d Kerbside recycling waste is with UPM Kymmene (UK) Limited. We have been with this contractor since September 2019. They are committed to recycling sustainably.

Quote from UPM website:

Today more than 90% of all outputs from the MRF remain in the UK with the balance going no further than Europe. In fact, 80% of the outputs from the MRF travel less than 50 miles to their final destination.

City of Wolverhampton Council also have other recycling contractors for segregated waste streams that are taken by residents to our Household and Recycling Centres detailed on page 4.

- 4) How much of the mixed recycling waste is sent to land fill?  
The contamination at the Mixed Recycling Facility is sorted and a small percentage is sent to landfill. Please refer to our response to question 1 where the information we hold is from September and during this time there has been a total of 13.12 tonnes sent to landfill from the MRF. This is contamination that should not have ended up in the recycling stream. Every effort is taken by the collection crews to ensure they do not empty a contaminated recycling container. Checks at the waste transfer station which they will remove around 1% of collected kerbside recycling, deemed to be contamination. This is then sent to the Energy from Waste Plant Crown Street and incinerated.

0.13% of the recycled waste sent to the material recovery facility since September has been sent to landfill.

- 5) What does the council do to confirm that the recycling waste that is picked up is actually recycled into new products.

We entrust our Contractor UPM with our recycling waste.

Paper stays with UPM – they have a material recovery and recycling facility. This plant sorts recyclable material from our (and many other local authorities). Dry mixed recycling waste collections and delivers high quality recovered paper raw materials to their own recycled fibre production plant.

Other streams of waste are traded to other contractors via UPM. These are noted in attached table on page 4 “recycling destinations”.

- 6) How much standard waste (non-recycling) does the council pick up each week and provide the amount month on month for the last year.  
Please see our response to question 1.

Weekly Collection Average = 1312.12 tonnes

**2018-2019**

April, May and June = 17225.5

July and August = 11604.6

September = 5365.09

October = 6065.61

November = 5577.64

December = 5451/02

January = 6176.58

February = 4193.32

March = 5623.15

- 7) What does the council do with this waste,  
All kerbside general waste is directly delivery of the Crown Street incinerator – energy from waste plant. The waste is incinerated here, the plant is fitted with two CNIM boilers, each one is capable of burning up to 7 tonnes of waste and producing up to 20 tonnes of steam per hour. It can generate 8MW of electricity.
- 8) Can you provide me with the precise details of how the non-recycling waste is disposed of?  
See response to question 7.
- 9) Does any waste from Wolverhampton Council get sent out of the UK for other counties to deal with, if so please provide details.  
The Materials Recovery facility arranges the movement of waste. They send us a report of the end destinations, the use for all materials and the destinations outside of the UK which are detailed in the quarterly waste data flow report.