

# **CORNWALL COUNCIL**

## **SPECIAL BULLETIN**

### **RECYCLING PLASTIC POTS, TUBS AND TRAYS**

In 2016 Cornwall Council tested the impact of adding plastic pots, tubs and trays to the existing kerbside recycling service. The trial included 46,000 properties in central Cornwall. The results were very positive and because of this Members voted to extend the service across the whole of Cornwall in a phased approach during 2017.

#### **Why 'phased'?**

This is a major service change that will affect all aspects of the collection. In order to ensure we maintain a high level of customer service and have enough time to deliver more recycling equipment, and collect additional items, we are phasing the new service in five areas. The first collections will begin in April and we hope to have the final area on board by end of year, depending on any issues that may arise.

#### **When will residents be able to start recycling their plastic pots, tubs and trays?**

Our initial plan to extend the service and commence collections in partnership with our contractor Biffa in the most practical order for them, goes like this;

**April** – Continue collecting in the area used in the trial (half of what was Carrick and Kerrier districts) and start collecting in the other half of that area which includes Falmouth, the Lizard peninsular, Camborne, Redruth, St Agnes, Perranporth, Tregony and Truro.

**Phase 2** – Central area 2 including Newquay, St Austell, Mevagissey, Lostwithiel, St Columb, the China Clay area and Fowey.

**Phase 3** – East area 2 including Liskeard, **St Cleer**, Looe, Torpoint, Saltash and Callington,

**Phase 4** - East area 1 including Bude, Launceston, Bodmin, Wadebridge, Padstow, Camelford, Delabole.

**Phase 5** – West area 1 including Penzance, Hayle, St Ives, St Just.

#### **How are we letting people know about the service?**

We will send a leaflet out to every household to let them know when they can begin to use the service a few weeks before the service begins enabling them to order more recycling equipment if they need to.

We will then send a second leaflet just before the service starts to remind residents that the service is beginning and how to order containers.

#### **Where do residents put the plastic pots, tubs and trays for recycling?**

Plastic pots tubs and trays will be collected on the same day as the current recycling collection in the same bag as the one used already for plastic bottles, tins and cans.

#### **What can they recycle as part of the new service?**

Please remember to rinse and squash any dirty plastic pots, tubs and trays before recycling them.

Yes please	No thank you
Plastic margarine tubs	Plastic bags e.g. carrier bags, sandwich bags
Plastic ice cream tubs	Plastic film e.g. Cling film
Plastic yoghurt pots	Plastic oil or pesticide containers
Plastic biscuit and cake trays/box inserts	Black plastic trays, pots and tubs
Plastic meat trays	Expanded polystyrene (burger boxes)
Plastic fruit and vegetable trays	Any plastic containers larger than three litres
Plastic moulded fruit containers	Pet food pouches
Plastic fresh soup pots	Film lids from pots, tubs and trays
Plastic sweet/biscuit boxes	Crisp/sweet packets
Plastic cream pots and tubs	Rigid plastics e.g. toys, furniture, 'Tupperware'
Plastic salad bowl/pot	
Plastic premade sandwich packet	
Plastic lids from containers and bottles (excluding film lids)	

### **Why are we not collecting any of the other plastic?**

It is important that we can sell the material that we collect for recycling. We can recycle plastic bottles, pots, tubs and trays, so we can guarantee that if they are put out for collection we can sell them to be recycled.

We cannot recycle films, polystyrene, black plastic or ridged plastic at this time.

### **Why can we not take black plastics?**

The plastics are predominantly sorted with lasers that can identify the different types of plastic. The lasers cannot "see" the black plastic and it ends up in the reject pile at the end of the process and is not recycled.

### **What if residents need more recycling equipment or haven't recycled before?**

If anybody doesn't have any recycling equipment then this is the opportunity for them to order it. For everyone else we hope they can use their current bag for recycling pots, tubs and trays. However we have factored in time to be able to order additional containers before the service starts. [Containers can be ordered on line](#) or over the phone on 0300 1234 141.

Some of the Councils information points also keep a stock of recycling containers, however it is a good idea to check they do before visiting.

If you have any questions please get in touch with our waste team on 0300 1234 141.

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