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The DCW Circular Economy Scheme

Would you like your business to do more to help the environment?

It can, with our new opt-in sustainable recycling scheme launching in January 2020.

The DCW Circular Economy Scheme is being introduced to improve the quality of recycling, eliminate waste and promote the continual use of resources, by separating waste at source.

This in turn will create a more effective economy and reduce the environmental impact of our production and consumption in both the UK and abroad.



- MAKE
- USE
- DISPOSE



An alternative to a traditional linear economy

What is a circular economy?



We keep resources in use for as long as possible

We recover products and materials



We then regenerate materials at the end of each service life



We extract the maximum value from resources whilst in use

Why are we introducing the scheme?



New quality control measures mean that recycling commercial waste in a mixed recycling container or sack on average results in only a **44% recycle rate**.



Recycling commercial waste that is separated at source in separate sacks results in an average 94% recycle rate – **that's 50% more recycling that we can achieve through the DCW Circular Economy Scheme**.



To maximise recycling, create UK jobs and be fully accountable for what happens to our recycling, **separating waste at source is the best option today**.



What does the DCW Circular Economy Scheme mean for my business?



From 1st January 2020, we are inviting our customers to opt-in to our new DCW Circular Economy Scheme.

All DCW customers can register on a voluntary basis to participate in the new Scheme, whereby they sort their waste into separate bags for tin/cans, plastic bottles and poly, and paper (magazines and newspapers etc) to help improve how much of their waste can be recycled. Clients with larger volumes of clean poly/shrink wrap or cardboard can deposit it in the bin as is. DCW will collect the waste from the bins provided in the usual way.

You don't have to separate all types of recycling – just the most common type of waste produced by your business. For example an office will produce more paper than tin, so just separating paper is the best way to prioritise your recycling. A café will likely produce a lot of milk bottles, so if they were separated, we have a better opportunity for recycling. All waste will be processed, but this ensures the highest volumes of recycling are easily extracted by hand before it reaches the automated processing facility.

At DCW, we are still the only waste management company in the South West that extracts recycling from mixed commercial waste as well as the mixed recycling bins - all other waste companies send their general waste direct to landfill or to waste to energy. On average, our approach achieves an overall recycling rate of 44%. However, at DCW we want to take it a step further with the help of our clients. Following recent investments in specialist processing equipment, we now have the facilities to push our recycling even further.

DCW now operates a plastic processing site and a paper processing plant just outside of Plymouth. These centres produce high quality recycled plastic and paper to be used in UK manufacturing, reducing the miles the materials travel to be processed, and creating jobs here in the South West - providing a sustainable loop for higher value resources.

In order to feed these sites with higher quality material, we are encouraging our clients to separate some of their recycling at source and put it into clear sacks before it goes into the bin.





Why are these new measures necessary?

The recycling industry has never seen such dramatic change in recycling markets and public awareness, especially around plastics. We have a responsibility to act and at DCW, we are investing millions here in the South West to ensure recycling produced in the area stays in the area.

You may have read in the news that there have been increasing restrictions on the exportation of waste overseas, including a crisis situation for EU paper recyclers after China closed its doors to waste imports.

Shipping waste around the world was always unsustainable, which is why DCW is processing its waste here in the UK.

The whole collection process is changing to meet the quality standards now required with recycling, to ensure it can be processed here in the UK - creating jobs and reducing CO₂.





How do I sign up?

DCW is the first company to introduce these new measures in the South West. We hope that you'll support us in improving recycling rates, thereby making a sustainable change that will have a positive impact on our environment.

Registering for the initiative is simple and the only ongoing cost implication is the plastic bags for sorting the waste, which are recyclable and available for purchase at cost price – £5 for a roll of 50 bags (10p each). For customers with cardboard waste, rolls of tape are also available for purchase from DCW to bind the card, avoiding the cost of an additional bin.

Once registered, you will receive a pack including a wall poster guide to sorting your waste and you'll get your first roll of plastic waste bags for free. You'll also receive a window sticker and logo for your premises and website to show your commitment to becoming a greener business through the DCW Circular Economy Scheme.

To find out more about the DCW Circular Economy Scheme, or to register your business for the Scheme, please call the DCW team on **01392 361300**, email **sales@dcw.co.uk** or visit **www.dcw.co.uk**

