

Using evidence to shape better services



**Hertfordshire Kerbside
Waste Composition
Analysis**

March - May 2015

FINAL REPORT

Wastes &
resources
management



Community
safety &
neighbourhood
policing



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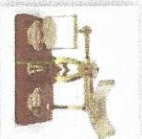
Healthy
communities



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& customer
research



Local
Authority
research &
evaluation



Measurement ♦ Evaluation ♦ Learning

4.3 Potential recyclability of the residual waste

The overall recyclability of the residual waste relates to all the items present that could have been accepted into the kerbside recycling schemes currently operating in each of the Hertfordshire authorities that were sampled. Results from the survey showed that the overall recyclability of the residual waste was highest in St. Albans at 65.8% and lowest from Three Rivers at 35.2%. Across Hertfordshire it is expected that 51.2% of all residual waste being disposed of is recyclable at the kerbside.

The majority of the recyclable materials present within the residual waste were compatible with the food and garden organic collections. On average 32.8% of residual waste consisted of recyclable food waste with an additional 1% being recyclable garden waste. Around 15.4% of residual waste could have been placed into the various mixed recycling boxes and bins that are available to all Hertfordshire households.

Table 4.3.1.1: Proportion of residual waste currently recyclable relative to current schemes (%)

% OF RESIDUAL WASTE CURRENTLY RECYCLABLE	BROXBOURNE	DACORUM	HERTSMERE	NORTH HERTS	ST. ALBANS	STEVENAGE	THREE RIVERS	WATFORD	WELWYN HATFIELD	COUNTY AVERAGE
DRY RECYCLABLE	11.87%	13.68%	14.47%	29.64%	27.34%	15.60%	10.66%	11.63%	8.79%	15.43%
ORGANIC RECYCLABLE	44.09%	31.79%	37.36%	21.28%	38.44%	38.69%	24.57%	40.22%	30.08%	35.80%
TOTAL RECYCLABLE	55.96%	45.47%	51.82%	50.92%	65.78%	54.29%	35.23%	51.84%	38.87%	51.24%

In terms of the amount of recyclables disposed of it is seen that Stevenage householders place almost 5.1kg/h/wk of materials in residual bins that could alternatively be recycled at the kerbside; this compares with 1.46kg/h/wk for North Herts households. Across Hertfordshire around 3.12kg/h/wk of recyclable material is being disposed of in the residual waste.

Table 4.3.1.2: Kg/h/wk of residual waste currently and potentially recyclable relative to current schemes

KG/H/WK OF RESIDUAL WASTE CURRENTLY RECYCLABLE	BROXBOURNE	DACORUM	HERTSMERE	NORTH HERTS	ST. ALBANS	STEVENAGE	THREE RIVERS	WATFORD	WELWYN HATFIELD	COUNTY AVERAGE
DRY RECYCLABLE	0.63	0.57	1.38	0.85	1.63	1.46	0.48	0.86	0.55	0.94
ORGANIC RECYCLABLE	2.35	1.33	3.58	0.61	2.29	3.63	1.10	2.96	1.88	2.18
TOTAL RECYCLABLE	2.98	1.90	4.96	1.46	3.93	5.09	1.58	3.81	2.43	3.12