

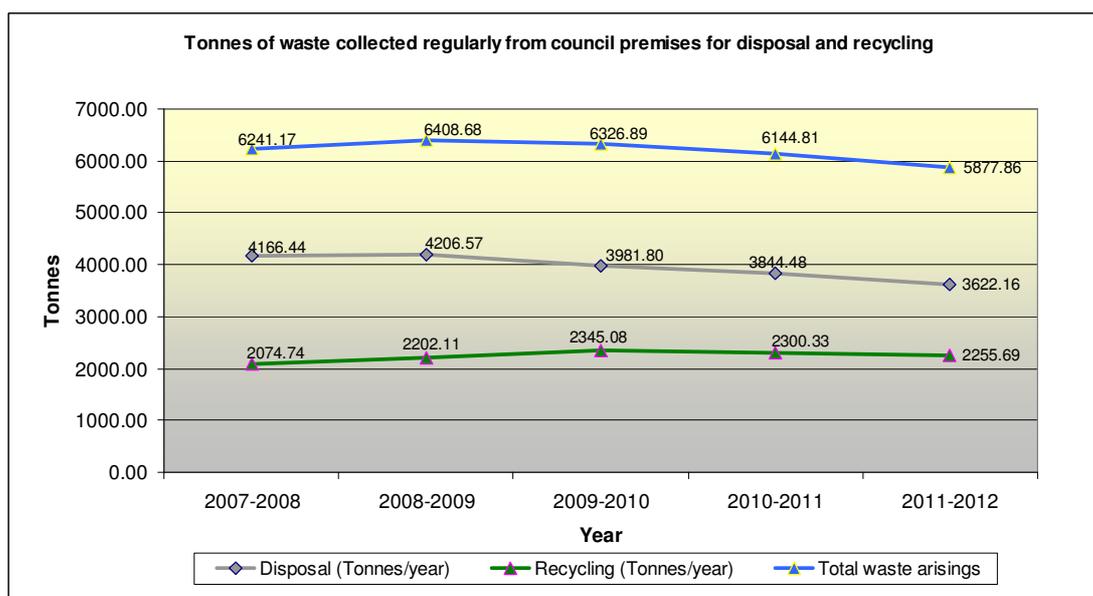
Public Sector Sustainability Awards - Best Waste/Recycling Project Submitted by Amanda Ingram, Aberdeenshire Council

Aberdeenshire council covers 6,313km² and employs over 14,000 staff based in 600 premises ranging from schools and offices to leisure facilities and care homes. As a Waste Collection and Disposal Authority committed to Sustainable Development, Aberdeenshire Council recognise the importance of leading by example.

Over the last 5 years, work has been undertaken across council premises to review the waste generated by council activities and to identify and implement practices and initiatives to improve waste management. When the Waste Minimisation project began in 2008, recycling was identified as an activity which staff already had a high level of knowledge of and interest in as a result of the ongoing household waste and recycling campaigns, and so, this has been the main focus of work undertaken to date.

From April 2007-March 2008, a total of 4,166 tonnes of waste was collected for disposal and 2,075 tonnes was collected for recycling from council premises. During this period, only 17 premises collected plastic bottles, 20 collected cans, 16 collected glass, 109 collected cardboard and 295 collected paper for recycling.

Various ongoing initiatives have seen an 8.7% increase in the amount of waste collected for recycling and a 13% decrease in the amount of residual waste sent to landfill by March 2012. From April 2011-March 2012, 3,622 tonnes of waste was collected for disposal and 2,256 tonnes was collected for recycling (a 544 tonne decrease in residual waste and 181tonne increase in recycling compared to 2008). Since 2008, the number of recycling collections being made from council premises has increased by 136% and as of March 2012, 186 premises now collect plastic bottles, 134 collect cans, 67 collect glass, 241 collect cardboard and 317 collect paper for recycling.



Year	Number of premises collecting each material for recycling				
	2007/2008	2008/2009	2009/2010	2010/2011	2011/2012
Cardboard	109	116	137	190	241
Glass	16	17	21	54	67
Paper	295	304	307	306	317
Plastic bottles	17	30	51	131	186
Cans	20	23	32	93	134
Fluorescent tubes	26	25	36	82	103
Cooking oil	85	84	85	95	85
Polythene	0	0	1	1	1
Batteries	0	0	0	31	54
WEEE	0	0	34	101	117
Mixed recycling box	0	0	0	17	40
Total recycling collection services received by premises	568	599	704	1101	1345

Much of the progress in decreasing residual waste and increasing recycling can be attributed to the implementation of services, development of resources and the heightened awareness brought about by council's Waste Minimisation project as outlined below and in the supporting document.

At the start of the project in 2008, recycling facilities were available to some premises although many staff and visitors did not use them. One of the main barriers identified to staff participating in recycling was a lack of information and dedicated recycling containers located within buildings. Therefore in 2009, £200,000 Zero Waste funding was secured to purchase indoor recycling containers. Trials of containers took place in several council premises over 6 months to identify the specifications required in different situations and by different users which was then used to procure over 10,500 containers in March 2010.

600 premises were identified as having potential to increase recycling. Individual site reviews were considered necessary in all these premises to ensure staff received information, containers and collections that met the needs of individual buildings and services. A secondment post was created with funding from the Zero Waste Fund to assist with this time consuming task. Since March 2010, 470 premises have received on-site assistance (258 premises were visited from January-December 2011) resulting in the majority of premises having reduced the amount of residual waste sent to landfill and increased the amount and number of types of materials collected for recycling, achieving over £50,000 in cumulative cost savings which will benefit sites year on year and has increased awareness of waste issues at work and home.



Work has been undertaken to determine the influence of incentivising participation in recycling. In November 2010, Aberdeenshire Council became the first Scottish Local Authority to use reVend® Reverse Vending technology to reward recyclers in a council-run Leisure Centre in Peterhead. The technology which accepts cans and plastic bottles has shown an increase in recycling and other benefits such as reduced plastic bottles and cans litter and increased access to leisure facilities using the vouchers issued. Further activities to motivate participation in recycling include removing individual desk-side waste bins and establishing waste and recycling points throughout buildings. In the Council's Headquarters, this has increased recycling, reduced waste and saved cleaning time and related costs by 20 hours/week.

Recycling just got better!

25 drinks cans or plastic bottles in the reVend® machine = 1 free swim or ½ price badminton or 1 hot drink at the coffee bar

The reVend® machine is located beside the coffee bar. Each drink can or plastic bottle recycled will give you a one point voucher.

Points can only be redeemed in Peterhead Swimming Pool and Leisure Facility and cannot be exchanged for their monetary value. This offer may be subject to change.

Yes please
 ✓ Plastic bottles (please remove lids)
 ✓ Drink cans

No thanks
 ✗ Liquids or residues
 ✗ Bottle lids
 ✗ Food cans

If your bottle or can is not accepted it is probably because the barcode is not recognised. Please place in recycling container so it can be added to the database.

Aberdeenshire Council **Reduce Reuse Recycle** towards zero waste

Waste Aware Aberdeenshire

North-east Journal
 YEAR 2009
 WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 3 2010 48P

Feed this recycling machine for a reward

POP IN DRINK CANS AND BOTTLES AT PETERHEAD AND IT WILL DISPENSE VOUCHERS

BY JAMIE BUCHAN

A TOPSY-TURVY vending machine which rewards customers for feeding it plastic cans and plastic bottles has been installed at Peterhead. The device installed at the town's leisure and community centre is thought to be one of the first of its kind in Scotland.

It hopes the reverse vending machine, known as reVend, will encourage recycling and reduce litter. If successful, the machines will be introduced to other local authority venues across the region. The machine, which can hold more than 2,000 items at a time, gives out redeemable vouchers for each used can or bottle deposited. At Peterhead, users will be rewarded with points which can be saved up and traded for free swims, half-price badminton sessions or hot drinks. Volunteers at the Peterhead-based Can-Do recycling project will collect the items and take them away for sorting.

The ReVend uses advanced barcode technology to identify and sort steel and aluminium cans as well as plastic bottles. Council waste management officer Amanda Logan said: "The machine is being trialled as part of a series of internal waste management initiatives being introduced by Aberdeenshire Council. A number of schemes are being used to encourage staff and services users to recycle more at work and at school and to reduce the waste sent to landfill."

REWARDING SYSTEM: Ian Robertson, Aberdeenshire Council's head of protective services and waste management, places a plastic bottle in the reverse vending machine at Peterhead Leisure and Community Centre as duty officer Mark Edwards looks on.

In 2009, 'Requip', an online reuse facility unique to Aberdeenshire Council was developed. This provides an opportunity for premises to find or give away council-owned equipment for reuse by other premises thereby reducing resource use, avoiding waste and saving money. From January-December 2011, over 1,000 items were featured on the site with successful reuse examples ranging from office furniture and stationery to potter wheels and cash registers.

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Requip - the place to reuse council owned equipment

New Advert

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18/04/2012	Old School Tables and Chairs (Annabel Ross)
17/04/2012 1	Cupboard Wanted (Jennifer Mitchell)
04/04/2012	Plastic Cup Holders - Brown - 18 (Lesley Mitchell)
02/04/2012	Lexmark Printer Cartridge Available (Leigh-Ann Duffy)
26/03/2012	tall storage cupboard x 2 if possible (Wilma Thomson)
23/03/2012	Brother 102E Fax Machine (Elaine Gray)
21/03/2012 1	Pavo Laminating Pouches (Gordon Esslemont)
21/03/2012	Epson Ink Cartridges (Gordon Esslemont)
21/03/2012 2	HP Ink Cartridges (Gordon Esslemont)
20/03/2012 1	Metal 4 drawer filing cabinets (Gillian Francis)

You are in: Requip
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Over the last year, 12 premises have installed closed/in-vessel composting systems and it is estimated that these sites could deal with 12 tonnes of food waste/year. In the last year, a further 24 premises have been given open-vessel composters to deal with food and garden waste on-site. Furthermore, collections of source-segregated food waste from two offices for off-site composting started in May 2012 and together, the two sites look set to divert an estimated 10 tonnes of food waste per year.

recycle for Scotland
Food Waste Collection

		YES Please	NO Thanks
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Fruit and vegetables ✓ Tea bags, bread and cakes ✓ Cooked and uncooked meat and fish and bones ✓ Beans, pasta and rice ✓ Eggs and cheese ✓ Paper napkins / towels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Liquids, oils and fats ✗ Packaging of any kind ✗ Plastics, foil and string

Food waste will be taken off-site and turned into compost

For information on waste and recycling, contact Trade Waste: 01467 628671
 For information on waste and recycling in this building, please contact:

Name Contact

Aberdeenshire COUNCIL 

Don't let a good thing go to waste



The source-segregation of food waste in some premises has raised awareness of the related weight and cost of this waste and opportunities to both reduce waste through changes in food purchasing and preparation practices and to compost waste both on and off-site. This has provided an opportunity for hands on learning and better information on capture rates and contamination issues to enable an options appraisal to be made on whether a collection service or on-site composting method is the best (financial and environmental) option for schools and other council premises that produce food waste.

In 2010, a regular collection service for small items of WEEE and Batteries from council premises was established. In June 2012 a free one-off collection of large items of WEEE was offered to Aberdeenshire schools, with over 4 tonnes being collected in one day, enabling sites to clear out unwanted items, save money and meet legal requirements. A further one-off collection of WEEE is being provided for all premises in October 2012.



To support the promotion of recycling, a range of information posters and labels providing clear instructions of what should be placed in recycling containers have been developed and made available to premises to guide and enforce messages. Informational materials have also been developed and disseminated to raise awareness and encourage participation in waste reduction and reuse initiatives across the council. All artwork developed have adopted the recognisable Brand and Campaign style that is used in household waste campaigns and facilities across Aberdeenshire and Scotland.

Think before you bin 

Paper, card, glass or tins?
Can go in recycling bins!

Waste bins are only for waste that cannot be recycled in this building. Recycling Points for various materials are located throughout the building at:

For information on waste and recycling, contact Trade Waste: 01467 628671
For information on waste and recycling in this building, please contact:

Name Contact

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Recycle these and more in this building

For information on waste and recycling, contact Trade Waste: 01467 628671
For information on waste and recycling in this building, please contact:

Name Contact

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Recycling at Work – getting started

What do I need to know?
Trade Waste generated at work through the provision of a service must be removed by authorised persons and appropriate documentation retained. This waste cannot be taken home or deposited using household waste recycling facilities unless permitted to do so.
If your waste arises from items that you bring in from home for your own personal use, for example a plastic water bottle, you can take this home with you.

Where can I get collection containers?
Trade Waste can provide various sizes of wheeled bins for collecting waste and recycling. All bins have information stickers on them.
☎ Trade waste: 01467 628671/72
Waste Services can provide small indoor collection containers free of charge that can be decanted into larger bins outside as well as information posters and stickers to display throughout premises.
☎ Waste Management (internal): 01467 628680

What materials do the Council collect?

- ✓ General waste
- ✓ Paper
- ✓ Cardboard
- ✓ Cans
- ✓ Glass
- ✓ Plastic bottles
- ✓ Cooking oil
- ✓ Batteries
- ✓ Fluorescent tubes
- ✓ Polythene
- ✓ Waste Electrical & Electronic Equipment
- ✓ ICT Equipment (collected by ICT services)

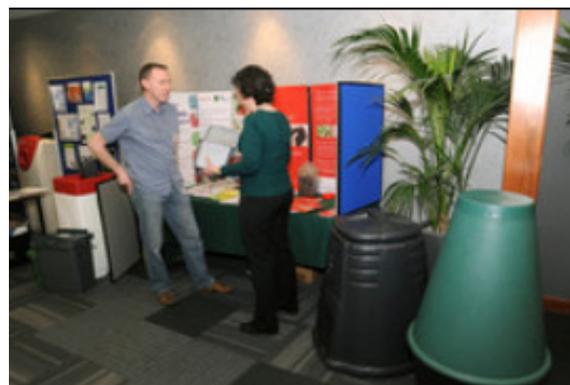


What does it cost?
Waste and recycling collections are a service that has to be paid for. The charge for recycling is less than for waste disposal, therefore cost savings can be made by recycling more and reducing the amount of waste you dispose of. Current charges are available from:
☎ www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/waste/trade
☎ Direct Dial: 01467 628671/72

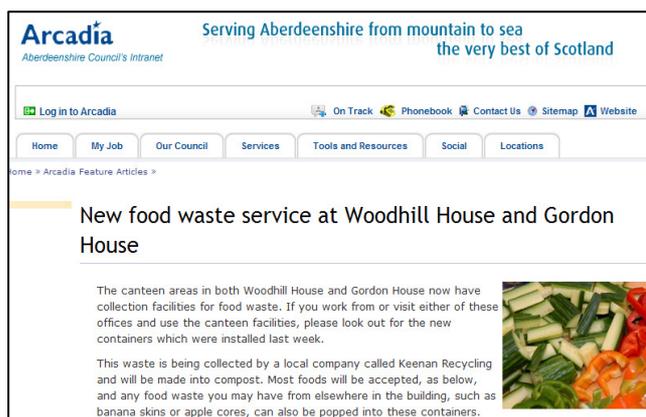
Where can I find more information?
Trade Waste services provide advice on waste segregation and collection services available.
☎ trade.waste@aberdeenshire.gov.uk
☎ 01467 628671/72
The internal Waste Management Officer can advise on opportunities to reduce, reuse, recycle and manage waste in council premises.
☎ 01467 628680

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Several waste awareness events specific to council staff have been held in council premises giving staff the opportunity to find out more about waste initiatives and targets in the council and how they can participate. With the key aim of raising awareness of waste reduction and reuse opportunities, four 'Give and Take days at work' events were held in council premises during European Week for Waste Reduction in November 2011. Across the 4 events, nearly one thousand household items, found new homes either with council staff or going to local charities. A guide has been developed which has since been used by premises that have held similar events in 2012.



Waste minimisation initiatives have been publicised to staff through the council's intranet site, articles in internal publications and dedicated waste information pages on the council's Intranet. Articles have also featured in local press, recycling company newsletters and progress has been reported in the Council's Climate Change Declaration report and Remade Scotland's Local Authority Internal Waste Management Opportunities and Good Practice report. As a result of publicity, several Local Authorities and a local University have approached Aberdeenshire council for good practice advice on adopting waste management initiatives and engaging staff.



Adopting waste initiatives has helped several schools achieve Green Flag status in the Eco School Award Scheme and several council-operated Caravan Parks to receive Green Business Scheme Awards. These schemes have in turn, shared the experiences of Aberdeenshire sites with other locations throughout the UK.

18 PIPER AND HERALD Friday, February 12, 2010 www.deesidepiper.co.uk / www.donsidepiper.co.uk email: pipereditorial@deesidepiper.com

ABOYNE ACADEMY

Aboyne Academy recycled initiative



ABOYNE Academy's Eco-schools group have been working hard to set up a whole school recycling scheme over the past few months.

The details of the new scheme were explained to all pupils by representatives from the Eco-schools group at morning assemblies last week.

The new scheme will involve the recycling of plastic bottles and metal cans as well as improving the existing system for collecting waste paper.

With the help and advice of Aberdeenshire Council's waste management services and the Zero Waste Fund the Eco-schools group have obtained special recycling containers which will be located throughout the school and community centre building.

The eco-schools group together with the school partners will manage the system and monitor the amount of waste that is being recycled.

In addition to this new recycling scheme the Academy already recycles several other forms of waste including cardboard, glass, electronic components, light tubes and food waste.

The Academy's Eco-schools group consists of over twenty pupil and staff members who are keen to see the school further reduce its environmental impact. The eco-schools group is coordinated by biology teacher Jamie Turner with other staff members including Brian Paterson (Senior Junior), Daniel Daqaah (Chemistry teacher) and school Rector, Raymond Jowett.

It was stressed to all pupils at assembly that the scheme depends on everyone playing a part and ensuring that plastic, cans and paper are out in the correct bins.

Pictured are of some members of the Eco-schools group with examples of the bins that will be installed throughout the school building, from left: Mr R Jowett, Eilidh Blackhall, Kim Loudon, Megan Rowlands, Sarah Hector, Mr B Paterson, Eilie Palmer, Claire Hector, Karl Johnson and Mr J Turner.

Over the last 5 years the Waste Minimisation Project has enabled Aberdeenshire Council to make significant progress in improving its environmental performance and supporting its commitment to Sustainable Development and meet waste and carbon related targets. Benefits have included financial savings from reduced waste disposal, purchasing and cleaning costs, social benefits from increased awareness of waste issues and legal compliance relevant to work and at home and environmental benefits from improved resource efficiency and waste diversion from landfill.

The project will continue to deliver and build upon the success of the work already undertaken. Awareness-raising will remain high on the agenda and is intended to extend to include delivery of staff training and establishment of Waste Champions to lead site-specific waste issues. Following the recycling roll-out, more focus will be given to reduce and reuse as well as opportunities for monitoring and dealing with additional waste streams.