

## Plastics

- Are the tiny bottle's that drinks like Yakult comes in recyclable as plastic bottles? **Yes, all types of plastic bottles are recycled and this includes the small sized bottles.**
- Are the plastic bottles that things like antifreeze, white spirit, and engine oil come in recyclable in the kerbside scheme? **Yes, as long as they are empty.**
- Should I take lids off plastic bottles, or should I squash plastic bottles with lids left on? **You should remove the lids of plastic bottles as the lids are made of non-recyclable mixed plastics. Once the lid has been removed you can squash the bottle if you wish.**
- Should I remove labels from cans/plastic bottles? **The labels will be removed at the reprocessing stage so there is no need for residents to do this.**
- Should I rinse shampoo bottles? **Rinsing all plastic bottles is helpful. Why not rinse them with dishwater to save resources!**

## Paper and Cardboard

- Rather than shred paper and try and recycle it, would it be better to compost it? **Adding shredded paper to your home compost bin is great way of disposing of it. If you don't have a compost bin you can put shredded paper in an envelope or cereal box before putting it in your recycling bin/box at home. Shredded paper that is loose in recycling bins is often removed by the sorting machine as it is too small.**
- What is the smallest size piece of paper that can be recycled through a MRF, and should I compost smaller bits instead? **Anything smaller than 40mm could fall out of the materials recycling facility and so should be put inside an envelope or box. Alternatively, small pieces of paper are a great addition to your home compost bin.**

## Tins and Cans

- Should I squash cans? **You can squash cans to save space in your bin at home. Squashed or not – all food tins and drinks cans are recycled.**
- Should I put cans inside larger cans to save space? **This can lead to contamination if aluminum cans are put inside steel cans. We therefore recommend keeping cans separate and if you need to save space then squashing them is the best option.**

### Other

- Are completely worn out shoes recyclable? Yes, shoes in any condition can be recycled as long as they are paired. Please tie the shoes together and put them in a shoe recycling bank.
- Can I put kitchen knives in the recycling bin? No, kitchen knives placed in the recycling bins are dangerous for the staff working at the material recycling facility to deal with.
- Should old electric cables be put into the WEEE collection places? How about musical Christmas cards? Electrical cables should be put in the small WEEE bays at Smallmead and Longshot Lane household waste recycling centres. The inside mechanism of a musical card can also be put in the small WEEE bays.
- Is it OK to squash foil up and put it in my recycling bin? There are foil banks at both household waste recycling centres and at locations throughout the partnership area where clean foil can be recycled.
- Does anyone really recycle milk bottle tops? Milk bottle tops made from aluminum foil can be placed in a foil bring bank. Plastic milk bottle tops are made of mixed plastics and must be placed in your landfill bin/bag.
- Should I put my recyclables in plastic carrier bags? No, please do not put your recyclables in any type of bag before putting them in your recycling bin/box. Bags can get caught up in the sorting machine and often the materials within them are discarded as they cannot be sorted out – meaning your recycling effort is wasted.
- How good a quality do textiles have to be to be recycled? Clothes that are put in the textiles banks are sorted and graded according to their quality and condition. Those clothes that are not in a good condition (ripped etc) usually end up being used as industrial rag and therefore still recycled.