

27th March 2025 – Hunts Waste Busters

Attendees and Introduction

Heidi – Waste Minimisation Officer, HDC

Auriane – Waste Minimisation Support Officer, HDC

Chris – Huntingdon

Mary – St Ives

Liz – Houghton

Madeline – Buckden

Ann – St Ives

Jenni - Brampton

Apologies

Alan - Southoe and Midloe Parish Council

Nic – St Ives

Nicola – St Neots

Cllr Bishop - Little Paxton Parish Council

Marcus – Hemingford Abbots

Tracey – Bluntisham

Dominic – Bury

Caroline – St Ives

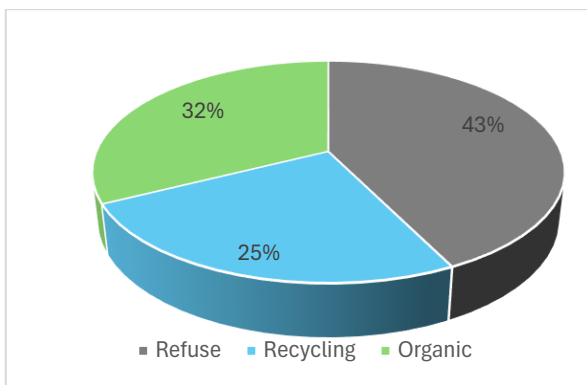
Rebecca – St Ives

Welcome

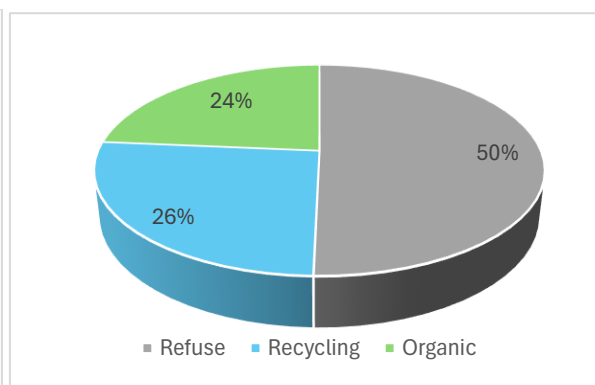
Heidi introduced herself (waste minimisation officer) and Auriane (waste minimisation support officer).

Data & Trends: Waste Collection

- The waste min team constantly use **data** such as recycling rates and bin rejections to measure our resident's behaviours. In 2024/2025, 50% of material collected was recycled or composted, a decrease from 57% in 2023/2024, predominantly due to the introduction of the charging for green bin collections.

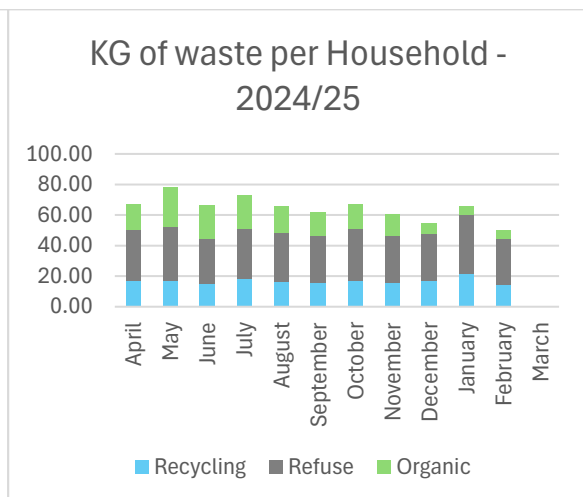
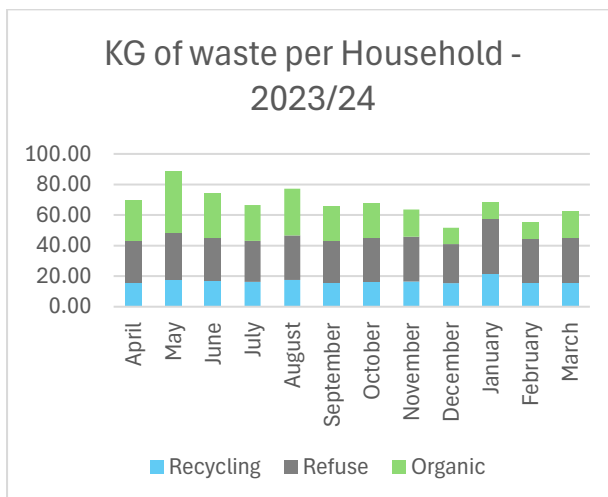


Waste Tonnages 2023/24



Waste Tonnages 2024/25

Data & Trends: Kilograms of waste collected per household



Changes in legislations

Environment Act 2021 Implementation

- **April 2025:** Mandatory food waste collection for businesses.
- **April 2025:** Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) implementation to reduce waste.
- **April 2026:** Weekly food collection for all residents.

New MRF Contract

Vape Legislation

- **June 1, 2025:** Ban on selling and supplying single-use vapes in the UK.

Garden Waste Initiatives – more [here](#).

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- **Home Composters**

Approximately 400 units purchased to date.

This offer will continue for 2025/26

The resident pays £10 and the delivery costs directly to [GetComposting](#).

The subsidy applies to a maximum of 2 compost converters per household. Please visit [GetComposting](#), enter your postcode, select Blackwall 220 Litre Black Compost Converter and the discount will be automatically applied.

- **Free Soil Improver:**

45 requests received; 39 deliveries made to date. Positive feedback from Parish Councils regarding this initiative.

- **Community Bin Scheme**

All parish councils can request up to 10 community bins for a community location.

These bins need to be accessible for local residents to use to deposit their garden waste and will be collected as part of the normal route scheduling for fortnightly garden bin collections.

It will be the responsibility of the parish council to manage these bins, the same as a household, ie no contamination, out for collection on the collection day.

The Waste Minimisation Team are happy to provide support to enable a community bin scheme within parishes.

Some of our recent activities

Waste Minimisation

Food Behavioural Change – Yaxley & Huntingdon

Preventing Food Waste (Behavioural change expert).

Chef in the School initiative

CCC

Volunteer door knocking (RECAP)

More on that in the coming weeks.

Pod back scheme

Reconsideration of the scheme - recycling centres have them already

Sanitary Products Offer - Round 2

Heavily discounted reusable products (£5 vs. £23.50 retail). This will be run by us but funded by [RECAP](#).

Reusable Nappies Offer for residents

This scheme provides access to discounts of 10-25% on the purchase of reusable nappies.

Recycling

Recycling Centre Visit

We visited BIFFA in North London to discuss contamination rates.

Envar Visit

For Councillors only – 4th April



Boots blister packs recycling scheme

For medicine and vitamin blister packs

<https://www.boots.com/shopping/boots-recycling-scheme/blister-pack-recycling>

28 drop-off points for small electricals

15380 kg of e-waste avoided from landfill & more on the way

<https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/bins-waste/recycling-centres/small-electrical-item-bins/>

Upcoming Weekly Food Waste Collection

To commence 1st April 2026

Vehicles and Caddies purchased

New collection routes designed

Communication planning



Litter Minimisation

National

- Littering costs the UK economy almost £1 billion annually.
- Almost 48% of people admit to dropping litter.
- The amount of litter dropped each year in the UK has increased by 500% since the 1960s.
- Cigarette butts are the most common littered item in the UK, making up nearly 40% of litter.

Local

- 1486 bins across the district (litter and dog waste) and 26 staff.
- We collect around 140 tonnes of litter/year.
- In the last year we have had volunteer litter picking from lots of individuals and around 50 organised groups, many of whom have done several litter picks throughout the year.
- Keeping Huntingdonshire clean and litter free costs nearly £1 million every year.

Performance

- We are in the top 6 performing councils for street cleansing even though our costs per head are among the lowest
- Purchased 500 litter picks
- Purchased signage
- Currently reviewing some aspects of the process

Incentives for residents (reminder)

Incentives

[10-25% discount on reusable period/incontinence products](#)

[10-25% discounts on reusable nappies](#)

[£20 off compost bins \(£16.99 left to pay\)](#)

Services

[WEEE bins available](#)

[Bulky Waste Collection](#)

[Litter Picking Utensils](#) (email - litterminimisation@huntingdonshire.gov.uk)

[Free loose compost](#)

[Saturday Freighters](#)

Community green bins for parish councils (free) – up to 10 garden bins to be sited in a communal location. These bins will need be accessible for local residents to use to deposit their garden waste and will be collected as part of the normal route scheduling for fortnightly garden bin collections.

It will be the responsibility of the parish council to manage these bins, the same as a household, ie no contamination, out for collection on the collection day. To request bins for your parish please contact wasteminimisation@huntingdonshire.gov.uk

Upcoming Events

REPAIR CAFÉ

Godmanchester Repair Café - Sat 3 May 2025, 1:30pm – 4:30pm

Buckden PC Repair Café - Sat 7 Jun 2025, 1:30pm – 4:30pm

St Ives Cambs Repair Café - Sat 14 Jun 2025, 1:00pm – 4:00pm

OTHER

St Ives Big Green Week (7th to 15th June) – Attending

Greener Buckden Day - Saturday 7th June – TBC

Wild about Huntingdon - 29th June (10am - 4pm) – Attending

Comments from attendees / Actions

Q: Question | C: Comment | A: Answer

Q. What do Astco do with the clothes ?

A: Sorting Facility.

Q. Any details re how much is collected ?

A: About 40 tonnes / year. (Astco only)

Q. What contract obligations do they have re disposal ?

A: Pass it on / Tender / Textiles 2030 member (voluntary initiative) / TRA.

Q. Any results available what is reclaimed from electrical waste ?

A: The vast majority is saved, melted and then materials separated by layers. About 15 tonnes.

Q. What exactly goes where in terms of clothes sent to ASTCO?

A: We know that some of it is kept in the UK and some of it is sent abroad. We have asked ASTCO for a full breakdown / report.

Q. Please contact a resident to speak on the 3rd April

A: Done