

An aerial photograph of Basingstoke and Deane, showing a mix of residential houses, green spaces, and commercial buildings. A large blue rectangular box is overlaid in the center, containing white text. The background shows a mix of urban and green spaces under a cloudy sky.

Consistency in Household Recycling in England – Government Response (Nov 2023)

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**Basingstoke
and Deane**

Topics to Cover

- Why are changes being made?
- Simpler recycling
- Introduction of food waste
- Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)
- Deposit Return Scheme (DRS)
- What can we do in the meantime?

Why are changes being made?

“To make it easier for people to do the right thing, maximise use, minimise waste and drive up recycling rates.”

A shake up is required: Recycling rates across the country have plateaued off at approx 42% since 2021

Large Government targets set: Including eliminating all avoidable waste by 2050

Action needed:

Simplifying recycling for all of England.

Maximising use, minimising waste.

Encouraging thoughtful choices.

Avoiding waste in the first place.

Recycling Consistency Consultation

Government looking to introduce improved and simplified requirements through the Environment Act 2021.

Consultation regarding household recycling consistency held between
7th May 2021 - 4th July 2021

Other consultations also held regarding related additional policies.

Statutory guidance released in November 2023.

Consistency and Simplicity in Recycling

- The same materials recycled across England.
- Addition of mandatory recyclables- foil, cartons, pots/tubs/trays
- Collection from as few containers as possible.
- Businesses and schools must offer the same to promote consistency.



What does this mean for BDBC?

The Collection Authority, Hampshire County Council, must decide how to process the material.

This will affect how BDBC make collections.

FINAL DATE: 31 March 2026

FINAL DATE (FILM): 31 March

2027

Food Waste Collections

- Compliments Government target to eliminate biodegradable waste going to landfill by 2028.
- Statutory advice insists on weekly food waste collections.
- Preferential treatment by Anaerobic digestion (generating biofuel and digestate)
- Government are supporting the construction of more AD sites to support the legislation.
- New Burdens Funding to support LAs in food waste roll out.



FINAL DATE: 31 March 2026

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)

Complimentary legislative change to Consistency legislation.

- Puts responsibility of environmental impact of packaging back onto the producer.
- Incentivise recyclability and reuse of packaging, by penalising producers for elements which cannot be reused/recycled.
- Forces producers to use clear, universally accepted recycling labelling.
- Help encourage a circular economy for resources.
- Supports residents and Local Authorities responsible for disposal.



FINAL DATE: 31 March 2026

Deposit Return Scheme (DRS)

Complimentary legislative change to Consistency legislation.

- Created to encourage positive buying and disposal habits through incentivising.
- Prevention of littering and disposal of recyclables needlessly via the waste stream.



How will it work?

- Installation of reverse vending machines in supermarkets and smaller participating stores.
- When a plastic bottle/can purchased, a 20p “deposit” is added to the price at the point of purchase.
- Once empty, the bottle/can can be returned to a participating store, and put into the reverse vending machine, where the 20p can be returned to the customer (store credit/tokens/money).

FINAL DATE:

TBC

What Can We Do in the Meantime?

- Make current service as effective and environmentally friendly as possible.
- Continue to encourage good habits.
- Encourage sustainable and environmentally friendly purchases.
- Support positive messaging.
- Support external incentives through resident sign posting.



Q&A

Thank you for listening.

Welcome questions on the subject.

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