

# Introduction to Waste & Recycling

Gemma Scott 23/03/2021



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**Waste Basics** 



Waste in London & Lancaster West



Waste Myths



How you can make a difference





### **Waste Basics**



#### What is waste?

# A resource someone else can get value from

#### Waste hierarchy





#### The circular economy



#### Reduce, reuse & recycle - why do it?

London gets
through
7.7 billion
plastic bottles
every year

Source: The Guardian

Aluminum & glass can be recycled infinitely

Source: Recycle Now

Recycling 1
drinks can
saves enough
energy to
power a TV for
4 hours

Source: Recycle Now



Waste in London, K&C and Lancaster West



#### How much & what is in our waste?

- London-wide: Every year, London boroughs collect the equivalent of 1,500 x 50-metre swimming pools full of waste.
- K&C / Lancaster West: The average household produces 1 tonne of waste every year. The equivalent to the weight of a small family car.
- Food waste makes up a significant amount of the waste
  - 60% of this is avoidable



### **Legislative Drivers**





#### **National Consultations**

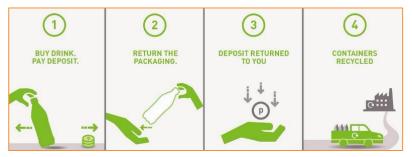
1. Consistency in household and business recycling



3. Reform of Packaging Regulations (EPR)



2. Introduction of a deposit return scheme (DRS)



4. Plastic packaging tax



#### **Household Recycling rates**

2019/20

• England = 43.8%

• London = 33.5%

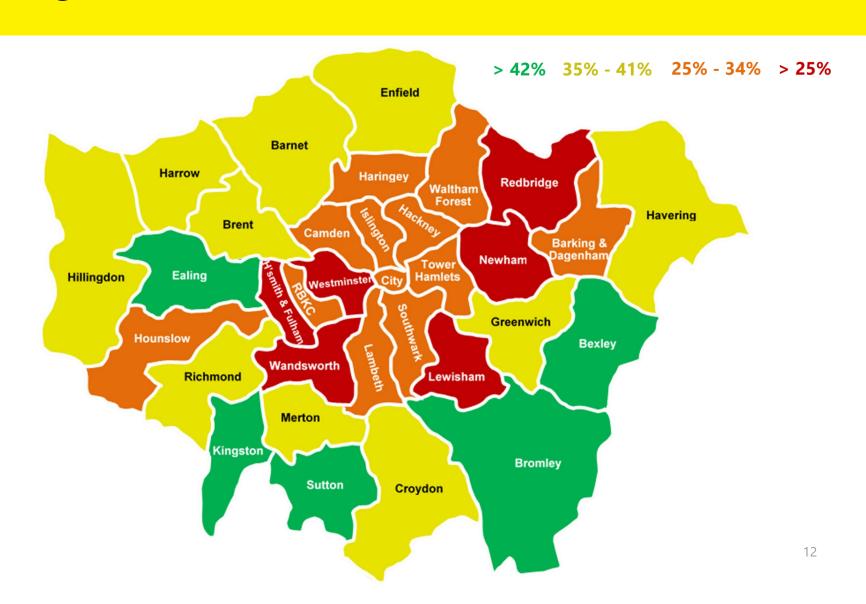
• RBK&C = 28.6%

Neighbours

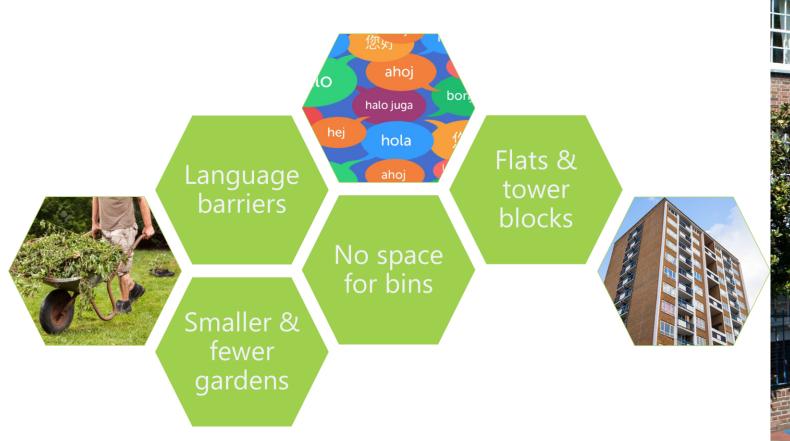
• RBH&F: 25.5%

• WCC: 20.4%

• Wandsworth: 23.7%



#### Challenges in London





#### **Waste Collection - Overview**



**Household Waste:** All Local Authorities are legally obliged to provide a waste collection service to all households within their borough. This is paid for through household council tax.

#### ReLondon

### Lancaster West recycling & food waste













### What items can be recycled?















### What can't be recycled / common contamination?















#### What happens to your waste - once collected...







Energy from Waste Facility







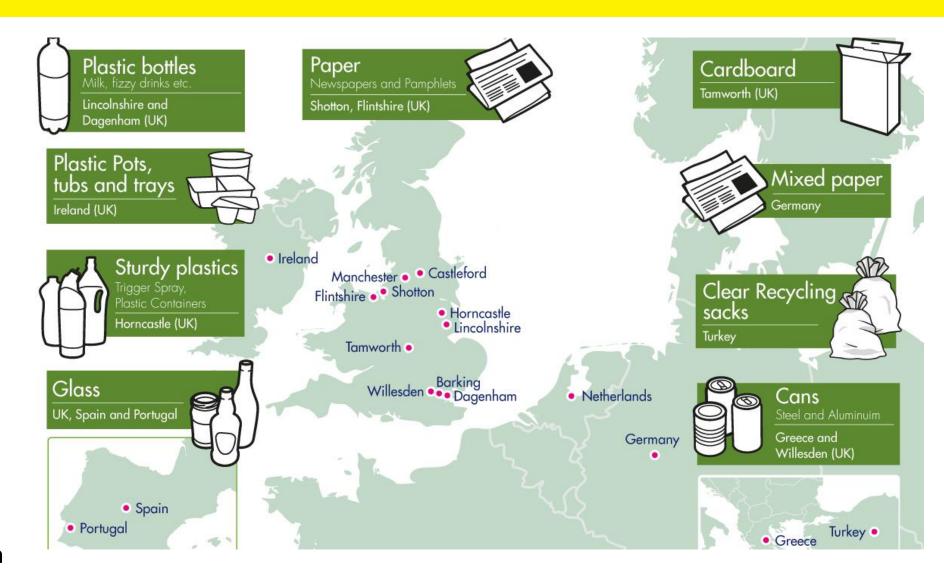






**End Markets** 

#### What happened to your waste - end markets...



### **Recycling process**











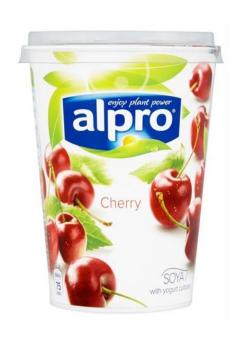
### Waste myths



## MYTH... all plastic is bad



## FACT... some plastic is necessary









## MYTH... compostable and biodegradable is better than plastic



## FACT... it will only breakdown under industrial conditions



## MYTH... all good quality paper can be recycled





## FACT... only if it scrunches and doesn't have glitter



### MYTH... any packaging with a cyclical arrow on it can be recycled





## FACT... packaging has confusing labelling for recycling







### MYTH... waste is sorted at a MRF so I don't need to bother



## FACT... unsorted waste wont be recycled







How YOU can make a difference



## Personal Reduction Tips

There are lots of ways that you can reduce the amount of waste you produce...





#### Lancaster West Redevelopment tips

- Improve dry recycling service for residents
- Roll out food waste service across the development
- Install multi-bin kitchen units
- Careful management of C&D waste



### **Any Questions?**





### Thank you

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relondon.gov.uk