

Simpler Recycling legislation - FAQs

From March 2025, Simpler Recycling rules came into force, making recycling easier and more consistent for businesses across the UK.

What is Simpler Recycling?

- New Government legislation to standardise and simplify recycling across England
- Aims to improve recycling rates, reduce landfill waste and cut confusion

What's new?

- Food waste must now be separated from general waste
- New internal and external food waste caddies and bins will be placed in all kitchens and breakout spaces, where reasonably practicable
- The number of items which can be recycled has increased (see below)

What needs to be separated and where do I put it?

- Plastic (yellow/orange lid)
 - Rinsed empty food containers (such as yoghurt pot, butter tubs, ready meal trays, fruit & meat trays) and bottles
- Metals (red lid)
 - Drinks cans, rinsed empty food tins, empty aerosols, clean aluminium food trays and tubes
- Paper and cardboard (blue lid)
 - Old newspapers and magazines; envelopes, delivery boxes and packaging
- Glass (put in with plastics or cans)
 - Empty and rinsed glass bottles and jars
- Dry Mixed Recycling (green lid)
 - Glass (drinks bottles and rinsed empty food jars); Metals (drinks cans, rinsed empty food tins, empty aerosols, clean aluminium food trays and tubes); plastics (rinsed empty food containers (such as yoghurt pot, butter tubs, ready meal trays, fruit & meat trays) and bottles; Paper and cardboard (Old newspapers and magazines; envelopes, delivery boxes and packaging)
- Food waste (food waste caddies/containers)
 - All food waste from the
- General waste (black lid)
 - All residual waste that cannot be recycled, including takeaway cups, soft plastics, biodegradable and compostable plastic packaging and greasy pizza or food boxes

How often are the external bins collected?

- All general waste, recycling and food waste bins are collected at least once per week
- Glass bins are collected at least once per week
- More information may be found within the collections section of the [Waste and Recycling](#) webpage

Will this legislation make Hope more sustainable?

- Yes, the number of materials which can be recycled has increased meaning we're improving our recycling performance

What if the University doesn't comply?

- Compliance issues can be issued
- Fines and enforcement action may be taken
- Public and waste collectors can report non-compliance