

Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012 – Recycling Guidance for Self-catering Accommodations

Regulatory Requirements

From Jan 2016, self-catering accommodations must take all reasonable steps to separate and recycle dry recyclable materials (i.e., glass, metals, plastics, paper, or cardboard) from the rest of your waste for collection.

Food businesses¹, which produce over 5kg of food waste per week must take all reasonable steps to ensure their food waste is also separately collected. However, self-catering accommodation is not defined as a 'food business' and therefore NOT required to provide facilities to separate food waste.

Expectations for self-catering accommodations to comply with the Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012

It is expected that all key recyclables waste streams generated by self-catering accommodations are separated for collection and recycling.

As a guide the following list of waste streams should be targeted in the respective areas of operation. This list is non-exhaustive, please consider other areas of your business, when setting up your internal separation. E.g., bathrooms, etc

No.	Area of operation	Target materials for recycling
1	Kitchen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empty food packaging such as tins, cans, glass & recyclable plastic (bottles & jars) • Cardboard packaging • Food Waste (should you wish to recycle)
2	Guest Areas, i.e. bedrooms, lounge	Provision should be available for guests to recycle glass. Metal or recyclable plastic drinks containers, paper, newspaper & magazines

Consider labelling bins, stating clearly what should be recycled. Use the free online poster creator tool to help guests recycle effectively <http://rfspostercreator.com/>



The best way your business can promote high quality recycling is to segregate these key waste streams at source, so that they can be presented for separate collection to your chosen waste contractor.

¹ A food business is defined as whether for profit or not, public or private, carrying out any activity relating to the processing, distribution, preparation or sale of food.

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It is recommended that clear bags are used for the sack collection of recyclable material to facilitate a visual quality check. Black or opaque bin bags should be avoided for this purpose.

Best Practice Recommendations

As a minimum you should provide:

1. **Internal Segregation** – Facilities (i.e., bins) for guests to recycle glass, metal, plastic, paper, and cardboard, where they are generated.
2. **Labelling** – Bins should be adequately labelled to avoid contamination of recyclables and general waste
3. **Monitoring** - Check periodically for contamination and make improvements where necessary.
4. **Location** – Internal recycling bins should be provided alongside internal general waste bins to allow guests to recycle effectively and located in the areas where waste is produced.
5. **Communication** - Accommodation owners should communicate effectively with their guests, for example, guests checking in or picking up keys should be informed of recycling/waste disposal requirements. This could be included in your welcome pack/house rules.

Information that may be useful for guests	1. Bin Collection day / time
	2. Bin collection point
	3. Where bins are stored
	4. What goes in each bin
	5. Where spare bags are kept
	6. Any other waste info – washing containers, flat packing cardboard, squishing plastic, encouraging recycling

Useful links

<http://directory.resourceefficientscotland.com/> - Choosing a waste contractor

<https://energy.zerowastescotland.org.uk/reduce-waste> - Reducing waste

www.netregs.org – Offers specific environmental guidance to businesses

Contact us for further information:

Email: dutyofcare.waste@fife.gov.uk

Web: www.fifedirect.org.uk/wastedutyofcare www.facebook.com/EHFife