

4. Contamination Policy

The purpose of this policy is to ensure compliance with Essex Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy

This policy is intended to ensure that only the correct materials are placed in the containers provided for collection. If a container is contaminated it may lead to the collection vehicle having its whole vehicle load rejected by the recycling reprocessor. The Council will then have to meet the costs of the re-collection and removal of all the waste and transporting and disposing to landfill. Residents will therefore be required to comply with the following requirements:

Residual waste

(1) The residual wheelie bin shall only contain those items that cannot be recycled using the Council's kerbside recycling services or the County Council's civic amenity sites (household waste recycling centres). Those materials suitable for recycling can be found in the Council's waste service leaflets, calendars and on the Council's website

Food and garden recycling service

(1) The food & garden recycling service wheelie bin shall only contain food and garden waste. The list of acceptable garden waste can be found in the Council's waste service leaflets, calendars and on the Council's website

(2) The kitchen caddy is for the storage of food waste only. When full the food waste should be transferred to the food and garden recycling wheelie bin or the kerbside caddy where provided. The list of acceptable food material is printed on the caddies with additional information available in the Council's waste service leaflets, calendars and on the Council's website

(3) If a kerbside caddy is provided instead of the food and garden recycling wheelie bin, it shall only be used for food waste collection.

Dry recycling service (clear sack and blue box)

(1) Containers used for dry recycling should not contain any residual waste or food and garden waste. Glass shall be kept separate from all other dry recyclable materials to avoid broken glass causing contamination

Contaminated containers

(1) If any container is found at the point of collection to be contaminated such that its collection may contaminate the entire load, the waste contractor will not collect the container and it will be left at the kerbside with a sticker identifying the problem. If a container is left because of contamination the resident may:

- (i) remove the contamination and represent the uncontaminated container on the next due collection day; or
- (ii) make their own arrangements for the proper & legal disposal of the wheelie bin's waste