



Access to Public Information Request

Applicant: Peter Gillson

Date of receipt: 11 June 2019

Date of response: 5 July 2019

Recycling materials – end destinations and processing

Request for information: *It is known that recyclates are sent off-Island to be recycled. The purpose of these questions is to gain a full understanding of where and how they are eventually recycled. With regard to each of the main types of recyclates (plastics, paper, metals, food waste etc.) could you provide the following information:-*

1. *Name and location of the companies we send our recyclates to?*
2. *Whether the companies recycle the items in the UK or if they are exported?*

If the answer to '2' is that they are recycled in the UK:

3. *Details of how the materials are recycled and what they are recycled into, i.e. plastic pellets for use as a raw material in another production process rather than details of the new product they are ultimately made into.*

.....

Final question: what measures are in place to ensure that the arrangements you have described above are actually adhered to?

Response

Food waste is exported to Malaby Biogas, based in Warminster, England, where it undergoes energy from waste treatment, using a process known as anaerobic digestion. This produces electricity, which powers the facility as well as being fed to the national grid, and a liquid fertilizer, for which the processor has local markets.

Glass from household bring banks, kerbside collection, and businesses are exported to URM in Tilbury, England. The material is washed and sorted into clear and coloured glass, and this is then remelted into new glass products at another URM plant in the UK.

Other. Guernsey Recycling Group (GRG) sorts, processes and exports household materials collected via kerbside or bring banks. Under the terms of this contract the company is responsible for securing outputs for these recyclables. It has recycling arrangements with

leading UK reprocessors for each material, and all the receiving facilities are in the UK. The subsequent processing and end products are detailed in Table 1.

GRG is happy to provide Guernsey Waste with a list of receiving facilities. However it also processes materials from local businesses, not covered under the contract with Guernsey Waste, which are sent to the same facilities. The company therefore considers the names of its service providers to be commercially confidential, and has not given consent for these to be published.

Guernsey Waste has contracted with a reputable local company. Under the terms of the contract GRG has to provide, on request, provide full audit information demonstrating the destination and outcome of the materials exported for recycling. The processors selected by GRG are similarly leading UK firms, who hold various industry accreditations (see table 1). This provides assurance that the materials are managed appropriately.

Request for information: *If the answer to '2' is that they are exported:-*

- 4. Details of the company they are exported to.*
- 5. Whether they are recycled by this company or sold/transferred to another company.*

And if the answer to '5' is that they are recycled by the company itself:

- 6. Details of how the materials are recycled and what they are recycled into, ie plastic pellets for use as a raw material in another production process rather than details of the new product they are ultimately made into.*

And if the answer to '5' is that they are sold/transferred to another company:

- 7. Details of the details of the company they are sold/transferred to.*
- 8. Whether they are recycled by this company or sold/transferred to another company.*

Questions 6, 7, 8 to be repeated depending whether materials are passed to another organisation, the object to the questions being to provide clarity and understanding of the chain of businesses and locations involved in recycling the recyclates exported, and of where and how, and who by the materials we send for recycling are actually, and finally recycled.

Response

Questions 4-8 are not applicable as materials are recycled in the UK.

Material	Final Offtaker Process/Site	Plant accreditation/ Certification	Recycling Location	Recycled Secondary Raw Material(s)	Recycled End Product(s)
Paper	Paper Mill	FSC, PEFC	UK	Paper reels	Newspapers and magazines
Cardboard	Cardboard Mill	PEFC	UK	Cardboard reels	Boxes and general packaging
Mixed Plastics (bottles, pots, tubs & trays)	Plastic sort, wash & flake	NSF	UK	Flake and extrusion sheets	Bottles, pots, tubs and trays
Aluminium Cans	Can smelter & production	ISO9001, ISO14001 & OHSAS 18001	UK	Liquified aluminium	Aluminium cans
'Tins'	Can smelter & production	ISO9001, ISO14001 & OHSAS 18001	UK	Liquified steel and tin	Tin cans
Food & beverage cartons	Pulping & separation	FSC, ISO9001, ISO14001 & OHSAS 18001	UK	Paperboard, polyethelene & aluminium	Tube cores (paper) plastics (furniture & building materials) aluminium (powder & industrial)
FSC: Forest Stewardship Council, responsible management of the world's forest					
PEFC: Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification					
NSF: National Sanitation Foundation complies with strict standards and procedures for plastic packaging production					

Table 1 - "Blue & Clear Bag" materials outlets and end products