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### Residual waste composition and anticipated future waste tonnages

Every year the councils undertake an analysis of the waste collected from a sample of homes across both districts. The most recent results are in the table under.

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| Analysis of kerbside collected residual waste by M.E.L Waste Insights, March 2023 |
| **Recyclable items in residual waste that can be kerbside collected** | **South Oxfordshire** | **Vale of White Horse** |
|  Recyclable paper  | 3.0% | 1.9% |
|  Recyclable card and cardboard  | 2.6% | 3.0% |
|  Cartons  | 0.3% | 0.1% |
|  Carrier bags\* | 1.7% | 1.4% |
|  Plastic bottles  | 1.3% | 1.2% |
|  Plastic pots, tubs and trays  | 2.3% | 3.2% |
|  Recyclable glass  | 2.2% | 2.1% |
|  Recyclable metals | 1.9% | 1.8% |
| **Mixed recyclables total** | **15.40%** | **14.66%** |
| **Recyclable food waste** | **14.93%** | **20.66%** |
| **Recyclable garden waste and beddings** | **2.16%** | **1.31%** |
| **Textiles, WEEE, batteries and oil** | **3.31%** | **2.12%** |
| **Total** | **35.81%** | **38.76%** |

\*carrier bags were included as recyclable but we don’t currently accept for recycling at kerbside.

The data shows that about **13-14%** of what residents are putting in the residual bin could be put into the Dry Mixed Recycling bin and **15-20%** could go in the food waste bin. A total average of **31%.**

In terms of the predicted waste breakdown going forwards, drawing from a wide variety of sources the table under has been put together. Sources include the governments proposed uptake from the DRS, packaging predictions from countries which use the producer pays principle (taxing packaging producers to cover disposal and processing costs) and the impacts resulting from other authorities reducing residual bin capacity.

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| **Initiative** | **Impact** | **Tonnage change %** | **Note** |
| **National changes (required in statute)** |
| Extended Producer Responsibility | Across the board reduction in packaging waste.  | This will fall within a range, but is likely to be around a 10% reduction, split between recycling and residual | Slow burning change as alternative materials and technologies become available |
| Plastic Packaging tax and ban on single use plastic | Reduces the amount of non-recyclable plastic and single use items | Limited overall tonnage reductions in plastic (and other) packaging | It will sustain plastic recycling market prices |
| Deposit Return Scheme | This will remove most plastic and metal liquid containers from the DMR stream | Estimates vary, but 15% reduction in DMR (by weight, more bin space made available by volume). Most from the DMR stream  | Depends on the level that the deposit return fee is set at |
| Consistent materials | Plastic film will need to be collected in DMR | Only up to a 2% DMR increase  | Thin and therefore very light material |
| **Local changes (freedom to decide)** |
| Going to a 3:2:1 system | Reduce residual waste and increase DMR and food | Around 8% reduction in residual, 5% increase recycling | Some residual will not appear in DMR but disappear.  |
| Separate glass collection | Cleaner glass stream | Unlikely to shift overall quantities | Positive carbon impact |