

**Contamination Specifications for all container types
(including sacks, wheeled bins, in office bins, skips and compactors)**



Material Stream	Forbidden items (see note 1)	Maximum Contamination Level from Other Contaminants by Weight (see note 2)
Glass	Note 1 + Pyrex, lead glass(crystal), window/construction glass	2%
Food (excluding coffee grounds)	Note 1 + Glass	5%
Paper	Note 1 + Glass	5%
Cardboard	Note 1 + Glass	5%
Coffee Cups	Note 1 + Glass	5%
Coffee Grounds	Note 1 + Glass	5%
Plastics and Cans	Note 1 + Glass	5%
Paper, Cans and Plastic Containers	Note 1 + Glass	5%
Compostables (incl food scraps)	Note 1 + Glass	5%
PPE	Note 1 + Glass	5%
General Waste	Note 1 only	N/A
Batteries	Note 1 + Glass	2%
Films	Note 1 + Glass	2%

Notes

- 1) The following items are always forbidden except where specific collections have been agreed

WEEE, ITAD, Batteries, Hazardous Waste (paints, solvents, chemical building products, fluorescent tubes, mineral oils, compressed gasses), Liquids, Clinical Waste, Offensive Waste, PPE, Tyres, Plasterboard

- 2) Other contaminants include plastics, paper, card, metals, coffee cups, compostables when not in the designated stream for that material

Forbidden Item Explanations

Item	Example(s)	Forbidden Explanation
Glass	Glass bottle, jar	In all streams except for glass and general waste because it damages sorting machinery and presents a health & safety danger to sorting staff.
WEEE	Computer, Fridge, Kettle, Freezers	Often contains toxic and corrosive elements which are a danger to health & safety of staff and equipment. The WEEE Directive legislation also directs WEEE to be appropriately recycled and not placed in general waste streams.
Batteries	AA, lead acid, lithium-ion	Contains toxic and corrosive elements which are a danger to health & safety of staff and equipment.
Hazardous	Paints, solvents, fluorescent tubes, mineral oils, compressed gasses	Contains toxic and corrosive elements which are a danger to health & safety of staff and equipment. By law, this must be segregated and disposed of via a hazardous specialist.
Liquids		Damages sorting machinery, presents a health & safety danger to staff, and highly contaminates recyclables
Clinical Waste	Sharps, pharmaceuticals, infected tissues	Contains elements which are a danger to health & safety of staff. By law, this must be segregated and disposed of via a clinical waste specialist.
Offensive Waste	Nappies, sanitary waste	Contains elements which are a danger to health & safety of staff. By law, this must be segregated and disposed of via an offensive waste specialist.
PPE	Face masks, gloves, visors	May contain elements which are a danger to health & safety of staff.