

**Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs  
Consultation on Recycle on the Go: Response Proforma**

Please use this proforma to answer the questions that are posed in the consultation paper on Recycle on the Go. The closing date for responses is **Friday, 2 November 2007**.

Please email your response to: [local.environment@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:local.environment@defra.gsi.gov.uk)

Please mark the subject field **Recycle on the Go Consultation**.

Alternatively, you can return the form by post, to:

Recycle on the Go Consultation, Local Environment Quality Team, Area 3B,  
Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3JR.

The addresses may also be used for general enquiries relating to this consultation.

To help us analyse responses, please provide details of your name and / or your organisation in any correspondence, and in the table on the next page.

In line with Defra's policy of openness, at the end of the consultation period copies of the responses we receive may be made publicly available through the Defra Information Resource Centre, Lower Ground Floor, Ergon House, 17 Smith Square, London SW1P 3JR. The information they contain may also be published in a summary of responses. If you do not consent to this, you must clearly request that your response be treated confidentially. Any confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system in email responses will not be treated as such a request.

You should also be aware that there may be circumstances in which Defra will be required to communicate information to third parties on request, in order to comply with its obligations under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations. Further information can be found at <http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/opengov/index.htm>.

The Information Resource Centre will supply copies of consultation responses to personal callers or in response to telephone or email requests (020 7238 6575, [defra.library@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:defra.library@defra.gsi.gov.uk)). Wherever possible, personal callers should give the library at least 24 hours' notice of their requirements. An administrative charge will be made to cover photocopying and postage costs.

This form is provided as a way that you can record your answers to the questions in the consultation paper. Responses including any general comments you might wish to make are welcome on any number of the questions. Where applicable, it would be helpful if you could indicate whether you agree, disagree or are uncertain by marking the tick boxes. Please leave the response box blank for any questions that you do not wish to answer.

Please save the form to your computer regularly while your entering your answers to avoid any unintentional loss of data.

### Your Details

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<b>Date of Response</b>	1 November 2007

### Responses to Consultation Questions

<b>Questions in 'Part 3 – Rationale' of the Recycle on the Go Consultation Paper</b>	
Question 1: Do you think that organisations should put in place recycle bins in public places? Why?	
Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Not Sure <input type="checkbox"/>	
Recycling bins in public places would fulfil public service obligations by encouraging the public to engage in sustainable behaviour. PTEs would need, however, to maintain a balance between providing recycling bins and ensuring the security of passengers (in bus and train stations, for example) is not compromised.	
Question 2: Do you agree that Government should offer Guidance to organisations on setting up public place recycle bins?	

Yes



No



Not Sure



Consistency in approach is important as it would feed into a national standard, and promote recycling in the wider community. It would be useful if there was an explicit presumption that public authorities would be required to work together to provide recycling facilities in the best place for a specific local area.

Question 3: Would organisations find it helpful if Government developed a straightforward tool that you could use to give a broad estimate of the cost benefit in their context using data from the Impact Assessment?

Yes



No



Not Sure



Question 4: Do you agree that voluntary measures should be tried before considering legislation?

Yes



No



Not Sure



pteg believes that legislation or regulation would be appropriate if voluntary agreements failed.

Question 5: Do you agree with the rationale set out in section 3.1? i.e. Do you agree that there is a case for Government intervention, and that it should be in the form of a voluntary code of practice and good practice guide?

Yes



No



Not Sure



The Government should not shy away from compulsion if it is required in the longer term.

Question 6: Do you agree that Government should recommend use of Recycle Now's iconography so that recycle bins for public use are consistent with the national recycling campaign?

Yes



No



Not Sure



Maintaining consistency in public messages concerning recycling is important.

Question 7: Do you agree with the context in which the consultation documents are set? (Which is summarised in Part 3.3)

Yes



No



Not Sure



pteg believes there is scope for future regulatory powers to encourage consistency in iconography, and/or the development of a national recycling scheme.

Question 8: Do you agree that commercial freedoms should not be affected insofar as possible?

Yes



No



Not Sure



Question 9: If a central website was set up, what should it contain?

Details of the scheme; examples of good practice; a forum for organisations to share ideas and solutions; downloads (for example, the artwork for the agreed iconography).

Question 10: Would organisations find it helpful to register that they are running schemes on a central website that the public and others can view?

Yes



No



Not Sure



This would encourage joint working between different organisations within the same region.

Question 11: Would organisations be interested in submitting a summary of what they put in place on a central website that the public and others can view?

Yes



No



Not Sure



pteg would be interested in submitting a summary of PTE recycling initiatives, for information for the public and other organisations.

Question 12: If an organisation has put in place recycle bins for public use, should the public be able to comment on the running of the scheme or any problems/complaints? If so, who should be the point of contact for such comments / enquiries?

Yes



No



Not Sure



Any public funded organisation should be prepared for public feedback on schemes. The point of contact should be the same as that provided under current arrangements.

#### Questions in 'Part 4 – Evidence Base' of the Recycle on the Go Consultation Paper

Question 13: Do you have any 'evidence' that you would wish to submit? (Please feel free to provide a summary in the space below, or to attach additional information with your reply.)

Yes



No



Not Sure



Question 14: Have you carried out a waste fraction analysis or know of an organisation that has and that would be suitable for enhancing the economic model used in the Impact Assessment?

Yes



No



Not Sure



Question 15: The economic model in the Impact Assessment considers paper, cans and glass as materials that are likely to be collected for recycling. Are there any other materials that your organisation would be likely to collect as part of a recycling scheme and that should be considered?

Yes

No

Not Sure

Question 16: Have you formed a view already about the type of bin you would be most likely, or already use, to collect litter for recycling?

Yes

No

Not Sure

Given the security issues affecting public transport, PTEs would need to investigate bins that allowed content to be easily seen.

Question 17: Are there particular barriers to selling particular materials as recyclable material?

Yes

No

Not Sure

Question 18: The economic analysis assumes a purchase price of between £484 and £600 for a new recycling bin facility. Is this a reasonable estimate in your experience?

Yes

No

Not Sure

Question 19: The economic analysis assumes a recycling bin lifetime of between 5 and 10 years. From experience is this a fair assumption?

Yes

No

Not Sure

Question 20: Installation costs are assumed to lie between £30 and £95 per recycling unit. From experience is this a fair assumption?

Yes

No

Not Sure

Question 21: Servicing costs are assumed to lie between £111 and £321 per recycling unit. From experience is this a fair assumption?

Question 22: The analysis assumes contamination rates between 5% and 10%. From experience is this a fair assumption?

Yes

No

Not Sure

Question 23: The analysis assumes that an average Local Authority has 1,000 public litter bins. Is there any more information regarding this assumption?

Yes  No  Not Sure

Question 24: Do you have a view about sponsorship of on-street recycling facilities? Is this something that you have pursued? What were the outcomes?

Yes  No  Not Sure

Sponsorship of on-street recycling facilities may assist public bodies in providing comprehensive recycling schemes. .

### Questions in 'Part 5 – Proposed Voluntary Code of Practice' of the Recycle on the Go Consultation Paper

Question 25: Is it necessary to pledge formal commitment to the Voluntary Code of Practice?

Yes  No  Not Sure

A formal pledge would ensure organisations prepare and plan adequately before committing to the scheme.

Question 26: If you agree with formal commitment, how should organisations/managers be asked to pledge their commitment? E.g. self certification, registration on a website?

A registration scheme would help to ensure consistency.



Question 27: If you agree that some form of repository be set up to record the commitments made, who should hold that information? E.g. Central Government, a third sector body such as Encams or WRAP, organisations themselves?

Central records should be held by Central Government, and be publicly available.

Question 28. Do you agree with the first principle of the Voluntary Code of Practice (at Part 5) on the provision of containers for recyclable waste alongside those for non-recyclable waste.

Yes



No



Not Sure



Question 29: Do you agree with the second principle of the Voluntary Code of Practice (at Part 5) that suggests that organisations installing recycle bins for public use should clearly promote recycling containers, including the adoption of common signage (i.e. the logos and colours) across England for recycling receptacles?

Yes



No



Not Sure



Question 30: Principle 2 of the Voluntary Code of Practice asks for a commitment to move towards using common logos and signage on receptacles. The Good Practice Guide recommends use of the iconography developed by Recycle Now, the national recycling campaign. Would your organisation be prepared to make this commitment?

Yes



No



Not Sure



Question 31: Principle 2 suggests that existing schemes should standardise signage within 18 months; is this a reasonable timescale or would you suggest a different amount of time?

Yes

No

Not Sure

Question 32: Do you agree with the third principle of the Voluntary Code of Practice (at Part 5) that suggests that organisations installing recycle bins for public use should implement an effective management programme, including appropriate maintenance of the infrastructure (i.e. the bins and signage)?

Yes

No

Not Sure

Question 33: Do you agree with the fourth principle of the Voluntary Code of Practice (at Part 5) that suggests that organisations installing recycle bins for public use should reuse, recycle and compost the materials collected?

Yes.

Question 34: Is anything missing from the list in the summary to the voluntary code of practice?

Yes

No

Not Sure

Question 35: Has anything been included that should not be contained in the summary to the voluntary code of practice?

Yes

No

Not Sure

Question 36: Would your organisation be interested/prepared to sign up to this Voluntary Code of Practice?

Yes

No

Not Sure

Question 37: What would be an appropriate time to review the Voluntary Code of Practice and associated Good Practice Guide?

Every two to three years.

Question 38: What do you think would be the best way to evaluate the effectiveness of the Voluntary Code of Good Practice and associated Good Practice Guide?

Some kind of target based performance evaluation (for example, percentage of waste collected from public bins that is recycled).

**Questions in 'Part 6 – Proposed Good Practice Guide' of the Recycle on the Go Consultation Paper**

Question 39: Do you agree with the aim of the Good Practice Guide, which is set out in the introduction to the Guide at Part 6?

Yes  No  Not Sure

Question 40: Do you need more information in the Good Practice Guide on how to manage contracts for handling recyclable waste once it has been deposited in recycle bins?

Yes  No  Not Sure

Question 41: Do you have experience of particular locations that work well and / or not well for collecting litter for recycling?

Yes  No  Not Sure

Question 42: Is there anything that you think Government should do to help organisations adopt the signage developed by Recycle Now / WRAP?

Yes  No  Not Sure

Provide the approved signage and/or artwork free of charge on a project web site.

Question 43: Do you feel that your organisation would need co-mingled icons, or would you use individual icons together? Are there any specific combinations that you would like to be able to use?

Yes



No



Not Sure



In the case of separate recycling bins, individual icons together are clearer and are more likely to be used. If one recycling bin (to accept mixed waste) was provided, co-mingled icons would work better.

Question 44: Is there any information missing from the Good Practice Guide?

Yes



No



Not Sure



Question 45: Is there anything further that Government or others should be doing that isn't included in the Good Practice Guide?

Yes



No



Not Sure



There is an issue with trade waste. Many companies are not using public recycling facilities and a recent survey in Chester found that about half of retail businesses take waste home and put it in domestic recycling collections. A solution would be for small trade waste recycling centres to be set up in town centres. As PTE bus stations are often the most central facilities in the Metropolitan areas, we could have a role to play.

Question 46: Is the Good Practice Guide helpful in offering advice on setting up public place recycle schemes?

Yes



No



Not Sure



Question 47: Does the Good Practice Guide (at Part 6) underpin the principles in the Voluntary Code of Practice (at Part 5)?

Yes



No



Not Sure



Question 48: Is the Good Practice Guide clear? If you think something should be done to improve it, please outline your suggestion below.

Yes



No



Not Sure



While the Good Practice Guide is clear, pteg believes that regular review of the document will be beneficial.

Question 49: Do you have any examples of providing recycling facilities in public places that you would like to consider including in the final guidance?

Yes



No



Not Sure



Question 50: Do you know of any other good examples of similar schemes that have worked well? Please enter details here, and attach any materials if you wish.

Yes



No



Not Sure



Question 51: Do you think that packaging should include iconography that corresponds to that used on recycle facilities?

Yes  No  Not Sure

This would be a good way to educate the public in making the link between recyclable material, and the act of recycling it.

### Questions in 'Part 7 – Case Studies' of the Recycle on the Go Consultation Paper

Question 52. Are the case study examples given in Part 7 helpful? Are any not helpful?

Yes  No  Not Sure

Question 53. Would information about these case studies be best served in the main body of the Good Practice Guide or as a separate appendix?

Yes  No  Not Sure

Case studies would be best presented as a stand alone section of the guide.

Question 54. Would a web-based repository of case studies that organisations can contribute towards be helpful?

Yes  No  Not Sure

Question 55. Do you have more examples to add?

Yes

No

Not Sure

Question 56. Are any topics or areas missing from the case studies?

Yes

No

Not Sure

Question 57. Based on the case studies, do you think that public place recycling could be provided in virtually any circumstance?

Yes

No

Not Sure

pteg is, however, conscious of the need for PTEs to provide a safe and secure environment to the travelling public. In light of recent terrorist incidents involving public transport in the United Kingdom, we would request that the issue of security is further considered by DEFRA on this issue.

**Additional question in 'Part 9 – Summary of Questions / Points' of the Recycle on the Go Consultation Paper**

Question 58. Are there any other comments that you would like to make or any additional information that you would like to include? Please feel free to attach additional materials.



Yes



No



Not Sure



Some PTEs have found that when the public are presented with segregated recycling bins, there are often high levels of contamination. pteg believes it may be better to provide one recycling bin and use a mixed recycling facility.

**Thank you for your comments.**

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