

## Separate collections and the application of TEEP

Regulations requiring separate collections of paper, plastic, metal and glass except where it is not 'technically environmentally and economically practicable' (known as TEEP) came into force on 1st January 2015. The aim of this legislation is to increase the quantity of material presented for recycling and to increase the quality by reducing contamination.

Under the new legislation, waste collectors are required to collect paper, plastic, metal and glass separately from general waste, offering their customers separate collections for each individual material unless it is not TEEP to do so. Commingled collections are permissible providing the TEEP test is applied and materials are 'appropriate to meet the necessary quality standards for the relevant recycling sectors'. Once these materials have been collected separately it is not permissible to mix them with other wastes. If waste collectors decide it is not TEEP to offer separate collections, they need to retain evidence to support the rationale for their decision.

The Waste Framework Directive 2008 which sets out this requirement was transposed into UK law in the Waste (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2012. For more information, visit [www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/1889/introduction/made](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/1889/introduction/made).

### **Meeting the legislative requirements**

Waste collectors need to be able to demonstrate that they are taking reasonable measures to meet the new requirements and to produce evidence in the way of an audit trail if requested by the Environment Agency who is responsible for enforcement of the new legislation in the UK.

To meet these requirements, Powerday offers separate collections of paper, plastic, metal and glass to customers where practical to do so, this may include separate collections for one or multiple materials or commingled collections. In reviewing whether to offer separate collections, we take into account factors including your site location and constraints, the cost of different collection methods and the volume of individual materials that you produce.

Where it is not TEEP to offer separate collections, our high quality recycling and recovery processes ensure that materials that are collected together and separated at our Materials Recycling Facilities are 'appropriate to meet the necessary quality standards for the relevant recycling sectors'.

The site set-up information pack that you receive from Powerday prior to the introduction of our services will contain information regarding the decision made in relation to separate collections for your site. We periodically review our collection methods to ensure that they meet the TEEP and necessary quality tests and that we remain compliant with the legislation. If you have questions relating to the TEEP regulations, please contact us at [info@powerday.co.uk](mailto:info@powerday.co.uk).