

## General Waste Reduction and Recycling

The City of London Corporation is responsible for disposing of general household waste in the City. However Livery Halls and businesses in the Square Mile are required to arrange their own commercial waste disposal and can choose which company to hire for the purpose.

A list of such companies operating in the Square Mile, that comply with the City of London's time-banding regulations on restricted collection times, can be found [here](#).

A campaign called [London Recycles](#) offers information on business recycling, including toolkits to help you involve your own employees and calculate costs. The information provided includes other helpful links.

Hard-to-recycle items such as crisp packets, sweet wrappers and coffee cups are not usually accepted in standard recycling collections. These tend to require specialised recycling and the Corporation suggest contacting companies such as [PROcycle](#) and [Terracycle](#). Terracycle offer the use of zero-waste boxes for items such as crisp packets, liquid sachets and bottle tops.

The Corporation also administers the [Clean City Awards Scheme \(CCAS\)](#). This was set up in 1994 to develop partnerships with all types of City businesses as a way to encourage them to "Reduce, Reuse and Recycle". Scheme members can apply for awards that recognise good practice in Air Quality and Climate Action, Communication and Engagement, Resource and Circular Economy, and progress towards a Plastic-Free City. The annual awards ceremony is hosted by the Lord Mayor, at the Mansion House. Members can receive resource packs with ideas, guidance and advice, invitations to Environmental Best Practice meetings and workshops, a monthly e-newsletter, and access to the CCAS team for ad-hoc advice. The annual fee for businesses with fewer than 100 staff on site, which should include all Livery halls, is £50. The Livery Climate Action Group recommends that City businesses and Livery Companies with halls sign up to the scheme.

[WRAP \(Waste & Resources Action Programme\)](#) works in the UK to help businesses and individuals reap the benefits of reducing waste, develop more sustainable products and use their resources more efficiently.

Reducing waste, together with recycling, can save money and play an important part in helping businesses and Livery Companies meet their net-zero targets. The [WRAP Green Office Guide](#) estimates that 70% of office waste is recyclable. The WRAP document is easy to use and provides some basic guidelines on how to prevent waste, introduce effective recycling and work with your waste contractor to reduce the cost of disposal. The document also contains guidance on managing building energy and water consumption, along with practical transport options. The guide can be useful for Livery Companies as well as other businesses.

## Food Waste Reduction

WRAP also promotes [Guardians of Grub](#), a collective from across the hospitality and food-service industry, whose aim is to reduce the amount of food we waste by providing free tools and advice to professionals who work in the sector.

## Reduced Use of Plastics

Production and disposal of plastic items often generates high carbon emissions, and plastic waste pollutes our environment. The City of London Corporation promotes the Plastic Free City campaign as part of the [Clean City Awards Scheme](#). Members of the scheme can receive resource packs, guidance and advice, and attend workshops on reducing reliance on single-use plastics and on recycling. A special award recognises best practice.

Offices are encouraged to avoid single-use plastic cups, cutlery, straws and bottled drinks, replacing them with non-plastic or multi-use alternatives. The [Refill](#) app shows businesses and office workers where to find places offering discounts and rewards for bringing your own coffee cup, where to get free water-refills, which places let you bring your own lunchbox to buy food to go, and where to go for plastic-free shopping.

All hospitality sites including Livery halls are likewise encouraged to reduce the use of plastic packaging for food by relying on non-plastic alternatives.

Further guidance on general Circular Economy measures can be found in Livery Climate Action Group Property Guidance Note 5.

Fact checked by

