



# Local Perspectives on Plastic

Lory Hunter  
Commercial & Technical Development Manager  
Kirklees Council

# How and where do we receive it?

## Local authorities:

- Household waste bins
- Recycling bins
- Household Waste Recycling Centre

## Other private arrangements:

- Commercial waste collections
- Skip hire
- Industrial waste

# What can and can't be recycled?



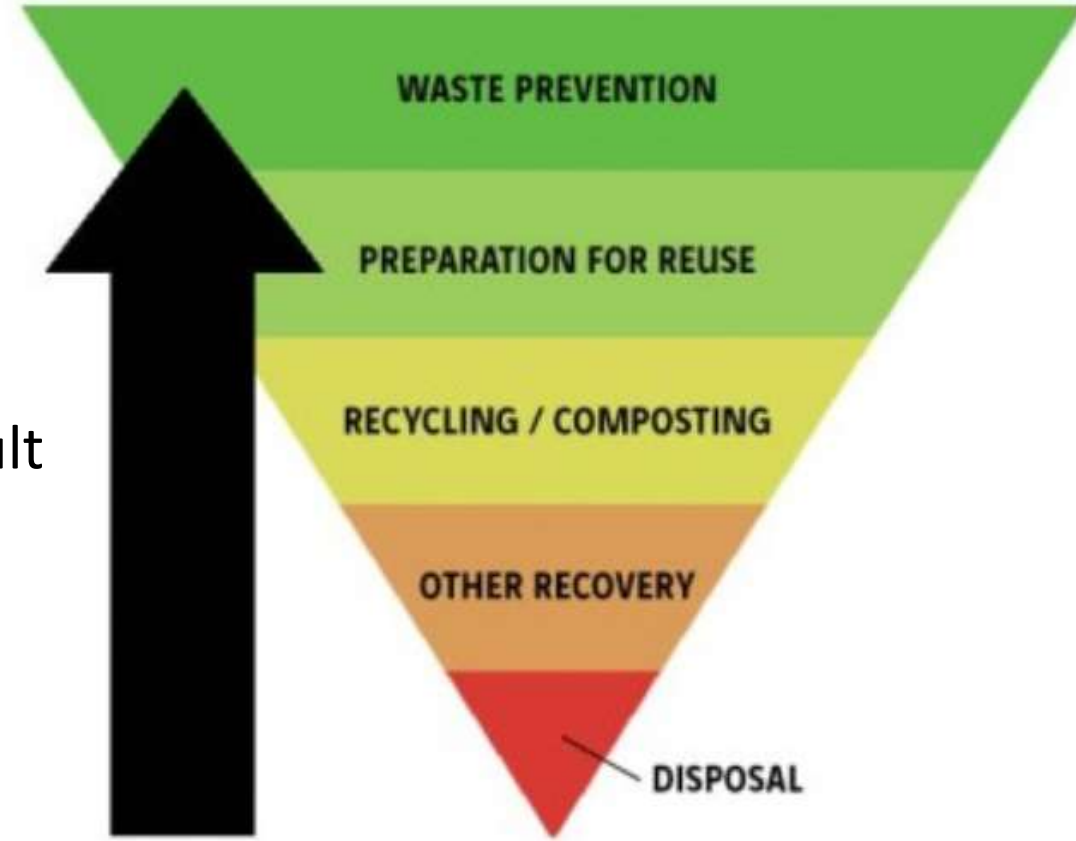
# Waste Hierarchy

- Prevention

- Plastic-free shopping: Achievable, but difficult among current busy lifestyles
- Buy less: Do you really need it?
- What type of packaging is better: plastic, metal, glass or paper?

- Reuse

- Crafts with the kids
- Compost in your garden (not plastic!)



# What do local authorities do?

- Materials Recycling Facility
  - Value of different types of plastics
  - Some types of plastics captured
- Energy from Waste
  - Original natural resource (crude oil) is lost forever
  - Potentially harmful pollutants captured in filtering system and recycled into blocks and aggregate
  - Energy conversion to electricity
- Landfill
  - Very big and bulky waste that can't be broken down
- Microscopic plastic particles in rivers and streams?
  - A question for the water authority



# Prices for different types of plastic

- Weight-based (£ per tonne)
- Market Rates from Lets Recycle
- Key considerations:
  - MRF complications
  - Volume compared to weight
  - Market stability
  - Transport
  - Ease of manufacturing
  - Where are existing re-manufacturing processors based?
  - Availability of product (paper)

		£ per Tonne Feb 2019
Plastics	HDPE natural	345
	Clear & light blue PET	110
	HDPE mixed colour	95
	Coloured	25
	Mixed	20
Glass	Clear	20
	Brown	17.5
	Mixed	14
	Green	8
	MRF glass	-10
Metals	Steel cans	140
	Aluminium	650
Paper	Sorted office	171.5
	Newspapers & pamphlets	85
	Cardboard	55
	Mixed paper	20

# Cost to local authorities

- Collection and disposal
- Depends on size of authority
- District authorities: around £25 to £50 million per year
  - Plus capital investments
- Recycling plastic is a cost (not an income) when all is taken into account



# Cost to the environment – emissions

- Carbon footprint
  - this is only one of many measures for environmental impact
- Transportation
  - How far is the material going?
- Energy
  - How much energy is used in re-processing?





# What's made from recycled plastic?



# How can we contribute as individuals ?

- Think before you shop
  - Can I buy this somewhere else with no packaging?
  - Say 'no' to plastic bags
  - Do I really need it?
- Think before you store it
- Donate to charities
- Think before you 'Green Bin' it
- Household Waste Recycling Centres
- Composting contributing towards
  - Reducing waste
  - Being active
  - Growing your own and saving money
  - Potential for community gardens
- Google 'Zero Waste Champion'

**FREE workshops**

To help you waste less food and save money

**We can offer:**

- A Save Food information stall at your event or meeting
- A 30 minute talk and cooking demonstration for your group or party
- Our course of three Save Food workshops on the topics of Planning, Storage and Portion sizes

Contact our Food Saver Champions for more details and for dates of the next workshops that you can join:  
[info@vkirklees.org.uk](mailto:info@vkirklees.org.uk)  
Tel: 01484 519053

# How can the health service contribute?

- Environmental audit of all buildings
- Procurement
  - Purchase of products
  - Subcontractor waste minimisation and recycling requirements
- Catering services
  - Minimising food waste and packaging
  - Evaluating 'on-the-go' food and drink provision (eg. cheaper coffee refills)
- Availability of recycling services
- Water bottle refill stations
- Just to name a few...

Thank you. Any questions?

