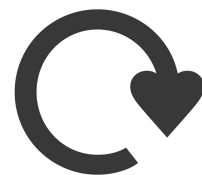


# BANANA BOXES



## HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING GUIDANCE



**The Council's waste & recycling team understands the difficulties that some residents are facing with banana boxes as part of their household kerbside collections.**

The boxes are quite big and tricky to breakdown in order to fit inside the blue household recycling sacks we provide residents.



At present, the Council's waste & recycling team has one vehicle capable of making collections of residual waste & dry mixed recycling at the kerbside, and this vehicle lacks on-board compaction.

We ask that all residents & businesses compact cardboard boxes (and all other recycling) to help us maximise efficiency in the service. Uncompacted material means more recycling sacks have to be issued, more time is spent on collections and it increases the time spent processing the material because it's hard to handle.

This is the same on the off islands due to way waste is transported to St Mary's.

We don't have the resource at present to undertake a regular separate collection for banana boxes or other cardboard boxes, however, we are keeping the collection and service for recycling under review.

The Council's policy for recycling collections states that all cardboard needs to be contained in the recycling sacks provided. This is to ensure the cardboard is kept dry for recycling. Once cardboard becomes wet it cannot be recycled as the integrity of the material is lost. This costs the Council more money in waste disposal charges and does not increase our recycling rates.

## WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH YOUR BANANA BOXES?

In order for the Council's waste & recycling team to collect banana boxes at the kerbside, residents need to ensure the boxes are contained within the blue sacks provided. Residents can either:

- strip down and squash the boxes. This is preferable as this will enable you to use fewer sacks;

Or, if you are having trouble compacting the boxes:

- put the banana boxes (intact) inside the sacks and fill them with your other dry mixed recycling material (plastic pots, tubs, trays, tins & cans, paper & card etc.)

We request that households to not leave out more than 2 blue recycling sacks per week as it may not be possible to collect them. Any extra volume from householders would, at present, place extra pressure on the service and make daily operations difficult for the team, who also carry out other waste & recycling duties during the working day.

If you have more than 2 blue recycling sacks worth of recycling, you need to take it to the waste & recycling site yourself. **Please note that if you instruct a third party haulier to collect your household waste and recycling, commercial fees and charges will be passed onto you by the hauliers.**

There is currently a booking system in place to access the St Mary's waste & recycling site. Please call 01720 424450 (voicemail only) or email [zerowaste@scilly.gov.uk](mailto:zerowaste@scilly.gov.uk) to make a booking. If you use a commercial vehicle to dispose of household waste & recycling, you need to have a valid temporary waste permit. Please visit [www.scilly.gov.uk/environment-transport/waste-recycling/household-waste-recycling/porthmellon-hwrc](http://www.scilly.gov.uk/environment-transport/waste-recycling/household-waste-recycling/porthmellon-hwrc) before you plan a visit.

If you are located on an off -island, please contact your waste contractor for information about access to your local site.

## CARDBOARD BOX SPECIAL COLLECTION - ST MARY'S

As some residents may have lots of cardboard boxes stored at their property, which we cannot collect on our normal rounds, the Council is offering to collect any additional boxes you may have as a cardboard box special collection. This is also an opportunity for us to review the situation for the future.

The cardboard box special collections will take place on Tuesday 1st and Thursday 3rd of June. If you would like the team to collect your additional cardboard boxes please call 01720 424450 (voicemail only) or email [zerowaste@scilly.gov.uk](mailto:zerowaste@scilly.gov.uk). We only have a limited number of slots available. If we are unable to offer you a slot, please do not leave your additional cardboard boxes outside as we will not be able to collect them. More information will be issued on booking.

**For more information on waste & recycling in Scilly, please follow @ZeroWasteScilly on social media, email: [zerowaste@scilly.gov.uk](mailto:zerowaste@scilly.gov.uk) or call 01720 424450 (voicemail only)**