



Swansea University
Prifysgol Abertawe

Swansea University

Waste Management Guidance Note WMGN04:

- **Metal cans, tins, aerosols & foil**

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Waste Management Guidance Note WMGN04 Metal cans, tins, aerosols & foil	
Location Generated	All areas
EWC	20 01 40 / 15 01 04
Type	AN: Absolute Non-Hazardous
Disposal Method	Segregated for recycling
Bin/ Bag Type	Quad or duo bin / Clear Bag

Duty of Care Requirements

20 01 40 – Metals

15 01 04 – Metallic packaging

Any business or public body that generates waste materials must correctly classify its waste, apply the principles of The Waste Hierarchy, and seek to minimise the amount of waste sent for disposal. In practice, this means ensuring all wastes are segregated at source and disposed of via the correct streams.



The University has committed to segregating its waste at source and focusing on separating key recycling streams; cans, paper, plastics, food and glass. Segregation at source improves recyclate quality and also adheres to the Waste Regulations (England and Wales) 2011. The Regulations stipulate that materials such as paper, metal, plastic and glass must be collected separately if it is necessary to encourage high quality of the recycling of the material.

Additionally, in April 2024 the Welsh Government implemented new Recycling at Work Regulations applicable to all Welsh Businesses. There is a Legal requirement to segregate under the following regulations: The Waste Separation Requirements (Wales) Regulations 2023.

Most food tins and drinks cans are made of highly recyclable aluminium or steel. Recycling an aluminium can save 96% of the energy used to make a can from virgin ore and produces 95% less air pollution and 97% less water pollution.

Items

Items that shall be placed in the University 'metal cans, tins, aerosols & foil' Recycling' include:

	<p>Empty</p> <p>Steel food and drinks cans Steel deodorant aerosol cans</p>
	<p>Empty</p> <p>Aluminium soft drinks cans, deodorant aerosol cans, disposable food containers, aluminium foil</p>

Empty items should be deposited only in the defined 'metal cans, tins, aerosols & foil' recycling bins (typically part of the University's standard "waste quad and duobins")

Under **no** circumstances should:

- (a) any empty metal cans, tins, aerosols & foil be deposited in the Non-recyclable waste bin. This diverts valuable material from being recovered or recycled, is not compliant with regulations and other options are available on campus.
- (b) metal cans, tins & foil be contaminated with food or other substances. Where possible metal cans, tins & foil should be rinsed to reduce the amount of residue deposited into the recycling bin and increase the recyclability of the material.

Further guidance on what constitutes recyclables can be found in [Separate collection of waste materials for recycling: code of practice for Wales – Annex 2](#)

Disposal Instructions

Internal Bins

Quad and duo bins with clear bin bags shall be used for 'metal cans, tins, aerosols & foil' recycling disposal. **Personal/under-desk containers must not be used in offices as they deter from recycling materials.**



Figure 1 – Swansea University indoor "quad" bins

External Bins

Quads and duo bins shall be used for metal cans, tins, aerosols & foil recycling. No other bins are to be used for loose items.



Figure 2 – Swansea University external “quad” bins and external Euro 1100L contractor bin

Collected clear bin bags will be deposited into the larger-dedicated bins (provided by the waste management contractor), which are located in compounds across the University’s estates.

External Waste Compound Locations & Information

Bay Campus:

- Service Yard
- Bay Library
- Y Twyni
- Engineering North

Singleton Campus:

- Kier Hardie*
- Library & Information Centre
- Faraday Tower*
- Talbot
- Grove*
- Union House
- Preseli*
- Llangland*
- ILS1*
- Llyr

*External Euro 1100L bins for these compounds are now stored in locked covered units:



Figure 3 – Singleton Campus: External Euro 1100L bin covered compounds

If required, the access code for the compounds can be provided on request by emailing estates-waste@swansea.ac.uk

Please report any damage to the compounds or access issues as soon as possible via the [Estates Helpdesk](#)

Disposal Cost

The collection and recycling cost is factored into the University's waste management service provision; therefore, there is no direct cost to individuals/Faculties/PSUs. However, individuals can minimise cost and contribute to the University's target to achieve **75%** diversion rate away EfW or landfill by 2031, by ensuring all recyclables are disposed of via the dedicated bins, reducing environmental impact and supporting the Circular Economy

Labelling

See template

For further guidance please contact Estates-Waste@Swansea.ac.uk



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**metal cans, tins,
aerosols & foil**