

# MINUTES

**Project** Analysis of Annual Waste Mass Statistics and Waste Disposal Audits

**Meeting** Monthly Meeting with Veolia

**Date** Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2018

**Present** Benjamin Lawson, Stephen McQueen, Charles Ballardini

**Apologies** None.

Item	Key Points	Action
1. August 2018: Recycling Percentage	<b>Benjamin:</b> The university achieved a figure of 35.15% in total recycling for August this year, which is above the national average of 30%; however, is a significant drop from the 38.75% achieved in August 2017.	None
2. August 2018: Low Waste Mass.	<b>Stephen:</b> There is currently less general waste due to the fact that undergraduate students are absent for the summer period. <b>Benjamin:</b> The waste tonnage figure directly corresponds to student presence.	None
3. August 2018: Cardboard	<b>Stephen:</b> Average cardboard tonnage of August 2017 doubles that of August 2018. From 10.48 tonnes recorded from August 2017 to 5.48 tonnes recorded from August 2018. <b>Benjamin:</b> The unusually high tonnage recorded in 2017 was the result of resource issues. Since it is a very labour intensive process, portering staff were more focused on external cleaning; therefore, cardboard went into dry mixed recycling (DMR) instead.	None
4. August 2018: Total Waste Generated	<b>Stephen:</b> the university achieved a total waste figure of 80.94 tonnes for August 2017 and 70.39 tonnes for August 2018. <b>Stephen:</b> Reduction of approximately 10 tonnes largely due to the fact that no waste from north or south accommodation this year. <b>Benjamin:</b> One possible explanation for this is that there have been fewer people in summer schools this year. Another	None

	<p>explanation could be that those remaining on campus (primarily staff) have produced less waste.</p>	
5. Annual Total Waste Mass	<p><b>Benjamin:</b> We usually produce around 1,100 tonnes of waste per annum generated per annum.</p>	None
6. The Scope of Veolia's Services for the University	<p><b>Stephen:</b> Veolia does not include externally managed student accommodation. For example the Maltings.</p>	None
7. Food Waste Provisions in new Accommodation	<p><b>Benjamin:</b> The renovation of the towers accommodation blocks provides an ideal opportunity to include new infrastructure to accommodate a larger area for recycling; particularly food recycling which is not currently recycled in any university accommodation.</p> <p><b>Stephen:</b> New European legislation states that food waste will have to be collected separately by 2023.</p>	<p>Sustainability team to host a discussion with the Domestic Services Manager and Accommodation. Consensus will then be taken to the Capital team.</p>
8. Notable Months	<p><b>Benjamin:</b> Over the past twelve months, May 2017 saw the largest tonnage of total waste and the second lowest recycling figure.</p> <p><b>Charles:</b> The high figures in May are likely accounted for by exam season. Students remaining on campus for extended periods to attend revision classes and access the library.</p> <p><b>Benjamin:</b> November 2017 also saw notably poor statistics in total waste and recycling percentages.</p> <p><b>Stephen:</b> Veolia can provide engagement material (such as banners, posters, etc.) to aid the sustainability engagement team in these waste reduction campaigns.</p>	<p>Sustainability engagement team - plan a campaign to tackle waste on campus during each of these months.</p>
9. Metal Skips	<p><b>Benjamin:</b> Metal and wood skips were brought in at the end of the year for the 'big student move out' in 2017.</p> <p><b>Benjamin:</b> We had 3 tonnes of metal skipped last year; however, this year we do not have access to the skip.</p>	<p>Approach Capital to request an additional 5 meters for the compound to allow for a general waste skip and a metal waste skip</p>
10. Residential and Non-Residential WEEE waste	<p><b>Benjamin:</b> Currently, we are not separating residential and non-residential WEEE waste.</p> <p><b>Benjamin:</b> Accommodation disposed of approximately 50 fridges over the 2017/18 academic year; however, this is not recorded.</p>	<p>Additional row to be appended onto the waste data spreadsheet to accommodate residential and non-residential WEEE.</p>

11. Fly-Tipping	<p><b>Benjamin:</b> Every year, fly-tipping occurs around Salary Brooke farm.</p> <p><b>Benjamin:</b> Metal and general waste skips were historically located by the P&amp;B barn where there were numerous cases of fly-tipping. Since it has been moved to under podia, it is far easier to control what goes into the skips and thus has led to overall reductions in waste by approximately 1 tonne per month.</p>	None
12. Bag Splitting Audit	<p><b>Benjamin:</b> Stephen, Benjamin and volunteers from the sustainability team conduct bag splitting audits around 3 times per year.</p> <p><b>Benjamin:</b> The next bag split will occur in November in an attempt to better understand why the waste figures have been historically so high for this month.</p> <p><b>Stephen:</b> The only real way of understanding what is actually going into the bins so that we can devise an engagement plan.</p>	Bin splitting audit to be held in November (date TBC).
13. Confidential Waste	<p><b>Benjamin:</b> we will outsource our confidential waste to an external contractor. We will require waste mass feedback from this new contractor.</p> <p><b>Benjamin:</b> Our waste mass data is not only coming from Veolia (but mostly), there are multiple sources.</p>	None
14. Student Understanding Audit	<p><b>Benjamin:</b> Surveys have historically been carried out on the university squares to audit student knowledge of waste disposal and recycling on campus. We have plans to conduct a similar survey this year.</p>	Organise this with the sustainability engagement team.