

Become a Super Recycler and Recycle More for West Devon

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News Release

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Become a Super Recycler and Recycle More for West Devon

Thursday 26th September - Please find images for you to us, marked as attachments at the bottom of the release

From December this year, West Devon Borough Council will be introducing an improved recycling service with its partner FCC Environment, so that every household can recycle more.

Recycling more and throwing away less reduces the impact on the environment because less energy is used producing new materials and we can make the best use of our resources.

Earlier this year West Devon Borough Council joined many other councils and Central Government, in declaring a climate change and biodiversity emergency.

While tackling the global issues seems an overwhelming task, recycling is the easiest way for every household to do their bit.

There are many residents in West Devon who already recycle all of the items that are currently collected. Now West Devon Borough Council wants to help residents become Super Recyclers and recycle even more every single week.

From December, **plastic packaging**, such as yoghurt pots, margarine tubs, meat trays and fruit punnets can be recycled at the kerbside. Residents will also be able to recycle **food and drinks cartons, printer cartridges** and **aluminium** foil and trays.

To enable residents to do this, each household will be issued with a reusable sack to put out

alongside their two existing boxes and food caddy. It will have a weighted base, so it doesn't blow away, and a lid to keep all of the contents inside.

Cllr Caroline Mott, West Devon Borough Council's Lead Member for Environment, said:

"I am delighted to be bringing this improved service to our residents. Many of them have been telling us that they want to recycle more materials, because they know how important recycling is.

"In the lead up to the new service we will be doing a big drive to encourage as many residents as possible to recycle all that they can.

"I am particularly passionate about the amount of food waste that still gets thrown in the black bins – nearly 1840 Tonnes per year that's over 1kg per household per week - this could all be recycled. This is such an easy win, if you put all of your food waste, in the food caddy, it will mean your black bags will remain clean and free from smells until they are collected."

To help residents understand which container to put which item in, every household will receive an information pack. The information pack will contain a leaflet explaining the new service and new stickers for their existing boxes.

Cllr Mott added; "We have changed which items go in which boxes to make it easier for residents to recycle as much as they can. We know for example that residents have lots of cardboard and glass, so we are now asking residents to put them in separate boxes which will create more space."

Officers from West Devon Borough Council will be on hand to talk to residents about the new service at the following events:

Okehampton: Market Street (Waitrose) car park	26 September
Tavistock: Bedford square; Pannier Market	27 September
Tavistock: Tesco	14 November
Okehampton: Waitrose	15 November
Okehampton: Co-op	21 November

These changes apply to all households in West Devon from December.

Any further changes to the service will form part of a trial in the new year. Any households involved in the trial will be contacted separately.

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Please be aware that telephone calls to and from the Council may be recorded for training and monitoring purposes.