

Be Bin Day Ready!

Waste and recycling across the Borough is changing. First new collections will begin on **Tuesday 31 March 2026**



You can see our **red** and **blue** weeks on the back of this leaflet or scan the QR code to use our online postcode checker



Stockton-on-Tees
BOROUGH COUNCIL

What are the changes?

From **Tuesday 31 March 2026** bin collections across the Borough will change:



Recycling - collected weekly



Food waste - collected weekly



Household waste -
collected every two weeks



Garden waste -
collected every two weeks*

*for subscribers only

To find out more, visit [www.stockton.gov.uk/
waste-and-recycling-improvements](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling-improvements) or
scan the QR code



Let's get it sorted!

Here's how your recycling will change and what you can recycle:

After 31 March 2026 (Collected every week)



Grey indoor and outdoor caddy

- Food waste

NEW



Blue bag

- Plastics
- Metals
- Cartons

NEW



Small electrical items

NEW



Clothes and shoes

NEW



White bag

- Cardboard
- Paper (in paper pouch)



Blue box

- Glass
- Batteries (in a clear bag)

Food waste caddies



You will be given two food waste caddies and caddy liners. You'll get:

- **a 5-litre indoor food caddy for your kitchen**
- **a 23-litre food caddy for outside**

Caddies will lock when handle is in the front position.

To request a new roll of caddy liners, tie the re-order ribbon to the handle of your food waste caddy to let your recycling crews know you need a new roll of liners. The re-order ribbon is near the end of the roll.

What goes in the caddies?

- ✓ Uneaten food
- ✓ Plate scrapings
- ✓ Cooked vegetables
- ✓ Peelings
- ✓ Out of date or mouldy food
- ✓ Raw and cooked meat and fish, including bones
- ✓ Tea bags and coffee grounds

How to use your food waste caddies

1



Line your smaller indoor caddy with a biodegradable liner

2



Place any food waste into the caddy

3



When the caddy is full, tie up the liner and place the bag of food waste into the larger outdoor caddy. **All food waste must be bagged.**

Blue bag

Our new bag has a 1kg weighted bottom.

What goes in the bag?

- ✓ Plastic bottles
- ✓ Plastic meat trays (**clean**)
- ✓ Plastic microwaveable meal trays (**clean**)
- ✓ Liquid food and drink cartons
- ✓ Yoghurt pots
- ✓ Margarine and butter
- ✓ Shampoo/cleaning bottles
- ✓ Toothpaste tubes



Small electrical items

- You can recycle small electrical items from the kerbside
- Only dispose of one carrier bag of small electricals each week
- We ask for no items bigger than a kettle or a toaster

Examples include:

- ✓ hairstyling tools
- ✓ kettles
- ✓ toasters
- ✓ electric toothbrushes
- ✓ telephones
- ✓ shavers
- ✓ children's electronic toys



Clothes and shoes

- Please take items that could be re-used to charity shops before recycling at the kerbside
- Only dispose of one carrier bag of textiles each week
- Please only dispose of clothes and shoes. Curtains, towels, bedding and blankets should be taken to Haverton Hill Waste Recycling Centre
- Please ensure clothes and shoes are clean and dry

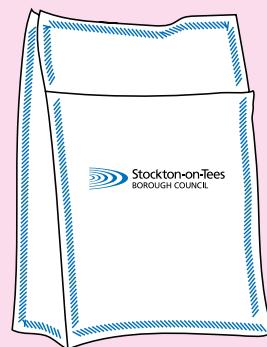


White bag

You will continue to use your white bag.

Put cardboard only in the bag.

Paper goes in the paper pouch.



What goes in the bag?

- ✓ Cardboard boxes
- ✓ Cereal boxes
- ✓ Corrugated packaging
- ✓ Egg boxes
- ✓ Toilet or kitchen roll tubes

What goes in the pouch?

- ✓ Paper
- ✓ Newspapers
- ✓ Magazines
- ✓ Junk mail
- ✓ Envelopes

Blue box

You will keep your current blue box.

What goes in the box?

- ✓ Glass bottles
- ✓ Glass jars
- ✓ Household batteries (within their own clear bag)



To find out how to get replacement bins, boxes or bags, visit
www.stockton.gov.uk/bins-rubbish-and-recycling

Green household waste bin

Collected **fortnightly** for all non-recyclable waste.

What goes in the bin?

- ✓ Nappies
- ✓ Absorbent hygiene products
- ✓ Contaminated takeaway containers
- ✓ Non-recyclable items



Collection dates 2026



From **Tuesday 31 March 2026** your collection day or week may be changing.

Don't worry, if your property is changing collection day or week you will receive a letter confirming the new collection day for your household.

Important change to red and blue weeks

From **Tuesday 31 March 2026**, the red and blue weeks on your collection dates calendar will refer to general waste (refuse) collections - not recycling.

What's Changing?

- Before 31 March Red/Blue Weeks = Recycling
- From 31 March Red/Blue Weeks = General waste (refuse)

Check your calendar carefully to ensure you present the correct containers each week

You can see our red and blue weeks on the back of this leaflet or scan the QR code to use our online postcode checker.



When presenting your bins, boxes and bags please be considerate of those with pushchairs, wheelchairs and disabilities.

Why are we making these changes?

Did you know Stockton-on-Tees had one of the lowest recycling rates in the country? In 2023 - 2024, our recycling rate was just 24.5%.

That's well below the North East average of 31% and the national average of 42%.

We know we can do better - which is why we're making these changes which will:

 **Boost our recycling rate**

 **Cut carbon emissions**

 **Meet new government legislation**

Why recycle?

Sorting your recycling the right way keeps it clean and valuable, making it easier to turn into new products. It also helps protect the environment, cuts down on disposal costs, and saves money that can be used for important local services.



Why boxes and bags?

You might be wondering why we don't just add another bin.

Here's why separating your recycling matters:



Cleaner materials - sorting helps keep recyclables uncontaminated, so more of them can be reused



Lower costs - mixing everything into one bin means extra processing - and that costs the council more



Better for the planet - more materials can be recycled in the UK, reducing waste exports



Legal changes - new government rules require councils to collect food waste separately, reduce mixed recycling and separate cardboard and paper.

Together, we can make Stockton-on-Tees a cleaner, greener place to live

Garden waste collection: renew now for 2026

**It's time to renew or sign up for the 2026
garden waste collection service.**

New subscribers will receive a brown garden waste bin as part of the service. Existing subscribers will continue using their current brown bin.

From **Tuesday 31 March 2026**, household waste (green wheeled bin) collections will switch to fortnightly, meaning your waste bin capacity will be halved. By keeping garden waste out of your household waste bin, you'll have more space for everyday rubbish.

To renew, sign up, or learn more, visit:
www.stockton.gov.uk/garden-waste-collection-service-changes



Household waste collection dates 2026

JANUARY

Monday	5	12	19	26
Tuesday	6	13	20	27
Wednesday	7	14	21	28
Thursday	1	8	15	22
Friday	2	9	16	23
Saturday	3	10	17	24
Sunday	4	11	18	25

FEBRUARY

1	2	9	16	23
	3	10	17	24
	4	11	18	25
	5	12	19	26
	6	13	20	27
	7	14	21	28

MARCH

1	2	9	16	23	30
	3	10	17	24	
	4	11	18	25	
	5	12	19	26	
	6	13	20	27	
	7	14	21	28	
	8	15	22	29	

APRIL

Monday	6	13	20	27
Tuesday	7	14	21	28
Wednesday	1	8	15	22
Thursday	2	9	16	23
Friday	3	10	17	24
Saturday	4	11	18	25
Sunday	5	12	19	26

MAY

1	4	11	18	25
	5	12	19	26
	6	13	20	27
	7	14	21	28
	8	15	22	29
	9	16	23	30
	10	17	24	31

JUNE

1	2	9	16	23	30
	3	10	17	24	
	4	11	18	25	
	5	12	19	26	
	6	13	20	27	
	7	14	21	28	

JULY

Monday	6	13	20	27
Tuesday	7	14	21	28
Wednesday	1	8	15	22
Thursday	2	9	16	23
Friday	3	10	17	24
Saturday	4	11	18	25
Sunday	5	12	19	26

AUGUST

1	3	10	17	24	31
	4	11	18	25	
	5	12	19	26	
	6	13	20	27	
	7	14	21	28	
	8	15	22	29	
	9	16	23	30	

SEPTEMBER

1	2	9	16	23	30
	3	10	17	24	
	4	11	18	25	
	5	12	19	26	
	6	13	20	27	

OCTOBER

Monday	5	12	19	26
Tuesday	6	13	20	27
Wednesday	7	14	21	28
Thursday	1	8	15	22
Friday	2	9	16	23
Saturday	3	10	17	24
Sunday	4	11	18	25

NOVEMBER

1	2	9	16	23	30
	3	10	17	24	
	4	11	18	25	
	5	12	19	26	
	6	13	20	27	
	7	14	21	28	
	8	15	22	29	

DECEMBER

1	2	9	16	23	30
	3	10	17	24	31
	4	11	18	25	
	5	12	19	26	
	6	13	20	27	

For more information visit
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