

# BDR Waste Treatment Facility Community Liaison Group Newsletter

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*January- April 2026*

In the last Community Liaison Group meeting it was agreed that going forward, information will now be shared via quarterly newsletter. Contact details for Council waste services can be found on the last page.



## **Biffa update**

Council inputs year on year are increasing more than expected:

22/23 = 207,700t

23/24 = 209,400t

24/25 = 211,760t

25/26 = 213,000t

We have also accepted nearly 11,000t of third-party waste in 2025/26.

Recycling performance for 2025/26 is at 14.10%. Steady outputs and capture percentages have been maintained and are in line with budget.

Bin lorry fires are becoming more common with suspected Li Ion batteries being the cause. This means the waste inside the vehicle needs to be tipped urgently at the side of the road, extinguished and cleaned up.

Ferrybridge FM1 is preparing for its annual outage in May 2026 as planned.

Christmas running and waste acceptance went well.

The integration into Biffa has gone well.

**Daniel Tadd – Contract Director, Biffa**

## **BDR update**

### **BDR General Update**

The Contractor (Biffa formally Renewi) continues to manage the project well with minimal issues reported, the BDR team continue to monitor their performance and raise any issues as needed.

There have been no issues with contract waste deliveries over the last several months, all waste has been accepted and processed as required by the contract.

The BDR team continue to work with the Contractor on updates and changes to the facility to meet contractual requirement and environmental permits. These include work on the anaerobic digestion pasteurisation, ammonia scrubbing system, reduction in emissions, enhanced fly management/suppression, and infrastructure improvement/repair work.

### **Legislation Changes**

As previously advised the government has announced new waste initiatives and changes to its environmental policies. They are introducing Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) -now live, Simpler Recycling -March 2026 for households, a Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) - October 2027 and the Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) -2028.

### **Simpler Recycling**

As previously stated, all councils have an exemption to separately collect food waste due to the Bolton Road waste treatment facility meeting the aims of the policy by diverting waste from landfill and into a compost like output while also generating electricity to be used on site.

All councils meet or are working towards being compliant with the policy requirements for recycling collections.

As with most councils nationally, the BDR councils have expanded the range of materials to be collected from commercial premises this year (commenced 2025, a year before the Household Requirements).

### **DRS / ETS / EPR**

The BDR team is working closing with the Contractor, along with external contractors, to monitor, forecast, and ensure that any the contract meets the requirements of these policies when they are implemented.

**Carl Hewlett – Senior Contract Officer,  
BDR PFI Waste Team**

## **CELO update**

### **Site Tours**

Since our last update, we have hosted four site tours with 28 people. Throughout 2025/26 we showed 110 people around site.

We will be continuing this throughout 2026/27. New dates have been posted on the BDR online website along with a booking form. [www.bdronline.co.uk/site-visits](http://www.bdronline.co.uk/site-visits)



### **Education Sessions**

Now that we have our new team member, Holly, we have been able to do more education sessions including the 3Rs, assemblies, careers events, and our Rubbish Adventure sessions.

We have also developed a new workshop for older students based on the waste composition analysis. This was trialled at the Milton school in Rotherham as part of a national challenge they are taking part in looking at local recycling data.

Since our last update have delivered 12 sessions to over 250 young people. This is also something we will be continuing throughout 2026/27. Further details and our new Community Outreach leaflet can be found on the BDR website:

[www.bdronline.co.uk/education](http://www.bdronline.co.uk/education)

### **Food Waste Campaign**

Since February, we have been out and about promoting our food waste prevention campaign. We are asking members of the public to fill in a [short survey](#) about their food shopping habits and how they store fresh fruits and vegetables. In exchange they will receive a toolkit to help reduce their food waste which includes:

- A storage reveal wheel
- A shopping list pad
- Food / bag clips
- A Fresh Pod – absorbs ethylene in the fridge so that fruit ripens slower.



Participants will then be asked to do a second survey to find out how they found the tools and if they helped reduce food waste. We will continue this campaign early next year to get more survey responses.



### **Second-hand style challenge**

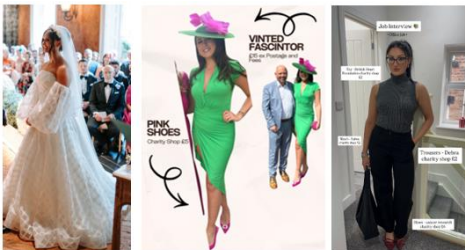
In February we launched our second-hand style challenge. The competition was

created to encourage residents to shop for second-hand clothing rather than buying brand new. The competition was aimed at a younger audience of 16-25-year-olds who are generally fashion conscious but may not know about the environmental consequences of the fashion industry.

Participants were challenged to create up to 5 outfits made entirely of pre-loved clothing and accessories. The categories were:

- Time to Party
- Job Interview
- Wedding Guest
- Festival Fashion
- Cosy Day In

32 entries were received overall. Winners and runners up received a share of £3,000. Winners of all the overall categories can be seen below.



Time to Party      Wedding Guest      Job Interview

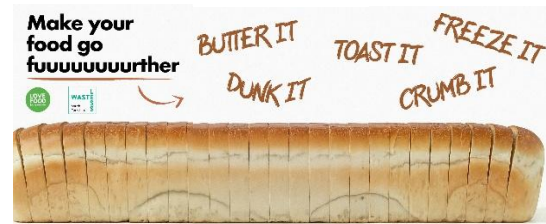


Festival Fashion      Cosy Day In

## Food Waste Action Week

In March, we participated in the national Food Waste Action Week campaign. The theme of this year's campaign was 'Make

Your Food Go Fuuuuuuurther - for your pocket, for our planet.' Every year, UK households throw away 4.4 million tonnes of edible food - worth a staggering £17.5 billion. That's an average of £1,000 wasted per household of four every year. We shared posts on our social media channels and distributed a press release.



## Team Repair Partnership

We are working with Team Repair to deliver free green skills workshops to schools. Workshops are aimed at students aged 10-14, letting them take apart gadgets and repair them, fostering both a repair mindset and STEM engagement.

Teachers are provided with all the materials needed to run the session, including lesson plans, and repair guides as well as 'broken' gadgets to be repaired and tested.

To express interest and request a repair workshop schools can email [edu@team.repair](mailto:edu@team.repair) with the school's name and location.



## Upcoming Activities

The CELO Plan has been agreed by the Councils, it outlines our work for 26/27.

The plan includes an individual campaign for each council that will be tailored to them, and joint activities that will centre on waste prevention and reduction, community activities and digital activities.

This year we are also trialling something different with our social media channels and will be posting based on monthly

themes. This will start in April with the theme of Earth Month and May focusing on home composting. We will also be continuing to post on our TikTok Channel.

Other campaigns we will be supporting this year include International Compost Awareness Week, World Refill Day, Plastic Free July, Recycle Week, International E-Waste Day, and Food Waste Action Week.

**Rebecca Wilson – Assistant Community Education Liaison Officer, Biffa**

## Where to find out more:

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### Council

For individual Council Waste and Recycling information e.g. HWRCs, collection dates and materials:

- Barnsley Council: [www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/bins-rubbish-and-recycling](http://www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/bins-rubbish-and-recycling)
- City of Doncaster Council: [www.doncaster.gov.uk/services/bins-recycling-waste](http://www.doncaster.gov.uk/services/bins-recycling-waste)
- Rotherham Council: [www.rotherham.gov.uk/environment](http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/environment)

### Biffa BDR

For information on site, site tours, and education sessions visit the BDR Online website: [www.bdronline.co.uk](http://www.bdronline.co.uk)

For enquires relating to site, please contact [BDR.Enquires@biffa.co.uk](mailto:BDR.Enquires@biffa.co.uk)

### Waste Less South Yorkshire

For waste reduction and recycling tips, visit Waste Less South Yorkshire: [www.wasteless-sy.co.uk](http://www.wasteless-sy.co.uk)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/WLSYorks](http://www.facebook.com/WLSYorks)

Instagram: [www.instagram.com/wastelessouthyorkshire](http://www.instagram.com/wastelessouthyorkshire)

TikTok: [www.tiktok.com/@wastelessy](http://www.tiktok.com/@wastelessy)