

# SIMPLER RECYCLING:

## How to make your business compliant

Simpler Recycling legislation is in full force and non-compliance could cost your business £118 per hour in Environment Agency enforcement fees.

### What you need to do

To ensure compliance you must separate waste by stream and have the correct containers and collections in place.

Businesses with 10 or more full time employees had to have this in place by **31 March 2025**. Micro-firms (businesses with fewer than 10 full time employees) have until **31 March 2027**.

### Waste streams explained



#### Mixed recycling

Mixed recycling, such as plastic, metal tins or paper, can all be collected in the same container.



#### Food waste

Even if your business only produces a small amount of food waste, like tea bags or vegetable peels, you are still required to separate it from general waste.



#### Glass

Glass waste, such as clean glass bottles and jars, must be collected in their own container.



#### General waste

This is for all remaining materials that cannot be recycled, such as polystyrene, bubble wrap, non-recyclable packaging.

### What will happen if my business doesn't comply with Simpler Recycling regulations?

From 3 February 2026, the Environment Agency has implemented an hourly time and materials charge of £118 for regulatory work where businesses are found to be non-compliant.

### For more information

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