

# Take the ONE BAG A WEEK challenge



COMMUNAL SERVICE

Your guide to

REDUCING,

REUSING & RECYCLING

## Take the ONE BAG A WEEK challenge

It's simple: put just **ONE BAG** of non-recyclable rubbish in your communal bin each week.

### Did you know...

We're all working together to tackle the climate emergency in Southwark. Reducing your rubbish is one of the simplest actions you can take today to protect your local environment, whilst also helping Southwark reach its target to be carbon neutral by 2030. You might also be surprised at how much money you could save!

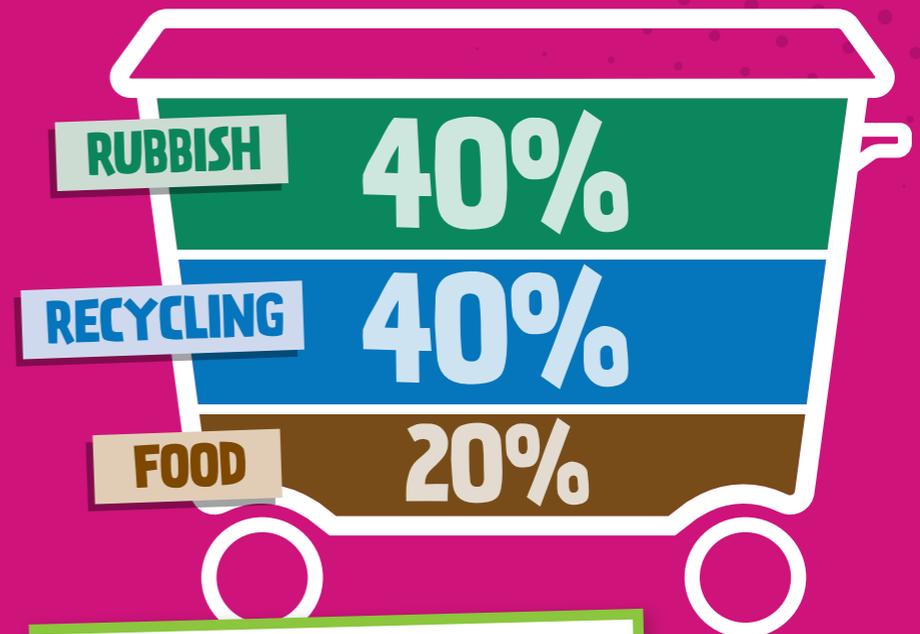
On average at least **60% of what we throw away can be recycled** but we're **currently recycling about 35%**. If we all recycled properly we could reduce the amount of money spent on sorting waste, leaving more money for other essential services in Southwark.

**Let's recycle better, together. For each other. For Southwark.**



## What's all this rubbish?

Every week this is what the average communal bin like yours contains.



Up to 20% can be food waste, and around 40% is actually recyclable! Some of this belongs in your household recycling and some, like textiles and small electricals can be recycled if it's separated in the right way (see page 5 for more details). So your rubbish could be up to 60% smaller if you follow these simple steps; **Reduce Reuse Recycle**

Ready to take on the



[southwark.gov.uk/one-bag-a-week](https://southwark.gov.uk/one-bag-a-week)

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# 1 REDUCE

## REMEMBER THE LITTLE THINGS

From taking a bag with you to the shops, to packing your lunch in reusable tubs, buying your fruit and vegetables loose and saying no to junk mail, you can make a big positive impact every single day.



## DON'T LET YOUR FOOD GO TO WASTE

On average, around **20% of the waste** collected in Southwark's rubbish bins is food. With some meal planning, using what you buy and freezing leftovers, the average family could also save just over **£40 per month!**



Around **15,000 flats** have been taking part in a trial communal food waste service. If you want more information on how to use the service, please visit [southwark.gov.uk/foodwaste](https://southwark.gov.uk/foodwaste)

## SWITCH TO REUSABLE NAPPIES

If you're a new parent, apply for a **FREE reusable nappy trial pack**. Your baby is likely to need **up to 6,000 changes** from birth to potty training. Using real nappies for your baby can help reduce your household waste by nearly half. It can also save you around **£25 a month**. Simply follow the link below to find out more.



# 2 REUSE

Some things aren't ready to be thrown away so **DON'T BIN IT...**

## ...DONATE IT

to your local charity shop if the items are in good condition. Some charities also offer **FREE collections** for larger items.



## ...BRING IT

to a local recycling site.

Find your nearest site at [southwark.gov.uk/recyclingsites](https://southwark.gov.uk/recyclingsites)



## ...OR BRING IT

to Southwark's Reuse and Recycling Centre, which offers a wide range of options for donating usable furniture, clothing, books, bikes, electricals and even paint. It also accepts all household recycling and general rubbish.

## Open 8:30am to 4.30pm\*

43 Devon Street, SE15 1AL open all year round except Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day. \*Restrictions apply, make sure you check online at [southwark.gov.uk/recyclingcentre](https://southwark.gov.uk/recyclingcentre) before your visit.

## FREE paint!

Through the Community RePaint scheme Southwark residents can pick up donated paint for free. Perfect if you are starting a new DIY project!



## ...BOOK IT

If the items are no longer usable and/or you can't get to the Recycling Centre then book a bulky waste collection. It's **£25** for up to 10 items. Visit [southwark.gov.uk/bulkywaste](https://southwark.gov.uk/bulkywaste) to find out what items are accepted and to book.



Items such as sofas and other soft furnishings that contain flame retardants can only be disposed of via the bulky waste collection or brought to the Reuse and Recycling Centre.

## HAZARDOUS WASTE

Gas canisters, vapes, batteries, electrical equipment, acids and oils are **NOT ALLOWED** in your rubbish or recycling as they are dangerous. They can cause explosions and fires during waste collections and treatment processes. Only dispose of these items at the Reuse and Recycling Centre.



# 3 RECYCLE

Make sure you **EMPTY** and **RINSE** items before putting them in your communal bin loose, **no pesky plastic bags**. Find out why at: [southwark.gov.uk/empty-rinse-recycle](https://southwark.gov.uk/empty-rinse-recycle)

## YES PLEASE



Glass bottles and jars



Paper and card



Food and drink cans



Plastic bottles and containers



Food and drink cartons



Aerosols and foils

Take lids off glass jars and bottles so metals and glass can be separated in the sorting process

Put lids on plastic bottles so that they travel through the sorting process and can be recycled into new plastic items

## WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

If you don't think your block has enough recycling bins, or you would like a textiles or small electricals bin to help you reduce your rubbish to just **ONE BAG A WEEK** email: [environment@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:environment@southwark.gov.uk)

## OOPS! NO THANKS

Please do not put any of these items in your RECYCLING



X Tissues, nappies and sanitary items



X Food wrappers, packets and polystyrene



X Clothes and textiles



X Plastic bags and cling film