

## Household waste – Summary data 2014

This release shows the 2014 calendar year summary of household waste data generated and managed by or on behalf of Local Authorities in Scotland. This is the first publication of these data in this format. Further information including definition of terms is included in the methodology and glossary.

### Key points

#### Household waste – 2014 calendar year

- The total quantity of household waste generated in Scotland was 2.46 million tonnes in 2014, an increase of 1.9% since 2013. In general, however, household waste generation has been decreasing over the last few years and has reduced by 5.6% since 2011, a reduction of 147,200 tonnes.
- For the 2014 calendar year, the household waste recycling rate using a new calculation methodology was 42.8%. From 2014, household waste composted that did not reach the quality standards set by PAS 100/110 has not been included in the recycling figures. If such waste was included, as in the previous method, the overall recycling rate in 2014 would have been 43.6% compared with 42.2% achieved in 2013 and 40.1% achieved in 2011.
- For the 2014 calendar year, the total amount of household waste other diversion from landfill, using a new calculation methodology, was 193,190 tonnes. From 2014, household waste diverted from landfill that did not reach the quality standards set by PAS 100/110 has been included in the diversion from landfill figures. If such waste was excluded, as in the previous method, the total amount of household waste other diversion from landfill in 2014 would have been 173,477 tonnes, which is 66.2% greater than in 2013 (104,359 tonnes) and 60.9% greater than in 2011 (107,831 tonnes).
- The quantity of household waste landfilled has fallen by 16.6% since 2011 and was 1.21 million tonnes in 2014. The percentage of household waste that was landfilled decreased from 53.5% in 2013 to 49.3% in 2014, a reduction of 78,417 tonnes.

Data for household waste generated and managed for each local authority by waste type for 2011 - 2014 and the trends for household waste generated, recycled and managed since 2004 is available from The Scotland's Environment Household Waste Discover Data tool on [Scotland's environment web site](#).

Annual household waste summary data tables are also available to download in Excel format on [SEPA's web site](#).

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**Enquiries on this publication to:** Contact SEPA Communications Department: 01786 452546.

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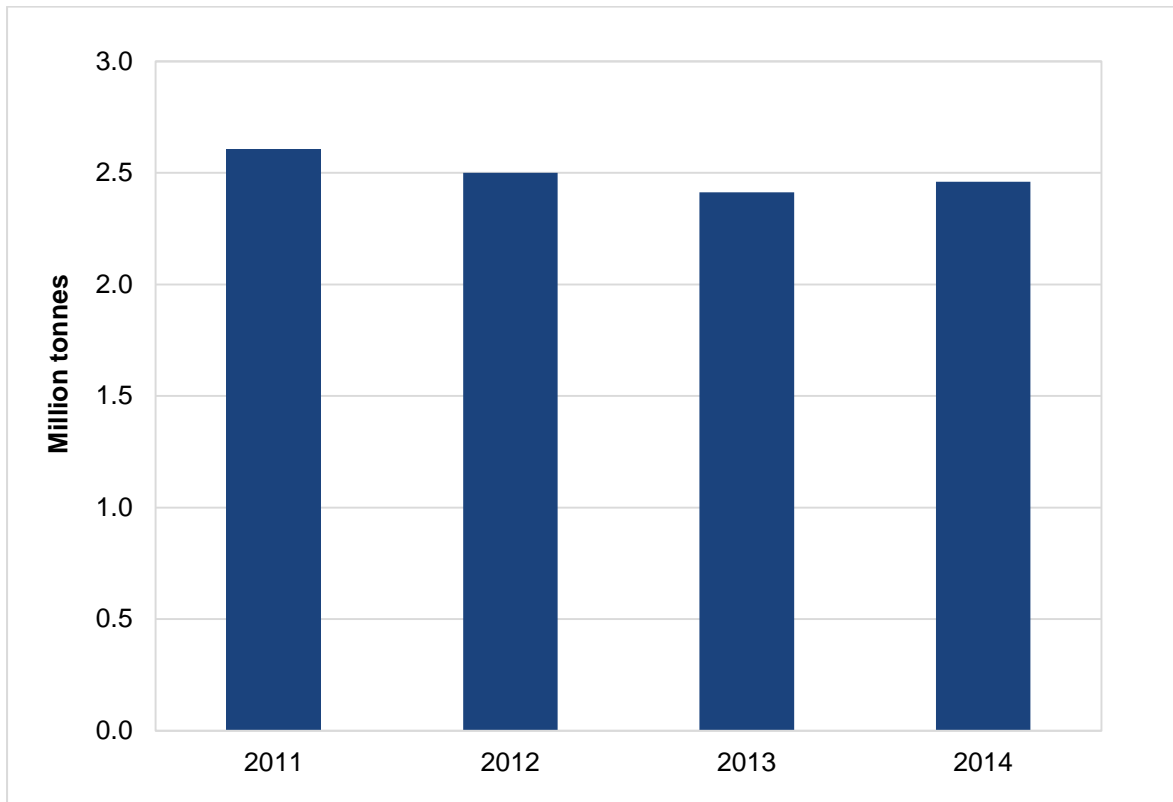
**Table 1 Household waste - Summary data 2014**

Local Authority	Generated (tonnes)	Recycled (tonnes)	Percentage Recycled (%)	Other diversion from landfill (tonnes)	Percentage Other diversion from Landfill (%)	Landfilled (tonnes)	Percentage Landfilled (%)	Recycled - OLD METHOD* (Tonnes)	Percentage Recycled - OLD METHOD*(%)	Other diversion -OLD* METHOD	Percentage Other diversion - OLD METHOD* (%)
Aberdeen City	96,130	36,742	38.2	354	0.4	59,034	61.4	36,742	38.2	354	0.4
Aberdeenshire	131,390	52,479	39.9	177	0.1	78,734	59.9	52,479	39.9	177	0.1
Angus	58,892	30,879	52.4	13,050	22.2	14,963	25.4	30,879	52.4	13,050	22.2
Argyll & Bute	52,359	15,655	29.9	9,511	18.2	27,192	51.9	18,456	35.2	6,710	12.8
Clackmannanshire	26,786	14,929	55.7	1,085	4.1	10,772	40.2	14,929	55.7	1,085	4.1
Dumfries & Galloway	76,454	15,940	20.8	34,701	45.4	25,813	33.8	17,139	22.4	33,502	43.8
Dundee City	63,738	20,290	31.8	39,054	61.3	4,394	6.9	20,290	31.8	39,054	61.3
East Ayrshire	56,392	28,381	50.3	8,614	15.3	19,407	34.4	28,381	50.3	8,614	15.3
East Dunbartonshire	52,897	23,533	44.5	6,272	11.9	23,093	43.7	26,677	50.4	3,127	5.9
East Lothian	52,660	22,523	42.8	4,008	7.6	26,123	49.6	22,523	42.8	4,008	7.6
East Renfrewshire	46,224	25,950	56.1	335	0.7	19,939	43.1	25,950	56.1	335	0.7
Edinburgh, City of	189,525	70,451	37.2	11,160	5.9	107,914	56.9	76,073	40.1	5,539	2.9
Eilean Siar	13,479	2,914	21.6	1,910	14.2	8,655	64.2	4,817	35.7	8	0.1
Falkirk	73,620	39,980	54.3	121	0.2	33,519	45.5	39,980	54.3	121	0.2
Fife	188,213	101,060	53.7	4,485	2.4	82,667	43.9	101,060	53.7	4,485	2.4
Glasgow City	224,488	57,839	25.8	1,838	0.8	164,811	73.4	57,839	25.8	1,838	0.8
Highland	131,228	60,459	46.1	1,754	1.3	69,015	52.6	61,613	47.0	600	0.5
Inverclyde	28,458	16,171	56.8	142	0.5	12,144	42.7	16,171	56.8	142	0.5
Midlothian	40,726	19,111	46.9	27	0.1	21,588	53.0	19,111	46.9	27	0.1
Moray	50,902	27,681	54.4	0	0.0	23,221	45.6	27,681	54.4	0	0.0
North Ayrshire	65,064	36,743	56.5	613	0.9	27,708	42.6	36,773	56.5	583	0.9
North Lanarkshire	150,309	62,528	41.6	5,980	4.0	81,801	54.4	62,689	41.7	5,818	3.9
Orkney Islands	10,568	1,831	17.3	5,070	48.0	3,011	28.5	2,583	24.4	4,318	40.9
Perth & Kinross	74,949	42,372	56.5	1,860	2.5	30,715	41.0	42,890	57.2	1,342	1.8
Renfrewshire	80,858	37,658	46.6	17,709	21.9	25,493	31.5	37,658	46.6	17,709	21.9
Scottish Borders	49,952	18,345	36.7	940	1.9	30,666	61.4	18,345	36.7	940	1.9
Shetland Islands	9,942	899	9.0	6,900	69.4	2,143	21.6	899	9.0	6,900	69.4
South Ayrshire	55,477	27,751	50.0	8,622	15.5	19,105	34.4	28,852	52.0	7,521	13.6
South Lanarkshire	153,492	69,000	45.0	960	0.6	83,531	54.4	69,960	45.6	0	0.0
Stirling	40,565	21,551	53.1	1,811	4.5	17,192	42.4	21,551	53.1	1,811	4.5
West Dunbartonshire	40,338	17,876	44.3	2,421	6.0	20,041	49.7	17,876	44.3	2,421	6.0
West Lothian	73,485	33,715	45.9	1,708	2.3	38,009	51.7	34,083	46.4	1,340	1.8
<b>Total Scotland</b>	<b>2,459,559</b>	<b>1,053,237</b>	<b>42.8</b>	<b>193,190</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>1,212,411</b>	<b>49.3</b>	<b>1,072,949</b>	<b>43.6</b>	<b>173,477</b>	<b>7.1</b>

\*Including composted wastes that do not reach the quality standards set by PAS 100/110 in the recycled figures.

## Trends

**Figure 1 Household waste generated in Scotland 2011-2014**

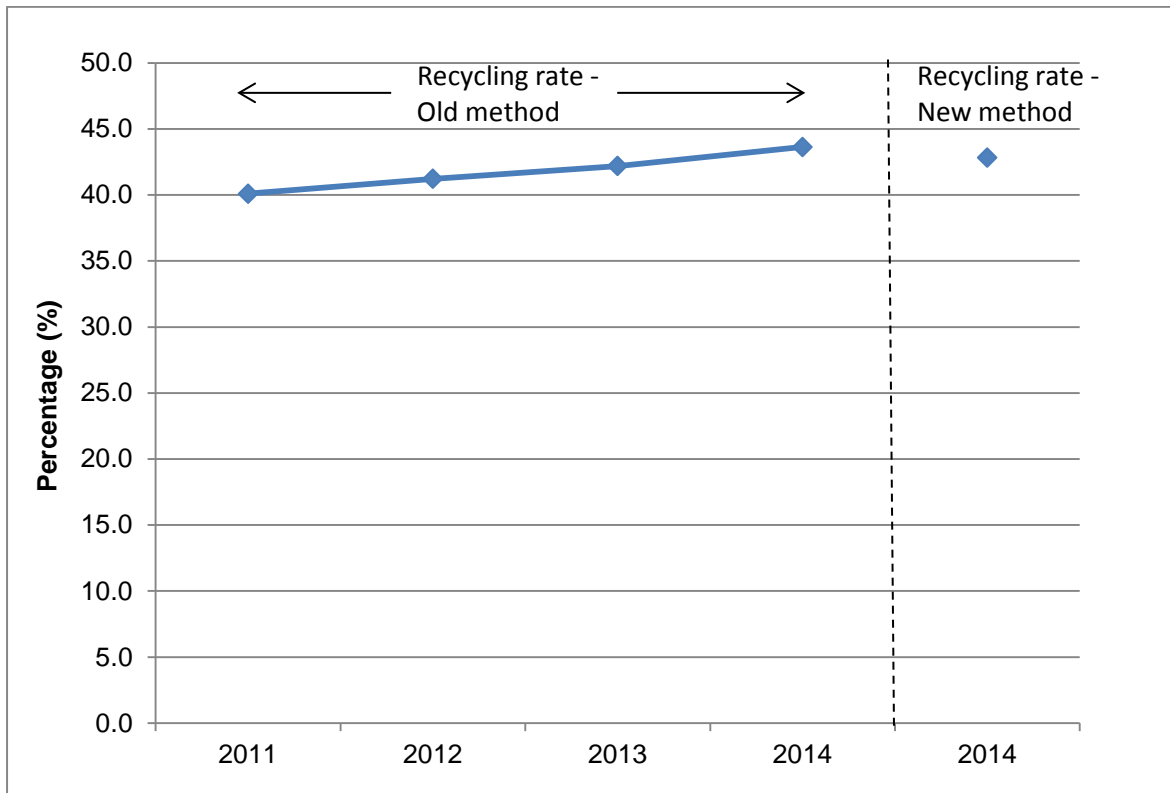


**Table 2 Household waste generated in Scotland 2011-2014**

Generation	2011	2012	2013	2014
Tonnes	2,606,662	2,500,836	2,412,706	2,459,559

- The total quantity of household waste generated in Scotland was 2.46 million tonnes in 2014, an increase of 1.9% since 2013. In general, however, household waste generation has been decreasing over the last few years and has reduced by 5.6% compared with 2011, a reduction of 147,200 tonnes.

**Figure 2 Household waste recycling rates in Scotland 2011-2014**

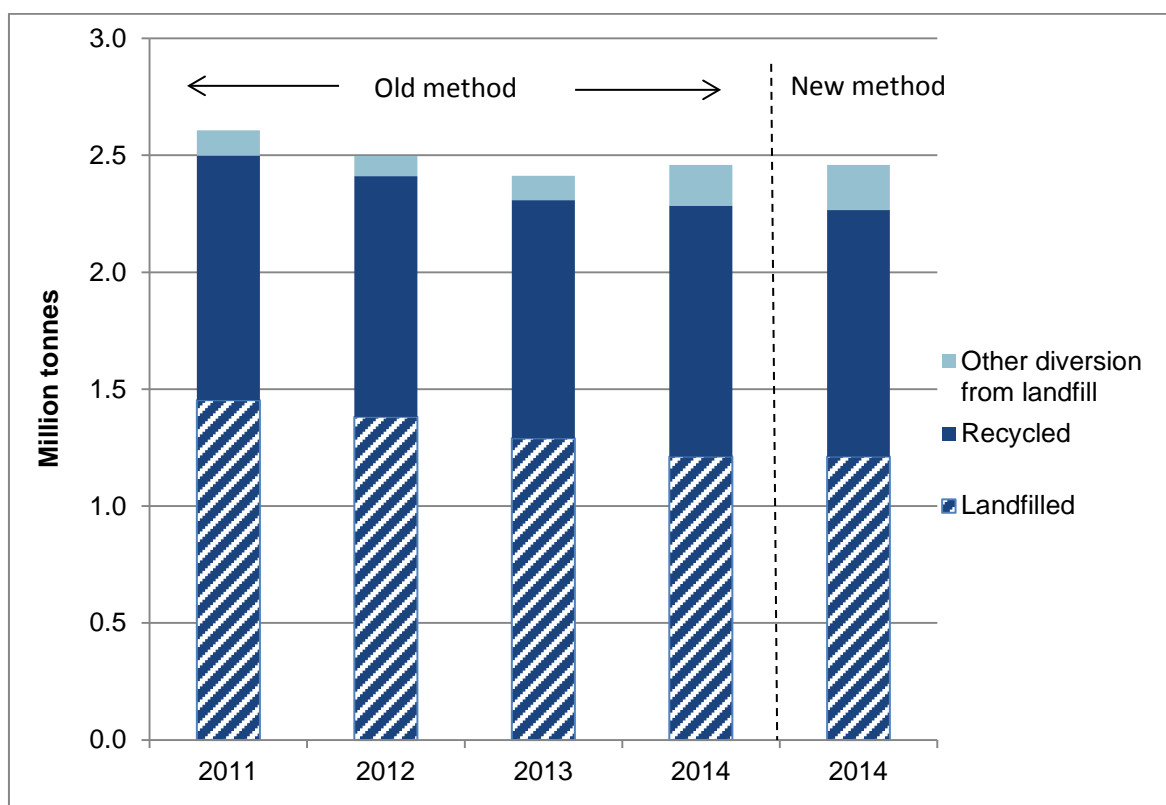


**Table 3 Household waste recycling rates in Scotland 2011-2014**

Recycling rate	Percentage (%)
2011 - OLD METHOD	40.1
2012 - OLD METHOD	41.1
2013 - OLD METHOD	42.2
2014 - OLD METHOD	43.6
2014	42.8

- For the 2014 calendar year, the household waste recycling rate using a new calculation methodology was 42.8%. From 2014, household waste composted that did not reach the quality standards set by PAS 100/110 has not been included in the recycling figures. If such waste was included, as in the previous method, the overall recycling rate in 2014 would have been 43.6% compared with 42.2% achieved in 2013 and 40.1% achieved in 2011.

**Figure 3 Scottish household waste managed in 2011-2014**



**Table 4 Scottish household waste managed in 2011-2014**

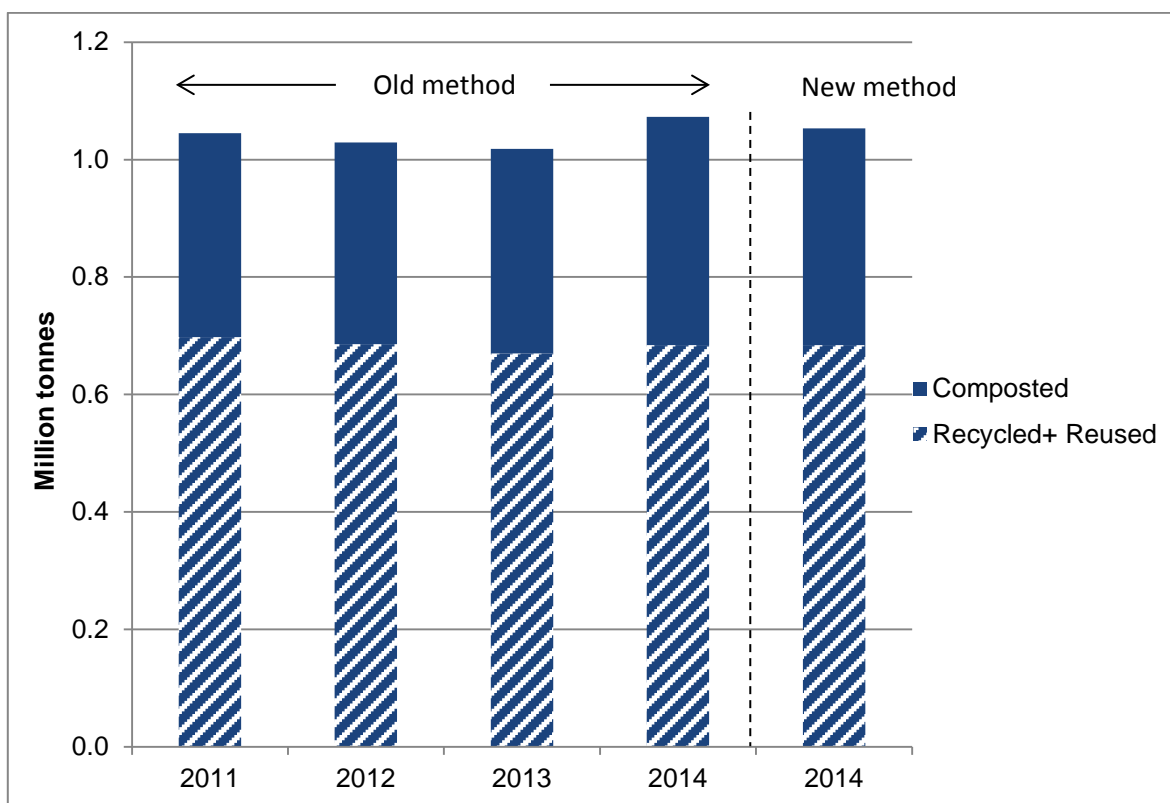
Year	Landfilled (tonnes)	Recycled (tonnes)	Other diversion from landfill (tonnes)	Total Managed (tonnes)
<b>2011 - OLD METHOD</b>	1,453,789	1,045,013	107,831	2,606,633
<b>2012 - OLD METHOD</b>	1,382,153	1,029,150	85,754	2,497,057
<b>2013 - OLD METHOD</b>	1,290,829	1,018,193	104,359	2,413,380
<b>2014 - OLD METHOD</b>	1,212,411	1,072,949	173,477	2,458,838
<b>2014</b>	1,212,411	1,053,237	193,190	2,458,838

Notes: 1. recycled includes waste recycled and reused and waste composted  
 2. waste managed excludes treated waste stockpiled prior to final management

- The total tonnage of household waste managed by or on behalf of local authorities in Scotland was 2.46 million tonnes in 2014. This is up 1.9% on 2013 but down 5.7% on 2011 when the total waste managed was 2.61 million tonnes.
- For the 2014 calendar year, the total tonnage of household waste recycled using a new calculation methodology was 1.05 million tonnes. From 2014, household waste composted that did not reach the quality standards set by PAS 100/110 has not been included in the recycling figures. If such waste was included, as in the previous method, the total household waste recycled in 2014 would have been 1.07 million tonnes which is 5.4% greater than in 2013 and 2.7% greater than in 2011.
- The quantity of household waste landfilled has fallen by 16.6% since 2011 and was 1.21 million tonnes in 2014. The percentage of household waste that was landfilled decreased from 53.5% in 2013 to 49.3% in 2014, a reduction of 78,417 tonnes. This

decrease is due to more waste being recycled but it is also due in part to more waste being diverted from landfill to incineration, and to mechanical and biological treatments such as the production of Compost Like Outputs (CLO) and production of Refused Derived Fuel (RDF).

**Figure 4 Scottish household waste recycled in 2011-2014**



**Table 5 Scottish household waste recycled in 2011-2014 (tonnes)**

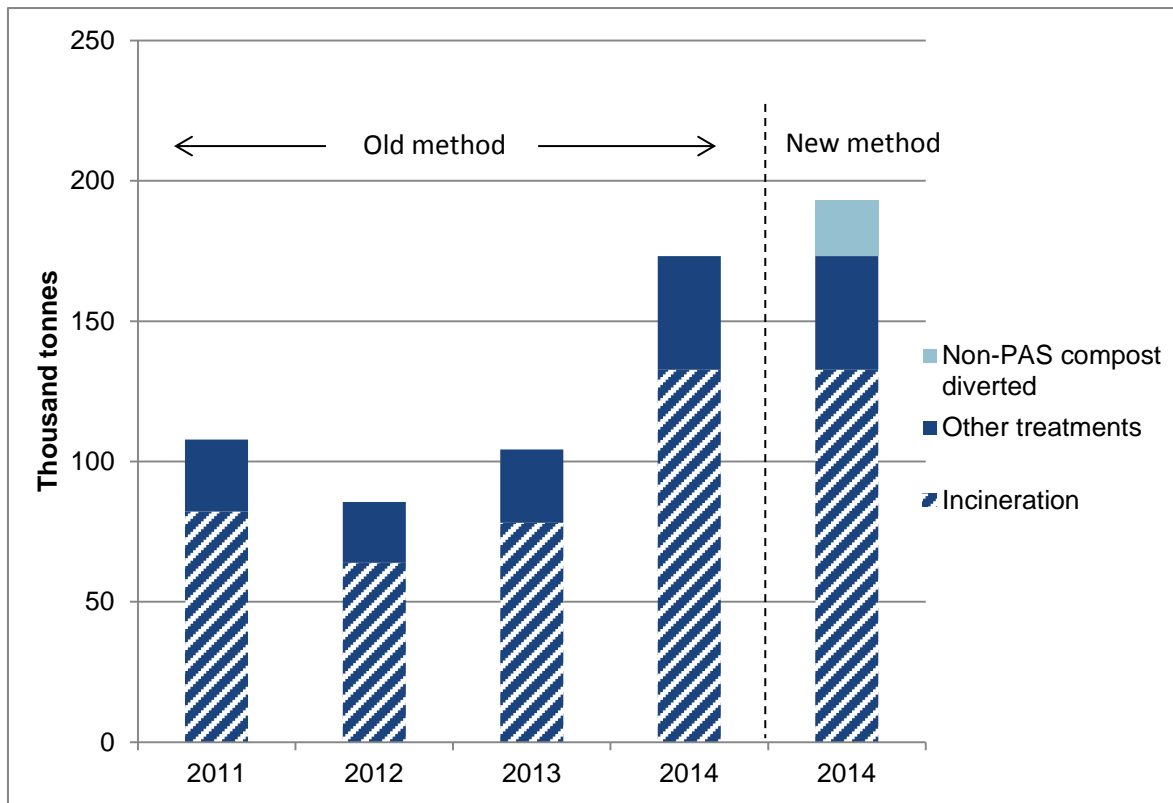
Year	Recycled + reused	Composted	Total
<b>2011 – OLD METHOD</b>	697,904	347,109	1,045,013
<b>2012 – OLD METHOD</b>	685,648	343,501	1,029,150
<b>2013 – OLD METHOD</b>	669,760	348,433	1,018,193
<b>2014 – OLD METHOD</b>	684,197	388,753	1,072,949
<b>2014</b>	684,197	369,040	1,053,237

Note waste composted includes biodegradable waste treated through anaerobic digestion

- In 2014 calendar year, household waste recycled and reused made 65.0% of the proportion of household waste recycled with household waste composted contributing to a further 35.0%, based on the tonnages calculated using the new calculation method.
- The tonnage of household waste recycled and reused in 2014 was up 2.2% compare with 2013 but down 2.0% compared with 2011 indicating that the amount of household waste recycled and reused has remained relatively stable during the last four years.

- For the 2014 calendar year, the total tonnage of household waste composted calculated using a new methodology was 369,040 tonnes. From 2014, household waste composted that did not reach the quality standards set by PAS 100/110 has not been included in the composting figures. If such waste was included, as in the previous method, the total household waste composted in 2014 would have been 388,753 tonnes, which is 11.6% greater than in 2013 (348,433 tonnes) and 12.0% greater than in 2011 (347,109 tonnes).

**Figure 5 Scottish household waste other diversion from landfill in 2011-2014**



**Table 6 Scottish household waste other diversion from landfill in 2011-2014 (tonnes)**

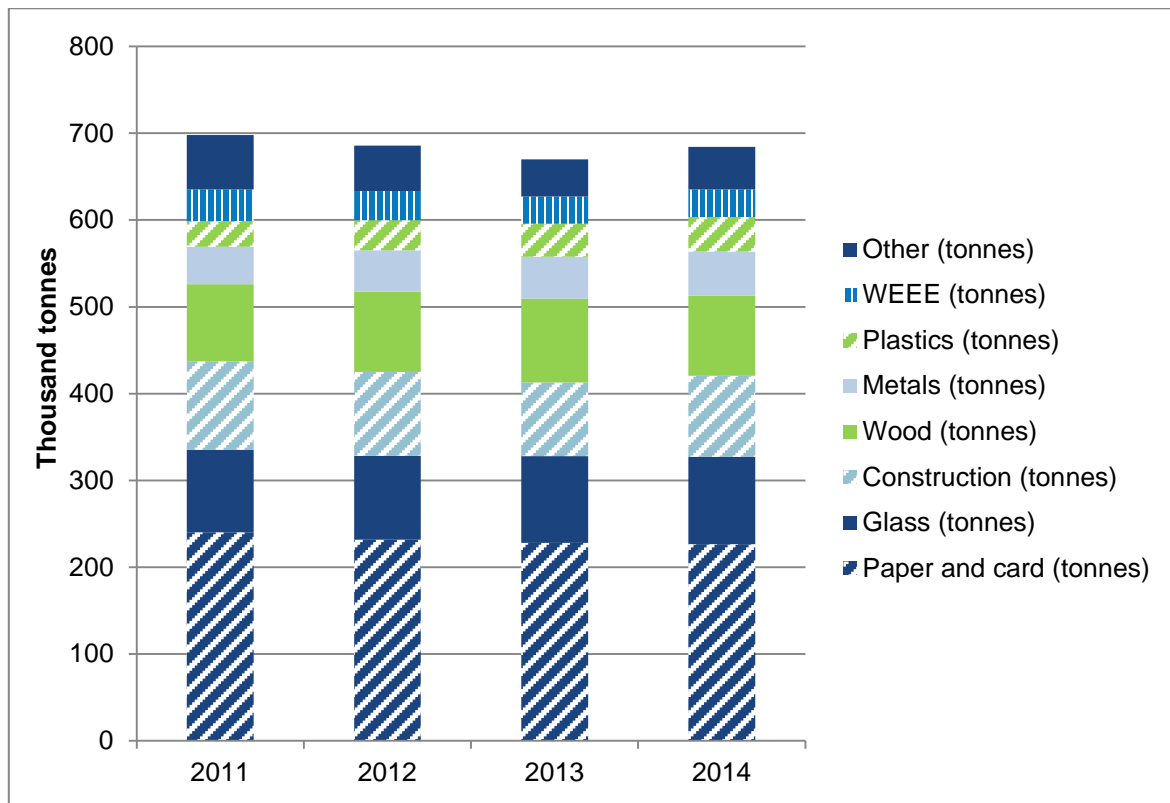
Year	Incineration	Other treatments	Non-PAS 100/110 compost	Total
<b>2011 - OLD METHOD</b>	80,616	27,215	0	107,831
<b>2012 - OLD METHOD</b>	60,452	25,302	0	85,754
<b>2013 - OLD METHOD</b>	78,258	26,101	0	104,359
<b>2014 - OLD METHOD</b>	132,949	40,529	0	173,477
<b>2014</b>	132,949	40,529	19,713	193,190

- For the 2014 calendar year, the total amount of household waste other diversion from landfill, using a new calculation methodology, was 193,190 tonnes. From 2014, household waste composted that reached the quality standards set by PAS 100/110 has been included in the diversion from landfill figures. If such waste was excluded, as in the previous method, the total amount of household waste other diversion from

landfill in 2014 would have been 173,477 tonnes, which is 66.2% greater than in 2013 (104,359 tonnes) and 60.9% greater than in 2011 (107,831 tonnes).

- The tonnage of household waste incinerated in 2014, which includes any bottom ash and metals from bottom ash that are diverted from landfill, was 132,949 tonnes, which is 69.9% greater than in 2013 (78,265 tonnes) and 64.9% greater than in 2011 (80,616 tonnes).
- The tonnage of household waste diverted from landfill as a result of other treatments has followed an increasing trend from 2012. There was a large increase of 55.3% between 2013 (26,101 tonnes) and 2014 (40,529 tonnes). Other treatments include process loss associated with mechanical and biological treatments (e.g. production of CLO and production of RDF); process loss associated with waste composted that is disposed to landfill; and CLO diverted from landfill.

**Figure 6 Scottish household waste recycled and reused by material in 2011-2014**





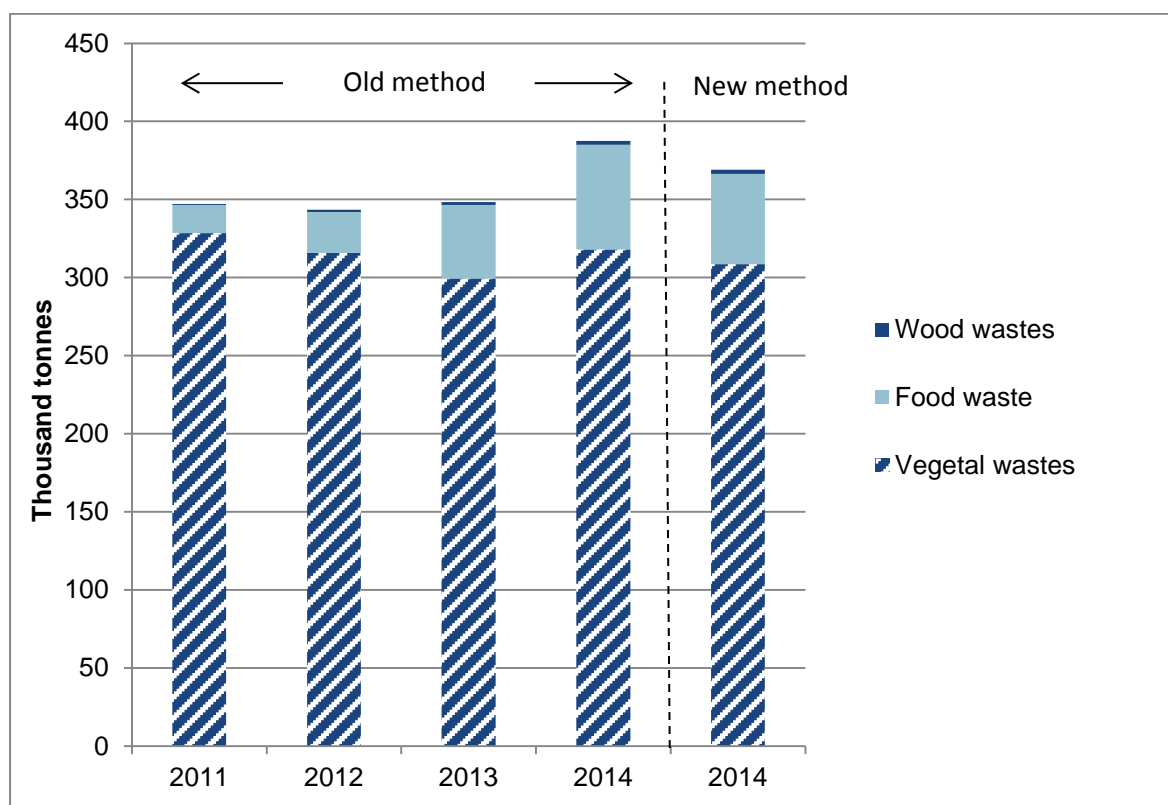
**Table 7 Scottish household waste recycled and reused by material in 2011-2014 (tonnes)**

Year	Paper and card	Glass	Construction	Wood	Metals	Plastics	WEEE	Other	Total
2011	240,346	94,903	101,810	89,002	43,257	29,299	36,616	62,671	697,904
2012	231,776	96,658	96,701	92,403	47,711	34,528	33,743	52,129	685,648
2013	227,924	99,973	84,882	96,827	48,026	38,098	31,368	42,662	669,760
2014	226,491	100,580	93,308	92,323	51,129	39,527	31,748	49,090	684,197

Notes: 1. Other materials includes discarded vehicles; soils; rubber wastes; textiles, chemical wastes; used oils; and batteries and accumulators  
 2. The methodology for calculating household waste recycled and reused figures has not changed

- The tonnage of household waste glass, metals, and plastics recycled and reused has increased year on year from 2011 to 2014. The tonnage of glass, metals and plastics recycled and reused in 2014 increased 5.8%, 18.2% and 34.9% respectively relative to 2011 figures. However, wood waste recycled and reused was down by 4.7% on 2013.
- The tonnage of household waste paper and card, construction waste, waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) and other materials recycled and reused in 2014 decreased by 5.8%, 8.4%, 13.3%, and 21.7% respectively relative to 2011. However, WEEE and Other materials were both up by 1.2% and 15.1% each from 2013.
- In 2014, paper and card wastes made up 33.1% of the proportion of household waste recycled and reused with glass contributing to a further 14.7%, construction wastes 13.6%, metals wastes 7.5%, plastics wastes 5.8%, and WEEE wastes 4.6%, with a range of other wastes contributed to the remaining remaining 7.2%.

**Figure 7 Scottish household waste composted by material in 2011-2014**



**Table 8 Scottish household waste composted by material in 2011-2014**

Year	Vegetal wastes	Food wastes	Wood wastes	Total
<b>2011 OLD METHOD</b>	328,538	18,104	466	347,109
<b>2012 OLD METHOD</b>	315,751	26,296	1,454	343,501
<b>2013 OLD METHOD</b>	299,384	47,187	1,861	348,433
<b>2014 OLD METHOD</b>	319,247	67,029	2,477	388,753
<b>2014</b>	308,706	57,858	2,477	369,040

- In 2015 the components of the vegetal wastes and food wastes category changed. Previously, the WasteDataFlow material category 'mixed garden and food waste' mapped 100% to the food waste reporting category. This WasteDataFlow material category now maps to 75% vegetal waste and 25% food waste. All data in this report has been revised to refer to the new classification.
- For the 2014 calendar year, the total tonnage of vegetal wastes composted calculated using a new methodology was 308,706 tonnes. From 2014, vegetal wastes composted that did not reach the quality standards set by PAS 100/110 has not been included in the composting figures. If such waste were included, as in the previous method, the total vegetal waste composted in 2014 would have been 319,247 tonnes, which is 6.6% greater than in 2013 (299,384 tonnes) but is 2.8% lower than in 2011 (328,538 tonnes).
- For the 2014 calendar year, the total tonnage of food waste composted calculated using a new methodology was 57,858 tonnes. From 2014, food waste composted

that did not reach the quality standards set by PAS 100/110 has not been included in the composting figures. If such waste were included, as in the previous method, the total food waste composted in 2014 would have been 67,029 tonnes, which is 42.0% greater than in 2013 (47,187 tonnes) and is 270.2% greater than in 2011 (18,104 tonnes).

- The tonnage of wood wastes composted has increased year on year from 2011 to 2014, with an overall increase of 431.5% since 2011, an increase of 2,010 tonnes.
- In 2014 calendar year, vegetal wastes made up about 83.7% of the proportion of total household waste composted, with food waste contributing 15.7% and wood wastes 0.7%, based on the tonnages calculated using the new method.

## **DATA USES, FEEDBACK, REVISIONS POLICY, METHODOLOGY, GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND MEASURES, AND REFERENCES**

### **User Statement**

Data on household waste generation and management are collected to monitor policy effectiveness, particularly the commitments in the [Zero Waste Plan](#), [Safeguarding Scotland's Resources - Blueprint for a More Resource Efficient and Circular Economy](#), and [Making Things Last - A circular Economy Strategy for Scotland](#), and to support policy development. The data are also used to meet legislative reporting targets on recycling targets set out in the Waste Framework Directive (2008/98/EC) and Commission Decision establishing rules and calculation methods for verifying compliance with the targets set in the Waste Framework Directive (2011/753/EU) and to supply data for the Waste Statistics Regulation (2002/2150/EC). The data are used extensively by local and central government, the waste industry, researchers and the public as well.

### **Feedback**

We welcome feedback on the data from all users including how and why the data is used. This helps us to understand the value of the statistics to external users. Please see our contact details at the bottom of the first page of this notice or e-mail: [WasteData.Flow@sepa.org.uk](mailto:WasteData.Flow@sepa.org.uk).

### **Revisions Policy**

SEPA will provide information about any revisions made to published information in this statistics release and the associated datasets. Revisions could occur for various reasons, including when data from third parties is unavailable or provisional at the time of publishing or if there are subsequent methodological improvements or refinements.

The figures are accurate at the time of publication. However the data may be updated if further revisions are necessary. Normally these revisions will be published concurrent with the next official release.

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### **Methodology**

Data is submitted by all 32 Scottish local authorities using the web-based reporting tool WasteDataFlow.

From 2014, composted wastes that do not reach the quality standards set by PAS 100/110 are accounted for as other wastes diverted from landfill and not as wastes composted. Further details on the methodology used to produce the figures are provided in the "Household waste" section of the annual Waste Data Quality Reports on [SEPA's web site](#).

Please note that household waste figures published by individual UK countries may be based on alternative calculation methodologies and as such the figures may not be directly comparable.

In 2015, the mapping of WasteDataFlow materials into reporting categories changed. These do not impact on the overall waste generated or managed, or result in any change to headline recycling figures. They may, however, change the waste generated and managed for individual waste categories. The changes made are as follows:

WasteDataFlow Category	Old Mapping	New Mapping
Mixed garden and food waste	Animal and mixed food waste	Vegetal wastes (75%) Animal and mixed food waste (25%)
Carpets	Household and similar wastes	Textile wastes
Absorbent Hygiene Products (AHP)	Household and similar wastes	Health care and biological wastes
Co-mingled materials	Household and similar wastes	Mixed and undifferentiated materials
Incinerator bottom ash	Household and similar wastes	Combustion wastes

The first mapping (mixed garden and food waste) is the only change that has an impact on the contents of this report, in particular the table and graphic with the breakdown for waste type composted.

This report was revised in September 2015 with all data from 2011-2015 have been revised in line with this new classification.

## Glossary of terms

**BSI PAS 100 / 110** – a national compost benchmark that specifies the minimum requirements for the process of composting, the selection of material from which compost is made, and standards for the compost product quality. PAS 100 is applicable to composting facilities while PAS 110 is applicable to anaerobic digestion facilities. The use of this standard to improve the quality of compost in Scotland became part of Scottish Government policy in 2011, with 2014 being the first year it has been applied to the household official statistics. Organic waste recycled that do not meet this standard have not been including in recycling statistics for the 2014 dataset.

**Household waste** – waste generated by households (see full definition in Paragraph 1.2 of the *Zero Waste Plan - guidance for local authorities* [here](#)).

**Other diversion from landfill** – describes the fate of waste material not recycled or landfilled. It includes:

- household waste treated by incineration, including any incinerator bottom ash and metals from bottom ash that are diverted from landfill,
- weight loss that occurs during the composting of waste to PAS 100/110 and non PAS 100/110 compost where the output is landfilled,
- household waste Compost Like Outputs (CLO) that is not landfilled,
- weight loss that occurs during mechanical and biological treatment processes (e.g. production of CLO and Refused Derived Fuel (RDF)),

- from 2014, any waste composted that has not reached the quality standards set by PAS 100/110 and is not landfilled.

**Recycling rate** – is defined as waste recycled as a percentage of all waste generated. Note that total waste generated does not equal waste managed due to stockpiled waste which is counted in the generation figures and will be included in waste managed figures for the year when they are managed.

**Waste generated** - is waste collected by or on behalf of local authorities that is managed within the relevant reporting year. This might include treated waste stockpiled prior to final management.

**Waste landfilled** –includes all household waste that is disposed of at landfill sites instead of being recycled or diverted from landfill through other methods. It also includes incinerator ash that is landfilled, plus any recycling and composting rejects that occur during collection, sorting or further treatment that go to landfill.

**Waste managed** - includes all wastes recycled, diverted from landfill and landfilled within the relevant reporting year. This includes stockpiled waste from a previous year sent to final management but excludes treated waste stockpiled prior to final management.

**Waste recycled** - includes recyclable materials that have been recycled or reused and also biodegradable materials that have been composted or digested. The amount of waste recycled, reused and composted is that accepted by the reprocessor. As such it excludes any recycling rejects that occur during collection, sorting or further treatment. From 2014, the composting figures using the new calculation methodology do not include any waste composted that has not reached the quality standards set by PAS 100/110.