

# Contamination Procedures

**It is important that only items acceptable on our collection schemes are put into your recycling containers.**

We are only able to collect materials our contractors can sort for recycling or composting. Unfortunately there are still some items that cannot be included, for example not all items made from plastic or metal should be included in the brown bin.

If incorrect items end up in the collection vehicle, the whole collection load may be rejected and none of the material will be recycled or composted, undoing the good work of residents and costing taxpayers extra money.

## **Our contamination procedure:**

- On collection day all crews carry out a visual inspection of your bin to check for contamination
- If incorrect items are found in recycling containers they will not be emptied
- The collection crew will leave a yellow sticker if they see contamination in your bin or an orange sticker if they find contamination after the bin has been tipped
- The crew will report on their day sheet where stickers have been left and why the bin wasn't emptied. This is then logged and you will be sent a letter telling you what is wrong
- You must remove the incorrect items and place your bin out again on the next scheduled collection
- If incorrect items are found for a second time then the process is repeated
- If contamination is reported a third time within a six month period, the crew will place a red sticker on the bin, a letter will be sent and arrangements are made to remove your bin

This procedure is aimed at the individuals who have no regard for recycling or the environment. It is not to target residents who make genuine mistakes.



**High Peak Borough Council**  
*working for our community*

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Environmental Services