

CARDBOARD BANK REMOVAL

FAQS

Why are you removing the cardboard banks?

- Nearly all households can now use the green-lidded bin service, which collects card, food waste and garden waste
- Since the service was rolled out, the amount of cardboard collected through the cardboard bank scheme has reduced significantly
- The banks now cost thousands of pounds a year to provide, so it makes sense to save this money to help pay for the other recycling services

What should I do with my card now?

- Most households now have a green-lidded bin which can be used for card, as well as food waste and garden waste
- Cardboard should be flattened and placed into the green-lidded bin, or flattened and placed next to the green-lidded bin if the cardboard is too big
- Card will then be composted at Blaise Farm, Kings Hill
- All polystyrene and plastic packaging should be removed, as this cannot be composted

I don't have a green-lidded bin – what should I do with my cardboard?

- Where possible we would like to be able to provide you with a bin for your cardboard, as well as garden and food waste
- If you think you have room for the additional bin, please contact the Waste Team at waste.services@tmhc.gov.uk or on (01732) 876147 and we will assess your property to see if it is suitable for the service
- If we cannot provide an extra bin for card, any card placed into the black bin will be taken to the Allington energy-from-waste plant and used to generate electricity

I have some large pieces of cardboard packaging. What should I do with them?

- Large pieces of cardboard should be flattened and placed or stacked neatly next to your green-lidded bin by 7am on collection day
- All polystyrene and plastic packaging should be removed, as this cannot be composted
- If you wish to you can tie large pieces together with string – please do not tape them together
- If it is windy you may wish to place a heavy object, such as a stone, on top of them to prevent them blowing away

Can I still take cardboard to the Household Waste Recycling Centre (“tip”)?

- Yes. The Household Waste Recycling Centres managed by Kent County Council (at North Farm and Tovil) and by Medway Council (Cuxton) will still take cardboard for recycling
- All polystyrene and plastic packaging should be removed, as this cannot be recycled

I run a business – how am I supposed to recycle my cardboard now?

- The banks provided by the council were for recycling household waste only
- The provision of business waste collections are not included in the business rates that you pay
- Businesses should make their own arrangements for the collection of their waste, including cardboard
- Details of companies providing card recycling services can be found on our website at <http://www.tmbc.gov.uk/cgi-bin/buildpage.pl?mysql=878>

Can I put my card in the paper banks?

- No – the paper collected from the blue paper banks goes direct to Aylesford Newsprint to be made into high-quality newspaper
- Cardboard would contaminate the paper banks and would result in all of the material being landfilled as Aylesford Newsprint do not have the facility for separating cardboard from paper

- The council would not receive any income from the paper if the paper banks were contaminated with cardboard. Aylesford Newsprint may also charge for disposal of the contaminated load of mixed paper and cardboard

If I leave my card at the recycling site, will it be recycled?

- No – any card dumped at the recycling sites will not be recycled. It will be cleared up with other rubbish.
- Dumping card would also be classed as fly tipping, and could result in you being fined
- We ask you to help us keep the recycling sites clean by using the banks provided, by putting any empty plastic bags into the litter bins and by taking any other rubbish home or to the Household Waste Recycling Centre (“tip”)

Will you be removing any other banks?

- No – there are currently no plans to remove any other banks
- Once the card banks are removed, we will take the opportunity to improve and rearrange the remaining banks at each site, giving more room for people to use them
- In some cases we hope to provide more banks, for example for glass or cans