

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Our Ref: MGLA021121-6800

30 November 2021

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for information which the GLA received on 1 November 2021. Your request has been dealt with under the Environmental Information Regulations (EIR) 2004. Please accept our apologies for the delay in responding to your request.

You asked for;

The following data and information about waste disposal and recycling funding in London:

- 1. How much waste (non-recycling) is collected in London per year, from 2011-2021.*
- 2. How much recycling is collected in London each year, from 2011-2021.*
- 3. A breakdown of the yearly budget provided to each London borough for waste disposal and recycling from 2011-2021.*
- 4. How much of London's waste goes to landfill per year? And how much is recycled? From 2011-2021*
- 5. What is being done by City Hall to reduce landfill waste?*

Our response to your request is as follows:

1. Waste data for the UK is collected and published by DEFRA and this includes the amount of residual (non-recyclable waste) and recycling collected in London, as well as the other regions of the UK. There is usually a time lag of around a year in the publication of this data and the most recent is for 2019/20 so would not include 2021 figures. The data for April 2000 to March 2020 can be found on their website <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/env18-local-authority-collected-waste-annual-results-tables>.
2. Please see answer above.

3. The GLA does not hold information on the yearly budget provided to each London borough for waste disposal and recycling, this would be held by central government or the individual boroughs.
4. London is the leading region in England in reducing the amount of waste sent to landfill. In London, the proportion of waste sent to landfill has dropped from 7.0 per cent in 2018/9 to 2.8 per cent in 2019/20 (comparative rates for England are 10.5 per cent and 8.5 per cent). Please see the answer to question 1 for historic data on waste to landfill in London.
5. In order to support the Mayor's ambition for London to send no biodegradable or recyclable waste to landfill by 2026, his London Environment Strategy sets out minimum standards for recycling that boroughs need to meet, so that the 6 main dry recycling materials plus food waste can be recycled wherever you live in London. All boroughs have produced a Reduction and Recycling Plan to set out how they will not only meet but go beyond these minimum standards and contribute to my London-wide targets. Where boroughs are not already meeting the Mayor's minimum service level officers work with them to set out in their RRP's and contract procurement documents a commitment and clear road map of how and when they will do so.

Achieving this ambition will also require improvement in recycling from businesses. The Mayor has no powers to direct businesses to deliver his strategy but if the RRP's are implemented the number of boroughs providing commercial waste recycling services will increase from 29 to 31. This includes 18 boroughs looking to grow their commercial waste service offering. Additionally, through ReLondon, a partnership of the Mayor of London and London boroughs, the Mayor is supporting boroughs in developing their commercial waste services by offering individual support and service reviews and establishing a commercial waste forum for the exchange of knowledge and good practice.

If you have any further questions relating to this matter, please contact me, quoting the reference at the top of this letter.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted signature block]

If you are unhappy with the way the GLA has handled your request, you may complain using the GLA's FOI complaints and internal review procedure, available at:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/about-us/governance-and-spending/sharing-our-information/freedom-information>