

Dear all,

As part of my role on North Somerset Council, I help oversee our household waste collections. Every month, our crews empty over **1.1 million** bins – and **99.8%** are collected on time. That's something we're proud of, even though occasional slip-ups happen.

We're now entering an exciting new phase that makes recycling easier and even more valuable!

Your New Red Bag

You should have received a red recycling bag for **hard plastics and tins**. Please keep using your two existing boxes for a) **Paper & Cardboard** b) **Glass**

Sorting recycling like this makes collection quicker and reduces contamination – which means we can sell more high-quality materials and bring in extra income for local services.

Soft Plastics – Coming in June!

From early June, you can recycle soft plastics like crisp packets, carrier bags, and cling film. Just pop them in a bread bag, tie it shut, and leave it on top of your recycling box.

Don't Waste Food Waste

Producing food uses huge amounts of water, land and energy. And yet, globally, around 40% of food is wasted, and we find it a lot in our black bins. If we collect it in your brown caddy, we can turn it into **compost or renewable energy** – and even make money doing it. Let's keep food out of black bins!

What's in Your Black Bin?

Unlike recycling or food waste, everything in your black bin ends up in landfill, which is not only expensive, but very bad for the environment. To cut this down, we're expanding what you can recycle – including textiles, soft plastics, and small electricals – and from June, black bins will be collected every 3 weeks. **Your recycling and food waste will still be collected weekly.**

Updating Our Waste Collection Routes

It's been 10 years since we last reviewed our waste collection routes – and a lot has changed! With so many new homes built across North Somerset, our current routes are no longer as efficient as they could be. To keep collections running smoothly, we're re-routing our rounds. This means **some households will have new collection days.**

If your collection day is changing, **don't worry** – you'll receive a letter with all the details in advance.

Download Our Free App

Our new app gives you bin day reminders, and soon you'll be able to report fly-tipping, potholes or view planning applications too. **Search for *North Somerset Council* in your app store.**

Let's Make Recycling Easier

Change takes time. That's why staff are there to help, but our approach is to encourage everyone to **"give it a go"** before asking for help. Need more support? Visit the dedicated website: <https://n-somerset.gov.uk/my-services/bins-recycling/three-weekly-waste-collections>

Thank you for doing your bit – it really does make a difference for our community and our planet!

With best wishes

Annemieke Waite, Councillor Newsletter June 2025

Email: Annemieke.waite@n-somerset.gov.uk

Phone: 07385-010134

Annemieke