

## **Introduction**

Hello everybody. Hope you are all surviving lockdown and staying safe and well.

During this time of uncertainty and the Pride in the park event being cancelled, we as representatives of the company Ansa, a company owned by CEC, wanted to get involved. So we have created this video to cover all aspects of recycling. For a structure we have taken the beautiful rainbow which is the Pride community emblem and broken the colour style so in a series of very short talks will cover all aspects and recycling you can see I've got my rainbow behind me. so this is just a little introduction to the talks. We'll start with red.

Red is for recycling and I'm going to go to a little bit of what you can and can't put in each bin.

Orange. O is for orange or organic waste. My colleague Alison will be explaining about the food caddies and home composting which is always a really good thing.

Y is for yellow. It all starts with you. Very small changes you make in your life can make a huge difference so we'll discuss a few options of that.

G is for green or being green. We'll talk about little bit more recycling and composting. We're going to make it fun.

Blue is for Biowise which is a big building that has been built in Crewe. It's where our garden waste and food waste goes to get composted and processed down. So we'll discuss that.

Then we've got indigo. I is for indigo or I will not bin batteries. So we'll just talk a little bit about our batteries campaign.

The last one we have is violet or purple. P is for prevention of food waste and we're going to have a little bit of a fun higher and lower game to close the session.

So hopefully you'll find the information really useful.

## **Red is for recycling**

I'm going to start with red. Just to open up things. I don't know if you remember the wombles. I used to watch them as a little girl. I loved them. They were the best recyclers of all. They stay underground in Wimbledon common. If you threw a plastic bottle down on the ground, they would pick it up, take it underground and turn into something new or discuss what it used to be. Their motto was make good use of bad rubbish. So let's all be wombles, which is a really good thing.

Now we know the big five things you can put in your recycling bin which is glass, plastic, cardboard, paper and aluminium tins and cans.

There are some grey areas and you think I don't know what bin that goes in and why we can't we recycle it. I've just got a few examples here and I'll give you a little tips where they can go and what you can do with them.

Cooking oil: if you got a little bit of cooking oil leftover put it back in the container. That needs to go in your black bin. If you've got a little bit of cooking oil, put it around the base of your roses or your shrubs. Not on a hot day though. You'll burn your plants.

Greetings cards and gift wrap in the silver bin, as long as they've got no glitter or foil on.

Plastic bottles all great. Lids on or off. Crushed or uncrushed. It just gives you a bit more room in the bin. We just ask you to rinse them out.

Broken crockery and plates, these have to go in your black then because again the ceramic breaks up into powder that can damage the machinery at the recycle plant.

Magazines and catalogues absolutely fine.

Cling film. Cling film is a tricky one because it stretches and it can get caught around all the machinery so that's a no-no for recycling. That would have to go in your black bin and also it could be food contaminated.

Plastic bags, carrier bags are absolutely fine. We ask you to leave it loose with your recycling items. Don't tie the handles because we need to see what's in there, when it gets emptied at Middlewich so plastic bags absolutely fine but make sure there's nothing inside.

Metal food tins, absolutely fine just give them a quick rinse out.

Egg boxes are fine, or better still in home composting. The worms love the little oxygen pockets in the boxes.

Polystyrene breaks up into tiny pieces, gets everywhere so that can't be recycled. So that goes in the black bin.

Glass bottles, any colour. Lids on or off. Just rinse them out first.

Rigid hard plastic. The machinery cannot cope with the crushing. I'm talking about anything that is malleable, that can be squeezed is fine for recycling. If it's rigid then it's black bin.

Dirty food packaging, anything that has food contamination can't get into the system so that would have to go in the black bin.

Crisp packets and chocolate wrappers recycling cannot accept these because they are 2 bonded products. A crisp packet is plastic on the outside and on the inside it's foil so they cannot be separated.

Nearly at the end now.

Aerosol cans, absolutely fine, make sure that completely empty just to stop contamination and also the pressure if there is still some product in there.

Envelopes, absolutely fine in the silver bin.

The last one is batteries which cannot go in any bin. I'll be discussing under indigo.

So thank you very much for listening. The next session will be orange and that's the organic waste which Alison will talk about and then you'll have me back for yellow

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So thank you very much for listening me. All the sessions won't be this long, as this is introduction.

So hopefully you'll have learned lots of tips.

So thank you very much and I'll talk to you in a bit.

### **Orange for Organic Waste**

One of the most common forms of organic waste is household food waste. Here at Cheshire East we are very lucky to have food waste collections as part of our council services. Of course if you home compost that is even better for the environment. However, if you don't home compost and you haven't got a canine hoover like me, you now have kitchen food caddies into which you can empty your leftover food from your plates. You can put in both raw and cooked food – meat and fish including the bones, fruit and vegetables and all dairy products as well as eggs. Bread, Cakes, Pastries, Rice, Pasta and Beans can all go in too!

So did you know that you can put both your tea bags and coffee grounds into your food caddies? Yup! Also, you can put in cat and dog food – not that there is ever any left in our household! And also hay, straw and wood shavings but please no cat litter or animal waste!

The best bit about your kitchen caddy is that all the food and the garden waste too, will be collected and turned into quality compost. Every small change can make a difference and recycling your food waste is the perfect place to start. You can download our new Waste Watchers App from Apple or Google Play store to find our more.

### **Y is for yellow or y is for you**

You can make it that difference, just by making small changes. You don't have to do bigger changing things and just switch little things in your life that help the environment.

An example is using less single use plastics. Instead of lots of bottles, get a reusable bottle and instead of plastic straws use aluminium straws or silicone straws.

There's lots of different alternatives out there you can use to help the planet and save a lot of money and just feel better for yourself that you're making difference.

If you think of a bottle being thrown in the park and someone might say it's only one plastic bottle but if 8 billion people said that that, it would be a big issue.

If you can just do your little bit and it starts with you then you can make that big change.

Thank you.

### **G is for green or a greener you**

There are lots of changes you can make in life. Composting a really good one if you're interested in composting there is lots of info on Google and on our social media sites. If it was something natural and something living, then you can put in there. Hair, real cotton, wool as well as your fruit and vegetable scraps and garden vegetation whist you've been doing your garden. So that's green. So you can be a lot greener and make your own compost and help the environment.

## **Blue is for Biowise**

The Biowise 'In Vessel Composting' facility, recycles 75,000 tonnes of garden and food waste a year and commenced operation at Leighton Grange Crewe in early 2020 when Cheshire East Council introduced Food Waste collection into the existing garden waste collections.

The new food waste collections have been well received by residents, who are now able to collect free compost that the Biowise facility generates and put it to use on their gardens. Since lockdown, sales of compost bins have increased and more residents than ever are growing their own fruit and vegetables as people are spending more time at home and in their gardens. Growing food, home cooking and home composting are great ways of reducing transport miles, use of packaging and is good for our health and wellbeing as well as the environment, since the most sustainable way forward for us all today is to reduce the waste we create in the first place. The Biowise facility is the ultimate in carbon saving by creating that true cycle of life.

## **I is for indigo or I will not bin batteries**

We have a current don't bin batteries campaign which we asked people if you do have used up batteries, take them to supermarkets and shops where they have special receptacles to collect them in or take them to the nearest Household Waste Recycle Centre. So batteries can cause fires in bins this is why we asked you not to put them in any bins.

It also applies for watch batteries, hearing aids any kind of battery like that and also electrical goods which is things like old kettles, toasters and little things like tablets that break. Please, they do not go in any bins and they need to go to the Household Waste Recycle Centre.

Thank you.

## **Purple is for prevention of food waste**

Lastly we come to purple or prevention of food waste. I have some facts here for you. We waste so much food. 7 million tons of food every year in the UK, that's just in the year.

To break it down and have a higher and lower game. The thing with food waste is just being careful. Not getting too much in the first place. Proper storage and being aware of use by dates.

So we throw away 260,000 tons of apples, which is a lot. It's 77,000 tonnes of eggs. So it's lower. You can freeze eggs if you separate them. Apples and the last four times longer in the fridge. So milk, do you think it's higher or lower than eggs. It's lower. 32,000 tonnes. Bread. Big one this. 660,000 tonnes of bread gets thrown away every year. Bananas. It's lower 310,000. Whatever stage they're at, even if going black, you put them in cake and there are different ways you can use then. You can also freeze bananas. So chicken higher or lower than bananas do you think? It's lower 300,000 tonnes of chicken. Part if that, we don't eat the bones or the skin. Some of the chicken that people might not eat are the red things and the little fatty bits. They can go in pie or stew. Pasta. Higher or lower than chicken? It's lower. 42,000. Still a lot to throw away. Then the final one, potatoes. We use potatoes a lot. Do you think we throw more or less than pasta? It's higher, 770,000 tonnes.

Hopefully that little example has brought it home to you, how much food we do waste and that we need to look after resources. There are with different things on the market that can help.

We provide these free when I go round to give my talk on recycling, this is a spaghetti measurer. So you don't make too much spaghetti in the first place and also lots of kitchen gadgets that can help you with this

So thank you.

### **Conclusion**

That comes to the end of our rainbow spectrum. So where we look at the colours on the spectrum of rainbow we also covered all the spectrum of recycling. We had a little taste of what we provide here at Ansa. As a Community Engagement Officer I go round and speak to Community Groups.

So if you like a free talk, once lockdown is over, I can come along. In the meantime I do lots of virtual engagement so look out for us on the Ansa website. Also on Twitter and Facebook etc.

So thank you very much for listening today and happy recycling.

As for the bins, if in doubt, leave it out.

Hopefully you've picked up some really good tips.

So thank you very much for listening and I'll hopefully see you soon.