

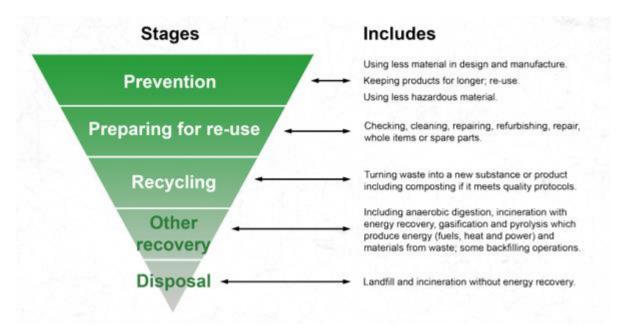
CASE STUDY: Ward - Recycling The Construction Industry's Plastic Waste

Ward is one of the largest independent waste recycling companies in the UK, offering bespoke services for the collection, recycling, and disposal of all categories of industrial and commercial waste across a variety of business sectors.

Ward has been managing waste for over 70 years and focuses on making it as simple as possible for organisations to meet their compliance responsibilities and to dispose of waste with minimal environmental impact.

Ward supports the construction industry in managing its waste and in meeting environmental regulations and obligations, through assisting the construction sector in the reduction, reuse, and recycling of waste, to prevent unnecessary waste disposal to landfill.

For the review of any sized project, Ward considers best practice in line with the waste hierarchy. The aim of the waste hierarchy is to extract the maximum value from products and to produce a minimum amount of waste. How Ward uses the waste hierarchy is explained in the diagram below:



Each project is overseen by an Accounts Manager, whose role is to identify where significant waste reduction and cost savings can be implemented on site. The Accounts Manager can also provide sites with monthly reports which records data on the volume and movements of waste and the percentage of materials recycled. The Accounts Manager can even visit the site to educate the operatives on environmental regulations, recycling best practice, and to raise awareness of why it is important to reuse and recycle materials.

Recycling Plastic Waste

As a valuable and finite resource, the main objective for most plastics after their initial use is to be recycled, preferably into a product that can be reused or recycled again and again.

Ward is committed to being at the forefront of plastic recycling in the UK, since the organisation is aware that a huge percentage of plastics are unnecessarily disposed of to landfill, rather than reused or recycled.

Ward offers construction sites efficient solutions to recycle plastic waste and prides itself on offering a wide range of measures to divert as much plastic as possible from landfill. Ward helps the construction industry to recycle a variety of different types of plastics, including: manufacturing waste, hard plastics, plastic packaging, plastic bottles, plastic film, and bottle caps, lids, tubs, and trays.

Due to the complex nature of plastic recycling, Ward collects the plastics as a separate waste stream, where the materials are segregated and graded before being sent on for further processing by extruders to create new plastics for reuse.

Ward also operates a bulk plastic service, providing a range of space saving containers to meet the exact needs of specific construction sites and businesses. The plastics can then be collected in either various sizes of wheelie bins, rear end loaders, and compaction units. These products are available on a scheduled service or an ad hoc call and collect service. For larger volumes of plastic waste, Ward can offer a roll on roll off bulk waste container.

The main benefits of recycling plastics are as follows:

- Improving overall source efficiency.
- Raising environmental performance via recycling practices.
- Reducing carbon footprint and minimising environmental impact.
- Reducing operational costs by diverting plastic waste from landfill.
- Reducing business costs by diverting plastic waste into the recycling chain instead of landfill.

To find out more about Ward, please click here to visit their website.