

## FACTSHEET: CARDBOARD

### Facts & Figures

Paper and cardboard make up around 32% of the household rubbish we throw away in the UK every year!

Every tonne of recycled cardboard saves 17 trees, 2 cubic yards of landfill capacity and 4100 Kw /hours of electricity!

For each person in the UK we annually use 140 corrugated cardboard boxes!



### What can I do?

Cardboard can be recycled in Castlereagh through the Blue Bin Scheme or in a red Bryson House Kerbie Box. Cardboard products that are accepted are cereal and egg boxes, corrugated cardboard, shoe boxes, clean frozen food boxes, greetings cards and postcards. Products not accepted through these schemes include pizza boxes, items with plastic windows, juice cartons or boxes soiled with food. There are also card recycling banks at the Household Recycling Centres.

### How is cardboard recycled?

At the paper mill the cardboard is placed into the pulper where it is soaked in water and agitated to breakdown the fibres within the cardboard. Any ink or metal contaminants are removed by the use of magnets and / or chemicals to separate the ink and float it off or by



using large amounts of water to rinse the ink from the pulp. The pulp is then pressed into sheets that are in good condition can be re-cut and folded into new smaller boxes, with the off-cuts going for pulping.

Recycled cardboard can be used for all the same uses as the new version, which includes boxes and packaging, but can also be used for uses such as animal bedding and even coffins!

**What else can you do?**

Recycling isn't the only option for reducing cardboard going to landfill. Here are some different examples:

**REUSE:** Use old cardboard boxes for storing objects in.

**REDUCE:** Buy items with little or no cardboard packaging around them.

**ALWAYS REMEMBER REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE!**

