



Home Retail Group Waste Policy

Home Retail Group is the UK's leading general merchandise retailer with a multi-brand, multi-channel offer. Our customers are able to choose from a huge range of merchandise, including toys, electrical goods, clothing, hard goods and household furnishings.

Through the operations of our stores, warehouses and offices, we generate a significant volume of solid waste - mainly cardboard and plastic. In addition, we have a broader shared responsibility to minimise the amount of waste associated with the products we sell and the catalogues we produce.

We seek to comply with relevant legislation and regulations and acknowledge our duty of care to dispose of our waste in a safe and responsible manner. We aim to minimise the amount of waste we send to landfill and are committed to the principles of the waste hierarchy. This forms the basis of our approach to waste management:

- Reduce the volume of waste that we produce.
- Seek opportunities to reuse waste materials.
- Maximise the amount we recycle the waste we generate.
- Minimise the amount of waste disposed to landfill.

We recognise that reducing the amount of waste we send to landfill, and increasing recycling, will help to minimise our impact on the environment and improve our environmental performance. Moreover, it provides us with financial benefits, contributes to the achievement of our overall CR strategy and promotes our reputation as a responsible business.

The business is fully committed to minimising the amount of waste it generates and has adopted an aspirational goal of sending **zero waste to landfill by 2010**, which has been endorsed by senior managers within the business.

Implementation

We have identified five key waste streams on which to focus our efforts and for each we have set objectives and targets. These are reviewed annually and progress against them is regularly monitored.

The five key areas are:

- Waste product.
- Packaging associated with the products we sell.

- Cardboard and plastic generated through the handling of products in our warehouses.
- General waste generated in our offices and stores, including from refurbishment.
- Waste generated through the disposal of catalogues by HOME RETAIL GROUP and its customers.

Overall responsibility for delivering the policy lies with the **Waste, Energy, Products and Supply Chain Group (WEPS)**, one of two sub-groups set up by the Corporate Responsibility (CR) Steering Group. This includes Directors from the relevant business functions and meets once a quarter. Reporting into the WEPS group is a Waste Minimisation Group. This group meets at least quarterly and its remit includes the development of waste management initiatives; review of contracts and disposal options; setting of objectives and targets; collation and review of performance data; and keeping abreast of industry best practise and legislative changes. The Waste Minimisation Group also ensures coordination with other policies and initiatives across the business.

The day to day implementation of waste initiatives rests with **managers** in each operational area, supported by the Waste Minimisation Group. This promotes ownership and utilises the understanding and expertise of our employees. For example, our warehouse managers and operatives are responsible for recycling of transit packaging at our distribution centre.

All **employees** have an important role to play and through their commitment and motivation we believe that significant savings can be achieved. We communicate regularly with them, through our intranet and other internal publications, to promote awareness of waste management activities and their role in delivering them.

Our **suppliers and business partners** also have a contribution to make. Where appropriate we will engage with them to explore opportunities to generate less waste and reduce the amount of packaging associated with the products we sell.