

Environmental services

Refuse collection – the gross cost per property (£) of refuse collection

This indicator shows how much it costs the council to collect refuse from domestic and commercial premises, and domestic bulky uplifts.

Most councils use the wheeled bin method of refuse collection. The alternatives are the uplift of static bins or sacks.

Points to bear in mind

More frequent collections are likely to cause higher costs. The great majority of councils collect domestic refuse once a week, though a very small number operate a twice-weekly uplift. Commercial uplifts are generally carried out two or three times a week. Some councils undertake separate collections of garden refuse and waste paper.

A council whose population is widely dispersed is likely to incur a higher collection cost than one where the population is more concentrated. However, in urban areas restricted access to collection points can affect costs.

Environmental services

Group A

Refuse collection - the gross cost per property (£) of refuse collection

Group A - Rural councils	Rank in 01/02		PI measurement			Better ✓ or worse ✗ since 99/00		
	1-32	✓1-8 ✗ 25-32	99/00	00/01	01/02	5-9%	10-14%	>15%
Aberdeenshire			34.58	31.16	33.63			
Argyll & Bute			53.61	56.32	66.58			✗
Eilean Siar			72.17	71.94	86.57			✗
Highland			46.02	49.21	51.55		✗	
Orkney Islands			65.13	67.30	67.65			
Perth & Kinross			49.43	51.81	53.58	✗		
Scottish Borders			37.00	38.70	38.56			
Shetland Islands			48.38	39.49	59.75			✗
			Scotland					
			45.23	45.63	46.94			

Count of councils showing material change since 1999/00	
Improvement	
5-9%	-
10-14%	-
>15%	-
Decline	
5-9%	1
10-14%	1
>15%	3

Data features for this Group	Symbol	99/00	00/01	01/02
PI not applicable	(-)	0	0	0
No service	(NS)	0	0	0

Unreliable/Unreported Data in 2001/02

Council		99/00	00/01	01/02
Dumfries & Galloway		43.21	49.88	<u>45.12</u>

Notes

An underlined PI measurement indicates unreliable data.

Family groups were defined in consultation with councils and professional bodies.

All Scotland figures above cover all councils rather than those in the group.

The following councils were ranked 25th or below in 1999/2000:

Argyll & Bute
Eilean Siar
Orkney Islands
Perth & Kinross

The following councils did not make any material improvement in their performance by 2001/2002:

Argyll & Bute
Eilean Siar
Orkney Islands
Perth & Kinross

Environmental services

Group B

Refuse collection - the gross cost per property (£) of refuse collection

Group B - Mixed councils	PI measurement			Better ✓ or worse ✗ since 99/00		
	99/00	00/01	01/02	5-9%	10-14%	>15%
Angus	35.97	36.19	44.46			✗
Clackmannanshire	60.44	55.37	52.11		✓	
East Ayrshire	52.38	51.73	49.16	✓		
East Lothian	42.95	47.70	43.94			
East Renfrewshire	41.88	40.54	42.23			
Inverclyde	43.62	44.65	43.55			
Midlothian	37.69	39.57	40.93	✗		
Moray	39.66	46.94	35.26		✓	
North Ayrshire	43.64	45.28	46.19	✗		
South Ayrshire	37.11	39.85	45.00			✗
South Lanarkshire	43.42	46.19	39.79	✓		
Stirling	61.47	62.56	62.52			
West Lothian	41.68	46.43	48.57			✗
Scotland						
	45.23	45.63	46.94			

Count of councils showing material change since 1999/00	
Improvement	
5-9%	2
10-14%	2
>15%	-
Decline	
5-9%	2
10-14%	-
>15%	3

Data features for this Group	Symbol	99/00	00/01	01/02
PI not applicable	(-)	0	0	0
No service	(NS)	0	0	0

Unreliable/Unreported Data in 2001/02

Council	99/00	00/01	01/02
Fife	42.73	36.82	<u>38.03</u>

Notes

An underlined PI measurement indicates unreliable data.

Family groups were defined in consultation with councils and professional bodies.

All Scotland figures above cover all councils rather than those in the group.

The following councils were ranked 25th or below in 1999/2000:

Clackmannanshire

East Ayrshire

Stirling

The following councils did not make any material improvement in their performance by 2001/2002:

Stirling

Environmental services

Group C

Refuse collection - the gross cost per property (£) of refuse collection

Group C - Urban councils		PI measurement			Better ✓ or worse ✗ since 99/00		
		99/00	00/01	01/02	5-9%	10-14%	>15%
Aberdeen City		42.41	41.30	41.98			
Dundee City		53.22	46.98	47.65		✓	
East Dunbartonshire		42.90	45.46	46.20	✗		
City of Edinburgh		48.29	49.04	54.41		✗	
Falkirk		34.15	35.29	37.60		✗	
North Lanarkshire		47.37	46.80	49.11			
Renfrewshire		47.41	46.54	45.93			
West Dunbartonshire		45.27	41.47	41.58	✓		
		Scotland					
		45.23	45.63	46.94			

Count of councils showing material change since 1999/00	
Improvement	
5-9%	1
10-14%	1
>15%	-
Decline	
5-9%	1
10-14%	2
>15%	-

Data features for this Group	Symbol	99/00	00/01	01/02
PI not applicable	(-)	0	0	0
No service	(NS)	0	0	0

Unreliable/Unreported Data in 2001/02

Council		99/00	00/01	01/02
Glasgow City		48.22	49.42	<u>49.95</u>

Notes

An underlined PI measurement indicates unreliable data.
 Family groups were defined in consultation with councils and professional bodies.
 All Scotland figures above cover all councils rather than those in the group.

The following councils were ranked 25th or below in 1999/2000:

Dundee City

The following councils did not make any material improvement in their performance by 2001/2002:

None

Environmental services

Refuse collection – the gross cost per property (£) of refuse disposal

This indicator shows how much it costs the council to dispose of refuse collected from domestic and commercial premises, and domestic bulky uplifts.

Refuse disposal includes the treatment of waste collected by the council and destined for final disposal in landfill. It involves:

- sorting, compacting, baling, shredding, composting, recycling and incineration.
- the operation of transfer-loading stations and the provision of civic amenity sites or skips
- any treatment of waste collected by the council and which is recycled.

Points to bear in mind

The method of treatment and/or disposal may affect gross disposal costs depending on the process/procedure used. Councils using transfer stations for access to more distant landfills may have higher disposal costs than if collection vehicles had direct access to the landfill. In the former case however, the higher disposal cost might contribute to a lower comparable collection cost.

Some councils may have access to existing landfills that although unable to meet the standards prescribed by forthcoming legislation, have sufficient remaining capacity to provide lower disposal costs. In these cases the disposal costs will likely rise in the future when new, more expensive sites are required.

It is recognised that intermediary treatment such as shredding, baling, composting, etc, will attract higher costs as a result of the capital and running costs.

Some councils may generate income from recycled materials.

Environmental services

Group A

Refuse collection - the gross cost per property (£) of refuse disposal

Group A - Rural councils		PI measurement			Better ✓ or worse ✗ since 99/00		
		99/00	00/01	01/02	5-9%	10-14%	>15%
Aberdeenshire		-	64.46	65.56			
Argyll & Bute		-	61.09	119.99			
Eilean Siar		-	65.18	84.58			
Highland		-	45.24	43.15			
Orkney Islands		-	101.87	98.77			
Perth & Kinross		-	65.16	72.57			
Scottish Borders		-	32.72	33.88			
Shetland Islands		-	76.53	63.90			
		Scotland					
		-	44.63	49.53			

Count of councils showing material change since 1999/00	
Improvement	
5-9%	-
10-14%	-
>15%	-
Decline	
5-9%	-
10-14%	-
>15%	-

Data features for this Group	Symbol	99/00	00/01	01/02
PI not applicable	(-)	9	0	0
No service	(NS)	0	0	0

Unreliable/Unreported Data in 2001/02

Council		99/00	00/01	01/02
Dumfries & Galloway		-	28.17	<u>50.80</u>

Notes

An underlined PI measurement indicates unreliable data.

Family groups were defined in consultation with councils and professional bodies.

All Scotland figures above cover all councils rather than those in the group.

Environmental services

Group B

Refuse collection - the gross cost per property (£) of refuse disposal

Group B - Mixed councils		PI measurement			Better ✓ or worse ✗ since 99/00		
		99/00	00/01	01/02	5-9%	10-14%	>15%
Angus		-	37.16	50.58			
Clackmannanshire		-	52.81	42.52			
East Ayrshire		-	50.03	51.07			
East Lothian		-	44.95	46.30			
East Renfrewshire		-	42.28	45.94			
Fife		-	45.33	50.75			
Inverclyde		-	36.23	36.26			
Midlothian		-	35.31	37.23			
Moray		-	58.41	48.74			
North Ayrshire		-	31.03	36.22			
South Ayrshire		-	39.88	42.42			
South Lanarkshire		-	36.50	37.68			
Stirling		-	42.20	47.00			
West Lothian		-	41.32	43.20			
		Scotland					
		-	44.63	49.53			

Count of councils showing material change since 1999/00	
Improvement	
5-9%	-
10-14%	-
>15%	-
Decline	
5-9%	-
10-14%	-
>15%	-

Data features for this Group	Symbol	99/00	00/01	01/02
PI not applicable	(-)	14	0	0
No service	(NS)	0	0	0

Notes

An underlined PI measurement indicates unreliable data.
 Family groups were defined in consultation with councils and professional bodies.
 All Scotland figures above cover all councils rather than those in the group.

Environmental services

Group C

Refuse collection - the gross cost per property (£) of refuse disposal

Group C - Urban councils		PI measurement			Better ✓ or worse ✗ since 99/00		
		99/00	00/01	01/02	5-9%	10-14%	>15%
Aberdeen City		-	41.37	50.87			
Dundee City		-	60.31	68.34			
East Dunbartonshire		-	44.45	47.27			
City of Edinburgh		-	38.38	43.91			
Falkirk		-	46.13	49.87			
North Lanarkshire		-	31.36	41.06			
Renfrewshire		-	37.19	44.66			
West Dunbartonshire		-	31.45	40.73			
		Scotland					
		-	44.63	49.53			

Count of councils showing material change since 1999/00	
Improvement	
5-9%	-
10-14%	-
>15%	-
Decline	
5-9%	-
10-14%	-
>15%	-

Data features for this Group	Symbol	99/00	00/01	01/02
PI not applicable	(-)	9	0	0
No service	(NS)	0	0	0

Unreliable/Unreported Data in 2001/02

Council		99/00	00/01	01/02
Glasgow City		-	52.33	<u>52.29</u>

Notes

An underlined PI measurement indicates unreliable data.

Family groups were defined in consultation with councils and professional bodies.

All Scotland figures above cover all councils rather than those in the group.

Environmental services

Refuse collection – the percentage of special uplifts of bulky domestic refuse completed within five days

Most councils offer a special uplift service, within clearly specified timescales, for the purpose of uplifting bulky domestic refuse which would not normally be uplifted as part of the routine refuse collection service.

Points to bear in mind

The indicator reflects the existence of a special uplift service (as opposed to it being part of the standard service), and the proportion of uplifts carried out within a national benchmark time of five days.

Environmental services

Refuse collection - the percentage of special uplifts of bulky domestic refuse completed within five days

Council	Rank in 01/02		PI measurement			Better ✓ or worse ✗ since 99/00		
	1-32	✓1-8 ✗ 25-32	99/00	00/01	01/02	5-9%	10-14%	>15%
Aberdeen City	14		87.3	89.1	90.9			
Aberdeenshire	11		Note	94.6	93.7			
Angus	12		94.9	94.2	93.4			
Argyll & Bute	21		81.4	80.3	75.5	✗		
Clackmannanshire	9		93.9	90.4	95.1			
Dundee City	1	✓	99.0	99.0	99.4			
East Ayrshire	3	✓	97.5	98.4	98.1			
East Dunbartonshire	27	✗	16.4	29.2	53.1			✓
East Lothian	25	✗	65.2	47.2	64.0			
East Renfrewshire	17		92.8	93.4	83.0		✗	
City of Edinburgh	30	✗	26.4	5.7	22.4			✗
Eilean Siar	18		85.1	82.4	82.7			
Falkirk	22		95.2	99.0	72.4			✗
Fife	24		60.0	64.4	66.3		✓	
Glasgow City	19		95.7	92.6	82.2		✗	
Highland	7	✓	Note	Note	96.7			
Inverclyde	8	✓	95.0	93.6	95.9			
Midlothian	29	✗	50.5	32.1	37.5			✗
Moray	26	✗	70.2	72.6	63.4	✗		
North Ayrshire	2	✓	97.8	97.7	98.6			
North Lanarkshire	15		92.9	80.5	89.2			
Orkney Islands	28	✗	71.9	65.6	48.4			✗
Perth & Kinross	4	✓	97.3	98.5	97.5			
Renfrewshire	6	✓	100.0	96.3	97.2			
Scottish Borders	13		96.2	94.4	92.9			
Shetland Islands	NS		NS	NS	NS			
South Ayrshire	20		85.9	82.3	82.0			
South Lanarkshire	10		74.1	87.5	94.2			✓
Stirling	16		73.9	75.2	85.9			✓
West Dunbartonshire	22		81.5	58.8	72.4		✗	
West Lothian	5	✓	94.4	92.8	97.4			
			Scotland					
			82.1	77.7	79.2			

Ranked performance	99/00	00/01	01/02
Highest ranked performance	100.0	99.0	99.4
Upper quartile	95.3	94.4	95.7
Median	90.1	89.1	87.6
Lower quartile	73.4	72.6	72.4
Lowest ranked performance	16.4	5.7	22.4

Data features	Symbol	99/00	00/01	01/02
PI not applicable	(-)	0	0	0
No service	(NS)	1	1	1

Count of councils showing material change since 1999/00	
Improvement	
5-9%	-
10-14%	1
>15%	3
Decline	
5-9%	2
10-14%	3
>15%	4

Unreliable/Unreported Data in 2001/02

Council	99/00	00/01	01/02
Dumfries & Galloway	99.1	98.9	<u>95.3</u>

Notes

An underlined PI measurement indicates unreliable data.
Aberdeenshire and Highland have computed their performance on a sub-area basis so single, whole-council figures cannot be included here.

Environmental services

Refuse collection - the percentage of special uplifts of bulky domestic refuse completed within five days

The following councils were ranked 25th or below in 1999/2000:

East Dunbartonshire

East Lothian

City of Edinburgh

Fife

Midlothian

The following councils did not make any material improvement in their performance by 2001/2002:

East Lothian

City of Edinburgh

Midlothian

Refuse recycling –the percentage of household, commercial and industrial waste that is recycled

The indicator shows the proportion of household, commercial and industrial waste that is recycled.

The European Commission landfill directive sets targets for the amount of biodegradable municipal waste going to landfill. The first of these targets is that by 2006 the amount of biodegradable municipal waste that a council sends to landfill must be reduced to three-quarters of the 1995 level. Therefore, councils will need to find alternative methods of disposing of refuse, and recycling will become an even higher priority.

The Scottish Executive has set two targets for local authorities:

- to increase the amount of waste that is recycled or composted to 25% by 2006
- to reduce landfilling of biodegradable waste to 1.5 million tonnes by 2006.

Points to bear in mind

Methods used to recycle waste include:

- composting centrally by the authority
- ash recycled following incineration
- other recycling or recovery methods.

In some cases councils estimate the weight of waste because they have no direct weighing facility.

Environmental services

Recycling - of the household, commercial and industrial waste collected by the authority, the percentage that was recycled

Council	Rank in 01/02		PI measurement			Better ✓ or worse ✗ since 99/00		
	1-32	✓1-8 ✗ 25-32	99/00	00/01	01/02	5-9%	10-14%	>15%
Aberdeen City	18		-	-	5.7			
Aberdeenshire	3	✓	-	-	17.0			
Angus	2	✓	-	-	20.3			
Argyll & Bute	11		-	-	7.7			
Clackmannanshire	25	✗	-	-	4.4			
Dundee City	1	✓	-	-	21.1			
East Ayrshire	27	✗	-	-	4.0			
East Dunbartonshire	12		-	-	7.7			
East Lothian	20		-	-	5.6			
East Renfrewshire	7	✓	-	-	12.2			
City of Edinburgh	22		-	-	5.0			
Eilean Siar	31	✗	-	-	1.9			
Falkirk	19		-	-	5.6			
Fife	29	✗	-	-	2.2			
Glasgow City	24		-	-	4.8			
Highland	30	✗	-	-	2.0			
Inverclyde	26	✗	-	-	4.0			
Midlothian	28	✗	-	-	3.8			
Moray	14		-	-	6.6			
North Ayrshire	17		-	-	5.8			
North Lanarkshire	13		-	-	7.3			
Orkney Islands	4	✓	-	-	16.0			
Perth & Kinross	5	✓	-	-	15.8			
Renfrewshire	23		-	-	5.0			
Scottish Borders	6	✓	-	-	13.6			
Shetland Islands	9		-	-	10.3			
South Ayrshire	21		-	-	5.1			
South Lanarkshire	8	✓	-	-	11.1			
Stirling	10		-	-	8.4			
West Dunbartonshire	15		-	-	6.1			
West Lothian	16		-	-	5.8			
			Scotland					
			-	-	7.4			

Ranked performance	99/00	00/01	01/02
Highest ranked performance	-	-	21.1
Upper quartile	-	-	10.7
Median	-	-	5.8
Lower quartile	-	-	4.9
Lowest ranked performance	-	-	1.9

Data features	Symbol	99/00	00/01	01/02
PI not applicable	(-)	32	32	0
No service	(NS)	0	0	0

Count of councils showing material change since 1999/00	
Improvement	
5-9%	-
10-14%	-
>15%	-
Decline	
5-9%	-
10-14%	-
>15%	-

Unreliable/Unreported Data in 2001/02

Council	99/00	00/01	01/02
Dumfries & Galloway	-	-	<u>3.5</u>

Notes

An underlined PI measurement indicates unreliable data.