



Sligo County Council



Roinn Cumarsáide, Gníomhaíthe
ar son na hAeráide & Comhshaoil
Department of Communications,
Climate Action & Environment



BROWN BIN IN APARTMENTS - SLIGO TRIAL

As part of the National Brown Bin Awareness Pilot in Sligo a separate project was done in June 2015 with apartments. The trial determined best practice to promote the segregation of food waste using a brown bin system in an apartment complex setting.

Design of the Trial:

- Two apartment complexes were selected for the trial, which are serviced by two waste collectors.
- The apartments selected for the trial were Kevinsfort (comprises of 20 apartments) and Millbrook (3 blocks – total 85 apartments).
- Meetings were arranged with the Management Company of both apartment complexes and also the waste collectors servicing each of these apartment complexes.
- Following the initial meetings, correspondence was prepared and the provision of kitchen caddies, bags, info etc, was provided to the management companies for further circulation to all apartments (Example of letter to each apartment on next page).
- The tenant used a compostable bag in a 7 litre kitchen caddy and then carried it down to a 140 litre brown bin which was located in the communal waste area for the entire apartment complex.

Results

- Monitoring of progress was carried out for up to two months after the circulation of material.
- During the trial, there was a notable improvement in the quantity & quality of brown bin material generated from the tenants.
- However towards the end of the trial there was a lack of interest/buy in from both the management companies and waste collectors meant that old practices crept back in.
- Within the second month of monitoring, the compostable bags provided to tenants ran out and quite a lot of contamination in the brown bin was noted from there on as tenants did not buy more compostable bags and instead started to use normal plastic bags.

Recommendations

- Continued provision of compostable bags by the waste collectors or Apartment Management Company to tenants for continued correct use of the brown bin.
- Obligation to be placed on management companies to ensure correct waste management practice at apartment complexes.
- Information to be provided to tenants on how to correctly segregate and recycle waste.

Further Information

- You Tube on food waste recycling in apartments in Milan - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zSjBbp-Q3IU>
- Best Practice Guide for Door to Door Brown Bin Education in Ireland

Author: S. Gillen, January 2018

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Sligo County Council, Riverside, Sligo, Ireland

Cré – Composting & Anaerobic Digestion Association of Ireland, Po Box 135, Enfield, Co. Meath Ireland

Novamont, Via Fauser 8, Novara, Italy

Department of Communications, Climate Action and the Environment, Newtown Road, Wexford, Ireland

IMPORTANT NOTICE **LEGAL OBLIGATIONS – WASTE MANAGEMENT**

June 2015

Tenant/Householder,
Millbrook Apartment Complex,
Sligo

RE: Sligo County Council Waste Management Bye-Laws 2013

Dear Tenant,

Sligo County Council's Waste Management Bye Laws 2013 require all households in Sligo Town to segregate their waste into three separate waste streams: General, Recyclable and Organic/Food Waste.

In order to assist you with your household waste management and to ensure that you are compliant with the Bye Laws, the following items have been provided to you and you are obliged to start using them from receipt of this notice:

- 7L Solid Kitchen caddy for use within your apartment
- Compostable bags to be used in the kitchen caddy, then transferred, when full, to your outside Food Waste Bin located in the communal waste area.
- White bin liners for your recyclable waste **ONLY**.
- Black bin liners for your general waste **ONLY**.
- Laminated publication '*Do you know how to Recycle?*' which is an itemised list of what is allowed in each waste stream. You should place this on the wall of your kitchen which you can refer to if in doubt over what item should be placed in the correct waste stream.
- Information leaflet on how to correctly use your brown bin (food waste collection).

A separate receptacle for all glass items is also located in the communal waste area. It is prohibited to place any glass item in any of the three waste streams outlined above.

Your landlord/management company are obliged to inform you about correct waste management practice in accordance with the above legislation. Monitoring of correct waste segregation in Millbrook will be carried out on a regular basis following receipt of this Notice. As a tenant, non compliance with any condition of these Bye-Laws may result in inspections and a Fixed Penalty Notice of €75.

If you have any queries on the content of this letter or the new waste management requirements, please do not hesitate to contact Waste Enforcement Officer on xxxxxxxxxx or by email to xxxxxx

Yours sincerely

Environmental Services Dept.
Sligo County Council