

Putting Cornwall's waste to good use



Annual report April 2021 — March 2022

In this 16th year of partnership
between SUEZ and Cornwall Council,
we've put **275,922** tonnes
of waste to good use...

...generating enough electricity
to power **26,997** homes*

Cornwall Council and Cornwall Energy Recovery Limited (CERL) are working together to ensure Cornwall's waste is managed sustainably, helping tackle the climate emergency and protecting its unique environment.

Cornwall Energy Recovery Limited is made up of three shareholders: Foresight Group, I-Environment Investments, and SUEZ recycling and recovery UK. In addition to being a shareholder, SUEZ is responsible for day-to-day operation and maintenance of the network of facilities that manage Cornwall's household waste.

* Calculated based on electricity generated per tonne of waste processed during the 2021/22 contract year and the average household energy consumption in the South West, as reported by the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy in 2020.

99.96% of waste diverted from landfill

only waste not suitable for re-use, recycling and energy recovery was sent to landfill

Re-use

151 tonnes

⬆️ +43% (106 tonnes in 2020/21)

Recycling and compost

96,217 tonnes

⬆️ +4% (92,601 tonnes in 2020/21)

Wood for biomass energy recovery

14,901 tonnes

⬆️ +16% (12,829 tonnes in 2020/21)

Energy recovery

164,653 tonnes

⬆️ -0.4% (165,363 tonnes in 2020/21)

Landfill*

98 tonnes

⬆️ -27% (134 tonnes in 2020/21)

*waste not suitable for re-use, recycling or energy recovery

TOTAL CONTRACT WASTE BY TREATMENT TYPE

RECYCLING

Materials recycling facility recyclable outputs (tonnes)

	2020/21	2021/22	
Paper and card	21,572	20,397	⬆️ -5%
Aluminium cans	654	657	⬆️ +1%
Steel cans	1,559	1,401	⬆️ -10%
Mixed plastics	3,986	4,131	⬆️ +4%
Mixed glass	16,786	15,927	⬆️ -5%
Textiles	80	72	⬆️ -10%

As Cornwall residents began to return to the workplace or work flexibly following the lockdowns of the previous contract year, the make-up of recycling continued to change with new habits.

Household waste recycling centres

48.52% recycling rate

⬆️ up from 47.72% the previous year

96% service satisfaction rating*

⬆️ up from 83% the previous year

*Due to social distancing measures during the COVID-19 pandemic, customer satisfaction surveys were not undertaken in April 2021 or during the previous contract year. The service satisfaction rating for this year reflects scores collected during surveys undertaken in July and October 2021 and January 2022. The service satisfaction rating reported for the previous contract year (83%) reflects scores received following inspections by Cornwall Council.

RECOVERY

Waste received

164,653 tonnes
municipal

85,573 tonnes
commercial

Electricity exported

162,371 megawatt
hours

Incinerator bottom ash aggregates and metals

53,480 tonnes
sent for recycling

Air pollution control residue

5,651 tonnes
sent to landfill

Emissions (mg/m³)

	Permit limit Daily average per line	Line one Daily average	Line two Daily average
Particulates	10	1.89	0.79
Carbon monoxide	50	-0.10	2.87
Sulphur dioxide	50	14.38	14.59
Hydrogen chloride	10	7.33	7.56
Oxides of nitrogen	200	138.20	143.63
Total organic carbon	10	0.32	0.26
Ammonia	10	-0.01	-0.06
Hydrogen fluoride	1	-0.33	-0.26

SOCIAL VALUE

1,502 visitors

Education and behaviour change continue to be high on our agenda. After introducing virtual tours in the previous contract year to continue engagement during the pandemic, the visitor centres at Bodmin materials recycling facility and Cornwall energy recovery centre welcomed visitors back this year.

Visitors were able to see first-hand what happens to the recycling and rubbish collected from homes across Cornwall. Twenty-one virtual tours were conducted for schools and adult-interest groups. The education team also supported community projects.

10 local
charities

supported through staff
fundraising and volunteering

2 socially distanced
beach cleans

£108,533 donated

through the St Dennis & Nanpean Trust