

Waste management

Refuse collection – the net 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.

Waste management

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

Group A - Rural councils	PI measurement			Better ✓ or worse ✗ since 03/04		
	03/04	04/05	05/06	5-9%	10-14%	>15%
Aberdeenshire	-	28.89	33.63			
Argyll & Bute	-	68.76	58.10			
Dumfries & Galloway	-	67.62	61.65			
Eilean Siar	-	52.44	46.03			
Highland	-	56.91	53.46			
Orkney Islands	-	67.65	76.04			
Perth & Kinross	-	31.76	30.66			
Scottish Borders	-	51.32	60.15			
Shetland Islands	-	33.52	70.50			
Group Average						
	-	49.01	49.09			
Scotland						
	-	50.25	53.76			

Count of councils showing significant change since 2003/04	
Improvement	
5-9%	-
10-14%	-
>15%	-
Decline	
5-9%	-
10-14%	-
>15%	-

Data features for this Group	Symbol	03/04	04/05	05/06
PI not applicable	(-)	9	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.

Waste management

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

Group B - Mixed councils		PI measurement			Better ✓ or worse ✗ since 03/04		
		03/04	04/05	05/06	5-9%	10-14%	>15%
Angus		-	35.32	51.10			
Clackmannanshire		-	64.21	66.28			
East Ayrshire		-	74.48	75.65			
East Lothian		-	57.00	67.67			
East Renfrewshire		-	55.76	70.55			
Fife		-	42.20	44.65			
Inverclyde		-	26.67	43.01			
Midlothian		-	42.76	104.48			
Moray		-	38.87	39.19			
North Ayrshire		-	51.06	68.40			
South Ayrshire		-	63.16	42.20			
South Lanarkshire		-	64.18	57.65			
Stirling		-	100.89	108.77			
West Lothian		-	52.88	65.53			
		Group Average					
		-	54.24	60.37			
		Scotland					
		-	50.25	53.76			

Count of councils showing significant change since 2003/04	
Improvement	
5-9%	-
10-14%	-
>15%	-
Decline	
5-9%	-
10-14%	-
>15%	-

Data features for this Group	Symbol	03/04	04/05	05/06
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.

Waste management

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

Group C - Urban councils		PI measurement			Better ✓ or worse ✗ since 03/04		
		03/04	04/05	05/06	5-9%	10-14%	>15%
Aberdeen City		-	55.68	56.47			
Dundee City		-	45.70	48.90			
East Dunbartonshire		-	63.28	59.49			
City of Edinburgh		-	58.42	67.32			
Falkirk		-	53.34	58.93			
Glasgow City		-	37.08	38.32			
North Lanarkshire		-	45.23	46.49			
Renfrewshire		-	36.92	42.49			
West Dunbartonshire		-	50.15	42.32			
		Group Average					
		-	47.66	50.66			
		Scotland					
		-	50.25	53.76			

Count of councils showing significant change since 2003/04	
Improvement	
5-9%	-
10-14%	-
>15%	-
Decline	
5-9%	-
10-14%	-
>15%	-

Data features for this Group	Symbol	03/04	04/05	05/06
PI not applicable	(-)	9	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.

Waste management

Refuse collection – the net 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.

Waste management

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

Group A - Rural councils	PI measurement			Better ✓ or worse ✗ since 03/04		
	03/04	04/05	05/06	5-9%	10-14%	>15%
Aberdeenshire	-	68.89	79.36			
Argyll & Bute	-	115.38	110.62			
Dumfries & Galloway	-	64.72	83.72			
Eilean Siar	-	58.36	76.15			
Highland	-	101.05	139.91			
Orkney Islands	-	86.12	83.08			
Perth & Kinross	-	70.19	74.49			
Scottish Borders	-	31.98	33.50			
Shetland Islands	-	47.00	71.11			
Group Average						
	-	75.40	90.54			
Scotland						
	-	55.42	63.18			

Count of councils showing significant change since 2003/04	
Improvement	
5-9%	-
10-14%	-
>15%	-
Decline	
5-9%	-
10-14%	-
>15%	-

Data features for this Group	Symbol	03/04	04/05	05/06
PI not applicable	(-)	9	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.

Waste management

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

Group B - Mixed councils		PI measurement			Better ✓ or worse ✗ since 03/04		
		03/04	04/05	05/06	5-9%	10-14%	>15%
Angus		-	37.58	47.71			
Clackmannanshire		-	68.37	68.45			
East Ayrshire		-	58.61	57.59			
East Lothian		-	56.40	62.46			
East Renfrewshire		-	50.43	56.50			
Fife		-	39.15	49.10			
Inverclyde		-	39.34	65.74			
Midlothian		-	52.60	48.49			
Moray		-	71.34	80.66			
North Ayrshire		-	41.14	47.69			
South Ayrshire		-	77.16	71.80			
South Lanarkshire		-	56.06	59.15			
Stirling		-	52.91	77.59			
West Lothian		-	55.84	64.03			
		Group Average					
		-	51.78	58.82			
		Scotland					
		-	55.42	63.18			

Count of councils showing significant change since 2003/04	
Improvement	
5-9%	-
10-14%	-
>15%	-
Decline	
5-9%	-
10-14%	-
>15%	-

Data features for this Group	Symbol	03/04	04/05	05/06
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.

Waste management

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

Group C - Urban councils		PI measurement			Better ✓ or worse ✗ since 03/04		
		03/04	04/05	05/06	5-9%	10-14%	>15%
Aberdeen City		-	55.87	62.86			
Dundee City		-	68.31	75.79			
East Dunbartonshire		-	52.29	52.34			
City of Edinburgh		-	52.04	61.92			
Falkirk		-	53.25	55.53			
Glasgow City		-	46.13	42.66			
North Lanarkshire		-	32.94	47.50			
Renfrewshire		-	52.36	57.65			
West Dunbartonshire		-	47.57	49.12			
		Group Average					
		-	49.41	54.25			
		Scotland					
		-	55.42	63.18			

Count of councils showing significant change since 2003/04	
Improvement	
5-9%	-
10-14%	-
>15%	-
Decline	
5-9%	-
10-14%	-
>15%	-

Data features for this Group	Symbol	03/04	04/05	05/06
PI not applicable	(-)	9	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.

Waste management

Refuse collection - the number of complaints per 1,000 households

For a service such as refuse collection, complaints can be seen as a direct measure of the extent to which householders express dissatisfaction with the service they receive.

This indicator shows the recorded incidence of complaints to the council arising from its refuse collection service. These may be due to missed collections or other matters such as spillage of refuse or complaints about an operative's attitude.

Points to bear in mind

Complaints relating to council policy on, for example, type of containers, collection frequency, no public holiday collections, are not included.

Waste management

Refuse collection - the number of complaints per 1,000 households

Council	Rank in 05/06		PI measurement			Better ✓ or worse ✗ since 03/04		
	1-32	✓ 1-8 ✗ 25-32	03/04	04/05	05/06	5-9%	10-14%	>15%
Aberdeen City	9		10.5	12.3	14.8			✗
Aberdeenshire	5	✓	<u>32.6</u>	<u>0.1</u>	10.9			
Angus	22		4.1	12.4	34.1			✗
Argyll & Bute	8	✓	9.0	13.7	13.8			✗
Clackmannanshire	28	✗	44.0	147.4	93.0			✗
Dumfries & Galloway	3	✓	4.3	5.8	3.4			✓
Dundee City	14		23.4	22.3	18.6			✓
East Ayrshire	21		13.2	27.3	33.4			✗
East Dunbartonshire	24		40.4	60.9	42.1			
East Lothian	11		21.4	16.0	15.8			✓
East Renfrewshire	15		33.8	20.2	20.2			✓
City of Edinburgh	26	✗	65.8	77.4	68.3			
Eilean Siar	2	✓	0.0	<u>0.5</u>	1.2			
Falkirk	27	✗	39.9	59.0	87.7			✗
Fife	6	✓	8.1	7.9	11.4			✗
Glasgow City	25	✗	51.3	<u>45.8</u>	44.8		✓	
Highland	16		<u>6.5</u>	8.1	21.6			
Midlothian	17		22.1	20.6	23.1			
Moray	18		20.2	16.3	26.7			✗
North Ayrshire	19		16.3	29.2	27.0			✗
North Lanarkshire	23		43.5	30.8	34.6			✓
Orkney Islands	4	✓	5.7	6.1	3.8			✓
Perth & Kinross	7	✓	27.8	5.4	13.7			✓
Renfrewshire	9		10.4	15.2	14.8			✗
Scottish Borders	20		6.4	5.9	31.1			✗
Shetland Islands	1	✓	1.9	1.7	0.5			✓
South Ayrshire	13		13.7	16.6	18.1			✗
South Lanarkshire	29	✗	65.9	99.8	97.8			✗
Stirling	31	✗	30.0	<u>242.0</u>	114.0			✗
West Dunbartonshire	12		26.3	13.3	16.4			✓
West Lothian	30	✗	24.0	104.0	98.7			✗
			Scotland					
			31.7	35.9	38.6			

Ranked performance	03/04	04/05	05/06
Highest ranked performance	0.0	0.1	0.5
Upper quartile	8.6	8.0	14.3
Median	21.4	16.3	21.6
Lower quartile	33.2	38.3	38.4
Lowest ranked performance	65.9	242.0	114.0

Data features	Symbol	03/04	04/05	05/06
PI not applicable	(-)	0	0	0
No service	(NS)	0	0	0

Count of councils showing significant change since 2003/04	
Improvement	
5-9%	-
10-14%	1
>15%	9
Decline	
5-9%	-
10-14%	-
>15%	15

Unreliable/Unreported Data in 2005/06

Council	03/04	04/05	05/06
Inverclyde	22.6	24.3	<u>1.6</u>

Reason for Unreliable Determination in 2005/06

Inverclyde - In July 2005 the Service's complaints logging system crashed. When the system had been restored the data was found to be irretrievably corrupt. Averages were used for the first 4 months of the year (based on previous years figures) to prepare the PI. However, examination of the figures threw up some anomalies in last year's submission. It would appear that the Service was including all missed uplifts including those on public holidays as complaints, even where no complaint had been made.

Notes

An underlined PI measurement indicates unreliable data.

Waste management

Refuse collection - the number of complaints per 1,000 households

The following councils were ranked 25th or below in 2003/04:

Clackmannanshire
East Dunbartonshire
City of Edinburgh
Glasgow City
North Lanarkshire
South Lanarkshire

The following councils did not make any material improvement in their performance by 2005/06:

Clackmannanshire
East Dunbartonshire
City of Edinburgh
South Lanarkshire

Waste management

Refuse recycling –the percentage of municipal waste that is recycled

The indicator shows the proportion of municipal waste that is recycled or composted. Municipal waste includes waste from households and commercial premises, civic amenity sites, street and beach cleaning, parks/gardens and collection of fly tipped waste.

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.

The indicator excludes home composting.

Waste management

Recycling - of the municipal waste collected by the authority, the percentage that was recycled

Council	Rank in 05/06		PI measurement			Better ✓ or worse ✗ since 03/04		
	1-32	✓1-8 ✗ 25-32	03/04	04/05	05/06	5-9%	10-14%	>15%
Aberdeen City	25	✗	-	13.3	19.1			
Aberdeenshire	29	✗	-	12.7	15.2			
Angus	7	✓	-	29.0	32.1			
Argyll & Bute	18		-	18.4	25.2			
Clackmannanshire	1	✓	-	37.9	40.1			
Dumfries & Galloway	32	✗	-	5.7	10.4			
Dundee City	8	✓	-	26.5	30.9			
East Ayrshire	5	✓	-	18.4	32.7			
East Dunbartonshire	16		-	18.5	26.4			
East Lothian	15		-	19.7	27.5			
East Renfrewshire	10		-	30.6	30.4			
City of Edinburgh	22		-	15.8	21.6			
Eilean Siar	30	✗	-	<u>8.3</u>	14.1			
Falkirk	11		-	19.1	30.1			
Fife	12		-	25.1	29.7			
Glasgow City	28	✗	-	9.5	15.7			
Highland	23		-	9.0	19.9			
Inverclyde	24		-	9.2	19.2			
Midlothian	21		-	4.7	21.9			
Moray	8	✓	-	25.0	30.9			
North Ayrshire	17		-	23.9	25.8			
North Lanarkshire	13		-	17.8	28.1			
Orkney Islands	20		-	18.1	22.7			
Perth & Kinross	4	✓	-	25.9	33.3			
Renfrewshire	19		-	15.0	24.5			
Scottish Borders	27	✗	-	7.9	16.0			
Shetland Islands	31	✗	-	9.7	10.8			
South Ayrshire	2	✓	-	22.2	36.9			
South Lanarkshire	3	✓	-	28.6	33.4			
Stirling	5	✓	-	<u>26.9</u>	32.7			
West Dunbartonshire	26	✗	-	7.1	19.0			
West Lothian	14		-	18.1	27.7			
			Scotland					
			-	17.6	24.7			

Ranked performance	03/04	04/05	05/06
Highest ranked performance	-	37.9	40.1
Upper quartile	-	25.0	30.9
Median	-	18.3	26.1
Lower quartile	-	9.7	19.2
Lowest ranked performance	-	4.7	10.4

Data features	Symbol	03/04	04/05	05/06
PI not applicable	(-)	32	0	0
No service	(NS)	0	0	0

Count of councils showing significant change since 2003/04	
Improvement	
5-9%	-
10-14%	-
>15%	-
Decline	
5-9%	-
10-14%	-
>15%	-

Notes

An underlined PI measurement indicates unreliable data.

Cleanliness - overall cleanliness index achieved

The indicator shows the cleanliness index of a local authority's streets and other relevant land measured against criteria developed by Keep Scotland Beautiful. The index provides an indication of the standards of cleanliness in a council's area.

Cleanliness is a measure based on the amount of litter (eg smoking related, sweet wrappers, drinks related, fast food packaging and animal faeces). Weeds and detritus (eg sand, silt and other debris) do not form part of the cleanliness index.

The measurement process known as the 'local environmental audit and management system' is used by all councils and provides a consistent survey methodology and protocol for calculating the cleanliness index.

Interpretation

Various factors will affect overall street cleanliness within a council's area. These will include:

- council policy on the balance between litter picking and street sweeping.
- the availability of litter bins, especially in town centres.
- actions and campaigns to raise the awareness and education of the public to the problems associated with cleanliness and in particular dog fouling.
- the adoption and implementation of enforcement powers available to councils.

Waste management

Cleanliness - overall cleanliness index achieved

Council	Rank in 05/06		PI measurement			Better ✓ or worse ✗ since 03/04		
	1-32	✓ 1-8 ✗ 25-32	03/04	04/05	05/06	5-9%	10-14%	>15%
Aberdeen City	28	✗	-	67	67			
Aberdeenshire	15		-	72	70			
Angus	6	✓	-	69	72			
Argyll & Bute	13		-	69	71			
Clackmannanshire	28	✗	-	70	67			
Dumfries & Galloway	6	✓	-	69	72			
Dundee City	18		-	66	69			
East Ayrshire	18		-	66	69			
East Dunbartonshire	18		-	73	69			
East Lothian	15		-	70	70			
East Renfrewshire	13		-	73	71			
City of Edinburgh	32	✗	-	66	65			
Eilean Siar	2	✓	-	76	77			
Falkirk	30	✗	-	65	66			
Fife	26	✗	-	68	68			
Glasgow City	30	✗	-	62	66			
Highland	4	✓	-	70	73			
Inverclyde	18		-	68	69			
Midlothian	18		-	68	69			
Moray	1	✓	-	77	78			
North Ayrshire	18		-	71	69			
North Lanarkshire	6	✓	-	70	72			
Orkney Islands	4	✓	-	76	73			
Perth & Kinross	6	✓	-	71	72			
Renfrewshire	26	✗	-	67	68			
Scottish Borders	15		-	68	70			
Shetland Islands	3	✓	-	76	75			
South Ayrshire	18		-	71	69			
South Lanarkshire	6	✓	-	72	72			
Stirling	18		-	68	69			
West Dunbartonshire	6	✓	-	69	72			
West Lothian	6	✓	-	67	72			
			Scotland					
			-	70	70			

Ranked performance	03/04	04/05	05/06
Highest ranked performance	-	77	78
Upper quartile	-	71	72
Median	-	69	70
Lower quartile	-	68	69
Lowest ranked performance	-	62	65

Data features	Symbol	03/04	04/05	05/06
PI not applicable	(-)	32	0	0
No service	(NS)	0	0	0

Count of councils showing significant change since 2003/04		
Improvement		
5-9%	-	
10-14%	-	
>15%	-	
Decline		
5-9%	-	
10-14%	-	
>15%	-	

Notes

An underlined PI measurement indicates unreliable data.