



# DS Smith Group Zero Waste to Landfill Policy

<b>Title:</b>	DS Smith Group Zero Waste to Landfill Policy	<b>Functional area:</b>	Sustainability
<b>Applicability:</b>	Group	<b>Policy owner:</b>	Sustainability
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## **Context**

### *Introduction to issue*

In a world of rising raw material prices and ambitious recycling targets, it has never been more important to be as resource efficient as possible. Businesses must find ways to reduce waste, use renewable materials where it is advantageous, and create closed-loops systems maximising opportunities to extract the most value from waste materials through recycling and recovery.

### *Materiality to DS Smith*

As a Group, we send over 60 per cent of our waste to recycling but in 2017 we sent 118 kt of waste directly to landfill (representing 10% of our total annual solid waste). There are also some sites in our portfolio which operate their own landfill facilities.

## **Scope**

This policy is relevant to all of manufacturing sites of the DS Smith Group.

## **Our target(s) and commitments**

Managing and eliminating the waste we send to landfill is one of the key pillars that underpin our strategy to “lead the way in sustainability.”

Our target is to “Send zero waste to landfill by 2030.

Successfully meeting our commitments brings us into alignment with United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (UN SDG) 12 “Responsible Consumption and Production” and UN SDG 14 “Life Below Water.”

## **Our management approach**

At DS Smith the responsibility for our sustainability performance is governed at the highest levels in line with our strategic goal to “lead the way in sustainability.”

The Group Chief Executive is ultimately responsible for the management of all sustainability-related topics. Management of individual topics is done within the appropriate divisional and functional teams with oversight by both the monthly Health, Safety, Environment and Sustainability Committee and tri-annually by the Sustainability Steering Group. All of the above are supported by the Core Sustainability Team which focuses on providing insight and knowledge, specialist project support and delivery, and data and reporting services.

Our closed-loop model means that we can recycle a lot of production waste internally, and seek to do this in the first instance to maximise the use of waste as a resource. Almost all our packaging facilities are equipped with underfloor conveyor belts or waste handling systems, which transport off cuts and trim to balers in readiness for transport back to our paper mills. Similarly all our Plastics sites are equipped with regrinders which can recycle off-cuts, damaged products and samples immediately and return the material to production within four hours.



For those waste streams that we cannot recycle internally, we actively seek partnerships to develop products that can be used as inputs to other processes thus developing the circular economy and avoiding landfill where possible.

For those sites which operate their own landfill sites, DS Smith will look for alternative solutions for the waste disposed of in this way which still allows these sites to be financially viable.

### **Stakeholder engagement and awareness raising**

Stakeholder engagement is an essential part of our activities. We maintain an ongoing and constructive dialogue with our stakeholders, including customers, suppliers and investors. This includes shaping our priorities and taking a leading role in our industry to meet the aims of this policy. Awareness and training should be provided to relevant roles in achieving the aims of this policy.

### **Review**

We will review this policy annually.