MECD Waste Management Strategy

Internal waste management

There are the following waste collection areas within the MECD buildings:

- The waste compound within the York Street Building (see figure 1) which services Buildings A & B and the York Street Building
- A smaller bin store within the Oddfellows Hall Building for waste from that building only (see figure 2)

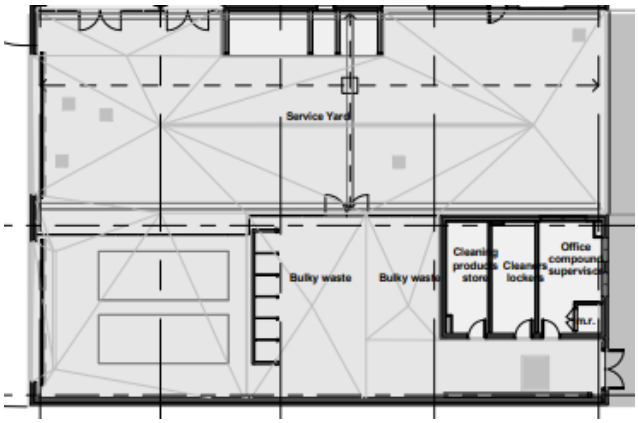


Figure 1: Refuse collection area within the York Street Building

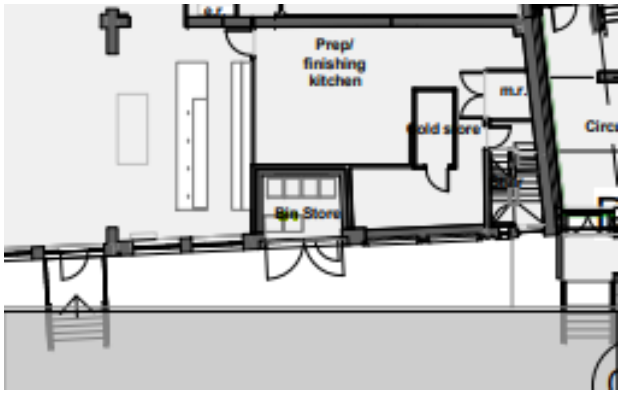


Figure 2: Refuse collection area within the Oddfellows Hall Building

In line with existing campus-wide arrangements, waste and recycling from within buildings is collected by House Services (cleaning) staff. All waste streams are collected on a daily basis (or more frequently if needed) and taken to the either the waste compound within the York Street Building (for Buildings A&B and York Street Building) or the bin store within the Oddfellows Hall Building (for waste/recycling from that building only).

Waste/recycling from Buildings A&B and York Street Building

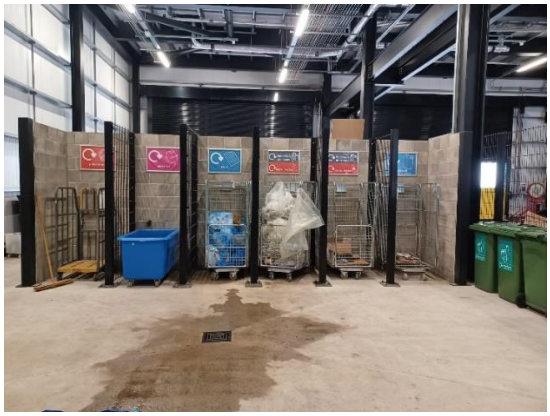
The waste compound area within the York Street Building is the waste collection/storage point for the waste and recycling from Buildings A&B and the York Street Building. This area accommodates the following:

- 6 no. general waste eurobins that are used to load general waste into a general waste compactor (pic. 1 below)

- General waste compactor with a capacity of 6/7 tonnes (pic. 2)
- Bunkers for various recyclates - paper, plastic bottles, cans, cardboard, polystyrene and electrical waste (pic. 3)
- Area for bulky waste/redundant furniture/pallets etc
- A cardboard baler for baling cardboard (pic. 4)
- Food waste wheelie bins (approx. 4 x 240L – pic 5)
- Glass recycling wheelie bins (approx. 4 x 240L – pic 6)
- Offensive waste wheelie bins (2 x 240L)

Pic. 1 York Street Eurobins

Pic 2. York Street waste compactor


Pic. 3 York Street recycling bunkers

Pic. 4 York Street cardboard baler

Pic. 5 food waste wheelie bins

Pic. 6 Glass recycling wheelie bins

House Services staff collect waste/recycling from various recycling bins across the buildings (see pics. 7 & 8 below for an example of the bins used on the ground floor of building A) and return this to the waste compound.

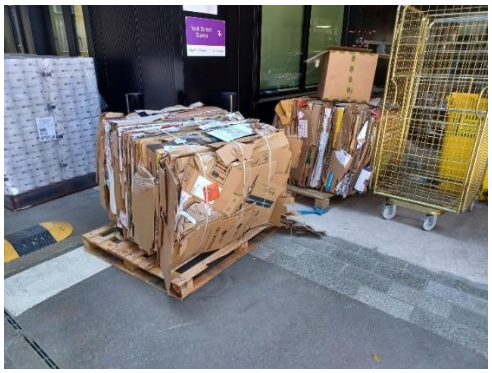
Pics. 7 & 8 Recycling bins, ground floor and in seminar room, Bdg. A

General (non-recyclable) waste from buildings A&B is collected in black refuse bags and disposed of in the 6 general waste eurobins which are then loaded into a general waste compactor that has the capacity for 6/7 tonnes of waste. Once this compactor is full it is removed from site by the university's waste contractors (Veolia) and returned to their waste transfer station in Trafford Park where it is weighed and tipped out and the empty compactor returned to the York Street site – this process takes around an hour. Collection frequencies vary depending on how busy the building is and how much waste is being produced but vary from around 4 – 6 weeks between collections.

The following link details how general waste is disposed of via Veolia, but essentially it is bulked up at their waste transfer station and then disposed of as a Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) at a facility in East Yorkshire - https://www.estates.manchester.ac.uk/services/operationalservices/envsvcs/waste/managingwaste/

Recyclates are placed in the various bunkers by the House Services staff and subsequently collected by the university's Campus Cleansing Unit (CCU) for bulking up elsewhere on campus, prior to collection by external waste contractors. The following link provides various videos detailing how the University manages the various recyclable waste streams/materials - https://www.estates.manchester.ac.uk/services/operationalservices/envsvcs/waste/videos/.

Cardboard is baled (pic. 9 below) before being collected by the Campus Cleansing Unit and taken to a collection point in the compound r/o the Stopford building where it is collected on a regular basis by Elsa Recycling Group - https://www.elsarecycle.co.uk/.



Pic. 9 Cardboard bales ready for collection

House Services staff also collect food waste separately via the food waste caddies (see pic. 10 below) that are placed in all staff kitchens throughout the buildings – see the following link for details https://www.estates.manchester.ac.uk/services/operationalservices/envsvcs/waste/foodwastecollections/

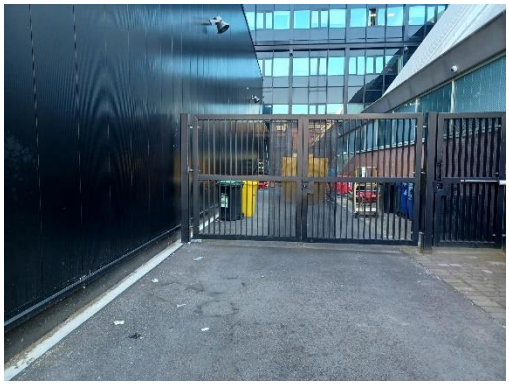
Pic. 10 Food waste caddy in staff kitchen

The food waste wheelie bins are emptied on a fortnightly basis by Veolia using a small (12 tonne) refuse/recycling vehicle.

The glass recycling bins are collected/exchanged by the CCU when they are full and returned to the Environmental Services Depot to be emptied by Veolia – this is a weekly collection using a small (12 tonne) refuse/recycling vehicle.

Relatively small quantities of uncontaminated lab waste (classed as offensive/tiger waste) are generated in labs throughout the various buildings. This waste is collected within the labs concerned and placed into 240/360L offensive waste wheelie bins in tiger (yellow and black striped) bags. When full, these are taken to the waste compound where the bins/waste is decanted by CCU staff and taken to a collection point at the Michael Smith Building. From here the waste is collected on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays by the university's clinical/offensive waste contractor, Stericycle/SRCL Ltd.

Clinical/chemically contaminated waste is produced by various labs within the buildings where it is collected in yellow clinical waste bags which are placed into yellow clinical waste wheelie bins (240/360L). When full the bins are taken down to the waste compound on Tuesday afternoons and a weekly collection takes place via the side of York Street compound via Stericycle/SRCL Ltd (see pic. 11 below) each Wednesday morning – this is a bin swap where the full bins are removed from sit and replaced by empty bins that the House Services staff return to the relevant lab.


Pic. 11 Clinical waste collection point

Battery recycling containers (see pic. 12 below) are distributed throughout the building and when full these are emptied by House Services staff, with the batteries being collected by CCU from the waste compound – the following video shows the collection process - https://www.estates.manchester.ac.uk/services/operationalservices/envsvcs/waste/videos/batteryrecycling/

Pic. 12 Battery recycling container

Within the York Street waste compound is an area set aside for bulky waste, redundant furniture etc which is collected regularly by the CCU and disposed of/recycled elsewhere on campus.

Waste/recycling from Oddfellows Hall

The waste/bin store within the Oddfellows Hall Building (see pic. 13 & 14 below) accommodates the following:

- 1 general waste eurobin (1100L).
- Cages for recycling – cardboard, plastic bottle, cans and paper
- Glass recycling wheelie bin (1 x 240L)
- Food waste wheelie bin (1 x 240L)

Pic. 13 & 14 Oddfellows Hall waste/bin store

The waste general waste eurobin in also emptied by the university's waste contractors (Veolia) using a 26 tonne refuse vehicle (currently twice a week). Access is via Rumford Street off Booth Street East.

The food waste wheelie bin is emptied on a fortnightly basis by Veolia using a small (12 tonne) refuse/recycling vehicle.

The collection of recyclates is undertaken several times a week by the CCU (as above).

Collection/disposal of general (non-recyclable) waste

Veolia collect the university's general waste. They are registered waste carriers (carrier reg. CBDU95537) and the waste taken to their Trafford Park transfer station (Environmental Permit no. EPR/FP3 637ST). See the following link for more details - https://www.estates.manchester.ac.uk/services/operationalservices/envsvcs/waste/managingwaste/

A full register of the sites that the University's waste/recycling goes to can be found on the following link: - https://www.estates.manchester.ac.uk/services/operationalservices/envsvcs/waste/managingwaste/

Servicing routes

As above, the main service area for the site is the waste compound in the York Street Building (see Figure 1). As shown in figure 3 below, refuse vehicles access is via the service road to the east, which has barrier controlled entry off Grosvenor Road, before continuing south to the service yard entry point, where vehicles will enter the building. The collection vehicle then exits onto York Street and reverses into the waste compound in order to collect/remove the waste compactor. The vehicle then exits the building onto York Street, before turning north back towards Grosvenor Road.

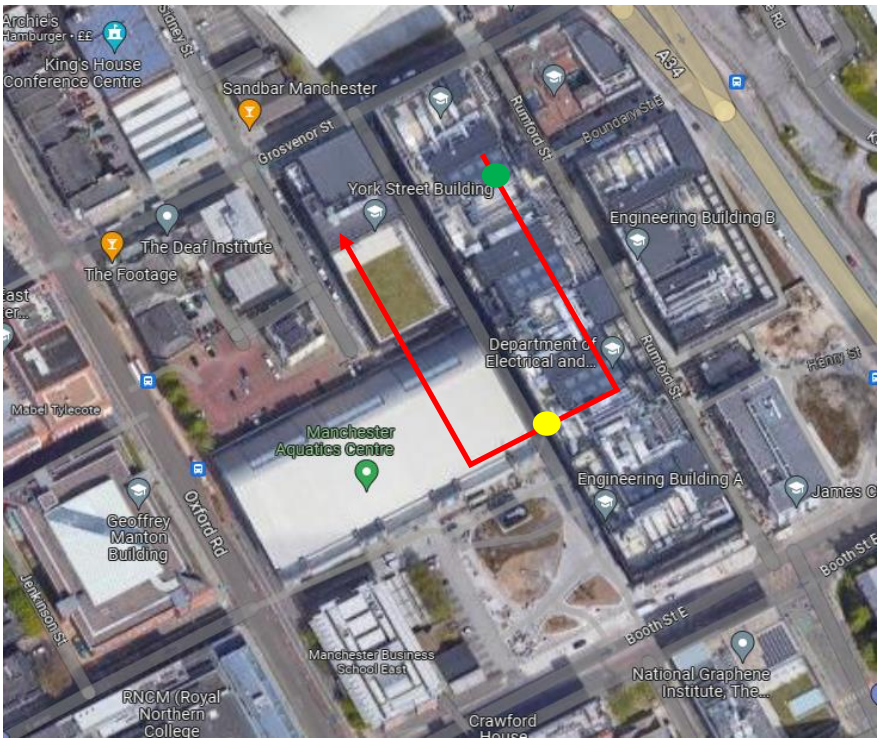


Figure 3: Main servicing route for York Street waste compound (map source: Google Maps)

Barrier location
Service area
Route of service vehicles

General waste collections from Oddfellows Hall take place via Rumford Street. As shown in figure 4 below, refuse vehicles access Rumford Street off Booth Street East to the south, which has bollard controlled entry, before following the one way system northwards. Waste collections take place from the James Chadwick and Oddfellows Hall buildings before the refuse vehicle exits left onto Grosvenor Street and then turns right onto Oxford Road.

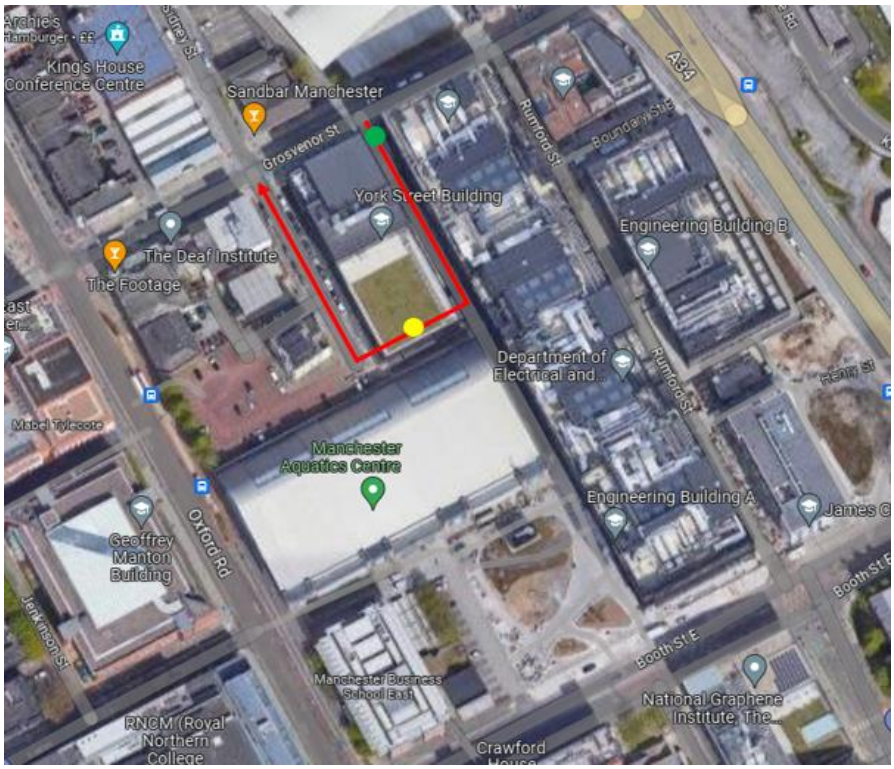


Figure 4: Secondary servicing route (map source: Google Maps)

Gas compound area
Bollard location
Bin store
Route of service vehicles

External waste/litter management

16 external waste/recycling stations/bins are located around the public realm areas of the site to allow for the disposal of waste/litter by students and staff, as well as by general passers-by (see pics. 14 & 15 below for examples).

These each have a capacity of 360L and are emptied on a daily (M-F) basis by the university's in house CCU who collect the various wastes and bulk them up elsewhere on campus, prior to disposal/recycling (as above).

These provide receptacles for the following waste streams:

- General/non-recyclable waste;
- Paper;
- Cans;
- Plastic bottles;

Each recycling station has a cigarette disposal post at the side of it. These are emptied a minimum of twice a week.

Pics 14 & 15. External waste/recycling stations/bins