



Client

King's College London (King's) is London's most central university with five campuses in the centre, it's also ranked one of the top 10 UK university in the world (QS World University Rankings 2018). Its faculties, institutes and schools deliver world leading research, enabling groundbreaking new discoveries.

Background & Requirements

King's waste contracts used to be split across five local authorities which caused a decentralised approach to its waste management. The university has a diverse operation with catering outlets, residential areas, offices, research labs and teaching spaces which generate a broad range of materials.

Prior to Simply Waste Solutions (SWS), the majority of King's waste was being sent to energy from waste plants with a lack of segregation for recycling.

A SWS representative visited King's five campuses to help identify solutions for the complex operation. It was quickly determined that there was a lot of potential to divert waste from the general waste stream by introducing designated recycling bins.

The Simply Solution

After identifying which waste materials could be segregated across the King's estate, individual and segregated waste bins to capture the recyclable materials were introduced. The recyclable waste streams included the introduction of food and glass waste bins into residential areas and paper cups recycling in offices and teaching space. Through an agile contract, King's is able to make ad-hoc changes throughout the year to manage the fluctuating volumes of waste.

In order to improve recycling, SWS worked with King's to create individual recycling guides and educational posters that were in keeping with King's brand guidelines. There was a complete overhaul of King's external waste containers to ensure there would be no confusion if staff transferred between sites. These bins were clearly labelled and colour coded to ease recycling and eliminate as much contamination as possible.

SWS appointed a dedicated Account Manager to have regular catch up meetings and oversee the whole King's estate identifying appropriate waste streams that would further suit the university's operations. SWS provide King's with a monthly reliable intelligent report clearly displaying the recycling percentage and the top performing sites with the best recycling figures.

What They Say

“ Simply Waste has helped King’s develop an awareness of its waste output and implemented dedicated waste streams to maximise recycling.

Their dedicated account management and reliable reporting allow King’s to make considered decisions about contributing to the continual improvement in waste management.

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- Josh Pullen, Waste to Resource Project Coordinator



Results

Since the start of the contract SWS have improved King’s recycling rate by 24% across the estate, giving King’s an overall (year to date) recycling percentage of 56%. The transparency of SWS’ reporting means King’s can make fully informed decisions for sustainable and economical methods to treating its waste.

King’s have been able to learn more about its waste output and can now clearly communicate this to its students and staff allowing for further improvements, keeping King’s on track to reaching its 70% recycling target set at the beginning of the contract.

