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"The value of the UK recycling market rose again over 2017, though margins narrowed in line with increasingly difficult market conditions. These conditions are set to be exacerbated in the coming years given the recent Chinese ban on imported plastic waste, government budget constraints, and the finalisation of Brexit negotiations." – Marco Amasanti, B2B Analyst

# This report looks at the following areas:

- Has the Brexit vote had an effect on the recycling market?
- How has the UK's recycling rates changed over the past year, and which areas have been the strongest performers?
- What factors drove market growth in the past year?
- What does the future hold for the UK recycling industry?

#### Definition

The MBD recycling report utilises a number of definitions in exploring a wide range of recyclable materials, some of which are grouped as follows:

- WEEE includes electrical goods falling under the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Directive, such as household appliances, IT equipment and electrical tools.
- Co-mingled recycling, also known as single-stream recycling, where paper, card, plastic and metal recycling are collected in a single container rather than separately.
- Non-metallic wastes, which includes glass, plastic, rubber, wood, textiles, paper and card.
- Metal recycling can be further segmented by type of metal:
- Ferrous metals waste and scrap, which includes waste and scrap of cast iron and alloy steel; other ferrous waste and scrap of tinned iron or steel, as well as turnings, shavings, chips, milling waste, sawdust, filings, trimmings and stampings, largely obtained from the machining of parts.
- Non-ferrous metals waste and scrap, including aluminium, nickel, zinc, copper, lead and tin.

All values quoted in this report are at current prices unless otherwise specified.

The term billion refers to one thousand million.

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This report is part of a series of reports, produced to provide you with a more holistic view of this market



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# **Table of Contents**

#### **Executive Summary**

#### The market

## By value

Figure 1: UK recycling market value, £ million, 2013-17

#### By volume

Figure 2: UK recycling market volume, million tonnes, 2013-17

#### Market segmentation

#### Household recycling

Figure 3: UK household waste arisings, by nation, '000 tonnes, 2012-16

Figure 4: UK household recycling rates, by nation, 2012-16

#### Commercial & industrial recycling

Figure 5: UK commercial and industrial waste arisings and recycling, '000 tonnes and recycling rate, 2012-16

#### Market factors

#### National differences

## Composition of household dry recycling

Figure 6: Composition of household dry recycling, in England, % of total, 2016

#### Growing scrutiny on plastics

#### Build-up of plastic wastes

Further increases to the landfill directive

### Market forecasts

Figure 7: UK recycling forecast market value, £ million, 2018-22

The significance of China's ban on foreign waste

National Living Wage growth

Technological progress

What we think

#### Introduction

Definitions Abbreviations

Market positioning

## **Key Insights**

How has the Brexit vote impacted the recycling market over the past year?

What needs to be done over the next two years?

How does the future look for the UK recycling market?

## **Overview**

Figure 8: Forecast GDP development, % growth, 2017-22

Figure 9: UK GDP quarterly development, 2004-17

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Inflation

### House prices

Figure 10: UK house price changes, % change, 2006-17

#### Interest rates

#### Consumer spending

#### Manufacturing

Figure 11: UK manufacturing, 2014-17

#### Business investment

Figure 12: UK GFCF, £ million, 2003-17

#### Imports

Exports

#### Market Size

### Key points

The market

#### By value

Figure 13: UK recycling market value, £ million, 2013-17

#### By volume

Figure 14: UK recycling market volume, million tonnes, 2013-17

#### Market Segmentation

#### Key points

#### Household recycling

Figure 15: UK household waste arisings, by nation, '000 tonnes, 2012-16

Figure 16: UK household waste sent for recycling, by nation, '000 tonnes, 2012-16

Figure 17: UK household recycling rates, by nation, 2012-16

#### Commercial & industrial recycling

Figure 18: UK commercial and industrial waste arisings and recycling, '000 tonnes and recycling rate, 2012-16

#### Market Factors

#### Key points

#### National differences

Figure 19: Percentage of local authorities collecting residual waste, by frequency, 2016/17

Figure 20: Percentage of local authorities collecting each dry material, by material, 2016/17

Figure 21: Percentage of local authorities operating each dry recycling scheme, by scheme, 2016/17

#### Composition of household dry recycling

Figure 22: Composition of household dry recycling, in England, % of total, 2016

Growing scrutiny on plastics

#### Build-up of plastic wastes

### Further increases to landfill tax rates

Figure 23: Landfill tax rates, £ per tonne, 1st April 2016-18

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#### **Industry Structure**

Key points

Industry development

#### Industry by structure

Figure 24: Analysis of changes in the UK recycling industry, outlets and businesses, % change, 2013-17

#### Industry by turnover

Figure 25: Financial analysis of the UK recycling industry, £'000 and % of total, 2016 & 2017

#### Industry by employment

Figure 26: Analysis of the employment structure of the UK recycling industry, % of total, 2016 & 2017

#### **Company Profiles**

#### **Biffa Group Plc**

#### Recent company activity

Figure 27: Financial analysis of Biffa Group Plc, £ million and % change, 2016-17

#### Company strategy

#### **Cory Environmental**

#### Recent company activity

Figure 28: Financial analysis of Cory Environmental, £ million and % change, 2012-16

#### Company strategy

#### **European Metal Recycling**

#### Recent company activity

Figure 29: Financial analysis of European Metal Recycling, £ million and % change, 2012-16

#### Company strategy

#### FCC Environment (UK)

#### Recent company activity

Figure 30: Financial analysis of FCC Environment (UK), £ million and % change, 2012-16

Company strategy

#### Metal and Waste Recycling

#### Recent company activity

Figure 31: Financial analysis of metal and waste recycling, £ million and % change, 2013-17

#### Company strategy

# Renewi

#### Recent company activity

Figure 32: Financial analysis of Renewi Plc, £ million and % change, 2013-17

#### Company strategy

## **SUEZ Environmental**

Recent company activity

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Figure 33: Financial analysis of SUEZ Environmental, £ million and % change, 2012-16

#### Company strategy

## Veolia

## Recent company activity

Figure 34: Financial analysis of Veolia Environmental Services (UK), £ million and % change, 2009-13

#### Company strategy

#### Market Forecast

Key points

## The market

Figure 35: UK recycling forecast market value, £ million, 2018-22

#### Market segmentation

#### The significance of China's ban on foreign waste

National Living Wage growth

Figure 36: Forecast national living wage growth, £ per hour, 2017-22

#### Technological progress

#### **Further Sources & Contacts**

#### Trade associations

Aluminium Packaging Recycling Organisation

- Aluminium Federation
- British Metals Recycling Association (BMRA)
- British Plastics Federation

Motor Vehicle Dismantlers Association of Great Britain

The Minor Metals Trade Association

National Association of Waste Disposal Officers

The Recycling Association

The Waste and Resources Action Programme

**Resource Association** 

Suez Recycling and Recovery UK Ltd

Trade magazines

Aluminium International Today

Aluminium Times

**CIWM** Journal

Materials Recycling World (Fortnightly)

MBM - Metal Bulletin Monthly (Monthly)

Resource (Monthly)

Recycling & Waste World

- Recycling International (Monthly)
- Recycling Today Global (Every two months)

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