



Vape Recycling Facilities in the UK:

Investment by Local Authorities

Overview

This data was gathered by leading vape trade body, the UK Vaping Industry Association, through Freedom of Information Requests issued to major provincial UK cities and central London councils.

The research looks at investment in vape recycling facilities and services by local authorities, as well as efforts to educate end users about the correct disposal of their used devices. It follows the launch of the UKVIA's [Recycle-Vapes.co.uk](https://www.recycle-vapes.co.uk) online information hub.

Unless specified, all data refers to:
10 Major Provincial UK Cities and 10 London Authorities

Key Findings

Of the **20** major provincial city and central London councils to respond:

60%

offer vape waste disposal at civic tips (Designated Collection Facilities)

10%

have introduced vape waste containers in public places (both in council-owned buildings)

Around

1/3

do not offer vape waste disposal containers/drop off points of any kind

One

has introduced or invested in kerbside/household collection for vapes to date

40%

said they were using information on the council website to raise awareness amongst vapers on how to recycle their vapes

30%

said they have used social media to raise awareness amongst vapers on how to recycle their vapes

45%

have not undertaken activities to raise awareness amongst vapers about how to recycle their vapes

80%

have no plans to invest in new vape collection solutions in the next 12 months



Wandsworth Borough Council has plans to introduce a network of small WEEE waste collection bins with funding support from non-profit Material Focus.

However, the 'likely' service provider has advised the council shouldn't encourage residents to use these to recycle vapes.

What the councils were asked

As part of the FOI research, each city and London authority was asked to respond to a series of 10 questions.

These were:

1. Where do you offer vape waste disposal container/drop off points?

(Please answer each option as appropriate)

- Tip (Designated Collection Facility) - yes/no
- Public places - yes/no
- Kerbside collections/household waste collections - yes/no
- Other, please specify

[View responses](#)

2. If you have introduced vape waste disposal containers at your public waste tip, is this

(Please answer each option as appropriate)

- A dedicated vape waste container?
- Collected within your small mixed WEEE stream?
- We do not offer consumers the opportunity to drop vape waste at our Designated Collection Facilities.

[View responses](#)

3. If you have introduced vape waste collection containers in public places, where have you located them?

(Please answer each option as appropriate)

- High street
- Parks
- Council owned buildings
- Other, please specify
- We have not introduced any vape waste collection containers in public places

[View responses](#)



What the councils were asked

4. How much to date have you invested in vape waste collection containers in public places?

(Please answer each option as appropriate)

- Provide investment amount
- We have not invested in any vape waste collection containers in public places

[View responses](#)

7. Have you got plans to invest in new vape collection solutions within the next 12 months?

(Please answer each option as appropriate)

- Yes, please specify
- No

[View responses](#)

5. If you have introduced kerbside/household recycling for vapes when was this service introduced?

(Please answer each option as appropriate)

- Before 2020
- 2020
- 2021
- 2022
- 2023
- We have not introduced kerbside/household recycling for vapes

[View responses](#)

8. What vape collection solutions are you planning to invest in over the next 12 months?

(Please answer each option as appropriate)

- Dedicated vape containers at public tip
- Vape recycling containers in public places
- Kerbside/household collection solutions
- Other, please specify
- Not looking to invest in vape recycling facilities over the next 12 months

[View responses](#)

6. How much to date have you invested in kerbside/household collection solutions for vapes?

(Please answer each option as appropriate)

- Provide investment amount
- We have not invested in any kerbside/household collection solutions for vapes

[View responses](#)

9. What activities have you done to raise awareness amongst vapers on how to recycle their vapes?

(Please answer each option as appropriate)

- Information on the council website
- Advertising in the media
- Out of home advertising (eg billboards)
- Social media promotions via the councils own social media channels
- Email marketing
- Stories via the mainstream media
- Direct mail
- None of the above

[View responses](#)

Responses to all questions are available to view at Recycle-Vapes.co.uk

Disclaimer:

All data was gathered through Freedom of Information Requests made to each local authority. Entries marked 'N/A' mean the council either couldn't provide the relevant information or responded 'none of the above' for questions where example answers were provided.