



Case Study: Introducing waste management efficiencies results in a 13% decrease in waste generated per employee.

Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DHPLG)



Resource efficiency and circular economy have become one of the main topics in the EU sustainable development agenda. Its goal is to reduce material consumption, improve resource efficiency, prevent/reduce waste and turn waste into resources where applicable.

The Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DHPLG) prepared a resource efficiency action plan covering three different sites with a total number of employees of 530 in 2018 and 584 in 2019.

Like most offices, the DHPLG offices use many resources, including water, energy, paper, and many other consumable resources. It also generates waste (general, food, recyclable, and WEEE wastes) which can be measured in Kg per employee per annum.

DHPLG has implemented a waste management system to support its commitment to: prevent waste being generated, increase the recycling rate, and reduce waste volume sent for disposal.

Actions

In 2019 the DHPLG implemented different actions to improve waste management practices on different sites of the department.



Introduced centralised bin units, and eliminated individual desk bins



Phased-out the use of single-use items such as cups, cutlery and straws



Provided reusable cups to staff



Monthly measuring and monitoring of waste data report



Regular meetings with the waste contractor to revise waste generation performance



Raised staff awareness on the waste management policy on-site. e.g., organic waste segregation available in each site.



Ensured WEEE collections available in all sites



Implemented new waste segregation policies to promote waste reduction

Results

- Reduced waste sent for disposal by more than 50%
- Improved the key performance indicator (KPI) from 172 kg/employee/annum to 150 kg/employee/annum
- Increased the materials recycling rate by 25 %
- Reduced general waste from 53% in 2018 to 27% in 2019.

Waste generated in three DHPLG sites for 2018-2019

