

# Dundrum Town Centre ...a Green Giant?



Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown  
County Council Comhairle Contae  
Dhún Laoghaire-Ráth an Dúin

## LOCAL AUTHORITY PREVENTION DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMME

Dundrum Town Centre has taken on Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council's challenge to reduce organic waste generation. The Centre's objective is to set the retail standard for environmental performance through identifying and implementing best practice in the sector.



At the start of this Programme the 100 stores, 29 restaurants, cinema and theatre in the Centre were sending an average of 25 tonnes of waste per week to landfill and 10 tonnes of waste per week for recycling. The result of changes introduced by the Centre and the LAPD team was a €42,000 decrease in waste charges in the first quarter following increased diversion of material from landfill to recycling and composting.

The Centre and team carried out a waste audit, and then created an action plan focusing firstly on recycling and then on prevention actions. The first step of the plan was to add facilities for segregating recyclables on site. Second was to introduce a trial on-site composting system with a few selected restaurants working to achieve a target of a 30% reduction in food waste going off site. If successful this system will be scaled up to take food waste from all outlets.

Initial problems with the implementation of the new waste policy were overcome by, providing training to the tenants of the 140 units; placing clear instructions including signage and posters in English, Polish, Chinese and Russian in all the waste storage areas; and strictly enforcing the policy.

The third step of the action plan is to work with the stores producing the largest amounts of mixed waste and cardboard waste to develop a culture of food waste prevention at source.

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council's project "Food Reduction at Dundrum Town Centre" has received €74,305 under phase 2 of the Local Authority Prevention Demonstration Programme.

For further information please contact Ms Margaret Coles, Green Business Officer, Email [mcoles@dlrcoco.ie](mailto:mcoles@dlrcoco.ie) Phone 01-2054846



Why waste the planet? Think Prevention - SAVE something for the future!

National Waste Prevention Programme  
[www.prevention.ie](http://www.prevention.ie)

