



## Offices playing a part in recycling

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Colin Hughes, The Western Mail

OFFICE staff in Wales are leading the way in a pioneering recycling scheme.

Last year 2,000 million aluminium cans and 500 million plastic bottles were recycled in the UK. Although this is a measure of the progress made there is still a long way to go.

In fact, around 3,000 million cans are disposed of annually in landfill sites and the cost of getting rid of plastic bottles tops £40m a year.

Now a new scheme has been piloted in Newport and Newcastle to promote the recycling of cans and bottles.

A key focus for the Recycling Zone programme is to encourage more companies and their employees to recycle at work.

And with an increasing number of offices and factories providing vending machines on site it is vital that cans or bottles bought at work can be easily recycled.

This has both the obvious environmental benefit and a financial incentive.

Recycling Zone is a collaboration between Newport Wastesavers and Coca-Cola Enterprises Ltd, Recoup, Alupro, Alcan and Wrap, with each organisation supporting the scheme with individual expertise and knowledge.

Coca-Cola Enterprises is even offering an extra incentive for employees to recycle. As the goal of the scheme is to boost recycling levels the Newport business which joins the project and shows the greatest increase will win a trip to a match of their choice at the Millennium Stadium to see goals of a different kind - either rugby or soccer.

Mike Croxford of Newport Wastesavers, said yesterday, "The Recycling Zone initiative has come along at just the right time for us.

"We already offer a paper and drink can recycling collection to workplaces in Newport and parts of Cardiff but by changing the service to include plastic bottles we will be improving it and creating far greater interest in the scheme."

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