

# **Recyclate Quality Regulations**

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# Overview

- Implementation what went well and what we learned (waste classification, sampling practices & other issues)
- Data publication: analysis tool, data limitations and early indications of quality
- Future work, with MRFs & others in the recyclate supply chain

# Implementation – Improving Understanding

- In-depth visits developed operator understanding of the Materials Recovery Code requirements
- SEPA staff from non-regulatory background developed understanding of MRF operations
- Significant operational variation across the sites
- Some common issues encountered

# Implementation – Material Classification Issues

## Input Sample

### TARGET MATERIAL

- Any material which the facility intends to segregate
- Report in 'Sample\_Input' tab under Plastic, Glass, Paper, Cardboard, Metals and Other

### NON TARGET MATERIAL

- Any material which the facility considers could be recycled, but is not segregated for this purpose
- Report in 'Sample\_Input' tab under Plastic, Glass, Paper, Cardboard, Metals and Other

### NON-RECYCLABLE MATERIAL

- Any material which the facility considers cannot be feasibly recycled
- Report in 'Sample\_Input' tab under non-recyclable material

## Output Sample

### TARGET MATERIAL

- Any material not considered as a contaminant within the output specification
- Report in 'Sample\_Output' tab as total quantity of target

### NON TARGET MATERIAL

- Any material which the facility considers could be recycled but is considered as a contaminant within the output specification
- Report in 'Sample\_Output' tab as total quantity of non-target

### NON-RECYCLABLE MATERIAL

- Any material which the facility considers cannot be feasibly recycled and is considered as a contaminant within the output specification
- Report in 'Sample\_Output' tab as total quantity of non-recyclable

## Waste Output

### TARGET MATERIAL

- Material which has been segregated by the facility to facilitate its recycling
- May go for further processing prior to final destination
- Report in 'Waste\_Output' tab as total quantity of target (per output stream)

### NON TARGET MATERIAL

- Non-segregated material which is sent for further processing to facilitate its recycling
- Report in 'Waste\_Output' tab as total quantity of non-target (per waste stream)

### NON-RECYCLABLE MATERIAL

- Any material that is not recycled
- Can include a combination of target, non-target and non-recyclable material - end destination is key
- Report in 'Waste\_Output' tab as total quantity of non-recyclable (per waste stream)

# Implementation – Sampling Practices



# Implementation – Sampling Practices



# Implementation - Engagement

- Positive operator cooperation overall
- Many sites realising the benefit of sampling (some already doing it before the Code)
- Some operators meeting regularly with their largest customers
- Charges for contamination being applied, but not everywhere
- Some operators still have no formal incentives for supplier quality improvements
- Examples of local authorities using the Code to assist with contracting, and doing their own spot checks







# Implementation – End/Next Destination

- Data provided by most at a very early stage
- Level of detail given varied initially, full details now provided
- Next destination easy to obtain
- End destination much harder
- Material use at next destination difficult to confirm in some instances
- Duty of Care an issue across the board
- Cannot give a reliable figure regarding proportion of material recycled domestically

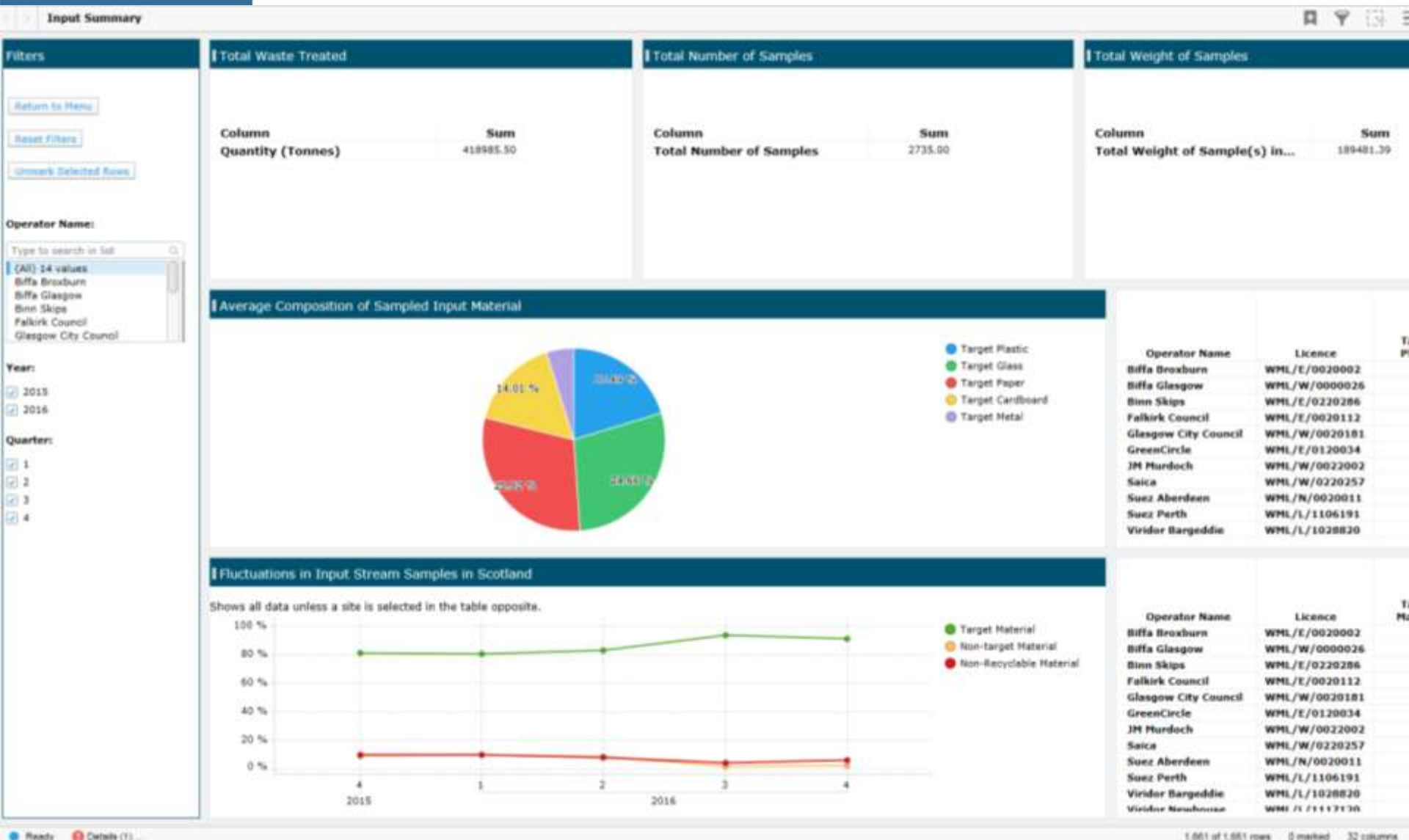
# Implementation – Other Issues

- Good communication between ops staff & sales/management/admin is key
- Staff training for all involved is critical (along with follow up checks to confirm understood)
- Householder confusion was apparent across most facilities
- Inadequate bin services causing contamination issues

# Implementation – Data Publication

- End June/beginning of July
- Data reporting took longer than expected to get to acceptable reporting standard
- Some caveats will be applied upfront, but generally confident in the accuracy of the data reported by operators

# Analysis Tool: National Overview (Input)





# Analysis Tool – National Overview (Output)

## Output Summary



### Filters

[Return to Menu](#)

[Reset Filters](#)

[Unmark Selected Rows](#)

Operator Name:

Type to search in list

- (All) 14 values
- Biffa Broxburn
- Biffa Glasgow
- Binn Skips
- Falkirk Council
- Glasgow City Council

Year:

- 2015
- 2016

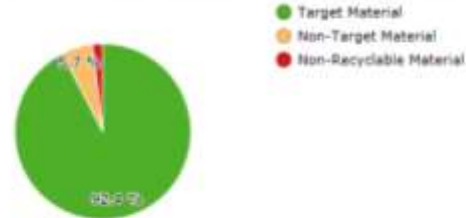
Quarter:

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

### Points of Interest

Column	Sum
Total Quantity in Tonnes	237898.42
Total Weight of Sample(s) in kg	210,696
Total Number of Samples	5221.00

### Average Composition of Sampled Output Material (Overview)



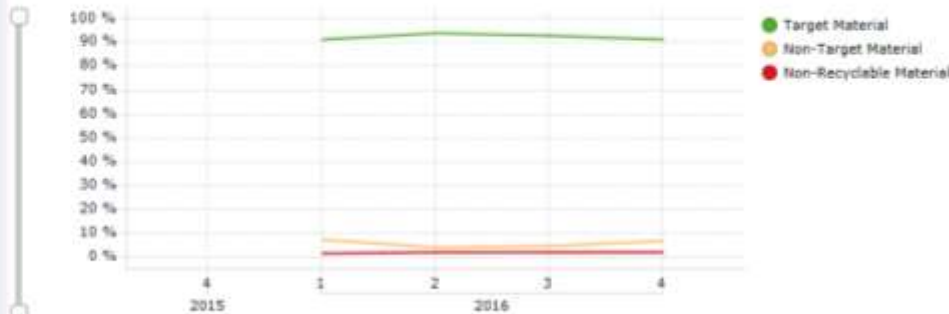
Target Material	Non-Target Material	Non-Recyclable Material
90.70 %	7.31 %	1.99 %

### Average Composition of Sampled Output Material (Material Grades)



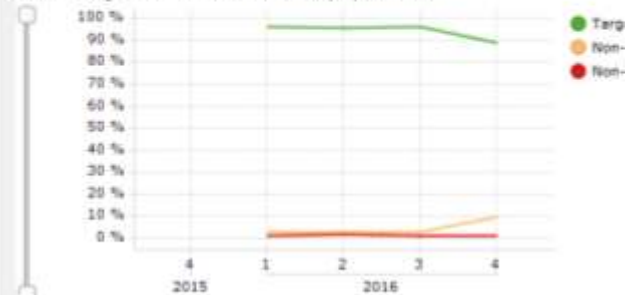
Description of Waste Specified output material	Ta	Mat
Glass - Mixed		
Glass - Mixed (Aggregate/...		
Metal - Aluminium		
Metal - Mixed		
Metal - Scrap metal		
Metal - Steel		
Other		
Paper - Cardboard		
Paper - Mixed		
Paper - Newspapers and P...		

### Fluctuations in Output Stream Samples in Scotland (Overview)



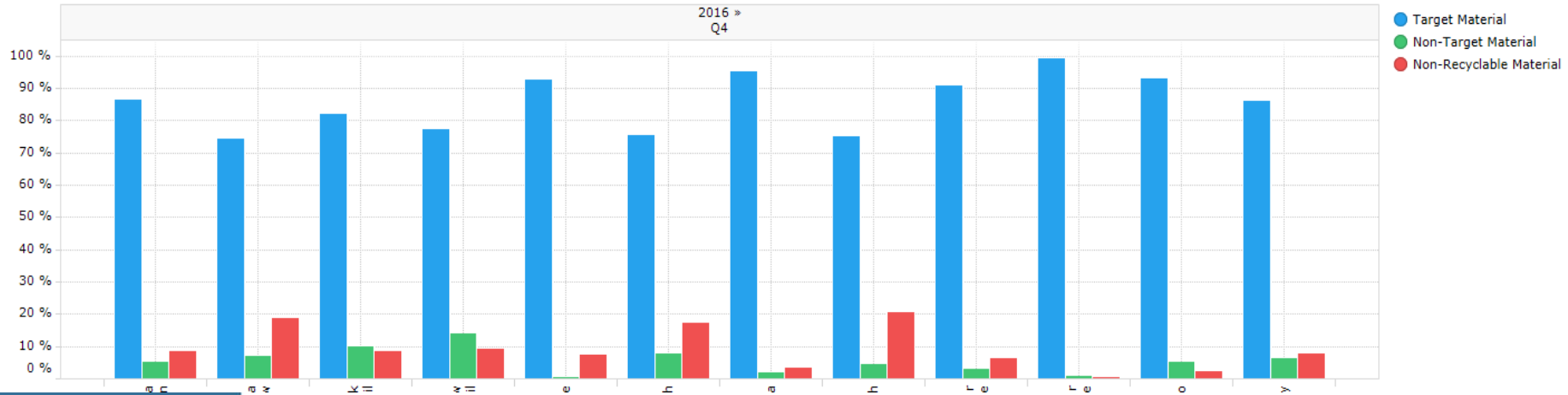
### Fluctuations in Output Stream Samples in Scotland (Material Grade)

Click on a figure in the table above to display the data.

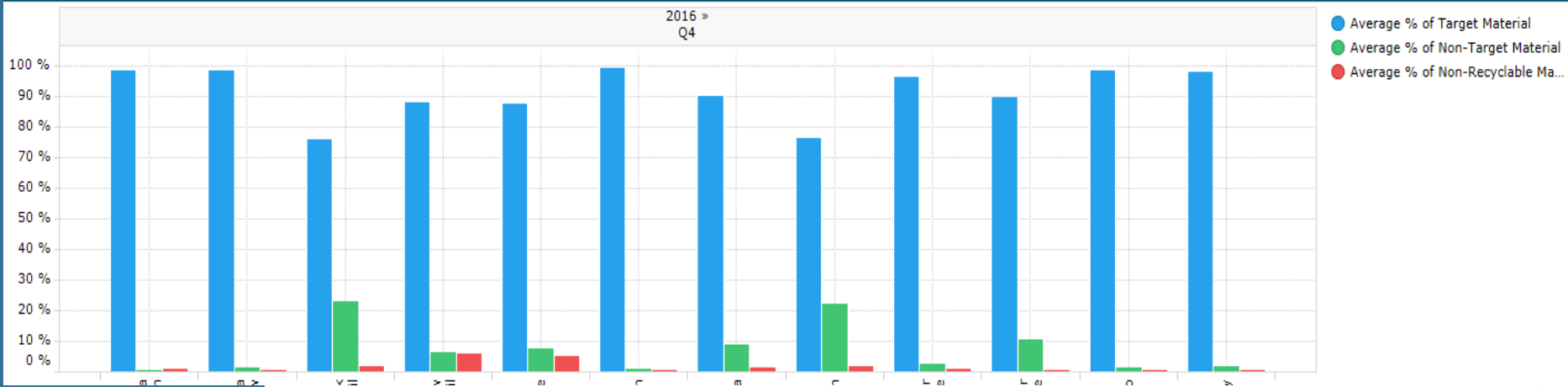


# Publication Tool – Input/Output Samples by Site

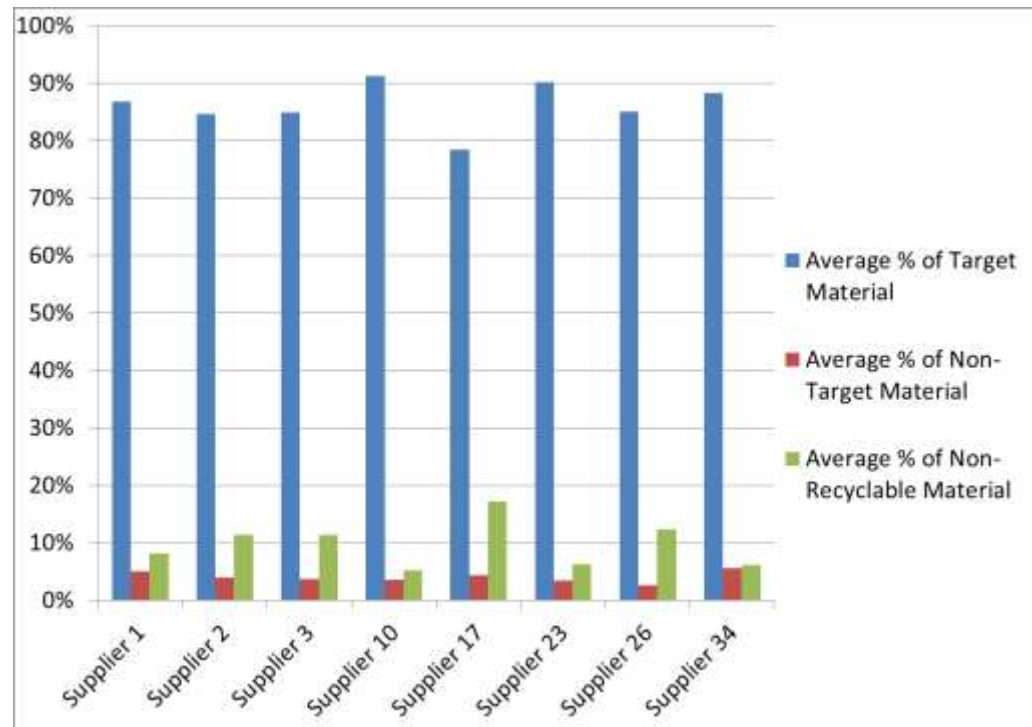
Percentages of Target, Non-Target & Non-Recyclable Materials by Licence



Percentage of Target Material by Licence & Quarter



# Publication Tool – How do I compare to other suppliers to the MRF I use?



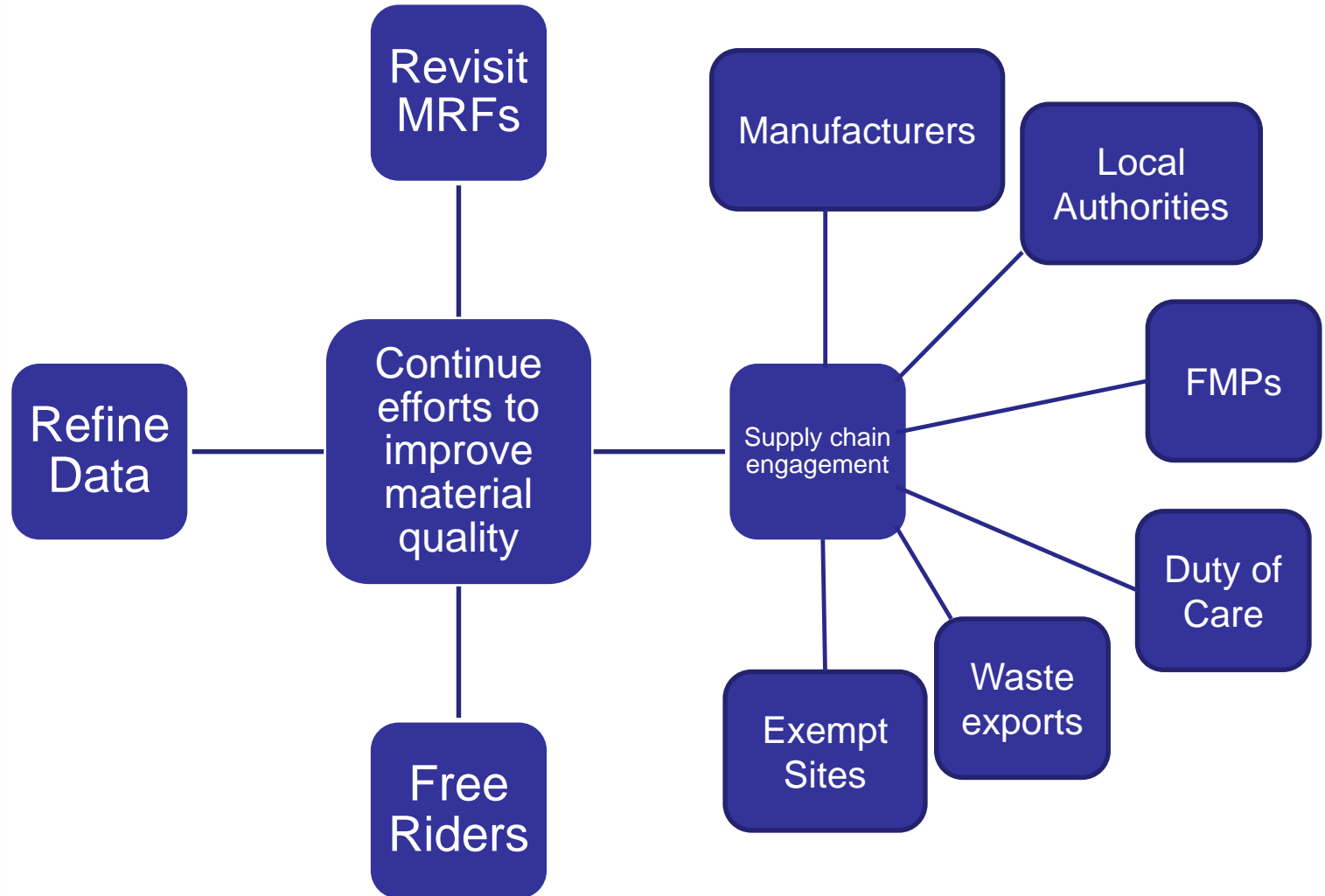
Supplier Details	Total Number of Samples	Total Weight of Sample(s) in Kg	Sum(Quantity (Tonnes))	Average % of Target Material	Average % of Non-Target Material	Average % of Non-Recyclable Material
Supplier 1	18	1373.8	1466.08	86.82%	5.03%	8.15%
Supplier 2	12	908	1165.72	84.63%	3.92%	11.45%
Supplier 3	9	666.6	758.78	84.96%	3.66%	11.38%
Supplier 10	3	219.6	1136.96	91.23%	3.64%	5.13%
Supplier 17	1	70	79.96	78.37%	4.45%	17.18%

# Publication Tool – Material Outcomes

Description of Waste	Material Type	Management Method	Geographic Region
Clear		Transferred Off Site	Scotland
Plastic - PET Bottles Mixed	Target	Recycled	Scotland
		Transferred Off Site	Scotland
DMR Residue	Non Recyclable	Physical treatment	Scotland
		Landfilled	England Scotland
	Not Applicable	Physical treatment	England
		Physical treatment	England Scotland
Glass - Mixed	Target	Physical treatment	England
			Scotland
Metal - Aluminium	Target	Recycled	England
			Scotland
Metal - Scrap	Target	Physical treatment	Scotland
		Recycled	England
			Scotland
Metal - Steel	Target	Physical treatment	Scotland
		Recycled	England



# What Next?



**Thank you**

**Questions?**

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