

**Subject:** FW: Complaint 135039 - Mr Peter Jones  
**Attachments:** image006.png

**From:** [REDACTED]@telegraph.co.uk]

**Sent:** 26 November 2013 18:34

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: Complaint 135039 - Mr Peter Jones

Dear [REDACTED]

Apologies again for the delay in responding. The reporter is still away for significant family reasons but I have managed to discuss the main issues with him.

Our proposal is to soften the start of the online version of the news article to take account of the fact that not all councils will necessarily opt for additional bins to meet their responsibilities under the EU directive.

We would therefore make the following changes:

1. **Headline:** this should be changed to "Home owners may have to separate more recycling under EU rules"
2. **Standfirst:** this should be changed to "Some households may be expected to separate recycled material into more boxes because of new European Union regulations"
3. **First par under the byline:** the word "homes" should be changed to "councils".

At the end of the piece we propose the following clarification:

*Clarification: This article quotes Defra saying that it is up to councils to decide how best to implement the EU Waste Framework Directive but when first posted the piece also suggested that all householders will be expected to separate recyclable material into more boxes. In fact, the directive allows for the continued collection of "co-mingled" recyclable waste as long as councils introduce measures that ensure that thereafter the waste is not mixed with other waste or other materials with different properties. It remains to be seen which councils will meet their obligations under the directive by the issue of additional recycling boxes. We are happy to make this clear.*

Our feeling is that the above clarification would be appropriate as it does not overload the reader with too much information - even though the subject is complicated enough by reference to the practical consequences of existing council practices.

I have in mind councils such as the London Borough of Camden. This collects (and may continue to collect after January 2015) "co-mingled" recyclables in one green bin. But there is another white bag for garden rubbish, a brown bin for food waste and a standard bin (or black bin liners) for non-recyclable household waste. That makes four receptacles! It would also be open to such a council to add an additional bin for glass only from 2015. It does not strike us as unreasonable to suspect that so-called "bin blight" might be with us for some time to come. But all this is for discussion on another occasion.

We do not believe any significant inaccuracy is disclosed by the feature article since it made clear that the separation duty will be upon councils, not households.

I hope that the above is helpful.

With best wishes.

[REDACTED]