



## Know your Plastics

*All plastics can be recycled but currently HCC only choose to recycle PET – 1 and HDPE - 2. This is probably because commercial outlets for the material are more readily available. But this leaves a huge problem of what to do with the rest. The Council's choice is to either incinerate or landfill. The Green Party is urging authorities to be more active in this area, stop wasting this resource, and encourage people to recycle more selectively by use of these symbols. To add them to their website would be a start.*

*Take a look at some of your plastic items and see if you can see these symbols displayed.*

**1 – PET - Polyethylene Terephthalate** is one of the most common plastics. It's usually what drinks bottles are made from.

**2 – HDPE - High-density polyethylene** is another of the common plastics that you will find. It's often used in toys, kitchenware and cable insulation.

**3 – V - Polyvinyl chloride** is what most modern window frames and doors are made from but is also used for wire insulation, flooring and footwear.

**4 – LDPE - Low Density Polyethylene** is commonly used in toys, carrier bags and general packaging.

**5 – PP - Polypropylene** is often used for products that are injection moulded and blow moulded and is widely recycled by thermoplastic-processing methods.

**6 – PS - Polystyrene** is not just that white, fluffy packaging material that gets everywhere, it's also the kind of material used for CD cases and cosmetic packs.

**7 - Other** kinds of plastic not defined by the previous groups.



PETE HDPE



V LDPE PP



PS OTHER