

Waste

OUR ASPIRATION

To reduce the amount of waste generated and to minimise disposal to landfill.

KEY STATS

Compared to 2018, total quantities of waste generated in 2019 are unchanged. Total quantities of waste are around **20 kgs per tonne of production**, but over 95% of this is then recycled. However for waste disposed to landfill, waste classified as hazardous (per tonne of production) has halved and non-hazardous waste has doubled. No fired brick waste is disposed of to landfill.

Year to year, fluctuations in the volume of waste generated and recycled by the sector are largely due to building and renovation projects (and other factors) that may take place within any particular year. Therefore no clear trends are apparent in the data collected.

THE CHALLENGE

Investment in plant upgrades and machinery refurbishment can lead to short-term spikes in the amount of waste produced in a year. For some materials such as emissions abatement waste, there are limited options other than disposal. It is important that the sector also considers further opportunities to reduce waste at source; for example, transit packaging on outgoing goods.

WHERE WE ARE NOW

The volume of waste per tonne of brick production is low and the total waste sent to landfill per tonne of production since 2014, has generally been on a downward trajectory. However, even though low volumes of waste are produced at manufacturing sites, companies are continuing to explore opportunities to reduce the amount of waste generated in the supply chain.

In 2019, the sector began to consider further activities to minimise product packaging (which is needed for the safe transportation of bricks to customers and to maintain product quality) and to consider how to work together collectively. This work is ongoing.

WHAT WE PLAN TO DO

- + Monitor compliance with the sector’s Waste Policy, published in 2017
- + Create a Waste Strategy against which progress will be measured and reported
- + Continue work looking at options to optimise product packaging

