

# Food Waste Action Week 2022



**BIRMINGHAM CITY**  
University



**What happens to Food waste produced by Birmingham City University?**



## How much food do BCU recycle?

In 2021 BCU recycled 32.13 tonnes of waste food

Food is segregated from general waste and collected on a weekly schedule

But where does it go?

And how is it recycled?



32.13 tonnes



## Reducing BCU's carbon footprint

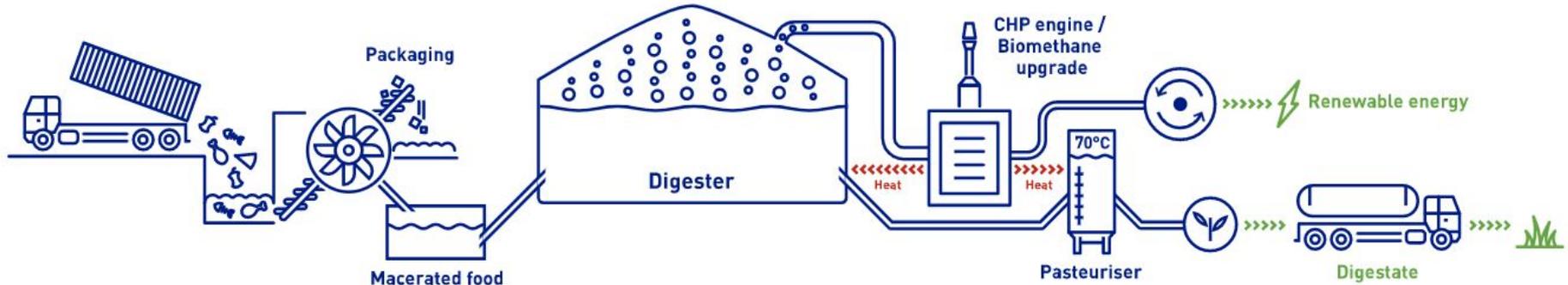


Once collected the food is taken to an **Anaerobic Digestion** facility located just 12 miles from the university.

Up to 50,000 tonnes of solid and liquid wastes are treated at the facility each year, generating 2.4MW of electricity and producing an excellent bio-fertiliser which is spread to land.



# The Journey



1 - Food waste is delivered into the AD site where it is separated from any packaging. The packaging is sent for energy recovery whilst the food continues to the next stage of the process.

2 - The food is macerated and liquid waste (fats and oils) are added to create a “soup” which is then pumped into a large digestion tank and heated to body temperature.

3 - The food waste begins to break down creating methane gas (similar to our own bodies), which is captured and put through a combined heat and power (CHP) engine.

4 - The digested food waste stays in the system for 80-90 days to release all its energy which leaves behind a nutritious fertiliser called Digestate which is spread back to land.



# Food Waste Action Week 2022



Please use the correct food waste internal bins.

We can accept secondary packaging such as napkins and packaging (containing food).

Any peelings, tea bags or any waste from food preparation can go into the food waste bins.

How can you help BCU recycle more food waste...



We cannot accept any food in glass jars, tins or cans.

If using bags then please ensure clear refuse bags are used.

