

## Frequently asked questions

You can find the answers to general questions about the waste collection test (the background, the decision made by the municipal assembly, what tests were chosen, etc.) here:

[www.gemeentemaastricht.nl/zero-waste](http://www.gemeentemaastricht.nl/zero-waste)

In addition, you will find answers below to specific questions about the poll and the waste collection test:

Why are only the five listed types of waste being included in the test? What about the rest?

The five listed types of waste have been selected because the most progress can be made with these types of waste in the short term (2016-2020), with regard to the objectives set by the municipal assembly, which includes halving the amount of residual waste by 2020.

Other types of waste, such as paper, glass, plastic packaging, metallic packaging, and drink cartons, will be addressed at a later stage (2020-2030). There will be no changes to the collection of these other types of waste during the test. For example, you can continue to dispose of your glass, old paper and plastic packaging, metallic packaging, and drink cartons at the neighbourhood recycling points.

Who are the members of the residents' panel?

In the second half of 2016, all residents of the three trial neighbourhoods (Boschpoort Hoogbouw, Boschpoort Laagbouw, and Jekerkwartier Noord) were notified in a variety of ways – including letters that were distributed door to door and information evenings in the neighbourhoods – of the waste collection tests and of the opportunity to contribute to the discussion on these tests via a residents' panel. Following this, residents registered to become members of the residents' panels.

Can we choose an option that is different from the options presented to us in the poll?

With regard to the testing period, you can only choose between option A and option B. In other words, you cannot propose another option or change parts of options A or B. The options that have been put forward are "smart" options that have been proposed by the residents' panel, i.e. people who live in your neighbourhood, following extensive consultation. You were also given the opportunity to take part in this residents' panel in order to come up with these options.

Am I obliged to take part in the waste collection test?

A test run will be carried out for the system that gets the most votes. This test run will last six months. During this time the standard method of collecting the five waste types which are part of the test will be fully or partly suspended and replaced by other collection methods. For further details, visit: [www.gemeentemaastricht.nl/zero-waste](http://www.gemeentemaastricht.nl/zero-waste)

The residents' panel and the municipality would like you to actively take part in the test. We want to gain experience of different collection methods and see if there is a smart way to achieve the goals set by the municipal assembly.

What happens after the waste collection test?

After the waste collection test, all results will be gathered and evaluated. Based on these results, a proposal for introducing new collection systems will be submitted to the municipal assembly during the course of 2018. The new collection systems will be introduced as from 2019.

With regard to waste collection during the testing period, the waste collection test will last six months. We will revert to the original after those six months, i.e. the current, collection system.

Until such time as the municipal assembly decides to introduce a new system for all of Maastricht as from 2019.

Will the waste collection test cost me more money?

During the waste collection test the residents of the neighbourhoods in which testing is being carried out will pay no more and no less than other residents of Maastricht.

And what will happen to costs if the entire city of Maastricht switches to a new collection method?

In 2018, when the municipal assembly decides on the new collection systems for all of Maastricht, the cost of this will also be mapped out. The effects of this on the waste tax paid by residents of Maastricht will also be determined. The municipal assembly has already indicated that the new proposals should achieve an ideal balance between environmental goals, costs, service for residents, and employment opportunities.

Is this the best approach to solving the waste problem?

The test will focus on a portion of household waste which you as residents deal with on a daily basis. Further efforts will be needed to solve the problem of waste and raw materials. For example, producers of packaging materials have a responsibility, as do companies that produce industrial waste. On that front, the necessary action is already being taken. That way, everyone will make a contribution.