

Dr Roz Savage
MBE MP
Member of
Parliament for South
Cotswolds

Rt Hon Emma Hardy,

Minister of State for Food Security and Rural Affairs,
Department for Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs,
Seacole Building,
2 Marsham Street,
London,
SW1P 4DF

By Email

25th August 2026

Dear Minister,

Fridge and Freezer Recycling Capacity and Environmental Impact

I am writing to raise concerns about the current shortage of capacity for the safe recycling and disposal of fridges and freezers, following concerns raised with me by Gloucestershire County Council. I understand that pressures within the current system are creating difficulties for local authorities in ensuring that these appliances can be collected, stored and processed appropriately. I am concerned that, if these pressures continue, there could be wider consequences for both our communities and the environment.

There is also an important climate consideration. Older fridges and freezers can contain powerful greenhouse gases which, if appliances are not handled and recycled correctly, can be released into the atmosphere and contribute to climate change. Ensuring that there is sufficient specialist capacity to process these appliances safely is therefore particularly important.

Gloucestershire County Council has also highlighted the potential for these difficulties to contribute to increased fly-tipping and illegal waste dumping. If residents find it increasingly difficult to dispose of unwanted appliances through the appropriate routes, there is a real risk that local authorities could face additional environmental problems and costs as a result.

I would be grateful to understand what assessment the Government has made of the current shortage in fridge and freezer recycling capacity, and what action is being taken to ensure that local authorities have access to sufficient processing capacity. I would also welcome clarification on whether the Government has considered the potential impact on greenhouse gas emissions, fly-tipping and illegal waste disposal if these pressures continue.

This is an issue where action now could help prevent a waste-management problem becoming a much wider environmental one, and I would be grateful for your consideration of the concerns raised.

Constituency Office: **Watermoor Point, Watermoor Road, Cirencester, GL7 1LF**
Telephone: **01285 300555** Email: **roz.savage.mp@parliament.uk**
Website: **www.rozsavage.uk**



I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Roz Savage".

Dr Roz Savage MBE
Member of Parliament for South Cotswolds