



Material change for
a better environment

Waste recording and reporting

The Halving Waste to Landfill Commitment

Specialist and SME contractors commit to:

- estimating waste
- finding ways to reduce waste
- avoiding waste on site
- recycling more waste
- **recording and reporting waste**



Why record and report construction waste?

Recording and reporting the waste you produce will benefit both your clients and your own business.

- **Satisfy client requirements** – clients and contractors are demanding information from subcontractors to help them meet waste reporting requirements and assess performance.
- **Legal compliance** – it is a legal requirement to record waste arisings in a Site Waste Management Plan on all projects in England over £300k.
- **Improve performance** – comparing actual waste arisings to estimates and industry averages will help identify areas where you can reduce waste, save money and become more competitive.

What needs to be reported?

Clients will often need you to provide separate figures for:

- **Demolition waste** – unwanted material arising from demolition or strip out activities.
- **Excavation waste** – unwanted material (typically soil and stones) resulting from excavation activities – i.e. preparation & levelling, excavation of foundations, basements, tunnels and service trenches.
- **Construction waste** – any other unwanted material produced at a construction site.

Clients may also require you to report:

- total tonnes (or m³) of waste produced
- total tonnes (or m³) of waste leaving site
- total tonnes (or m³) of materials reused on or offsite

How is waste classified?*

Waste can fall into one of three classifications:

- Hazardous – waste that may be harmful to human health or the environment (e.g. solvents, oils, asbestos, fluorescent lights, batteries.)
- Non Hazardous (Non Inert) – waste that is reactive but does not have hazardous properties (e.g. wood, paper and cardboard)
- Non Hazardous (Inert) – waste that is non-reactive and does not have hazardous properties (e.g. uncontaminated glass, bricks and concrete).

* for full current definitions refer to netregs.gov.uk.

Where can I find the right information?

Waste Transfer Notes are required for every movement of non-hazardous waste. Typically produced by the waste management contractor, they will include the information you need to record and report waste including:

- waste quantity
- date of transfer
- waste description
- List of Wastes (LoW) code

For hazardous waste, information can be obtained from **Hazardous Waste Consignment Notes** in England and Wales, or **Special Waste Consignment Notes** in Scotland.

What unit of measurement should be used?

Waste should be recorded and reported in tonnes wherever possible. Where only volumes are known, an agreed set of conversion factors is available. These can be used to convert from m³ to tonnes, and take account of both material density and the empty void (the empty space in a skip).

Remember to consider how full a skip is when converting from volume to tonnes.

Example format

The following is an example reporting table. Clients may have specific requirements however, you should expect to be able to provide the following information:

Activity	Waste classification	Material	Quantity (t)	Management route	Diverted from landfill (%)	Movement date
Demolition, excavation or construction	Hazardous, non-haz, non-haz inert	Description of material	Use factors (above) to calculate from m³	Landfill, recycling, offsite reuse, etc.	Use default rates (above) if not known	
Demolition	Non-hazardous inert	Mixed brick and concrete	350 tonnes	Recycling	95% (verified)	04/10/2010
Excavation	Non-hazardous inert	Soil and stones	160 m³ (200 tonnes)	Reuse offsite	100%	20/10/2010
Construction	Non-hazardous non inert	Timber	1.2 tonnes	Recycling	80% (default)	01/11/2010
Construction	Non-hazardous non inert	Mixed C&D waste	92 tonnes	Recycling	50 % (default)	05/11/2010

There are generic conversion factors for typical demolition, excavation and construction waste.

Demolition (mixed)	0.87t/m³
Excavation	1.25t/m³
Construction (mixed)	0.87t/m³
Soil and stones	1.25t/m³
Inert – concrete, bricks, tiles	1.24t/m³
Metals	0.42t/m³
Wood	0.34t/m³
Gypsum	0.33t/m³
Glass	0.61t/m³
Packaging	0.21t/m³

For more information visit www.wrap.org.uk/reportingportal

Common waste container sizes

The following are common waste container sizes shown in yd³ and m³. 1yd³ = 0.76 m³.

Container		
205 litre drum	45 gallons	0.2 m³
Hippo bag	-	1.0 m³
Mini-skip	4 yd³	3.0 m³
Skip / REL	14 yd³	10.7 m³
RORO	20 yd³	15.3 m³

Waste destinations and diversion rates

Waste materials may be sent to a number of off-site destinations. Where the actual diversion from landfill (recovery) rate for the destination is not known or cannot be verified, the following defaults should be used:

Off-site recycling (segregated waste)	80%
Off-site recycling (mixed waste)	50%
Landfill (inert materials for beneficial reuse)	50%
Landfill (other than above)	0%
Site operating under a permit or exemption	100%
EA Cluster project (group of contaminated land sites sharing a treatment facility)	80%

Need help?

Helpline freephone 0808 100 2040
www.wrap.org.uk/construction

