



Legislation affecting waste

This information sheet describes the main areas of European and national legislation impacting on waste management. It does not address other international and European initiatives which either directly impact on waste or set the context within which waste policies are developed, such as:

- global commitments (for example the [Kyoto Protocol on Climate Change](#))
- European commitments (for example the [Sixth Environment Action Programme for the European Community](#))

The current national controls on waste originate from the Control of Pollution Act 1974 and were greatly tightened with the introduction of the Environmental Protection Act 1990. Legislation originally focused on the disposal of waste, but since the introduction of the [EC Framework Directive on waste](#) (see below) control has extended to include the storage, treatment, recycling and transport of waste.

Most UK legislation impacting on waste management is now implemented as a result of European Directives. The European Union's waste legislation comprises three main elements:

- **horizontal legislation**, establishing the overall framework for the management of wastes, including definitions and principles
- **legislation on treatment operations**, such as landfill or incineration, which may set technical standards for the operation of waste facilities
- **legislation on specific waste streams**, such as waste oil or batteries, which may include for example measures to increase recycling or to reduce hazardousness

There are a significant number of Directives affecting waste management, including some which may not immediately appear relevant such as the [Directive on Groundwater](#) or the [Habitats Directive](#). This Information sheet describes the main provisions of some of the key Directives – it does not attempt to cover all Directives relevant to waste management.

Information relating to the following Directives is currently included in this sheet:

Directive	Publication year	Directive number
<u>Horizontal</u>		
1. Directive on Waste (Waste Framework Directive)	1975	75/442/EEC
2. Directive on Hazardous Waste	1991	91/689/EEC
<u>Treatment</u>		
3. Directive on Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control	1996	96/61/EC
4. Directive on the Landfill of Waste	1999	1999/31/EC
5. Directive on the Incineration of Waste	2000	2000/76EC

Waste stream

6. Directive on Batteries and Accumulators	1991	91/157/EEC
7. Directive on Packaging and Packaging Waste	1994	94/62/EC
8. Directive on End of Life Vehicles (ELV)	2000	2000/53/EC
9. Directive on Waste Electrical & Electronic Equipment (WEEE)	2002	2002/96/EC

Brief details are provided of the objectives or requirements of these Directives. Some details are also provided of national legislation or strategies which transpose the Directive requirements into UK law.

It is important to note that new legislation, and amendments to existing legislation, are introduced relatively frequently and the information provided here may not be up to date. It certainly should not be relied upon as an accurate statement of law - rather it provides an indication of the range and nature of the issues covered.

We hope to update this information sheet in the future with information on other Directives, both existing and forthcoming.

Horizontal Legislation

1. [Directive on Waste \(75/442/EEC, as amended\)](#)

Known as the Waste Framework Directive, the Directive establishes a framework for the management of waste across the European Community. It also defines certain terms, such as '**waste**', '**recovery**' and '**disposal**', to ensure that a uniform approach is taken across the EU. It requires Member States to:

- give priority to waste prevention and encourage reuse and recovery of waste
- ensure that waste is recovered or disposed of without endangering human health and without using processes which could harm the environment
- prohibit the uncontrolled disposal of waste, ensure that waste management activities are permitted (unless specifically exempt)
- establish an integrated and adequate network of disposal installations
- prepare waste management plans
- ensure that the cost of disposal is borne by the waste holder in accordance with the polluter pays principle
- ensure that waste carriers are registered

Related UK Legislation

The Waste Framework Directive has been implemented in the UK through the following national legislation:

- [The Environmental Protection Act 1990](#)
- [The Control of Pollution \(Amendment\) Act 1989](#)
- [The Waste Management Licensing Regulations 1994 \(as amended\)](#)
- [The Controlled Waste \(Registration of Carriers and Seizure of Vehicles\) Regulations 1991](#)

The legislation requires that anyone who treats, keeps, deposits or disposes of waste needs a waste management licence (unless exempt or excluded), which is issued by the Environment Agency. Waste management licences include conditions relating to operations at the site and the Environment Agency monitors activities to ensure compliance with the licence conditions. A key objective of the licensing system is to ensure that waste is recovered or disposed of without endangering human health and without using processes or methods which harm the environment.

It is also an offence to transport controlled waste unless registered with the Environment Agency. Registered carriers are authorised persons for the purposes of the **Duty of Care** (see below). Similarly, the holder of a waste management licence is also an authorised person.

1.1. Duty of Care

The "Duty of Care" was introduced under the Environmental Protection Act. Anyone who imports, produces, carries, keeps, treats or disposes of waste is subject to a duty of care whereby they must take all reasonable and applicable measures:

- to prevent another person illegally treating, keeping, depositing or otherwise disposing of the waste
- to prevent the escape of waste

- to ensure that transfer of the waste only occurs to an “authorised person” and that the transfer is accompanied by a written description of the waste

One of the aims of the Duty of Care is to prevent the practice of waste producers simply handing their waste over to anyone prepared to take it away, without giving consideration to where it is going and whether it will be dealt with properly.

The Duty of Care was amended in February 2003 to allow Waste Collection Authorities, in addition to the Environment Agency, to check whether businesses are completing and retaining their Duty of Care transfer notes correctly. The act was further amended in 2005 to include householders within its remit, meaning that it is the householders responsibility to ensure that any waste passed on goes to a registered carrier.

1.2. National Waste Strategies

In addition to legislation, the planning requirements of the waste framework and other directives have led to the production of national waste strategies which are now in place for [England](#), [Scotland](#), [Northern Ireland](#) and [Wales](#). The strategies are plans which outline how the UK intends to manage the increasing amount of rubbish produced each year. Waste management strategies cover aspects such as the government’s vision, time-related targets, the provision of waste data, the role of key organisations, issues relating to specific waste streams (such as hazardous waste), and key principles applicable to developing a system for sustainable waste management, such as the “waste hierarchy”. The national strategies are also plans for dealing with waste diverted from landfill as required by the Landfill Directive and therefore include recycling, composting and recovery targets for different types of waste.

The English strategy includes a target to reduce the landfilling of commercial and industrial waste to 85% of 1998 levels by 2005. It is estimated that 42 million tonnes of industrial and commercial waste was landfilled in 1998/99. The Government expects this figure to be reduced to 36 million tonnes by 2005. In order to reduce the amount of biodegradable waste being sent to landfill the strategy also specifies recycling and composting rate targets for local authorities. These rates were confirmed as statutory targets in March 2001 with the release of central government’s publication *Guidance on Municipal Waste Management Strategies* (Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions, March 2001). Targets are set for 2003 and 2005 using 1998/99 as a baseline. The targets aim to raise the national recycling rate to 17% by 2003/04, after which each authority has individual targets which will bring the rate up to 25% by 2005/06.

At the end of 2001, the Prime Minister’s Strategy Unit (SU) was tasked with carrying out a review of the English Waste Strategy 2000. The aim of the review was to analyse the scale of the challenge posed by the growing quantities of municipal waste and to devise cost-effective and practical measures for addressing the challenge, with particular consideration to the implications of Article 5 of the landfill directive (which sets the targets for the reduction of biodegradable waste to landfill).

The SU report entitled [Waste Not, Want Not](#), published in November 2002, is not a statement of government policy, but a contribution to the debate. It makes a number of recommendations, the majority of which have been accepted by the Government. The Government published a response to the Strategy Unit’s report in May 2003 and states that it has already acted in the following key areas:

- landfill tax will be increased by £3 per tonne in 2005/06 and by at least £3 per tonne in the years thereafter, on the way to a medium to long term rate of £35 per tonne
- the Landfill Tax Credit Scheme has been reformed and a proportion of the funding will be re-directed to a new Sustainable Waste Management Programme in England, to be managed by Defra
- the new Sustainable Waste Management Programme will concentrate on improving waste minimisation, recycling and composting, and researching new technologies for dealing with those wastes which are not readily reduced, reused or recycled. A Local Authority Delivery Taskforce will assist local authorities to meet their recycling and composting targets - including increasing doorstep collections of recyclable materials and home composting

In response to the SU report, the government also set up the Waste Implementation Programme (WIP), managed by Defra. The WIP comprises eight work streams:

1. Local authority funding
2. Local authority support
3. Data
4. Research
5. New technologies
6. Waste minimisation
7. Recycling (focus on organics)

8. Waste awareness

The aim of the programme is to divert increasing volumes of biodegradable municipal waste away from landfill and move the treatment of waste up the waste hierarchy (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) to improve the sustainability of waste management.

2. [Directive on Hazardous Waste \(91/689/EEC, as amended\)](#)

It is particularly important to manage hazardous wastes properly due to the risks they may pose to the environment and human health. The Directive on Hazardous waste is another example of framework legislation and complements the Waste Framework Directive by providing a framework for the control of hazardous waste.

It lists a number of properties of waste which render it hazardous (such as explosive, flammable, carcinogenic, or corrosive). Although the Directive does not substantially augment the requirements of the waste framework directive as regards permitting and registration of waste management facilities, it contains additional requirements concerning the mixing of hazardous waste, record keeping and international shipments of waste.

The Directive requires:

- a record of every site where tipping of hazardous waste takes place
- the prevention of the mixing of non-hazardous and hazardous waste
- the separation of hazardous waste from other waste where technically and economically feasible
- hazardous waste to be transported, packaged and labelled in accordance with international and European Union standards
- waste to be transferred with an identification form
- producers and disposal sites to be inspected
- permitted sites to keep records for three years

It is worth noting that other Directives also impact on the management of hazardous waste, for example the [Waste Framework Directive](#), the [Landfill Directive](#) and the Oils Directive.

Hazardous wastes are listed in the amended European Waste Catalogue (EWC), established by Commission Decision 2000/532/EC which was brought into effect in the UK in 2002. Changes to the EWC have brought many wastes not previously categorised as hazardous within the scope of the wider definitions, including computer monitors, fluorescent tubes, fridges and end of life vehicles that have not been drained of liquid or other hazardous components.

2.1. Hazardous Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2005 and the List of Wastes (England) Regulations 2005 (replacing the Special Waste Regulations 1996, as amended)

The Hazardous Waste regulations and List of Wastes regulations (both of which include England and Wales versions) came into force on the 16 July 2005. The Regulations set out procedures to be followed when disposing of, carrying and receiving hazardous waste. They require that waste movements are tracked from cradle to grave using "consignment notes" and specifies which materials are to be considered hazardous

The regulations also require for any producer of hazardous waste (with some exceptions) to register their premises with the Environment Agency, which they can do online here: <http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk>.

These regulations do not apply to household waste, with the exception of asbestos removed from domestic properties.

Treatment

3. **Directive Concerning Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (IPPC) (96/61/EC)**

The IPPC Directive introduces a new integrated permitting regime for major industrial and waste sites covering air, water and land pollution. It targets industrial sectors considered to have a high potential to cause pollution and aims to provide a high level of protection for the environment as a whole and extends traditional approaches to environmental protection by including energy use, waste minimisation, vibration and noise.

Sectors of industry regulated by IPPC include energy, metal production and processing, minerals, chemicals production and waste management.

The Directive applies to the following waste facilities:

- landfills receiving more than 10 tonnes per day of waste with a total capacity exceeding 25,000 tonnes (excluding inert waste)
- municipal waste incinerators with a capacity more than 3 tonnes per hour
- non-hazardous waste treatment facilities with a capacity exceeding 50 tonnes per day
- hazardous waste recovery or disposal facilities with a capacity exceeding 10 tonnes per day

For other installations the Directive includes the following requirements relating to waste:

- lays down measures to prevent or reduce emissions to air, water and land, including measures concerning waste
- requires the avoidance of the production of waste and where waste is produced, it must be recovered or, where that is technically or economically impossible, it must be disposed of avoiding or reducing any impact on the environment
- specifies that permit applications must identify measures for the prevention and recovery of waste generated by the installation

3.1. Pollution Prevention and Control Act 1999 and Pollution Prevention and Control (England and Wales) Regulations 2000 as amended

The IPPC Directive is transposed into UK law through the [Pollution Prevention and Control Act 1999](#), and the [Pollution Prevention and Control \(England and Wales\) Regulations 2000](#) as amended.

To gain a permit, operators will have to show that they have systematically developed plans to apply the "Best Available Techniques" (BAT) and meet certain other requirements, taking account of relevant local factors. For example, there is specific guidance on BAT for waste minimisation which includes:

- analysing the use of raw materials and assessing the opportunities for reduction
- assessing opportunities for improved process efficiency and waste reduction

All IPPC installations are required to apply for a permit to operate and there is a phased timetable, beginning in 2001 and ending in 2007, depending on the industry sector.

4. Directive on the Landfill of Waste (1999/31/EC)

The Landfill Directive contains far-reaching legislation that impacts both on the management of waste and on specific waste streams. The [Landfill Directive](#) aims to improve standards of landfilling across Europe, by setting specific requirements for the design, operation and aftercare of landfills, and for the types of waste that can be accepted at landfill sites.

The Directive:

- requires a substantial reduction in the amount of biodegradable municipal waste (BMW) being landfilled
 - by 2010 to reduce BMW landfilled to 75% (by weight) of that produced in 1995
 - by 2013 to reduce BMW landfilled to 50% (by weight) of that produced in 1995
 - by 2020 to reduce BMW landfilled to 35% (by weight) of that produced in 1995
- requires a plan for the reduction of all biodegradable wastes in landfill to be produced by 2003
- bans the landfilling of:
 - waste which is corrosive, oxidising, highly flammable, flammable or explosive
 - liquid hazardous waste, infectious hospital and other clinical wastes
 - whole used tyres (from 2003)
 - shredded tyres (from 2006)

The Directive classifies landfills as hazardous, non hazardous, or inert waste and prevents the co-disposal of hazardous and non-hazardous waste after July 2004. It also requires that waste must be pre-treated before being landfilled and that landfill gas must be collected, treated and used to produce energy. This means that if the gas cannot be used it must be flared.

The Directive applies to all sites that were accepting waste on 16th July 2001. Larger landfill sites taking wastes other than inert wastes are also subject to the Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control Directive.

4.1. Landfill (England and Wales) Regulations 2002

The requirements of the Landfill Directive are implemented through the [Landfill \(England and Wales\) Regulations 2002](#). The Landfill Regulations also implement the European Waste Catalogue, which categorises waste into 20 main groups and approximately 900 codes. These codes will have to be used to describe waste on transfer notes produced in accordance with the Duty of Care. The implementation of the Landfill Directive's requirements for diversion of BMW required primary legislation and have been implemented through the Waste and Emissions Trading (WET) Act 2003.

5. Directive on Waste Incineration (2000/76/EC)

The Waste Incineration Directive aims to prevent, or limit as far as practicable, negative effects on the environment from incineration, in particular pollution of air, soil, surface water and groundwater, and the resulting risks to human health.

The Directive:

- sets emission limits requiring the use of stringent operational conditions and technical requirements
- sets requirements concerning normal and abnormal operating conditions, water discharges from cleaning exhaust gases, ash recycling, plant control and monitoring, public access to information

All new plant must meet the requirements from 28th December 2002 and existing plant from 28th December 2005. The Directive is being implemented through the Pollution Prevention and Control regime.

The Directive will eventually cover some 2,600 incinerators, around 70% of which are waste oil burners in vehicle service garages. It is worth noting that the legislation is not concerned with the place that incineration has in waste management strategies, but with ensuring that incinerators are regulated to a high standard.

Waste stream

6. Directive on Batteries and Accumulators (91/157/EEC, as amended)

The Directive concerns batteries and accumulators containing certain dangerous substances. From January 1993, the original Directive:

- prohibits the placing on the market of manganese alkaline batteries designed for prolonged use in extreme conditions and containing more than 0.05% by weight of mercury
- prohibits the placing on the market of any other alkaline battery with a mercury content of more than 0.025% by weight
- requires appropriate steps to be taken to ensure that spent batteries and accumulators are collected separately with a view to their recovery or disposal
- requires batteries to be marked to indicate separate collection, recycling and heavy metal content
- requires Member States to draw up programmes to reduce the heavy metal content of batteries and accumulators

Later amendments tightened up the standards from January 2000.

Batteries of the button type or those composed of elements of the button type are excluded from the scope of the Directive.

The Commission is currently drafting proposals to replace the 1991 Batteries Directive - consultation with stakeholders commenced in July 2003. Following an initial agreement in 2004, and two readings during 2005, the current targets are now: collection rates of 25% within 6 years, and 45% within ten years, of sales volume. The recycling target is set at 55%. Batteries containing nickel cadmium will be phased out; however this does not include those used in power tools, medical equipment and emergency and alarm systems. The battery producers will also be responsible for funding battery information campaigns and the collection and recycling of batteries. The amendments can be viewed [here](#).

7. Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive (94/62/EC)

The [Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive](#) aims to harmonise measures concerning the management of packaging and packaging waste and in particular, obligates the UK to meet targets for the recovery and recycling of packaging waste. The Directive covers all packaging placed on the Community market. Targets are set as a percentage of packaging flowing into the waste stream.

The Directive:

- sets targets for recovery and recycling

- requires the encouragement of the use of recycled packaging materials in the manufacturing of packaging and other products
- requires packaging to comply with 'essential requirements' which include the minimisation of packaging volume and weight, and the design of packaging to permit its reuse or recovery
- requires the implementation of measures to prevent packaging waste in addition to preventative measures under the 'essential requirements', which may include measures to encourage the re-use of packaging

Targets were originally introduced by the UK Government in 1997, to be met by 2001. More recent targets have been agreed by the European Union, to be met by the 31st December 2008. The overall recovery target is set at 60%, with a recycling target of between 55% and 80%. Material specific targets for each packaging material have also been set: 60% for glass, 60% for paper, 50% for metals, 22.5% for plastics and 15% for wood.

7.1. The Producer Responsibility Obligations (Packaging Waste) Regulations 1997, as amended and The Packaging (Essential Requirements) Regulations 1998

The Directive is transposed into UK law in the [Producer Responsibility Obligations \(Packaging Waste\) Regulations 1997](#) (as amended) and the Packaging (Essential Requirements) Regulations 1998.

The Producer Responsibility Regulations obligate business with an annual turnover over £2m handling more than 50 tonnes of packaging per year to:

- register with the Environment Agency or a compliance scheme
- recover specified tonnages of packaging according to the activity they perform (e.g. whether they are retailers, packers and fillers, etc)
- certify that their obligations have been met
- if retailers, to inform consumers of how they are increasing recovery and recycling

The Essential Requirements Regulations specify requirements for packaging placed on the market which include:

- minimisation of packaging volume and weight, consistent with the level necessary for safety, hygiene and acceptance by the consumer
- design and use of packaging in a manner that permits its reuse and recovery
- limits on the concentration of lead, cadmium, mercury and hexavalent chromium in packaging

The latest recycling and recovery targets as set in November 2005 are (%):

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Paper	66.5	67	67.5	68	68.5
Glass	65	69.5	73.5	74	74.5
Aluminium	29	31	32.5	33	35.5
Steel	56	57.5	58.5	59	59.5
Plastic	23	24	24.5	25	25.5
Wood	19.5	20	20.5	21	21.5
Overall recovery	66	67	68	69	70
Minimum amount of recovery to be achieved through recycling	92%	92%	92%	92%	92%

8. End of Life Vehicles (ELV) Directive (2000/53/EC)

The purpose of the [End of Life Vehicles \(ELV\) Directive](#) is to prevent waste from end of life vehicles and promote the collection, reuse and recycling of their components. It sets recycling targets and will require producers, dismantlers and shredders to establish collection systems for ELVs.

The Directive:

- aims to improve the environmental performance of all of the economic operators involved in the lifecycle of vehicles and especially the operators directly involved in the treatment of ELVs
- restricts the use of certain heavy metals including mercury, hexavalent chromium, cadmium and lead, in vehicles placed on the market after 1st July 2003

- requires that ELVs can only be scrapped ('treated') by authorised treatment facilities, which must meet tightened environmental standards
- introduces a "certificate of destruction", which must be issued to the final owner when the vehicle is scrapped
- requires producers to design vehicles to facilitate dismantling, reuse, recovery and recycling
- requires producers to make available dismantling information in respect of new vehicles and to mark certain vehicle components to aid recycling
- requires that, for vehicles put on the market after 1st July 2003 which have a negative value when scrapped, owners are able to have their complete ELVs accepted free of charge and producers must bear all or a significant part of these costs
- requires that owners are able to have their complete ELVs accepted free of charge after 1st July 2007, irrespective of the date they were first put on the market, if such vehicles have a negative value when scrapped;
- sets targets for economic operators – by 1st January 2006 reuse and recovery to increase to a minimum of 85% (by wt) and re-use and recycling to 80% (by wt), by 1st January 2015, reuse and recovery to increase to 95% and reuse and recycling to 85%
- further targets will be set for the years beyond 2015

8.1. End of Life Vehicle (ELV) Regulations 2003

The End of Life Vehicle (ELV) Regulations 2003 came into effect on 3rd November 2003. The Regulations introduce the licensing of authorised ELV treatment sites and outline how authorised handlers should dismantle, recycle and dispose of vehicle materials. There are still two articles of the directive yet to be transposed; 5 and 7 which relate to producer responsibility. These articles include:

- Owners must be able to have their complete ELVs accepted by collection systems free of charge, even when they have a negative value, from 1 January 2007 at the latest
- Producers (vehicle manufacturers or professional importers) must pay 'all or a significant part' of the costs of take back and treatment for complete ELVs
- Rising targets for re-use, recycling and recovery must be achieved by economic operators by January 2006 and 2015

9. Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive (2002/96/EC)

The [Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment \(WEEE\) Directive](#) was published on 13th February 2003 and will have significant implications for importers, producers and retailers of electrical and electronic equipment. It aims to reduce the amount of electrical waste, increase recovery and recycling, and improve the environmental performance of all operators involved in the lifecycle of electrical and electronic equipment. Examples of equipment that will be covered by the Directive are household appliances, IT and telecommunications equipment, audiovisual equipment (TV, video, hi-fi), lighting, electrical and electronic tools, toys, leisure and sports equipment.

The Directive requires:

- member states to encourage the design and production of EEE which take into account and facilitate dismantling and recovery, in particular the reuse and recycling of waste equipment
- separate collection systems to be set up
- final holders to be able to return waste free of charge
- producers to meet most of the costs of collecting, treating, recycling and disposing of their products once they become consumer waste – applies to products placed on the market after August 2005
- in the case of 'historical' WEEE (arising from products placed on the market before August 2005) producers to share costs proportionate to market share
- distributors of electronic goods (mostly retailers) to take back old equipment free of charge when supplying new (equivalent) products to customers – this might be in-store or by third parties
- a collection target on average of 4 kg per inhabitant per year to be achieved by 31st December 2006
- recovery and recycling targets to be met according to product category – targets apply to the separately collected fraction only, targets range from 50% - 80%

Householders must be encouraged to separate WEEE but there is no mandatory requirement. The Directive does not require Local Authorities to take on any additional burdens such as separation of household WEEE or kerbside collection provision for WEEE.

The deadline for transposition into UK law is 13th August 2004, however, the producer responsibility aspects will not be introduced until July 2006.

10. Directive on the Restriction of the Use of Certain Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment (2002/95/EC)

Parallel to the WEEE Directive, the Directive on the Restriction of Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment was also published on 13th February 2003. The Directive aims to restrict the use of hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment in order to contribute to the environmentally sound recovery and disposal of such wastes.

The Directive requires producers to ensure that products they place on the European market from 1st July 2006 do not contain hazardous substances such as lead, mercury, cadmium, hexavalent chromium and certain brominated flame retardants (polybrominated biphenyls (PBB) and polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDE)) even if manufactured, imported or already warehoused before that date.

There are exceptions for a small number of processes where restricted substances can continue to be used. These cover cases where elimination or substitution of the substances is technically or scientifically impracticable or would have other undesirable impacts. Maximum concentrations are also being agreed at European level (which will allow minimum levels to exist in products).

Useful contacts

The European Union

Website: <http://www.europa-eu.int>

The European Commission, originator of much environmental legislation. Website provides information on all areas of work of the EU.

The European Commission (Representation in the UK)

8 Storey's Gate, London SW1P 3AT

Tel: 020 7973 1992 Fax: 020 7973 1900/1910

Website: <http://www.cec.org.uk/>

Voice of the Commission in the UK, providing information on EU policies and programmes.

European Parliament United Kingdom Office

2 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9AA

Tel: 020 7227 4300 Fax: 020 7227 4302

E-mail: eplondon@europarl.eu.int

Website: <http://www.europarl.org.uk/>

Provides information about the roles and activities of the Parliament and the European Union more generally.

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)

Waste Policy Division, Zone 7/D11, Ashdown House, 123 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6DE

Tel: 020 7890 3000 Publications. Tel: 0870 1226 236

Website: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/>

Responsible for government policy and legislation on all waste management matters including recycling.

Department of Trade and Industry

Environment Directorate, Bay 25 Red Zone, 151 Buckingham Palace Road,

London SW1W 9SS

Tel: 020 7215 1036

Website: <http://www.dti.gov.uk/>

Deals with EC directives with a recycling element (both existing and proposed), including the batteries, packaging and other "priority" waste streams such as electrical and electronic equipment, end-of-life vehicles and used tyres.

Her Majesty's Stationary Office

Enquiries, HMSO, St.Clements House, 2-16 Colegate, Norwich, NR3 1BQ

Website: <http://www.ukstate.com/portal.asp>

Publishes official documents, regulations and guidance on legislation. Website includes full texts of Public General Acts.

Environment Agency for England and Wales

Rio House, Waterside Drive, Aztec West, Almondsbury, Bristol BS12 4UD

Tel: 01454 624 411

Website: <http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/>

Non-departmental public body aiming to protect and improve the environment. Contact for guidance and further information on waste management licensing and the UK packaging regulations.

Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA)

Erskine Court, Castle Business Park, Stirling FK9 4TR

Tel: 01786 457700 Fax: 01786 446 885

Email: info@sepa.org.uk

Website: <http://www.sepa.org.uk/>

Scotland's equivalent to the Environment Agency.

Northern Ireland Environment and Heritage Service

Calvert House, 23 Castle Place, Belfast BT1 1FY Tel: 01232 546 560

Email: ehs@nics.gov.uk

Website: <http://www.ehsni.gov.uk/default.asp>

Northern Ireland's equivalent to the Environment Agency.

Foundation for International Environmental Law & Development (FIELD)

SOAS, University of London, 46-47 Russell Square, London WC1B 4JP

Tel: 020 7637 7950 Fax: 020 7637 7951

Website: <http://www.field.org.uk/>

Teaching, research and legal assistance on international environmental law and sustainable development.

EUR-Lex (European Union Law homepage)

Website: <http://www.asser.nl/EEL/index.htm>

Full texts of treaties and Community legislation in force, in addition to the Official Journal of the European Communities.

European Environmental Law Homepage

Website: <http://www.asser.nl/EEL/index.htm>

Full text cases, legislation and other materials related to European Environmental Law. Edited by [T.M.C.Asser Institute](http://www.asser.nl) in The Netherlands, FIELD, and the [METRO Institute \(Maastricht University\)](http://www.metroinstitute.nl).

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<http://www.wasteonline.org.uk>

<http://www.wastewatch.org.uk>

Due to changes in funding, we are no longer able to offer a public information service. Should you have further questions on waste and recycling, please contact one of these groups:

Householders and students should call the [Recycle Now](http://www.recycle-now.org.uk) helpline on 0845 331 31 31 for further waste based information, and where to find your local recycling facilities.

Small to medium businesses should visit the [Envirowise](http://www.envirowise.com) website, or call 0800 585 794, for further information on waste issues. Larger businesses should visit www.businesslink.gov.uk.

For industry based questions, please use the WRAP technical helpline on 0808 100 2040 for advice on markets and recycling company development, or visit www.letsrecycle.com for listings of recyclers and reprocessors.

If you find a mistake on this page, or have a technical question regarding the wasteonline website, please email info@wastewatch.org.uk.

Thank you, and apologies for any inconvenience.