

Clinical Waste Collection Policy - Derbyshire Waste Collection Authority

Waste Disposal Procedure:

Nine different Waste Collection Authorities (WCAs) operate in Derbyshire; most of these collect infectious and offensive waste from patient's homes. WCAs will also collect sharps but only from people who cannot leave their home.

Collections will normally occur weekly, although for small quantities of offensive waste this may be collected fortnightly with general household waste. Sharps boxes will only be collected from people who cannot leave their home, and a collection will only occur when five boxes are full and the WCA is notified.

All WCAs require a Waste Assessment Form to be completed by the Community Healthcare Worker, Practice Nurse or GP treating the individual, identifying the waste category and the quantity of waste being produced. In addition this will provide notification of whether the individual is able to leave the house, for the purpose of assessing sharp collections.

The Waste Assessment Form attached to this document must be completed and emailed to the appropriate WCA a week before collections are required to commence. Collections will not be arranged without receipt of the completed and approved referral form.

Please note the WCA requests that the referrer notify the WCA if circumstances change, this includes if the individual goes into hospital temporarily or no longer requires the collection service.

Whilst legislation permits a WCA to make a charge for the collection of clinical waste from a domestic property, no WCA in Derbyshire currently charges for this service. Should this situation change, consultation with relevant bodies would occur.

Waste Collecting Authorities Obligations

Each of the nine Derbyshire WCAs has the following obligations:

- To accept household waste collection requests made by the Healthcare Professional
- To provide separate waste collections where necessary
- To provide, a sharps collection service if required for people who cannot leave their home and who self-medicate.

Colour Coding for bags and sharps containers

All WCAs have adopted the National Colour Coding Scheme for the disposal of clinical or offensive waste, as stipulated in the Safe Management of Healthcare Waste. The list below details the types of waste and containers collected by WCAs in Derbyshire:

- **Yellow bag** infectious waste for incineration only.
- **Yellow/black stripe 'tiger bag'** non-infectious offensive/hygiene waste such as incontinence pads and nappies. Not used by all WCAs.
- **Black** bags should be used for all general domestic waste (please note black bags can also be used for offensive/hygiene waste)
- **Yellow sharps container** infectious sharps waste, for incineration only such as needles, hypodermics.

Clinical Soft Infectious Waste; Yellow bag (incineration only)

The Waste Assessment Form should be completed and emailed to the appropriate WCA advising of the need for a regular collection to be set up.

The WCA will advise of the collection frequency available (usually weekly) and will provide yellow bags and ties or a bin (dependent on volumes produced) to ensure the waste is sealed safely and securely. The WCA will advise the individual when they receive the referral, of the collection day relevant for their property.

The Waste Assessment Form when completed should advise the WCA if the collection is required on a one-off basis, temporarily whilst the individual recovers from an illness or permanently. It is recommended that a review of the collection list is carried out periodically.

Offensive/Hygiene Waste; Black bag or yellow/black 'tiger bag'

Non-infectious offensive/hygiene waste can be treated as domestic household waste. This includes incontinence waste, empty stoma or catheter bags.

If the quantity is small such as less than half a sack per week or a full sack per fortnight, the waste can be double bagged and disposed of in the individual's own domestic waste bin.

However, if the waste is more than half a sack per week and this amount is likely to be produced on regular basis, then the Community Healthcare Worker will need to complete and send off the Waste Assessment Form to the appropriate WCA.

Upon receiving the Waste Assessment Form, the WCA will contact the individual to assess whether they can manage the waste within their existing waste collection arrangements. Where this is not possible the WCA will decide whether to offer a

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larger general waste bin, an additional bin, or in exceptional circumstances a dedicated separate collection service.

Some WCA's provide 'tiger striped' bags for individuals producing large quantities of offensive/hygiene waste. These bags will be collected separately from yellow bags as they do not require specialist treatment. When the WCA receives the referral, they will advise the individual, whether 'tiger striped' bags are to be used, how often collection will occur and on what day of the week.

Infectious sharps waste: Yellow Sharps container

This waste should be placed in a yellow 'Sharpsguard' sharps container. These 1 litre containers are provided upon prescription by the NHS. WCAs will not provide sharps boxes.

- **Sharps Waste Produced by Self Medicating Patients:**

The full sharps containers should be returned to the individual's own surgery by the patient or their representatives.

- **Sharps waste produced by housebound patients**

WCAs will provide a collection of these boxes but will only do so when an individual has five full sharps boxes, these collections will only be made from people who cannot leave their home only.

A Waste Assessment Form needs to be completed and the referral emailed to the relevant WCA to request a collection service. It is anticipated that the collection of five full sharps boxes will only need a sporadic collection. A individual will have to contact the WCA to advise when they have accumulated five full boxes and a collection is required. The WCA will advise the individual of the process to follow in such circumstances, once the referral has been received and approved.

Medicinal & Miscellaneous Waste

WCAs do NOT offer a disposal service for pharmaceutical products or clinical waste generated by treatment with cytotoxic or cytostatic drugs. These items must be taken back to the surgery / hospital that prescribed the treatment.

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WASTE ASSESSMENT FORM

SECTIONS A & B: (To be completed by Health Care Professional or Practice Stamp and emailed to relevant WCA contact)

SECTION A: WASTE ASSESSOR DETAILS

NAME: _____ DATE: _____ TIME: _____

CONTACT ADDRESS:

Tel No: _____

SECTION B: Details of the person for whom waste has been assessed

TITLE: _____ FIRST NAME: _____

SURNAME: _____

COLLECTION
ADDRESS: _____

Tel No: _____

Date Service Required From: _____ to _____

Collection Frequency: Weekly Intermittent i.e. sharps
One-off

Collection point if known (e.g. front doorstep) _____

Estimated Quantity per week:

Less than half bag Half bag
One bag Two bags or more

WASTE CATEGORIES: TICK APPROPRIATE BOX:

Infectious Offensive/Hygiene

For Sharps collections the WCA will only collect from housebound patients.

Please confirm that this patient is housebound: Yes

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**Please note: WCA's do NOT offer a disposal service for pharmaceutical products or clinical waste generated by treatment with cytotoxic or cytostatic drugs. These items should be taken back to the surgery / hospital that prescribed the treatment.

SECTION C: (To be completed by Waste Collection Authority)

DATE RECEIVED: _____

RECEIVING OFFICER: _____

Referred to: _____

Service explained to Customer by: Telephone Letter Visit

Date: _____

Selected Collection Option: Existing Bin Larger Bin

Additional Bin Separate Collection

If a Separate Collection is required:

Where will the sack be presented?

Date Contractor Notified: _____

Instruction/Order Number: _____

**WCA CONTACTS FOR CLINICAL
HEALTHCARE WASTE ENQUIRIES OR REFERRALS**

<u>WCA & Contact</u>	<u>Email</u>	<u>Tel</u>
Bolsover District Council Paul Gozzard, Lorna Mosley or Shaun Shirtcliffe	refuseteam@bolsover.gov.uk	01246 593047
Derbyshire Dales District Council Claire Orford Assistant Waste Management Officer	claire.orford@derbyshiredales.gov.uk	01629 761111
South Derbyshire District Council Customer Services	waste.cleansing@south-derbys.gov.uk	01283 228707
Erewash Borough Council Sue Luker Information Services Officer	sue.luker@erewash.gov.uk	01159 072303
Chesterfield Borough Council Freda Ramsdale Waste Management Officer	Freda.ramsdale@chesterfield.gov.uk	01246 345763
Amber Valley Borough Council Refuse Team	refuse@ambervalley.gov.uk	01773 841326
North East Derbyshire District Council Mick Cave, Heather Jowett or Cate Harris	clinicalwaste@ne-derbyshire.gov.uk	01246 217270
Derby City Council	clinicalwaste@derby.gov.uk	01332 641592 or 01332 642072
High Peak Borough Council Wendy Monaghan Customer Support Assistant	e-servicesadmin@highpeak.gov.uk	01298 28400 ext 4424