

# Corporate Services & Resources

## Memorandum



<b>To:</b>	Director of Social Services & Housing attn. Karen Novell Director of Education, Children's Services & Libraries attn. Chris Taylor Director of Education, Children's Services & Libraries attn. Ruth Burgess Director of Environment & Leisure attn. Mark Devon	<b>Date:</b>	8 March 2006
<b>From:</b>	Robin Hanbidge - ext 5188	<b>Our Ref:</b>	RH/ALK
<b>CC:</b>	David Elmes Linda Hambleton Derek Main		
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>The Hazardous Waste Regulations 2005</b>		

The Chairman of the Council's Health & Safety Panel requested that this information be sent to all those who had an interest in buildings. I would be grateful if you could pass it on to your building managers.

### 1 Introduction

1.1 On 16 July 2005 the Hazardous Waste Regulations came into force. These regulations replace the Special Waste Regulations 1996 and are intended to provide an effective system of control and tracking of wastes that are harmful to human health or the environment.

### 2 Information

2.1 Premises where hazardous waste is produced or removed from must be registered with the Environment Agency (EA). Domestic premises are exempt, but schools and other council buildings are only exempt from registration if they produce less than 200 Kgs of hazardous waste in a 12-month period.

2.2 200 Kgs of hazardous waste is approximately 500 fluorescent tubes or 10 small TV sets or 5 small fridges or around 10-15 computer monitors. Sites would not need to register until they are likely to exceed the threshold.

- 2.3 The duty to notify premises rests with the producer of the waste - normally the owner or occupier of the site. However, where hazardous waste is produced by a visiting mobile service, the duty may fall on the person operating that service. Any producer may ask a waste management company or company carrying out work to register on their behalf, but there is likely to be an additional administration charge for this. Each site producing hazardous waste has to have separate registration, although multiple sites can be registered on the same notification, but each site would have a separate unique registration number and require a separate fee. The registration lasts for one year, so that re-registration is needed when further waste is produced.
- 2.4 It is illegal for a company to collect hazardous waste from schools or office premises that exceed 200 Kgs of hazardous waste if the site has not been registered. It is the responsibility of each school or other building to ensure that all waste is handed over to a licensed registered waste carrier.
- 2.5 **Registration can be made as follows:-**
- By POST, the cost of which is £28. You would need to request a form by telephone or download a form from the EA website detailed below.
  - By TELEPHONE - EA Registration Centre - 0870 502858 between 0900 and 1700 hours, Monday to Friday, cost £23.
  - ONLINE - [www.environment-agency.gov.uk](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk) and follow the link to application. This is the cheapest method costing £18, but requires the use of a credit card.
- 2.6 A complete list of hazardous wastes is contained in the European Waste Catalogue which can be seen at:  
<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/commodata/acrobat/ewe.pdf>
- 2.7 A number of council buildings have been registered including schools where asbestos containing materials were being removed during building works, and the council offices and sports centres because of the regular renewal and removal of computer equipment, light fittings and other equipment. A central register has been implemented to help the council and its building managers to comply with these regulations. If you register a building please send a copy of the Hazardous Waste Registration Report that you receive from the Environment Agency to Wendy Griggs, Building Group, Depot.
- 2.8 It should be noted that even where a building does not produce more than 200kg of hazardous waste per year, all hazardous waste must be disposed of correctly, using specialist contractors where necessary. It must not, for instance, be placed in normal refuse bins or site skips.
- 2.9 The Council's Waste and Recycling Team within the Environment & Leisure Department has talked to school representatives and provided them with information to support them with this new liability. They can also provide information to all building managers on waste matters generally and on suitable waste companies.
- 2.10 Further to this matter, the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Regulations are expected to come into force later this year (2006) and whilst it will still be necessary to register premises producing over 200kgs of hazardous electrical items, the responsibility for disposal and therefore the cost of disposal will fall to the manufacturers and retailers of the equipment.

**Chief Building Surveyor**