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SITE WASTE PLAN

From the 6th April 2008, you must have a Site Waste Management Plan (SWMP) for all new construction projects worth more than £300,000.

If a project is considered before 6 April 2008 and construction work begins before 1 July 2008, you will not need to produce a SWMP.

In Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland you do not need to have a plan—this may change in the future. Following the plan could assist to reduce the amount of waste produced.

If the project you are working on is projected to be more than £300,000, work should not commence until a SWMP is in place.

Each project should have a SWMP. It is a live document and therefore must be updated through the course of the project.

As it is produced at the very start of a project, the designers' can consider ways that waste can be reduced and site-gained materials can be reused or recycled as part of the project. Identifying waste materials at an early stage that can not be reused on that project will make it easier to find other alternative uses for them.

Who is responsible for the SWMP?

If you are the client, you are responsible for the following: -

Producing the SWMP before construction works commences.

- Appointing the Principal Contractor.
- Passing the SWMP to the Principal Contractor.
- Updating the SWMP (at least) every three months if you decide to manage the project yourself.

If you are the Principal Contractor you must:

Obtain information from contractors and sub-contractors.

Update the SWMP (at least) every three months as the project proceeds.

Keep the SWMP on site during the project.

Ensure the contractors and sub-contractors know where the plan is kept.

Allowing contractors, sub-contractors and the client access to the SWMP during the project.

Pass the SWMP to the client on completion of the project.

Keep a copy of the SWMP for two years after completion.

What should the SWMP contain?

The level of detail that your SWMP should contain depends on the estimated build cost.

For projects estimated at between £300,000 and £500,000 the SWMP should contain details of the: -

- Types of waste removed from the site.
- Identity of the person who removed the waste.
- Where the waste was taken to.

For projects estimated at over £500,000 the SWMP should contain details of the:

Types of waste removed from site.

Identity of the person who removed the waste and their waste carrier registration number.

A description of the waste.

Where the waste was taken to.

Environmental permit of exemption held by the site where the material is taken.

At the end of the project, you must review the plan and record the reasons for any differences between the plan and what actually happened.

You must still comply with the duty of care for waste. As you will need to record all waste movements in one document, having a SWMP will help you to ensure you comply with the duty of care.

You do not need a SWMP if you are working on a construction project within a, Site A Environmental Permit or Nuclear licensed site.

If you are working as a sub-contractor, check your contract for requirements on:-

Purchasing procedures and methods of work to reduce waste.

On site re-use or recycling of site gained materials.

Disposal of waste.

What information you may need to report to the Principal Contractor or the client.

Duty of care

As a business, you have a duty to ensure that any waste you produce is handled safely and within the law - This is your 'duty of care'.

It applies to anyone who produces, imports, transports, stores, treats or disposes of controlled waste from business or industry. Commercial, industrial and household wastes (including hazardous/special wastes) are classified as 'controlled waste'. The duty of care also applies to anyone that acts as a waste broker.

You must check that anyone that you pass your waste on to is authorised to take it. If you don't check that they are authorised to take your waste and it is illegally disposed of, you could be held responsible.

People you pass your waste on to include:-

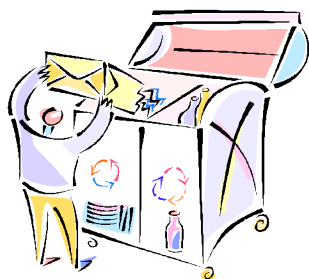
- Waste contractors
- scrap metal merchants
- Recycling companies
- Your local council
- Skip hire companies.

The duty of care has no time limit. It extends until the waste has either been finally disposed of or fully recovered.

Contact us for a draft template "Site Waste Management Plan".

This issue of our regular NEWS BRIEF has been created with reference to www.netregs.gov.uk and we acknowledge their source of help and assistance.

To assist us all in our environmental impact, this NEWS BRIEF & subsequent issues can be emailed or down-loaded from our web page.



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