

# Business waste

## Your Duty of Care

All business owners have a duty of care regarding their waste to ensure that it is disposed of correctly. A business owner must be able to account for the transfer of their waste.




### What counts as business waste

All waste generated from a commercial activity is business waste.

Business waste also includes any waste that comes from:

- **Construction**
- **Demolition**
- **Industry**
- **Agriculture**

### Your responsibilities

- Keep waste to a minimum by doing everything you can to prevent, reuse, recycle or recover waste
- Store and present your waste securely, so that it does not cause litter or attract vermin 
- Use a waste carrier or disposal site that is registered with the Environment Agency
- Keep all your contract and transfer records for a minimum of 2 years
- Give these records to the relevant authority if requested

Bengali বাংলা Punjabi ਪੰਜਾਬੀ  
Lithuanian Lietuviškai Slovakian Slovensky  
Polish Polski Turkish **ଏକସକର୍ମ**



# Business waste FAQs

## Isn't the cost of waste disposal included in my business rates?

**No** — businesses must make their own arrangements to collect and dispose of their waste.

## My business does not produce waste — what should I do?

All businesses produce waste. This includes post and junk mail, damaged or old equipment, packaging from deliveries, food and drink eaten by staff (including packaging), cleaning materials and office paper.

## Can I use the Council's Household Waste Recycling Centres?

**No** — these facilities are not for the disposal of waste generated by businesses.

## Can I take my glass, paper and card to a local council recycling site?

**No** — taking it to a council recycling site or asking staff to do so, does not meet the requirements of your duty of care.

Failure to comply with the Duty of Care requirements is a criminal offence which could result in a fixed penalty notice or if prosecuted, an unlimited fine.

