

Waste Segregation Update

Summer 2021

NHS Property Services (NHSPS) is committed to working with you to segregate more waste, increase recycling, reduce the negative environmental impacts of our buildings and save money for the NHS while doing so.

To do this, we are launching and improving on the following waste initiatives which, to make a real impact, we need to work together on.

Increasing waste segregation and recycling

Dry mixed recycling bins are approximately 45% cheaper than general waste bins. The waste is also recycled and lowers our environmental impact.

What are we doing?

- We have standardised all of our internal waste bins, labels and posters to help with waste segregation
- We are increasing the amount of internal and external dry mixed recycling bins across all of our sites, and removing the amount of general waste bins in the process

What do you need to do?

Follow the guidance on the bin labels and posters to put the right waste in the right bin.

Absorbing feminine hygiene and nappy waste

What are we doing?

We are looking to absorb feminine hygiene waste into existing waste streams already produced by your site e.g. general and offensive. We will be placing our own NHSPS feminine hygiene bins and pedal bins into relevant areas, which will then be emptied by our domestic assistants. This waste will then be placed in the appropriate external waste bin and collected by your waste contractor.

What do you need to do?

Utilise the feminine hygiene and nappy bins installed by NHSPS.



Download the posters and read the guidance on our website at www.property.nhs.uk/waste



Feminine hygiene bin



General waste



Offensive waste

Encouraging clinical waste segregation

The NHS produces thousands of tonnes of clinical waste every year. We have conducted hundreds of audits and found that occupiers are taking a 'blanket' approach to throwing out waste and disposing of general and recycling waste in the clinical waste bags.

This costs the NHS substantially, creates huge pressures on the clinical waste industry, and increases our environmental impact as a great deal of this waste can be recycled.

What are we doing?

- Installing general and recycling bins into clinical rooms so you have the correct waste segregation available
- Ensuring you have the right bags for your different sorts of clinical waste
- Labelling all of your bins to indicate what can and cannot be disposed of in them
- Displaying waste segregation posters to help advise you
- Providing training to our colleagues to support you

What do you need to do?

- Do not put general waste or recycling into clinical waste bins
- Use the tiger waste bags (yellow and black striped ones) only for non-infectious bandages, masks and dressings
- Use the orange waste bags only for infectious waste that is not chemically and/or medically contaminated too e.g. patients' bandages, dressings etc
- Use the yellow waste bags only for infectious clinical waste that is also chemically and/or medically contaminated



Clinical waste bin



Download the posters and read the guidance on our website at www.property.nhs.uk/waste

DISPOSING OF CLINICAL AND NON-CLINICAL WASTE



Property Services

| General | Dry Mixed Recycling | Offensive Waste | Infectious waste | Infectious waste contaminated with medicine and/or chemical | Cytotoxic / Cytostatic Waste |
|---------|---------------------|-----------------|------------------|---|---------------------------------|
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| YES PLEASE | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|---|---|--|---|
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| Non-recyclable materials | Food tins and drink cans | Non-infectious PPE | Infectious PPE | Infectious, medically contaminated, diagnostic kits | PPE contaminated with cytotoxic / cytostatic waste |
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| Small quantities of food waste | Mixed Plastics | Non-infectious dressings, plasters, bandages etc. | Infectious dressings, plasters, bandages etc. | IV Bags | Items contaminated with cytotoxic / cytostatic waste |
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| Paper hand towels | Paper and card | Nappy waste | Infectious swabs | Infectious swabs contaminated with medicine and/or chemicals | Dressings, plasters, contaminated with cytotoxic / cytostatic waste |

| NO THANKS | | | | | |
|---------------------------|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
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| Recycling waste | General | Paper hand towels | Paper hand towels | Paper hand towels | Paper hand towels |
| | | | | | |
| Clinical and sharps waste | Food Waste | General and packaging | General and packaging | General and packaging | General and packaging |
| | | | | | |
| Liquids | Glass | Sharps | Medicines and sharps | Sharps | Sharps |