

Request Title: FOI Publication - Waste Disposal - 2022

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FOI Request:

“We are seeking to best target our development program to meet NHS needs. For the three categories of waste -

- *Black, domestic waste*
- *Tiger bag, offensive waste*
- *Orange bag, infectious waste*

1. *What is the most common disposal route for each?*
2. *Is there a split of landfill, heat treatment, and incineration?*
3. *Is each Trust different?*
4. *What is the relative volume of each?*
5. *At this time, our main interest is facemasks. Is it known what the most common disposal route is for both surgical style OR respirator style masks?”*

Our Response:

Under section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act, we confirm that we hold the information requested. Please be advised that the responses provided are only applicable to the Trusts and NHS providers within the NHS Property Services portfolio.

Our portfolio is one of the largest in the UK, comprising more than 3,000 properties with 7,000 tenants across England. At a total value of more than £3bn, this represents about 10% of the total NHS estate. Our properties range from listed buildings through to state-of-the-art integrated health campuses.

1. The most common disposal route for domestic waste is landfill. The most common disposal route for clinical waste is incineration.
2. For domestic waste there is a split of recycling, landfill, and composting. For clinical waste, the disposal options are alternative treatment or incineration.
3. All properties that are part of the NHSPS portfolio are covered by our nationally provided waste management services. Trusts that are not subscribed to our services, this may implement alternative approaches, but that information is held by each individual Trust.

4. For domestic waste, the total volume in kilograms is approximately 7 million kg. For clinical waste, the volume in kilograms is approximately 600,000 kg.
5. It is not known what the most common disposal route is for surgical style or respirator style face masks.