Upcoming changes to waste fees

In March 2015, there will be legal changes to waste disposal fees, which will affect schools, charities, religious establishments and other businesses that don't currently pay disposal costs. This leaflet provides an overview of the changes and practical waste management guidance.

Staffordshire
Waste Partnership

Your local councils working together on waste issues

Legally, any commercial business must manage their waste in a responsible manner. This means arranging for a registered waste carrier to collect and dispose of their waste.

If done effectively, there are opportunities to save money in operational and disposal costs, enhance your image and help the environment.

Current fees

At the moment, organisations, such as charities, schools, and places of religious worship, do not pay for the disposal of their waste, just the operational costs of the waste carrier.

Upcoming changes

New legislation comes into force in March 2015, which means that these organisations will have to pay for the disposal of their waste, as well as collection charges. It doesn't matter which registered waste carrier collects their waste.

This means the overall cost of waste management will increase. Please see the back of this leaflet for tips on managing your waste and helpful web links.

Legal aspects

Every business must, legally:

❯ know the type and quantity of waste it produces

❯ use the most environmentally friendly option when getting rid of unwanted items

❯ classify waste using the European waste catalogue

❯ arrange for a registered waste carrier to collect the waste and complete the relevant waste transfer notes

❯ dispose of electrical waste via a compliant scheme

> Be aware...
> Hazardous waste has additional legislation and regulations. It's therefore more costly to dispose of.

How to produce less waste

Preventing waste before it's created and reusing items are the most cost effective methods of reducing your waste costs. Here are a few general tips (more available online - **please see 'Useful contacts'**):

❯ Reuse boxes and packing materials

❯ Communicate electronically to avoid printing

❯ Use glasses, cups, cutlery and plates to avoid disposables

❯ Refill ink cartridges instead of buying new ones

❯ Print on both sides of the page

❯ Bulk buy to reduce the amount of packaging

❯ Arrange to send packaging back to the supplier

❯ Provide jugs of tap water rather than bottled

❯ Donate reusable items to charity, including unsold food

❯ Lease equipment rather than buying outright

❯ Return unsold items back to the supplier

❯ Shred scrap paper or cardboard to use as packing

❯ Use rechargeable batteries

And remember – please recycle!

How can your local council help?

Businesses must pay to dispose of their waste, using a business waste collection service. Council services offer a variety of bin sizes to suit your needs, with flexible payment options.

As the council has direct access to disposal options, they can offer lower disposal costs than other waste carriers. The council does not charge VAT, so they can offer increasingly competitive prices.

Information on council run trade waste collection services is available online. Please get in touch for a competitive quote.

Useful contacts

❯ Visit **www.staffordshirewastepartnership.org** for more information on business waste, council services and practical waste management tips.

❯ **www.wrap.org.uk** offer free waste management help.

❯ For advice on reducing food waste, visit **www.lovefoodhatewaste.com**

❯ For business advice on a variety of topics, including environmental legislation, visit **www.businesslink.gov.uk**

❯ Advice on small business efficiency is available at **www.reducetheuse.co.uk**

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