

Changes to DIY waste disposal at the Sort It recycling centres

New legislation from the government has introduced limits on the amount of DIY waste that householders can dispose of at recycling centres per visit and prevents councils from charging for DIY waste.

The new rules will help to deter businesses from illegally disposing of construction and demolition waste at the public sites, while still allowing householders to dispose of this type of waste from work they are carrying out themselves.

What is changing?

From 31 Dec the amount of DIY waste you can bring to our Sort It recycling centres will be 100 litres (this is about the same as 6 bags or a car boot load) or 1 bathroom suite (1 bath, 1 sink, 1 toilet) per visit.

You will no longer be able to pay to dispose of DIY over this limit at the Sort It recycling centres. If you have more than the limit of DIY waste to dispose of you can:

- Bring in up to the limited amount during another visit (no more than 4 visits in a 4-week period)
- Arrange for a skip/hippo bag collection with a waste disposal contractor.

Your questions answered...

Won't the changes increase fly-tipping?

It is unlikely we will see an increase in fly-tipping because of the change to DIY waste. Very few fly-tipping offences are committed by people dumping their own waste. Most fly-tipping comes from people who have been paid to remove waste and are trying to avoid paying for the disposal of it.

We have not seen any significant increases in fly-tipping after previous changes to the recycling centres or waste and recycling collections and we monitor and investigate all fly-tipping incidents. We have a very good track record for successfully prosecuting people who are responsible for fly-tipped waste.

Will I still be able to bring DIY waste to the recycling centres?

Yes, you can still bring waste from DIY projects to the Sort It recycling centres (except Little Stoke), but there is a limit to how much you can bring at a time and how often. If you have more than the 100 litre limit (this is about the same as 6 bags or a car boot load), you

can bring more DIY waste on another visit as long as you don't exceed 4 visits in a 4-week period.

The DIY waste you bring must only be from small-scale construction or demolition works you have carried out at your own home. It cannot be waste produced by contractors or from a business.

Can I still bring DIY waste in a trailer?

You can bring the equivalent to 100 litres (this is about the same as 6 bags or a car boot load) of DIY type waste in a trailer under 2m long if you cannot or don't want to put it in your vehicle, but you cannot bring more than the limited amount. You cannot take trailers of any size to the site in Little Stoke.