

COLLECTING WASTE

SITE SPECIFIC RISK ASSESSMENT

When attending a site, it is important that site specific environmental risks are identified and assessed before waste collection or reinstatement commences. For many sites the team leader will have prepared a site specific risk assessment. The team leader should talk you through the risk assessment and any control measures that apply. You should check to ensure that the team's risk assessment covers any further risks created during collection of waste or reinstatement. For example, if there are trees near to the site, the grab may cause damage to them if operations are not properly planned or controlled. Any further site specific risks that are identified should be assessed and appropriate control measures identified and recorded. If the team are no longer present, a new site specific risk assessment should be prepared.

INSPECT AND CLASSIFY WASTE (EWC CODES)

All wastes throughout the UK are coded using a Europe-wide system known as the European Waste Catalogue (EWC). The EWC lists different waste types and gives each of them a unique six-digit code. The EWC codes are used by waste producers to identify the type of waste on their waste transfer documentation. The EWC codes are also used by persons who hold a licence to help identify which types of waste they can legally deal with under their licence conditions - so called 'permitted wastes'.

Grab and support operators must visually inspect the waste they are picking up and decide on the type of waste and its correct EWC code. This code is then recorded on the Waste Transfer Note or Multi Site Waste Pickup Register.

The Contract Waste Matrix lists all recycling or disposal sites which are approved for contract waste and identifies the EWC codes for the permitted wastes that each site can legally accept. Grab operators must take the load to a recycling, transfer or landfill site that is permitted to accept the type of waste they are carrying. If wastes are wrongly coded, or are taken to a site that is not licenced for that type of waste, it is likely that the load will be rejected. So making sure that the correct code is used is important.



Mixed



Inert

EXPLOSIVE



FLAMMABLE



OXIDISING



CORROSIVE



ACUTE TOXICITY



You'll see that the old 'harmful/irritant' symbol is missing. This has been replaced by the exclamation mark pictogram.



**HEALTH HAZARD /
HAZARDOUS TO THE
OZONE LAYER**

The most commonly encountered EWC codes for grab and support operations are:

WASTE DESCRIPTION	EWC CODE
Asbestos cement pipes	17 06 05 *
Aerosols	15 01 10 *
Bituminous mixtures containing coal tar	17 03 01 *
Bituminous mixtures	17 03 02
Bricks	17 01 02
Concrete	17 01 01
Cardboard	15 01 01
General municipal waste	20 03 01
Metal	17 04 07
Mixed construction waste	17 09 04
Plastic	17 02 03
Soil and stones	17 05 04
Soil and stones containing asbestos	17 06 05 *
Spill kits, absorbents and oily waste	15 02 02 *
Wood	17 02 01
Wooden packaging	15 01 03