

Leicester City Council – Guidance on Household and Commercial Waste

What is defined as household waste?

Household waste is any waste and/or recycling materials that have originated from your own everyday domestic activities and which you are disposing of yourself.

What's NOT included:

- Waste you created at home but pay someone else to remove and/or dispose of for you
- Waste from business activities (see below)
- Any waste from a property which you rent out (i.e. if you are the landlord)

General household waste and recycling

This is the type of waste that is collected in black refuse bins and orange bags or recycling bins. You can also take this kind of waste and recycling to a Household Waste Recycling Centre and some recycling can be taken to bring banks.

DIY waste

If you have undertaken home improvements yourself and have waste such as plaster, cement, rubble, wood, kitchen units, bathroom suites, windows and doors then you can dispose of these at our Household Waste Recycling Centres free of charge. Some DIY materials are restricted. A household will be allowed to dispose of no more than the following in a 12-month period:

- Soil, bricks, rubble – 6 x 25kg bags
- Fitted kitchen units – 4 units
- Bathroom suite items – 4 items
- Doors – 4 items
- Windows – 4 complete units

However, if the waste was created by a professional doing work for you, then it becomes commercial waste and it is their responsibility to remove it.

When someone else removes your waste

If a tradesperson is removing waste from work they have done at your property, or you are paying someone to do a tip run or house clearance, then this waste becomes commercial waste, and can no longer be taken to the Household Waste Recycling Centres. [Doing so would be classed as fly-tipping, which is a criminal offence.](#)

Your waste remains your responsibility until it reaches its final destination, so it's important to only let people you trust take your waste. If your waste is discovered fly-tipped, YOU can be

prosecuted and receive an unlimited fine if you can't demonstrate that you have taken all reasonable steps to ensure your waste is not fly-tipped. If someone else is disposing of your waste you should ask for their waste carriers license number, which you can check on the [Environment Agency's public register](#). They should also give you a receipt that describes the waste being disposed of.

What is business and commercial waste?

Any waste that comes from a commercial activity is business waste (also referred to as commercial waste or trade waste). This includes waste from:

- Running a business from a set premises, at home, or vehicle-based
- Tip runs and house clearances where money has changed hands
- Properties that you own but don't live in yourself (landlord activity)

Business waste is subject to different rules and laws than household waste. You can find out more about disposing of business waste in our [Business Waste and Recycling Guide](#). Using household waste and recycling services such as kerbside bins and recycling, bring banks, and recycling centres to dispose of business waste is against the law, and you can face prosecution for fly-tipping which carries an unlimited fine or up to five years imprisonment.

Further Information

[Right Waste Right Place](#)

[Gov.uk](#)

[Gypsum Close Trade Waste](#)

[Waste Carriers Licence Public Register](#)

Please note: This guidance is only an introduction to waste Duty of Care requirements and does not constitute legal advice.