

Waste data glossary

Biodegradable waste	Waste that is capable of undergoing anaerobic (oxygen poor) or aerobic (oxygen rich) decomposition, such as food or garden waste and paper and cardboard, i.e. waste that rots
Civic amenity site	Facility provided under Section 1 of the Refuse Disposal (Amenity) Act 1978
Commercial waste	Waste arising from premises that are used wholly or mainly for trade, business, sport, recreation or entertainment, excluding household and industrial waste (as defined in Environmental Protection Act 1990, section 75)
Composting	The controlled biological decomposition and stabilisation of biodegradable materials (such as organic garden and kitchen wastes) under predominantly aerobic conditions to produce a humus (organic)-rich, sanitised and stabilised product that can be beneficial to soil
Construction and demolition waste	Arising from the construction, repair, maintenance and demolition of buildings and structures. It mostly includes brick, concrete, hardcore, subsoil and topsoil, but it can also include quantities of timber, metal and plastics
Controlled waste	Household, industrial and commercial waste or any such wastes that require a waste management licence for treatment, transfer or disposal (as defined by Environmental Protection Act 1990, section 75)
Co-incineration	The generation of energy or production of material products using wastes as a fuel.
Definite closure (landfills)	The point at which SEPA inspects the site and approves closure (normally when the landfill has stopped taking waste for disposal)
Disposal	Any of the operations provided for in Annex II A of the Waste Framework Directive
European Community (EC) Directive	A European Community legal instruction which is binding on all Member States and must be implemented through the legislation of Member State governments within a prescribed timescale
Energy from waste (EfW)	The recovery of energy value from waste by burning the waste directly, or by burning a fuel produced from the waste
European Waste Catalogue (EWC) List of Waste 2002	A substance and activity-oriented classification of waste in 20 Chapters
European Waste Catalogue for Statistics (EWC STAT)	A (mainly) substance-oriented statistical classification of waste used for reporting waste statistics to the European Union
Exempt waste	Waste handled by activities that are exempt from waste management licensing

Gas controls	Methods to control the emission of methane from landfill sites
Green waste	'Green and wood waste' means vegetable waste from gardens and parks, tree cuttings, branches, grass, leaves (with the exception of street sweepings), sawdust, wood chips and other wood waste not treated with heavy metals or organic compounds
Home composting	Composting can be made at home using a traditional compost heap, a purpose designed container or a wormery
Household waste	Waste from domestic properties including waste from caravans, residential homes and premises forming part of an educational establishment or part of a hospital or nursing home
Incineration	The controlled burning of waste, either to reduce its volume or its toxicity
Industrial waste	Waste from a factory (within the meaning of the Factories Act 1961) or from any premises used for, or in connection with <ul style="list-style-type: none">• provision of public transport• public supply of gas, water, electricity or sewerage services• provision to the public of postal or communication services
Integrated Pollution Control (IPC)	A system established under Part I of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 to control pollution from industry
Kerbside collection	Any regular collection of mixed recyclable or compostable wastes from premises. Excludes collection services delivered on demand
Landfill Allowance Scheme (LAS)	The system by which Scotland meets its proportional targets for reducing the quantity of biodegradable municipal waste sent to landfill
Landfill Allowance Scheme Trading Scheme (LATS)	UK government initiative, managed by Defra, to help reduce the amount of biodegradable municipal waste sent to landfill
Landfill sites	Areas of land in or on which waste is deposited
Leachate	The liquid that drains or 'leaches' from a landfill
Leachate controls	Methods to control the emission and quality of leachate from landfill sites.
Mass-balance calculation	Calculation of the balance between waste inputs to a process, industry or region and outputs as products, emissions and wastes. This calculation is used in the Landfill Allowance Scheme to determine the amount of biodegradable municipal waste landfilled
Materials Reclamation Facility	A facility to process wastes for the purpose of recovering useful materials using a variety of processes to separate out different materials, ranging from manual sorting to advanced mechanical separation techniques
Mixed organic waste	Waste for composting that includes both kitchen waste and garden waste
Mobile plant	Plant which is designed to move or be moved, whether on roads or

land (Section 29 (9) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990)

Municipal waste	Collected municipal waste is all waste for which the councils make arrangements, with the exclusion of: abandoned vehicles; road maintenance waste; commercial waste that is delivered to local authority owned or run landfill sites where the local authority has no part in the collection or disposal arrangements that have led to this delivery; industrial waste collected from industrial premises and taken for disposal or treatment separately from any other waste; and construction and demolition waste that is collected and taken for disposal or treatment separately from any other waste. Bricks and rubble taken to civic amenity sites must be included in collected municipal waste
NACE	European Union classification system for economic activities
National Waste Plan	Published by SEPA in 2003. The framework for delivering the National Waste Strategy
National Waste Strategy	Published by SEPA in 1999. The National Waste Strategy outlines how Scotland can set about decreasing the amount of waste being landfilled and increase the amount being reused and recycled. The strategy established 11 Waste Strategy Areas across Scotland. These groups are charged with implementing the strategy at a local level, developing local solutions in response to local needs
Operational phase (landfills)	Includes the installation of the engineering containment system, the active phase (i.e. when the site is accepting waste) and the installation of the capping system, up to the point of definite closure
Packaging waste	Comprises waste arising from all products made of any materials of any nature to be used to the containment, protection, handling, delivery and presentation of goods, from raw materials to processed goods, from the producer to the use or the consumer' as defined in Directive 94/62/EC on Packaging and Packaging Waste
Packaging Waste Export Recovery Note (PERN)	A note issued by an accredited exporter as evidence of the export of the tonnage of packaging waste specified in the note for reprocessing outside the United Kingdom
Packaging Waste Recovery Note (PRN)	A note issued by an accredited reprocessor as evidence of the receipt of the tonnage of packaging waste specified in the note for reprocessing within the United Kingdom
Pollution Prevention and Control (PPC)	A system set up in the UK to implement the Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control Directive (96/61/EC) to prevent and control pollution from certain types of business. The PPC regime is replacing the Integrated Pollution Control regime. In Scotland, both regimes are regulated by SEPA
Post-closure phase (landfills)	The point after definite closure, where the landfill has stopped accepting waste for disposal
Recovery	Generating value from wastes from a wide variety of activities such as recycling, composting and energy recovery
Recyclables	Materials that are capable of being recycled
Recycling	Using waste materials in manufacturing other products of an identical or similar nature, as defined by the Organisation for

Economic Co-operation and Development in Strategic Waste Prevention published in 2000

Recycling Centre	See Civic Amenity Site
Registered waste broker	Someone registered who makes arrangements on behalf of others to handle, transport, dispose or recover controlled waste but does not handle, transport, dispose or recover the waste themselves
Registered waste carrier	Someone registered to transport controlled waste by road, rail, air, sea or inland waterways
Reprocessor	A company that recycles materials. Only 'accredited reprocessors' can issue packaging recovery notes
Residual waste	Waste that remains following all practicable efforts to extract recyclable and compostable material from the waste stream
Special waste consignment note (SWCN)	A form defined in statute that must accompany each movement of special waste and must be submitted to SEPA by the person receiving the waste (the consignee)
Surrender (landfills)	The point at which the permit holder has completed after-care maintenance to such a level that it is accepted by SEPA that the landfill is not longer a risk to the environment
Thermal treatment	A broad generic term covering processes that involve the use of heat to treat waste. Incineration is the most common thermal treatment process. Pyrolysis and gasification are other high temperature processes but there are also low temperature processes used, for example, in technologies producing refuse-derived fuel
Transfer station	A site to which waste is delivered for sorting and compacting prior to transfer to another place for recycling, treatment or disposal
UK Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes	UK classification system for economic activities
Waste	Any substance or object in the categories set out in Annex 1 of the Waste Framework Directive (91/156/EEC), which the holder discards or intends or is required to discard
Waste arisings	The amount of waste generated in a given locality over a given period of time
WasteDataFlow	Online reporting system used by local authorities in the UK to report municipal waste data
Waste Statistics Regulations	European Union regulations that require Member States to report data on waste generation and treatment to the European Commission every two years.
Waste Strategy Areas	A series of eleven geographical areas in Scotland defined by the National Waste Strategy and used to report waste data