



WASTE MANAGEMENT POLICY

Introduction

This Policy affirms the University of Cumbria's commitment to safe and efficient waste management; to reduce, reuse and recycle waste produced; and to ensure compliance with all legal requirements relating to waste management.

The University will promote appropriate and effective waste management as an integral element of all activities and demonstrate, through proactive measures, its commitment to continual improvement.

The University of Cumbria will ensure, as far as is reasonably practicable, that the impact arising from the generation, storage and disposal of waste is reduced and managed in compliance with the appropriate legislation, guidance, and best practice standards.

In doing so, the University will ensure that:

- We remain compliant with relevant waste legislation.
- We reduce waste generated and associated environmental impacts of waste management and disposal by applying the principles of the waste management hierarchy.
- We provide facilities to ensure safe handling, segregation, and storage of waste on all campuses aimed at maximising reduction, re-use, and recycling opportunities.
- We set strategic objectives and targets in relation to minimising waste, improving recycling rates and reducing landfill disposal.
- We undertake waste audits to drive continual improvement.

- We produce and communicate procedures to enable staff, students, visitors, and contractors to comply with our 'duty of care' for the management of waste and monitor these procedures to ensure compliance.
- We provide appropriate training, instruction and information to staff and students including any site or operation specific requirements.

Purpose

This policy affirms the University of Cumbria's commitment to safe and efficient waste management, to reduce and recycle waste produced and to ensure compliance with all legal requirements relating to waste management.

Scope

The policy applies to all controlled waste, including hazardous waste, arising from University of Cumbria operations and campuses.

The University property portfolio encompasses:

- Ambleside Campus and Halls of Residence
- Barrow Campus (opening in September 2025)
- Brampton Road Campus and Halls of Residence
- Fusehill Street Campus and Halls of Residence
- Lancaster Campus and Halls of Residence
- London Campus

Leased space, where the University adheres to specific landlord policy, encompasses:

- London Campus, East India Dock Rd, London
- Furness College, Channelside Campus, Barrow in Furness, Cumbria
- Energus, Lillyhall Industrial Estate, Workington, Cumbria

Definitions

Waste – Waste includes any substance or object which the duty holder intends to discard, does discard, or is required to discard as part of their operational process.

Controlled Waste – waste that is subject to legislative control in either its handling and/or disposal

Residual Waste – waste that cannot easily be sorted and recycled

Co-mingled waste – any unsegregated materials collected for recycling e.g. cans, glass, and plastic, paper (unspoiled by food waste)

Hazardous Waste –waste that may be harmful to the environment or human health in the short or long term due to its physical, chemical, or biological properties. Batteries, fluorescent tubes, photographic chemicals, paint, waste oils, solvents, acid or alkaline solutions, pesticides and electrical equipment are all hazardous wastes.

Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) - Waste electrical and electronic goods.

Clinical Waste - Waste produced in healthcare settings such as hospitals, health clinics, dental practices, research labs, and simulated clinical environments.

Policy

All staff, students, contractors and visitors have a personal responsibility to ensure the waste they create is dealt with in accordance with this policy.

Chief consideration must be given to applying the waste management hierarchy to all activities across the university.

- **Reduce:** Only order/purchase/use the amount of materials required
- **Reuse:** Retain materials which can be reused onsite or by others
- **Recycle:** Segregate to maximise value of material for recycling
- **Recover:** Energy from waste will be recovered where facilities allow
- **Dispose:** Last resort

Prevention: Using less material in design and manufacture. Keeping products for longer; re use. Using less hazardous materials

Preparing for Reuse: Checking, cleaning, repairing, refurbishing, whole items, or spare parts

Recycling: Turning waste into a new substance or product.

Other recovery: Includes composting if it meets quality protocols Includes anaerobic digestion, incineration with energy recovery, gasification and pyrolysis which produce energy (fuels, heat, and power) and materials from waste; some backfilling.

Disposal: Landfill and incineration without energy recovery

The University will ensure appropriate procedures and waste management processes are in place as applicable for the principal waste streams (e.g. General waste, fibre waste, hazardous waste, and clinical waste from business activities).

All waste is stored and disposed of in line with our Duty of Care for Waste

Waste should be prevented or minimised wherever possible and must be stored, carried, processed, or disposed of in accordance with the principles of duty of care.

Waste and recycling removed from the university must only be transported by persons or service providers that are authorised to do so.

Roles and Responsibilities

Vice Chancellor

The legal responsibility for waste management, including ensuring that the organisation and arrangements are set up to enable compliance with this policy, is with the Vice Chancellor. Responsible for ensuring that policy and procedures are implemented, resourced appropriately, and adhered to.

The Head of Estates and Property

Owns the policy, overseeing development and planning of the strategy, associated policies, and overseeing operations.

Responsible for ensuring that the risk from storage and disposal of waste is suitably controlled and adequately resourced, that sufficient systems and procedures to manage risk are in place and that actions identified to minimise the risk listed in the assessments, are reviewed, and actions undertaken accordingly and recorded.

The Estates Operations Manager

Responsible for maintaining the policy, ensuring a three yearly review.

The Estates Managers/ Compliance Officer

Responsible for contract management and the implementation of the policy and associated procedures to ensure their continued efficacy including timely remedial actions.

Technical Services and Campus Services Managers

Responsible for the management and disposal of clinical and hazardous waste (for example from laboratories) and food waste from catering outlets and ensuring compliance with relevant legislation and local procedures.

Employees and Students

Responsible for disposal of waste in line with policy and procedures.

Related Policies and Procedures

- The Environmental Protection Act 1990
- The Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011
- The Hazardous Waste Regulations 2005
- List of Waste (England) Regulations 2005
- The Waste Electrical and Electronic Regulations 2013
- Waste Duty of Care: Code of Practice 2018
- University of Cumbria Hazardous and Dangerous Substances Policy

Publication, Implementation and Review

This policy shall be approved by the Business Assurance Board and implementation of this policy requires the total cooperation of all members of management and staff. The approved policy will be stored in the Estates and Property mini site with a link to Policy Hub

This policy will be reviewed every three years or following any significant incidents or changes in legislation to ensure it remains effective and up to date.

For further information regarding any of the issues covered by this policy please contact:

Head of Estates and Property

University of Cumbria

E-mail: estatesandproperty@cumbria.ac.uk

Document Control Information

Document Title	Waste Management Policy
Owner	Head of Estates and Property
Document Location	E&P Mini Site with link to Policy Hub
Lead Contact	Estates Operations Manager
Approving Body	Business Assurance Board
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Related Policies, Procedures, CoPs, Legislation and Regulation.	• The Environmental Protection Act 1990 • The Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011 • The Hazardous Waste Regulations 2005

	• The Waste Electrical and Electronic Regulations 2013 • University of Cumbria Hazardous and Dangerous Substances Policy
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