

Site Waste Management Plans

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Site Waste Management Plans (SWMPs)

Background

- Origin of SWMPs
- Scale of the problem
- Benefits of SWMPs to Industry and Environment

What you need to do

- How to save money
- How to write and implement a SWMP

Consultation

- Main issues
- Coming into force October 2007

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A fly-tipping incident happens every 35 seconds!



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Origin of SWMPs

- Cabinet Office Fly-Tipping Prevention Group proposed measures to tackle this issue
- DTI voluntary code practice 2004
- Powers in Clean Neighbourhoods Act 2005
 - and other powers to improve enforcement
- Scope broadened to minimise waste at source

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Scale of the problem

- **Resource efficiency** - UK construction industry generates 109 million tonnes of waste annually
- 13 million tonnes unused new materials
- **Fly-tipping** - costs taxpayer £50m each year
- 40% of fly-tipping includes construction waste
- Waste crime is organised crime

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Benefits to industry

- SWMPs expected to save the industry money by:
 - improving resource efficiency
 - reducing waste disposal costs
- New costs limited to planning and recording waste management in a new format
- Achieves a level playing field
- Health and safety – better organised waste management cuts accident rate

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Benefits to the environment, society

- Less fly-tipping improves civic pride
- Better local environmental quality - encourages inward investment
- Less taxpayer expenditure on clearing fly-tips
- Reduced dependence on landfill sites, conserving the environment

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What you need to do...an overview

- For projects over £250,000 (materials, labour)
- Identify someone responsible for drafting, implementing
- Improve resource efficiency before the SWMP process begins
- Research waste recycling and recovery opportunities - think strategically
- Make sure that you are complying with waste duty of care

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How to save money

- SWMP will cut new material and disposal costs.
- Greatest savings from choosing the right building design, construction method and materials in the first place.



The Waste Hierarchy

Minimise the amount of waste produced on site to achieve significant savings before your legal waste planning duty begins.

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How to write and implement a SWMP

1. Draw up a plan for all the waste that will be produced on site
2. Decide how much of each waste type can be reused, recycled or recovered on or off-site, and the rest disposed of
3. Implement the SWMP, tying contracts to these performance targets and engaging with subcontractors
4. Update the SWMP when waste is processed or taken away
5. After completion, review the SWMP and learn lessons for your next project

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Regulation

- Cost savings should lead to self-regulation
- Powers for Local Authorities (LA) and Environment Agency (EA) to check SWMPs.
- Offence to fail to comply with provisions - to keep, implement and update a SWMP
- Regulatory checks linked to existing visits where possible
- LA main regulator, EA brought in for more serious waste offences

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Consultation – main issues

- Minimum qualifying value (£250,000) or other measure?
- Higher reporting requirements for projects over £500,000
- Are Local Authorities, EA best placed to regulate? How?
- Responsibility for writing and implementing SWMP – answerable for the actions of sub-contractors
- ❖ Interface with reviews of duty of care, waste carriers and brokers

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Next Steps

- Public consultation January to March 2007
- Review proposals, Parliamentary process
- Come into force 1 October 2007

Any comments?

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