

THE WASTE HIERARCHY

MANAGING YOUR WASTE

It is a legal requirement for businesses to take all reasonable steps to manage their waste in line with The Waste Hierarchy. Aim to move up the hierarchy!

REDUCE



Eliminating or preventing waste in the first place is the first choice for managing waste. Examples include moving from disposal cups to reusable, reducing unnecessary packaging and printing less.

REUSE



Reuse should be prioritised over recycling. This could be within your own organisation or external organisations. Examples of reuse include donating goods to charity, reuse of packaging materials and upcycling furniture.

RECYCLE



When purchasing materials consider if they can be recycled. Recycling is important in helping to conserve natural resources. Since 31 March 2025 it is a legal requirement for businesses to recycle Food, Glass, Metal, Plastic, Cardboard and Paper with the 'Simpler Recycling' waste reforms.

ENERGY RECOVERY



For the disposal of unrecyclable and residual waste energy recovery such as waste to energy is preferred using waste resources to generate heat and electricity.

LANDFILL



Environmentally harmful due to the production of greenhouse gases, landfill is the least desirable option for waste management and disposal. Increasing landfill taxes mean it is also often the most expensive disposal option.