

Illegal Use Of Site Skips For Domestic Waste

Over the past six months, we have seen an increase in domestic waste and trade waste, unrelated to site activities, being found in the site skips.

This may seem harmless but can have significant impacts on people and the business, financially and reputationally.

This can include:



Personal	Business
£400- £1000 Fine (gov.uk)	£140,000- £750,000 Fine (Sentencing Council)
Criminal Record	Loss of future business relationship with suppliers and waste carriers
Disciplinary proceedings	Loss of public confidence and reputational damage



From a legal standpoint, **only waste produced on site from construction and supporting activities can be disposed of on site.**

Any other waste in the skips on site is considered fly tipping. This is monitored by our waste carriers, they can then refuse loads, impose fines, refuse future business and begin legal proceedings if waste is not as described.

Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC's) will take domestic waste free of charge (you may need to register for a permit if you have a van or trailer).

There are also local charity services for re-usable goods, to donate back to the local community.

Find your local HWRC via your Local Authority website or by searching for your Local Authority and "HWRC" online.

Most Local Authorities will also collect any large items you are unable to take to the HWRC yourself.



Significant Environmental Improve It - Use Of Site Skips For Domestic Waste

What happened:

When undertaking a site inspection with the Reconomy Site Liaison Officer and the site Senior General Foreman, the metal, wood and general waste skips were inspected to check for waste segregation on site. When inspecting the general waste skip, which is provided through Reconomy, a double mattress was spotted beneath the general waste.

A site operative had taken the mattress from home, in their van, and disposed of it in the skip. The operative did not realise that the general waste skips on site are solely for disposal of waste that has been produced on site from construction and the supporting activities, and to dispose of domestic waste in the on-site skips is fly-tipping.



ACTION REQUIRED:

- The Senior General Foreman went to the various work areas on site and asked each operative whether they had disposed of the mattress. The individual who disposed of the mattress admitted to doing so.
- The mattress was removed from the skip and the operative took the mattress to dispose of at their local Household Waste Recycling Centre as appropriate.
- A briefing of the Environmental Alert for “Illegal Use Of Site Skips For Domestic Waste” (24-01) was completed by the site on the following work day.

