

Swansea University

Waste Management Guidance Note WMGN22:

- **Laboratory and Workshops
Sharps Waste**

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Waste Management Guidance Note WMGN22 Laboratory and Workshop Sharps	
Location Generated	Laboratory Category
EWC	18 01 03* / 18 01 06* / 18 01 01
Transport Class & UN Number	Class 6.2 / UN 3291
Type	Controlled – Hazardous Waste
Disposal Method	Segregated for incineration
Bin Type	Yellow topped yellow ridged box 4ltr, 7ltr, 30ltr

Duty of Care Requirements

EWC 18 01 03* “Waste whose collection and disposal is subject to special requirements in order to prevent Infection”

EWC 18 01 06* “chemicals consisting of or containing hazardous substances”

EWC 18 01 01 “sharps”

It is a legal requirement to ensure all wastes are correctly classified. Incorrectly disposing of hazardous waste via a non-hazardous waste stream can lead to legal and financial penalties dependent upon the severity of the noncompliance. Sharps and chemically contaminated sharps produced in the University’s laboratories and workshops must be dealt with diligently and segregated for disposal.

The University has an appointed hazardous healthcare waste contractor who supplies a collection service to both Singleton and Bay Campuses for sharps disposal.

Items

All **sharps** (including wastes likely to puncture red/yellow/orange bags) must be placed into **yellow sharps box** for disposal.

Chemically, and biological (not cytotoxic/cytostatic) contaminated sharps can be placed into Yellow Lidded 4 – 30ltr Yellow Sharps Box. Examples would be:

- Plastic/Glass vials
- Syringes & needles
- Capillary tubes
- Melting point tubes
- Testing kits
- Plastic/Glass sample tubes
- Pasteur pipettes
- Plastic pipettes
- Serological pipettes
- Plastic tips
- Blades
- Scissors
- Other disposable instruments

None of the above items are to be placed into black, clear, yellow, orange or red bags under any circumstances.

Disposal Instructions

Internal Storage



Figure 1: Yellow Sharps Bins (4/7/30 litre available)

All sharps must be placed into yellow lidded sharps boxes, under no circumstance should any sharps be placed into internal bins, or external waste and recycling bins.

Yellow sharps bins can be obtained and signed out from the following locations:

Singleton Campus

- FSE/FMHLS – ILS1 Stores

Bay Campus

- FSE – Engineering Service Yard Office

External Storage/ Disposal

For disposal, ensure the lid is sealed for transport. Full sharps bins should not accumulate in the laboratory or workshop and should be disposed of in a timely manner. Full sharps bins must be taken back to the following locations:

Singleton Campus

- FSE/FMHLS – ILS1 Stores

Bay Campus

- FSE – Engineering Service Yard Office (dedicated external 1100 yellow bins)
See service yard office staff for access

Under no circumstance should sharps bins be placed into external waste and recycling bin.

Disposal Cost

There is a charge for this service, contact estates-waste@swansea.ac.uk for further details.

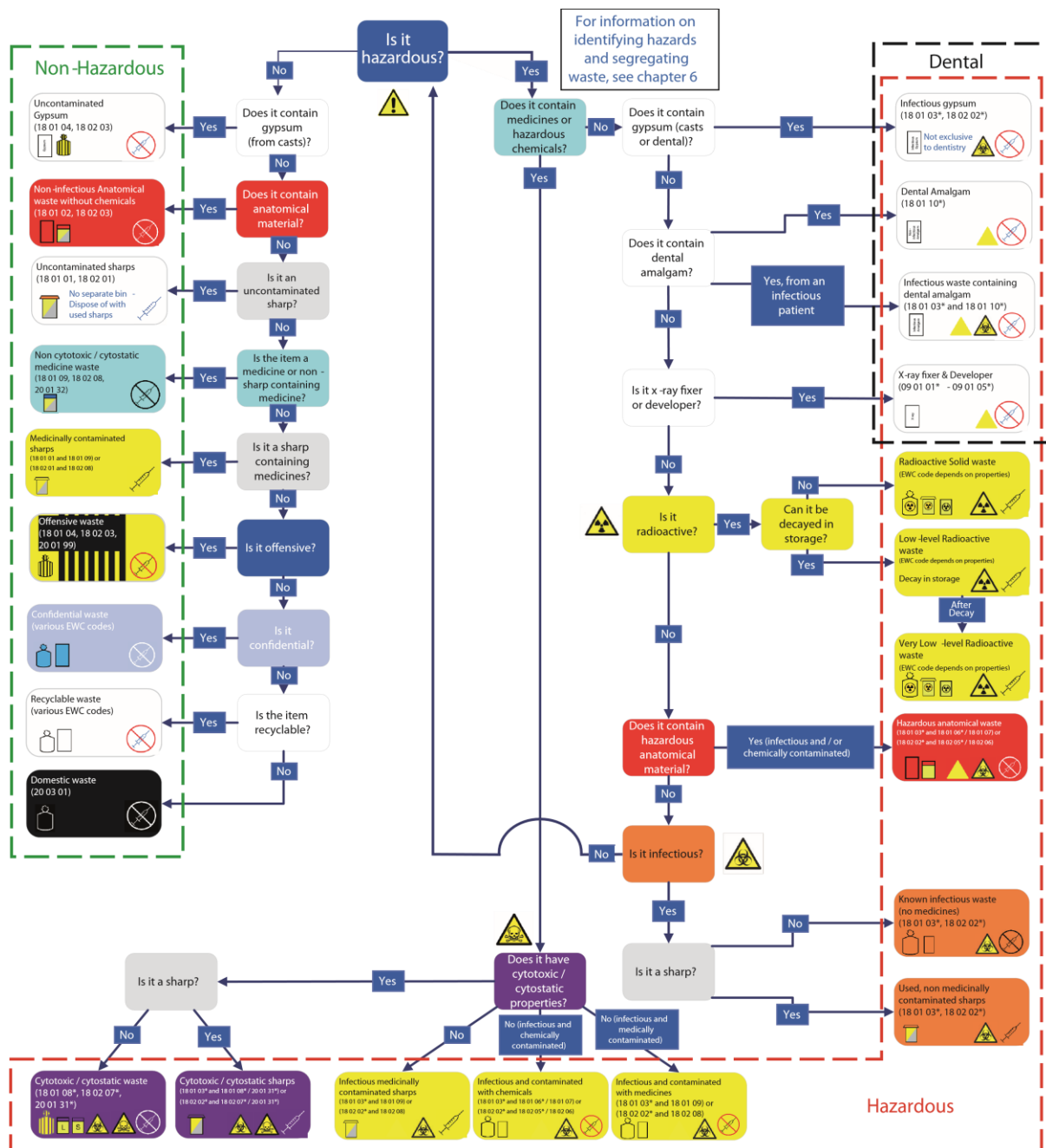
For further guidance please contact Estates-Waste@Swansea.ac.uk

Forms & Labelling

All relevant forms, labels and further waste guidance can be found [here](#).

Appendix 1: Waste Segregation & Classification Diagram¹

Use the following flow diagram to ensure you are utilising the correct colour bin for your waste



NB: Whilst this guidance applies specifically to waste from clinical and healthcare settings, it may also be used to inform waste practices in other laboratory environments. However, please refer to the relevant Waste Management Guidance Notes ([WMGN](#)) for other hazardous & non-hazardous wastes.

¹ Health Technical Memorandum 07-01: Appendix 3

WARNING HAZARDOUS WASTE



SHARPS BIN - BROKEN LABORATORY GLASS ONLY

30L YELLOW RIDGED CLINICAL BIN – YELLOW TOP – EWC 18 01 03 *

ITEMS

BROKEN CONTAMINATED LABORATORY GLASS ONLY

ONLY FILL TO THE LINE

NO NEEDLES / SCALPELS / METAL SHARPS / SYRINGES / BLADES

STORE/COLLECTION - SEE OPERATIONAL PROCEDURE; CHEMICAL WASTE

WARNING HAZARDOUS WASTE



SHARPS

30L DESK TOP YELLOW RIDGED CLINICAL BIN – YELLOW TOP – EWC 18 01 03 *

ITEMS

NEEDLES / SCALPELS / BROKEN CAPILLARY TUBES / SHARPS /
SYRINGES / BLADES / SLIDES

NO BROKEN LABORATORY GLASS