

Swansea University

Waste Management Guidance Note WMGN29:

- **Offensive Waste (Tiger Bag)**
- **Municipal/ Non-Hazardous**
- **Healthcare / Autoclave Waste**

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Waste Management Guidance Note WMGN29 Offensive Waste (Tiger Bag)	
Location Generated	Crèche / Healthcare Clinic / Laboratory
EWC	Offensive Municipal 20 01 99 Non-Hazardous Healthcare & Deactivated Autoclaved Waste 18 01 04 / 18 02 03
Transport Class & UN Number	NA
Type	Controlled – Unpleasant generally non-hazardous waste
Disposal Method	Segregated for incineration
Bin/Bag Type	Metal fire-proof bin / Yellow & black tiger stripe bag

Duty of Care Requirements

‘Offensive waste’ is waste that:

- Is municipal non-hazardous waste (e.g. nappies and sanitary waste),
- Is not clinical waste
- Is not infectious
- Is non-hazardous
- Falls within waste codes 18 01 04 if from healthcare, 18 02 03 if from research, diagnosis or treatment involving animals, or 20 01 99 if from municipal sources.
- Is also non-contaminated healthcare waste and deactivated hazardous clinical waste (autoclaved laboratory waste).

Offensive municipal, and offensive healthcare waste must be segregated from other waste streams. Under the Waste Regulations 2011 and The Controlled Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2012 offensive waste must be segregated from municipal (black bags) waste if more than 7kg is produced in one consignment, which is readily exceeded in University operations.

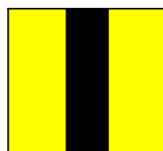
EWC 20 01 99: **Municipal offensive** waste, e.g. hygiene waste and sanitary protection like nappies and incontinence pads

EWC 18 01 04: **Healthcare offensive waste**, e.g. outer dressings and protective clothing like masks, gowns and gloves that aren’t contaminated with body fluids, and sterilised laboratory waste (**humans**) This is restricted to offensive wastes from healthcare and related activities (**including autoclaved wastes from laboratories**)

EWC 18 02 03: **Healthcare offensive waste**, e.g. outer dressings and protective clothing like masks, gowns and gloves that aren’t contaminated with body fluids, and sterilised laboratory waste (**animals**) This is restricted to offensive wastes from healthcare and related activities (**including autoclaved wastes from laboratories**)

For Autoclaved Laboratory waste see [WMGN30](#) Biologicals

The Welsh Health Technical Memorandum 07-01: Safe Management of Healthcare Waste¹, provides comprehensive guidance on the disposal of healthcare waste in line with industry standards, and legal requirements, and outlines the nationally recognised colour-coded system for healthcare/clinical wastes.



Offensive/Hygiene Waste

Items

Offensive municipal

- Nappies
- Incontinence pads
- Sanitary products
- Colostomy bags
- Catheters
- Non-infectious dressings etc.

Offensive healthcare

- PPE – Protective clothing; masks, gowns and gloves/ blue roll/ paper towels (**non-contaminated/infectious**)
- Single use instruments (tongue depressors, specula etc.)
- Dressings from non-infectious patients

Offensive healthcare (Laboratory Autoclaved waste) see [WMGN30](#) Biologicals

- Not limited to deactivated PPE – Protective clothing; masks, gowns and gloves (**contaminated**)

Offensive waste is non-hazardous. If an item is known to be infectious, contaminated with chemicals/medicines, is radioactive, or is sharp, it is not offensive waste.

Disposal Instructions

Internal Storage

All areas producing municipal, and healthcare offensive waste must seek to install complaint waste bins, a standard specification has been developed and is available [here](#).

Offensive healthcare

- PPE – Protective clothing; masks, gowns and gloves and blue roll/ paper towels (**no body/animal fluids**)

¹ [Welsh Health Technical Memorandum 07-01: Safe Management of Healthcare Waste](#)

Offensive municipal

- Nappies
- Incontinence pads
- Sanitary products

Offensive Research (Laboratory Autoclaved waste)

- Deactivated PPE – Protective clothing; masks, gowns and gloves (**Contaminated**)

For Autoclaved waste see **WMGN30 Biological** and consult the Faculty's' appointed Biological Safety Officers (and/or health and safety leads) for further guidance.



Figure 1 – Tiger bag and preferred metal fire-proof bin

Do not leave full tiger bags build up in storage. They must be disposed of frequently as there are legal limits imposed on the storage of offensive waste.

Under **no** circumstances should any sharps be placed into tiger bags, or items that may affect the integrity of the bag, including tips. Glass pierces the bags and has health and safety implications for anyone handling the bags.

External Storage

Offensive healthcare

- PPE – Protective clothing; masks, gowns and gloves (**no body/animal fluids**)

Offensive municipal

- Nappies
- Incontinence pads
- Sanitary products



Figure 2 – External yellow wheelie bin

Yellow and black tiger bags **must** not be placed into external black non-recycling, or recycling bins. **All** Yellow and Black Tiger Bags must be placed into yellow wheelie bins, locations;

Singleton Campus

- Crèche
- ILS1 Waste Compound

All bins must be locked at all times. No other wastes, or yellow ridged boxes, can be placed with yellow and black tiger bags into the external yellow bins (different hazardous waste streams must not be mixed).

Offensive Research (Autoclaved waste)

Once waste is autoclaved within the lab autoclave bags must be placed into tiger bags, as once autoclaved and deactivated waste is classified as Offensive Waste EWC 18 01 04 or 18 02 03 and can be placed into the ILS 1 Waste Compound.

For FSE/FMHLS



Figure 1 Cat A Waste disposal route for FSE/FMHLS

Disposal Cost

For further guidance contact estates-waste@Swansea.ac.uk

Forms, & labelling

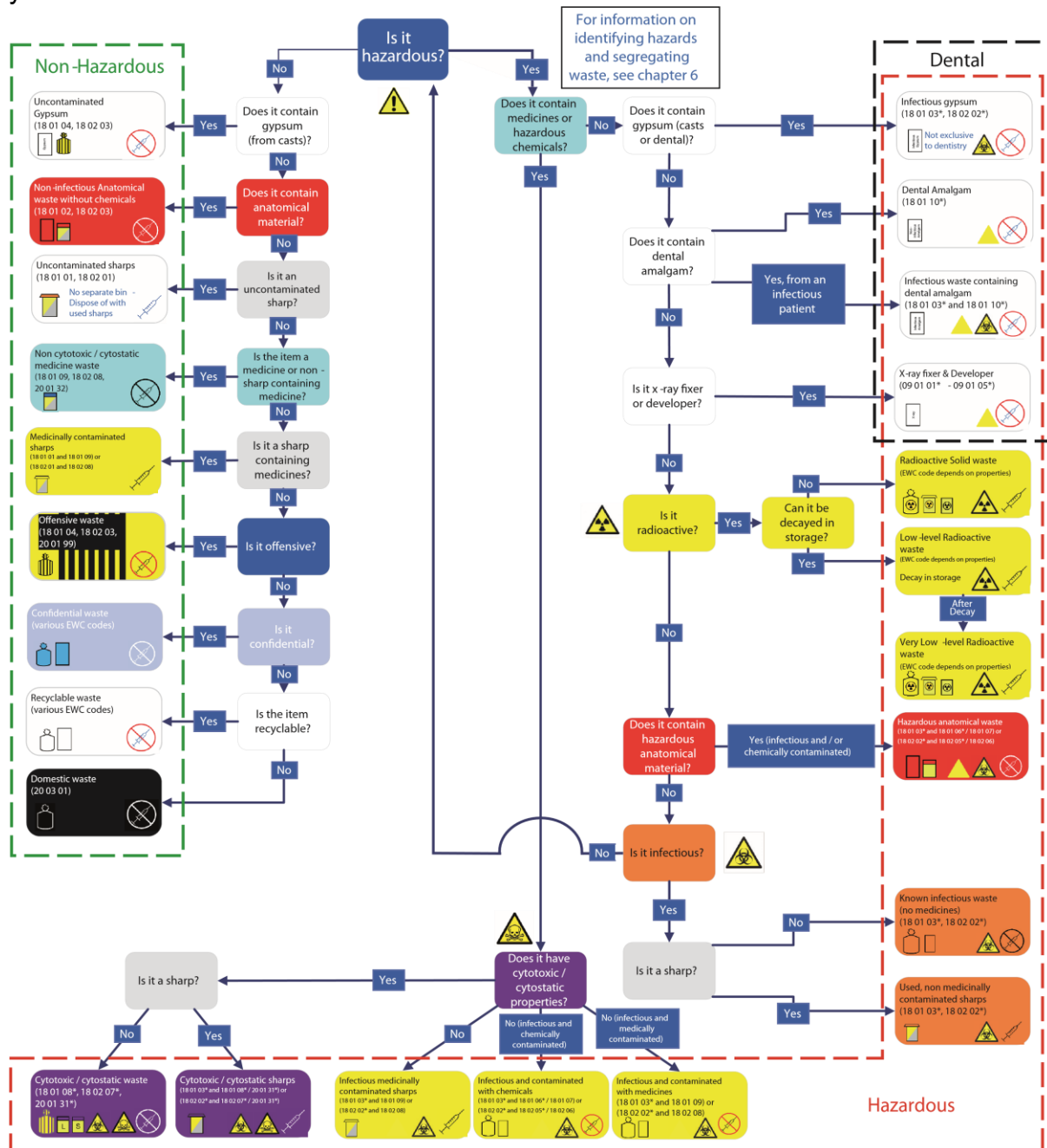
Offensive Waste Only (Municipal sanitary and non-contaminated healthcare) sign can be found below

Autoclaved Waste Only sign can be found below

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

Appendix 1: Waste Segregation & Classification Diagram²

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.

OFFENSIVE WASTE ONLY (MUNICIPAL SANITARY & NON-CONTAMINATED HEALTHCARE)



YELLOW AND BLACK TIGER BAG ONLY

METAL CLINICAL FLIP TOP BIN - EWC 18 01 04 / 18 02 03 / 20 01 99

ITEMS

**NON-CONTAMINATED PPE – GLOVES / MASKS / APRONS / BLUE ROLL / WIPES – NAPPIES
- INCONTINENCE WASTE**

**NO GLASS OF ANY TYPE – SHARPS / CHEMICAL WASTE / DOMESTIC OR RECYCLING WASTE / NO
VIABLE MICRO ORGANISMS/ CELL CULTURES**

YELLOW AND BLACK BAGS MUST NOT BE PLACED IN EXTERNAL NON-RECYCLING OR RECYCLING BINS

AUTOCLAVED WASTE ONLY



YELLOW AND BLACK TIGER BAG ONLY

METAL CLINICAL FLIP TOP BIN - EWC 18 01 04 / 18 02 03

ITEMS

**PPE – GLOVES / MASKS / PETRI DISHES / TISSUE CULTURE FLASKS / MICRO
ORGANISMS CELL CULTURE MEDIA**

**NO PIPETTES / PLASTIC TIPS / SEROLOGICAL PIPETTES / SYRINGES MUST NOT BE
PLACED INTO AUTOCLAVE BAGS - THESE MUST BE DISINFECTED IN VIRKON AND THEN
PLACED INTO SHARPS BOXES**