

How sustainable is your development - can you tick all the boxes?

You should try to ensure that you have considered all of the following issues where they are applicable to the building works you want to undertake. This list applies to both residential and commercial development.

Checklist	Tick
Can existing infrastructure be reused or refurbished rather than new build?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you designed-in enough room for recycling boxes to be stored in your house/office/shop etc?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has home or communal composting been considered and factored in to the design?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you spoken to your local council about waste collection requirements where applicable?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is there sufficient space for your residual waste (wheelie bin) to be stored and collected?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you specified recycled or sustainably sourced materials where possible?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has your scheme been designed to reduce or eliminate builders' waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are exact material requirements being specified to avoid over-ordering?	<input type="checkbox"/>
How is incoming packaging material to be minimised and handled?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are waste materials to be re-used on-site (or off-site) wherever possible?	<input type="checkbox"/>
How will different types of waste materials be segregated during building works?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you considered how you will handle any hazardous waste arising on-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>

For more detailed information on minimising and managing waste please refer to the full [Waste Minimisation Supplementary Planning Document](#), which can be viewed on line at www.gloucestershire.gov.uk or at Council Offices and libraries throughout the County.

Free advice and detailed examples of good practice can be found on the **WRAP** website www.wrap.co.uk and from the **Envirowise** helpline **0800 585794** and website www.envirowise.gov.uk.

Key Contact Numbers

Environment Agency

Lower Severn Area Office (08708 506506)
www.environment-agency.gov.uk

Waste Resources Action Programme

www.wrap.org.uk and www.aggregain.org.uk

Gloucestershire County Council

Waste Management Unit 01452 426601
 Waste Planning Policy 01452 427979

Cheltenham Borough Council

Waste Enquiries & Recycling 01242 264244
 Planning Reception 01242 264328
 Environmental Health 01242 264204

Cotswold District Council

Waste Collection (Domestic) 01285 623613
 Waste Collection (Commercial) 01285 868057
 Planning Development Control 01285 623001
 Environmental Health *Ciren* 01285 623000
Moreton 01608 650881

Forest of Dean District Council

Waste Collection 01594 812444
 Planning Development Control 01594 812340
 Environmental Health 01594 812442

Gloucester City Council

Waste Collection (Domestic) 01452 396396
 Waste Collection (Commercial) 01452 396255
 Planning Development Control 01452 396013
 Environmental Health 01452 396396

Stroud District Council

Waste Collection (Domestic) 01453 754412
 Waste Collection (Commercial) 01285 760726
 Waste Enquiries (Recycling) 01453 754424
 Planning Development Control 01453 754518
 Environmental Health 01453 754478

Tewkesbury Borough Council

Waste Collection (Recycling) 01684 272185
 Waste Collection (Commercial) 01684 272192
 Planning Reception 01684 272151
 Environmental Health 01684 272191

Minimising waste from your building project



Summary leaflet for minor development

Gloucestershire Supplementary Planning Document

Adopted September 2006



Why minimise waste?

Waste is created whenever there is development. Disposing of waste costs money and has potentially harmful impacts on the environment. By designing and building your development to take account of the waste that is likely to be generated this could save you money and will help the environment.

Who and what does this apply to?

This leaflet applies to all development. It includes house extensions, shops, businesses and industrial units etc.

The principles of Waste Minimisation applies to anyone who undertakes building works.

Whilst it is generally true that larger developments will create more waste, this does not mean that smaller projects should not apply and abide by the principles of waste minimisation.

Before you submit your planning application you should consider what waste materials you or your builder are likely to create. This will help to make your building work more sustainable and less likely to require amendment at a later stage. Ideas on how you can minimise waste are set out overleaf.

Re-using waste from building sites will reduce the amount of primary materials that have to be quarried and purchased, prevent the haulage of these materials and reduce the amount of waste that has to be managed and ultimately disposed of.

Tipping waste in a landfill site will cost you money through Landfill Tax. Disposal of waste will also be subject to Landfill Tax on top of basic disposal costs.

The easiest way to save money is to carefully control what materials are used on your site and to re-use materials wherever possible:

1. Only order the amount of raw materials that you require. If you are undertaking multiple developments take surplus stock on to the next project. Try to limit damage to materials.
2. Get suppliers to take back their packaging, otherwise you will have to pay for its handling and disposal.

Planning requirements:

The Gloucestershire Waste Local Plan (Policy 36) requires planning applications for development to be supported by a statement setting out how waste from that project is to be minimised and sustainably managed.

The key principles below will help you to address these issues in your development proposal:



Key principle to follow (No.1):

Consider what waste you are likely to create at the outset.

Estimating the types and quantity of waste that will be produced in the demolition and construction phases may highlight opportunities where materials can be re-used on site, for example where soils can be incorporated into landscaping or brick/concrete waste used for pathways. It will also make it easier to allocate areas for waste separation on site for reuse.

Ways to reduce the amount of waste brought on site include: avoiding over-ordering materials; adopting a 'take-back' policy for packaging upon delivery of materials; using prefabricated materials assembled off-site to reduce off-cuts and the need for having potentially hazardous treatment products on-site.

Key principle to follow (No.2):

Use materials with recycled content.

Recycled materials can be less expensive than their primary equivalents, especially when they are locally available.

There are increasing numbers of recycled products available at lower prices (for medium to large scale projects WRAPs website www.wrap.org.uk contains over 50 case study examples which show how using recycled aggregates can save you money).

Other products may be cost neutral. If there is a choice of specification good practice is to select products that have a high recycled content.

Key principle to follow (No.3):

Segregating building waste makes it easier to re-use.

Waste segregation reduces disposal costs. On smaller sites finding space for waste segregation can be difficult. Using bins e.g. for timber off-cuts, is a simple but effective solution.

If there is insufficient space for segregating larger tonnages of waste (e.g. soils) then arranging for it to be collected by a recycling company that sorts waste off-site is an option.

Whilst mixed material may be capable of being sorted, provided that it is not contaminated (for example by paints, oils, asbestos etc.), segregating waste at source will greatly assist in recovering the material.

Key principle to follow (No.4):

Re-use waste materials on-site wherever possible.

Re-using waste materials on-site rather than sending it out to be sorted or disposed can reduce handling and transportation costs.

Whilst there will be greater potential for larger projects to use waste materials elsewhere on the site small projects may still be able to benefit. For example, broken paving can be used as a base layer for patios and paths, and timber can be used for shelving in sheds/garages.

Key principle to follow (No.5):

Plan your scheme to allow sufficient space for recycling boxes, wheelie bins and composting bins.

Waste will be generated during the lifetime of your development. Different types of waste will arise depending on the development, e.g. household, commercial, offices, industrial etc.

Good practice is to identify waste types and design in space to make their recycling easier e.g. providing space for recycling/composting bins, or storage/collection areas for paper, glass, card etc.

Don't forget to leave space in your kitchen or porch area for recycling boxes. Dedicated space under the sink is a popular solution in kitchens. It is also important to consider where your residual waste will be stored (wheelie bins, sacks) and what collection arrangements for vehicles will be required.