



Ministry
of Defence

Sustainable MOD Strategy

Waste Management

2015-2025



Contents

Introduction	3
Scope.....	3
Vision and Objectives	
Vision.....	5
Objectives.....	5
Areas for Action	
Area for Action 1 – Baselineing	6
Area for Action 2 – Waste Prevention	7
Area for Action 3 – Resource Efficiency	8
Area for Action 4 - Driving Behavioural Change.....	9
Annex A to Waste Management Strategy	
Waste Framework Directive and the Waste Hierarchy.....	10

Introduction

This waste management strategy supports the Sustainable MOD Strategy 2015 - 2025 setting out the vision and strategic direction on how MOD actions on resource and waste management will support the two guiding principles of:

Act – to make our resource use and assets sustainable. This means working towards a sustainable level of what resources we use, and how we use them, to reduce the negative impacts and risks to business and capability, and maximise the benefits.

Evolve – to make our business resilient to the current and future social, economic and environmental threats.

This strategy sets the framework to drive continuous improvement in waste management, along with effectively contributing to the MOD's drive to become a more resilient organisation.

To achieve this, the MOD has a waste management vision, which is to:

To be an organisation where resources are fully valued, financially and environmentally and where we continually drive and incentivise improvement to maximise resource efficiency.

Scope

This strategy and its supporting delivery plan set out the key objectives and areas of action required to meet the vision. The scope of the waste strategy focuses on commercial¹ and industrial² controlled wastes and waste from the Built Environment (including Construction, Demolition and Facilities Management) produced by Defence and its activities. It applies to everyone and all organisations within Defence³, across the UK and also our overseas establishments where reasonably practicable.

For the purposes of this strategy waste is defined as

“Any substance or object which the producer or the person in possession of it discards, intends to discard or is required to discard.”⁴

This waste strategy does not cover those waste streams excluded from the Waste Framework Directive which include radioactive waste and Decommissioned Explosives⁵, nor does it apply to Urgent Operational Requirements or Operational Theatres.

1 A definition of Commercial waste can be found in the Environmental Protection Act 1990 S.75,

2 A definition of Industrial waste can be found in the Environmental Protection Act 1990 S.75

3 Many Defence activities are conducted by contractors or partner organisations: the term “Defence” encompasses these organisations as well as organisations within the Ministry of Defence

4 Waste as defined under article 3 of the Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC

5 Waste Framework Directive Revised 2008/98/EC, Article 2

The aim of this strategy is to provide the long term strategic direction on what Defence intends to do, to become a more resource efficient organisation. The delivery of this strategy along with actions, ownership and targets is detailed in the Waste Management Delivery Plan.

While this strategy does not specifically address the legal framework in which waste management activities occur, remaining legally compliant in our activities is a key element of delivering this strategy successfully. Details of waste legislation pertinent to MOD activities can be found in JSP 418 – MOD Environmental Protection Manual.

This strategy will be reviewed every 5 years, or as required depending on future waste policy development. The associated Waste Management Delivery Plan will be reviewed on an annual basis as minimum. Progress against this strategy and delivery plan will be reported on an annual basis.

VISION AND OBJECTIVES

Vision

The MOD waste vision is:

To be an organisation where resources are fully valued, financially and environmentally and where we continually drive and incentivise improvement to maximise resource efficiency.

The principle of the waste hierarchy as set out in the European Waste Framework Directive is central to this vision. The hierarchy identifies the prevention of waste as the highest priority, followed by reuse, recycling, recovery of other value (eg, energy), with disposal⁶ as the least desirable option (figure 1). The waste hierarchy will guide the MODs overall approach to waste management. While recycling performance continues to improve, Defence must, with its Industry Partners, continue to pursue other treatment approaches to recover greater value from the resources we use.

Objective

- To significantly reduce waste production and increase waste recovery.

To achieve this, through the effective delivery of this strategy and its delivery plan the MOD must minimise the use of primary resources⁷. Disposal of valuable resources must be avoided and waste reused or recycled, leaving only limited amounts of material being consigned for waste disposal.

To achieve this high level objective the MOD must:

- **Baselining:** Gain a full understanding of MOD resource use and throughlife management options and activities.
- **Waste Prevention:** Become a department where waste prevention is part of normal day to day business; being thoroughly embedded into decision making processes and procedures.
- **Resource Efficiency:** Where the production of waste is unavoidable, ensure that it is managed in line with the waste hierarchy.
- **Driving Behavioural Change:** Become a department where everyone appreciates the environmental, social and economic value of resources, and how their actions can influence and/or impact the efficient use of resources.

⁶ Disposal = Waste is either sent to landfill or goes for incineration without energy recovery

⁷ Resource use and Resources in this instance primarily means either the raw materials or the final product, however it can also encompass energy and water use, contributing to additional policies and targets

Area for Action 1 - Baselineing

Gain a full understanding of MOD resource use and throughlife management options and activities.

To enable the MOD to improve its management of waste, it is important to have a thorough understanding of our existing waste producing activities, including, what our main waste streams are, where are they coming from and how they are currently being managed. To support this it is crucial that waste production and disposal figures are accurate and well maintained on one corporate system so there is one single version of the current position. Accurate figures will then enable the UK MOD to identify how and where improvements can be made and more importantly identify where valuable resources may be being unnecessarily disposed of. It will also allow any improvement measures to be evaluated, tracked and forecast accurately.

Strategic Actions

- 1.1 Understand existing waste producing processes across the estate to ensure a consistent approach to the management of activities
- 1.2 Collect data on one corporate system to ensure an accurate current position of waste streams
- 1.3 Analyse data to identify key waste streams, enabling targeted programmes of work to be developed
- 1.4 All new, relet and amended contracts to provide accurate and measured data reporting of MOD waste arisings, including recovery or disposal methods.
- 1.5 All new contracts to stipulate waste management, based on the waste hierarchy, as a key deliverable.

Area for Action 2 - Waste Prevention

Become a department where waste prevention is part of normal day to day business; being thoroughly embedded into decision making processes and procedures.

Waste prevention is the most sustainable waste management option, sitting at the top of the waste hierarchy. The main aim of waste prevention is to ensure that measures are taken before a substance, material or product has become waste that reduces:

- The quantity of waste, including through the re-use of products or the extension of the life span of products;
- The adverse impacts of the generated waste on the environment and human health;

Waste prevention is a key aspect of moving towards resource efficiency, where fewer resources are used to produce more. Much of the emphasis on waste prevention is placed at the start of the procurement cycle, including using less material in design and manufacture and designing products and services to create less waste

Strategic Actions

2.1 Through the efficient use of resources achieve a significant reduction in waste, in line with industry benchmarks and available infrastructure.

2.2 Incorporate through life design⁸ principles, into all infrastructure and equipment procurement processes and procedures

2.3 Using through life design principles work with Industry partners to improve the design of our equipment to optimise the lifespan of products, components and services to enable more repair, reuse and recycling.

2.4 Work with Industry Partners to identify where a reduction in packaging may be incorporated in to day to day activities.

⁸ Principles and tools such as Eco Design, Design for Environment (DfE), DREAM, and others which take into account economic growth, maximising wellbeing in society and protecting the environment objectives over the full product or process life cycle

Area for Action 3 - Resource Efficiency

Where the production of waste is unavoidable, ensure that it is managed in line with the waste hierarchy.

While the elimination of waste through out the procurement cycle is the primary objective, there will be circumstances where the production of waste is unavoidable. In this instance it is important to ensure that valuable resources are not consigned to disposal activities, and that resources are managed efficiently to maximise recovery value at end of life.

Strategic Actions

- 3.1 Develop a roadmap to ensure that where practicable waste is not consigned to disposal operations.
- 3.2 Ensure that every site has a robust Integrated Waste Management Plan in place which are continuously reviewed to improve waste management processes
- 3.3 Look at trends and waste streams to identify resource opportunities
- 3.4 Consider, and encourage opportunities for closed loop recycling, recovering materials and components of strategic importance and economic value to the defence sector, making these available for reuse in new infrastructure, equipment procurements, and services
- 3.5 Work with industry partners to continuously identify new recovery routes and methods, including efficient use of transport, moving up the waste hierarchy

Area for Action 4 - Driving Behavioural Change

Become a department where everyone appreciates the environmental, social and economic value of resources, and how their actions can influence and/or impact the efficient use of resources.

The successful delivery of this strategy will depend upon everyone playing their part by recognising and taking responsibility for their own use of resources. To support that, everyone in the MOD needs information on how to reduce, reuse and recycle, and how they can participate in their roles. Individuals, TLBs, MOD establishments, Project Teams and Industry Partners need to understand how their behaviours can prevent waste and maximise resource efficiency at every step.

Strategic Actions

- 4.1 Ensure that everyone operating on the MOD estate are aware of, and acting upon, their responsibilities, by way of behavioural change.
- 4.2 Develop effective behavioural change strategies and communications plans
- 4.3 TLBs, MOD establishments and Project Teams work with industry partners to continuously influence and improve behaviours and education of staff, both military and civilian
- 4.4 Measure and report progress against targets both MOD wide and at local level.

Annex A to Waste Management Strategy

Waste Framework Directive and the Waste Hierarchy

Article 4 of the Waste Framework Directive states that the following waste hierarchy shall be applied as a priority order in waste prevention and management legislation and policy

- a) Prevention
- b) Preparing for reuse
- c) Recycling
- d) Recovery
- e) Disposal

Definitions

Prevention means measures taken before a substance, material or product has become waste that reduces:

- a) The quantity of waste, including through the reuse of products or the extension of the lifespan of products
- b) The adverse impacts of the generated waste on the environment and human health, or
- c) The content of harmful substances in materials and products.

Reuse means any operation by which products or components that are not waste are used again for the same purpose for which they were conceived.

Preparing for Reuse means checking, cleaning or repairing recovery operations, by which products or components of products that have become waste are prepared so that they can be reused without any other re-processing.

Recycling means any recovery operation by which waste materials are reprocessed into products, materials or substances whether for the original or other purposes. It includes the reprocessing of organic material but does not include energy recovery and the reprocessing into materials that are to be used as fuels or for backfilling operations.

Treatment means recovery or disposal operations, including preparation prior to recovery or disposal.

Recovery (including energy recovery) means any operation the principle result of which is waste serving a useful purpose by replacing other materials which would otherwise have been used to fulfil a particular function, or waste being prepared to fulfil that function, in the plant or in the wider economy.

Disposal means any operation which is not recovery even where the operation has as a secondary consequence the reclamation of substances or energy.

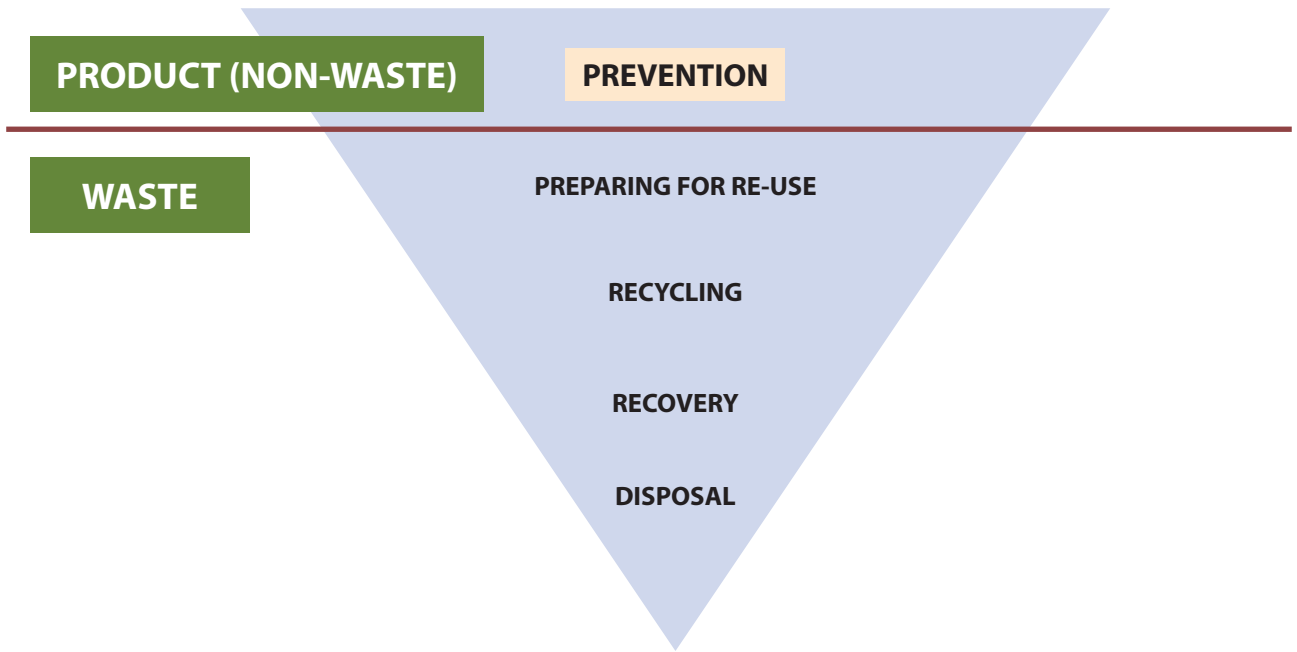


Figure 1 - Waste Pyramid Hierarchy

