



October 2011

Waste Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2011

In April 2011, the new waste regulations for Northern Ireland came into operation.

The regulations are called the Waste Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2011 and fully transpose Directive 2008/98/EC (The Revised Waste Framework Directive).

Who does it apply to?

If you are responsible for producing, keeping, transporting, recycling, recovering or disposing of waste, then the Directive is likely to apply to you.

What does the new legislation require of business?

The Waste Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2011 requires businesses to do the following:

- **Apply the waste management hierarchy**

From 8th October 2011, waste transfer notes or hazardous waste consignment notes must contain a declaration that the transferor has applied the waste hierarchy.

The revised Waste Framework Directive places greater emphasis on the waste hierarchy to ensure that waste is dealt with in the priority order of:

- prevention;
- preparing for re-use;
- recycling;
- other recovery (for example, energy recovery);
- disposal.

In applying the waste hierarchy, the organisation shall ensure that it encourages the options that deliver the best overall environmental outcome.

- **Introduce a two-tier system for waste carrier, broker and dealer registration**

A new waste carrier and broker regime has been introduced, with a two-tier registration system. Waste producers carrying their own waste will need to register as lower tier carriers from **end of 2013**.

“broker” means any person arranging the recovery or disposal of waste on behalf of others, including such brokers who do not take physical possession of the waste;

“dealer” means any person who acts in the role of principal to purchase and subsequently sell waste, including such dealers who do not take physical possession of the waste;

- **Waste Prevention Programmes**

It requires businesses to produce waste prevention programmes and make supplementary provision in relation to waste prevention programmes including provision for public participation in their preparation and revision.

- **Amend other legislation**

The new Regulations require the amendment of the following legislation including the Environment (Northern Ireland) Order 2002 and the Waste and Contaminated Land (Northern Ireland) Order 1997.

- **Separation of waste**

From 1st January 2015, where it is environmentally, economically and technically feasible to do so, at least waste paper, metal, plastic and glass should be collected separately and the mixing of those wastes once separately collected is prohibited.

What happens if businesses fail to comply?

Failure to comply with these regulations may result in the Department issuing compliance, restoration or suspension notices as applicable.

If your business or site is affected and you require further information or advice, contact us today on 028 9042 3222 or email enquiries@quadraconsulting.com.

Are you complying with all relevant legislation?

We can carry out environmental aspects and legislation updates for your organisation. If you would like a free quotation, please contact us today on 028 9042 3222.

For more information on the Waste Regulations (NI) 2011 or any other environmental services, please contact us on 028 9042 3222 or email enquiries@quadraconsulting.com.

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