

## Changes to Household Waste Recycling Centre - DIY Waste Charges.



### Background

In April 2022 the Government undertook a [consultation on DIY waste charges](#) at household waste recycling centres.

The purpose of the consultation was to help determine when construction waste should be treated as DIY waste and therefore classified as household waste enabling it to be disposed of free of charge. The consultation proposed criteria to define construction waste as DIY waste.

The Government [published its response to the consultation](#) on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

The response states that later this year (2023) the Controlled Waste Regulations will be amended to clarify where construction waste should be treated as DIY waste and to prevent Local Authorities charging for the disposal of DIY waste at HWRCs from small scale projects by householders.

The criteria for DIY waste will be:

1. The waste is produced by householders whilst carrying out small-scale construction or demolition works at their home;
2. The waste does not arise from activities that generate income for the person who carried them out;
3. The waste is not produced on a regular basis and will limit visits to 4 visits per household over a 4 week period;
4. The volume of waste is no greater than two 50L rubble bags per visit.

A householder may still bring more construction waste from a DIY project and at a more regular frequency than stated in the criteria, but it would not meet the criteria and therefore charges may be applied depending on local authority policy.

DEFRA has confirmed that the changes to the Controlled Waste Regulations (CWR) will come into force on the 31st December 2023.

### Impact

In order to be able to comply with the new regulations Plymouth City Council is required to make amendments to its Fees and Charges in respect of waste disposal.

A booking system will also be introduced for residents to allow them to book visits to site to deposit their DIY waste. This will allow the service to record how many visits residents make to ensure that they comply with the new limits in the CWR.

Any resident wishing to dispose of quantities above the new limits set in the CWR will be able to do so but will be charged for the additional amount at the rates currently set.

### Financial Impact

The service will be unable to achieve £44,000 of savings target identified in the 2023/24 budget. The impact of the change has already been accounted for in future budgets.