

Waste Management Procedure Doc No.	11
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## **WASTE MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE 11: WASTE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT**

### **1.1 The Objective of the WEEE Regulations**

Electrical and Electronic Equipment that is new or that has not reached 'end of life' will, for the purposes of this procedure, be termed 'EEE'.

EEE means equipment which is dependent on electric currents or electromagnetic fields to work properly.

'Dependent on electric currents or electromagnetic fields to work properly' means that the equipment needs electric currents or electromagnetic fields (not petrol or gas) to fulfil its basic function. So when the electric current is off, the equipment cannot fulfil its basic function.

The WEEE Regulations require that where the supply of EEE replaces old equipment on a 'like for like' basis, then the suppliers of these goods are required to 'take back' equivalent goods for recycling. The arrangements for this exchange of goods require establishment in the procurement policy and purchase contracts.

EEE that is no longer required by a user and where no 'like for like, take back' scheme exists, then the EEE must be collected in accordance with this procedure and will, for the purpose of this procedure be termed, 'Historical EEE'.

Successful implementation of the WEEE Regulations and this procedure will ensure that where hazardous components apparent in electrical devices are safely removed for reprocessing and that the non-hazardous proportion of raw materials used in the manufacture of the products are recovered and recycled.

**NB: infected surgical implants are exempt from this procedure and guidance from the manufacturer should be followed**

For each compliance year you must report products you put on the market in one of these 14 categories:

1. large household appliances
2. small household appliances
3. IT and telecommunications equipment
4. consumer equipment
5. lighting equipment
6. electrical and electronic tools (except large scale stationary industrial tools)
7. toys, leisure and sports equipment
8. medical devices (except implanted and infected products)
9. monitoring and control equipment
10. automatic dispensers
11. display equipment
12. appliances containing refrigerants
13. gas discharge lamps and light-emitting diode (LED) light sources
14. PV panels (solar panels)

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## 1.2 Production of EEE Waste

### EEE Waste is produced in many departments within the Health Board

including but not limited to

- Estates
- Computer and Information Technology Equipment Waste - All hard drives must be collected by IT to be wiped of data as per approved methodology
- Medical Electronics
- Renal Technology
- All Departments and Wards

## 1.3 Identification of EEE for Collection

As progress is made with WEEE compliant procurement contracts certain defined items may require direction back to the supply chain for 'like for like' collection and exchange.

In some instances, EEE may be labelled with an asset register tag (barcode) and the label may for example advise '*this equipment must be returned to medical electronics*'. This will require action by the department named on a label to, collect and fulfil the terms on which the equipment was deployed.

Some Equipment used by the Health Board is leased and so is returnable to the owner when it is no longer required e.g. Electric beds.

The Health Board does not generally access take back schemes as they are not commercially viable. However, when it is known that the EEE will not be disposed of via a 'take back' scheme the waste will be disposed of via an approved contractor.

## 1.4 Collection and Assessment of Historical EEE

Some departments will dispose of EEE directly to the storage containers e.g. Estates / Renal Technology etc. .

Other EEE within the hospital will be collected by porters.

IT EEE will be collected direct form Wards / departments by IT staff.

However it is noted that with the exception of items containing Hard Dives (which require wiping) IT EEE can be disposed of via the general EEE container – if their presence in the hospital is presenting other Health and Safety issues