

## GPG 6 General Waste Management



### **Governing Legislation and Standards:**

Environment Protection Act  
Local Council Regulations



### **Summary Information:**

General waste includes solid non hazardous wastes commonly found in any business such as cardboard, metals, plastics and glass.

While most of this material can be legally dumped in a local tip by a contractor, it is an expensive and environmentally damaging method of waste disposal.

Most General Waste can be recycled. To recycle waste, you need to separate the different types of waste from each other.

The use of incinerators to burn General Waste is not generally allowed. Local council and shire officers will be able to advise whether or not burning is permitted in your area.



### **Further Help:**

Local council  
EcoRecycle

# GPG 6



## Good Practice Risk Control:

- Minimise the amount of waste your business generates by getting suppliers to take back cardboard, and similar, packaging materials.
- Revise the way you receive material or component inputs to reduce the use of disposable packing materials.
- Implement strict waste disposal procedures for handling, storage and disposal. Make sure that your staff follow these procedures.
- Recycle wastes wherever possible.
- Only ever dispose of wastes that cannot be recycled or reused.
- Segregate the different types of waste your business produces into separate areas for:
  - General Waste (use wheelie bins or dump master bins)
  - Paper and cardboard (use dry storage bags located in covered areas)
  - Metal (use a dedicated skip supplied by a scrap dealer)
  - Plastics (recyclers will often pick up clean plastic waste)
  - Prescribed wastes (use properly designed containers)
  - Oil (recyclers will often collect waste oil free of charge)
- Never mix your General Waste with Prescribed Wastes or other types of wastes.
- Empty containers like chemical containers, paint tins, solvent containers and oil containers can only be put into the general waste if they are drained (these containers should also be crushed or squashed to reduce their volume).
- Used oil filters must not be included in general waste