



ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT 4.4.3.1

The Site Waste Management Plans Regulation 2008

INTRODUCTION

The Site Waste Management Plans Regulations 2008 came into force on 6th April 2008. A Site Waste Management Plan (SWMP) *must* be prepared *before* work begins on any construction project that has an estimated cost greater than £300k, be it for new build, maintenance, alteration or installation/removal of services such as sewerage and water. Requirements differ according to the cost of the project.

- Projects costing between £300k - £500k follow a basic template
- Projects costing in excess of £500k require a much greater level of detail

The purpose of Site Waste Management Plans is to:

- Ensure materials are managed efficiently;
- Ensure waste is disposed of legally;
- Ensure that material recycling, reuse and recovery is maximised.

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

CLIENT

- It is the Client's responsibility to ensure a SWMP is written, followed, and updated during the project. Although the plan needs to be written at the construction design stage, it is a requirement of the SWMP regulations to maintain it during the whole project. Therefore, the Client (or Principal Contractor) is also responsible for updating the plan with site day to day activities.

CLIENT & PRINCIPLE CONTRACTOR

- The Client and Principal Contractor jointly review and revise the SWMP periodically.

PRINCIPLE CONTRACTOR

- It is the Principal Contractor's responsibility to ensure coordination amongst contractors, so that work is carried out according to the SWMP. The Principal Contractor is responsible for ensuring that any waste arising on site is managed, re-used, recycled or recovered and that illegal disposal of waste from site is prevented.
- The Principal Contractor ensures that the SWMP is kept available on site and that all subcontractors contribute to it and are fully involved in its implementation.

ENFORCEMENT

The SWMP regulations are intended to be self regulated. The onus is on the Client (or Principal Contractor) to ensure the SWMP meets its regulatory requirements. The Client must also ensure all those involved in the project act in accordance with the plan and current waste legislation.

Both Local Authorities and the Environment Agency have power to enforce these regulations via fixed penalty notices or prosecution.

OFFENCES

Failure to comply with the SWMP regulations, including failure to produce a SWMP or any other records relating to the plan when requested to do so by an authorised officer, can result in a fixed penalty notice (£300) and may lead to prosecution.

FURTHER INFORMATION

- Envirowise website www.envirowise.gov.uk
- NetRegs website www.netregs.gov.uk