

## Pre Acceptance - A Step-by-Step Guide



#### What do you want to know?

Click the link and jump straight to the answer





## The story behind pre-acceptance

Healthcare waste is waste produced during human and animal healthcare and related research activities. It covers both clinical and offensive waste and is generally the result of healthcare activities, like those taking place in hospitals, clinics, veterinary practices, and nursing homes.

Some healthcare waste producers have been required to assess their waste composition and inform their waste removal operators since 2010. The aim of this being to aid the safe collection and disposal of waste.

The Environmental Agency prioritised this requirement in 2013 and pre-acceptance as we know it was created. Now, all producers of human and animal healthcare waste are legally required to assess their waste and provide an audit to their waste removal operators. This ensures the removal operators can safely handle, transport, store and dispose of the waste. Pre-acceptance audits itemise the waste produced at a location and detail how it is segregated to ensure appropriate disposal methods, recycling procedures, and treatment options. This information prevents improper waste handling, reduces environmental risks, and minimises the potential for adverse health effects.



#### So, what role does **phs** play?

**phs** are committed to supporting sustainable growth and reducing the impact of its products and services upon the environment. **phs** collects around 65,000 tonnes of waste from customers per year, ranging from nappies and sanitary products to medicinally contaminated sharps and dental amalgam. Correctly segregating all types of healthcare and non-healthcare waste not only supports best practice for waste management but also enables **phs** to divert offensive waste from landfill. Through a partnership with Virador, **phs**-managed offensive waste is treated at Viridor's energy recovery facilities (ERFs), and other partners across the country, to create low carbon electricity which is sent to the National Grid. This enhances **phs** customers' sustainability objectives by diverting waste from landfill, which can take more than 500 years to decompose, and using it to create energy.

**phs** offer a digital pre-acceptance audit form which can be completed online through the **myphs portal**. Should you already have your own completed audit document, you have the option to upload it here too.

**VIEW OUR PURPOSE** 



#### The legal stuff

Pre-acceptance audits are a legal requirement for all locations producing human or animal healthcare waste. Both the waste producer (you) and the waste operator (**phs**) are legally required to retain a copy of this audit for the duration of the audit frequency. You may be asked to produce this audit during any internal, external, or governing body inspections or audits. **phs** too are required to provide copies of a customer's audit during any routine road-side inspection or governing body inspection or audit. If you are a healthcare waste producer, failure to have a correct and in-date pre-acceptance audit in place could result in a fine.



### Do I have to complete an audit?

If you answer 'yes' to the following questions, then yes you will be required to complete and submit a pre-acceptance audit to all your waste removal operators:

- **1.** Are you a qualified medical professional?
- **2.** Are you producing waste from healthcare or research related activities for either humans or animals?

The audit can be completed by yourselves, or you can arrange for a qualified and competent 3rd party to complete it on your behalf. Info on waste competency can be found **here.** 

#### Don't think this applies to you?

- 1. Is the waste you're producing not a product of healthcare activities?
- **2.** Are you producing waste in a domestic setting?
- 3. Are there no qualified medical professionals on site?
- **4.** Do you believe the audit request you've received from **phs** is not relevant to you?

Please contact **pre-acceptance@phs.co.uk** with your **phs** account number so we can update your account accordingly and remove this requirement.

Examples of businesses who complete pre-acceptance audits		Examples of businesses who don't complete pre-acceptance audits		
Hospitals	Dental centres	Domestic sites	Beauty/Hair Salons (non-healthcare professionals)	
Doctors/GP Surgeries	Opticians	Tattoo studios	Body piercing practitioners	
Care homes providing medical or nursing care	Non-healthcare facilities at which a healthcare professional produces waste	Care homes without medical or nursing staff	Minor first aid	
Veterinary clinics	Ambulance trusts	Substance abuse refuse		
Community pharmacies	Healthcare centres			
Research laboratories generating clinical waste	Pharmaceutical manufacturers/suppliers			
Any other medical practices				





#### I already have an audit

If you already have a completed and in-date audit (more than 30 days prior to its expiry date), it can be used to cover the pre-acceptance requirement. You can upload a PDF version of your audit to the my**phs** portal by selecting 'Upload PDF' under the location in question. The PDF must be no larger in size than 10MB and will be virus-checked before it enters the **phs** ecosystem. Please ensure the existing audit covers all waste services on site and that details such as quantities, weights, and collection frequencies haven't changed since the audit was carried out.

You may find it helpful to request a list of your **phs** contracted waste services to ensure they're all included. You can do this by raising a query in your my**phs** account.







#### Who completes the audit?

A pre-acceptance audit must be completed by the waste producer or a qualified competent 3rd party. You can have someone else upload the information onto the **phs** audit form on your behalf, ensuring they also include the contact details of the person who physically conducted the audit.

The first section of the audit asks for the contact details of the person completing the online audit form. If somebody else provided them with the details so they can complete the online form, their contact details are requested here too.



## What is waste competency?

To complete a pre-acceptance audit, the auditor must be waste competent, i.e. someone who understands what the waste is, how waste should be classified, segregated, and disposed of, along with what treatment has been carried out to generate the waste.

Waste competency can be determined in a number of ways:

- A recognised medical qualification,
- An external qualification in relation to the classification and segregation of waste,
- A waste auditing qualification.

Alternatively, a person on site can also be deemed as competent if they have experience in:

- The treatments being carried out,
- The waste being produced from each treatment,
- The classification of the waste,
- The correct waste receptacle (bin, bag, or container) in which the waste must be disposed of.



### How often do I need to complete an audit?

Your audit frequency will depend on the type of location and the volume of waste you are producing within a 12-month period. These are as follows:



- High volume producers who produce 5 tonnes + waste per year.
- All healthcare producers



- High Risk producer who produces under 5 tonnes per year
- Dentists
- Vets
- Research Labs



- Low Risk producers under 5 tonnes per year
- Other medical practices, including general practices engaged in medical consultation and treatment in the field of general and specialised medicine by general practitioners, medical specialists, and surgeons.
- Other healthcare premises, not involving hospitals or practicing medical doctors, involving para medical practitioners legally recognised to treat patients.
- Community pharmacies
- Care homes with care and nursing
- Healthcare waste producers not wholly or partially encompassing the above.



## my phs

# Where do I complete the audit?

You can complete the **phs** pre-acceptance audit online in the **myphs portal**. On the home page you will find a link to the My Audits area. Here you can either complete the digital **phs** audit or alternatively you can upload your own pre-acceptance audit.

The digital **phs** audit is linked to your **phs** contracted waste services, making the process quick and simple.



## How do I log into the My**phs** portal?

As a customer, you can take advantage of our customer **myphs portal** and manage your account online. With our portal, you will be able to access and submit your pre-acceptance audit, as well as accessing information such as your service history, invoices and useful **phs** resources. The registration process only takes a few minutes. If you're not already registered, click here to **register now.** You will need your location's postcode and if you have received it, your **phs** account number too.



# What do I need before I complete the audit form?

- **1.** Undertake a review of HTM07-01 in relation to waste classification, segregation, and disposal to help you identify the items you have on site.
- **2.** Set aside time to walk around the departments/rooms on your site, noting down which waste containers, bins and bags are in each one, and what treatments are being carried out to generate the waste.
- **3.** Once you've compiled all the information for the waste on your site you can login to the **myphs portal**, click on the My Audit section and begin completing the online audit. If you have your own audit, you can upload a PDF copy here too.
- 4. Remember, we're here to help. You can <u>raise a query</u> directly on the myphs portal and a member of the team will be in touch. If you're uploading a copy of your own audit, you may find it helpful to request a list of your phs contracted waste services to ensure they're all included.





#### Which products need to be listed on the audit form?

Our innovative audit form on the my**phs** portal connects to your **phs** contract, displaying all the details of your pre-acceptance applicable products and services. If you have waste removed from your site by operators other than **phs**, there's also a section where you can add this to the audit. We ask that you include all the waste disposal products you have on site. This enables us to determine if and how the waste we collect could be contaminated from any other waste streams. It also assists us in ensuring the health and safety of our employees and employees further down the disposal chain.

If you choose to upload your own audit form, please note that missing **phs** contracted products off your audit will result in rejection. You can easily request a list of your products in the raise a query section of the my**phs** portal. If any products on your contract are no longer taken or there are additional products we can offer, please get in contact.



## How do I complete the audit form?

- Our digital pre-acceptance audit form can be found online in the **myphs portal**.
- Click the My Audits area link found on the homepage. If you have an audit to complete it will be displayed here.
- Select Start to begin. If you return to this page after beginning your audit, the link will have changed to Resume.
- On average it will take around 10 minutes to complete, and for your convenience you can save your progress at any point and return to it later.
- Before beginning the audit, please take some time to gather the necessary information listed **here**.
- There are four stages to complete:
- Waste Producer --> Enter your site details, your contact details, and the contact details of the
  person who carried out the audit and provided you with the details if it wasn't you.
- 2. <u>Departments</u> --> Add each department/room on site which is generating healthcare waste and select whether the waste is human or animal.
- **3.** <u>Waste Information</u> --> Your contracted healthcare products are listed here. Select the department(s) they're located in and enter the quantity in each.
- <u>Completion</u> --> Review your audit summary and add details of any waste collected by companies other than **phs**.





#### Stage 1 - Waste Producer



#### Stage 2 - Departments

Enter a department name. You can input the specific name or number for each department/ room generating healthcare waste, or as the example shows you can state where it is located on your premises.

Select either human or animal to indicate if the waste generated in the department/room is from human or animal treatments.





Here is the place to list all the departments/rooms you have on site which are generating healthcare waste. There must be at least 1 department/room listed to continue.







Click the bin icon to remove a

#### Stage 3 - Waste Information



All your **phs** contracted healthcare products are listed here. Select the appropriate departments and quantities for each product.



#### Stage 4 - Completion



Review your audit summary and add details of any waste collected by companies other than **phs**.



## **Pre Acceptance Product Index**



Product Images(s)	Product Description	Average Weight	EWC Code	Waste Description Examples	Sectors	
		Bag Waste				
	Orange bag	3kg	18 01 03 18 02 02	Infectious waste - soft waste including swabs, dressings, bandages, wipes Infectious waste - soft waste including swabs, dressings, bandages, wipes from theatre / minor ops etc. Infectious waste, potentially contaminated with pharmaceuticals or chemicals	<ul> <li>Dentists</li> <li>GPs</li> <li>Medical centres</li> <li>Hospitals</li> <li>Care homes</li> <li>Veterinary</li> <li>Labs</li> <li>Pharmacies</li> <li>Clinics</li> </ul>	
	Box containing orange liner	25L = 8kg 50L = 12kg	18 02 02			
	Yellow bag	3kg	18 01 03 / 18 01 06			
	Box containing yellow liner	25L = 8kg 50L = 12kg	18 02 02 / 18 02 06			
	Yellow bag with black stripe		10.01.04			
	4kg Swabs and dressings unit with yellow bag with black stripe	18 01 04 18 02 03	dressings, nappies, incontinence waste.			
		Eurobins				
	Eurobin containing orange bags	240L = 15kg 360L = 24kg 660L = 36kg 770L = 52kg 1100L = 90kg	18 01 03 18 02 02	Infectious waste - soft waste including swabs, dressings, bandages, wipes	<ul> <li>Dentists</li> <li>GPs</li> <li>Medical centres</li> <li>Hospitals</li> <li>Care homes</li> <li>Veterinary</li> <li>Labs</li> <li>Pharmacies</li> <li>Clinics</li> </ul>	
	Eurobin containing yellow bags		18 01 03 / 18 01 06 18 02 02 / 18 02 06	Infectious waste - soft waste including swabs, dressings, bandages, wipes from theatre / minor ops etc. Infectious waste, potentially contaminated with pharmaceuticals or chemicals		
	Eurobin containing tiger bags	240L = 20kg 360L = 32kg 660L = 48kg 770Lt = 80kg 1000L = 120kg	18 01 04 18 02 03	Non infectious waste including swabs, dressings, nappies, incontinence waste.		
Ecoloc Containers						
	Hazardous Eco Loc	30L=8kg 50L = 12kg 60L = 15kg	18 01 03 18 02 02	Infectious waste – hard clinical waste not suitable for bags.	<ul> <li>Dentists</li> <li>GPs</li> <li>Medical centres</li> <li>Hospitals</li> <li>Care homes</li> <li>Veterinary</li> <li>Labs</li> <li>Pharmacies</li> <li>Clinics</li> </ul>	
		30L =8kg 50L = 12kg 60L = 15kg	18 01 04 18 02 03	Non hazardous hard clinical waste, e.g. animal faeces, highly sodden waste		



Product Images(s)	Product Description	Average Weight	EWC Code	Waste Description Examples	Sectors	
Orange Lidded Sharps Containers						
	Orange Lidded Sharps Container - Hazardous	$\begin{array}{c} 0.6L = 0.5kg\\ 1L = 0.5kg\\ 2L = 1kg\\ 3L = 1.5kg\\ 4L = 2kg\\ 5L = 2kg\\ 7L = 2kg\\ 13L = 3kg\\ 24L = 4kg\\ 25L = 5kg\\ 30L = 6kg \end{array}$	18 01 03 18 02 02	Infectious and blood contaminated sharps (e.g. phlebotomy needles)	<ul> <li>Dentists</li> <li>GPs</li> <li>Medical centres</li> <li>Hospitals</li> <li>Care homes</li> <li>Veterinary</li> <li>Labs</li> <li>Pharmacies</li> <li>Clinics</li> </ul>	
	Orange Lidded Sharps Container - Non Hazardous		18 01 01 18 02 01	Needles or sharps not contaminated or considered to be infectious		
		Yellow Lidded Sharps	Containers			
	Yellow Lidded Sharps Container - Hazardous	0.6L = 0.5kg 1L = 0.5kg 2L = 1kg 3L = 1.5kg 4L = 2kg	18 01 03 / 18 01 09 18 02 01 / 18 02 08	Infectious medicinally contaminated sharps (e.g. vaccinations)	<ul> <li>Dentists</li> <li>GPs</li> <li>Medical centres</li> <li>Hospitals</li> <li>Care homes</li> <li>Veterinary</li> <li>Labs</li> <li>Pharmacies</li> <li>Clinics</li> </ul>	
	Yellow Lidded Sharps Container - Non Hazardous	5L = 2kg 7L = 2kg 13L = 3kg 24L = 4kg 25L = 5kg 30L = 6kg	18 01 01 / 18 01 09 18 02 01 / 18 02 08	Non-infectious medicinally contaminated sharps (e.g. vaccinations to healthy population)		
Cytotoxic Waste						
	Purple Lidded Sharps Container	1L =.5kg 3L = 1.5kg 4L = 2kg 13L = 3kg 24L = 4kg	18 01 03 / 18 01 08 18 02 02 / 18 02 07		<ul> <li>Dentists</li> <li>GPs</li> <li>Medical centres</li> <li>Hospitals</li> <li>Care homes</li> <li>Veterinary</li> <li>Labs</li> <li>Pharmacies</li> <li>Clinics</li> <li>Aesthetics/beauticians administering Botox</li> </ul>	
	Purple Bag	3kg		Cytotoxic/cytostatic pharmaceutical and sharps waste (e.g. chemotherapy drugs, steroids, HRT, contraceptives, immunosuppressants, Botox)		
	Eco Loc - Purple Lid	50L = 9kg 60L = 9kg				
Pharmaceutical Waste						
🥽 🖥 🗑 曼	Non hazardous pharmaceutical blue lidded containers	7L = 4kg 13L = 4kg 30L = 10kg 50L = 12kg	18 01 09 18 02 08	Non hazardous pharmaceuticals - e.g. patient returns, over the counter out of date pharmaceuticals, denatured controlled drugs kits.	<ul> <li>Dentists</li> <li>GPs</li> <li>Medical centres</li> <li>Hospitals</li> <li>Care homes</li> </ul>	
	Box containing blue liner	12L = 3kg 25L = 8kg 50L = 12kg			<ul> <li>vecernary</li> <li>Labs</li> <li>Pharmacies</li> <li>Clinics</li> <li>Aesthetics/beauticians administering Botox</li> </ul>	

RETURN TO HOMEPAGE

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Product Images(s)	Product Description	Average Weight	EWC Code	Waste Description Examples	Sectors
		Dental Wast	e		
	Lead Foil Container non-haz	1.5L = 2kg	18 01 04	Foils from X-rays	• Dentists
2 2	Fixer &	10kg 20kg	20 01 17	X-ray fixer liquid	
	Developer	10kg 20kg	20 01 17	X-ray developer liquid	• Dentists
and the second se		600ml = 0.5kg		Waste / excess amalgam	- • Dentists
	Amalgam Waste Container	1.8L = 0.5kg 6L = 2kg	18 01 01	Capsules containing amalgam residue	
er ora internet ISS internet int		6L = 4kg		Amalgam sludge	
		600ml = 0.5kg		Extracted teeth containing amalgam	
		Small = 1kg	18 01 10	Amalgam waste from a separator machine	• Dentists
S 💽 💮 🍧	Amalgam separator cup	Medium = 1kg			
		Large = 2Kg			
	Gypsum Container	25L = 10kg	18 01 04	Gypsum waste e.g. dental study models and 3D moulds	• Dentists
	Precious Waste	300ml =1kg	18 01 04	Crowns and bridges	• Dentists

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## What happens after I've submitted the audit form?

The digital **phs** audit form will guide you through to a successful completion by linking to the waste services on your **phs** contract. Once you've clicked submit, it won't be long before you receive a notification email letting you know you can view and download your pre -acceptance certificate in the My Documents area of my**phs**.

If you've uploaded a pdf version of your own audit form, your audit will be sent to our pre-acceptance audit team for review. It will be reviewed against your **phs** contractual services and the HTM07-01 guidance.

When your audit is accepted, you will receive a notification email, and a copy of your completed audit form can be accessed and downloaded in the My Documents section of the my**phs** portal.

If there are any issues or further questions on your audit, we'll get in contact via email with guidance on what you need to do and what help is available. And remember, even if you already have a completed audit form you can still opt to take advantage of the digital **phs** audit form – it's linked to your **phs** waste services contract and includes a section to add waste services from other operators too.







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