

Landfill Regulations 2002

The Landfill (England and Wales) Regulations 2002 came into force on 15 June 2002. These regulations implement the Landfill Directive (Council Directive 1999/31/EC), which aims to prevent, or to reduce as far as possible, the negative environmental effects of landfill.

The regulations had a major impact on waste regulation and industry in the UK.

In summary, the Directive requires that:

Sites are classified into one of three categories: **hazardous, non-hazardous** or **inert**, according to the type of waste they receive.

Operators submitted site conditioning plans for all existing sites by 16 July 2002.

From the 16 July 2004 co-disposal of hazardous and non-hazardous waste was banned, reducing the amount of landfills which could accept hazardous waste.

Operators have to demonstrate that they and their staff are technically competent to manage the site and have made adequate financial provisions to cover the maintenance and aftercare requirements of the site.

Higher engineering and operating standards will be followed.

Biodegradable waste will be progressively diverted away from landfills.

Liquids will be prohibited from all landfills from 30th October 2007.

Pre-treatment of wastes prior to landfilling will become a requirement from 30th October 2007