

1 Purpose

This document provides information on how to manage waste through Supply Chain Operations (SCO) and information on what they can receive and process. This guidance is to support the requirements that are set out in the *Level 2 Environment and Social Requirements (ESR) standard NR/L2/ENV/015*, as well as the *Disposal of Redundant Railway Assets Standard NR/L2/CPR/306* and the *Track maintenance, renewal or alteration – Used ballast handling Standard NR/L3/ENV/044*.

1.1 Supporting documents

For legal requirements and best practice information for waste management, please refer to the ‘*Waste management*’ *Guidance Note NR/GN/ESD01*.

For opportunities on how to work with local communities to maximise the benefits of reuse and recycling, please refer to the ‘*Connecting communities with the environment*’ *Guidance Note NR/GN/ESD14*.

If you are new to this topic, please read the through [Waste homepage](#) on Safety Central for a general understanding.

2 Route Services Supply Chain Operations (SCO)

Network Rail has depots which are managed by the Route Services Supply Chain Operations (SCO) function. This enables us to retain valuable assets in the business as well as reprocess waste materials to create new saleable recycled products.

2.1 Material Handling Depots (MHDs)

SCO has three MHDs (Crewe, Whitemoor and Westbury) which are used to bring back “non waste” items referred to as redundant assets. These should be transferred by train from accessible works and maintenance sites by following the MR-1 process as explained in the *Disposal of Redundant Railway Assets Standard NR/L2/CPR/306*. Lineside collections are also available.

Some common examples of the materials and equipment which fall under this process are:

- Concrete and Timber sleepers
- Rail
- Cable
- Signal Boxes and their equipment
- Switches and Crossings

This allows more materials and equipment to be reused back into internal projects or they can be sold via the Route Services External Sales team at recycledaggregatesqueries@networkrail.co.uk.

2.2 Aggregate Handling Depots (AHDs)

SCO has 8 AHDs (Kingmoor - Carlisle, Tyne Yard, Doncaster, Crewe, Bescot, Toton, Millerhill - Edinburgh, Eastleigh and Westbury) which are permitted to accept a range of non-hazardous wastes by train and one AHD (Whitemoor) which can accept and treat some hazardous wastes, such as contaminated ballast. Please refer to the Appendix for the waste acceptance criteria at the AHDs.

The AHDs have the facilities to reprocess and crush spent ballast and other inert hardcore (concrete/bricks) wastes (which are sized down to a standard brick size) to create recycled aggregates which can then be sold through the Route Services Sales team. Whitemoor has a wash plant which can clean hazardous ballast to make it suitable for reuse or reprocessing to create recycled aggregates.

For removal of track ballast by train, the *Track maintenance, renewal or alteration - Used ballast handling (NR/L3/ENV/044)* should be followed.

For removal of other “non railway” specific concrete/brick based hardcore wastes the Network Rail project management team should complete a waste enquiry form. This form should be completed a **minimum of 8 weeks** prior to when it is required to be removed from the works or maintenance site. This should be submitted to SCOWaste@networkrail.co.uk. This allows the project to engage with SCO early and make necessary arrangements so that the most sustainable and cost effective solution can be reached. It can be particularly beneficial if the project has oversized inert hardcore wastes which need to be crushed down to a brick size on site prior to being transferred to an AHD.

What is the Waste Enquiry form? – The form has been introduced to try and help generate better communications between project teams and SCO. This can be found in the waste section in Safety Central. The following information is required for the Waste Enquiry form:

- Project site location;
- Project site contact detail;
- Expected waste removal date;
- Type and approx. quantity of waste;
- Knowledge of any hazardous substances in the waste (chemical testing may be required);
- If there are any traces of asbestos contamination in the waste, this will not be accepted at the AHDs;
- If there are any traces of invasive species contamination in the waste, this will not be accepted at the AHDs.

2.3 Waste transfer by road

SCO also have a number of framework waste management suppliers who can provide services to any Network Rail site by road. These services can be used for removal of the following:

- Inert wastes
- Non-hazardous wastes
- Hazardous wastes

Please note:

Waste cannot currently be transferred to SCO managed AHDs by road.

This option should be considered when there is limited rail access at a site as it may still provide a more cost effective option than going to an independent third party waste contractor.



Best practice case study: Sustainability and Resources Award - Glasgow Queen Street

- Station platforms and track layouts extended as part of the works
- 12,000T Slab Track Material generated
- Early engagement with SCO allowed a Jaw Crusher to be mobilised which enabled the waste to be processed by Network Rail
- 100% of Materials Recycled
- Won the Sustainability and Resources Award

To view all environment and social KPIs, please refer to the *KPI Guidance Note NR/GN/ESD23*.

Appendix A

The waste acceptance criteria at SCO Aggregate Handling Depots (AHDs)

SCO operates a range of environmentally permitted facilities that can accept non-hazardous track excavation waste, operating under the 'Standard Rules SR2009No6 – inert and excavation waste transfer station with treatment' environmental permit. SCO also operates in Scotland under a Waste Management Licence with SEPA.

Table 2 outlines what non-hazardous waste SCO can accept in England:

Types of Non Hazardous Waste accepted at SCO AHDs

EWC Code	Waste Description
17	CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION WASTES (INCLUDING EXCAVATED SOIL FROM CONTAMINATED SITES)
17 01	Concrete, bricks, tiles and ceramics
17 01 01	Concrete
17 01 02	Bricks
17 01 03	Tiles and ceramics
17 01 07	Mixtures of concrete, bricks, tiles and ceramics other than those mentioned in 17 01 06
17 02	Wood, glass and plastic
17 02 02	Glass
17 03	Bituminous mixtures, coal tar and tarred products
17 03 02	Bituminous mixtures other than those mentioned in 17 03 01
17 05	Soil (including excavated soil from contaminated sites), stones and dredging spoil
17 05 04	Soil and stones other than those mentioned in 17 05 03
17 05 08	Track ballast other than those mentioned in 17 05 07
20	MUNICIPAL WASTES (HOUSEHOLDE WASTE AND SIMILAR COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL AND INSTITUTIONAL WASTES) INCLUDING SEPERATELY COLLECTED FRACTIONS)

20 02 Garden and park wastes (including cemetery waste)

20 02 02 Soil and stones

Any waste described above that consists solely or mainly of dusts, powders or loose fibres or is in a form which is either sludge or liquid cannot be accepted under the permit.

The AHDs cannot accept waste contaminated with invasive species and this should be carefully managed and segregated at source to avoid contaminated of a large quantity of reusable/recyclable materials.

Current operational restraints at the AHDs mean that Hardcore wastes (concrete, bricks etc) can only be offloaded if they are below the size of a standard brick.

All tarmac wastes should be tested prior to arriving at the AHDs.

In Scotland SCO's waste management licence permits it to accept used railway ballast and rail network infrastructure (concrete, mortar, sub soils).

For waste disposal costs please contact SCO Materials. For wastes that cannot be processed, SCO Materials can arrange disposal via alternative routes but this will be off-charged at specified rates.

For Hazardous Waste SCO operates a wash plant at the Network Rail Track Materials Recycling centre at Whitemoor under a bespoke environmental permit issued by the Environment Agency. Table 3 outlines what this site can accept:

Hazardous Waste types accepted at Hazardous Washplant

EWC Code	Waste Description
17 05	Soil (including excavated soil from contaminated sites), stones and dredging spoil
17 05 03*	Soil and stones containing dangerous substances
17 05 07*	Track ballast containing dangerous substances

Operationally, for waste to be processed through the wash plant it shall consist of the following characteristics:

- Size of material should not exceed 70mm unless prior agreement is secured from SCO Materials
- Consistency of material should be predominantly solid. Soil content should not exceed 50% of the total wagon content.

The washplant can treat waste with asbestos fibres identified. If asbestos fibres are identified please contact SCO Environment for further advice at SCOWaste@networkrail.co.uk.

The washplant cannot treat waste with identified Asbestos-Containing Materials (ACM).

Please note:

Waste contaminated with invasive species cannot be accepted - this should be dealt with at source.