

Lesley Griffiths AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-348
Ein cyf/Our ref LG/05873/12

William Powell AM
Chair Petition's Committee
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

6th March 2012

Dear Bill

Thank you for your letter of 21 February following the petition regarding recycling targets for Health Boards.

The Welsh Government's National Waste Strategy: Towards Zero Waste sets out a long term framework for resource efficiency and waste management between now and 2050. A suite of implementation plans will be produced, setting out targets and actions for specific sectors. This includes a sector plan for the public sector which will encourage all public sector bodies in Wales to meet a recycling target of 70% by 2025. NHS Wales have already started to feed into the development of this sector plan. The sector plan for the public sector is currently in development and will be consulted on, later in 2012. My officials are engaging with Waste policy colleagues to hopefully influence what is eventually produced

Healthcare waste that can go to landfill is classified under the European Waste Catalogue as (EWC) 18-01-04 Offensive/Hygiene Waste. This is waste where collection and disposal is not subject to special requirements in order to prevent infection and could include dressings, plaster casts, linen, disposal clothing or diapers. I can confirm that approximately 1,247 tonnes of Offensive/Hygiene waste went into landfill in 2010/11. The waste is non-clinical, non-infectious and non-hazardous. The proportion of hazardous healthcare waste going to landfill is zero.

Officials are unclear what you mean by bio-medical waste. If this refers to traditional clinical waste again the proportion sent to landfill is zero.

Regards
Lesley

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Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)

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