

# WAS-G-EASR-12

Transporting waste & acting as a broker or dealer of waste

## Version 1 - April 2026

## Introduction

This guidance provides advice for anyone who transports waste or acts as a broker or dealer of waste under The Environmental Authorisations (Scotland) Regulations 2018 (EASR).

SEPA continues to operate a policy of mutual recognition with the Environment Agency and Natural Resources Wales. If your principal place of business is in England or Wales, you must register with the appropriate regulator for that nation.

If you are authorised to transport waste or act as a broker and dealer of waste with the Environment Agency, or Natural Resources Wales, you do not need to register again with SEPA.

**Transporting waste**

Three standard conditions apply to the registration for ‘transporting waste’.

### Waste acceptance

Waste must be inspected prior to transport to ensure it is as described in the accompanying waste transfer note. Further guidance on waste transfer notes can be found in the statutory “[Duty of Care – A Code of Practice](https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/advice-and-guidance/2012/10/duty-care-code-practice/documents/00404095-pdf/00404095-pdf/govscot%3Adocument/00404095.pdf)”.

It may not always be possible for the Authorised Person to physically inspect the waste at the point of transfer. This may be due to the nature of the waste or the way it is contained. In these circumstances the Authorised Person must still satisfy themselves that the waste is as described on the accompanying waste transfer note through use of photographs, analysis of the waste, or other means.

### Providing the authorisation reference number to a customer

The authorisation reference number must be provided to any person from which waste is collected.

Including the authorisation reference number in a waste transfer note or season ticket that is retained by the waste producer is an acceptable way to comply with this condition.

The authorisation reference must also be provided to householders, despite there being no requirement on them to produce and retain a waste transfer note. This can be done in writing, or digitally, but SEPA expects there to be a record of the authorisation reference being provided to the person from whom waste is collected.

### Providing the authorisation reference number of advertisements

The authorisation reference number must be included in any advertisement for waste collection and transport services.

By providing the authorisation reference, you are reassuring the waste producer or holder that you are appropriately authorised to collect and transport their waste.

“Advertisement” includes print and digital communications such as newspaper advert offering collection of garden waste, or a social media post offering the collection of scrap metal or mixed household waste.

**Acting as a broker or dealer of waste**

Three standard conditions apply to the registration for ‘acting as a broker or dealer of waste’.

The registration reference number must be included in any advertisement for waste brokerage services, as well as to any person that waste is collected from or given to.

The guidance above on the meaning of an “advertisement” also applies to brokerage services. For example, a social media post offering waste collection services, where the authorised person will not be the person that collects the waste or delivers it to its destination.

The authorised person must keep records of the persons they arrange collection or receipt of waste for. Those who buy and sell waste must also keep a record of those they buy and sell waste from or to. In both cases dates of waste movements should be included in the record. These records must be kept for 6 years.

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