



End of Life Vapes

Guidance for Retailer Take Back

1. Collection of End of Life Vapes

End of life vapes are considered to be electronic waste containing a battery. They are defined as European Waste Catalogue (EWC) Code 20 01 35* (containing hazardous substances) and under the Basal Convention as hazardous goods code A1180 (to be updated to A1181 in January 2025).

Following [UK Environment Agency](#) and Scottish Environmental Protection Agency guidance retailers do not require a registered exemption to collect and store these items on their premises, provided they do not collect other types of waste.

2. Storage of End of Life Vapes

The waste must be collected in a secure container at the collection point. This does not include the dismantling and separation of batteries or other treatment. The waste collection should not be your main business activity, and you should not receive payment for collecting the waste. No other waste should be stored with the collected vapes. You may store waste temporarily prior to disposal.

If you wish to separate batteries from electronic vapes, make it your main business or receive payment for the collection of the waste you will need to apply for a Waste Disposal Licence (please contact environmentalprotection@gov.im).

3. Processing Waste

If you wish to separate batteries from the vapes, you will require a waste disposal licence. The application is free, please speak to the Environmental Protection Unit at DEFA (environmentalprotection@gov.im).

Further information about how to process the waste vapes can be found from:

Recycle Your Electricals (<https://www.recycleyourelectricals.org.uk>) [YouTube video](#);

Material Focus: www.materialfocus.org.uk [Material Focus Vapes Briefing - Working Document](#)

UK Environment Agency [Appropriate Measures for Permitted Facilities](#).

Plastic

Once separated the plastic casing can be sent for recycling or energy recovery. There are multiple waste disposal facilities which can provide a recycling service please see the [WDL Register 2023](#).

Alternatively, if you wish to send your plastic waste off island for recycling you can do so if the plastic is free from other contamination and consisting of polyethylene (PE), polypropylene (PP) or polyethylene terephthalate (PET) provided they are destined for separate recycling of each material.

Each waste shipment must be accompanied by an Annex VII notification document, which can be downloaded from here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/annex-vii-document-for-green-list-waste-shipments>

If you need assistance completing this document, please contact environmentalprotection@gov.im

Lithium Ion Batteries

When removed from the vape these batteries are considered to be hazardous waste (waste label) and dangerous goods (shipping label).

There are a few facilities on island that may choose to collect and recycle this waste. For further details please see the [WDL Register 2023](#).

If you choose to send batteries to the UK for recycling you will need to apply for a Transfronteir Shipment (TFS) Notification Consent from ourselves and the UK. Currently, there is a cost for submission of the application to the UK, costs can be found [here](#). If you wish to apply please contact environmentalprotection@gov.im for an application form and TFS number.

Other Parts

Other parts of the vape, like the tip, e-liquid tank, wick, heating coil and base can be sent to the Energy from Waste facility for disposal.

4. Disposal of End of Life Vapes

Waste electronic goods are regarded as hazardous waste under the Basal Convention. Their transport off island is subject to prior consents from the sending and receiving authorities. This waste shipment notification is called a Transfronteir shipment. To obtain an application for such a shipment please contact environmentalprotection@gov.im.

The shipment of WEEE containing lithium ion batteries is subject to the Carriage of Dangerous Goods regulations. Please contact the courier about packaging and labelling requirements for shipping this waste.

If you wish to use a transfer station to collect and dispose of the batteries please review our licenced facilities on the [waste regulation page](#) download called [WDL Register 2023](#).