

DISPOSAL OF USED SHARPS BINS

Your local authority (District or Borough Council) has in place arrangements for the disposal of used sharps bins. The information below provides contact details for local authorities in the north east Essex area and the councils provision for the disposal of used sharps bins when full.

A sharps bin is a specially designed rigid box with a lid that's available on prescription (FP10 prescription form) that can be dispensed, along with medication.

Clinical waste (including sharps waste) produced at a domestic property, is considered to be household waste, which is the responsibility of the local authority.

To find details of your council's clinical waste provision please see the below table:

Colchester Borough Council			
	www.colchester.gov.uk/info/cbc-article/?catid=special-collections&id=KA-01012		01206 282700
If you do have Hazardous Clinical Waste (with proof of medical diagnosis) you can book a collection by calling 01206 282700. The council makes a charge for collections.			
Tendring District Council			
	www.tendringdc.gov.uk/rubbish-and-recycling/clinical-waste		01255 686868
Please see the council website for details of a waste collection arrangements including referral form. The council makes a charge for collections.			
Braintree District Council			
		csc@braintree.gov.uk	 01376 552525
Please contact the council for details of council collections			
Maldon District Council			
	www.maldon.gov.uk/info/20008/collections/6024/household_waste_and_recycling_collections/7		01621 854477
To register for the service provided by the council, forms are available on the council website which needs to be completed and returned to the Council.			
Chelmsford City Council			
	www.chelmsford.gov.uk/bins-and-recycling/special-collections/request-clinical-waste-collections/		01245 606606
Chelmsford City Council provides a free clinical waste collection service for residential properties within the Chelmsford area. Please see website for details of how to arrange a collection.			

Please only dispose of used sharps appropriately in specialist sharps bins, used sharps must **not** be placed in general household waste.

Useful information on Clinical Waste

Clinical waste: is a sharp (including needles, syringes or other sharp instruments), body fluid or other biological material (including swabs or dressings) containing or contaminated with pharmaceutical products or anything that maybe infectious.

- Please contact your local authority to arrange for future collections. (contact details overleaf)
- Clinical waste must **not** be placed in either normal domestic or recycling waste.

Offensive waste: is non-clinical waste that's non-infectious and doesn't contain pharmaceutical or chemical substances, but may be unpleasant to anyone who comes into contact with it. Offensive waste includes hygiene waste and sanitary protection like nappies and incontinence pads.

- This waste appropriately bagged can be placed in normal domestic refuse.
- If there are significant quantities of offensive waste generated that would result in difficulties being included within domestic refuse (non-recyclable), please contact your local council to enquire about additional collections.

Healthcare providers who treat patients in their own home and produce clinical waste as a result of treating patients are under a duty of care to manage the waste they produce. The healthcare provider must make their own arrangements for such waste.

Care Homes/Nursing Homes should make their own contractual arrangements for the disposal of clinical waste; if it is as a result of community pharmacies providing an additional/enhanced service to the care home then the pharmacy should be making separate arrangements for the disposal.