



COMHAIRLE NAN EILEAN
SIAR

Waste Upholstered Domestic Seating at Comhairle nan Eilean Siar Household Waste Recycling Centres

Public Guidance

Background

The Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) has issued guidance recently regarding the disposal of upholstered seating containing Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs). This waste is no longer permitted to be sent to landfill and must be destroyed through incineration. This includes any seating or seating associated furniture item with cushioning or padding such as sofas, dining or office style chairs, futons, pouffes, etc. and includes any part made of or containing leather, synthetic leather, fabric, or foam. It excludes other household items that may contain lower levels of POPs such as mattresses, carpets, duvets, beds and curtains. For more information see SEPA's [guidance on POPs](#).

All our Household Waste Recycling Centre's (HWRCs) have a separate skip container available for the collection of WUDS items. If these containers are full, you will be advised to return another time or take your items to another HWRC.

Our HWRCs are located at:

Creed Park, Stornoway, HS2 9JB

Habost, Ness, HS2 0TQ

Urgha, Tarbert, Harris, HS3 3BW

Rueval, Benbecula, HS7 5LA

Garrygall, Barra, HS9 5UH







Please look for the Upholstered Domestic Seating signage at the sites and check with a member of staff if you are unsure or have any queries.

Waste Upholstered Domestic Seating (WUDS) Items at the Household Waste Recycling Centre's (HWRCs)

WUDS Items

WUDS Items are any upholstered domestic seating or associated items and can include:

- Sofas, sofa beds, settees
- Armchairs
- Cushioned home office, dining and kitchen chairs
- Futons and pouffes
- Cushioned stools and footstools
- Bean bags
- Floor cushions

Item	Example	Bin/Container	Comment
Sofa		WUDS	Whole or any part that contains any leather, synthetic leather, fabric, foam, padding or cushioning
Armchair		WUDS	Whole or any part that contains any leather, synthetic leather, fabric, foam, padding or cushioning
Sofa bed		WUDS	Whole or any part that contains any leather, synthetic leather, fabric, foam, padding or cushioning
Floor cushion		WUDS	Whole or any part that contains any leather, synthetic leather, fabric, foam, padding or cushioning
Bean bag		WUDS	Whole or any part that contains any leather, synthetic leather, fabric, foam, padding or cushioning
Padded stool		WUDS	Whole or any part that contains any leather, synthetic leather, fabric, foam, padding or cushioning


<p>Padded footstool</p>		<p>WUDS</p>	<p>Whole or any part that contains any leather, synthetic leather, fabric, foam, padding or cushioning</p>
<p>Futon</p>		<p>WUDS</p>	<p>Whole or any part that contains any leather, synthetic leather, fabric, foam, padding or cushioning</p>
<p>Pouffe</p>		<p>WUDS</p>	<p>Whole or any part that contains any leather, synthetic leather, fabric, foam, padding or cushioning</p>
<p>Highchair</p>		<p>WUDS</p>	<p>Whole or any part that contains any leather, synthetic leather, fabric, foam, padding or cushioning</p>
<p>Upholstered dining chair</p>		<p>WUDS</p>	<p>Whole or any part that contains any leather, synthetic leather, fabric, foam, padding or cushioning</p>
<p>Office chair</p>		<p>WUDS</p>	<p>Whole or any part that contains any leather, synthetic leather, fabric, foam, padding or cushioning</p>







Non-WUDS Items

If an above listed item contains **NO** fabric or padding/cushioning **AT ALL**, then it should go in its usual skip container e.g. a chair made solely of wood with no fabric or padding would go in the wood skip container. If in doubt, please ask the site staff or take to the WUDS container.

The following items are not considered to be WUDS and should be disposed of in their usual container.

- A solely wooden chair or stool
- A solely metal chair or stool
- A solely plastic chair or stool
- A chair made of plastic and metal only
- Mattresses
- Carpets
- Pillows and scatter cushions
- Curtains
- Beds including frames, bases and headboards

Item	Example	Skip Container	Comment
Wooden chair/ stool/bed frame		Wood	If partially upholstered or unsure, ask a member of staff
Metal chair/stool/bed frame		Metals	If partially upholstered or unsure, ask a member of staff
Plastic chair/stool/bed frame		Bulky General Waste	If partially upholstered or unsure, ask a member of staff
Mattress		Bulky General Waste	Mattresses are excluded as not domestic seating
Pillow/duvet/scatter cushions		Bulky General Waste	Not domestic seating
Car seat		Bulky General Waste	Not domestic seating
Fabric/leather headboard		Bulky General Waste	Beds and associated parts are excluded

<p>Non-Electrical Exercise equipment</p>		<p>Metals</p>	<p>Not domestic seating</p>
<p>Electrical exercise equipment e.g. exercise bike</p>		<p>Waste Electrical Equipment</p>	
<p>Rolls and large mats/rugs</p>		<p>Bulky General Waste</p>	<p>Not domestic seating</p>
<p>Off cuts and small mats</p>		<p>Bulky General Waste</p>	<p>Not domestic seating</p>
<p>Pet beds</p>		<p>Bulky General Waste</p>	<p>Not domestic seating</p>
<p>Electric recliners</p>		<p>Waste Electrical Equipment</p>	

Frequently Asked Questions

What are POPs and why are they important?

Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) are chemicals which can leach into the environment and stay there for long periods of time. These chemicals can be found in sofas and other upholstered seating. Whilst these chemicals are no longer used in the manufacturing of furniture, there are still items in circulation containing POPs. For more information see [SEPA's guidance on POPs](#).

What about the reuse of WUDS items?

Where re-use facilities are available, only undamaged, clean and in good condition/dry upholstered chairs, sofas etc with the relevant fire safety labels can be put aside for reuse. If unsure, please ask a member of staff. Items that are broken, dirty or have ripped padding must be placed in the WUDS skip container.

Can Waste Upholstered Domestic Seating containing POPs still be collected with bulky waste?

We continue to accept requests for uplift of WUDS items as part of our chargeable Bulky Household Waste Collection service, where up to 5 items can be collected from your home for a set fee. Please check our Fees & Charges for the current applicable charge for this service

How does this affect businesses looking to dispose of WUDS items?

We will be able to accept WUDS items from businesses, as chargeable waste items, when delivered to our HWRC at **Creed Park** or **Rueval**. This service will be operated on a similar basis to the existing chargeable Waste Electrical Equipment service operated at Creed Park and Rueval. Commercial Disposal of WUDS items will not be permitted at our other HWRCs. With the exception of the above, **Commercial & Trade waste is NOT accepted at any of our HWRCs**.

Can I donate my Waste Upholstered Domestic Seating to a charity?

Please speak to the charity first and do not just leave your items at charity shops or drop off/collection points unless by prior agreement with them. Some charities may accept domestic seating with relevant fire safety labels in place and that are in good condition for reuse.