



Fact sheet: E-waste ban

Reporting requirements of e-waste service providers

E-waste to landfill ban in Western Australia



This fact sheet provides an overview of the responsibilities of certain e-waste service providers under the [Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery \(e-waste\) Regulations 2024](#) (the Regulations). It should be read in conjunction with the Regulations.

Some e-waste service providers are required to hold a licence¹ as defined in the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act),² for the premises on which they store, treat or process regulated e-waste. Such e-waste service providers have annual reporting requirements under the Regulations.

The Environmental Protection Regulations 1987 set out the categories of premises that require a licence under the EP Act. The categories of premises most likely to undertake storage, treatment or processing of regulated e-waste are:

- 47 – scrap metal recycling (premises on which metal scrap is fragmented or melted, including premises on which lead-acid batteries are reprocessed)
- 61A – solid waste facility (premises on which solid waste produced on other premises is stored, reprocessed, treated, or discharged onto land)
- 62 – solid waste depot (premises on which waste is stored or sorted, pending final disposal or re-use)
- 63 – Class I inert landfill site
- 64 – Class II or III putrescible landfill site
- 65 – Class IV secure landfill site
- 89 – Putrescible landfill site.

As an e-waste service provider are you required to lodge an annual return?

Use the flow chart below to determine whether your business is required to lodge an annual return under the Regulations.



What data is required to be collected and reported?

If your premises is liable to report, then from 1 July 2024, the following information will need to be collected.

¹ Licence means a licence granted under Part V Division 3 of the EP Act and includes premises specified in Part 2 of Schedule 1 of the Environmental Protection Regulations 1987 and registered under r.5B

² Section 3(1)

For each of the regulated e-waste categories in Schedule 1 column 1, you will need to record:

- the total weight of regulated e-waste collected or received by the provider
- if separating or recycling, the types of separation techniques and recycling of regulated e-waste conducted by the provider and the weight of the regulated e-waste subject to each process
- the total weight of the processed materials and residual waste produced by the provider.

When transferring regulated e-waste, you will also be required to record:

- the name and address of the person
- the weight of regulated e-waste transferred.

Do recyclers need to record and report the transfer of regulated e-waste once it is processed?

Once regulated e-waste has been processed, there is no requirement to record and report the name and address of the person and weight transferred. Your premises will only need to record and report the transfer of regulated e-waste if it remains intact and is sent to another facility for processing. For example, a scrap metal recycler would need to report the transfer of batteries if they are collecting and sending them to another premises for recycling.

What are examples of separation and recycling techniques?

Separation and recycling techniques are defined in the table below. This data field will be reported as a percentage of the received weight for each regulated e-waste category processed. The removal of doors and degassing of fridges is not considered a separation or recycling process for the purpose of reporting under the Regulations. E-waste service providers primarily collecting, aggregating and transferring regulated e-waste to recyclers will not be required to report on separation and recycling techniques.

| Category | Technique | Process description | Examples |
|-------------------|----------------------------|--|---|
| Separation | Manual dismantling | Workers manually disassemble electronic devices, separating components | Separation of circuit boards, batteries, plastics, and metals. |
| | Shredding | E-waste is shredded into smaller pieces to facilitate further separation | Shredding of old computers and printers |
| | Other separation processes | Air classification, froth flotation, gravity separation, magnetic separation, and electrostatic separation | Separation of plastics and foams from metallic components |
| Recycling | Mechanical recycling | Processing and refining separated materials to produce raw materials | Melting and purifying recovered metals, pelletising plastics |
| | Chemical recycling | Breaking down complex materials into base. components for reuse | Depolymerisation of plastics, chemical refining of metals |
| | Smelting and refining | Extracting metals from e-waste using high-temperature smelting and refining processes | Copper smelting, precious metal refining from electronic scrap |
| | Re-use and refurbishment | Repairing, refurbishing, and reselling functional components and devices | Refurbishing old computers and smartphones for resale Harvesting of assemblies, components and parts |

What regulated e-waste do I need to record and report?

Under r.11(2) of the Regulations, e-waste service providers only need to keep records and report on regulated e-waste that is received at their licensed premises. If e-waste service providers, such as local governments, collect regulated e-waste and transfer it directly to a premises not operated by them, then this regulated e-waste does not need to be recorded and reported. Scenarios specific to local governments are provided in the table below.

| Scenario | Annual reporting requirements |
|---|--|
| A local government operates a licenced premises that accepts regulated e-waste, such as computer and televisions, from residents. | There is a requirement to record and report this under the Regulations. |
| A local government organises a special e-waste collection event at a community centre. During this event, residents drop off their old electronics, which are then directly transported to a private recycling company, bypassing the local government's licensed premises. | There is no requirement to record and report this under the Regulations. There is a requirement to report the total collected and recovered through the event in their local government annual return (r.18C of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Regulations 2008) under "drop off" on the domestic services page of Waste Data Online . |
| A local government provides residents with a verge-side hard waste collection annually and instructs residents to separate their e-waste. The local government collects these items directly from the verge and transports them to a private recycling facility that is not operated by the local government. | There is no requirement to record and report this under the Regulations. There is a requirement to report the total collected and recovered from the verge-side bulk waste collection in their local government annual return (r.18C of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Regulations 2008) under "drop off" on the domestic services page of Waste Data Online . |

How do I calculate regulated e-waste that is received as mixed loads?

When regulated e-waste is received in a mixed load, an estimated percentage of the load weight can be applied where practical. It is recommended that a survey is conducted over a representative period to estimate the percentage of e-waste categories received in mixed loads.

How do I calculate the weight of regulated e-waste in scrap metal?

Whitegoods which are commonly recorded as scrap metal at the gatehouse can fall into two regulated e-waste categories:

- Fridges and freezers – temperature exchange equipment
- Ovens, dishwashers, etc. – large appliances

Fridges and freezers are required to be degassed, so are recorded per unit as general practice. [Default factors](#) can be applied to estimate weight. For other whitegoods in the large appliance category, it is recommended that a survey is conducted over a representative period to estimate the percentage of their weight that contributes to scrap metal.

What if my premises does not have a weighbridge?

Under the Regulations, regulated e-waste must be reported in tonnes. However, many premises do not have weighbridges. To estimate the weight per unit of regulated e-waste, refer to the table in [Fact sheet: E-waste ban – Estimating the weight of e-waste](#).

I am also a significant entity, what do I record and report?

An e-waste service provider may also be a significant entity if they employ 200 or more employees or generate five or more tonnes of regulated e-waste from their own activities in the financial year. This does not include regulated e-waste collected from residents.

Under r.13 of the Regulations, significant entities are required to keep records on regulated e-waste generated by their activities annually. This information includes:

- a description of the regulated e-waste resulting from its activities using the categories in Schedule 1 column 1
- the total weight of regulated e-waste resulting from its activities
- the name and address of the premises the regulated e-waste was transferred to (i.e. Sims Metal, Total Green).

This information must be collated by 31 July each year. Under r.15(2) of the Regulations, the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (department) may request a copy of the records in writing.

There is no requirement to report this data in the annual return unless the regulated e-waste is transferred to a licensed premises operated by you.

When is the annual return due?

Records will need to be kept from 1 July 2024, with the first annual return for the 2024–25 reporting year due by 1 October 2025.

How to lodge an annual return?

The department is currently developing an online form which will be available in [Waste Data Online](#) to lodge your e-waste return.

E-waste data reporting requirements will be incorporated into the local government and general recycler annual returns in Waste Data Online to minimise duplicative reporting for liable persons required to report under r.18C of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Regulations 2008.

Webinar training will be offered following the development of the online form.

Further information

A [series of fact sheets](#) has been developed to provide further information for significant entities and e-waste service providers. Topics covered include the responsibilities of service providers and significant entities, reporting requirements and how to estimate the weight of e-waste.

Where can I get more support?

If you need further information about data reporting requirements under the Regulations, please contact the Waste Data team: waste.data@dwer.wa.gov.au.

If you have questions about other aspects of the Regulations, email: ewaste@dwer.wa.gov.au
Website: [E-waste to landfill ban in WA](#)

