Zero to Landfill
Toolbox Talk

Citation

Law & Guidance

- Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016
- The Environmental Authorisations (Scotland) Regulations 2018
- Environmental Protection Act 1990
- Hazardous Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2005
- Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011

What Is The Concept?

The concept of Zero to Landfill aims to eliminate the disposal of waste in landfills by redirecting materials to alternative uses.

For instance, cardboard can be recycled at paper mills, glass can be re-melted, plastic can be transformed into new packaging and food waste can be composted.

Any waste that cannot be reused or recycled is retrieved through methods like energy from waste, incineration, plasmosis, and gasification.

This approach aligns with the ongoing global sustainability agenda, which is being actively promoted.
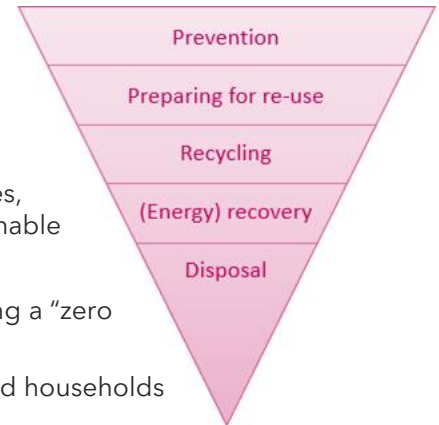
The Government's Role

Central Government has set ambitious targets for waste reduction, including a common EU target for recycling 65% of municipal waste and 75% of packaging waste by 2030.

To achieve these targets, the Government works in collaboration with local authorities, businesses and communities across the country to encourage the adoption of sustainable practices, promote resource efficiency and reduce waste generation.

This collaborative approach helps to ensure that everyone plays their part in achieving a "zero to landfill" goal and creating a more sustainable future.

The government also provides financial support and guidance to help businesses and households transition to a circular economy model and reduce their environmental impact.

Hierarchy of Waste Management

- Prevention
- Preparing for re-use
- Recycling
- (Energy) recovery
- Disposal

How You Can Implement "Zero To Landfill" In Your Organization.

Reduce

- Avoid making unnecessary purchases.
- Purchase products that can be recycled.
- Choose products that use minimal packaging.
- Consider specifications when making contracts.
- Take into account the entire life cycle and cost of a product.
- Evaluate whether a material can serve another purpose after its initial use has ended.

Reuse

- Repair items instead of throwing them away.
- Use refillable containers for products like cleaning supplies, personal care products and beverages.
- Donate or sell items that are still in good condition but no longer needed.
- Buy used items instead of new ones when possible.
- Participate in community swap events or online groups to exchange items with others.

Recycle

- Processing waste materials into new products helps prevent discarding potentially useful materials and pollution from landfill.
- Recyclable materials include glass, paper, metal, plastic, textiles and electronics.
- Salvage of materials from complex products, either due to their value (e.g., lead) or hazardous nature (mercury), can be beneficial.
- Composting recycles biodegradable food and garden waste, providing nutrition for soil.

Validation of Toolbox Talk

After workers have received the Toolbox Talk information, the following questions should be asked to ensure that they have listened and understood.

The questions can be posed to a group or an individual. If the incorrect answer, is given the trainer should repeat the relevant section of the Toolbox Talk.

Q1. List the hierarchy of waste management.

A1a. Prevention
A1b. Preparing for re-use
A1c. Recycling
A1d. Energy Recovery
A1e. Disposal

Q2. What legislation governs environmental matters in the UK?

A2. Any in the legislation box.

Q3. What is the current target to recycle municipal waste by 2030?

A3. 65%

Q4. What is the current target to recycle packaging waste by 2030?

A4. 75%

Q5. True or False? Composting is an example of recycling.

A5. True

Q6. What three things can you do to implement 'zero to landfill' in your organisation?

A6. Reduce, Reuse, Re-cycle.

WRITE YOUR OWN QUESTIONS HERE:

Names of those attending toolbox talk	
Toolbox Talk Subject Here:	Zero to Landfill
Date:	

Trainee name (print)	Trainee signature
Carried out by (Name – Print)	
Carried out by (Signature)	