

LFT Testing (waste)

- Why can't we just potentially put them in the general waste? some people are now throwing them away at home (General Waste)!
From the same perspective of nappies and plasters in a residential general waste bin, it is down to volume. One or two in your residential general waste is fine. It is the volume of these waste types which is a problem; hence the need for the big yellow bins for incontinence pads etc. One or two at home = fine
- Well surely its clinical waste? It is after all for testing for covid 19, maybe they even have covid on them for a positive test!
One function of the chemicals involved is to, actually kill the virus/ break it down if you will. This process is why it is seen as more of a chemical waste than clinical.
- What is it about these kits that are making waste companies refuse the kits in General waste?
The chemical contents have been classified under the waste code 180107 by the government (chemical waste). Of course, some of you may be double black bagging and companies have not yet noticed.
- Is this a profiteering exercise from these companies?
Yes maybe; at the moment the government stance "at care homes", on this waste type is unclear. How many are you producing as waste? Is it a high volume? This should all be considered on an individual basis. As responsible businesses it is our Duty of Care to consider an effect to our environment. High Schools are having to set up a separate collection for these kits as 180107 - They are using high volumes!
- Could the EA give us guidance on the volumes and the process our care home should be following?
I would like to think so
- What are the guidelines?
At the moment the government guidelines lean towards mass testing (schools for example) When together all those tiny residues of chemicals could make a glass and maybe cause harm. (Duty of Care to be considered)

Everything (yellow bins etc) are in place to adhere to our duty of care. The guideline is sketchy for the industry and needs clarification.

Things to consider

- Contract Length & pricing.
If you choose to categorise the waste as chemical 180107 due to volumes. It is best to choose a short length agreement maybe even a few months. Prices are high, shop around. The government could change any of this at any time.

All the best, Brett Sinclair