

# **YOUR GUIDE TO MERTHYR TYDFIL'S HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING CENTRES (HRCs)**

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By following the waste hierarchy, we should all sustainably manage our waste by choosing to reuse, recycle and compost before discarding materials for energy from waste (EfW).

### **What is a HRC?**

Household Recycling Centres or HRCs are provided by the local authority for residents of the County Borough to reuse, recycle, compost and dispose of their household waste in a sustainable manner. This is a legal obligation under section 51 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (EPA).

### **Where are they?**

There are two HRCs in the County Borough located at:

Aberfan Household Recycling Centre  
Aberfan Road,  
Aberfan,  
Merthyr Tydfil,  
CF48 4QE Permit number ERP/ZB3197TJ

Dowlais Household Recycling Centre,  
The Bont  
Gellifaelog Old Road  
Dowlais  
Merthyr Tydfil  
CF48 3DA Permit number ERP/ZB3797TH

## When are they open?

From 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2024 the HRCs will be operating new opening times shown below

### Dowlais

#### British Summer Time

Monday	10:00 – 18:00
Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday	11:00 – 19:00
Thursday	10:00 – 18:00
Friday	10:00 – 18:00
Saturday	09:00 – 17:00
Sunday	09:00 – 17:00

#### British Winter Time

Monday	09:00 – 16:30
Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday	09:00 – 16:30
Thursday	09:00 – 16:30
Friday	09:00 – 16:30
Saturday	09:00 – 16:30
Sunday	09:00 – 16:30

### Aberfan

#### British Summer Time

Monday	10:00 – 18:00
Tuesday	10:00 – 18:00
Wednesday	Closed
Thursday	11:00 – 19:00
Friday	10:00 – 18:00
Saturday	09:00 – 17:00
Sunday	09:00 – 17:00

#### British Winter Time

Monday	09:00 – 16:30
Tuesday	09:00 – 16:30
Wednesday	Closed
Thursday	09:00 – 16:30
Friday	09:00 – 16:30
Saturday	09:00 – 16:30
Sunday	09:00 – 16:30

Both sites are open all year round, except the designated closed days and December 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> January.

The last admittance to the site is 10 minutes before the closure time.

## Who manages the HRCs?

From 1st September 2018 Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council provide the management and operation at both HRCs.

**NB: The HRCs are for household waste only. Trade waste will only be accepted under the Trade Recycling Acceptance Scheme.**

**Materials that will be accepted from householders at the HRC's for recycling:**

	Household and Car Batteries		Hardcore & Rubble		Juice Cartons (Tetrapak)
	Fluorescent Tubes and Light Bulbs		Soil		Media – Books, CDs, Games and DVDs (Dowlais Only)
	Fridges/Freezers		Wood		Mixed Textiles & Clothes
	TV's/Monitors		Plasterboard (Dowlais Only)		Glass Bottles and Sheet Glass
	WEEE (Electrical appliances)		Plastic Packaging		Used Engine Oil
	Toner and Ink Cartridges		Hard Plastics		Paper
	Garden Waste (Japanese Knotweed is not accepted)		Cans and Plastics		Cardboard
	Vegetable Oil		Scrap Metal		Gas Bottles

Plasterboard and Small amounts of Asbestos are accepted at the Dowlais Site only. Asbestos should not be broken up and must be double bagged or a minimum of 100 gauge before it is taken to the site. Unwanted items of furniture are accepted at both sites.

This list is subject to change as MTCBC make every effort to increase the material streams for reuse and recycling.

## General Waste

**Residents are able to dispose of small amounts of non-recyclable waste at the sites. As far as practicable any recyclables must be separated and placed in the appropriate container for recycling.**

**NB Small quantities of mixed materials can be separated at the sorting stations provided. Excessive amounts of contaminated waste as deemed to be by the site operators will be rejected on site and the site user advised to sort at source before returning to site.**

The sites have limited space, so there may be a need to restrict access to the public for health and safety reasons whilst Lorries exchange full containers for empty ones.

## Pedestrians

Pedestrians must report to the site office for guidance on disposing of materials.

Whilst visiting please ensure that:-

- You adhere to the rules that are displayed at the sites.
- You listen to the attendant(s) instructions.
- You keep to the designated loading lane.

If you do not adhere to the above, you may be asked to leave the site.

## Can I take a large van or vehicle to the site?

### Van Permit Scheme

Any resident of Merthyr Tydfil County Borough who wants to bring waste into the HRC in a van or trailer must apply for a permit.

Cars and 4x4 vehicles (that have not had the seats removed from the rear) do not require a permit.

Permitted		Not Permitted	
Cars with a trailer	√	Vehicles with a tail lift	x
Caravanettes	√	Vehicles over 3.5 tonnes	x
4x4 vehicles with pick up backs	√	Flat bed vehicles	x
Vans	√		

Permits are available free of charge to residents of the County Borough and are unlimited although they are restricted to a maximum of 3 permits per day per household. They must be presented at the site upon arrival. Each permit is valid until it has been used.

### Permits are available online by visiting [merthyr.gov.uk](http://merthyr.gov.uk) or at:

The Civic Centre, Castle Street, Merthyr Tydfil (01685 725000)

When applying for a permit you will have to provide proof of address. You will also need to provide personal identification and proof of address at the site you intend on visiting.

Residents must separate their waste as much as is practical and dispose of it in the relevant containers on site.

*Any site users delivering recycling or waste in a commercial vehicle, under the permit scheme, may be required to complete a 'Declaration of Non Trade Waste Form' upon arrival at the site.*

## Site Improvements

### Traffic Management Plan – Dowlais

To improve the flow of traffic at the Dowlais site, the welfare cabin has been removed from the upper tier of the site. This allows for a double lane so that vehicles can move between the skip containers without having to wait for other vehicles to move forward.

A traffic management bund has been located at the entrance/exit of the site to reduce vehicle speed for vehicles entering and exiting the site.

N/B. To ensure that the traffic is generally free flowing site users should only use the right hand lane

to stop and deposit their materials. **The left hand lane is for overtaking only.**

### **Sorting Stations**

MTCBC operate a No Unsorted Waste policy at the HRCs. Site users are requested to sort their materials prior to arriving at the sites. Site users who arrive on site with mixed waste/unsorted bagged materials will be directed to the sorting stations and asked to sort their materials into individual recyclable materials and place them in the relevant container.

Site users that do not want to comply with this request will be told to take their waste from the sites and sort at home before returning or using the kerbside collection service where applicable.

No unsorted waste can be deposited at the HRCs.

### **Paint Acceptance**

On Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 we changed the way you can deposit paint products at your local Household Recycling Centres (HRCs).

The sites can accept wet paint in the size of a container that you would normally use for household projects (usually up to 10 litres), if it's deemed as reusable by the onsite operatives.

Wet paint deemed unsuitable for re-use cannot be accepted.

Paint containers can be deposited for recycling if they are empty in the corresponding metal or plastics containers. If the paint is dry and hardened it can be deposited in the residual waste container.

If you have to dispose of waste paint a useful tip to assist the paint drying out is to leave the lid off the container for a few days before bringing it to the HRC.

No paint Thinners, bitumen, other hazardous liquids, commercial paint or large tins (over 10 litres) will be accepted.

### **Free Paint Scheme**

Free paint is available to residents of the County Borough from the HRCs. The paint is contained in the Re-use section of the site alongside the textile banks.

Paint is stored in order of type. Only paint available on site at the time of the residents visit will be available for collection. There can be no pre-ordering of paint type, colour and quantity. Any persons who would like to take advantage of this free service must report to a member of staff before entering the paint re use container.

Whether you require large or small quantities of paint for whatever DIY jobs you may be doing we would welcome you to take advantage of this service and reduce the amount of good quality paint being sent for disposal.

### **Cans & Plastic containers**

Cans and plastic containers can be deposited in an open top container at both sites. This speeds up the process of placing individual cans into a recycling bank and also allows the additional collection of plastic containers. These items are sorted at the waste transfer station along with the similar kerbside collected materials.

## Paper banks

Enclosed Paper banks have been installed at both sites to ensure that paper is kept dry. This is a requirement from the paper recycling industry.

N/B Paper should not be placed on top of the paper bank.

## Trade Waste

If you are having work done by a trade person/builder/other private company, you should ensure that a skip is hired to dispose of any waste generated. It is your waste and you are responsible for ensuring the appropriate and legal disposal of it.

Waste from trade premises must not be brought onto the HRCs unless you are signed up to the local Authority`s Trade Recycling Acceptance Scheme.

MTCBC do not to accept trade DIY waste at the HRCs. If the material is suspected to be trade DIY waste then the operatives may refuse acceptance.

If you are a trader in Merthyr Tydfil you must ensure you have a trade waste contract in place to manage your waste in the appropriate manner.

## Trade Recycling Acceptance Scheme

Businesses in Merthyr are entitled to use the Dowlais HRC to dispose of their commercial recyclable items listed in the table below. In order to take advantage of this scheme you must contact the Trade Waste Officer on 01685 (725363) to sign up for the service. Should you decide to sign up for this, as an existing customer you will then have the flexibility of utilising both kerbside and the HRC services.

For businesses not currently on contract with the Authority for the collection of waste/recyclables there is a requirement to sign a contract. There is a one off annual charge for this service for the provision of an annual waste transfer note, which is a legal requirement. Existing customers will not be charged as they already pay this fee as part of their current contract.

	Household and Car Batteries		Plastic Packaging		Juice Cartons (Tetrapak)
	Fluorescent Tubes and Light Bulbs		Gas Bottles		Media – Books, CDs, Games and DVDs (Dowlais Only)
	Fridges/Freezers		Cans and Plastics		Glass Bottles
	TV's/Monitors		Scrap Metal		Paper
	WEEE (Electrical appliances)		Mixed Textiles & Clothes		Cardboard
	WEEE (Small Electrical Appliances)		Toner and Ink Cartridges		

## **Thank you**

To continue to achieve Welsh Government recovery targets, MTCBC have to improve the amount of waste reused, recycled or composted. This can only be achieved with your continued support.

### **Please contact Merthyr Tydfil Council on:**

**Telephone:** 01685 725000

**Email:** [wasteservices@merthyr.gov.uk](mailto:wasteservices@merthyr.gov.uk)

**Visit:** [www.merthyr.gov.uk](http://www.merthyr.gov.uk)