

What your business needs to know as a business end user discarding **WEEE**

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- WEEE in context
- Introduction to WEEE regulations
- Main requirements on
- Producers and their Compliance Schemes
- Distributors / Distributor Take back Scheme
- Authorised Treatment Facilities

WEEE / EEE in context

- WEEE stands for Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment.
- Covers anything that relies on electrical currents or electromagnetic fields to function
- One of the fastest growing waste stream (3X Municipal Solid Waste).
- EU produces 8 Million tonnes. UK = 2MT;

Why a priority?

- Short lifecycle => arising mostly in household waste;
- Miniaturisation => difficult to repair;
- Hazardous chemicals => harmful to human health
- Loss of valuable natural resources

The WEEE Regulations

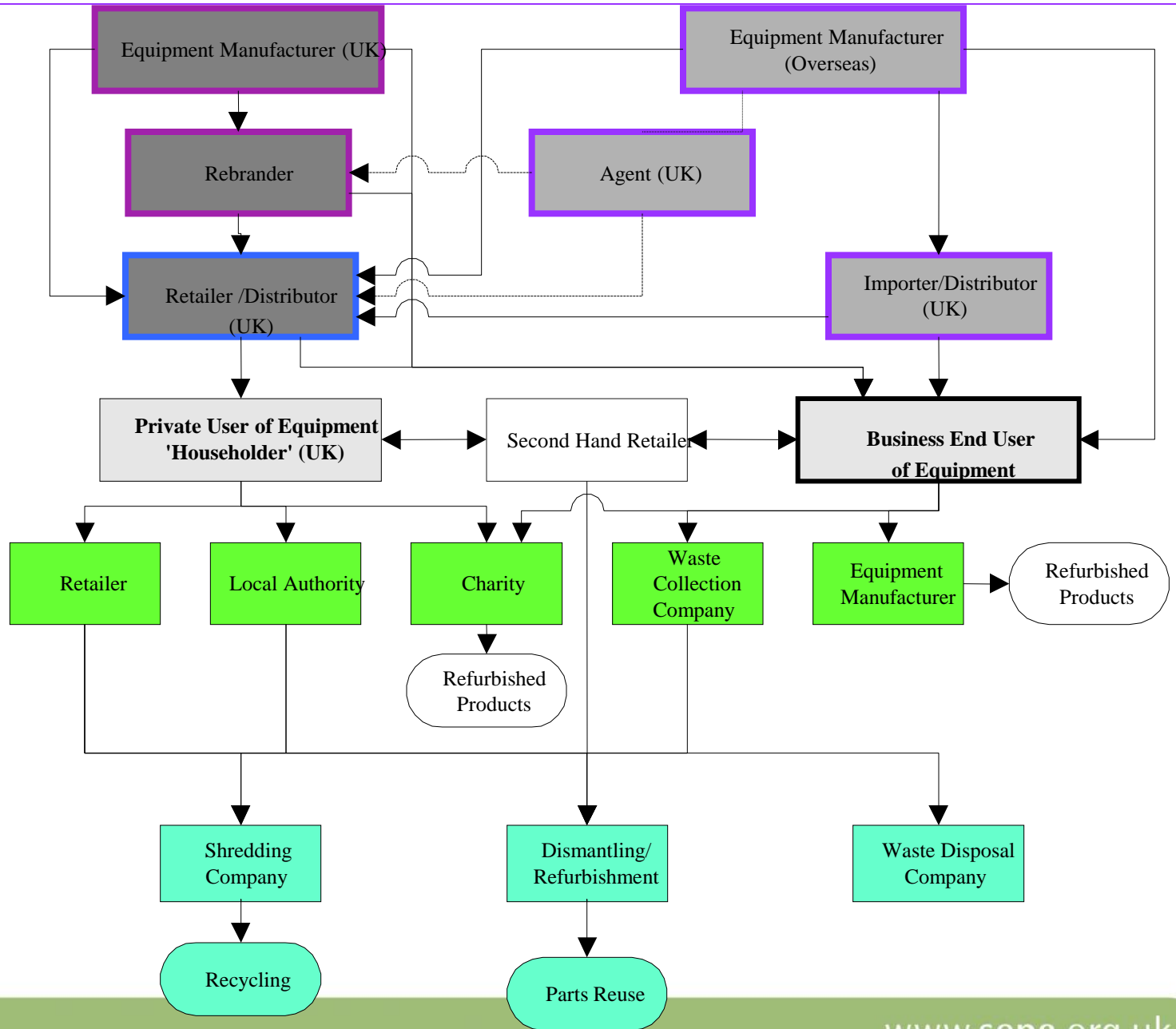
- Based on 'producer responsibility principle'
- Improve treatment standards for WEEE (WML, Exemptions, Storage, Reuse)
- Restrict hazardous content of EEE (RoHS regulations)
- Ensure separate collection of WEEE
- Impose mandatory recovery and recycling targets.

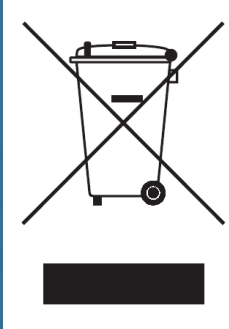
WEEE Stakeholders

1

2

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Producers and their schemes

Producers are defined as **manufacturers, importers, brand owners of EEE in the UK market**)

- Required to **finance** collection, treatment, recovery and recycling or safe disposal of WEEE proportional to market presence
- Register with agencies via an Approved Compliance Scheme and
- Submit data on EEE placed on the market

- Compliance Scheme will meet obligations on behalf of the producer by.
 - collecting or fund the collection of separately collected WEEE
 - transferring it for recycling/ recovery in accordance with respective members' prescribed obligations

Roles of Distributors/Retailers

Defined as

- Any firm selling directly to household end-users e.g. retail stores, mail order and internet sellers

What must they do?

- arrange for separate collection of WEEE...FREE to household end user!
- through in store take back of 'like for like' items; or
- a Distributor Take Back Scheme
- ***No obligations for business to business distributors.***
 - ***They may voluntarily offer a service of WEEE take back from you as end users***
 - ***Challenge them to provide you their supplier (producer) details for take back arrangements***

Non Household WEEE (Business)

- Responsibility for non household or B2B WEEE depends on date put on the market:
- for waste from equipment purchased **before** 13 August 2005, (historic) the end user is responsible, unless
- *You are buying replacement products (like for like)*
 - *The new producer supplying your new equipment is obliged to take on these responsibilities.*
 - *End user is free to make “alternative arrangements” with producer , e.g. product cost price reduction vs recycling fees*
- for equipment put on the market **after** 13 August 2005, the original producer supplying that equipment will have to take responsibility unless....
 - *both parties may negotiate alternative arrangements*

Things you need to know about your organisation's electrical goods

- When was it put on UK market?
- What is the logo => can you ID producer?
- What is producer's WEEE registration number?
- Which Scheme do they belong to?
- Contact details on SEPA's WEEE public register
- www.sepa.org.uk/weee

What can I do? (in summary)

1. Establish if (historical or new?)
2. Establish the producer (manufacturers, re-brander, professional importer) and scheme contacts
3. If its historic; you are not replacing then you pay
4. If its historic; you are replacing with like for like (e.g. laptop for laptop) then the producer supplying the new EEE is by default responsible
5. If it's new WEEE (after 13 August 2005) then original producer will be responsible by default
6. Under such arrangements, WEEE from business users may be
 - collected by the obligated producer or the compliance scheme working on its behalf.
 - collected directly from your premises or you may be asked to take the WEEE to a collection system set up in your area
 - **Key is for you to initiate the collection process**

Cont'd

- Decide commercially suitable option for you
- If you want to take on responsibility then ensure that
 - You use an appropriately permitted recycler (list of AATFs is on SEPA website)
 - If you contract a collector, ensure they have all permits to collect, store, transport the relevant type of waste
 - Under Duty of Care, you are required to know the fate of your waste
 - Keep records of your waste amounts you get rid of and details of your contractor
 - If in doubt contact SEPA for help

If opting to utilise producer responsibility then

- Good practice is to ensure that new procurement contracts for EEE incorporate WEEE requirements best suited to your business
- Obtain the producer registration number for the equipment being supplied so that you know who to contact to arrange disposal at the end of its life
- Rule of thumb:
- Cost of end of life management = inherent value of WEEE + transport + recycling cost
- Consider reuse potential





WEEE disposal guidance for your business



natural scotland
SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT



SEPA
Scottish Environment Protection Agency

Introduction to WEEE

Waste electrical and electronic equipment, also known as WEEE, is one of the fastest growing forms of waste. It can contain substances such as mercury, lead and cadmium, which can cause significant harm to human health and the environment.

This step by step guide shows how to deal with your business WEEE in compliance with the regulatory requirements, particularly the WEEE regulations¹. These regulations were introduced to increase re-use and recycling, and reduce the amount of WEEE going to landfill

How do the WEEE regulations affect my business?

Your business may need to dispose of old EEE from time to time. These can include items such as:

- IT and telecommunications equipment;
- monitoring and control instruments;
- electrical and electronic tools;
- display equipment (cathode ray tube monitors or flat screens);
- lighting equipment;
- cooling appliances.

It is your business' responsibility to be aware of the options available to you and ensure that the duty of care² is observed at all times. This includes storing your waste safely, using a registered waste carrier, keeping a waste transfer note when it leaves your site and ensuring that your waste is handled by an appropriately licensed or exempt site.

When did you buy your WEEE?

After 13 August 2005

The cost of collection, treatment and recycling of EEE bought after 13 August 2005 should be met by the **producer** i.e. a **manufacturer, re-brander, or importer** of EEE. However you may wish to come to an alternative commercial agreement with the producer, whereby the WEEE becomes your responsibility and is dealt with in accordance with the duty of care legislation.

Entering such an alternative arrangement could mean you pay less for a new product in exchange for being responsible for making sure your WEEE is treated and recycled correctly.

Most new EEE products bought after 13 August 2005 can be identified by an underlined crossed out wheelee bin symbol.



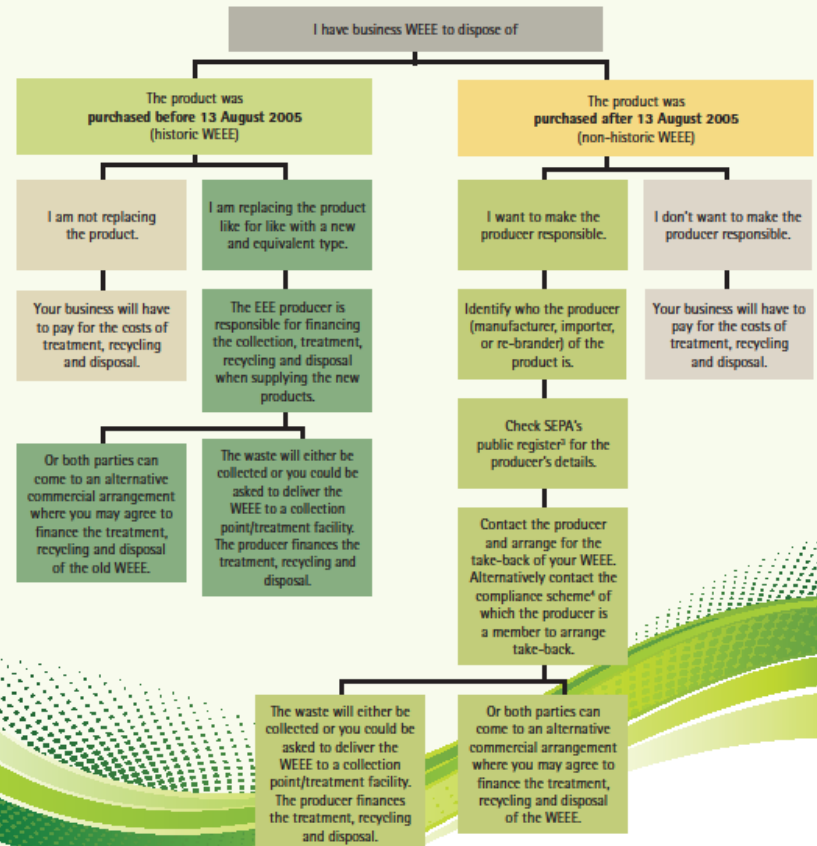
Before 13 August 2005

Different arrangements apply to WEEE arising from products purchased before 13 August 2005 (commonly referred to as historic WEEE). If you are replacing old WEEE on a like for like basis (e.g. a lamp for a lamp) then the producer of the new EEE is responsible for financing the collection, treatment and recycling of your old items, even if they aren't the original producer. Where the historic WEEE is not being replaced, your business will have to pay for the costs of disposal.

¹ www.bis.gov.uk/files/file35992.pdf

² www.sepa.org.uk/waste/waste_regulation/waste_carriers_and_brokers/duty_of_care.aspx

The chart below explains the steps you should take to dispose of your business WEEE, depending upon when it was purchased.



What happens if the producer refuses to take my business WEEE?

If the EEE producer refuses to take responsibility for your waste, contact SEPA's Producer Compliance and Waste Shipment Unit on 01786 457700 or email: producer.responsibility@sepa.org.uk

Further information

You can find out more about the WEEE regulations at:

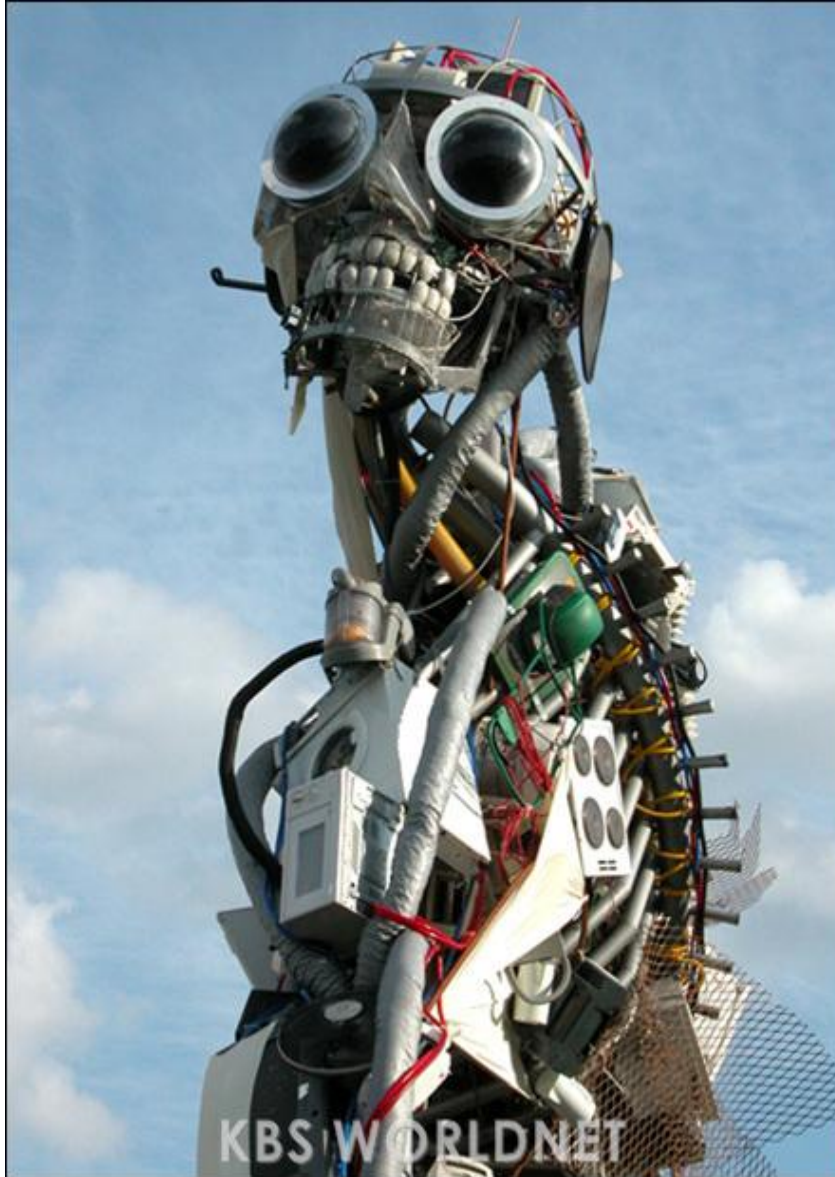
- Scottish Environment Protection Agency: www.sepa.org.uk/weee
- Business Gateway: www.bgateway.com/weee

³ www.sepa.org.uk/waste/waste_regulation/producer_responsibility/weee/public_register.aspx

⁴ www.sepa.org.uk/waste/waste_regulation/producer_responsibility/weee/producer_compliance_schemes.aspx

Other Producer Responsibility Regulations

- Packaging waste regulations
- Batteries regulations
- End of life vehicles regulations



Thank You