

## DISPOSAL OF USED SHARPS BINS

Your local authority (District or Borough Council) has in place arrangements for the disposal of used sharps bins. The information below provides contact details for local authorities in the west Essex area and the council provision for the disposal of used sharps bins when full.

A sharps bin is a specially designed rigid box with a lid that's available on prescription (FP10 prescription form) that can be dispensed, along with medication.

Clinical waste (including sharps waste) produced at a domestic property, is considered to be household waste, which is the responsibility of the local authority.

To find details of your council's clinical waste provision please see the below table:

Chelmsford City Council			
	<a href="http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/bins-and-recycling/special-collections/request-clinical-waste-collections/">www.chelmsford.gov.uk/bins-and-recycling/special-collections/request-clinical-waste-collections/</a>		01245 606606
Chelmsford City Council provides a free clinical waste collection service for residential properties within the Chelmsford area. Please see website for details of how to arrange a collection.			
Harlow District Council			
		<a href="mailto:contact@harlow.gov.uk">contact@harlow.gov.uk</a>	 01279 446655
Please contact the council directly to confirm arrangements.			
Epping Forest Council			
	<a href="http://www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk/index.php/residents/your-environment/recycling-and-waste/clinical-waste">www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk/index.php/residents/your-environment/recycling-and-waste/clinical-waste</a>		<a href="mailto:erefuse@eppingforestdc.gov.uk">erefuse@eppingforestdc.gov.uk</a>  01992 564608
Please see council website to download an application form to arrange for collections from the council.			
Brentwood Borough Council			
	<a href="http://www.brentwood.gov.uk/index.php?cid=2763">www.brentwood.gov.uk/index.php?cid=2763</a>		
Please see council website for details of the referral and request form to access collections from the council.			

Please only dispose of used sharps appropriately in specialist sharps bins, used sharps must **not** be placed in general household waste.

## Useful information on Clinical Waste

**Clinical waste:** is a sharp (including needles, syringes or other sharp instruments), body fluid or other biological material (including swabs or dressings) containing or contaminated with pharmaceutical products or anything that maybe infectious.

- Please contact your local authority to arrange for future collections. (contact details overleaf)
- Clinical waste must **not** be placed in either normal domestic or recycling waste.

**Offensive waste:** is non-clinical waste that's non-infectious and doesn't contain pharmaceutical or chemical substances, but may be unpleasant to anyone who comes into contact with it. Offensive waste includes hygiene waste and sanitary protection like nappies and incontinence pads.

- This waste appropriately bagged can be placed in normal domestic refuse.
- If there are significant quantities of offensive waste generated that would result in difficulties being included within domestic refuse (non-recyclable), please contact your local council to enquire about additional collections.

**Healthcare providers** who treat patients in their own home and produce clinical waste as a result of treating patients are under a duty of care to manage the waste they produce. The healthcare provider must make their own arrangements for such waste.

**Care Homes/Nursing Homes** should make their own contractual arrangements for the disposal of clinical waste; if it is as a result of community pharmacies providing an additional/enhanced service to the care home then the pharmacy should be making separate arrangements for the disposal.