



Soft Furnishings

Since 1 January 2023, any soft furnishings containing Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) can no longer be safely disposed of in general waste bins or landfill sites and must be treated differently to general waste. This means these items cannot be recycled, reused or repurposed. Instead, these soft furnishings must be safely disposed of through incineration.

Waste producers need to correctly identify, categorise, and prevent any soft furnishings containing POPs from ending up in landfill sites.



Materials that do not contain POPs

- Wooden chairs without cushion
- Mattresses
- Deckchairs
- Curtains
- Blinds
- Beds (Bedframes)



Materials that may contain POPs

Soft Furnishings / Seating Waste such as:

- Chair Cushions
- Sofas
- Sofa beds
- Armchairs
- Upholstered Kitchen Dining Room Chairs
- Stools or Footstools
- Office Chairs
- Futons
- Bean Bags
- Floor and Sofa Cushions

Items containing:

- Leather
- Synthetic Leather
- Other Fabric
- Foam

You should:

1. Assume any item of upholstered furniture may contain POPs, unless it can be demonstrated otherwise.
2. Segregate any upholstered items from all other types of waste - do not contaminate the other waste types with this material.
3. Where possible remove affected POP materials from non-affected materials.
4. Notify your waste management company of the material to be collected.

