

NEWS RELEASE – 09 December 2016

STARTS

Take care with your hazardous waste or risk falling foul of the law

Waste crime is a massive issue in the UK and, according to the Environmental Services Association (ESA), the trade association for the nation's resource and waste management industry, it costs the country £550million a year in clean-up costs and lost tax revenue.

Not only is it a drain on the country's limited resources, waste crime can also be hazardous to the environment and damaging to public health.

Disposing of waste properly and legally takes times and money, but every business has a legal obligation to check if its waste contractor is licensed to carry and dispose of waste, and to make sure it will be handled correctly.

These rules become particularly stringent when it comes to hazardous waste, including asbestos.

Although asbestos is a relatively common waste item, especially for businesses which are undergoing renovations, it is still considered to be hazardous and can only be disposed of at waste sites that hold the relevant environmental permits.

Failure to check if the waste contractor has the correct licence

or permit to take the asbestos away and dispose of it could leave businesses open to prosecution and an unlimited fine.

It is also the business' responsibility to train its staff about how to manage waste legally.

As an ambassador of the ESA's Right Waste Right Place campaign, Hills Waste Solutions is urging businesses of all sizes to take care when disposing of all waste, but especially hazardous waste such as asbestos.

Right Waste Right Place raises awareness of the Duty of Care legislation and provides practical information to help businesses both large and small, to comply and help keep waste out of the hands of waste criminals.

Commercial manager Bradley Collins said: "Hills Waste Solutions has years of experience when it comes to disposing of hazardous waste, including asbestos. Not only this, but Hills operates one of the few sites where



A Hills employee disposing of asbestos at the authorised landfill site



asbestos can be legally disposed of in the South West, and we hold the relevant licences to collect hazardous waste

“Our customers range from private domestic households, to local authorities, waste brokers, construction companies and more.

“Our expert team, who are trained as dangerous goods safety advisers, can respond quickly to enquiries for collection and disposal of asbestos and hazardous waste. We also ensure that all the relevant paperwork is provided to give the customer peace of mind in knowing that any waste removed is done so legally with a compliant, full audit trail.”

ENDS

Notes to editors:

Hills Waste Solutions offers a range of specialist waste management and recycling services to both the public and private sector. It is a dynamic regional business which, while centred on Wiltshire, has stretched its boundaries into neighbouring areas to become one of the region’s largest providers of waste solutions. Hills Waste Solutions is a wholly owned subsidiary of The Hills Group Limited, a privately owned family company established in 1900.

www.hills-waste.co.uk

The **Right Waste Right Place** campaign aims to raise awareness of the Duty of Care legislation by giving practical advice to businesses from a broad range of sectors to help keep waste out of the hands of criminals. An interactive easy-to-use website has been developed as a part of the campaign,

www.rightwasterightplace.com. The site contains essential information in the form of simple guides, video animation, cases studies and ‘need to know’ cards to help businesses comply, and also acts as a simple portal to a wide range of other information and services for those with more sector specific enquiries.

Media contact:

Monique Hayes, Group communications officer, The Hills Group Limited

Tel: 01793 714978 monique.hayes@hills-group.co.uk



@HillsWaste



Hills Group