

## Document 1, 22-25<sup>th</sup> June 2020: E-mails relating to actions necessary to respond to increasing levels of face mask-related litter.

**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 25 June 2020 17:31  
**To:** [Redacted]  
**Cc:** [Redacted] covid-19 Policy <[covid-19.policy@gov.scot](mailto:covid-19.policy@gov.scot)>  
**Subject:** RE: Waste contingency - littering of face coverings/gloves

Great thanks [Redacted] that's helpful.

I will ask Zero Waste Scotland to progress the actions outlined below.

[Redacted – Out of Scope]

[Redacted]  
Scottish Government | Zero Waste Team Leader | Enfor : Environmental Quality & Circular Economy | [Redacted]

**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 24 June 2020 19:12  
**To:** [Redacted]  
**Cc:** [Redacted] covid-19 Policy <[covid-19.policy@gov.scot](mailto:covid-19.policy@gov.scot)>  
**Subject:** RE: Waste contingency - littering of face coverings/gloves

Health Protection Scotland haven't developed any guidance for disposal of PPE outside of health and social care settings so there's no public health guidance to which this needs to align.

[Redacted]

**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 24 June 2020 14:57  
**To:** [Redacted]  
**Cc:** [Redacted] covid-19 Policy <[covid-19.policy@gov.scot](mailto:covid-19.policy@gov.scot)>  
**Subject:** RE: Waste contingency - littering of face coverings/gloves

Thanks [Redacted]

[Redacted] – Grateful for any advice or views on proposed approach outlined below.

Thanks,  
[Redacted]

Scottish Government | Zero Waste Team Leader | Enfor : Environmental Quality & Circular Economy | [Redacted] | [Redacted]

**From:** [Redacted]

**Sent:** 24 June 2020 14:49

**To:** [Redacted]

**Cc:** [Redacted]

**Subject:** RE: Waste contingency - littering of face coverings/gloves

Hi [Redacted]

Our team is responsible for general physical distancing policy so we're not in the position to comment on your proposed actions. However, I've copied in my colleague [Redacted] who may be able to advise whether there is advice for disposal of masks, gloves and PPE in non-clinical settings.

Kind regards

[Redacted]

Policy Officer

Physical Distancing & Health Inequalities

Policy COVID Ready Society Division

Scottish Government

[Redacted] **From:** [Redacted] **On Behalf Of** covid-19 Policy

**Sent:** 24 June 2020 11:04

**To:** [Redacted] covid-19 Policy <[covid-19.policy@gov.scot](mailto:covid-19.policy@gov.scot)>; [Redacted]

**Cc:** [Redacted] **Subject:** RE: Waste contingency - littering of face coverings/gloves

Hello [Redacted],

I has passed this onto our Covid ready society team (now included). [Redacted] are you able to advise on these issues and actions?

Regards,

[Redacted]

BMU Officer | Directorate Support Unit | [Redacted]

**From:** [Redacted]

**Sent:** 24 June 2020 10:59

**To:** covid-19 Policy <[covid-19.policy@gov.scot](mailto:covid-19.policy@gov.scot)>

**Cc:** [Redacted]

**Subject:** RE: Waste contingency - littering of face coverings/gloves

Hi Covid-19 team,

Can you advise on this issue/action please. We will be agreeing actions through the Waste contingency comms subgroup on Monday so would be grateful for any views before then.

Thanks,  
[Redacted]

Scottish Government | Zero Waste Team Leader | Enfor : Environmental Quality & Circular Economy |[Redacted]

**From:** [Redacted]

**Sent:** 22 June 2020 11:13

**To:** covid-19 Policy <[covid-19.policy@gov.scot](mailto:covid-19.policy@gov.scot)>

**Cc:** [Redacted]

**Subject:** Waste contingency - littering of face coverings/gloves

Covid-19 policy colleagues,

I wanted to flag some emerging issues that have come out of recent waste contingency comms subgroup meetings. I've outlined the issues and suggested actions below.

It would be useful to gauge your views, whether you are content with the actions or if there are any further considerations we need to take into account, for example in terms of appropriate messaging or imagery. SG Comms are aware of these issues and the suggested approach.

Happy to discuss further if helpful.

1. **Issue:** Waste contingency partners report an **increase in littering of face coverings/gloves**. We have strengthened our general flytipping & littering messaging through the householder *Managing Our Waste* campaign. However, there are increasingly calls for more specific messaging on littering of face coverings and gloves. [Redacted – Out of Scope]

**Suggested action:** Given this situation is getting worse and is unlikely to go away in medium-term, we would suggest incorporating some more specific messaging on what to do with these kind of materials as part of the *Managing Our Waste* campaign, but steering away from specific imagery like surgical type masks.  
[Redacted]

Thanks,  
[Redacted]

Scottish Government | Zero Waste Team Leader | Enfor : Environmental Quality & Circular Economy | [Redacted]

## Document 2, 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> July: E-mail chain relating to the disposal of PPE

**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 21 July 2020 08:45  
**To:** [Redacted]  
**Cc:** Waste Contingencies COVID-19 <[waste.contingencies@gov.scot](mailto:waste.contingencies@gov.scot)>; [Redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: Disposal of PPE

Morning [Redacted],

Following on from [Redacted]'s points, it's worth highlight that shops are giving out single-use masks so that will increase the number of them being used and, I expect, the number that are littered.

[Redacted]

**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 20 July 2020 15:59  
**To:** [Redacted]  
**Cc:** [Redacted] Waste Contingencies COVID-19 [Redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: Disposal of PPE

Hi [Redacted],

Thanks for the response below.

To my knowledge, the reason [Redacted] reached out to us was his Deputy Director raised a query about waste when reviewing the guidance. [Redacted] mentioned if we couldn't give a response today that he will omit it from the guidance for now, until there is an approved form of words.

Considering your suggestions below might take some time, should I get back to [Redacted] and summarise what you have said below and suggest he takes it out the guidance for now?

[Redacted]  
**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** 20 July 2020 15:30  
**To:** [Redacted]  
**Cc:** [Redacted], Waste Contingencies COVID-19 <[waste.contingencies@gov.scot](mailto:waste.contingencies@gov.scot)>;  
**Subject:** RE: Disposal of PPE

Hi all

I've made a minor adjustment so it reads a little better

Beyond that I think we need to establish the 'lead' for face-coverings, if there is such a thing. [Redacted] could you touch base with the economy hub and also [Redacted] to see if we can understand who is making decisions on face coverings? This will help to find the right home for any disposal lines that we may want to add.

It has been a sticking point throughout but whilst we are not encouraging or advocating for single use face masks, there are plenty of people using them so we should have something there about correct disposal

On the motorcycle guidance point, I'm not sure it's for us to be clearing lines for the disposal of PPE (gloves, anti-viral wipes and single use face coverings). PPE isn't mentioned anywhere else throughout their guidance apart from test and trace and then the disposal section. Therefore they should really be going through HPS or a central route for those lines as I don't think PPE is the right term (but again that's not for us to be making a call and decision on).

Sorry not to be more helpful but it would be good to know what route they have gone down already before coming to us. Our media lines are specifically for face coverings and not wider PPE and the lines from their guidance is talking about double bagging and leaving for 72 hours which as [Redacted] had pointed out was only for waste from a household or premises suspected to have COVID. Single use gloves and masks etc. from a non-symptomatic person can go in general waste.

Going back to my first point, we need to make contact with the relevant lead so we can feed in lines on single use face mask/covering disposal as that is our jurisdiction here.

Thanks

[Redacted]

#### Disposal of PPE and single use face coverings

- PPE such as gloves and anti-viral wipes must be disposed of separately to general waste.
- PPE must be disposed of and double bagged daily.
- It can be collected using normal collection methods but must be at least 72 hours after the items were disposed of.

Scottish Government | Zero Waste Team Leader | Enfor : Environmental Quality & Circular Economy [[Redacted]

**[Redacted – Out of Scope]**