



re3 Project Team

Introduction of commercial and commercial-type vehicle permits

a. What are commercial and commercial-type vehicle permits?

From 30th September 2016 you will need to have a permit if you own, or are borrowing or hiring, a commercial (or commercial-type) vehicle and want to use it to bring your household waste to the Bracknell or Reading recycling centres.

b. Why are you introducing commercial and commercial-type vehicle permits?






Currently, vehicles like vans are allowed to enter the recycling centre, subject to assessment, between 2pm and 4pm, Monday – Saturday, not including Bank Holidays. However, this system is open to abuse and taxpayers and trade waste compliant businesses are footing the bill for those firms who use it as a way to get rid of their commercial waste for free.

re3 has calculated that if even just 1% of what is deposited at the recycling centres comes from traders, then it would still cost the re3 partnership councils £68,000 a year to process it.

c. Do I need a commercial or commercial-type vehicle permit?

If you own, or are borrowing or hiring, a commercial (or commercial-type) vehicle and want to use it to bring your household waste to the Recycling Centre from 30th September 2016, you will need to apply for a commercial vehicle permit. Permits are free and will only be issued to re3 area residents.

Please see the pictures below to see whether we would class your vehicle as commercial or commercial-type.

			No Trailer	Trailer*			Horsebox Trailer*	
				Less than 6ft (1.83m)	6-10ft (1.83-3.05m)	Greater than 10ft (3.05m)	Less than 10ft (3.05m)	Greater than 10ft (3.05m)
Without Signage	Car or Bicycle		No Permit required	No Permit required	Permit required	No access	Permit required	No access
	Pick Up (2 or 4 doors)		Permit required	No access	No access	No access	No access	No access
	Van (all types and sizes but excluding Box Vans)		Permit required	No access	No access	No access	No access	No access
Sign Written	Car		Permit required	Permit required	Permit required	No access	Permit required	No access
	Pick up/Van (excluding Box Vans)		Permit required	No access	No access	No access	No access	No access
With or without signage	Box Van or Horsebox		No access	No access	No access	No access	No access	No access

	You do not require a commercial or commercial-type vehicle permit to visit a re3 Recycling Centre with your household waste.
	You will require a commercial or commercial-type vehicle permit to visit a re3 Recycling Centre with your own household waste.
	You are not permitted access to the Recycling Centres using these vehicles.
*	Lengths apply to the load bed. Load bed applies to the 'box' area only and does not include the towbar.

d. When would I need a commercial or commercial-type vehicle permit?

From 30th September 2016, we will no longer accept household waste brought to the re3 recycling centres in a van or similar vehicle without a commercial or commercial-type vehicle permit.

You will need to apply for this kind of permit **ahead of every visit** to a re3 recycling centre using a commercial or commercial-type vehicle. This can be done 24 hours or more before your planned visit using an online application form available on your Council website.

e. How can I apply for commercial or commercial-type vehicle permit?

You will be able to apply for one online from your local re3 Council website shortly.

You can check eligibility – pictured examples like the ones above will help you to confirm if you need a permit - before completing the rest of the application.

The online form will ask you for a valid residential address within the Bracknell Forest, Reading or Wokingham local authority areas. You will also have to enter whether it is your own vehicle or a hire van, the type of waste you wish to bring to the recycling centre, and to fill out a disclaimer.

When you've completed the webform, you will be provided with a single-use permit that you can either print out or store on your phone or other mobile device. When you come to the recycling centre, please bring your driving licence, or a council tax or bank statement, or credit card or utility bill confirming your residency in the re3 area, and show the permit to staff at the entrance who will record it. We will review the number of visits made by individual residents and/or vehicles and we may contact you if it appears that the number of visits you or your vehicle make might suggest activity more like that of a trader than a householder.

Please keep your permit printout or download safe as we will not allow you to deposit your non-household waste without it.

f. Will you charge me for the waste that I bring to the recycling centre?

Charges for non-household waste - soil, rubble, asbestos, plasterboard and gas bottles - will be introduced at the same time as the commercial van permits to support efforts to reduce the amount of trade waste being deposited for free at the re3 recycling centres.

More information and a full list of pricing are available in our [Waste Acceptance Policy](#).

re3's recycling centres in Bracknell and Reading will continue to accept all other household waste free of charge including garden waste, white goods, large and small electrical items, wood, bric-a-brac and bulky household waste such as furniture, carpets and mattresses. Items that are brought in and still in good condition are

donated to Sue Ryder to fundraise for hospice care. For more information on re3's waste acceptance policy, please visit <http://www.fccenvironment.co.uk/re3-household-recycling-centres.html>

g. Can I still visit the recycling centre in my commercial vehicle without a permit?

No, we will no longer allow commercial or commercial-type vehicles to use the recycling centres without a permit. This is to help us ensure that only re3 area residents who dispose of household waste – and who pay for the re3 recycling facilities through their council tax – can use the re3 recycling centres. If you are a trader, see question J for trade-specific regulations.

h. I have a van for work, but use it to bring my household waste to the recycling centre. Do I need a permit?

Yes, we need to be able to ascertain that you are a householder rather than a trader. You will still be able to use your commercial vehicle to bring household waste to the recycling centre, but will need to apply for a permit beforehand. Alternatively, if you have another car in your household, you can use that for recycling centre visits, but please remember to display your orange and red resident's permit in your windscreen.

i. Are any vehicles exempt from the commercial and commercial-type vehicle scheme?

Box vehicles and trailers with a length in excess of 3m are not permitted access to the recycling centres for health and safety reasons. Commercial vehicle permits do not entitle traders to dispose of trade waste at the recycling centres free of charge.

j. I am a trader and I want to use the recycling centre to dispose of trade waste, can I apply for a permit?

No, commercial and commercial-type vehicle permits are for re3 residents only to dispose of household waste. Traders can use the waste transfer stations located at the Bracknell and Reading recycling centres where they will be charged to dispose of their business waste at the weighbridge. Please note, visitors using the weighbridge will only be allowed access while wearing PPE – e.g. hard hat, high vis jacket and safety footwear.

k. Will the introduction of these permits cause more queuing at the recycling centres?

Access to both the Bracknell and Reading recycling centres is being reconfigured to allow more room for commercial vehicle permits checks and non-household waste charging. The existing height restriction bars will be replaced by raisable barriers at both sites and the recycling centres will end the over-height time restrictions. These

new measures are being introduced to help minimise queuing and to allow residents with large vehicles to visit the recycling centres more conveniently.

I. Where can I find out more?

More information is available on www.re3.org.uk, search Re3 Recycling on Facebook or follow us @re3recycling on Twitter.