

Sustainable Buying Standard:

Electrical equipment (*non-ICT*)



Introduction

Durham County Council is committed to considering the environmental, social and economic impacts of products and services that we purchase throughout their lifecycles. Due to the development of technology, electrical equipment tends to have a relatively short lifespan, and as such it is best practice to evaluate their impacts on a whole-life basis prior to purchase. We recognise that by purchasing the most energy efficient, appropriate, and durable electrical appliances and equipment, substantial savings can be made in terms of both cost and environmental impact.

The term “electrical equipment”, for the purpose of this standard, encompasses a wide variety of products, including electronics, lighting, heating and cooling appliances amongst others, all of which have a broad range of different potential environmental impacts. For this reason, we have identified a number of **key products** that we are likely to procure and set out specific criteria for these products.

This standard does not cover ICT equipment such as computers, laptops, tablets, and displays. Comprehensive Government Buying Standards already exist for these products - those standards should be used when specifying ICT equipment.

Compliance with this standard is mandatory for all Service Groupings.

Buying Standard

When purchasing any type of non-ICT **electrical equipment**, Durham County Council will:

- For products that must carry a European Energy Label under the Energy Labelling Directive 2010/30/EU, purchase only products with the highest possible energy efficiency rating,
- Specify mains powered appliances in preference of battery powered products wherever possible; if battery-powered products must be used (i.e. where there is no practicable alternative), preference will be given to rechargeable batteries,
- Ensure that all electrical and electronic equipment is disposed of legally and responsibly in accordance with the Waste Electrical & Electronic Equipment (WEEE) directive,
- Refer to the specifications and guidance for improving appliance durability issued by the Waste & Resources Action Programme (WRAP). For further information, see: <http://eproducttechguide.wrap.org.uk/>

In addition to the above, Durham County Council will observe the following standards for specific electrical products:

Product	Durham County Council will:
Air conditioning units	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specify equipment with an “A” rating for energy efficiency
Dishwashers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specify equipment with an “A+++” rating for energy efficiency Specify equipment with “A” ratings for both cleaning and drying performance Ensure that equipment has a capacity that is appropriate to requirements. For a standard sized dishwasher (i.e. for up to 14 place settings), volume per cycle must not exceed 10 litres
Electric ovens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specify equipment with an “A” rating for energy efficiency Ensure that equipment has a capacity that is appropriate to requirements
Energy-saving light bulbs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specify bulbs with an “A” rating for energy efficiency
Fridges, freezers and fridge-freezers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specify equipment with an “A+++” rating for energy efficiency Ensure that equipment has a capacity that is appropriate to requirements Refer to the specification and guidance for improving durability for fridge-freezers issued by WRAP
Kettles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Give preference to products with a water indication level to minimise the risk of over-filling Refer to the specification and guidance for improving durability for kettles issued by WRAP
Microwave ovens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Give preference to products that do not have a digital clock Refer to the specification and guidance for improving durability for microwaves issued by WRAP
Televisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specify equipment that has an automatic standby feature where appropriate Specify products that consume 1 watt or less in standby mode Refer to the specification and guidance for improving durability for televisions issued by WRAP
Tumble dryers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specify equipment with a “B” rating for energy efficiency Specify products that have an auto dry sensor Ensure that products have a capacity that is appropriate to requirements
Vacuum cleaners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to the specification and guidance for improving durability for vacuum cleaners issued by WRAP
Washing machines and washer-dryers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specify equipment with an “A+++” rating for energy efficiency Specify equipment with “A” rated washing performance Specify equipment with “A” rated spin drying performance Ensure that products have a capacity that is appropriate to requirements. Washing machines with a load capacity of 5kg volume per cycle must not exceed 39 litres per cycle Refer to the specification and guidance for improving durability for washing machines and washer-dryers issued by WRAP

Definitions

"European Energy Label"	A label indicating the energy efficiency of an appliance. Appliances are rated on a scale from class A (most energy efficient) to class D (least energy efficient), although A+, A++ and A+++ energy ratings have been introduced for fridges, washing machines, dishwashers and tumble dryers. Under the Energy Labelling Directive 2010/30/EU, the following products must by law clearly display a European Energy Label at the point of sale: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• household fridges and freezers• washing machines, tumble dryers and washer-dryers• dishwashers• air conditioners• electric ovens• light bulbs• televisions In addition to the energy efficiency class, other information is also provided such as consumption, efficiency, capacity, and noise, depending on the type of appliance.
"WEEE"	Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment
"WEEE directive"	The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Directive 2012/19/EU, which sets out targets for collection, recovery and recycling of all types of electrical products. In the UK, the directive is implemented under the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Regulations 2013. The regulations define the responsibilities of producers and distributors of electrical and electronic equipment to finance the collection, treatment, recovery and environmentally sound disposal of WEEE.
"WRAP"	The Waste & Resources Action Programme

Standard specification clause

The following wording should be inserted into the specification for any contract which involves the purchase of electronic equipment:

Under the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Regulations 2013, if an item is being replaced, it is the legal responsibility of the supplier to arrange for the uplift and appropriate disposal of the old equipment.

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