



## Recycled Aggregate Purchasing & Guidance (England & Wales)

Recycled aggregate should be given preference over virgin aggregate wherever such material can meet the required specification for use. Recycled aggregate generally has less impact on the environment than virgin aggregate, which is a finite resource. Using recycled aggregate (manufactured from concrete, bricks, tiles or ceramics) reduces waste sent to landfill and supports the principles of the waste hierarchy (prevent, reduce, reuse, recycle, dispose).

Recycled aggregate can be imported or produced on site from suitable demolition material. In either case, recycled aggregate is classed as waste, except where:



- it has been produced to an aggregates product standard e.g. BS EN 13242, is compliant with the specification requirements e.g. SHW (Specification for Highway Works) Series 600 and is produced in accordance with the Quality Protocol for Aggregates from Inert Waste

Or

- It forms part of a MMP (Materials Management Plan) under the CL: AIRE Definition of Waste Industry Code of Practice.

### Procurement

Where recycled aggregate will be imported, it should be specified that the material must be compliant with the requirements of the product standard, specification and the Aggregate Quality Protocol (hereafter referred to as QP). Evidence of this will be required.

**Grading certificates alone for: Type 1 / Type 2 sub base and 6F4/6F5, do not demonstrate compliance with the Specification, Quality Protocol or CL: AIRE.**

### Unbound recycled aggregate: Granular fill / General fill / Capping

Do not order 6F2, the correct code is **6F5** which has a product standard (6F2 is the code for site derived material and has no product standard).

If recycled aggregate is used without evidence of QP compliance then the recycled aggregate will be classed as waste. 6F5 must be produced in accordance with this standard and is therefore non-waste (and can be used in exactly the same way as quarried material). 6F2 has no product standard and is a waste material.

Any waste deposited on site requires an environmental permit or waste exemption. Without the necessary authorisation Persimmon may be liable to prosecution by the Regulator. Furthermore, recent changes to Landfill Tax mean that the person disposing of the waste and anyone who knowingly facilitates the disposal may be liable for the tax. All parties involved could also be liable to penalties for non-compliance or face criminal prosecution.

The same principles apply to: sub base (e.g. Type 1); pipe bedding drainage, recycled asphalt etc. It must all be produced in accordance with the relevant British Standard, the QP, and be compliant with the relevant SHW specification.

### Onsite Inspection

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All recycled aggregates generated on site and each load of recycled aggregate delivered to site must be inspected by a competent person for signs of any obvious contamination e.g. hydrocarbon odour, metals, plant tissue, plastics and timber (>1% by mass) or pieces of asbestos containing material (ACM).

If it is suspected that a load contains contaminants it should be rejected or quarantined, and photos of the rejected material should be taken. Any rejected or quarantined material should be reported immediately to the site management, and the supplier notified, so that the problem can be rectified or an alternative source of material identified.

**Recycled aggregates can have up to 1% (by mass) of Class X material. Class X material can include, but is not limited to: metal, plastics, timber etc. It does not include hazardous materials e.g. asbestos, lead batteries etc.**

### Examples of poor-quality recycled aggregate (contamination)



Car lead acid battery



Oversized item

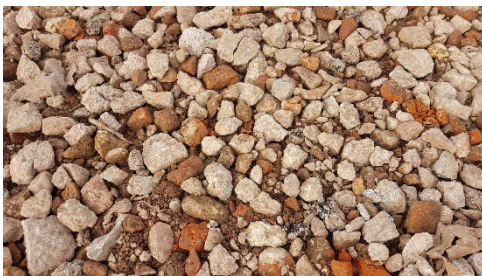


Brick ties



Timber, plastic packaging, cables, soil

### Examples of good quality recycled aggregate (6F5)



Good uniform sizing & minimal contamination

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## Documentation

Whether imported or generated on site, to demonstrate that recycled aggregate is compliant with the product standard, required specification and the Quality Protocol, the following, where appropriate, must be obtained and retained on-site:

- Evidence of where material has been sourced
- A copy of the permit for either a) the mobile plant used to crush / screen the recycled aggregate, or b) the Environmental Permit for the waste facility producing the aggregates
- A copy of the producers' method statement and factory production control (FPC) system for the production of aggregates from waste
- Material test certification that shows full compliance with product standard and specification requirements (e.g. Type 1 or 6F5 – **note grading certificates should be no longer than 3 months old**)
- Records of regular inspections of material for consistency / quality
- A delivery note for each load of recycled aggregate delivered to site (this must not be a waste transfer note and should include a statement of Quality Protocol compliance)
- Evidence that the original source of the material used to produce the recycled aggregate contained no asbestos e.g. it is from a demolished building that is certified asbestos free (a copy of the certificate should be obtained).

The recycled aggregate checklist must be completed by the Commercial team when procuring recycled aggregates to ensure that the appropriate documentation is in place, and thus the material will not be considered a waste.

**Refer to – EMS form 014 Recycled Aggregate Checklist**

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