

Wastedataflow Waste Finance Data Entry Guidance

Introduction

These notes provide instructions for Welsh local authorities on the completion of the Waste Return.

This form is closely aligned to the CIPFA Best Value Accounting Code of Practice, which is updated annually. In particular this form draws on the divisions of service set out in Section 3 of the BVACOP (the Service Expenditure Analysis), Environmental Services.

Question 156 – RO Form Data

Gross Expenditure

Total Income

Specific and Government Grants

Please enter all above figures in line with the authority's RO5 form

Question 157 - RO Form Reconciliation

The top section (in the box) is self-populated from the responses to questions 140 to 156. Where the totals of these figures differ to those on the RO5 form, please indicate the cause of the difference using the boxes provided.

Completion of the form – general guidance

Entries should cover only expenditure and income on waste collection and waste disposal as defined by BVACOP.

The form should be completed on an FRS17 basis.

The Total Cost must equal column (9) on the RO5 Form. Additional expenditure through external grants should be included in the return, highlighted in Question 155 and reconciled to the RO5 form in Question 157.

Apportionment of costs, where necessary, should be made relative to the tonnage data provided by authorities in their Wastedataflow returns, thereby giving greater surety of the data returned.

Where applicable, client management costs should be apportioned across service areas.

Do not include the costs of sweeping and removal of litter from land, litter bins, etc, collection of illegally fly-tipped rubbish, removal of dead animals and the removal of abandoned vehicles (as per BVACOP these should be included under Street Cleansing (not chargeable to Highways)). However, as collected materials contribute to municipal waste arisings, disposal costs from these services must be included in Question 153.

All lines should include a recharged allocation of management and support services together with any central support services recharges. This is consistent with the CIPFA Best Value Accounting Code of Practice. Whenever there is a need to apportion costs over more than one division of service, reference should be made to CIPFA current guidance on the principles of cost apportionment contained in the Best Value Accounting Code of Practice.

ANY SECTION WHICH IS NOT APPLICABLE OR WHERE NO COST IS INCURRED SHOULD BE LEFT BLANK. INCLUSION OF A ZERO IN A BLANK CELL WILL AFFECT THE DATA COLLATION SPREADSHEET AND CAUSE BREAKDOWN COSTS (SUCH AS NATIONAL AVERAGES) TO BE INCORRECT.

Notional Capital Charges

Local authorities are required to make capital charges to services. Where authorities do not hold this information at a sufficient level of detail, they should calculate a best estimate corresponding to each service line. As a minimum, capital charges should cover:

- the annual provision for depreciation, where appropriate;
- credit for amortisation of capital grants;
- loss on impairment of assets, i.e. unexpected downward adjustments to the value of assets caused, for example by major structural damage; and
- any deferred charges written to the council or police fund revenue account, such as those that arise where an asset is acquired or improved by an external body using money provided by the authority.

The aggregate of these elements should be recorded by service in the Notional Capital Charges column.