



BUSINESSES
CANNOT USE A
DOMESTIC WASTE
COLLECTION
SERVICE FOR
COMMERCIAL
WASTE

## BEAUTY SALON FAILS TO SHINE.

# WHAT HAPPENED?

Two black sacks of rubbish abandoned on a Birmingham street landed the business owner in deep trouble. When environmental health officers carried out a search, the rubbish bags were found to contain waxing strips, boxes for latex gloves, spray tan liquid, receipts and other waste paraphernalia associated with a nearby beauty salon.

The owner of the beauty salon was unable to provide evidence that a commercial waste removal contract was in place to legally dispose of rubbish from her premises. Instead, it appeared the company was illegally placing black binbags on the street for collection by the domestic waste service.

#### **OUTCOME**

The owner of the beauty salon was fined £525 and ordered to pay £2,734.20 towards court costs and a £53 victim surcharge.

#### CONTEXT

The company has subsequently signed up to Birmingham City Council's trade waste service, meaning the business is now legally compliant.

### WHAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN DONE DIFFERENTLY?

Businesses cannot use a domestic waste collection service for commercial waste. All items consumed or used on business premises, even discarded tea bags and empty wrappers from lunchtime, are classed as commercial waste. Therefore, businesses must have a contract in place for the removal and disposal of this waste – not doing so is an offence.