

# Operator Competence Scheme

## CIWM (WAMITAB) Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management

### About this qualification

This qualification forms part of the CIWM (WAMITAB) Operator Competence Scheme and is delivered using the classroom based 'taught and tested' route, making it a great qualification for those who want to formalise their knowledge and skills in the waste industry without having to complete an observation onsite. Learners can also choose from a range of optional units tailored to the specific activity on their site.

### Who is it for?

- New entrants to the industry that want to progress onto a degree.
- Graduates preparing to work in the industry.
- Operatives, team leaders, supervisors, or managers.
- Experienced workers seeking a formal qualification.
- Individuals developing a new waste treatment facility that require a primary competence qualification to get an environmental permit, but do not have access to an operational site.

### How is this qualification delivered?

This qualification can be delivered face to face or virtually in a classroom environment and assessed by written mini-project, in-depth question papers and/or written assignments.

### What does this qualification cover?

To achieve the qualification, learners must complete all the mandatory units designed to ensure individuals understand:

- Health and safety.
- Environmental protection.
- Principles of sustainable waste and resource management.
- Legislation for the operation of waste management facilities.
- Stakeholder communication and other non-legislative factors.

Learners must then select optional units designed to tailor the qualification to their job role or chosen career.

These units cover the following medium risk topics: inert landfill, land remediation, Thermal processing, biological treatment, physical treatment, mechanical biological treatment, metal recycling, end of life vehicles, storage of hazardous waste and land spreading.

## What are the entry requirements of this qualification?

This qualification is open entry. This means that learners interested in undertaking the CIWM (WAMITAB) Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management do not require any other qualifications or levels of attainment. This qualification is delivered using a 'taught and tested' approach (e.g. virtually, distance learning or classroom depending on training provider) so you do not need to be employed in a suitable position to undertake this qualification.

## What job role could this qualification lead to or support?

This qualification is ideal for new entrants, graduates or experienced workers that want to develop their career within the waste and resource management industry through further learning. It is a flexible qualification that can be tailored to meet the requirements of specific job roles (such as site manager, supervisor, or team leader) in the sector or a particular organisation.

## What are the opportunities for progression to further learning?

Learners that are interested in advancing their careers through further education can go onto study several qualifications at a higher level (e.g. FdSc Wastes Management, BSc Wastes Management or MSc Waste and Resource Management).

## What next?

You can also [become a CIWM member](#) and access an array of benefits tailored not only to provide you with all the tools you need to expand your knowledge, but also to boost your career.

## General Information

**Guided Learning Hours:** 30\* \*this is the amount of time the average learner is expected to spend in supervised learning and practice, but may vary by learner.

**Maximum Total Qualification Time:** 216\* \*this is the guided learning hours, plus the amount of time the average learner will spend in unsupervised practice and study, but may vary by learner.

**Ofqual Number:** 603/3581/6

**CIWM Code:** VRQ406, VRQ407, VRQ408, VRQ409, VRQ410, VRQ411, VRQ412, VRQ413, VRQ414, VRQ415, VRQ416

**Assessment:** written mini-project, in-depth question papers and/or written assignments

**Specimen Assessment Materials:** None available for this qualification.

**Languages:** Qualification materials are available from CIWM in English

**Available in the following countries:** England and Wales

## Qualification Structure

CIWM  
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500 Pavilion Drive  
Northampton Business Park  
Northampton  
NN4 7YJ

Tel: 01604 620426  
Email: [qualifications@ciwm.co.uk](mailto:qualifications@ciwm.co.uk)  
Website: [ciwmquals.co.uk](http://ciwmquals.co.uk)

To achieve this qualification, you must complete a minimum of 6 units to achieve the qualification. This should be made up of the 5 units from the Mandatory Group and 1 unit from the Optional Group:

### Mandatory Units

Ofqual Code	Title	Level	CIWM Unit Code
M/617/2098	Health and safety in the waste and resource management industry	4	VRQ401
T/617/2099	Environmental protection in the waste and resource management industry	4	VRQ402
D/617/2100	Principles of sustainable waste and resource management	4	VRQ403
H/617/2101	Legislation for the operation of a waste management facility	4	VRQ404
K/617/2102	Stakeholder communication and other non-legislative factors affecting the waste and resource management industry	4	VRQ405

### Optional Units

Ofqual Code	Title	Level	CIWM Unit Code
M/617/2103	Principles and practices of managing a physical treatment processing facility	4	VRQ406
T/617/2104	Principles and practices of managing a biological treatment processing facility	4	VRQ407
A/617/2105	Principles and practices of managing a thermal treatment processing facility	4	VRQ408
F/617/2106	Principles and practices of managing land remediation activities	4	VRQ409
J/617/2107	Principles and practices of managing an inert landfill	4	VRQ410
L/617/2108	Principles and practices of managing a mechanical biological treatment facility	4	VRQ411
R/617/2109	Principles and practices of managing an end of life vehicle facility	4	VRQ412
J/617/2110	Principles and practices of managing a metals recycling facility	4	VRQ413
F/618/1159	Principles and practices of managing a hazardous waste storage facility	4	VRQ414
T/618/1160	Principles and practices of managing land spreading activities	4	VRQ415
Y/650/9656	Principles and practices of managing a WEEE facility	4	VRQ416

## Hierarchy

### **Non-hazardous transfer with treatment (not otherwise specified)**

CIWM (WAMITAB) Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (VRQ406, Physical treatment)

WAMITAB Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (4WRMa, Physical treatment, Unit 6a)

WAMITAB Level 3 Award in Waste and Resource Management (3VWRMa, Physical processing, VRQ 6a)

WAMITAB Level 3 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (3VRQTCP1a, Physical and chemical treatment processing)

### **Non-hazardous transfer without treatment**

CIWM (WAMITAB) Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (VRQ406, Physical treatment)

WAMITAB Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (4WRMa, Physical treatment, Unit 6a)

WAMITAB Level 3 Award in Waste and Resource Management (3VWRMa, VRQ 6a, Physical processing)

WAMITAB Level 3 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (3VRQTCP1a, Physical and chemical treatment processing)

### **Use of waste to manufacture timber or construction products**

CIWM (WAMITAB) Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (VRQ406, Physical treatment)

WAMITAB Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (4WRMa, Physical treatment, Unit 6a)

WAMITAB Level 3 Award in Waste and Resource Management (3VWRMa, Physical processing, VRQ 6a)

WAMITAB Level 3 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (3VRQTCP1a, Physical and chemical treatment processing)

### **Treatment of waste wood for recovery**

CIWM (WAMITAB) Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (VRQ406, Physical treatment)

WAMITAB Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (4WRMa, Physical treatment, Unit 6a)

WAMITAB Level 3 Award in Waste and Resource Management (3VWRMa, Physical processing, VRQ 6a)

WAMITAB Level 3 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (3VRQTCP1a, Physical and chemical treatment processing)

### **Material recovery facilities**

CIWM (WAMITAB) Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (VRQ406, Physical treatment)

WAMITAB Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (4WRMa, Physical treatment, Unit 6a)

WAMITAB Level 3 Award in Waste and Resource Management (3VWRMa, VRQ 6a, Physical processing)

WAMITAB Level 3 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (3VRQTCP1a, Physical and chemical treatment processing)

**Civic amenity (CA) sites/ Household waste recycling centres (HWRC)**

CIWM (WAMITAB) Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (VRQ406, Physical treatment)

WAMITAB Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (4WRMa, Physical treatment, Unit 6a)

WAMITAB Level 3 Award in Waste and Resource Management (3VWRMa, Physical processing, VRQ 6a)

WAMITAB Level 3 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (3VRQTCP1a, Physical and chemical treatment processing)

**In-house storage of non-hazardous waste**

CIWM (WAMITAB) Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (VRQ406, Physical treatment)

WAMITAB Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (4WRMa, Physical treatment, Unit 6a)

WAMITAB Level 3 Award in Waste and Resource Management (3VWRMa, Physical processing, VRQ 6a)

WAMITAB Level 3 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (3VRQTCP1a, Physical and chemical treatment processing)

**Mobile plant for treatment of waste to produce soil, soil substrates and aggregate**

CIWM (WAMITAB) Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (VRQ406, Physical treatment)

WAMITAB Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (4WRMa, Physical treatment, Unit 6a)

WAMITAB Level 3 Award in Waste and Resource Management (3VWRMa, Physical processing, VRQ 6a)

WAMITAB Level 3 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (3VRQTCP1a, Physical and chemical treatment processing)

**Treatment of waste to produce soil, soil substitutes and aggregates**

CIWM (WAMITAB) Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (VRQ406, Physical treatment)

WAMITAB Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (4WRMa, Physical treatment, Unit 6a)

WAMITAB Level 3 Award in Waste and Resource Management (3VWRMa, Physical processing, VRQ 6a)

WAMITAB Level 3 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (3VRQTCP1a, Physical and chemical treatment processing)

**Inert transfer**

CIWM (WAMITAB) Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (VRQ406, Physical treatment)

WAMITAB Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (4WRMa Unit 6a, Physical treatment)

WAMITAB Level 3 Award in Waste and Resource Management (3VWRMa, VRQ 6a, Physical processing)

WAMITAB Level 3 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management † (3VRQTCP1a, Physical and chemical treatment processing)

**In-house storage of inert waste**

CIWM (WAMITAB) Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (VRQ406, Physical treatment)

WAMITAB Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (4WRMa Unit 6a, Physical treatment)

WAMITAB Level 3 Award in Waste and Resource Management (3VWRMa, VRQ 6a, Physical processing)

WAMITAB Level 3 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (3VRQTCP1a, Physical and chemical treatment processing)

**Inert physical treatment**

CIWM (WAMITAB) Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (VRQ406, Physical treatment)

WAMITAB Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (4WRMa Unit 6a, Physical treatment)

WAMITAB Level 3 Award in Waste and Resource Management (3VWRMa, VRQ 6a, Physical processing)

WAMITAB Level 3 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (3VRQTCP1a, Physical and chemical treatment processing)

**Composting in open windrows/ composting biodegradable wastes**

CIWM (WAMITAB) Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (VRQ407, Biological treatment)

WAMITAB Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (4WRMb, Biological treatment, VRQ 6b)

WAMITAB Level 3 Award in Waste and Resource Management (3VWRMb, Biological processing, VRQ6b)

WAMITAB Level 3 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (3VRQTCP1b, Biological processing)

**Composting in closed vessels/ composting biodegradable wastes**

CIWM (WAMITAB) Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (VRQ407, Biological treatment)

WAMITAB Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (4WRMb, Biological treatment, VRQ 6b)

WAMITAB Level 3 Award in Waste and Resource Management (3VWRMb, Biological processing, VRQ6b)

WAMITAB Level 3 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (3VRQTCP1b, Biological processing)

**Anaerobic digestion facility including use of resultant biogas**

CIWM (WAMITAB) Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (VRQ407, Biological treatment)

WAMITAB Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (4WRMb, Biological treatment, VRQ 6b)

WAMITAB Level 3 Award in Waste and Resource Management (3VWRMb, Biological processing, VRQ6b)

WAMITAB Level 3 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (3VRQTCP1b, Biological processing)

**On farm anaerobic digestion facilities including the use of resultant biogas**

CIWM (WAMITAB) Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (VRQ407, Biological treatment)

WAMITAB Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (4WRMb, Biological treatment, VRQ 6b)

WAMITAB Level 3 Award in Waste and Resource Management (3VWRMb, Biological processing, VRQ6b)

WAMITAB Level 3 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (3VRQTCP1b, Biological processing)

**Storage of wastes to be used in land treatment**

CIWM (WAMITAB) Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (VRQ407, Biological treatment)

WAMITAB Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (4WRMb, Biological treatment, VRQ 6b)

WAMITAB Level 3 Award in Waste and Resource Management (3VWRMb, Biological processing, VRQ6b)

WAMITAB Level 3 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (3VRQTCP1b, Biological processing)

**Non-hazardous sludge – biological, chemical and physical treatment**

CIWM (WAMITAB) Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (VRQ407, Biological treatment)

WAMITAB Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (4WRMb, Biological treatment, VRQ 6b)

WAMITAB Level 3 Award in Waste and Resource Management (3VWRMb, Biological processing, VRQ6b)

WAMITAB Level 3 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (3VRQTCP1b, Biological processing)

**Contaminated land remediation**

CIWM (WAMITAB) Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (VRQ409, Land remediation)

WAMITAB Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (4WRMd, Land remediation, VRQ6d)

WAMITAB Level 3 Award in Waste and Resource Management (3VWRMd, Land remediation, VRQ6d)

WAMITAB Level 3 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (3VRQTCP1d, Land remediation)

**Open inert landfill**

CIWM (WAMITAB) Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (VRQ410, Inert landfill)

WAMITAB Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (4WRMe, Inert landfill, VRQ6e)

WAMITAB Level 3 Award in Waste and Resource Management (3VWRMe, Inert landfill)

**Open inert landfill single waste stream**

CIWM (WAMITAB) Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (VRQ410, Inert landfill)

WAMITAB Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (4WRMe, Inert landfill, VRQ6e)

WAMITAB Level 3 Award in Waste and Resource Management (3VWRMe, Inert landfill)

**Closed inert landfill**

CIWM (WAMITAB) Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (VRQ410, Inert landfill)

WAMITAB Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (4WRMe, Inert landfill, VRQ6e)

WAMITAB Level 3 Award in Waste and Resource Management (3VWRMe, Inert landfill)

**Use of waste in a deposit for recovery operation (construction, reclamation, restoration or improvement of land other than by mobile plant)**

CIWM (WAMITAB) Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (VRQ410, Inert landfill)  
WAMITAB Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (4WRMe, Inert landfill, VRQ6e)  
WAMITAB Level 3 Award in Waste and Resource Management (3VWRMe, Inert landfill)

**Deposit in lagoons of non-hazardous dredging from waterways**

CIWM (WAMITAB) Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (VRQ410, Inert landfill)  
WAMITAB Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (4WRMe, Inert landfill, VRQ6e)  
WAMITAB Level 3 Award in Waste and Resource Management (3VWRMe, Inert landfill)

**Storage and treatment of dredging for recovery**

CIWM (WAMITAB) Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (VRQ410, Inert landfill)  
WAMITAB Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (4WRMe, Inert landfill, VRQ6e)  
WAMITAB Level 3 Award in Waste and Resource Management (3VWRMe, Inert landfill)

**Mechanical biological treatment (MBT)**

CIWM (WAMITAB) Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (VRQ411, Mechanical biological treatment)  
WAMITAB Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (4WRMb) (VRQ 6b)  
WAMITAB Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (4WRMf, Mechanical biological treatment)  
WAMITAB Level 3 Award in Waste and Resource Management (3VWRMb) (VRQ6b)  
WAMITAB Level 3 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (3VRQTCP1b)

**End of life vehicle facilities (vehicle storage, depollution and dismantling)**

CIWM (WAMITAB) Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (VRQ412, End of life vehicle facility)

**Metal recovery site (MRS) (wet scrap e.g. oily metal swarf – free flowing liquid)**

CIWM (WAMITAB) Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (VRQ413, Metal recycling facility)

**Metal recovery site (MRS) dry scrap (including separately collected batteries – no free flowing liquid)**

CIWM (WAMITAB) Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (VRQ413, Metal recycling facility)

**Storage of electrical insulating oil / Storage of catalytic converters**

CIWM (WAMITAB) Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management Hazardous waste storage (VRQ414)

**Mobile plant for land spreading (land treatment resulting in benefit)**

CIWM (WAMITAB) Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (VRQ415, land spreading)

**Mobile plant for land spreading of sewage sludge (land treatment resulting in benefit)**

CIWM (WAMITAB) Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (VRQ415, land spreading)

**Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) ATF physical treatment and storage**

CIWM (WAMITAB) Level 4 Certificate in Waste and Resource Management (VRQ416, WEEE facility)