

Waste and Cleansing Policies: Household Communal Bin Recycling and Waste Collection Policies

Implementation date: 17 May 2018

Control schedule

Approved by	Transport and Environment Committee
Approval date	17 May 2018
Senior Responsible Officer	Andy Williams, Waste and Cleansing Manager
Author	Angus Murdoch, Technical Coordinator
Scheduled for review	Annually, or as required

Version control

Version	Date	Author	Comment
1.0	7 June 2018	Angus Murdoch	Final

Committee decisions affecting this policy

Date	Committee	Link to report	Link to minute
17 May 2018	Transport and Environment	Policy Assurance	Minute

Waste and Cleansing Policies: Household Communal Bin Recycling and Waste Collection Policies

Policy statement

- 1.1 This overall policy outlines the individual policies which support the delivery of communal bin recycling and waste collection services for household waste in Edinburgh.
- 1.2 The policy was approved as part of the Waste and Cleansing Service's Policy Assurance at Transport and Environment Committee on 17 May 2018.

Scope

- 2.1 The overall policy sets out what householders can expect from the Council in terms of bin and container types, and collection frequencies.
- 2.2 This policy has been amended to explicitly state that where a resident is unable to access the service (e.g. as the result of a disability) the Waste and Cleansing Service will seek to agree an alternative means of collecting their waste.
- 2.3 This policy is designed to support the delivery of an enhanced recycling service for tenemental areas in particular, and blocks of flats generally. Existing sites which were sited prior to the adoption of this policy will not, and are not required to, comply with it.
- 2.4 The expectation is that, as new sites are developed or existing sites are redesigned, then most sites should comply with this policy (e.g. with regard to the provision of comprehensive recycling services at all locations).
- 2.5 Sites will also seek to recognise and accommodate other relevant Council policies (e.g. Edinburgh Street Design Guidance).

Definitions

- 3.1 The focus of this policy is the solid recycling and waste arisings produced by households who receive communal (not kerbside) recycling and waste collections.

- 3.2 “Waste” in this context relates to items or materials which are being discarded for disposal to landfill or energy recovery, while “recycling” relates to items which will be recycled.
- 3.3 “Assisted Collection” refers to a situation where all members of a household are unable to access their bins due to a disability or medical condition.

Policy content

Household Waste and Recycling Communal Bin Collection Policies

- 4.1 Appendix 1 presents the policies pertaining to the collection of household (communal bin) recycling and waste in Edinburgh.

Implementation

- 5.1 This overall policy will be maintained by the Council’s Waste and Cleansing Service.
- 5.2 Waste and Cleansing provides a comprehensive recycling and waste collection service to all Edinburgh households.
- 5.3 All services outlined are already in place.

Roles and responsibilities

- 6.1 The Waste and Cleansing Manager has overall responsibility for maintaining and updating the policy.

Related documents

- 7.1 None

Equalities impact

- 8.1 No negative equalities impacts have been identified as a result of this policy.
- 8.2 Specific measures are in place, e.g. to support people who are disabled.

Sustainability impact

- 9.1 Waste and Cleansing policies are designed to support integrated recycling services as part of an overall waste management service.
- 9.2 Improved management of waste by Edinburgh households will serve to maximise recycling and diversion of waste from landfill while preventing litter and escapes of waste to the wider environment.

Risk assessment

- 10.1 This policy has been agreed by the Transport and Environment Committee as part of the policy assurance process which seeks to ensure increased accountability, transparency and efficiencies concerning Council actions and operations.
- 10.2 Failure to operate efficient, reliable and customer focussed services represents a risk to the Council's reputation. It is likely that the data collected to support charging will improve the records of bins versus addresses and so result in an enhanced service.

Review

- 11.1 All Waste and Cleansing Policies will be reviewed on an annual basis and agreed at Transport and Environment Committee

Appendix 1: Household Recycling and Waste Communal Bin Collection Policies

COMMUNAL BIN COLLECTIONS (HOUSEHOLD WASTE)

Communal bins may be provided as an alternative to individual bins where the design of the property makes the issuing or collection of household waste bins impractical.

- Bins are provided only for the disposal of general household waste and separated recyclable items.
- Large items such as furniture should be disposed of via Special Uplift or Household Waste Recycling Centres; where practicable reusable items should be donated to charity (more information is available from the National Reuse Hotline).
- Bins must be stored off street within the bin store, car park, etc at all times, unless the bin has specifically been sited on the street by the Waste and Cleansing Service (e.g. in “traditional tenement” areas where there is no off street storage of waste).
- Bins will normally be provided for mixed recycling (paper and card, mixed plastics, cans and tins, empty aerosols and clean foil); glass, food and residual (“landfill”) waste.
- Bins will be emptied on a frequency that seeks to ensure they are not overfilled.
- Bins may be emptied on any day (including Saturday and Sunday) between the hours of 6 AM and 10 PM. Seven day access must be maintained. Safe access must be maintained at all times.
- Bins will be maintained regularly as required.
- Where bins are sited on private property it is the responsibility of the landowner to ensure that the property presents a safe working environment.
- The Waste and Cleansing Service will not be responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of any property where bins are sited, or any bin lift mechanism, etc.
- Where properties are not maintained to an adequate and safe standard, the Waste and Cleansing Service may in exceptional circumstances suspend collections until the defect is rectified. In these circumstances it will be the responsibility of the landowner or factor to arrange and pay for any additional collections which are required.

ASSISTED COLLECTION STATEMENT (for communal bin areas)

- Assisted collections are available where all members of a household are unable to access their communal waste collection due to a disability or medical condition.
- If you request an Assisted Collection we will visit you within 10 working days; if you are eligible for an Assisted Collection we will specify a collection point which

is accessible to you and the collection crews (e.g. at door to tenement on ground floor).

- We are NOT able to enter your property or communal stair
- We may need to visit you to confirm this.
- The collection point must be accessible to collection crews and not present a hazard (e.g. due to inadequate lighting, loose paving or other trip hazard). We are unable to hold keys.
- We will contact you regularly to check whether you still need the service.
- This will not usually take place more often than annually, except where a temporary Assisted Collection has been agreed for a shorter period.