

Interim Technical note:

Waste storage provision requirements for new residential developments

This note sets out guidance on the Council's current requirements for waste and recycling storage provision at new developments. It covers the volume of waste storage space that would be required for a new development and offers additional guidance on design for bin storage areas.

The Council's Planning and Building Control Unit has produced this in consultation with colleagues from Waste Management. The guidance is intended to supplement that already set out within Part D of the Council's Planning and Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document (SPD), Policy H8 of the Local Plan 2003 and any other relevant policies contained within the Council's emerging Local Plan.

Volume requirements

Each household in the Borough requires the following provision for general waste and recycling.

- 240 litres (L) for general waste
- 240L for green waste
- 240L for plastic / cans / glass
- 38L for paper

Additionally, 55L of capacity for possible future waste storage requirements is required.

All new development will need to make provision for general waste and recycling storage in line with these requirements and the guidance given below.

Dwellings with individual storage provision

For dwellings with individual storage provision the above provision normally constitutes:

- 3 x 240L wheelie bins for general and green waste and plastic / cans / glass
- 1 x 38L box for paper
- 1 x 55L box for possible future waste storage requirements

Dwellings with communal / shared storage provision

For developments with communal / shared storage provision (e.g. flats), the volume requirements outlined above should be multiplied by the number of units in the scheme.

However, units in schemes of flats or apartments are considered unlikely to require the same level of storage for green waste as single dwellings, due to the communal nature of garden space at such developments. As such, the figure for the total volume of general waste storage that would be required for a scheme of flats or apartments should be reduced by a third to obtain the volume requirement for green waste storage (see worked example below).

Waste storage at schemes with communal / shared storage provision can be constituted by either eurobins or wheelie bins. The minimum volume requirement should always be exceeded to account for any expected or unexpected increase in waste; and, if one or two wheelie bins would provide insufficient space, a eurobin should be used rather than several wheelie bins.

There are two sizes of eurobin, as shown below, but please note that no bin over 660L in size should be used to provide for the storage of paper. This is due to the weight of paper.

Worked example for development with communal / shared storage provision

The example scheme comprises 20 flats. For such a scheme provision would normally constitute:

- General waste = 240L x 20 flats = 4,800L
(5 eurobins (4 x 1,100L eurobins + 1 x 660L eurobin) = 5,060L)
- Green waste = (240L x 20 flats) x 0.66 = 3,168
(3 eurobins (3 x 1,100 eurobins) = 3,300 L)
- Plastic / cans / glass recycling = 240L x 20 flats = 4,800L
(5 eurobins (4 x 1,100L eurobins + 1 x 660L eurobin) = 5,060L)
- Paper recycling = 38L x 20 Flats = 760L
(1 eurobin & 1 wheelie bin (1x 660L eurobin + 1 x 240L wheelie bin) = 900L)
- Possible future waste storage requirements = 55L x 20 Flats = 1,100L
(1 eurobin (1 x 1,100L eurobin) = 1,100L)

Therefore, the example scheme above would require 12 x 1,100L Eurobins, 3 x 660L Eurobins and 1 x 240L Wheelie bins.

Bin dimensions

To assist in designing a site layout use the dimensions below. Please note that all dimensions are given in millimetres, unless stated otherwise.

	1,100L eurobin	660L eurobin	240L wheelie bin
Depth (back to front)	960	710	720
Width (side to side)	1,200	1,200	580
Height (floor to top of lid)	1,350	1,310	1,070

Design advice

Bin storage areas must be designed with the practicalities of waste collection in mind. Such considerations should be incorporated into design at an early stage, as is the case with those elements of design outlined in Part D of the Council's Planning and Design Guide SPD. The Council is unlikely to accept proposals that fail to make proper provision for the safe and efficient collection of waste; it should be noted that waste storage provision should not be dealt with by condition.

This advice is of special relevance with regards to schemes of flats, because such schemes most often incorporate communal bin storage areas.

There are three main areas covered in this note and each expands on an element of the guidance set out in the aforementioned SPD.

First, bin storage areas must be located within a site so as to aid the easy collection of waste, in particular:

- Bin storage areas – where used to house eurobins – should be situated so that doors are directly adjacent to a lowered curb

- Lowered curbs should lead onto a section of road that is accessible to refuse vehicles at all times and that will not be used for car parking
- Notwithstanding the need to design a sensitive site layout, bin storage areas should be located as near as practicable to the outside of a development so as to minimise the distance that refuse vehicles would have to travel. The bin area should be no more than 25m walking distance from the vehicle stop point.
- From the bin area to the vehicle the ground should be flat and level ie no gravel or cobble stones. The area should also be free from obstructions eg bushes and trees.
- The vehicle collection point should be level

Second, bin stores must be constructed so that all types of bin can be easily removed without causing injury to waste collection operatives, and in particular:

- Doors should have a clear opening that allows for the width of the widest type of bin to be stored, plus an additional 100 millimetres
- Internally, bin stores should be constructed to be large enough to allow for bins to be fully opened
- Doors should not be sprung, but should be constructed so that they can be secured in an open position during collection
- The bin area should be large enough to house all refuse and recycling bins with extra space added for movement of bins within the area.

Third, bin stores must be

- robustly constructed so that the regular removal and replacement of bins does not cause damage to the integrity of the store; stores should be designed to have a lifespan that is similar to that of the development. The Planning and Design Guide SPD recommends an internal metal and rubber 'bump strip' to prevent damage.

In addition:

- Sites need to accommodate vehicle dimensions of 25m turning circle, 2850mm width, 9550mm length
- Gated premises should have only key pad entry systems: keys for entry are not acceptable
- Bins will not be collected from below ground floor level ie basements

Further information and advice

Please contact Hertsmere Borough Council for further advice.

Planning and Building Control Unit
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Further advice is also available from:

http://www.lgcplus.com/Journals/3/Files/2010/7/14/ADEPTMakingspaceforwaste_000.pdf