

## **Guidelines for the storage and collection of domestic rubbish & recycling**

### **Internal storage**

Internal storage for waste and recycling must be located in an accessible and commonly used area inside each dwelling.

- It should be easily accessible from external storage areas, near to areas of high waste production and be hard wearing and washable.
- In a kitchen, the internal storage for rubbish and recycling should be away from circulation areas e.g. below a worktop, to prevent restricting access for people with mobility difficulties.
- The capacity for recycling must be at least equal to storage for rubbish and storage space and should allow for the ratio of recycling to waste to be adaptable to meet future demand.
- Adequate space to accommodate at least one smart sack must be provided in the same location as the receptacle for the non-recyclable waste. The smart sack specification is as follows:

Capacity: 80 litres  
Width when closed: 370mm  
Width when open: 680mm  
Height: 940mm

### **External Storage**

External rubbish storage areas should be impervious, pest-proof with easily cleansable surfaces and close fitting lids. If, the storage area is provided within basement vaults beneath the footway at the front of the premises the following requirements apply:

- The flooring to the vault should be in good order and provide a smooth and easily cleansable concrete finish.
- The vault should be free from serious water ingress and standing water.
- All holes surrounding pipework and gas /electricity services should be filled to prevent pest ingress. The pointing to the brickwork of the vault should be reasonably sound.
- The structure should be pest proof.

- The vault should be provided with a sound, rodent-proof timber door and frame. The door should be close-fitting with a maximum clearance of 5mm at the foot to prevent rodent entry beneath, and, ideally, fitted with a metal kick-plate at the foot to prevent gnawing, etc.
- The storage area to be kept clean and free from accumulations of rubbish.
- Storage areas should be on a hard level surface, approached along a path or route that is accessible to disabled people.
- The distance between the container and the collection vehicle, at the time of collection, should not exceed 10 metres.
- Any locks to the storage areas must have a standard 'Fire Brigade' 1, 2 or 4 pattern. Where there are electronic gates and /or barriers controlling access to such areas, codes should be provided to the collectors.

The tenants should be advised on the arrangements for rubbish collections and the relevant days when rubbish is regularly collected for disposal by the Council.

**At residential premises served by kerbside collections, space must be made available outside for the storage of rubbish and recycling.**

- These spaces must be at ground floor level, at the front of the property and within 10 metres of vehicle access and ideally within 3 metres of the entrance to the premises from the public highway or access road. Storage locations should be on a hard, level surface that is accessible to disabled people.
- The service provided by the council is the collection of standard dustbins or bags. These dustbins, typically around 90 litres, are not provided by the council and must be supplied by the resident or developer. Residents must also supply their own black rubbish bags. Wheelie bins are not acceptable containers because they are not compatible with collection vehicles and are too tall for bags to be safely removed from them.
- For each individual household an external cupboard or designated storage space is needed, capable of holding at least two ordinary dustbins, whose specification conforms to BS 792 or BS 4998, or alternatively space or holders for at least two rubbish sacks, each of about 100 litre capacity. Additional space of at least 160 Litres is also needed for recycling sacks. See the table below for the approximate capacity needed depending on household size.

<b>Household number</b>	<b>Rubbish</b>	<b>Recycling</b>
1 household (1-3 people)	2-3 dustbins (minimum 2 dustbins or 200 litres)	2 recycling sacks (minimum 160 litres)
1 household (4-6 people )	3-5 dustbins (minimum 3 dustbins or 300 litres)	2-3 recycling sacks (minimum 240 litres)

It is not acceptable for any waste to be stored on the public highway (with the exception of black sacks and recycling sacks placed out on collection day, or after 9pm on the preceding day).

Waste stored on the public highway at any other time may result in enforcement action being taken against the resident.

### **Residential developments not served by kerbside collections**

Properties not served by a kerbside collection must be provided with communal rubbish and recycling bins

Wheeled refuse bins are to be located in a bin store or stores and/or at the end of chutes accessible along a step-free route from the dwellings they serve. In most instances these properties must also be served by communal recycling 'smart' banks

Careful consideration should be given to the design, siting and location of units so as not to adversely affect the streetscene, particularly in conservation areas. The bin store must be capable of housing the maximum number of bins required, based on an assessment of projected arisings (See below).

The council recommends calculating the required waste capacity based on the following formula:

$$A \times ((B \times C) + 30)$$

Where:

A = number of dwellings

B = volume arising per bedroom (100l)

C = average number of bedrooms

So for example in a development of 10 x 1 bed flats and 10 x 2 bed flats, the following applies:

$$A = 20$$

$$B = 100\text{l}$$

$$C = 1.5$$

$$20 \times ((100 \times 1.5) + 30) = 3600 \text{ litres}$$

The recommended split of rubbish and recycling is a ratio of 55% rubbish, 45% recycling. So in this example 1980 litres is required for rubbish and 1620 litres for recycling. This would be rounded up, to give a final recommendation of 2 x 1100 litre rubbish bins and 2 x 1280 litre recycling bins.

### **Technical specification of containers used by the council**

Euro bins and chamberlains are acceptable for the storage of rubbish. Standard 1100 and 1280 litre euro bins are typically used as recycling bins, however smaller 660 and 330 litre bins are also available if necessary. If you supply your own recycling bins for the council to collect you must ensure that the lid is orange and marked with appropriate signage (i.e. list of accepted materials). The following are guideline dimensions only. Developers should check the dimensions to ensure adequate space between bins when siting a number of units together, allowing for their manoeuvre, for example in and out of enclosures and where necessary through doorways and gates for collection.

**Container Height Length Width**

Eurobin (1280L) 1480mm 1265mm 985mm

Eurobin (1100L) 1475mm 1250mm 980mm

Eurobin (660L) 1330mm 1250mm 720mm

Eurobin (360L) 1100mm 620mm 860mm