



West Lancashire Borough Council

Report of the Corporate and Environmental Overview & Scrutiny Committee
'Litter Bin Policy Review'





Litter Bin Policy - Report of the Corporate and Environmental Overview & Scrutiny Committee

FOREWORD by the Chairman Councillor Vickie Cummins



"The Corporate and Environmental Overview & Scrutiny Committee carried out a review of the requirement for a 'Litter Bin Policy' in 2018/19. This report sets down the outcomes of the work undertaken by Members of the Committee during that period.

We started the scrutiny project in December 2018 with an overview presentation from the Operations Manager from Street Scene, to assist our understanding of the current provision of litter bins across the Borough and the collection process. It was identified that a litter bin policy was required to determine the size and style of the bins, along with a collection process, under a centralised management.

We would like to thank all those who have been involved in the review in particular those Members and Officers who took the time to attend meetings and to Emmett Reidy of Egbert Taylor, who attended to provide an illustration of the 'Bigbelly' bins.

The outcome of the review and the recommendations of the Committee are detailed below. The Committee, by undertaking this review, has developed a new strategy for West Lancashire, which is aimed at providing a consistent approach to litter bin provision and collection across the borough.

THE REVIEW

BACKGROUND

The Corporate and Environmental Overview & Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 11 October 2018 agreed that the topic selected for review in the 2018/2019 work programme of the Committee would be a "Litter Bin Policy".

A service review had identified the need for a Litter Bin Policy.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. To undertake a review entitled "Litter Bin Policy" in order to provide a consistent approach to litter bin provision and collection across the borough.
2. To present a draft litter bin strategy/policy to Cabinet and Council, as appropriate,

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) That the Director of Leisure and Environment present a "Litter Bin Policy" to be considered by Cabinet at its meeting on 5 November 2019 and also by Council on 11 December 2019, if appropriate.
- 2) That the final draft report 'Litter Bin Policy Review' attached at Appendix 1 to the report, be approved, subject to updates arising from this meeting and the inclusion of the following recommendations:
 - (i) That, subject to budget approval, a 4-6 week trial pilot of compaction bins be implemented, at a cost of £500 per station, and that delegated authority be given to the Corporate Director of Place & Community (designate), in consultation with the relevant Portfolio Holder, to identify the number of bins and locations. The findings of the trial be reported to Cabinet and Council as appropriate.
 - (ii) That following the outcome of the stock condition survey and subject to budget approval, a litter bin replacement programme be undertaken, for replacement of category C & D litter bins at a cost of £10,000 for year 1 and £5,000 for years 2 & 3. Following this a further review should be undertaken.
 - (iii) That, subject to budget approval, a Programme of educational campaigns and materials, provided by organisations such as Hubbub and Keep Britain Tidy be supported.
- 3) That the 'Policy for the Provision of Litter Bins', as attached to the draft review report (Appendix 1), be approved, subject to the removal of the reference to Parish Councils in paragraph 10.1 ie. Parish Council's will not be charged for the sale and installation of litter bins.
- 4) That the Corporate Director Place & Community (designate) submit the final review report containing the final 'Policy for the Provision of Litter Bins', to

Cabinet on 5 November 2019 and Council on 11 December 2019, if appropriate, for approval.

INFORMATION GATHERED

Meeting held on 6 December 2018

Proposed / Current Litter Bin Policy (Presentation 1)

The Operations Manager from Street Scene, provided the Committee with an overview as to the current processes in place for providing bins across the Borough and the collection of the refuse.

The current process involved three different services across the Borough providing bins, with the servicing of those bins being undertaken by Street Scene. In February 2016, Council agreed for the removal of dog waste bins and the litter bins were to be of dual usage.

A service review had identified that a litter bin policy was needed and as part of the review Members were asked to consider numerous factors like the size and style of litter bins, location of installation and a centralised management of the bins.

Meeting held on 7 March 2019

Litter Bin Designs (Presentation 2)

The Committee received a presentation from the Operations Manager of Street Scene, which outlined the current position in relation to a litter policy and the different designs including style, size, fill level sensors, compaction bins, innovations and comparison with other local Authorities.

Criteria for the Situation of Bins (Presentation 3)

A further presentation was given in relation outlining the criteria for the positioning of the litter bins and a first draft of the 'Policy for the Provision of Litter Bins' was circulated.

Comments and questions were raised regarding the following:

- Advertising on litter bins
- Fill level monitoring options
- The sale of litter bins to other stakeholders
- On street recycling
- Conservation areas
- Clean and Green service launch

Meeting held on 11 July 2019

Egbert Taylor (Presentation 4)

The Committee received a presentation from Emmett Reidy of Egbert Taylor, on "Bigbelly", a smart, solar powered, sensor-equipped waste and recycling station.

"Bigbelly" is able to communicate real-time status to waste collection Operatives, in order to increase efficiencies.

He referred to efficiencies in respect of reduced number of collections, operation time, vehicle allocation to bin collection, co2 emissions, street clutter, street cleaning and trade dumping and to the transformation of public places.

He explained how the waste and recycling stations particularly referring to the compacting of the material deposited, how they are supported by cloud or wifi hotspot option, the safety aspects of the design of the station, the compactor design and the data derived on collection requirements.

He went on to provide an illustration of the current locations of these waste and recycling stations and of local authorities with stations and their collection/location performance, fullness frequency data and to the availability of advertising on the stations. In concluding he referred to variations of the product e.g. Telebelly.

Comments and questions were raised regarding the following:

- A request for data from local Authorities similar in size to West Lancashire.
- Recycling models – single/double stations
- Siting stations on narrow pathways
- Vandalism
- Charging in relation to a pilot study
- Cash savings

It was resolved that the Director of Leisure and Environment would submit a report on the implementation of a pilot/trial of "bigbelly" waste and recycling stations throughout the Borough to the next Committee.

Condition Survey (Presentation 5)

The Committee noted the findings of a condition survey of the litter bins in the Borough that had been undertaken.

Meeting held on 10 October 2019

Draft Review Report – Litter Bin Policy

Consideration was given to the report of the Director of Leisure and Environment, which considered the draft final report and proposed Policy for the Provision of Litter Bins' and the comments received following consultation.

Questions and comments were raised regarding the following:-

- A standardised approach for litter bins for future installs – colour etc. to improve aesthetics of street furniture across the Borough
- A centralised management of litter bin provision - one service budget control and installation arrangement in place
- Clean and Green Team schedules
- Data obtained from Hartlepool Council in respect of compaction bin efficiencies and savings made

- Educational, Nudge theories, chewing gum boards, fluorescent paint stencils on pavements, school presentations
- Data intelligence for possible locations of compaction bins
- Keep Britain Tidy / Hubbub / Educational campaigns / litter picking / recycling

The Committee agreed the final report and the final draft 'Policy for the Provision of Litter Bins' for submission to Cabinet with the inclusion of the following additional recommendations:

1. That, subject to budget approval, a 4-6 week trial pilot of compaction bins be implemented, at a cost of £500 per station, and that delegated authority be given to the Corporate Director of Place & Community (designate), in consultation with the relevant Portfolio Holder, to identify the number of bins and locations. The findings of the trial be reported to Cabinet and Council as appropriate.
2. That following the outcome of the stock condition survey and subject to budget approval, a litter bin replacement programme be undertaken, for replacement of category C & D litter bins at a cost of £10,000 for year 1 and £5,000 for years 2 & 3. Following this a further review be undertaken by the Corporate Director of Place & Community.
3. That, subject to budget approval, a Programme of educational campaigns and materials, provided by organisations such as Hubbub and Keep Britain Tidy be supported.

Members who participated in the review

Councillors: Mrs M Blake, T Blane, R Cooper, C Coughlan, V Cummins, S Currie, C Dereli, G Dowling, S Evans, D Evans, J Finch, G Hodson, K Lockie, K Mitchell, J Monaghan, M Nixon, , A Owens, P O'Neill, Pryce-Roberts, A Sutton, D West, D Westley and M Westley.

Former Councillors C Cooper, P Cotterill, N Hennessy and C Marshall.

OFFICER SUPPORT

Lead Officer: Heidi McDougall, Director of Leisure and Environment

Scrutiny Support Officer: Julia Brown, Member Services/Civic Officer

Officers Reporting: Michelle Williams, Operational Manager Street Scene

Legal Officer: Tom Dickinson, Assistant Solicitor

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

There are no significant sustainability impacts associated with this report; however, developments in this area of work are likely to involve stakeholders, especially the local community, in its on-going development.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Any financial and resource implications arising from the recommendations will be considered as part of the budget setting process.

Background Documents

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this report.

Equality Impact Assessment

There is a direct impact on members of the public, employees, and stakeholders, therefore an Equality Impact Assessment is required. A formal Equality Impact Assessment will be included in the report to Cabinet.

Appendix 1

Final Draft – 'Policy for the Provision of Litter Bins'