

Shropshire
Council

**Guidance for architects & developers
relating to domestic refuse and recycling
storage and collection requirements**



For more detailed advice please contact: - waste.management@shropshire.gov.uk

1. Introduction

The management of solid waste from domestic properties in Shropshire has significant economic, social and environmental impacts which can give rise to material planning considerations. The Council has a statutory duty to collect waste (and to provide separate recycling collections) from all properties and so all new housing must accommodate this.

When a planning application for a new home is submitted, the Council expects details of the proposed storage areas for waste and recyclable material to be specified as part of our adopted policy on Sustainable Design. This is an essential criterion in order for the planning application to be validated.

2. Basic requirements

It is vital new homes have adequate storage space to contain wastes for a fortnightly collection (including separate storage space for compostable and source segregated recyclable material).

Also crucial is that they have regard for the large vehicles utilised for collecting waste and that the highway specification is suitable to facilitate the safe and efficient collection of waste. Any access roads, bridges or ramps need to be capable of supporting our larger vehicles which have a gross weight (i.e. vehicle plus load) of 32 tonnes and minimum single axle loading of 11 tonnes.

Furthermore the development must also have due regard for potential nuisance that may arise from waste management.

3. Calculation of Storage Capacity Required

When considering the amount of storage space needed for any particular development we use the following requirements.

3.1 Houses

The Councils preference is where possible to adopt a uniform approach to waste collection with the standard practice for domestic properties is for an alternate weekly collection of refuse and recycling from the following receptacles.

- 1 x 240 Litre wheeled bin per household for refuse
- 1 x 240 Litre wheeled bin per household for compostable waste
- 1 x 44 Litre boxes per household for recycling metal cans & plastics
- 1 x 44 Litre box per household for recycling glass
- 1 x 44 Litre box per household for recycling paper

Dimensions of these containers are: -

44 Litre recycling box

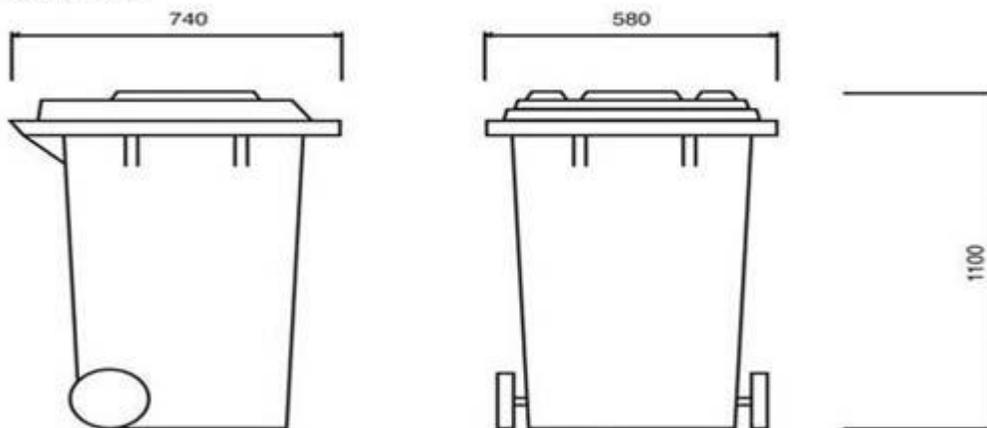
- Length 58.5 cm
- Width 39 cm
- Height 28.5 cm
- **Footprint 0.23 m²**



240 Litre wheeled bin

- Width 58 cm
- Length 74 cm
- Height 110 cm (allow a total height of 180 cm for lid opening)
- **Footprint 0.43 m²**

Width: 580
Height: 1100
Depth: 740





The boxes can cross stack, nest upon one another or fit within each other thus reducing the floor space required to store the recycling. As such in order to accommodate the above suite of containers, an area of flat, hard standing, **at least 1.5 m²** in area, needs to be allocated within the curtilage of the property for the storage of domestic waste.

The residents will be expected to move the containers from this point to the nearest adopted highway for collection (and back again) and so this should be considered.

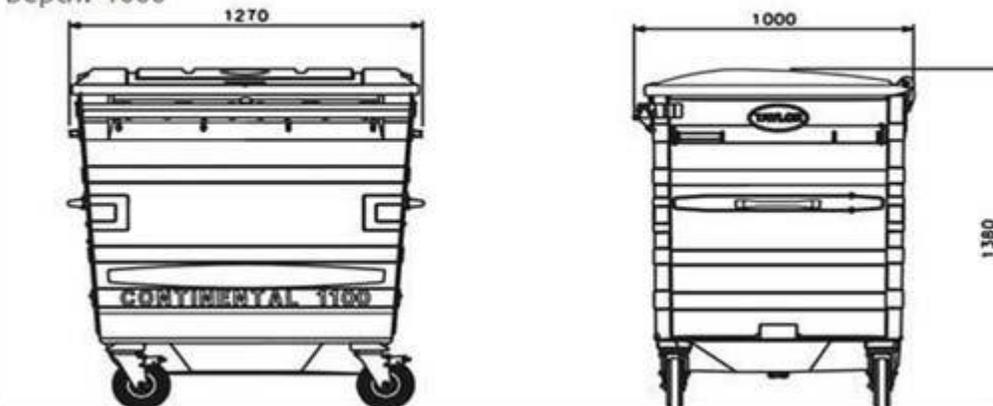
3.2 Flats

Where high density / multi-storey residential developments are proposed, it is likely that individual bins and boxes would not be practicable and thus the developer must provide an area for the storage of communal wheeled bins (generally 1100 litre 'Eurobins' are provided for refuse and recycling).

1100 Litre Eurobin

- DIMENSIONS (mm)
- Width 1000
- Length 1270
- Height 1380 (allow a total height of 2360 for lid opening)
- **Footprint 1.48 m²**

Width: 1270
Hight: 1380
Depth: 1000



In terms of capacity, standard provision should be in keeping with that of households i.e. 240 Litres per fortnight per unit for refuse. Thus as a 'rule of thumb' **for each 5 units the Council would need to install 1x 1100 Litre container for refuse.** Alongside this there would also need to be space for a separate recycling area which would be made up of 1100 Litre or groups of 240 Litre bins of similar volumes as outlined above.



4. Access for Refuse Collection Vehicles



It is absolutely **critical** that roads providing access to the development should ideally be built to the local highways authorities adoptable standard. As a minimum they must have foundations and a hard-wearing surface capable of withstanding our largest vehicles which are Mercedes Eonic chassis 8x4 model 27 cubic meter bodied RCV's. These have a maximum

gross vehicle weight of 32 tonnes and with a maximum axle weight of 11 tonnes. The following dimensions apply:

- Width - 2.5 meters
- Length - 8 meters
- Height - 3.8 meters

In order to facilitate safe passing for the above, this means all roads should have a minimum width of 5m and enable the collection vehicle to continue mainly in a forward direction (one in three accidents occur when vehicles are reversing). If turning space is necessary, the road layout should permit a turning circle of 22.5m wall to wall. Any gates or arches on the vehicle route to the should give a minimum clearance of 3.75m width and 3.6m height.

5. Design of bin stores



Wherever possible, we recommend that refuse containers be located within an enclosure to prevent nuisance from the spread of rubbish, odour and noise. The enclosure should be constructed of materials in keeping with the surroundings.

Any enclosure should allow room for access to each container for filling and moving each container. There should be a clear space of

150mm between and around containers and the enclosure should be a minimum of 2.4 m high. The area should have an impervious floor and permit washing down and should drain into a system suitable for receiving highly polluted runoff. The flooring should be capable of supporting up to half a tonne per square meter.

The compound should be secure to inhibit entry of vagrants and vermin. Adequate lighting and ventilation that is easily maintained is required within any enclosed storage area. Consideration should be given to providing separate rooms for the storage of refuse and recyclables within any storage area.

6. Access for waste management operatives

Generally in these situations the Council will be responsible for moving the bins to the collection point and returning them on the collection day. Access to the bins must be provided between 6am - 4pm. Measures such as signage, or bollards should be installed to ensure that parked cars cannot block access to the compound.

It is the Councils preference that bin storage areas operate a policy of controlled access but with locking mechanisms that do not require keys. Coded locks are the preference as they facilitate legitimate whilst preventing illicit access. Any locks to storage areas must be suitable for emergency exit purposes and comply with all relevant legislation such as the Building Regulations.

Where there are electronic gates and/or barriers controlling access to such areas, codes should be provided to the Council. The door should not open directly over a public footway or highway.

Other key health and safety issues which **must** be addressed include: -

- A dropped kerb should be sited within 10m of the facilities and the pulling area should be free from obstructions and have a sound surface.
- The developer must ensure that they do not obstruct sight lines for pedestrians, drivers and cyclists.
- The facility should not obstruct any utility service points.
- Receptacles should be sited away from windows, air conditioning units and ventilators to minimise odour and noise nuisance, and away from perimeter walls to deter illegal access from being gained.
- It should be advertised where possible; the day of collection and advice on waste management; thus a notice board or space for signage can be useful.

In order to minimise risks to health and safety, our waste collection staff should not be required to move Eurobins more than 15m in total.

The path between the bin store and the nearest vehicular access should:

- Be free of steps or kerbs (installation of a dropped kerb may well be required)
- Have a solid foundation which can support at least half a tonne in weight
- Be rendered with a smooth continuous finish (a cobbled surface is unsuitable for any type of wheeled container)
- Be level, unless the gradient falls away from the housing or chamber, in which case it should not exceed 1:12
- Have a minimum width of 2 metres

Further information

Visit our website for more information about our waste and recycling services
www.recycleforshropshire.com

We prefer to work with developers at as early a stage as possible to ensure our needs can be accommodated. For more detailed advice please contact us directly via: -
waste.management@shropshire.gov.uk