

Part: P

Refuse and Recycling Storage

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This part of the Development Requirements SPD provides further detailed guidance on the interpretation of a range of Core Strategy policies, in particular and as appropriate:

- CS.2 Climate Change and Sustainable Construction
- CS.9 Design and Distinctiveness

It provides additional guidance about the refuse and recycling requirements for new development, including refuse and recycling design, and access issues. Importantly, proposals should continue to comply with the waste requirements in Building Regulations Part H6.

The SPD will be used by Stratford-on-Avon District Council to help reach decisions on whether to approve or refuse planning applications. Making sure that applications comply with the guidance contained within the SPD at the earliest stage in the design process will make it easier for the Council to grant planning permission. The Council's Planning Policies are set out in the Core Strategy available at www.stratford.gov.uk/corestrateg.

Further information about the Council's refuse and recycling collection policy is available from the link below:

<https://www.stratford.gov.uk/waste-recycling/what-we-collect.cfm>

Key words or terms which appear throughout the document are included in the Glossary.

P1. Pre-application Advice

Before submitting a planning application, contact the Council's Streetscene team for advice on collection and storage arrangements:

streetscene@stratford-dc.gov.uk

When a detailed planning application is submitted, the Council will expect details of the proposed storage space for waste and recyclable materials to be specified and agreed.

The following specifications need to be considered:

- Estimated volumes and types of waste produced;
- Size and location of waste and recycling stores and recycling stores and how recyclable material and other waste will be delivered to the stores;
- Equipment used to contain waste;
- Proposed collection points and the method for transferring waste to this location;
- Justification for the design of the proposed waste management systems set out in the Design and Access Statement.

P2. Storage requirements for waste collection systems

Developers should provide adequate off street storage space for wheeled bins to serve all residential development, including conversions. This requirement is particularly important in designated Conservation Areas where the visual importance of the street scene is acknowledged and there is a duty to protect and enhance the character and appearance of these areas.

P3. Residential Waste/Recycling: Internal Storage Capacity

Ideally, kitchens in new residential dwellings should be designed to accommodate the internal storage capacity of 35 to 40 litres. It is particularly important to provide adequate provision for waste storage in kitchens residents in flats, where there are no additional area to store their waste. Satisfactory arrangement of internal storage for waste is fundamental to ensuring that residents have sufficient space to segregate waste where it is generated and it is expected that developers will provide containers for use inside the dwellings.

P4. Residential Waste/Recycling: External Storage Capacity

Refuse and recycling provision can be accommodated in the form of storage space integral to the design of the property, dedicated space externally or in a communal storage area, depending on the type of residential development.

Refuse and recycling facilities for single dwellings (three bins systems)

This system is applicable for the majority of new residential development, with the exception of high density housing development, such as flats and terraced dwellings. Each dwelling will require an adequate area of hard standing with the private garden space, large enough to accommodate the following:

- One standard 240ltr wheeled bin for residual;
- One standard 240ltr wheeled bin for dry recycling;
- One standard 240ltr wheeled bin for food/garden waste.

In situations where three standard wheeled bins cannot be accommodated with the private garden space of each dwelling, sufficient space must be provided in the form of communal store to accommodate three standard (240ltr) wheeled bins from each dwelling. Sufficient space should be left for residents to access their bins easily, and for the bins to be able to be removed individually from the store for presentation at the back of footway for collection. Where bins are covered, sufficient height should be allowed to open and close the bin lids easily. It is not acceptable for refuse collectors to service wheeled bins from private paths or lanes.

Table G.1 below provides a guide to the specifications for external container sizes for single dwellings and high density developments. The requirements should be reflected in the design of development and will be secured by the Council through planning conditions.

Table G1: Recommended External Storage Capacities (Residential)			
Residential	Aggregated Capacity Provision		Guidance Notes
Single Houses	720 litres		
Low-rise (to 4 floors) with communal gardens	For each 1 room unit	320 litres	Capacities detailed are maximum capacity 'footprints'. Developers should ensure that sufficient space is provided for the appropriate external storage containers. The developers should consult with the Council on the relevant capacity splits (i.e. between recycling, residual and compostable waste) and the types of containers required.
	For each 2 room unit	420 litres	
	For each 3 room unit	520 litres	
	For each 4 room unit	620 litres	
	For each 5 room unit	720 litres	
Low-rise (to 4 floors) without communal gardens	For each 1 room unit	240 litres	It should be noted that the guidance may change over time as Local Authorities work towards meeting national waste targets.
	For each 2 room unit	340	
	For each 3 room unit	440	
	For each 4 room unit	540	
	For each 5 room unit	640	
High-rise (above 4 floors) – further information and advice is available from the Council's Streetscene department.			

The recommended external storage capacities for various types of residential development detailed in the table 1 are based on alternate weekly collection. Where reference is made to a 1 room unit, 2 room unit etc., all living rooms (i.e. sitting room and dining room, bedrooms) are counted. The bathroom and kitchen are not included.

Communal refuse and recycling facilities

For flats/apartments, capacity is unlikely to be provided on an individual residential basis. Capacity calculated for each unit should be combined to give a total. This should then be converted to the required number of communal bins. Where this calculation results in a fraction, it should be rounded up or down as appropriate.

For example: A developer has constructed a low rise (4 floors) development of 16 flats without a communal garden. 8 of the flats are 2 room units and 8 are 3 room units. The developer has also sought guidance from the Council's Street Scene team to determine the breakdown of waste; i.e. recycling, composting and residual waste. Based on consultation with the Council, the waste capacity was calculated as follows:

$$(8 \times 340 \text{ litres}) + (8 \times 440 \text{ litres}) = 6240 \text{ litres total capacity.}$$

In terms of external storage containers this may equate to:

- 3 x 1100 litre bins for residual waste;
- 4 x 660 litres for recyclables;
- 1 x 360 litres for compostables.

Developers must ensure that external containers are available for use for each property, prior to occupation and prior to the commencement of the Council's waste collection.

P5. Design Considerations: Single Properties

The location of bin storage needs to be accessible, but it must not detract from the visual amenity of the street scene. Bin storage areas must not be located in front of built residential form as they have a poor negative visual impact on the street and character of the area.

Wherever possible, external storage should be provided in rear gardens that have convenient rear access. Routes must be provided that are wide enough and sufficiently direct and safe for residents to use. The layout should enable the bins to be moved easily for collection; i.e. kerbside or communal collection point. Residents should not be required to move waste through the property for collection.

Proposals should seek to design out the opportunity for inconsiderate bin storage by future residents/occupiers.

P6. Design Considerations: Communal Properties

The proposed design of waste storage compounds and systems will need to be considered as part of the development proposal. Where waste storage compounds are proposed, the developer should make adequate arrangements for the management and maintenance to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority.

Waste management facilities should be designed to comply with the Code of Practice BS5906 (2005).

<https://www.thenbs.com/PublicationIndex/documents/details?Pub=BSI&DocID=277542>

Communal bin storage should be designed to take into account the following consideration:

- It does not dominate the frontage areas or take visual priority over the built form.
- Ensure such that sufficient space is provided for the safe storage of waste and recyclables.

Storage areas must be within 10 metres of an access point for collection vehicles in accordance with BS5905:2005.

In large developments several binstores/areas may be appropriate. Each store/area should include the following considerations:

- Sufficient room for access to each individual bin;
- to be opened from the front and space to lift waste/recycling and place in bin;
- Collectors must be able to safely pull the bin from the bin store, requiring a flush threshold and dropped kerbs to the carriageway;
- Provision of "Keep Clear" markings in front of bin stores and at the designated vehicle access/loading point to prevent cars parking and inaccessibility for collections;
- Storage areas should be conveniently located with easy access for residents;
- Residents should not have to take their waste and recycling more than 30 metres to a bin storage area, or take their waste receptacles more than 25 metres to a collection point (usually the kerbside) in accordance with the Building Regulations Approved Document H Guidance;
- All bin stores should have a solid floor that is inclined slightly towards a drain. This principle is important as refuse bins can sometimes leak liquids, which would otherwise pool on the floor and could cause an odour problem and/or health risk;
- Proposals should seek to design out anti-social behaviour and fly tipping;
- The siting and design of communal bin stores should have regard to the impact of noise and smell on the occupiers of neighbouring properties;
- Rubbing strips on doors and walls can reduce noise and prevent damage;

- Bin stores must be sufficiently enclosed, including the roof space, to prevent unauthorised use;
- Bin store doors and alley widths should be at least 2m wide to allow for safe manoeuvring and transfer of the collection containers to the vehicle;
- Ensure appropriate lighting with consideration given to timer switches or sensors;
- Proximity of water supply to enable regular cleaning;
- Appropriate signage to clearly identifying bin storage areas;
- A sign identifying and providing contact details for the appropriate management company/landlord must be positioned in each bin storage area.

P7. Access Arrangements

Collection of wheeled bins

Residents or collection crews will not be expected to move wheeled bins a greater distance than 30m or to move wheeled bins over surfaces that hinder their smooth passage; for example, steps, rumble strips or gravel. Table P.2 below sets out the maximum distances that residents/ caretakers and refuse crews are expected to take bins.

Table P2. Maximum distances for taking waste and recycling bins	
Operation	Maximum Distance
Householders taking waste and recycling to their bin or their bin to the bin collection point	30 metres
Resident of an apartment taking waste to & recycling to a communal bin	30 metres
Refuse/Recycling worker taking 2 wheeled householder bin from collection point to vehicle	15 metres
Refuse/Recycling worker taking 2 wheeled communal bin from collection point to vehicle	15 metres
Refuse/Recycling worker taking 4 wheeled communal bin from collection point to vehicle	10 metres

It should be noted that the Council's refuse vehicles will generally only travel along roads that have been constructed to WCC adoptable standards. There must be a clear passage from bin storage area to collection point/vehicle with no obstruction, such as parking bays, bollards, railings, or other street furniture.

Road design to accommodate refuse vehicles

Wherever possible, road layouts should be designed so that refuse collection vehicles do not have to reverse or use turning heads. If reversing is unavoidable, and can be undertaken safely, then the distance should not exceed 12m. Where a proposed cul-de-sacs is longer than 12m, turning spaces must be provided to accommodate the largest vehicles in use. Applicants should ensure that the road design complies with the Department of Transport, 'Manual for Streets 2007'.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/341513/pdfmanforstreets.pdf

Further information about the design of road layout for emergency and services vehicles is also available in the Part D: Design Principles.

Collection vehicle dimensions: waste/recycling collection vehicle

A typical waste collection vehicle has the following specifications

Gross vehicle weight (GVW)	26 tonnes
Overall length	11metres
Overall width (including wing mirrors)	2.9 metres
Operating height	4.4 metres

There needs to be enough clear space around the vehicle to allow efficient operation. A minimum working area of 4 metres in length should be available where the containers are emptied.

Private waste collections schemes

The Council has a duty to arrange for the collection of household waste in its area except where the authority is satisfied that adequate arrangements for its disposal have been made by the person who controls it. Consideration will therefore be given to a private waste collection scheme in proposed residential development. The private arrangement would be in perpetuity and be included as a condition within the granting of planning permission.

P8. Commercial Developments

The Council does not collect refuse and recycling from commercial development. However, the Council encourages commercial development proposals to give appropriate consideration to including facilities for waste and recycling within schemes Table P.3 below is based on best practice and sets out the recommended total storage capacity for a number of commercial development.

Table P.3 – Recommended total storage capacity for commercial development types		
Commercial Development Type	Waste Storage Capacity	Fraction of capacity for storage of recyclables
Offices	2600 litres per 1000m gross floor space	Minimum of one third
Retail	5000 litres per 1000m gross floor space	Minimum of one third
Restaurants/Fast Food	1500 litres per 20 dining	Variable

Outlets	spaces	
Hotels	1500 litres per 20 dining spaces	Variable

The volumes in Table P.2 above are indicative only, due to the variations in activity and output that can occur across and within commercial development types. For example, different types of commercial development may often have different recycling needs.

P9. Composting

Developers are encouraged to include composting facilities in residential development with rear gardens. Composting diverts food and garden waste from collection services and creates compost for local residents. Traditionally, composting was seen as something only very keen gardeners did. However, in recent years, it is recognised that composting has many associated environmental benefits, including:

- Reducing the amount of waste going to landfill;
- Preventing the need for polluting bonfires;
- Reducing the need to water gardens;
- Reducing the need to use chemical fertilisers and pesticides;
- Replaces depleting reserves of peat bogs.

For further information about composting, contact Warwickshire County Council's Waste Management Team www.warwickshire.gov.uk/composting.

Find out more

Warwickshire Waste Partnership: Municipal Waste Strategy

<https://apps.warwickshire.gov.uk/api/documents/WCCC-684-63>

Stratford-on-Avon District Council Refuse and Recycling Collection Service

<https://www.stratford.gov.uk/waste-recycling/refuse-and-recycling.cfm>