



Refuse and Recycling Storage Requirements

A Guidance Note

Contents

1. Introduction

1.1 Who is this guide for?

1.2 Consultation

1.3 Further Advice

2. Submitting Planning Applications – Refuse and Recycling Considerations

2.1 Submitting applications

2.2 Granting of planning permission

2.3 Large-scale developments

3. Existing Waste and Recycling Services in Warwick District

3.1 Background

3.2 Residential

3.3 Commercial

3.4 Mixed Use (Commercial and Residential)

4. Assessing Storage Space and Storage Capacity

4.1 Background

4.2 Residential

4.3 Commercial

5. Storage Requirements

5.1 Containers

5.2 User Accessibility

5.3 Collection requirements affecting storage design

6. Provision of waste containers

7. Additional Service Considerations

7.1 Home Composting

7.2 Clinical Waste

APPENDIX

Appendix I: Wheeled bin dimensions and specifications

Appendix II: Collection vehicle dimensions

Appendix III: Policy context

Appendix IV: Reference documents

Appendix V: Developer's checklist

1. Introduction

1.1 Who is this guide for?

This guidance note has been developed by Warwick District Council's Contract Services department to provide information for architects, developers and others concerned with providing refuse and/or recycling storage facilities for premises within Warwick District.

This guidance is also intended to act as a practical guide in the provision of minimum standards to assist in planning and designing systems for the storage, recycling and collection of waste in domestic and commercial developments. This guidance applies only to developments in Warwick District.

1.2 Consultation

This guidance should be referred to from the earliest stages of building design. Adequate storage areas for waste management facilities and good access for collection crews and vehicles can be difficult at later stages in the design process.

All applications for dwellings (whether new build or change of use) will need to provide details of the waste management arrangements for the premises as part of the application. There may be a requirement for a Council Officer to discuss these details with the applicant by phone, e-mail or a site visit.

1.3 Further advice

Applicants can contact the following for further clarification:

Contract Services: Telephone: (01926) 456128
E-mail: contract.services@warwickdc.gov.uk

The Contract Services team is based at:

Warwick District Council
Riverside House
Milverton Hill
Royal Leamington Spa
CV32 5HZ

This guide is downloadable at www.warwickdc.gov.uk.

2. Submitting Planning Applications – Refuse and Recycling Considerations

2.1 Submitting applications

When a planning application is submitted, the Council will expect details of the proposed storage accommodation for waste and recyclable material to be specified and agreed. Designated space for refuse and recycling must be identified on any plans submitted for planning permission. The information contained in this guidance note should be used to determine the required waste management arrangements.

2.2 Granting planning permission

In determining planning applications, permission will not normally be granted in advance of submission of details indicating satisfactory storage arrangements for waste and recyclable material. However, in exceptional circumstances it may be considered appropriate to reserve details of the waste storage accommodation for approval prior to commencement of construction.

2.3 Large-scale developments

Applications for major residential or commercial developments are recommended to be accompanied by a concise waste management report that addresses relevant aspects of this guidance. This should indicate:

- estimated volumes and types of waste produced by the development,
- the size and location of refuse and recycling stores and how recyclable material and other waste will be delivered to these stores,
- the equipment specified for containing the refuse and recycling,
- the proposed collection point and the method for transferring waste to this location

3. Existing Waste and Recycling Services in Warwick District

3.1 Background

The following information provides details of the current collection services provided by Warwick District Council. Architects and developers should give consideration to these collection arrangements when planning and designing waste storage and collection.

3.2 Residential

3.2.1. Refuse Collections

The majority of residential households use a 180litre grey wheeled bin for their non-recyclable waste which is collected every 3 weeks from the front edge of property. About 10% of properties, mainly in town centre areas, use refuse sacks and receive a fortnightly collection where outside storage space is limited making a wheeled bin collection service impractical. For complexes of flats and apartments it is more appropriate for refuse to be collected through a communal collection. A communal collection will require the provision of bins, normally larger 4 wheeled bins, and these are normally emptied fortnightly. The developer is required to provide the necessary waste containers (see Section 6).

3.2.2 Recycling Collections

The majority of residential households will use a 240 litre blue lidded wheeled bin for their recycling which will be co-mingled and of the following materials can be collected together including paper, cardboard, glass, cans, plastic, Tetra Pak and cartons. Households can also recycle textiles, batteries and small electric items in a bag next to the recycling wheeled bin. Where storage space is an issue some individual dwellings will continue to use 55litre recycling boxes for the same materials. The wheeled bin and recycling boxes are collected from the front edge of property on a fortnightly basis. For larger developments of communal properties it is more appropriate for the recycling to be collected through a communal collection. A communal collection will require the provision of bins, normally larger 4 wheeled bins, into which all types of recyclable materials will be mixed. These communal recycling facilities are emptied fortnightly. The developer is required to provide the necessary waste containers (see Section 6).

3.2.3. Garden Waste Collections

Households which opt into the chargeable garden waste service (from 1 August 2022) use a 240litre green bin for their garden waste which must display a valid permit to indicate to the collection crew the household has paid the charge. This will be collected fortnightly from the front edge of the property.

3.2.4 Food waste collections

Households will be provided with a 7litre food caddy (kitchen caddy) and 23litre food waste bin. The 7litre food caddy is for use inside the property and the 23litre food waste bin is designed to be stored outside and put out for collection. The food waste bin will be emptied weekly, this will be collected from the front edge of the property. The developer is required to provide the necessary waste containers (see Section 6).

3.3 Commercial

Waste resulting from any type of business or trading concern is classified as Commercial or Industrial Waste. Collections of this waste must be carried out by a licensed waste collector and are chargeable. Businesses are free to choose their licensed collector.

Warwick District Council does not provide a commercial waste collection service. Commercial properties must ensure that they arrange a suitable commercial waste agreement for their businesses and must keep documents that provide details of their collection arrangements. Commercial waste must be stored within the curtilage of the property at all times.

3.4 Mixed use (commercial and residential)

Waste produced by premises containing both commercial and residential units must be stored separately to avoid commercial waste entering the household waste stream.

4. Assessing Storage Space and Storage Capacity

4.1 Background

When considering the amount of storage space needed for any particular development the following tables will help to calculate the amount of external storage space required. This should only be taken as a guide since individual developments may need specific storage requirements.

4.2 Residential

The following tables provide guidance with regards to required storage space for containers:

Standard Residential Properties:

Size of household (persons)	Refuse containers required	Recycling containers required	Food waste containers required	Garden waste containers required
1-5	1 x 180 litre grey bin	1 x 240 litre blue lidded bin	1 x 7 litre food caddy (internal use) and 1 x 23 litre food waste bin (external use)	1 x 240 litre green bin
6 or more	1 x 180 litre grey bin and 1 x 140 litre grey bin	2 x 240 litre blue lidded bins	1 x 7 litre food caddy (internal use) and 2 x 23 litre food waste bins (external use)	1 x 240 litre green bin

Flats and Apartments:

No. of flats	Refuse Containers Required	Recycling Containers Required
Less than 7	1 x 140 litre grey bin per property	1 x 240 litre blue lidded bin per property
8 or more	Communal bulk bin allowing 140 litres per property	Communal bulk bin allowing 240 litres per property
Single Room Dwellings	Communal bulk bin allowing 120l per property	Communal bulk bin allowing 120l per property

HMOs and Student Accommodation:

No. of occupants	Refuse containers required	Recycling containers required	Food waste containers required
1-3	1 x 180 litre grey bin	1 x 240 litre blue lidded bin	1 x 7 litre food caddy (internal use) and 1 x 23 litre food waste bin (external use)
4-5	2 x 180 litre grey bins (or equivalent)	2 x 240 litre blue lidded bins	1 x 7 litre food caddy (internal use) and 2 x 23 litre food waste bins (external use)
6-8	2 x 240 litre grey bins (or equivalent)	2 x 240 litre blue lidded bins	1 x 7 litre food caddy (internal use) and 2 x 23 litre food waste bins (external use)
9+	Allow 60 litres PP, please contact Contract Services to discuss appropriate type of bins	Allow 60 litres PP, please contact Contract Services to discuss appropriate type of bins	1 x 7 litre food caddy (internal use) and 2 x 23 litre food waste bins (external use)

4.3 Commercial

4.3.1 It is the responsibility of the business owner to assess their own waste requirements and agree a collection to meet these requirements. External storage space within the boundary of the property will be required.

5. Storage Requirements

5.1 Containers

5.1.1 Number of containers

As a general rule, residential properties will require 1 x 180 litre grey wheeled bin, 1 x 240 litre blue lidded wheeled bin, 1 x 240 litre green bin, 1 x 7 litre food caddy (kitchen caddy) and 1 x 23 litre food waste bin. Extra capacity may be required for larger households and consideration should be given to this by developers at the planning and design stage.

Where a property cannot accommodate these bins, alternative external communal storage will be required. In these circumstances each development should be provided with the minimum number of separate containers in which to store waste and recyclable material.

5.1.2 Size of storage areas

External waste storage areas must be large enough to allow access to all containers.

5.1.3 Locks

Our refuse and recycling collection contractors will not accept liability for lost or replacement keys. If necessary, a keypad may be used to gain access, but property managers should be advised that such codes will be shared by a variety of collection operatives. Property managers should contact Contract Services to arrange collection of keys and codes prior to any properties being occupied.

5.2 User accessibility

5.2.1 User convenience

Storage areas for residential dwellings should be sited so that the occupiers are not required to carry waste more than 30m from an external door to the point of storage. Adequate provision should be made to ensure containers can be moved to the collection point along an external route only.

5.2.2 Accessibility

All provision must be designed to be accessible for disabled persons, as far as possible.

5.2.3 Recycling signs

Storage areas for waste and recyclable material should be clearly designated for this use only, by a suitable door or wall sign and, where appropriate, with floor markings.

5.3 Collection requirements affecting storage design

5.3.1 Maximum container moving distances

In accordance to British Standard 5906:2005 residents and/or waste collection operatives should not be required to move any 2-wheeled container more than 15m from the point of storage to the point of collection or any 4-wheeled container more than 10m from the point of storage to the point of collection.

In accordance with HSL recommendations collection operatives should not be required to carry recycling containers or loose refuse sacks more than 10m without resting.

5.3.2 Access path requirements

In the case of wheeled waste containers the path between any external bin area or bin store and the nearest vehicular access should:

- be free of steps or kerbs (a dropped kerb may be required)
- have a solid foundation
- 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 bin store, in which case it should not exceed 1:12
- have a minimum width of 2 metres

5.3.3 Storage area finishing requirements

The storage areas should be on a hard standing at ground level with no steps, well-lit and have a sufficient door entry width to accommodate the manoeuvring of bulk bins (See Appendix I for bin dimensions). A turning circle of at least 1.5m diameter should be provided for the manipulation of containers. Doors should open outwards, and enough head height must also be designed into the bin storage area to allow for the lid of a bulk bin to be lifted comfortably. Consideration should be given to designing storage areas for refuse and recycling to ensure that containers are not visible from an area accessible by the general public.

5.3.4 Access Road requirements

Waste storage should be designed to allow operatives to make collections from adopted highways. Where this is impractical any private access roads should be constructed to

withstand the laden weight of collection vehicles with sufficient access and turning room for these vehicles. Roads should have a minimum width of 5 metres (British Standards, 2005) and be arranged so that collection vehicles can continue mainly in a forward direction keeping reversing to a minimum in the interest of general safety. Turning circles should be a minimum of 20.3m and vehicles should not have to reverse for more than 12 metres. Overhead service cables and pipes should be at least 7 metres above ground level. Any private access roads not built to withstand the laden weight of collection vehicles should have a bin collection point provided, no more than 15 metres from the edge of the public highway (kerbside).

5.3.5 Food Waste Considerations for Commercial Premises

Where a foot outlet site is being developed consideration must be given to the requirements set out in Chapter VI of Regulation (EC) 852/2004 on the hygiene of foodstuffs. Chapter VI requires the following:

- Food waste, non-edible by-products and other refuse are to be removed from rooms where food is present as quickly as possible, so as to avoid their accumulation.
- Food waste, non-edible by-products and other refuse are to be deposited in closable containers, unless food business operators can demonstrate to the competent authority that other types of containers or evacuation systems used are appropriate. These containers are to be of an appropriate construction, kept in sound condition, be easy to clean and where necessary to disinfect.
- Adequate provision is to be made for the storage and disposal of food waste, non-edible by products and other refuse. Refuse stores are to be designed and managed in such a way as to enable them to be kept clean and, where necessary, free of animals and pests.
- All waste is to be eliminated in a hygienic and environmentally friendly way in accordance with Community legislation applicable to that effect and should not constitute a direct or indirect source of contamination.

6. Provision of waste containers

In June 2016, Warwick District Council introduced charges for all waste containers. The charges are applicable to new, additional, lost, stolen, old, dirty or damaged containers. A list of current charges can be found at www.warwickdc.gov.uk/recycling.

The charges cover the supply and delivery of the containers as well as administration costs. The containers remain the property of Warwick District Council. The charge does not pass ownership of the container to the resident.

The use of Warwick District Council containers is encouraged as they are made to specific standards and are suitable for waste collection purposes. However, if sourced from elsewhere they are required to meet the following specific criteria:

Grey bins for refuse

- 180 litres
- Dark grey colour
- Compliant with BS EN 840-1:2012
- Approx. dimensions - 1100mm (height), 505mm (width) and 755mm (depth)

Blue lidded bins for recycling

- 240 litres
- Dark grey body with blue lid
- Compliant with BS EN 840-1:2012
- Approx. dimensions - 1100mm (height), 580mm (width) and 740mm (depth)

Green bins for garden

- 240 litres
- Dark green colour
- Compliant with BS EN 840-1:2012
- Approx. dimensions - 1100mm (height), 580mm (width) and 740mm (depth)

Food waste bin

- No larger than 23 litres
- Handle for safe and easy lifting and tipping
- Made from a strong sturdy material
- Approx. dimensions - 390mm (height) x 290mm (width) x 340mm (depth)

Recycling boxes

- No larger than 55 litres
- Handles for safe and easy lifting and tipping
- Made from a strong sturdy material

Waste containers for individual properties can be ordered online at www.warwickdc.gov.uk/recycling. Bulk orders for larger numbers of properties can be placed with the Contract Services Team. Please visit www.warwickdc.gov.uk/newdevelopments for further information.

Warwick District Council is unable to supply 4-wheeled containers for communal collection purposes but can suggest suppliers. Developers should allow sufficient lead time for bins to be manufactured and delivered to ensure they are in place before properties become occupied. Please refer to Appendix I for 4-wheeled container specifications.

7. Additional Service Considerations

7.1 Home Composting

Provision for compost bins should also be considered in all dwellings with a garden. An area of 2m x 1m should be allocated with suitable drainage.

Warwickshire County Council may be able to offer subsidised compost bins for new developments. Further details can be found at www.warwickshire.gov.uk/recycling.

7.2 Clinical Waste

Clinical waste consists of four main categories:

- Human or animal tissue, blood or bodily fluids, or excretions
- Dressings or swabs
- Unwanted medicines and other pharmaceutical products
- Used syringes, needles and blades ('contaminated sharps')

Non-hazardous domestic medical waste, of the kind resulting from small injuries or minor illnesses, plus soiled nappies, incontinence pads and sanitary towels, do not - under normal circumstances - constitute clinical waste, and may be disposed of with domestic refuse.

In any development comprising a medical centre, dental surgery, veterinary surgery, home for the elderly, nursing home, home or day care centre for the disabled or handicapped, separate storage and collection arrangements are required for clinical and non-clinical waste.

Normally clinical waste is sealed inside yellow, coded bags. Sharps (including needles and surgical implements) are stored in special boxes.

Warwick District Council will only collect clinical waste from residential properties. These collections are made separately from normal refuse collections. Commercial premises must make their own collection arrangements.

For more information about clinical waste, please contact the Contract Services team.

Appendix I: Wheeled Bin Dimensions and Specifications

a) 2-wheeled bins

Approx. dimensions (mm):

Capacity (litres)	140	180	240
Height	1100	1100	1100
Width	490	505	590
Depth	565	755	740



Bins should conform to BS EN 840.

b) 4-wheeled bins

Approx. dimensions (mm):

Capacity (litres)	660	1100	1280
Height	1310	1370	1430
Width	1250	1250	1260
Depth	720	980	985



Bins should conform to BS EN 840.

The standard sized 4-wheeled bin used in Warwick District is 1100litres, however waste collection vehicles are also equipped to empty 660litre and 1280litre bins. Metal 4-wheeled bins are normally advisable as they have a longer life span than 4-wheeled plastic bins.

If is preferable for refuse bins to have a black lid with 'Non-recyclable waste only' signage on the front of the bin.

It is preferable for recycling bins to have a red lid with recycling flap or slot. The signage on the front of the bin should read 'Mixed recycling' with Recycle Now material logos for 'mixed glass', 'mixed paper & card', 'cans, foil & aerosols' and 'household plastic packaging'. Tetra Packs/cartons, textiles, small electrical items, batteries? The signage should also state 'Please make sure your recycling is clean, dry and loose – no plastic

c) Food waste bins

Approx. dimensions (mm)	Internal food caddy (kitchen caddy)	External food waste bin
Capacity	7 litres	23 litres
Height	235	390
Width	250	290
Depth	225	340

d) Recycling boxes



Approx. dimensions (mm):

Capacity (litres)	55
Height	350
Width	585
Depth	390

Appendix II: Collection Vehicle Dimensions

Dimensions (m)	Waste Collection Vehicles
Width	2.5
Overall Length	10
Height	3.5
Maximum Weight of Vehicle (tonnes)	26

Appendix III: Policy Context

The guidance contained within this document has been developed with consideration of key legislation.

i) All new developments must meet the requirements of Part H6 of the Building Regulations 2000 (Solid Waste Storage). This states that:-

- Adequate means of storing waste shall be required; and
- Adequate means of access should be provided for people in the building to the place of storage and from the place of storage to the collection point for the collection of waste

ii) Section 45 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 places waste management duties on local authorities. Under Sections 46 and 47 a local authority may require:-

- Waste of certain types to be stored separately so that they can be recycled
- Occupiers of dwellings to provide containers of a specified type for the storage of waste
- Additional containers to be provided for the separate storage of recyclable waste
- Locations where containers should be placed for emptying

Appendix IV: Reference Documents

Adept: Making Space for Waste, Designing Waste Management in New Developments, A Practical Guide for Developers and Local Authorities.

Building Regulations 2000 (as amended by SI 2001/3335), requirement H6, Solid waste storage

Manual for Streets 2007

Department of Transport Design Bulletin 32, Residential Roads and Footpaths

Environmental Protection Act 1990

Household Waste Recycling Act 2005

Waste Strategy for England 2007

Warwick District Council Policy for Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) and Student Accommodation

Health and Safety & Laboratory: Manual handling in kerbside collection and sorting of recyclables HSL/2006/25

Appendix V: Developer's Checklist

Consideration	Standard Minimum Requirements	Applicable Y/N?	Provision made Y/N?
Standard Residential Properties (Townhouses, Family Homes, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum external storage for 1 x 180L refuse bin, 1 x 240L recycling bin, 1 x 240L garden waste bin, 1 x 7L food caddy (internal use) and 1 x 23L food waste bin (external use). • Internal storage for refuse and recycling should be provided • Collection operatives should not be required to move bins more than 15m in total • Storage location should be on hard standing at ground level with no steps • Any storage areas should be sensitively located and designed to fit in with the local environment having regard to restrictions concerning listed buildings and conservation areas • Provision for compost bins should also be considered in all dwellings with a garden. An area of 2m x 1m should be allocated with suitable drainage 		
Flats and apartments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See guidance document for further details of storage capacity requirements (sections 4 and 5) • Internal storage for refuse and recycling should be provided • External storage should be located within 30m of an external door • Storage areas should be on hard standing at ground level with no steps, well lit and have a sufficient door entry width to accommodate the manoeuvring of bulk bins. A turning circle of at least 1.5m diameter should be provided for the manipulation of containers. Doors should open outwards and enough head height must also be designed into the waste storage area to allow for the lid of a bulk bin to be lifted comfortably. • Landowner/Leaseholder will be responsible for cleaning and maintaining storage areas • Collection operatives should not be required to move 4-wheeled bins more than 10m in total 		

Consideration	Standard Minimum Requirements	Applicable Y/N?	Provision made Y/N?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any storage areas should be sensitively located and designed to fit in with the local environment having regard to restrictions concerning listed buildings and conservation areas 		
HMOs and Student Accommodation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See guidance document for further details of storage capacity requirements (sections 4 and 5) Sufficient internal storage for refuse and recycling should be provided by the landowner/leaseholder Sufficient external storage should be provided by the landowner/leaseholder and located within 30m of an external door Storage areas should be on a hard standing at ground level with no steps, well lit and have a sufficient door entry width to accommodate the manoeuvring of bins. A turning circle of at least 1.5m diameter should be provided for the manipulation of containers. Doors should open outwards and enough head height must also be designed into the waste storage area to allow for the lid of a bulk bin to be lifted comfortably. The landowner/leaseholder will be responsible for cleaning and maintaining storage areas Collection operatives should not be required to move 2-wheeled bins more than 15m in total Any storage areas should be sensitively located and designed to fit in with the local environment having regard to restrictions concerning listed buildings and conservation areas 		
Commercial Developments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> External storage should be located within 30m of an external door Landowner/Leaseholder will be responsible for cleaning and maintaining storage areas Any storage areas should be sensitively located and designed to fit in with the local environment having regard to restrictions concerning listed buildings and conservation areas Storage areas should be within the confines of the development. Under no circumstances is the storage of any waste permitted on the public highway or footway 		

Consideration	Standard Minimum Requirements	Applicable Y/N?	Provision made Y/N?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Due to the nature of the waste from hospitality businesses, e.g. restaurants, fast food outlets, etc. being high in biodegradable content, extra attention should be paid to the storage and collection arrangements. It is important that storage areas for these facilities are suitably protected from vermin and animal scavenging and that it does not cause offence to neighbours by being detrimental to their visual amenity or through emission of offensive odours. 		