

<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Head of Housing and Waste Management</b>
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<b>Portfolio Leader:</b>	<b>Environment</b>
<b>Key Decision:</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Report Track:</b>	<b>EPDC 13/3/2014 Cabinet 17/4/2014</b>

**ENVIRONMENT POLICY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE****13 MARCH 2014****PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL “ON STREET” LITTER BINS****1 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To consider the introduction of “trial litter bins” prior to the permanent installation of additional “on street” litter bins.

**2 Recommendations**

2.1 That Cabinet are recommended that:-

- (i) The installation of additional “on street” litter bins are preceded by the provision of a “trial litter bin” for a six month period.
- (ii) Where weekly usage of the trial litter bin during the six month period:-
  - Exceeds 25% of the bin capacity, a permanent on street bin is subsequently provided.
  - Is below 25% of the bin capacity, the trial litter bin is removed and no permanent replacement bin is provided.
- (iii) Where the usage of existing “on-street” litter bins falls below 25%, the litter bin is removed or re-sited, following consultation with Ward Members.

2.2 That adhesive signage is provided to all “older type on-street” litter bins to show that dog waste can be disposed of in the bin.

**3 Key Issues and Reasons for Recommendation**

- 3.1 The number of requests for additional “on-street” litter bins exceeds the number which can be provided (following the provision of replacement bins) from the agreed £3,000 annual budget.
- 3.2 It is therefore proposed that before an additional bin is installed on a permanent basis that it should be preceded by the provision of a “trial bin” for the period of six months. Where weekly usage exceeds 25% of bin capacity, a permanent litter bin would be provided but in cases where weekly usage was below this threshold the trial bin would be removed and no permanent bin provided.
- 3.3 Whilst the majority of the existing litter bins are well used, the usage of a small number may also fall below a 25% weekly capacity. In these circumstances it is proposed that following consultation with Ward Members, the litter bin is removed or re-sited.
- 3.4 Whilst the Council’s “new” standard litter bins include signage that dog waste can be disposed of in the bin, this is not incorporated on older bins. It is therefore suggested that adhesive signage is provided to all older type litter bins.

**4 Relationship to Corporate Priorities**

- 4.1 The provision of “on-street” litter bins contributes to the provision of street cleansing services. This is an agreed service aim within the Environment Portfolio section of the agreed 2014-15 “Place” Priority Delivery Plan.

**5 Report Detail**

- 5.1 The Council provides 540 “on street” litter bins throughout the District. 107 of these are located in the three town centres at Cannock, Hednesford and Rugeley. The remainder situated at smaller shopping centres, outside local shops, at play areas and other areas of open space, at bus stops and on well used footpaths. Further litter bins are provided in the Council’s formal parks, which are additional to the 540 “on-street” bins.
- 5.2 With the exception of the three town centres (where the bins are emptied daily), “on-street” litter bins are generally emptied twice a week. It is considered that existing employee resources have the capacity to service a maximum of 575 bins, 35 above the current provision. Any provision above the 575 would necessitate the redirection of employee resources from other street cleaning activities such as “litter picking”.
- 5.3 The cost of providing or replacing a litter bin (following vehicle collision, fire or vandalism) is £375 and the agreed £3,000 annual budget enables 8 litter bins to be replaced or newly provided each year. However, the 107 litter bins located in the three town centres and at District shopping centres have also been replaced as part of the programme of town centre improvements over the last two years.

- 5.4 Details of the standard litter bin which is provided by the Council is attached as Appendix 1. The litter bin has a cigarette stub plate within the closed roof and includes signage that “dog waste” can be disposed of in the bin.
- 5.5 Requests for additional litter bins are considered following a request from a Ward Member or three or more residents. The number of requests for additional bins exceed the number which can be provided (following the provision of replacement bins) from the agreed £3,000 annual budget.
- 5.6 It is therefore considered that before an additional bin is installed on a permanent basis, it is preceded by the provision of a “trial bin”, the usage of which would be monitored for a period of six months.
- 5.7 The Council has a number of the older “plastic” type bins which are considered suitable for the proposed “trial bins”. These would not be bolted to a concrete pad (as with the permanent standard litter bins) but would be temporarily situated on the pavement, “weighted down” with concrete blocks.
- 5.8 In cases where weekly usage (during the six month trial) exceeds 25% of the bin capacity, a permanent litter bin (as set out in Appendix 1) would be installed. However, where weekly usage is below 25% of the bin capacity, the trial bin would be removed after the 6 month trial period and no permanent litter bin would be provided.
- 5.9 The vast majority of the Council’s existing litter bins are well used. However, shop closures, the re-siting of bus stops and new footpath links can reduce the usage of a small number of existing litter bins. In cases where this results in weekly usage falling below 25% of bin capacity, it is proposed that following consultation with Ward Members, the litter bin is removed or re-sited.
- 5.10 Dog fouling is an issue within the district which attracts significant numbers of complaints. Whilst the Council’s “new” standard litter bins includes signage that dog waste can be disposed of within the bin, this is not incorporated on the older bins. It is therefore suggested that adhesive signage is provided to all older type litter bins, the cost of which can be met from existing budgets.
- 5.11 The provision of signage along with suitable publicity will improve awareness within the dog owning community that dog waste can be disposed of in “general” litter bins as well as those specifically marked for dog waste only.

## **6 Implications**

### **6.1 Financial**

There is currently £3,000 budget allocated to the provision of litter bins. This budget provides sufficient funding for the replacement of 8 litter bins per annum.

### **6.2 Legal**

None

**6.3 Human Resources**

None

**6.4 Section 17 (Crime Prevention)**

None

**6.5 Human Rights Act**

None

**6.6 Data Protection**

None

**6.7 Risk Management**

None

**6.8 Equality & Diversity**

None

**6.9 Best Value**

None

**7 Appendices to the Report**

Appendix 1: Cannock Chase Council Standard "on-Street" Litter Bin

**Previous Consideration**

None

**Background Papers**

**CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL STANDARD "ON-STREET" LITTER BIN**

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**Litter bins & recycling units**

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