

Information for developers, architects and managing agents

Provision of Household Recycling and Waste Service

Barnet Council as a waste collection authority has a duty to arrange for the collection of household waste, and in doing so will also make provisions with respect to the size, type and maintenance of the receptacles. This document sets out the details of the Council's requirements for its recycling and waste collection services. All planning applications must meet these requirements. In addition to this guidance please contact the Council using the details at the end of this document if you would like to discuss your proposals.

Provision of mixed dry recycling collection service

The Council provides a free recycling collection for houses and flats in the borough in line with its recycling and waste policies which can be found on the Council's website. The Council is committed to ensuring residents recycle as much as possible. The recycling of waste will be promoted by ensuring that there is an adequate network of recycling facilities in the borough and by requiring the provision of recycling facilities as part of new commercial, industrial and leisure developments and residential properties. Recycling is collected from 240 litre or 1100 litre bins dependent on type of property.

Comingled dry recycling for houses

For houses, each property requires one individual 240 litre bin for recycling. Sufficient space for storage and the ability to present at the public highway on collection day is required.

Recycling bin description	Dimensions (mm)	Materials collected	Collection frequency
Blue 240 litre Mixed recycling bin (plastic)	Depth: 740 Width: 580 Height: 1100	Paper, card and cardboard, glass bottles and jars, plastic bottles, mixed household plastic packaging aluminium foil, aerosols, cartons, mixed tins and cans	Weekly (Once a week in line with Council Policy)

Comingled dry recycling for small blocks of flats (communal - less than six flats)

For small blocks of flats (less than six properties), the available bin sizes are 240 litres and 1100 litres. You must ensure provision of bins in line with the table below, sufficient space for storage and the ability to present at the public highway is required.

Please allow for the following:

Number of dwellings in block	Mixed Recycling Provision (minimum)
2	2 x 240 Litre
3	2 x 240 Litre
4	3 x 240 Litre
5	1 x 1100 Litre

Comingled dry recycling for large blocks of flats (communal - 6 or more flats)

For larger blocks of 6 or more flats the available bin sizes are 240 litres and 1100 litres. Each property within the block must be allocated a minimum of 100 litres of mixed recycling provision plus 70 additional litres of mixed recycling per bedroom beyond the first bedroom. The table below details the overall recycling provision for properties of varying sizes.

Number of bedrooms	Recycling Provision
One	100 litres
Two	170 litres
Three	240 litres
Four	310 litres

For example, a block of six flats containing two one-bedroom properties, two two-bedroom properties and two three-bedroom properties would require space for 1020 litres of mixed recycling provision $(2 \times 100) + (2 \times 170) + (2 \times 240)$. In this example, one 1100 litre bin would be provided for recycling.

The available bin sizes for recycling for small blocks of flats and large blocks of flats are:

Bin Description	Dimensions (mm)	Materials Collected	Collection Frequency
Blue 240 litre Mixed recycling bin (plastic)	Depth: 740 Width: 580 Height: 1100	Paper, card and cardboard, glass bottles and jars, plastic bottles, mixed household plastic packaging, aluminium foil, aerosols, cartons, mixed tins and cans	Weekly (Once a week in line with Council Policy)
1100 litre Mixed recycling bin – also known as a Eurobin (metal)	Depth: 980 Width: 1250 Height: 1370	Paper, card and cardboard, glass bottles and jars, plastic bottles, mixed household plastic packaging, aluminium foil, aerosols, cartons, mixed tins and cans	Weekly (Once a week in line with Council Policy)

The Council plans to achieve significant improvements in recycling performance over time and therefore expects developments to include sufficient space for the number of recycling bins that will be required in the longer term. It is required that communal bins are at equal capacity for refuse

and recycling.

The location of recycling bins is key to encouraging use. Recycling bins should be located where residents are likely to pass frequently as part of their daily lives, such as entrances to blocks or car parks, or in a visible place within the bin store, as this will make them more convenient to use. The location of bins should be made accessible for all residents. Where residents have to make a special trip to the recycling bins or where the bins are not visible on an everyday basis, we typically experience lower recycling rates. Architects and developers are expected to encourage recycling by making suitable space and locations available for recycling bins.

Consideration should be given as to whether there is a need to lock communal bin areas. Ease of access is essential for collection crews to collect bins efficiently and consistently. Where communal bin areas need to be locked, the use of keypad entry is required due to the simplicity of their use.

Provision of food waste recycling collection service

The separate food waste recycling service has been suspended from 4 November 2018. The Council will look to reintroduce the separate food waste collection service at a future date. Therefore, space must be provided to accommodate food waste containers as set out below, and containers will be provided when a service is reintroduced. Food waste bins are provided free of charge.

Food waste recycling for houses and small blocks of flats

Food waste bin description	Dimensions (mm)	Materials Collected	Collection Frequency	Sufficient for approx.
Brown 23 litre Food waste bin (plastic) (External food waste container)	Depth: 400 Width: 320 Height: 630 (when handle is up)	Meat and fish – cooked and uncooked, bones, fruit and vegetables, pasta, bread and rice, dairy, eggs, eggshells, teabags and coffee, compostable liners	Weekly (Once a week in line with Council Policy)	1 house or each individual flat within a block of up to 5 flats

Provision of garden waste recycling collection service

Residents living in houses, converted houses and maisonettes can request an optional green garden waste bin, there are two separate charges, one for both the bin and one for the collection service. You must allow space at the front of all premises on the assumption that residents may wish to order a green bin. The dimensions of the green garden waste bin are set out below.

Garden waste recycling (houses, houses converted in to flats and maisonettes)

Garden waste bin description	Dimensions (mm)	Materials Collected	Collection Frequency	Sufficient for approx.
240 litre Garden waste bin (plastic)	Depth: 740 Width: 580 Height: 1100	Grass, hedge/tree prunings, flowers, weeds	Fortnightly (Once a fortnight in line with Council Policy)	1 property

Garden waste recycling – Communal - Flat blocks

Most residents living in a block of flats may not choose to participate in the garden waste collection service. However, should a resident contact the Council to request and pay for a garden waste bin, they are entitled to this service providing they have also signed up and paid for their collection service. Communal collection properties within Barnet will be offered a garden waste collection service subject to operational capacity, and where no third parties are involved in the generation of the garden waste, i.e. the garden waste is generated by the residents. When the container is provided confirmation will be required that the container will not be used by a commercial company such as a gardening company. One container will be available per five flats. Therefore, please ensure that you allow space for this depending on the size of the flat block in question.

Provision of refuse collection service

The available refuse bin sizes are 240 litres, 660 litres and 1100 litres dependent on type of property.

Refuse service for houses

For houses, each property requires one individual 240 litre bin for refuse.

Refuse bin size	Dimensions (mm)	Materials Collected	Collection Frequency
240 litre Refuse bin (plastic)	Depth: 740 Width: 580 Height: 1100	General waste – miscellaneous materials which cannot be recycled	Weekly

Refuse service for small blocks of flats (communal - less than six flats)

For small blocks of flats (less than six flats), the available bin sizes are 240 litres, 660 litres and 1100 litres. The table below shows indicative levels of bin provision.

Number of dwellings in block	Residual Waste Provision
2	2 x 240 Litre
3	2 x 240 Litre
4	1 x 660 Litre or 3 x 240 litre
5	1 x 1100 Litre

Refuse service for large blocks of flats (communal - 6 or more flats)

Each property within the block must be allocated a maximum of 100 litres of residual waste provision plus 70 additional litres of residual waste per bedroom beyond the first bedroom.

Number of bedrooms	Residual Waste Provision
One	100 litres
Two	170 litres
Three	240 litres
Four	310 litres

For example, a block of six flats containing two one-bedroom properties, two two-bedroom properties and two three-bedroom properties would require space for 1,020 litres of waste (2x100)+(2x170)+(2x240). In this example, one 1100 litre bin would be provided for refuse.

The available refuse bin sizes for small blocks of flats and large blocks of flats are:

Refuse bin size	Dimensions (mm)	Materials Collected	Collection Frequency
240 litre Refuse Bin (plastic)	Depth: 740 Width: 580 Height: 1100	General waste – miscellaneous materials which cannot be collected for recycling.	Weekly
660 litre Refuse Bin (plastic)	Depth: 780 Width: 1265 Height: 1250		Weekly
1100 litre Refuse Bin (metal) also known as euro bins	Depth: 980 Width: 1250 Height: 1370		Weekly

All bins need to be purchased through the Council for a one-off payment (where payment is applicable). Cost are exclusive of VAT. Contact us for recycling, refuse and garden waste bin prices by emailing binenquiries@barnet.gov.uk.

Only bins supplied by the council will be emptied and all bins remain the property of the Council.

The Council will charge for the replacement of any wheeled bin that has gone missing, become damaged or destroyed through no fault of the council.

Internal storage requirements

The Council requires that space is provided within all properties to enable occupants to conveniently store and organise their waste materials before transferring these into external bins for collection. The minimum internal storage space required is:

- 60 litres for storage of comingled dry recycling

- 7 litres for storage of a caddy for food waste within kitchens (the service is currently under suspension, however, storage space must be provided for when a service is reintroduced from April 2022)
- 40 litres for storage of residual waste

General requirements

When planning and designing bin storage areas and hard surfaces, you must adhere to the following guidelines. This will facilitate safe use and protect the health and safety of collection staff when manoeuvring, emptying and returning bins. The location of a bin storage area should be designed to maximise efficiency of collections where:

- 240 litre bins must be presented at the boundary of the property where it meets the public highway.
- Larger communal containers must be presented within ten metres of the property boundary. The walking distance for the crew to collect larger communal bins should not exceed ten metres from the collection point. For the avoidance of doubt the distance to wheel the bin from the bin store to the public highway which can be easily accessed by our collection vehicles must not exceed ten metres.
- Bin storage areas should be designed so bins can be easily accessible without any steps or steep inclines, with doors wide enough to enable bins to be manoeuvred through easily. All bin sheds must have adequate storage capacity and space for manoeuvrability, with access point and floor level at the same height as entrance footway.
- Footpaths to be built wide enough to accommodate bins of all sizes and dropped kerbs to be provided as necessary to ensure no (undropped) kerbs are within the ten metres between the bin storage area and the collection vehicle. See the tables contained in this document for dimensions of bins and collection receptacles.
- Please note we cannot empty bins that have not been provided or purchased from the Council.
- In larger bin sheds and along any pathways to the bin shed, lights must be installed to enable collection crews to avoid any hazards. Wooden bin sheds and door frames will need metal protection to minimise any damage.
- It is recommended that bins are not stored underground, but are stored at street level, to enable efficient collections. Provisions must be made to ensure that where bins are located in underground car park enclosures or outside the required collection guideline distance, these bins will be presented at street level and/or at an agreed point on the day of collection. It is not the responsibility of the Council to ensure these bins are presented at the agreed collection point.

- Street scene aesthetic concerns will not be classed as a reasonable exemption from the provision of wheeled bins.
- For non-communal collections, all recycling and waste containers should be presented at the edge of a resident's property, at the point where the premises meet the adopted highway for collection. If properties are located down a private driveway/access road then the containers must be presented where the private driveway/access road meets the adopted highway. Where a household is on a private or unadopted road, the Council's collection vehicles will only collect from the road where the Council has been indemnified in writing against any damage to road surfaces and underground apparatus before bin delivery and collections. The Council will not be held liable for any accidental damage. Prior agreement from the Council's Street Scene service will be required in order to confirm whether waste collections can be carried out along private or unadopted roads.
- Planning of road layout and parking must take into account the need for collection vehicles to access the bin collection point(s) without obstruction.
- The access and turning circles, length, width, height and weight of the collection vehicles need to be considered at the design stage. Turning circle 18.5 m to 21 m; length 9.25 m plus 1 m for bin lift; width 2.53 m, height 3.4 m and gross weight 26 tonnes. The parking within the area of new developments must be planned to ensure vehicles will not obstruct access for the collection vehicles.
- When bins are ordered for delivery for new houses and flats, a list of addresses for these new properties is required. This is so that these new houses and flats can be added onto our collection system.
- We advise that individual bins and recycling and waste receptacles are labelled or numbered as this makes it easy to identify ownership and has been proven to deter theft.
- In new developments where both residential and commercial properties are being developed, separate areas for waste storage is highly recommended. Commercial waste should not enter the household waste stream, in line with the Environmental Protection Act 1990.
- It is recommended chutes are not used as chutes can create problems for the segregating and storing of recycling.
- The Council have no responsibility to inform developers and architects of any changes made to the Council's Recycling & Waste services. Developers and architects are responsible for remaining up to date with the Council's waste strategy and service provision.
- This document should be read in conjunction with the Council's Household Recycling and Waste Policies: <https://www.barnet.gov.uk/recycling-and-waste/household-recycling-and-waste/household-recycling-and-waste-policies>

In addition, in the event of a missed collection at a property of six or more flats, the landlord or managing agent should report this by contacting the Council on 0208 359 4600. This will allow discussion and resolution of potential access problems or other issues that may be preventing collections.

Contact information

A site visit should be arranged with the Council at least five weeks before occupation of the property, to confirm bin requirements and ensure compliance with bin storage area requirements. Where insufficient space is provided for the storage of the required number and type of bins, there may be charges made for an increased frequency of collections.

We expect a minimum notice of 28 working days for delivery of bins. This is to ensure bins are delivered in a timely and efficient manner.

If you require more information or would like to discuss any of the above requirements prior to submitting your planning application, please contact binenquiries@barnet.gov.uk.