

<b>12 October 2017</b>		<b>ITEM: 7</b>
<b>Cleaner, Greener and Safer Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b>		
<b>Public Bin Review Update</b>		
<b>Wards and communities affected:</b> All	<b>Key Decision:</b> Yes	
<b>Report of:</b> Daren Spring, Frontline Service Delivery Manager		
<b>Accountable Assistant Director:</b> Julie Rogers, Assistant Director - Environment		
<b>Accountable Director:</b> Steve Cox, Corporate Director of Environment and Place		
<b>This report is Public</b>		

## **Executive Summary**

This report is to provide an update on the Public Bin Review which will be carried out on all the public litter bins throughout the Borough. The review will focus on the location, process for installation, purchase of new dual process litter bins and the introduction of the 10 Big Belly bins.

### **1. Recommendation(s)**

**1.1 That Cleaner, Greener and Safer Overview and Scrutiny Committee comment on the contents of this report.**

### **2. Introduction and Background**

2.1 To follow on from the work that has already been carried out to improve the cleanliness of the borough, through the programme of Clean It, Cut It Fill It, this report provides details of a review which will be carried out on the public litter bins throughout the borough.

2.2 The review focuses on the location of the current litter bins, the process for installing new litter bins, the change of the current individual litter and dog fouling bins to the introduction of standard dual purpose litter bins. This process will require the Council to purchase new litter bins, which will be funded through a Capital scheme.

2.3 The review also outlines the introduction of 10 Big Belly bins into the borough.

### **3. Review of current litter bin locations**

- 3.1 Over a number of years a variety of different type and style of litter bin has been installed throughout the borough. Over time as litter bins have been installed, those that are situated on the Highway have been logged on to the Symology system, but no official record has been kept of the exact location of all of the bins in the borough. This has caused some operational challenges, in particular when residents report full or damaged bins and they have not been able to provide an accurate location, through my account, the report it app or via the contact centre. This has also made it difficult for the service to take a proactive strategic approach on public bins across the whole of the borough. The benefits of new and potentially more litter bins should reduce the amount of litter being thrown on the ground, which in turn will reduce the resources required to litter pick. The review should therefore increase public bin usage and assist with keeping the borough cleaner.
- 3.2 The first phase of the review will be to identify where each of the litter bins are located, this will be carried out on a ward by ward basis. Although some litter bins were previously plotted on the Highways Symology system, a full physical check will be carried out by the end of October to establish the following:
- The bin location
  - The bin type (litter bin, dog fouling bin, dual purpose bin)
  - If the bin is old or new
  - The current condition of the bin
  - The frequency of emptying the bin
  - The number and distance of bins on the site
- 3.3 Since the change to legislation in July 2013 which declassified dog waste from hazardous to non-hazardous waste, dog waste no longer needs to be separated out from the general waste stream. This eliminates the need for individual dog fouling bins. Dog waste can be commingled in litter bins and this has been and will continue to be communicated through the council's website and other media channels.
- 3.4 Once the review has been completed, a decision will be made on the most suitable locations for public litter bins on a ward by ward basis based. The criteria used to establish this will be based on footfall, litter levels and strategic locations such as shopping areas, outside stations, schools etc. It is possible that many of the existing bins are already in suitable locations, however others may require relocating. A decision will then be made on the standard style of litter bin to be used across the borough. The main factors that will be considered when making this decision are:
- Type
  - Appearance
  - Durability
  - Availability and variations
  - Cost

Current dog fouling bins are small, have little capacity and are generally in a poor condition, these will be replaced with litter bins, instantly increasing capacity across the borough. There will be a need to purchase variations of litter bins to encourage street recycling, which will assist with the drive for recycling more waste. This year saw the introduction of a pilot scheme for big belly bins, these will be limited to one style of bin, depending on the waste stream, for example, general waste only or general waste and recycling.

- 3.5 Capital funding will be used to replace litter bins, a capital bid will be submitted in the autumn and confirmed once we have established the total number of new litter bins that are required.
- 3.6 Where possible existing public bins and all new public bins will have a communication message on them. It is proposed that children from local schools will be asked to help design the exterior look of these messages.
- 3.7 All of the information gathered on the bin locations will be plotted into the Bartec system when it is introduced in January, this will enable the emptying of the bins to be scheduled. All litter bins will be numbered to ensure that they can be identified by members of the public and members of staff, the report it app will require the bin number to be entered when reporting a bin needs emptying.

#### **Process for requesting new litter bins**

- 3.8 The Environment Department receives a number of requests for new litter bins on a regular basis. The process that will be followed once a request has been made for a new bin is as follows:
  - The exact location of where the litter bin will be required
  - A site visit will be carried out by a Street Cleansing officer
  - The location of existing bins will be considered as well as how often they are used and the frequency that they are emptied.
  - The distance from the location of the requested bin to existing bins will be considered.
- 3.9 If the officer establishes that there is a requirement for a new litter bin at this location, arrangements will be made for a new litter bin to be installed and the bin will be numbered and its location added to the Bartec system.
- 3.10 If the officer establishes that there would be no benefit for a new litter bin to be positioned at the location. The individual who made the request will be notified that a new bin will not be installed and provided with a reason why.

#### **Big Belly Bins**

- 3.11 The Council is currently installing 10 big belly bins into the borough as a pilot scheme, to explore how effective this type of bin will be. Big belly bins are solar powered, they have a compaction system built into the bin and they send an email to alert the team that they require emptying.

- 3.12 The new big belly bins have been delivered; they are currently being branded and will be installed during October.

The location of these bins will be as follows:

- 1 bin located at the lay by opposite Sainsburys, A1306 Arterial Road, West Thurrock
- 1 bin located at the lay-by by Arena Essex, A1306 Arterial Road, West Thurrock
- 1 bin located at King George V playing field, Blackshots
- 1 bin located at Grays Beach Park
- 1 bin located by the sea wall at the end of Thames Road
- 1 bin located in Crown Road by the bus stop
- 1 bin located in Orsett Road
- 1 bin located in the lay-by in Conways Road, Orsett
- 1 bin located by the taxi office, next to Kings Street car park, Stanford le Hope
- 1 bin located in London Road Stanford le Hope opposite Runnymede Road

Due to the Big belly Bins ability to compact waste and send an alert when they require emptying. These locations have been chosen by the Street Cleansing team based on historical data of problematic areas. The criteria used to decide this was based on the following factors. Areas that are not visited daily by barrow beat sweepers, but have heavy footfall. Areas where litter bins cannot be emptied on a daily basis due to the level of resource and more remote locations where other existing litter bins are frequently used and are sometimes overflowing, such as lay-bys.

- 3.13 Monitoring of the success of the pilot will be through analysing the data produced from the big belly bins, this will include information on the frequency of emptying the bins. There may be the need to relocate these bins if they are not getting the higher usage anticipated and a further capital bid for more bins will be submitted, subject to the success of the pilot being realised.

#### **4. Reasons for Recommendation**

- 4.1 This report serves to provide Cleaner, Greener, Safer Overview and Scrutiny with information relating to the methodology being used to conduct the litter bin review. As well as seeking comments from the Cleaner, Greener, Safer Overview and Scrutiny committee on the scope of the review.

#### **5. Consultation (including Overview and Scrutiny, if applicable)**

N/A

**6. Impact on corporate policies, priorities, performance and community impact**

N/A

**7. Implications**

**7.1 Financial**

Implications verified by: **Mark Terry**  
**Senior Financial Accountant**

If the pilot scheme is successful and the decision is made to roll out the 'Big Belly Bins' further, this will require further capital investment.

**7.2 Legal**

Implications verified by: **David Lawson**  
**Deputy Head of Law and Governance**

There are no Legal implications associated with this report.

**7.3 Diversity and Equality**

Implications verified by: **Becky Price**  
**Community Development Officer**

There are no Diversity and Equality implications associated with this report.

**7.4 Other implications** (where significant) – i.e. Staff, Health, Sustainability, Crime and Disorder)

None

**8. Background papers used in preparing the report** (including their location on the Council's website or identification whether any are exempt or protected by copyright):

N/A

**9. Appendices to the report**

None

**Report Author:**

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Environment and Place