

Dear Site/Store Manager,

**Formal Consultation on Thurrock Council proposals to
deal with abandoned shopping & luggage trolleys.**

**Environmental Protection Act 1990 – Sec 99 and Schedule 4
Clean Neighbourhood and Environment Act 2005**

Thurrock is a vibrant and growing place in which to live, visit or do business and spends a significant amount of money each year keeping the Borough clean and tidy for the benefit of all. We take many different actions and work with numerous partners in order to achieve this.

One specific problem in many communities is that caused by shopping trolleys, and other types of trolley which have been taken away from their site and abandoned somewhere in the local neighbourhood.

The Environmental Protection Act 1990 (EPA), Schedule 4 contains powers which formally allow a local authority to seize and remove abandoned trolleys, retain them and then sell or dispose of them. The authority cannot remove trolleys from private occupied land without the consent of the occupier or without having informed the occupier by Notice that it intends to remove the trolley. If an owner wishes for the trolley to be returned, they may ask for the trolley to be returned at a cost. Schedule 4 of the EPA provides further details if you are interested. This can be found at: www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts 1990

The Clean Neighbourhood and Environment Act 2005 now adds to the EPA and brings the opportunity for the Council to collect, remove and dispose of an abandoned trolley. The Council can then charge the owner for the costs of removal, storage and disposal. This charge is payable on demand and can be recovered as a statutory debt.

As a user of trolleys, it will become important that you actively prevent/minimise trolley losses, as it could add a significant cost burden to your business. Such steps as coin deposit mechanisms, or magnetic wheel braking are 2 ways that may help to reduce losses.

At the moment, Schedule 4 of the EPA does not apply to Thurrock. Abandoned trolleys are simply collected and dealt with as waste. Thurrock Council is to seek a resolution that Schedule 4 of the EPA applies to the whole of its area. Under Section 99 of that Act, this letter is consulting you on these proposals. It is proposed to actively use these powers and Thurrock Council would seek to recover the costs of recovery, storage and disposal of abandoned trolleys from the trolley owners in the future. The costs proposed below reflect the actual costs of collection, administration, storage, staff costs and overheads.

Collection fee	£70.00
Admin fee	£35.00

Storage fee	£15.00 per week (maximum 6 weeks)
Disposal fee	£35.00

Where a retailer agrees a scheme with Thurrock to have the trolleys returned to store for a set fee £85 is recommended

If you have any observations or comments to put forward you have the opportunity to do so in writing to the address below. These should be received before **XX XX 2022**.