

# **St Albans City and District Council**

## **Waste and Recycling; Storage and Collection**

### **Guidance.**

## **New Developments and Conversions**

### **Updated February 2023.**

This guide is for architects and other people involved in designing developments in St Albans and surrounding villages to ensure that they enable waste and recycling to be stored and collected safely. All premises must have adequate provision to store waste and recycling.

The guidance is written to be read in conjunction with the Building Regulations (Part H6: Solid Waste Storage – The Requirements) and does not in any way exempt the developer from the requirements specified in the Building Regulations.

All residential developments are entitled to waste and recycling collections provided they meet the requirements as set out in this guide.

When a new development, extension or change of use is submitted for approval the scheme will be assessed to ensure that adequate storage facilities are provided.

This requirement should therefore be considered at the earliest stages of the design process and details included on drawings submitted to the Council when applying for planning permission.

### **Houses**

#### **Waste Collection**

St Albans District Council operates a 'Twin Bin' system.

This involves every house having 1 x 180 litre bin for residual waste and 1 x 240 litre wheeled bin for cans plastic and glass and a 55lt box for paper and cardboard and a 23lt food waste caddy. Garden waste is an opt- in subscription service and collected in 240lt wheeled bins.

The residual waste bin is emptied on one week and dry recycling and boxes (and garden waste) on the opposite week.

Food waste is collected weekly.

All containers are collected from the boundary with the public highway. Bins must be stored within the property boundary between collections.

## Houses - Good Practice



Designated space at front of property to store 2x240 litre bins, recycling box and food waste caddy

Easy access for crews to empty containers from edge of properties adjacent to public highway

Road is of appropriate specification for heavy vehicles

No communal collection point – evident to collectors which bin belongs to which property.

Containers accessible for collection without obstructing vehicles or pedestrians

No steps to hinder bin movements

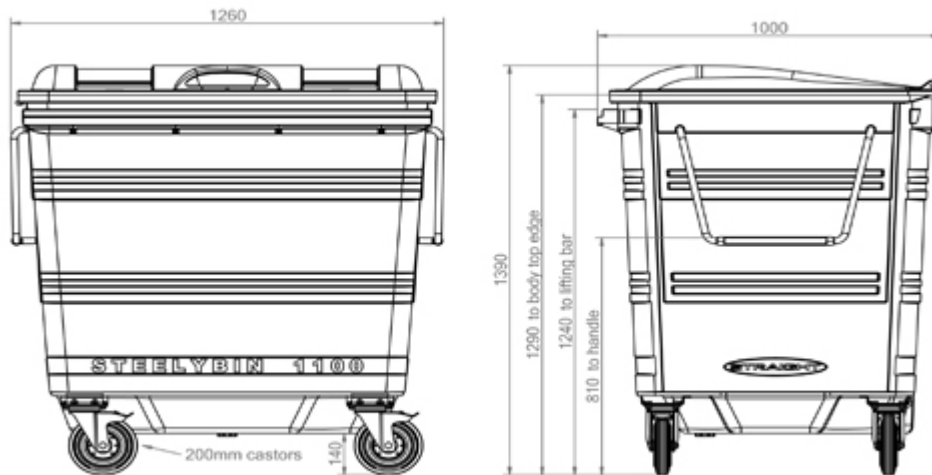
## **Flats & HMOs**

### **Refuse collection.**

St. Alban's City & District Council collect 90lt of refuse per property per week and still collect refuse weekly from flats.

For blocks of up to 8 flats, we would provide 1x 180lt bin for every 2 flats.

9-12 flats would require 1x 1100lt bin. These bins should be provided by the developer. The bin should have a metal body and a flat, plastic lid.



### Recycling collection.

St Albans City & District Council collect recycling fortnightly in two waste streams;

- Paper & Cardboard
- Cans, Glass & Plastic.

SADC will supply the recycling bins and the number will depend on how many apartments they will be servicing; however, there is no limit on how many recycling bins a development can have.

For every 3 flats, we would expect to provide 2x 360lt recycling bins.

In addition, St Albans City and District Council collect food waste weekly and will provide 1x 240lt bin for every 10 flats.

There is no collection scheme proposed for garden waste. Grounds are generally maintained by a contractor on behalf of the Management Company/ landlord and therefore, any waste is considered commercial. Currently, St Albans City & District Council do not offer a commercial waste collection service.

Capacity (litres)	Width (mm)	Depth (mm)	Height (mm)
180	525	630	1060
240	575	730	1060
360	625	890	1120

### **Size and location.**

The bin store should be large enough for the refuse and recycling containers outlined above.

It should be free from internal obstructions such as taps, pipes, meters etc.

Bins do not need to be placed on the boundary for collection but the trundle distance from the bin store to the vehicle should not exceed 10 metres.

Should a new bin area be built beyond the 10 metre trundle distance, it will become the responsibility of the managing agent or residents to bring the containers within 10 meters on collection day.

The path should be smooth and level unless the gradient falls away from the housing or chamber, in which case it should not exceed 1:14.; have a minimum width of 2 metres.

**Please note that any bin store or area designated for storage of refuse and recyclables needs to have some additional space built in to accommodate future waste requirements.**

It is the responsibility of the residents, landlord or managing agent to keep bin stores and bin storage areas clean and tidy.

### **Additional information.**

It is recognised that on some developments, the roads may remain private i.e. un-adopted. They may also be constructed in high quality finishes such as block paving. Nevertheless they will need to be constructed to an appropriate standard in terms of loading (to withstand the weight of the refuse vehicles e.g. up to 26 tonnes Gross Vehicle Weight. and various recycling collection vehicles) and layout (turning circles etc). Generally, the Refuse Collection vehicles have a turning circle of between 18.3 and 22.3 metres and their size is approx 8.4 metres in length and 2.5 metres width.

All enclosures and storage areas should be located within the boundary of the development and be easily accessible to residents and for collections.

Sufficient clearance provided to allow full opening of a container lid.

300mm clear space between and around containers, each bin to be accessible and manoeuvrable.

Minimum working headroom of at least 2 m (where bin store is covered)

Secure the bin store using key pad access system or similar locking device. To prevent access by non-residents and discourage dumping of large household items

There should be a minimum clearance of 500mm width through any doorway over and above the bin size.

Consideration should be made for the provision of "Keep Clear" markings in front of bin stores and at the designated vehicle access/loading point to ensure accessibility for collections.

Clear flat access without steps and other obstacles should be provided between the bin stores and the nearest point of access for the collection vehicle.

Installation of a dropped kerb where necessary to allow safe manoeuvre of bins.

Where it is necessary for the collection crew to move bins from the bin storage areas to tip they should not have to move the container more than 10m.

An area for signage showing residents how to separate their waste should be clearly displayed.

Adequate lighting in the bin store area.

For developments with several bin stores, bin stores should be clearly labelled with which flats each bin store serves.

For large developments please include all details of how the bins will be managed in a Site Management Plan

### **Collection access**

- Waste collection will not commence until road surfaces are complete to base layer and access is unhindered by ongoing construction work.
- Roads and parking areas should be laid out to ensure unblocked access for the collection vehicles and crew.
- Collection vehicles must not need to reverse into or from the highway for collection.
- Sufficient turning circles on site if manoeuvring onsite is required (requires vehicle tracking on site plans).
- Pathways adjacent to bin stores of sufficient width to fully accommodate and manoeuvre the bins.
- Bins should be on ground level for collection.
- Our waste contractor is unable to operate timed collections.

Slopes should be avoided, please consider this in respect to bin storage in underground car parks.

### **Alternative Waste Management Options**

Generation of waste from new large scale developments will have an impact on local environment and will place additional burden on collection, treatment and disposal infrastructure in St Albans District and Hertfordshire.

St Albans City & District Council will expect to see a detailed plan/strategy all new large scale sites explaining how household and commercial waste will be managed across the whole development.

For larger developments and particularly those comprising buildings of several storeys SAC&DC strongly recommend that alternative waste technologies are investigated.

The use of such technologies can significantly reduce the space required for traditional methods of on-site storage, which for large numbers of properties could impact on land set aside for car parking and commercial units. New technologies can help to minimise noise, disruption and can help new developments achieve a higher environmental standard.

There are a number of existing and proposed technology options for managing and treating waste on site. Developers are encouraged to ensure that all appropriate options have been investigated and should consider the potential of trial projects as a means of attracting external funding to assist with initial capital costs.

### **Sorting of waste prior to collections (Storage in the property)**

To encourage occupants to recycle, internal storage areas should be designed into each property to segregate their waste into refuse and recycling

Space utilised inside the property for storage of segregated waste and recycling could be in the form of inbuilt storage within the kitchen or utility room. This will allow the temporary storage of waste and recycling until it can be transferred to external containers.

### **Layout of new estate**

Consideration must be taken regarding how collection vehicles will traverse the site;

Reversing and three point turns should be kept to an absolute minimum

Doubling back along roads should be avoided

The maximum trundle distance to the vehicle is 10 metres: if this cannot be achieved, bin collection points at 10 metres should be created.

There should be adequate parking to avoid other vehicles parking on the road/ in undesignated areas which will narrow the road and could prevent our freighters navigating the site.

We would expect the developer to contact us when a development is nearing completion so that we can alert our waste contractors as to when collections should start and arrange to have the recycling bins delivered.

For enquiries regarding the above, please contact Waste Management Services either by phoning 01727 819428 or e-mail [wastemanagementservices@stalbands.gov.uk](mailto:wastemanagementservices@stalbands.gov.uk)