



Parish Council

FREE STANDING PLANTER POLICY

Adopted January 2025

Freestanding Planter Policy

Municipal Planters form part of the Councils strategy to continuously improve our public realm in open spaces, public pavements and verges.

Whilst planters are generally a welcomed addition by the majority of residents, planter locations must be balanced against the cost of establishing and servicing the units, and is contingent on the budget being available for the initial purchase and ongoing seasonal planting regime.

- **Aims**

- To provide guidance on planter locations.
- To ensure planters are maintained and kept seasonally refreshed with suitable revenue budget.
- Ensure planters are in keeping within the areas they have been installed and must benefit the wider community.

- **Consultation**

- Where possible, the views of those who use the local area, local businesses and Ward Members should be sought to determine the location or at least evidenced when requests are made to the Environment & Planning Committee.
- Consultation can take the form of Ward Member/Officer intelligence, Online Surveys, in person surveys or business visits.

- **Key Locations**

- Principal Parades: Clive Parade, Blair Parade, Camdale Parade, The Circle.
- High Streets: Cricklade Road, Rodbourne Road, Penhill Drive.
- Main pedestrian routes to schools from local shops.
- Areas of congregation including bus stops, benches, grassed areas, recreation areas and St Marks Park and outside our Community Centres.

- **Guidelines for Design**

- The type of planter will be chosen from a standard range approved by the Councils Environment & Planning Committee and should be made of a material commensurate to the location, be hard wearing and vandal proof.

- Wooden planters will only be considered in exceptional circumstances where they may be aesthetically aligned to the proposed environment.
- **Access, Health & Safety Considerations.**
- The amount of pedestrian footfall or related traffic, with preference to areas with significant footfall as outlined in key locations.
- The width of the pavement/area which must be wide enough to accommodate both a planter and a double children's buggy.
- Possible effects on adjacent properties in relation to access.
- Proximity to other planters.
- Avoiding proximity to bus stops without shelters, where informal queuing may take place.
- Highways line of sight.
- Safe opening of car doors.
- Ensure contractor installation and maintenance safety. The installation area should be level, firm and allow a vehicle to be parked nearby or adjacent for ongoing servicing.
- **Withdrawal**
- Continuous damage to a planter and/or its contents may result in the Clerk recommending to the Environment & Planning Committee for the withdrawing or re-positioning of the planter.
- **Installations On Private Land.**
- The Council will normally not install planters on any public bridleway or any unmade public footpath, however on some hard surfaced public footpaths it may be possible after an assessment by the Councils Head of Estates.
- If the Council places planters on private land it reserves the right to cover costs from the landowner.