

CENTRAL SWINDON NORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Litter Bin Policy

ADOPTED January 2025

Litter Bin Policy

Litter bins form a pivotal part of the Councils 'Grounds & Street Cleansing Service'. Whilst there is no legal requirement for the Council to provide litter or dog waste bins, it does have a duty to keep Council owned land and public highways clear of litter and refuse, as far as is practicable.

Bins are traditionally provided, maintained and emptied as a means of controlling litter or dog waste problems. CSNPC have already adjusted to changes in the classification of waste(s), as dog waste can be put into litter bins, and disposed of in the same way.

There are approximately 170 bins in varying condition across the Parish of Central Swindon North, with a capital cost in the region of £50,000.00 (excluding the cost of fixings or earth anchors).

Whilst the Council is committed to providing sufficient bins to help discharge its responsibilities under the Environmental Act 1990, bins will only be located in areas where it can be demonstrated that there is a genuine need for one and all locations must be agreed by the Environment & Planning Committee.

Aims

- Deal with requests for new bins
- Maintain & replace existing bins

Requests for New Bins

All requests for new bins must be received in writing to either the E&P Committee or the Parish Estates Manager.

The request must demonstrate why there is the need for a bin and include:

- Proposed location for the bin.
- The type of bin being requested.

Due to the costs of installing, maintaining and emptying bins, all requests for new bins will be assessed by the Council using the following process:

A site survey, will be carried out by a member of the CSNPC Estates Team which will consider the following criteria:

- Suitability of the proposed location - Taking account of the need to reduce street clutter, particularly in more sensitive locations such as Conservation Areas or public realm spaces.
- Number and location of existing bins in the area.
 - Ratio per Ward Area of: 10 bins, per 1000 people (1 x bin per 100 persons).
 - In shopping areas the distance between bins should be not less than 50 metres.
- Scale of the litter, dog waste problem - will a bin make a real impact on litter or can this be addressed in other ways e.g. by enforcement by SBC.
- Proximity to potential problem points - is the proposed site close to shops, schools, bus stops etc.
- Accessibility of location – for both residents and collection crews, and ensuring the bin itself is not a hazard or barrier for pedestrians including prams, wheelchairs or other aids.
- Cost of installation - is a ground anchor system required or any specific permissions that will impact on cost or practicality?
- Style / Material of the bin should be commensurate to the area in which it is being sited. Plastic or wooden bins are generally not to be used unless under specific circumstances and with prior agreement of the E&P Committee.
- Additional costs for emptying the bin.
- The Likelihood of valid objections from neighbours or residents – would the bin encourage other problems?

Alternative Options

Possible alternatives, will be considered including:

- Changing the size/ type of existing bins in the area (e.g. dog bin to litter bin).
- Moving an existing under-used bin to/ from a different location.

- Seasonality – is there a seasonal issue for example litter bins at Parks for the summer only.

Bins will only be installed on sites which are safe and where there is a genuine need for a bin.

CSNPC will not install bins on private land or in a location which may encourage the disposal of trade waste. The Environmental Protection Act 1990 makes provision for the collection and disposal of commercial waste, and the Council expects businesses to provide and empty their own bins for the litter they create, including retail premises such as takeaways, fish & chip shops etc.

Replacement of Existing Bins

- CSNPC will aim to change individual bins through a dilapidation / justification program, and in some cases replace with larger capacity bins where required or combining separate dog and litter bins into one.
- In support of the Council's Environmental Policy it will also look at opportunities for locating combined litter and recycling bins where these would be most appropriate.
- CSNPC will continually monitor the usage of bins to determine their viability.
- Bins that are not used or used only infrequently may be removed.
- Relevant Ward Members will be notified when bins are vandalised, and will be given the opportunity to replace bins should the Council's E&P Committee decide not to.