Forest of Dean District Council

Requirements for refuse and recycling provision at new developments
**Introduction**

The guidance in this document aims to help developers of new properties or existing dwellings, by giving them the information they need to be able to provide refuse and recycling areas which are fit for purpose, considerate to the local environment and which recognise the requirements of good build practices such as those laid out in British Standard BS 5906.

In order for waste facilities to be successfully incorporated in any development they should be fully considered in the planning stages of that development.

These notes are for guidance only but contain information on good practice which may be used in considering a new or re-development.

It is strongly recommended that developers refer to *The Manual for Gloucestershire Streets* which may be downloaded from Gloucestershire County Council’s website www.gloucestershire.gov.uk.

**Strategy and overview**

The Forest of Dean District Council aims to provide high quality services for collecting and recycling waste and to maintain high standards of cleanliness around the district. Where possible the council also seeks to reduce the amount of refuse requiring collection and to increase reuse and where this is not possible, recycling.

To enable residents to partake fully in the schemes available to them - and those that may become available in the future - it is paramount that developments have both sufficient internal and external space within each dwelling to store refuse and recyclables separately.

Along with five other Gloucestershire local authorities and the county council, the Forest of Dean District Council has signed up to Gloucestershire Waste Partnership’s: *Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy 2007-2020*. This document outlines the strategy for the whole of Gloucestershire a copy of which is available by visiting the council’s waste and recycling home page on the internet: www.fdean.gov.uk; alternatively a hard copy is available by emailing ecbo@fdean.gov.uk

**Waste services**

The Forest of Dean District Council provides refuse and recycling collections for domestic properties. The council does not offer collections for businesses; therefore the guidelines given here apply to domestic dwellings only although many of the principles may still apply.

Under the Environmental Protection Act (1990) the council has the authority to dictate how household waste is contained and presented for collection. A summary of the kerbside services currently provided to properties within the district are given here:
Refuse

Refuse is collected fortnightly. Residents are usually required to present their waste in a 240ltr black two-wheeled bin. Larger households (classed as six persons or more) or residents who have mitigating circumstances - such as medical waste - may apply for a second 240ltr bin. In very exceptional circumstances a third bin may be granted, although this is rare.

Households with few occupants may prefer to swop to a smaller 140ltr refuse bin if they wish or if they cannot cope with the standard bin due to their personal circumstances.

Communal properties

It is the council’s preference that where possible individual dwellings are supplied with a 240ltr bin (even for communal properties); however this is not always practicable. In such cases an 1100ltr bin will be issued. One bin will be issued for every five households in such circumstances.

Hard-to-access properties

The rural nature of the district can present its own problems when dealing with domestic waste. Existing properties located along unadopted highways and tracks are usually required to bring their waste down to a pre-arranged collection point. Where this is the case, the council may issue householders with beige refuse sacks. Nonetheless, such dwellings will still need to be furnished with adequate storage space for appropriate waste and recycling receptacles and many will still wish to contain their sacks in a bin until collection day.

Garden waste

The garden waste service is an opt-in, charged for service. In order to receive collections residents must purchase an annual licence. Garden waste is collected in a 240ltr green two-wheeled bin, fortnightly throughout the year. Residents may have as many 240ltr green bins as they wish to licence.

Over 16,000 households sign up annually to receive this service, equating to almost a half of all domestic properties in the Forest of Dean.

There are currently no large 4-wheeled bins garden waste bins for communal properties wishing to take part in the service. Communal properties wishing to opt in to the service receive a 240ltr green wheeled bin (or multiple bins if licenced).

Note: Residents should only use wheeled bin provided by the council. This ensures that the lifting mechanism on the collection vehicles has been precisely adjusted to hold the bin in place during the tipping cycle. Non-standard issue bins may flex at the rim during hoisting which could result in the bin falling and causing injury to operatives.
Food waste

Food waste is collected each week and must be presented at the kerbside or the property curtilage in a 23ltr black caddy.

The council does not currently supply large food bins so communal properties wishing to partake in this service should use the 23ltr caddy. Caddies (and recycling boxes) are not collected from inside flatted dwellings where the front door of an individual property faces internally on to a landing or entrance way or are enclosed in any way within the internal structure of the building.

Dry recycling

Households are issued with two 55ltr kerbside box to enable them to recycle materials such as plastic bottles, cans, empty aerosols, glass and textiles. Households also receive a 60ltr woven sack for paper and cardboard. These receptacles are emptied each week. Council-issue recycling boxes have a lip which crews can use to rest and support laden boxes against the vehicle body as they sort recycling out into its separate waste streams; given this, the council prefers that residents use boxes provided by the council.

In addition, residents are able to recycle their small waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) each fortnight along with any domestic batteries. These items need to be presented in a standard supermarket-sized carrier bag (or smaller) and presented on top of the refuse bin ready for collection. Bags are provided by the householder.

A summary of all waste containers is given below.

*The above information is correct as at August 2016 when the council introduced a new waste service for the district. While every effort is taken to ensure that information supplied is current and correct it is nonetheless recommended that you check that this is up to date before proceeding with any application.*
## Summary of containers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Containers</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Height</th>
<th>Width</th>
<th>Depth</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Two-wheeled bins</strong> <em>(for refuse and garden waste)</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refuse is collected in a Black 240ltr bin.</td>
<td>240ltr</td>
<td>1100mm</td>
<td>585mm</td>
<td>740mm</td>
<td>Households receive one refuse bin as standard. Large families or those with medical waste may apply for a second bin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garden waste is collected in a 240ltr bin only</td>
<td>140ltr</td>
<td>1100mm</td>
<td>505mm</td>
<td>555mm</td>
<td>Provided only on request (available for refuse only).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Four-wheeled bins</strong> <em>(for communal refuse)</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where possible communal properties will be issued with 240ltr refuse bins although 1100ltr bins will be issued where this is not practicable (normally one 1100ltr bin for each five dwellings).</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Recycling boxes</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households receive two boxes as standard. Larger homes may request additional boxes.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Woven bag</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households receive one bag as standard.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Food waste caddies</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households receive one black caddy as standard but may request additional caddies as required.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>7ltr</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households receive one silver caddy as standard.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Presentation

Householders are required to present their waste containers at the kerbside in order for them to be emptied by the council’s contractor. Where there is no pavement, residents must take their refuse and recycling to the curtilage of their property while ensuring that there is no obstruction to the highway.

The council’s contractor will only collect waste from roads adopted by Gloucestershire Highways authority. Where a road is waiting to be adopted or is privately owned and maintained, householders will be required to take their waste to the nearest adopted highway, often to a pre-agreed collection point.

Bin storage areas

While developers may wish to consider bin store areas as part of their plans, it is not normal practice for the council’s contractor to collect waste or recycling from designated bin stores. Putting waste and recycling out to the required collection point remains the responsibility of the individual householder, not the council or its contractor. Residents should be made fully aware of this when purchasing their property.

Under Building Regulations (2010) developers need to ensure that householders do not have to carry waste containers further than 30m so this should be noted when deciding on the location of such storage areas. With new developments there is also a requirement that containers should be able to be collected without being taken through a building (unless through a garage, car port or similar open covered space).

It should be noted that the Forest of Dean District Council operates a ‘no side waste policy.’ This means our contractor will only collect refuse presented in either a 140ltr, 240ltr bin or an 1100ltr communal bin as outlined above or council-issue beige refuse sacks. Therefore communal bin stores must provide enough space to house the appropriate number of bins for the number of dwellings it is designed to serve.

It is recommended that a distance of 150mm should be allowed between and around containers.

To enable residents to partake fully in the services available to them, waste storage areas must be conveniently located with recycling facilities being given equal prominence as those provided for refuse. Bin storage facilities must be designed to minimise any health and safety related risks to users and accommodate usage by the elderly and disabled.

In addition BS 5906 advises that: ‘Facilities should be designed so as to minimize the potential for nuisance to occupants and neighbouring premises. The waste storage area should be maintained to the highest practical standard of hygiene, and be clearly designated as a waste storage area through the use of signage and/or floor markings.’

To avoid bin stores to become dumping grounds for waste materials it is recommended that additional signage is erected to advise residents how these areas should be used in accordance with the services provided by the council.
Communal bin stores do not need to be fully enclosed but it is recommended that they at least provide screening on three sides to reduce any negative impact on the street scene.

BS5906, the Code of Practice of Waste Management in Buildings, provides useful guidance on bin storage areas, a summary checklist of which is given here:

- Easy and safe access for waste producers, including older persons or persons with disabilities;
- Easy and safe access for collectors and collection vehicles;
- Location and space (including avoidance of opportunity to cause nuisance or injury);
- Protection against animal scavenging of waste;
- Aesthetics of the development;
- Noise (e.g. glass handling);
- Ease of maintenance, including cleaning;
- Robust construction;
- Safety from fire risk and smoke;
- Lighting;
- Ventilation;
- Sound insulation; and
- Special requirements (e.g. separate storage and collection of healthcare waste and bulky waste).

Access

The Building Regulations (2010) require not only that adequate provision is made for the storage of solid waste but also adequate access for occupants and collectors alike.

The following list highlights the main areas which present problems in the collection of refuse and recycling:

Road surfaces

If vehicles are expected to cross roads or sections of a road in a development it is important that the types of material used for the surface, foundations and drainage systems, are able to bear the weight of collection vehicles (24 tonnes when fully laden). The council’s contractor will not collect from roads where it is not evidenced that the surface reaches this minimum standard.

Particular thought should be given when opting to use pavers or similar as they may become fatigued under the stress of heavy loads or tarmac may crack where vehicles are required to turn regularly.

Accessibility

Access to service each household must be unrestricted.

The following points from Gloucestershire County Council’s planning document Manual for Gloucestershire Streets should be noted:
All developments will need to cater for access by service vehicles of varying types, ranging from refuse collection vehicles to large articulated lorries. The developer should give consideration to the number and type of service vehicles that will be required to enter a development, and to make due provision for such access when designing the road layout. This will largely be dependent on the adoption status of the road under consideration and whether they would pose an unacceptable hazard.

If a private access is designed to accommodate service vehicles then the road width will need to be suitable to accommodate the largest vehicle that can reasonably be anticipated. If necessary, this can be checked by using swept path analysis, and account should be taken of any need to pass other vehicles both along the access and at the nearest junction.

Whenever a turning area is proposed that may need to accommodate service vehicles, then vehicle swept path analysis should be carried out utilising, as a minimum, the swept path for a 3 axle refuse vehicle. The developer should be able to justify the grounds for using a particular vehicle category when undertaking the swept path analysis.

Turning areas should be considered where there is no through road. It should not be assumed that collection vehicles can reverse out of a development as each road within the district is allocated a risk level, including what vehicle manoeuvres are considered safe to undertake. Ideally, vehicles servicing properties should be able to drive in and drive out of any development or road in a forward facing direction. Details of turning circles for the current waste fleet are given at the end of this document under Vehicle Specifications.

Hazards and obstructions

Collection crews must be able to carry out their duties in a safe and efficient manner. In respect of operating in a safe working environment, the council has a duty of care not only to its own employees but also those of any contactor it appoints to carry out services on its behalf. Where developments do not meet the following criteria the council’s contractor may refuse to make collections on the grounds that it is not safe to do so:

- Overhead cables can present a hazard. This is because the vehicle hoppers may rise and hit the cabling causing disruption to utility services and, in the case of electrical cable strike, electrocution;
- Some vehicles will be side loaded while others rear loaded. In both cases adequate space needs to be allowed for the safe loading of the collection vehicles to allow operatives to stand outside identified risk zones;
- There should be adequate off-road parking for each dwelling as cars parked on narrow streets cause obstruction. If refuse and recycling vehicles are unable to pass along the road, this can result in waste collections not being made;
- To enable collection crews to manoeuvre bins and other waste containers safely back and forth from the collection vehicle and to reduce accidents associated with trips/falls and manual handling, surfaces between the highway and the waste collection point need to be even and free from steps.
Checklist

The following checklist should be used prior to the formal submission of a planning application:

- Has adequate space been allocated for refuse and recycling storage outside the dwelling?
- Has space been allocated inside the property for the storage of recycling containers and food waste caddies?
- Have you checked collection points with the Forest of Dean District Council (this is particularly important in cases where waste vehicles are unable to access unadopted roads and where residents will be required to take their waste to a suitable collection area)?
- If collection points are to be used, can bins and receptacles be moved easily and without obstruction by the householder to the collection point? Can the crews easily manoeuvre containers to the adopted highway?
- Can refuse and recycling vehicles move easily throughout the development without obstruction being caused by narrow streets or vehicles parked on the road once properties are occupied?

Contact us

To discuss any proposed development, please contact the waste department at:

Forest of Dean District Council
Council Offices
High Street
Coleford
Gloucestershire
GL16 8HG
Tel: 01594 810000
Email: council@fdean.gov.uk

Useful documents

- Building Regulations (2010)
- Manual for Gloucestershire Streets
- Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy 2007-2020
Vehicle Specifications

DAF LF45 chassis with Romaquip Kerb-Sort (recycling)
Dennis Eagle Elite 2 – 6 x 2ML (Mid Lift) (Narrow Track)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>C1</th>
<th>Overall wheelbase</th>
<th>4050</th>
<th>4700</th>
<th>5200</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C2</td>
<td>Axle 2-3 spread</td>
<td>1214 (1318+)</td>
<td>1318</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C3</td>
<td>Theoretical wheelbase</td>
<td>3710 (3700+)</td>
<td>4230</td>
<td>4700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C4</td>
<td>Minimum overall length (650 rear overhang)</td>
<td>6365</td>
<td>7015</td>
<td>7515</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Turning Circle – overall (metres)**

- 18.2
- 20.3
- 22.0

**Maximum plated vehicle weight**

- 22000
- 24000
- 26000

**Front axle maximum weight**

- 6300
- 8000 (7100* )
- 8000

**Rear axle(s) maximum weight**

- 16000
- 17800 (18600)

**Unladen vehicle weight**

- 6765
- 6845
- 6910

**Front axle unladen weight**

- 4140
- 4210
- 4240

**Rear axle(s) unladen weight**

- 2625
- 2635
- 2670

**Tyres – axle 1**

- 11R22.5
- 315/80R22.5*
- 315/80R22.5

**Tyres – axle 2**

- 11R22.5
- 295/80R22.5

**Tyres – axle 3**

- 11R22.5

**Tyres – axle 4**

- ”

**Air ‘assist’ suspension – front axle**

- Not available

**Air suspension – drive axle**

- Optional (add 50kg)
- Standard

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>C5</th>
<th>Front overhang</th>
<th>1665</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C6</td>
<td>Clearance – cab tilted</td>
<td>1800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C7</td>
<td>Rear overhang</td>
<td>Minimum 650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C8</td>
<td>Overall height to exhaust tip – normal</td>
<td>3500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C9</td>
<td>Cab roof height</td>
<td>3040</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C10</td>
<td>Cab roof height – tilted</td>
<td>3600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C11</td>
<td>Cab floor height</td>
<td>805</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C12</td>
<td>Cab step height</td>
<td>435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C13</td>
<td>Chassis frame height</td>
<td>960 (950+)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C14</td>
<td>Ground clearance at lowest part of vehicle</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C15</td>
<td>Minimum road wheel clearance</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C16</td>
<td>Approach angle</td>
<td>15.5°</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(*) Optional 295/80R22.5 tyres  (+) Optional drive axle air suspension

**Note:** Unless otherwise stated, all dimensions are nominal, in mm and represent an unladen vehicle fitted with standard tyres; tyre deflection is not included. On vehicles equipped with optional air suspension, heights may differ. All specifications are subject to manufacturers tolerances. An allowance of +/- 2% should be made for all weights. All weights are in kgs and include oil and water, and on diesel fuelled vehicles, AdBlue and 50 litres of fuel. Additional equipment may alter dimensions and weights quoted.