

**POLICY**

**Litter & Dog Bin  
Policy**

## **INTRODUCTION**

East Lindsey District Council has no legal duty to provide litter and dog waste bins but it does have a duty to keep Council owned land and public highways clear of litter and refuse as far as practicable. Since changes to the classification of wastes, dog waste can be put into litter bins, and disposed of in the same way.

Bins in the past, have been provided, maintained and emptied as the main way of controlling the litter or dog waste problem that many areas experience. There are approximately 1,900 bins in varying condition across the District with a capital cost in the region of £500,000.

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. All locations must be approved by both the local Town or Parish Councils and the Council's Neighbourhoods Service.

This policy helps to support Government advice in developing an integrated strategy to the problem of litter and cleanliness that includes defining standards and working in partnership with local communities.

## **PURPOSE OF THIS POLICY**

This purpose of this policy is to detail how the Council will deal with:

- Requests for new bins
- Empty & maintain existing bins
- Replace existing bins

## REQUESTS FOR NEW BINS

All requests for new bins must be received in writing from either Town or Parish Councils. The request must demonstrate why there is the need for a bin and include:

- Plan of the location for the bin
- A risk assessment determining any hazards that the placement of a bin may cause to members of the public or ELDC staff

Due to the costs of installing, maintaining and emptying bins, we will fully assess all requests for new bins using the criteria detailed below:

### ***Site survey:***

A site survey, to include the following criteria:

- Suitability of the location including the need to reduce street clutter, particularly in more sensitive locations such as Conservation Areas and near to listed buildings.
- Scale of the litter, dog waste problem – will it make a real impact on litter or can this be addressed in other ways e.g. by enforcement.
- Number and location of existing bins in the area.
- Accessibility to disabled people.
- Cost of installation.
- Costs for emptying the bin e.g. those in more remote areas can have disproportionate transport costs.
- The possibility of valid objections from neighbours.

### ***Alternative arrangements:***

Possible alternatives, including:

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

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

### **EMPTYING & MAINTAINING BINS**

Only those bins purchased and installed by ELDC will be maintained and emptied or where an agreement has been made with the owner.

Bins will be emptied on such a frequency that will prevent them overflowing. This will be based on their location and related to the intensity of use. The frequency will also vary according to the time of year and for special events. Monitoring will ensure that these frequencies are sufficient.

All bins will be maintained to a standard that is fit for purpose e.g. plastic bins can suffer damage in some locations while metal bins corrode quickly on the coast. When a bin is damaged or stolen, it will be replaced only if it meets the criteria above for new bins. Also any bins that have a history of constant vandalism will not be replaced.

### **REPLACING EXISTING BINS**

The Council will aim to improve the effectiveness of individual bins through a program of removal and

replacement, using larger capacity bins where required or combining separate dog and litter bins into one. We will continually monitor the usage of bins to determine their viability. Bins not being used or used only infrequently may be removed.

## LITTER/ DOG BIN ASSESSMENT FORM

Bin Requested By	
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Location of the Bin	
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Risk Assessment	
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Suitability of Location	
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Scale of Litter Problem	
Bins Already Installed in the Area	
Type & Cost of Bin Installation	

Possible Alternative Arrangements	
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Approved or Rejected	
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Assessment Completed By .....

Date.....

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