

Subject:	Communal Bins: Permission to Implement		
Date of Meeting:	26 June 2018		
Report of:	Nick Hibberd		
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Ward(s) affected:	East Brighton, Rottingdean		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT**

- 1.1 Communal containers for refuse and recycling collections have been introduced to most central parts of Brighton & Hove. One of the key benefits of communal bins is that it improves street cleanliness in areas of high density housing which many households do not have outside space to store and contain their waste. It also addresses health and safety concerns arising from basement collections.
- 1.2 This report seeks agreement on the location of bins for Arundel Terrace, Chichester Terrace, Lewes Crescent and Sussex Square following consultation with residents.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the Committee notes the outcome of the communal refuse and recycling consultation in Arundel Terrace, Chichester Terrace, Lewes Crescent and Sussex Square.
- 2.2 That the Committee approves the placement of communal refuse and recycling for Arundel Terrace, Chichester Terrace, Lewes Crescent and Sussex Square as shown at Appendix 2.

3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 Communal containers for refuse and recycling collections have been introduced to most central parts of Brighton & Hove. One of the key benefits of communal bins is that it improves street cleanliness in areas of high density housing where many households do not have outside space to store and contain their waste.
- 3.2 Furthermore, up until recently, seafront squares and some of the adjoining streets and terraces received a weekly black sack collection. Most of the properties in the squares have been converted to flats and refuse is stored in the basement areas (generally old coal stores). Crews manually collect the sacks from these areas carrying the rubbish up the stairs. The key hazards associated with this practice relate to Manual Handling, Personal Safety and Slips, Trips and Falls. Communal containment mitigates these risks.

- 3.3 Approval for the main rollout for communal refuse was granted in 2008, with communal recycling following in July 2013. In March 2016, Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee agreed permission to consult on the further rollout of communal refuse and recycling bins in three regency squares and for streets which have kerbside black bag collections. The results were presented to Committee in November 2016, which approved the implementation of communal bins in four of the five areas.

Arundel Terrace, Chichester Terrace, Lewes Crescent and Sussex Square

- 3.4 For Arundel Terrace, Chichester Terrace, Lewes Crescent and Sussex Square, the Committee agreed to further consultation with residents on the exact locations as feedback from the initial consultation opposed the suggested locations. The Committee agreed for the results of the second consultation to be presented back to Committee for decision.
- 3.5 147 responses were received (724 households were consulted with); 41% of respondents agreed with the locations of the bins following the second consultation. (This compares 39% in the first consultation). The main two reasons residents disagreed with the proposals were the aesthetic impact of the bins and the placement of bins directly on Arundel Terrace.
- 3.6 Based on the feedback from residents and following a site visit with colleagues from City Transport, an alternative is now proposed for approval.
- 3.7 Appendix 1 (map A) contains the consultation map and Appendix 2 contains the new locations (map B). The maps include the locations of existing communal containment within the vicinity which residents of Arundel Terrace, Chichester Terrace, Lewes Crescent and Sussex Square can use, if they wish.
- 3.8 Key changes are:

Map A	Map B
Concerns about the aesthetic impact of bins on Arundel Terrace.	Moved location of these bins to Marine Parade as per feedback from 24 residents in consultation.
Concerns about placing bins on Rock Grove due to narrow access and existing fly-tipping issues on this road.	Moved location of these bins to Marine Parade.
Concerns regarding safety for bins located by 11 Sussex Square on Eastern Road.	Bins removed entirely from this location entirely and capacity increased at Marine Parade.
Feedback regarding bins on Eastern Road placed together rather than separately.	Bins on Eastern Road have now been grouped in one section by the bus stop on Eastern Road.

- 3.9 There will be a loss of three parking spaces as a result of these changes.

4. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 4.1 The 2016 consultation considered alternative methods of waste collection. The majority of residents supported the introduction of communal bins. Black sack collections are not viable due to problems with the bags being ripped open by seagulls. Wheelie bins are not an option as it is not possible to collect these from basements due to health and safety concerns.
- 4.2 Where communal containers are introduced, City Environmental Management will monitor to ensure they are used properly. Fly-tipping will be monitored on a daily basis. Residents who find it difficult to use the service will be offered an assisted collection.

5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION

- 2.3 A leaflet and questionnaire were sent to residents of Arundel Terrace, Chichester Terrace, Lewes Crescent and Sussex Square, plus Arundel Place and Rock Grove seeking their views on the proposed locations of communal bins. The latter two roads were included as there were implications for these residents in terms of the placement of some bins. A drop-in session for residents to ask questions and share their ideas was held during the consultation period. This was advertised on the leaflet which all affected households received. Ward councillors were also informed via email.

6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 Communal refuse and recycling have been successfully introduced in many central parts of the city, having a beneficial impact on street cleanliness and making the service easier to use.
- 6.2 Implementation of communal containment in the final seafront square will also reduce the health and safety risks associated with basement collections.

7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

- 7.1 The estimated cost of new communal bins for Arundel Terrace, Chichester Terrace, Lewes Crescent and Sussex Square is approximately £0.012m. This will be met from existing Cityclean budgets in addition to the costs of the consultation, implementation and future bin replacements. It is not anticipated that the rollout of communal bins will affect the staff or vehicle requirements for the area and the costs will continue to be monitored as part of the Targeted Budget Monitoring (TBM) process.
- 7.2 The rollout of communal bins in Arundel Terrace, Chichester Terrace, Lewes Crescent and Sussex Square will result in the loss of parking income from three spaces. After consideration of the availability of alternative spaces and the use of the spaces by Area H permit holders, it is estimated that the loss of income will be approximately £0.002m per annum. This will be monitored as part of the Targeted Budget Monitoring (TBM) process and ongoing revenue budgets within Parking services will be adjusted as required.

- 7.3 There is a potential risk of increased contamination of recycling with a rollout of communal bins which would increase waste disposal costs.

Finance Officer Consulted: Gemma Jackson

Date: 23/05/18

Legal Implications:

- 7.4 The Council has powers to specify and provide the type of receptacles to be used for depositing waste for collection and may also require particular locations, including the highway, to be used. In carrying out consultation the Council is under a general duty to ensure that any consultation is fair. This means that it must be carried out when proposals are being formulated, that adequate time and information about the proposals must be given to consultees to ensure that they can provide a proper response, and that any consultation responses must be properly considered in reaching the decision

Lawyer Consulted: Elizabeth Culbert

Date: 8th May 2018

Equalities Implications:

- 7.5 Any resident unable to easily access refuse or recycling collection services can apply for an assisted collection. During the consultation, a number of residents said they would not be able to use the bins and would require an assisted collection. We will make contact with these residents to discuss their needs.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Map showing location of bins which formed part of the consultation
2. Map showing final proposed location of bins following the consultation

Documents in Members' Rooms

None

Background Documents

None