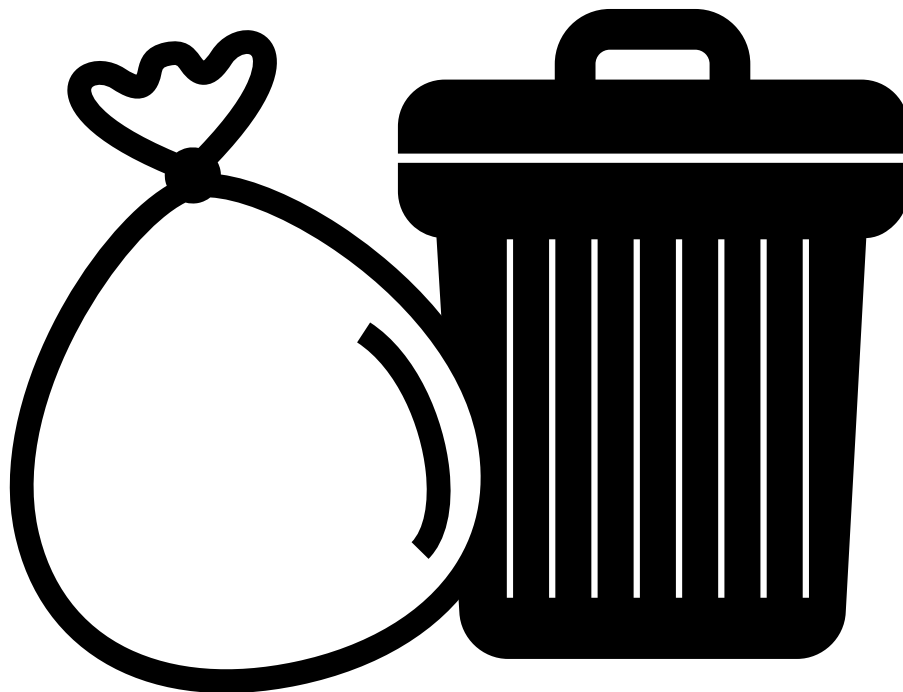


Supplementary Planning Guidance on

The Storage and Collection of Refuse and Recyclables in Developments



Wandsworth Unitary Development Plan
non-statutory supplementary planning guidance

November 2003



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glossary

“recyclables” –

waste materials that can be re-processed into marketable products providing they have been kept separate from other waste

“refuse” –

waste that cannot be recycled (including both waste that is inherently unrecyclable and waste that has only been rendered unrecyclable by having been mixed with other waste)

“waste” –

any substance or object which the holder discards or intends or is required to discard. This can include both refuse and recyclables

“bulk bins” –

wheeled refuse storage bins of at least 660 litres capacity

“wheelie bins” –

wheeled refuse storage bins of less than 660 litres capacity

status of supplementary planning guidance

The guidance supplements and explains the application of relevant policies in the adopted Wandsworth Unitary Development Plan and is a material consideration in deciding planning applications in line with Government guidance in PPG12 (Development Plans - December 1999), paragraphs 3.15-3.17.

This supplementary guidance was approved by the Council on 26 November 2003 following public consultation. The Appendix describes the results of the consultation and the Council's response.

general principles

- 1 It is essential that satisfactory facilities for the storage of refuse and recyclables together with adequate means of access for collection are provided in all developments in order to enable recycling and to ensure efficient refuse collection.
- 2 The Council's Unitary Development Plan (UDP) policy RDP1 states that **"Development will not be permitted unless it makes adequate and satisfactory provision for the storage and collection of waste."** This includes recyclable materials. The policy applies to all planning applications for new developments and other proposals where practicable. The arrangements for waste are assessed in determining the acceptability of the development in the same way as other relevant considerations applying to proposals for development covered by the UDP.
- 3 It is important that these needs are taken into account at the outset of the designing of the development and are made an integral part of it.
- 4 Wandsworth Council must increase the levels of recycling of household waste in the Borough. The Government has set a statutory performance standard for Wandsworth of recycling 16% of household waste by 2003/04 and 24% by 2005/06. Higher standards will be imposed in subsequent years. A Riverside Municipal Waste Management Strategy is being produced jointly by the Council with the Western Riverside Waste Authority (WRWA) and the other constituent Councils: the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham, the London Borough of Lambeth and the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea. The Government also requires businesses to recycle packaging waste. Suitable arrangements in developments specifically to encourage recycling by making it easier for occupants and for collection are strongly promoted, especially in larger and mixed developments.

recycling

- 5** For domestic premises, where the refuse is collected in ordinary dustbins or sacks, the Council provides a weekly collection service for recyclable glass, all types of paper, cardboard, cans and plastic bottles. New facilities are being constructed by WRWA which should enable the addition of other dry materials such as textiles. Collections are on the same day as the normal refuse collection. The Council provides special orange coloured sacks for this recycling service on demand (telephone 020 8871 7497/8558). At present, the Council collects a maximum of 3 sacks of garden waste per week per household at no charge along with other refuse. The Council intends to change this and collect garden waste separately for composting in the future.
- 6** The recycling collection service will not be provided where bulk bins are used to store refuse. Instead the Council will provide special 1,280 litre Eurobins as recycling banks for paper, cans and any colour of glass and empty them weekly or as required. New facilities are being constructed by WRWA which should enable the addition of other dry materials such as plastic bottles and textiles. All new residential developments employing bulk bins must provide space for at least one bank and larger developments must provide additional space. Where such recycling banks are provided, the minimum required number of bulk bins for refuse (as specified at paragraph 20 below) can be reduced by up to 25% of the total capacity of the recycling banks. For example, where 3 recycling banks are provided, the number of bulk bins required for refuse is unaffected but, where 4 recycling banks are provided, the number of bulk bins required for refuse is reduced by one.
- 7** In order to encourage and promote awareness of recycling in new developments it is good practice to provide signage in waste storage chambers discouraging the deposit of recyclables in the refuse containers, encouraging and directing use of the recycling banks provided. It is also good practice for any information packs provided to new residents to include full information on available recycling facilities along with encouragement to use them.
- 8** When designing kitchens and utility rooms, consideration should be given to the separate storage of recyclable and non-recyclable waste. At developments where a refuse portorage service is proposed, the service should also incorporate the portorage of recyclables to the recycling banks provided.
- 9** Where waste chutes are proposed, consideration should be given to how recyclables will reach the recycling banks (e.g. multiple chutes for refuse and recyclables or prominent recycling signage at all access points to a refuse chute).

location of waste facilities

- 10** It is not acceptable for any waste to be stored on the public highway, so specific, suitable and convenient storage space must be provided within all developments. Wherever practical it should be possible to collect waste direct from the storage area so that there is no requirement for it to be moved to a collection point, particularly to a collection point on the public highway.

design

- 11** In designing facilities, the principles in BS 5906:1980, or any successor standard, must be applied. This is the code of practice for storage and on-site treatment of solid waste from buildings. Applying the standard should ensure that the location and size of storage chambers is acceptable and that the containers and systems are suitable (see <http://www.bsi-global.com/index.xalter>).
- 12** Similar principles can be applied to household and commercial/industrial waste storage but particular consideration needs to be given in these cases to the likely types and volumes of refuse that will be generated; particularly from food and drink uses. In mixed developments, household waste must be segregated in separate storage areas from commercial/industrial wastes, and it is advantageous for each commercial/industrial unit to have its own specific area.
- 13** All premises must provide their own bulk bins, dustbins or sacks as appropriate. The Council does not collect from "wheelie-bins". Non-domestic producers of waste have a legal duty to make their own proper and environmentally sound arrangements for the storage, collection and disposal of their waste.
- 14** The inclusion of additional storage facilities in the design of new dwellings can assist in encouraging recycling by providing space for sorting and storage of recyclable materials ready for collection and disposal.

access

- 15** Access to domestic bulk bins, dustbins or sacks must be possible from 06.30 hours to 20.00 hours, Monday to Saturday, and any locks must be a standard 'Fire Brigade' pattern. If there is any electronic gate or barrier control then immediate access must be possible without the need for the refuse crew to know an entry code, carry a swipe-card or any key, other than one of a standard 'Fire Brigade' pattern. Consideration must be given to any existing or planned traffic control measures such as controlled parking zones, yellow lines, red routes, bus lanes, etc. and access planned so that they do not restrict the times when domestic collections can be made.
- 16** Bulk bin storage areas must be within 10 metres of a vehicle access and provide unhindered access to each individual bin. If bins are to be located in the open then this must be on level paved ground or similar hard surface, preferably with a fence or wall on at least three sides. Stores for domestic refuse should be easily reached from the building entrance used by each flat.
- 17** Any gates or pinch points on the vehicle route to the refuse storage area should give a minimum clear width of 3.5 metres and refuse vehicles should not be expected to reverse more than 50 metres to reach a loading position within 25 metres of the refuse storage area for individual dustbins/sacks or 10 metres for bulk bins. The ground between the storage location for bulk bins and the loading position must be smooth, hard surfaced, without any kerbs and either level or fall away to the vehicle at a gradient not steeper than 1:12. For any entrance way or road, a suitable cross-over must be constructed over any public footway. It is, of course, essential that the access route for the refuse vehicle is not blocked and hence there may be a need for yellow/white lines and other measures to control parking.
- 18** The domestic refuse collection vehicles in current use in Wandsworth have the following dimensions but other contractors may use larger vehicles.

Drive	6x2	Gross Vehicle Weight	24.5 tonnes
Overall width	2.2 metres	Turning circle between walls	19.0 metres
Overall length	8.6 metres	Turning circle between kerbs	18.0 metres
Overall height	3.4 metres		

external storage arrangements – domestic

- 19** For each individual house, a cupboard or dedicated storage space is needed capable of holding at least two ordinary dustbins for refuse whose size conforms to BS 792 or BS 4998 or, alternatively, space or holders for at least two refuse sacks, each of about 100 litre capacity. Additional space of at least 200 litres is also required for recycling sacks. These spaces must be at ground floor level, within 25 metres of a vehicle access, at the front without the need for the vehicle to reverse off the public highway. Ideally, the store should be within three metres of the entrance to the premises from the public highway or access road as the Council may require that refuse and recycle is placed near the access way to ease collection. For small blocks of low rise flats similar provision may be made for each flat or for a communal store for up to four flats when the store should be convenient to the building entrance. For some larger residential developments and mews type infills it may be appropriate to provide communal facilities, as set out below for blocks of flats.
- 20** For blocks with more than four flats a store must be provided for bulk bins, preferably 1,100 litre Eurobins (approximately 1.3 metres wide, 1.0 metres deep and 1.4 metres high plus the hinged top cover), at the level of one 1,100 litre Eurobin to each 5 or 6 premises, or where wider access is not possible, 660 litre Eurobins (0.72 metres deep), at the level of one 660 litre Eurobin to each 3 premises. In addition space must be provided for at least one 1,280 litre Eurobin for recycling (see paragraph 6 above). The use of compacting or in-sink waste disposal units will not reduce the amount of space required for waste storage, as there must be sufficient capacity for waste even when mechanical aids fail to function. Bulk bins must be capable of being lifted by a 'comb' lift and be constructed to the European EN840 standard (see <http://www.bsi-global.com/index.xalter>). Suitable bins can be hired from the Council (telephone 020 8871 8558/6382). Very large developments may warrant other arrangements specific to the circumstances. If bins are to be located in a shed or cupboard then adequate ventilation must be provided together with electric lighting controlled by a local switch. In addition space should be provided for residents to place furniture, white or brown goods, etc. requiring a special collection. All bin areas need to be washed down at intervals and a local hose point should be provided with suitable drainage.

who to contact

For further information and advice on refuse, recycling and collection facilities, contact

Waste Management Section

Wandsworth Council,
Town Hall (Room 57A)
Wandsworth High Street
London SW18 2PU
Telephone: 020 8871 8558
Fax: 020 8871 6383
Email: refuse@wandsworth.gov.uk

For further information and advice on planning contact

Borough Planner's Service

Wandsworth Council
Town Hall
Wandsworth High Street
London SW18 2PU
Telephone: 020 8871 6637
Fax: 020 8871 6003
Email: boroughplanner@wandsworth.gov.uk

For information on British Standards:

British Standards Institution Business Information HQ

389 Chiswick High Road
London W4 4AL
Telephone: 020 8996 9000
Email: cservices@bsi-global.com
Website for detail of British Standards: <http://www.bsi-global.com/index.xalter>

For guidance on provision of internal recycling facilities see the Building Research Establishment Ecohomes initiative:

http://products.bre.co.uk/breem/pdf/EcoHomes2003Guidancev1_1.pdf

**appendix: Corporate Resources Overview
and Scrutiny Committee,
26 November 2003
Executive 1 December 2003
Report on public consultation on
supplementary planning guidance
Paper no. 03-954**

summary

This report sets out supplementary guidance on storage and collection of refuse and recyclables in developments. It describes the consultation carried out on the draft of the guidance. It proposes various changes as a result of this and recommends approval of the amended guidance as supplementary planning guidance to the Unitary Development Plan.

recommendations

- 1** The Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee are recommended to support the recommendations in paragraph 3.
- 2** If the Overview and Scrutiny Committee approve any views, comments or recommendations on this report, these will be reported to the Executive for their consideration.
- 3** The Executive are recommended to approve the guidance appended to this report as supplementary planning guidance to the Unitary Development Plan.

background

- 4** Policy in the Council's adopted UDP states that development will not be permitted unless it makes adequate and satisfactory provision for the storage and collection of waste (RDP1). New development provides the opportunity to ensure that appropriate refuse collection arrangements are included as well as making provision to encourage improved levels of recycling, particularly of household waste. This must be increased to meet the statutory Performance Standards set under Best Value legislation, and in accordance with the Riverside Municipal Waste Management Strategy, which is being produced jointly with the Western Riverside Waste Authority and its other constituent Councils.

appendix

- 5 The best way to address these issues is to take them into account at the outset as an integral part of the design of a development, although in practice the arrangements for the storage and collection of waste are often left to a later stage, with details submitted under conditions following approval of a development. In order to address these issues, supplementary planning guidance has been drawn up in conjunction with the Head of Waste Management, and public consultation on this has been carried out.

consultation

- 6 The draft guidance was sent to over 30 private and public sector housebuilders active in the Borough, amenity groups and organisations, and all the libraries in the Borough, and was posted on the Council's web site. The consultation was publicised on the Council's web site, through BrightSide and by a press release.

response to consultation

- 7 **Wandsworth Environmental Forum:** welcomed the production of the guidance and that it will apply to both commercial and other developments as well as residential but consider that it should also apply explicitly to refurbishments and not just to new developments. Would like the guidance to endorse "zero-waste" initiatives as a headline or general principle to encourage developers to proceed along these lines. There is insufficient emphasis on recycling as opposed to refuse. Regret that there is no mention of waste and recycling during construction. Segregated skips, "free or discount access" to Civic Amenity sites for fully segregated loads of recycling could be encouraged by a clear statement of principle. The guidance should specify requirements for storage that would apply to individual properties based on the Building Research Establishment Ecohomes initiative.

appendix

- 8** The guidance should better integrate waste and recycling issues including the provision for storage. The proportion of storage for recyclables should be increased. The section on design does not provide sufficient help to a developer. Should promote the concept that recycling storage can be integrated with waste storage which it can replace as demand for recycling increases. A less prescriptive approach should be taken to the reference to external storage space and storage containers should be clearly labelled. There should be a reference to composting schemes. The recycling section should be written to enable the inclusion of additional streams, e.g. plastics, into the recycling collection. It should be emphasised that this is for street collection and that external storage is to be convenient to the street collection point. Agree that signage is important in and around storage chambers and containers, at/near exits and suitably located in households. The provision of literature to educate and inform new residents and estate management companies is also an important part of enabling recycling. As much emphasis as possible should be given to encourage developers to get the design right and submit acceptable initial plans.
- 9** **The Putney Society:** welcomed the production of this new guidance and expressed support for the Council's efforts to achieve the efficient handling of waste and especially a high level of recycling of waste materials. Want the guidance to be made as clear and as strong as possible with developers made aware of their responsibilities. Planning permission should not be granted unless the Council's expectations are met. Specific points made were that the guidance should clearly state that it applies to all developments; the reference to not collecting from "wheelie-bins" should be clarified; and "must" rather than "should" be used in the reference to providing space for recyclable materials.
- 10** **The Wandsworth Green Party:** considered the guidance to be a good start but would like it to be more stringent about the required facilities for the storage of waste and recyclables. The guidance should emphasise the message about the importance of recycling as much as possible and prioritise recycling and waste reduction within the guidance. Various amendments are suggested to emphasise this. Also need to make clear that guidance applies to all development regardless of size and state that catchy well-designed signage is important in raising the profile of recycling.
- 11** Both the Putney Society and the Wandsworth Green Party endorse the comments of Wandsworth Environmental Forum.

appendix

comment

- 12** The comments strongly support the guidance and seek a greater emphasis on recycling with many detailed suggestions as to how this could be achieved. In response to these comments the draft guidance has been amended. A greater emphasis on recycling has been made by more explicit reference in the first paragraph and by relocating the section dealing with recycling to the first page of the guidance. A glossary has been added to the beginning of the guidance explaining what is meant by recyclables, refuse and waste. The guidance now clearly states that it applies to all developments and other proposals where practicable, and has also been amended to state that storage space for recyclables must be provided. The reference to “wheelie-bins” has been clarified.
- 13** References have not been included in the guidance to zero waste initiatives, waste and recycling management during construction, the provision of skips and other services as sought by consultees, as the prime purpose of the guidance is to focus on those aspects of the provision for recycling and waste directly connected with and controlled through the planning process. In the same way details about the Council’s waste management arrangements are not matters to be determined by this planning guidance. The purpose of the guidance in dealing with these matters is to reflect the Council’s existing approach. However, the guidance has been amended to indicate that provision for refuse can be reduced if higher levels of storage for recyclables are provided.
- 14** The Council has adopted an opt-in approach to recycling following piloting in Southfields and other parts of the Borough and includes plastics in its recycling collection. The guidance lists the recyclable materials that it applies to and this makes clear that at this stage it relates to dry recyclables and does not currently include composting schemes. The guidance has however been amended to explain the arrangements for the collection of garden waste. The comments about publicity and education have been passed on to the Council’s Waste Management Services. Reference to the Building Research Establishment’s Ecohomes initiative has been added as suggested.
- 15** The amended guidance is appended to this report.

conclusion

- 16** The draft guidance has been welcomed and supported by the consultees who have responded. They have made many helpful comments and the guidance has been amended in the light of these, in particular to stress the importance of recycling. A checklist for developers has also been produced, based on the guidance, in order to promote its effective implementation, and this will be made available with the planning guidance. The operation of the guidance will be monitored and reviewed in due course after sufficient time has elapsed to assess its effectiveness in practice. In addition the guidance will be kept up-to-date to reflect any changes in the Council's arrangements for the collection of refuse and recycling.

I. Thompson

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The Town Hall
Wandsworth
SW18 2PU

18 November 2003

Background Papers

The following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:-

1. The Wandsworth UDP, adopted August 2003
2. Report to the Environment and Public Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee 7th January 2003 on the provision and policies for recycling (Paper No. 03-54)
3. Report to the Environment and Public Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee 11th February 2003 on the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (Paper No. 03-173)

If you wish to inspect any of these documents, please contact initially the Committee Secretary on 020 8871 6005.

English

If you have problems understanding this in English please contact

Wandsworth Interpreting Service
Bedford House
215 Balham High street
SW17 7BQ
Tel: (020) 8672 1043/3649

Bengali

এই লিফলেটটি বুঝতে অসুবিধা হলে দয়া করে যোগাযোগ করুন:

ওয়ান্ডসওয়ার্থ ইন্টারপ্রিটিং সার্ভিস
Bedford House
215 Balham High Road
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Hindi

यदि आपको इसे अंग्रेज़ी में समझने में कठिनाई होती है, तो कृपया सम्पर्क करें:

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Punjabi

ਜੇਕਰ ਇਸ ਨੂੰ ਅੰਗਰੇਜ਼ੀ ਵਿਚ ਸਮਝਣਾ ਤੁਹਾਡੇ ਲਈ ਮੁਸ਼ਕਿਲ ਹੈ, ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ:

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Gujarati

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Urdu

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