

Surrey Heath Borough Council

Executive

19 September 2023

Litter Bin Replacement Programme

Portfolio Holder:	Cllr Morgan Rise Cllr John Skipper
Strategic Director/Head of Service	Nick Steevens
Report Author:	Aghogho Ateh – Operations Manager Sue McCubbin – Recreation and Leisure Services Manager
Key Decision:	yes/no
Date Portfolio Holder signed off the report	1 September 2023
Wards Affected:	All wards

Summary and purpose

Following being set the challenge to Improve the response to littering within the short term plan a project has been initiated to review the locations of litter bins to ensure that they are in the right locations, and review areas of persistent littering to find better ways to bring this under control.

A full review of on streets and parks litter bins has now been completed. The Council's Joint Waste Solutions (JWS) team and the Council's Greenspaces Team have identified requirements for a programme of upgrades and replacements of bin infrastructure in the borough. We are therefore jointly applying for funding to enable us to undertake this project to enhance and improve the Council's response to littering.

Recommendation

The Executive is advised to RESOLVE that:

- (i) £156,920 is the subject of a capital bid to be included in the 2024/25 capital programme; and
- (ii) any changes to the delivery programme be delegated to the Strategic Director for Environment and Community and Portfolio Holder for Net Zero, Well-being & Environment and Portfolio Holder for Leisure & Culture in consultation with the ward councillors.

1. Background and Supporting Information

- 1.1 Attached are two papers that outline the current position in relation to bins in Surrey Heath. One for the on street bins and one for greenspace bins. These reports identify opportunities that we have in replacing bins in the borough as style and age of the bins cause further littering and present capacity issues. Changes to legislation also negates the need for separation of dog waste which reduces the number of bins required and collection costs.
- 1.2 There is the opportunity to introduce recycling opportunities for bins within the town centre and village centres which will increase the borough's aspirations to increase its recycling rates.

2. Reasons for Recommendation

- 2.1 There are 3 key issues that this project aims to address:
 - 2.1.1 With changing legislation Dog waste is not an isolate waste stream and this waste can be placed in any bin. We would like to replace these smaller capacity bins with larger bins and remove duplication where there are both bins. This increases the capacity of refuse that the bin can hold.
 - 2.1.2 A number of the current litter bins have reached the end of their useable life and are no longer fit for purpose. These bins also have a limited capacity and are open topped – meaning that litter can be scattered by the wind or as a result of foraging by animals.
 - 2.1.3 There is currently a lack of facilities for recycling litter in our town and villages. Increasing recycling rates by ensuring that residents and members of the public can recycle their litter when out and about.
- 2.2 This project delivers on the targets within the short term plan to improve the response to littering. The bin capacity increases in replacing dog bins more than doubles the rubbish capacity within the bin.

3. Proposal and Alternative Options

- 3.1 We propose to undertake the work jointly and in one round of procurement so that we not only obtain the most desirable purchase price but also the installation costs for the bins and the removal charge for the duplications will be competitively priced.
- 3.2 Introducing recycling bins as the replacement bins for the dog waste bins in all parks was considered however, the likelihood of contamination of recycling waste is far greater, which would detrimentally impact on recycling rates. The cost of the recycling bins (£900) is over double that of single stream bins (£410) so would increase the overall cost of this project by £90k to replace the 183 bins. In premier park locations it may be that pre-investment into dual stream bins could be considered. The cost to replace the dog waste bins with

dual waste bins in premier parks would add £4,916 (including installation) to the costs of the project which would then see 8 dual waste being installed. The additional costs for emptying these could be absorbed within existing budgets.

- 3.3 The Parish Council's will be made aware of the bin replacement project and offered the opportunity to review their bin provision and potentially benefit from our pricing if they wish to undertake their own project.

4. Contribution to the Council's Five Year Strategy

- 4.1 The project focuses on two of Surrey Heath's key priorities:

Environment – by enhancing and improving access to the borough's cherished green spaces and natural environments for the enjoyment of generations to come

Economy – by investing in infrastructure which is not only suitable and sustainable but also promotes the unique identity of each local area in the borough

5. Resource Implications

- 5.1 On street

- 62 Glasdon Plaza bins Highway - £25,420
- 36 Dual recycling bins - £36,300
- Installation - £ 7,700
- Contingency (10%) - £6,940

Total cost = 76,360

- 5.2 Greenspaces

- 121 Glasdon Plaza bins - £49,610
- 8 Dual recycling bins - £7,200
- Installation - £12,900
- Removal of 47 duplicate bins - £ 4,700
- Contingency (10%) - £6,150

Total cost = £80,560

- 5.3 The bins replacement project has been confirmed as a project that can be funded from the 2024/25 allocation of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF). If approval from Executive is agreed, we will submit a change request to Government and the Surrey Heath Partnership to proceed. Should Government / Surrey Heath Partnership approval not be agreed, it is recommended that the Council approves the use of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding to ensure the project continues.

5.4 There would be a reduction in bin collection costs with the reduction in the overall number of bins. The cost to empty a dog waste bin is also higher than emptying a regular waste bin. These changes would equate to £8k per annum reduction in collection costs.

6. Section 151 Officer Comments:

6.1 The costs are outlined in the report and should be the subject of a capital budget bid in the 2024/25 annual budget round.

6.2 It is anticipated that funding for this will be from the UKSPF or alternatively from the Council's Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) balances

7. Legal and Governance Issues

7.1 The Council would need to ensure that any need to vary the waste and street cleansing contract is undertaken with care. Any variation would need to ensure price certainty for the duration of the contract and no deterioration in performance of the services.

8. Monitoring Officer Comments

8.1 No matters arising.

Annexes

- 1) Joint Waste Solutions background paper
- 2) Greenspace background paper