



Equality Impact Assessment

Full assessment form v5 / 2013

www.portsmouth.gov.uk

Directorate:

Director of Housing, Neighbourhoods and Building Services

**Function e.g. HR,
IS, carers:**

Waste Management

Title of policy, service, function, project or strategy (new or old):

Waste Management Policy

Type of policy, service, function, project or strategy:

New / proposed

Changed

Existing

Lead officer

Colette Hill - Assistant Director for Neighbourhoods

People involved with completing the EIA:

Vince Venus - Service Manager - Waste Management
Tony Galea - Waste Disposal Officer

Introductory information (Optional)

As a unitary authority, Portsmouth City Council (PCC) is responsible for both the waste collection and the waste disposal services. Waste management services are provided to every domestic household in the city and this is a statutory function.

Step 1 - Make sure you have clear aims and objectives

What is the aim of your policy, service, function, project or strategy?

The policy is designed to support the existing fortnightly recycling collection and weekly refuse collection frequency, and to layout an agreed policy detailing procedures that are clearly defined to ensure that residents, members, and officers are clear about their responsibilities.

Under the terms of the Environmental Protection Act, 1990, Portsmouth City Council is classed as a Waste Collection and Disposal Authority, and as such, under section 45 (1), has a statutory duty to collect household waste from all domestic properties in the county. Under Section 46(4) of the Act, the Council has specific powers to stipulate:

- The size and type of the collection receptacle(s);
- Where the receptacle(s) must be placed for the purpose of collecting and emptying;
- The materials or items which may or may not be placed within the receptacle(s).

Who is the policy, service, function, project or strategy going to benefit or have a detrimental effect on and how?

The policy will have an impact on every domestic household in Portsmouth.

WHEELIE BIN AREAS - this should benefit residents with regard to street cleanliness and also mean that PCC provides a bin for those residents. Residents can still put out their rubbish weekly, but the restriction on capacity means that they will need to understand which bin to put items in - refuse or recycling

UP TO 3 X STANDARD BIN BAG AREAS - Residents can still put out their rubbish weekly, but the restriction on capacity means that they will need to understand which bin to put items in - refuse or recycling

The aim is to reduce waste and increase recycling which will have improve the sustainability of the service - both environmentally and financially.

Properties on a communal collection (except some HMOs) are not affected by this change although a review of capacity in these blocks is proposed.

What outcomes do you want to achieve?

Reduction in waste
Improved recycling participation and capture rates
Cleaner streets - less litter from split bags
More sustainable service

What barriers are there to achieving these outcomes?

Compliance with the scheme - residents need to understand their responsibilities
Increased contamination of recycling bins
Physical barriers - no storage space for bins
Language barrier

Step 2 - Collecting your information

What existing information / data do you have? (Local or national data) If you don't have any data contact the Equalities and diversity team for some ideas

Results of previous waste management service customer satisfaction surveys, the most recent being in 2014.

Using your existing data, what does it tell you?

There is a high satisfaction with waste and recycling collection services provided in the city, with an average rating of 8.93 and 8.41 (out of 10) respectively.

Proximity of additional recycling points had an average rating of 7.78 however a third of residents would like to see a wider range of recycling collected at the kerbside and separate collections of food waste.

10.8% of respondents identified as having a disability under the Equality Act 2010, with 5.4% identifying as having mobility issues.

93% of respondents identified their ethnic group to be white, 1% Black or Black British, 4% Asian or Asian British, 1% mixed and 1% other.

Step 3 - Now you need to consult!

Who have you consulted with?

We conducted 6 wheeled bin and 2 non wheeled bin trials. We door knocked each trial area and held some drop in sessions during the first sets of trials. We have also surveyed residents from the trial area. (approx. 10% of households)

If you haven't consulted yet please list who you are going to consult with

Please give examples of how you have or are going to consult with specific groups or communities e.g. meetings, surveys

Further consultations will be carried out by a variety of methods, including paper and online surveys, targeting statistically significant samples across representative cross sections of the population.

Step 4 - What's the impact?

Is there an impact on some groups in the community? (think about race, gender, disability, age, transgender, religion or belief, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity and other socially excluded communities or groups)

Generic information that covers all equality strands (Optional)

Comprehension of the scheme - understanding what to do with different types of rubbish - product labelling can be confusing so we need to use pictorial promotional material and maintain face to face engagement with residents who are struggling to understand what they need to do.

Ethnicity or race

Language barriers

Gender including transgender

n/a

Age

Potentially - moving a wheelie bin to the boundary

Disability

Physical movement of the wheelie bin to the boundary
Issues around obstruction - mobility/sight

Religion or belief

n/a

Sexual orientation

n/a

Pregnancy and maternity

Physical movement of a wheeled bin

Other socially excluded groups or communities e.g. carers, areas of deprivation, low literacy skills

Literacy - groups with low literacy skills might not understand the literature that accompanies the scheme

Health Impact

Have you referred to the Joint Needs Assessment (www.jsna.portsmouth.gov.uk) to identify any associated health and well-being needs?

Yes No

What are the health impacts, positive and / or negative? For example, is there a positive impact on enabling healthier lifestyles or promoting positive mental health? Could it prevent spread of infection or disease? Will it reduce any inequalities in health and well-being experienced by some localities, groups, ages etc? On the other hand, could it restrict opportunities for health and well-being?

The positive benefits are not necessarily health related, but may provide a cleaner environment which could contribute to a positive feeling about where a person lives.

Health inequalities are strongly associated with deprivation and income inequalities in the city. Have you referred to Portsmouth's Tackling Poverty Needs Assessment and strategy (available on the JSNA website above), which identifies those groups or geographical areas that are vulnerable to poverty? Does this have a disproportionately negative impact, on any of these groups and if so how? Are there any positive impacts?, if so what are they?

There is a potential benefit to this as it may force residents to think more about what they throw away. This may include food waste for example - and lead to meal planning which may benefit them - financially and perhaps from a health point of view

Step 5 - What are the differences?

Are any groups affected in a different way to others as a result of your policy, service, function, project or strategy?

All groups are affected in the same way.

Does your policy, service, function, project or strategy either directly or indirectly discriminate?

Yes No

If you are either directly or indirectly discriminating, how are you going to change this or mitigate the negative impact?

Elderly/Infirm/Disabled - the council operates an assisted collection scheme already so this would continue. Collection arrangements are agreed with the individual and can be exceptions to the 'on your front boundary' rule.

Obstruction issues - for those with mobility issues...wheelie bins may obstruct the highway although crews will be instructed to return them to the boundary of the property. Bags already present an obstruction and the foot print of the bin should take up less space than the equivalent amount of bags.

Pregnancy - the wheeled bin is 140l and does not require any heavy lifting or bending. It should be easier to wheel the bin than lift bags.

Language barrier/literacy - much of the literature is pictorial to overcome this issue - with symbols/pictures illustrating what a resident needs to do. Literature can be made available in other languages.

Step 6 - Make a recommendation based on steps 2 - 5

If you are in a position to make a recommendation to change or introduce the policy, service, project or strategy clearly show how it was decided on

The trials proved that by restricting waste, residents produced less waste at the kerbside and recycling tonnages improved. Overall this equates to an improved recycling rate, and a reduction in costs which means that unnecessary spending on waste disposal is avoided.

Residents in the trial preferred having a wheeled bin for refuse and street cleanliness improved.

What changes or benefits have been highlighted as a result of your consultation?

Reduction in waste and cost
Improvement in recycling capture rates
Cleaner streets (wheeled bin trial areas)

If you are not in a position to go ahead what actions are you going to take?

(Please complete the fields below)

Action	Timescale	Responsible officer

How are you going to review the policy, service, project or strategy, how often and who will be responsible?

The policy will be reviewed annually and as legislative or waste strategy requires a review.

Step 7 - Now just publish your results

This EIA has been approved by:

Contact number:

Date:

Please email a copy of your completed EIA to the Equality and diversity team. We will contact you with any comments or queries about your full EIA.

Telephone: 023 9283 4789

Email: equalities@portsmouthcc.gov.uk