

# **St Albans City and District Council Waste and Recycling;**

## **Storage and Collection Guidance**

### **New Developments and Conversions**

Updated January 2026.

*This guide is for architects and other people involved in designing developments in St Albans and surrounding villages to ensure that they enable waste and recycling to be stored and collected safely.*

All premises must have adequate provision to store waste and recycling. The guidance is written to be read in conjunction with the Building Regulations (Part H6: Solid Waste Storage – The Requirements) and does not in any way exempt the developer from the requirements specified in the Building Regulations.

All residential developments are entitled to waste and recycling collections provided they meet the requirements as set out in this guide.

When a new development, extension or change of use is submitted for approval the scheme will be assessed to ensure that adequate storage facilities are provided. This requirement should therefore be considered at the earliest stages of the design process and details included on drawings submitted to the Council when applying for planning permission.

## **Houses etc**

### **Standard Waste Collection**

St Albans City & District Council operates a 'Twin Bin' system. Properties will have a suite of bins comprising of;

- 1 x 180 litre bin (brown), for residual waste
- 1 x 240 litre wheeled bin, (black) for cans plastic and glass
- 1x 55lt box for paper and cardboard (minimum)
- 1x 23lt food waste caddy.

Garden waste is an opt- in subscription service and collected in 240lt wheeled bins.

The charge for a suite of bins excluding garden waste is £130.00

The residual waste bin is emptied on one week and dry recycling (and garden waste) on the alternate week.

Food waste is collected weekly.

All containers are collected from the boundary with the public highway. Bins must be stored within the property boundary between collections.



There should be easy access for crews to empty containers from edge of properties adjacent to public highway and not blocked by parked cars.

Roads must be constructed **to an appropriate standard in terms of loading (to withstand the weight of the refuse vehicles e.g. up to 26 tonnes Gross Vehicle Weight. and various recycling collection vehicles)** and layout (turning circles etc).

Generally, the collection vehicles have a turning circle of between 18.3 and 22.3 metres and their size is approx. 8.4 metres in length and 2.5 metres width.

## **Flats bins & collections**

### Refuse

St. Alban's City & District Council collect 90lt of refuse per property per week and still collect refuse weekly from flats. Food waste is also collected weekly and

### Recycling.

Dry recycling is collected every fortnight.

St Albans City & District Council collect recycling in two waste streams;

- Paper & Cardboard
- Cans, Glass & Plastic

### Food waste

Each property is provided with a kitchen caddy and the contents can then be decanted into the communal, 240lt food waste bin. There should be 1x 240lt bin for every 10 flats.

There is no garden waste collection scheme for flats. Grounds are generally maintained by a contractor on behalf of the Management Company/ landlord and therefore, any waste is considered commercial.

Blocks of up to 10 flats will require;

- 1x 180 lt bin for every 2 flats
- 1 set of 360lt bins for dry recycling for every 3 flats
- 1x 240lt bin for food waste for up to 10 flats.

Blocks of 11 + flats will require;

- 1 1100lt bin for refuse (**provided by the developer**).
- 1 set of 360lt bins for dry recycling for every 3 flats
- 1x 240lt bin for food waste for up to 10 flats.

**Please note, we do not collect recycling in containers larger than 360 litres.**

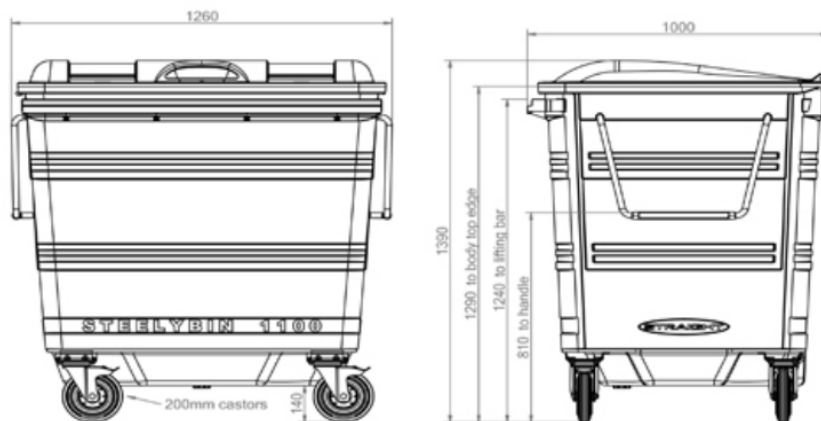
1100lt refuse bins should have a metal body and a flat, plastic lid.

<https://wheeliebinsolutions.co.uk/collections/1100-litre-wheelie-bins>

<https://wheeliebinwarehouse.com/metal-bins/>

<https://britishbins.co.uk/category/metal-wheelie-bins>

Other suppliers can be found on-line by searching for 1100lt bin UK



Bin sizes and dimensions

Lt	H	W	D
180	1070	483	715
240	1063	575	713
360	1098	596	878
660	1222	1371	778

St Albans Dity & District Council supply recycling bins.

240 litre bin    £45

360 litre bin    £60

Kitchen caddy £10

### Flats bin store design and trundle distance

Crews collect from the bin store but the trundle distance must not exceed 10 metres from the bin store to the collection vehicle.

Bin stores should be brick built with a roof, ventilation and lighting. The door should be fitted with a key-pad access system or similar locking device.

Internally, the structure should be free from obstructions such as taps, pipes, meters etc.

The bin store should be large enough for the necessary number of containers as outlined above. There should be a 300mm clear space between and around containers. Each bin must be accessible to residents and easily manoeuvrable by the crew.

The door width should be a min 2m and there must be no lip or kerb or step.

The doors should not open onto a parking space

The path from bin store and the nearest point of access for the collection vehicle should be clear & flat without steps or other obstacles.

Installation of a dropped kerb may be necessary to allow safe manoeuvre of bins.

If relevant, "Keep Clear" should be marked in front of bin stores and at the designated vehicle access/loading point to ensure accessibility for collections. Should bins be inaccessible for any reason, they will not be emptied by our contractor and the managing agent/ landlord would be expected to make independent arrangements.

Should there be a gradient between the bin store and the collection point, it must not exceed 1:14.

**Please note** that any bin store or area designated for storage of refuse and recyclables needs to have some additional space built in to accommodate future waste requirements.

*Should a new bin area be built beyond the 10 metre trundle distance, it will become the responsibility of the managing agent or residents to bring the containers within 10 meters on collection day.*

It is the responsibility of the residents, landlord or managing agent to maintain the bins and bin store(s) and keep them in a clean and tidy state. Signage showing residents how to separate their waste and dispose of their waste correctly should be clearly displayed.

### **Additional information.**

It is recognised that on some developments, the roads may remain private i.e. un-adopted.

They may also be constructed in high quality finishes such as block paving.

**Nevertheless they will must be constructed to an appropriate standard in terms of loading (to withstand the weight of the refuse vehicles e.g. up to 26 tonnes Gross Vehicle Weight. and various recycling collection vehicles)**

Generally, the Refuse Collection vehicles have a turning circle of between 18.3 and 22.3 metres and their size is approx 8.4 metres in length and 2.5 metres width.

All enclosures and storage areas should be located within the boundary of the development and be easily accessible to residents and for collections.

### **Layout of large estate- inc bin collection points;**

Consideration must be taken regarding how collection vehicles will traverse the site; Reversing and three point turns should be kept to an absolute minimum.

Doubling back along roads should be avoided.

The maximum trundle distance to the vehicle is 10 metres: if this cannot be achieved, bin collection points at 10 metres should be created.

There should be adequate parking to avoid other vehicles parking on the road/ in undesignated areas which will narrow the road and could prevent waste and recycling vehicles navigating the site.

St Albans City & District Council expect the developer to contact us when a development is nearing completion so that we can alert our waste contractors as to when collections should start and arrange to have the bins delivered.

For developments with several bin stores, each should be clearly labelled to show which flats it serves.

For large developments please include all details of how the bins will be managed in a Site Management Plan.

### **Collection access**

- Waste collection will not commence until road surfaces are complete to base layer and access is unhindered by ongoing construction work.
- Roads and parking areas should be laid out to ensure unblocked access for the collection vehicles and crew.
- Collection vehicles must not need to reverse into or from the highway for collection.
- Sufficient turning circles on site if manoeuvring onsite is required (requires vehicle tracking on site plans).
- Pathways adjacent to bin stores of sufficient width to fully accommodate and manoeuvre the bins.
- Bins should be on ground level for collection.
- Our waste contractor is unable to operate timed collections.

**Slopes should be avoided, please consider this in respect to bin storage in underground car parks.**

### **Alternative Waste Management Options**

Generation of waste from new large scale developments will have an impact on local environment and will place additional burden on collection, treatment and disposal infrastructure in St Albans District and Hertfordshire.

St Albans City & District Council expect to see a detailed plan/strategy all new large scale sites explaining how household and commercial waste will be managed across the whole development.

For larger developments and particularly those comprising buildings of several storeys St Albans City & District Council strongly recommend that alternative waste technologies are investigated. i.e subterranean.

The use of such technologies can significantly reduce the space required for traditional methods of on-site storage, which for large numbers of properties could impact on land set aside for car parking and commercial units.

New technologies can help to minimise noise, disruption and can help new developments achieve a higher environmental standard.

There are a number of existing and proposed technology options for managing and treating waste on site.

Developers are encouraged to ensure that all appropriate options have been investigated and should consider the potential of trial projects as a means of attracting external funding to assist with initial capital costs.

### **Sorting of waste prior to collections (Storage in the property)**

To encourage occupants to recycle, space utilised inside the property for storage of segregated waste and recycling could be in the form of inbuilt storage within the kitchen or utility room. This will allow the temporary storage of waste and recycling until it can be transferred to external containers.

Currently, St Albans City & District Council do not offer a commercial waste collection service.

For enquiries regarding the above, please contact Waste Management Services either by phoning 01727 819428 or e-mail [wastemanagementservices@stalbans.gov.uk](mailto:wastemanagementservices@stalbans.gov.uk)