

35718 Communal Bin Review

Q1 and Q2 are only concerning injury related accidents (not damage to property or vehicles). I would ask that the data include both the public and council employees, taking care to ensure that this data is separated as such to make it clear which is which. This relates to ALL reported accidents; not just accidents subject to insurance claims.

Have any accidents ever taken place or were reported on Gosford Place involving bins?

Please confirm and provide details.

No.

Would it be possible to quickly access how many accidents involving bins have taken place across Edinburgh over the last year?

(The council must operate some sort of safety metrics and KPIs involving bin safety. Could this information/reporting be passed on to save the need for any data gathering?)

There were no such reports in 2021. The records we hold for 2021 which contain the words, 'injury' or 'accident' are all in relation to the potential for injury due to bins having been moved, rather than an actual injury or accident.

To use your own rationale, you are choosing to place food waste bins closer to residents' home. The smell and sanitation problems of food waste bins are well known and publicised. Smell, bacteria, waste - by moving this closer to homes you increase the risk to health to children and to the elderly.

Please provide specific data and published study content which proves that moving food waste bins closer to front doors has no negative health implications (either short or long term).

There is no such specific data held.

You're saying that if someone is conscientious enough to recycle, that they will take their recycling outside and reach the edge of the pavement and as soon as they see the extra 2-3m of distance...they just give up?! If that is what you wish to site as a legal basis, then please provide specific data and studies which show that this placement actively discourages recycling in this manner. Please ensure this includes at least two published studies with publicly accessible data.

Wherever possible, residents are asked to walk no more than 50m to reach their nearest bin. This is based on the Blue Badge guidance rather than on whether someone will recycle or not. No specific data or studies are held which show that this placement actively discourages recycling.

Please advise what information regarding complaints can be easily compiled/accessed by the complaints team concerning the bin hub project, i.e. if it's quick to advise how many people complained online about the bin hub project, then just go with that basic information etc.

The table below provides the number of Waste Services Communal Bin Place Review Complaints from 2015 to 2022 by contact method:

Contact Method	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Grand Total

E-mail	2	47	42	11	6	14	6	3	131
Phone	7	50	18	18	9	1	7	1	111
Twitter		4	5	7	7	8	4		35
Web	5	10		4	3	2		1	24
Facebook			4	1					5
In Person		1	1						2
Internal Memo					1				1
Grand Total	14	112	69	41	26	25	17	5	308

Please note that one complaint may have been made through more than one contact method.

As a separate point, I am not convinced by the plans of reducing the facilities for recycling and location has been planned properly, nor the claims that emptying all these bins will take place every 48 hours to make up for the reduced facilities. I don't feel this has been researched or planned properly in line with the reality of facilities required by the residents of this street. I wish to explore this further with you, and request data/plans that went into this plan of action for Gosford Place to understand how well this has been thought out.

I have been informed that safety data was used in formation of policy for the bin hub project. Can the data that was used not simply be forwarded on (as this should have already been collated)? This would eliminate the need for any work to be done. I would ask that you please confirm as part of the below, that if the bin hub project team/management cannot provide this information to you because this safety data wasn't compiled, that you confirm that this is the case.

The facilities for recycling will not be reduced by the project. The project increases the bin capacity for all recycling streams. Details of the objectives, benefits, parameters (including safety) of the project are all publicly available in previous reports taken to the Transport and Environment Committee and can be found on our website at:

- [Enhancing Communal Bin Collections - Update following trial to implement every other day collections](#) - Transport and Environment Committee of 9 August 2018

([https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/Data/Transport and Environment Committee/20180809/Agenda/item_711_-_enhancing_communal_bin_collections_-_update_following_trial_to_implement_every_other_day_collec.pdf](https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/Data/Transport%20and%20Environment%20Committee/20180809/Agenda/item_711_-_enhancing_communal_bin_collections_-_update_following_trial_to_implement_every_other_day_collec.pdf))
- [Communal Bin Enhancement Update](#) - Transport and Environment Committee of 20 June 2019
([https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/Data/Transport and Environment Committee/20190620/Agenda/item_711_-_communal_bin_enhancement_update.pdf](https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/Data/Transport%20and%20Environment%20Committee/20190620/Agenda/item_711_-_communal_bin_enhancement_update.pdf))
- [Communal Bin Enhancement Update](#) - Transport and Environment Committee of 5 December 2019

(<https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/documents/s11595/7.6 - Communal Bin Enhancement Update TE Dec 2019 EM Final.pdf>)

- [Communal Bin Enhancement Update](#) - Transport and Environment Committee of 27 February 2020

(<https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/documents/s14507/Item 7.5 - Communal Bin Enhancement.pdf>)

- [Communal Bin Enhancement Update](#) – Business Bulletin Transport and Environment Committee of 20 November 2020

(https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/documents/s28757/6.1 - Business Bulletin 12 November_Final.pdf)

Previous accident data has not been used to plan the project. However, safety plays a significant part of the project and a key objective is making the service more accessible to everyone. Ensuring certain safety criteria are complied with ensures we are mitigating further any risks.