

RISK ASSESSMENT RC_001

Department	Place -Waste	Unit/Section	Waste and Recycling Collection
Date of assessment	18 th February 2026	Assessor(s)	Mark Stanton/W Birse/I Urquhart/R O'Neill
What is the activity?	Emptying wheeled bins (Various Sizes)	Where is the activity carried out?	Edinburgh – Various areas

What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	What are you already doing?	What further action is necessary?	Action by whom?	Action by when?	Done
Manoeuvring bins to and from household/kerbside to waste collection vehicle	Possible injuries to members of the public and operatives Possible manual handling injuries to operatives. Possible road traffic accidents. Possible risk of collision between operatives and cyclists due to increased number of cycle lanes. Possible musculoskeletal Injuries due to heavy bins.	Comprehensive Induction and training in Manual Handling. Access to all Waste and Cleansing Safe Working Procedures and Risk Assessments are available through the Employee guidance and information handbook. Employees are required to follow Safe Working Procedures and ensure awareness of risks. Suitable PPE to be worn at all times. Operative must assess each situation independently. For Communal bin collections seek assistance from colleague. Following employee Induction and Manual Handling training, on-the-job training with experienced crew members is provided. Further training is provided on updated or modified collection systems.	Continuous reviewing of collection methods following any incidents or near misses. Rollout training of any new equipment Further training on bin returns to collection points. This training is to highlight issues being experienced by pedestrians. Manual Handling Training Reversing Assistant Training Awareness on increased cycle lane adoption and usage. Replenish vehicle First Aid Kit. Supply list of First Aiders to collection crews.	Operation manager / Supervisors. L and D.	As and when required	

Negotiating pavements kerbs and cobbles etc.	Possible injuries to operatives. Slips trips and falls.	Observation and due care and attention to integrity of surface and weather conditions i.e. rain, ice and snow etc. Seek lowest point of pavement or dropped kerb, assess weight of bin. Operative must assess each situation independently. Do not cross any main arterial roadway during waste collection operation. Operative must assess each situation independently. Report any major defects in surfaces to Supervisor/Client. Report all bin defects and presented bins that are too heavy to maneuver on in cab device or driver's worksheet.				
Operating mechanical lifting device at rear of vehicle (engaging & disengaging bins)	Possible injuries to operatives. Possible contact with moving parts. Nips or possible entanglement. Bins falling off/ being ejected from mechanism. Falling items	Operate controls as per training and manufactures instructions. Ensure no loose clothing. This reduces the possibility of entanglement with lifting mechanism. Keep out with the danger zone at all times whilst bin is being lifted and emptied. Be alert for bins not being properly clamped causing bins to fall from lifting device. Be aware of any damage to bins before placing them on the lifting mechanism.				

		Ensure top hatted bins are clear of excessive waste before placing bin on lifting mechanism. Collection operative to assess for sharp objects prior to removing excess waste. Bins should be free of obstructions that may lead to entanglement and injury. (Bungee cord, Hasps, cable ties and so on)				
Returning bin(s) to the kerbside.	As 1&2 above	As 1&2 above				

What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	What are you already doing?	What further action is necessary?	Action by whom?	Action by when?	Done
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Manager's name	M Stanton	Signature	
Date	18 th February 2026	Assessment review date	February 2027

Are other specific risk assessments required? Links to:

Asbestos
Electricity
Manual Handling
Personal Protective Equipment
Work Equipment

☐	Control of Substances Hazardous to Health
☐	Fire Safety
X	New and Expectant Mothers
X	Stress Management
X	Workplace Health, Safety and Welfare

☐	Display Screen Equipment
☐	Lone Working
☐	Noise
☐	Vibration
☐	Working at Height
