The Highland Council
Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd

Roads and Transport Guidelines for New Developments
Stiùiridhean Rathaidean is Còmhdhalach airson Leasachaidhean Ùra

Appendix 8
Eàrr-Ràdh 8
Refuse and recycling collection requirements
Riatanasan togail sgudail is ath-chuairteachaidh

Refuse and recycling collection requirements

Household and commercial recycling infrastructure

Introduction

This information sheet sets out The Highland Council's waste management requirements for new developments. All new housing or commercial developments will be expected to be fully compliant with these conditions.

Level of service

In urban areas, The Highland Council operates a segregated kerbside collection service, which requires householders to deposit paper and cans for recycling into a 55 litre box, garden waste into a 240 litre bin and residual waste into a 180 litre bin. The recyclate and garden waste are collected fortnightly and residual waste is collected weekly.

Rural properties are served by a weekly residual waste collection as above and a 4-weekly mixed recyclate collection into a 240 litre bin.

Planned improvements to services are likely to result in all households being served by a three-bin service in the future (one bin for recyclables, one bin for compostables and one bin for residual waste), and any new developments should make provision for these planned service changes.

Waste and recycling containers

The householders or the developer are required to purchase a green 240 litre bin for residual waste. Recycling bins or boxes are provided free of charge by The Highland Council.

External storage space requirements

1. All new housing developments should ensure that there is sufficient external storage space for three standard 240 litre wheeled bins per household. The minimum area required is 2 metres by 1 metre.

2. The bin area should be hardstanding, with no steps between the storage area and the collection point (kerbside).

The Highland Council recognise that in certain circumstances, for example flats, communal bins may be a preferred option; this should only be considered where

individual bins are not possible. In this circumstance, two 1100 litre galvanised bins should be provided per six households (one for mixed recyclate and one for residual waste). Each bin has external dimensions of approximately 1 metre by 1.3 metre. An area sufficient to store two 1100 litre bins should be provided for each group of six households.

A communal bin storage area can be used for either individual bins or communal bins. Each design will be dependent on the layout and size of the development. If a communal bin storage area is to be constructed, the following aspects should be taken into account.

• Adequate lighting – natural or artificial. • Good natural ventilation. • Smooth, easy to clean floor. • Suitable drainage.	• If roofed, height should allow bin • lids to fully open. • Ability to secure door in open position to allow easy movement of bins.

Waste collection point

Waste collection is offered to the householder at the kerbside. The Highland Council will not access private roads or driveways to collect waste or recycling containers. Developers should ensure sufficient space is incorporated within their development for the placement of waste containers at the kerbside on collection days, and that the route between the storage area and collection point is free from steps, kerbs or other obstructions. Particular consideration should be given to this issue where communal bins are proposed.

Dwellings on private roads

For new properties which will be served by a private road it should be noted that the collection point for waste and recycling containers will be at road-side by the adopted road. Collection vehicles will not access private roads or driveways. In these circumstances a road-end collection point should be designed to store the bins awaiting collection.

Road standards

Road design and layout standards must take account of the access requirements of refuse collection vehicles. These have been incorporated into the Council's "Roads and transport guidelines for new development" document, which developers should consult. Road layouts should be designed so that collection vehicles do not need to reverse on the public road.

Developers should note that waste collection vehicles will not access roads that do not meet the standard for adoption. For phased developments, where properties are to be occupied prior to the adoption of roads, it may be necessary to make temporary arrangements for the storage and collection of waste containers at the boundary of the development.

Centralised recycling facilities for new housing developments

Sufficient space is required to accommodate a centralised recycling point for developments with 100 or more properties. A recycling point consists of three glass, one paper, one can and one textile banks (total external dimensions approximately 12 metres by 5 metres.) Recycling points should be sited on a hard standing within public space. Access requirements by collection vehicles (articulated lorry) should be taken into account. The recycling point should be located in an easy to reach, visible location.

New Commercial Developments

Commercial sites vary greatly, dependent on business type and size. Commercial properties will be expected to recycle, therefore multiple bins/storage containers are likely to be required. An area of hard standing should be provided and dropped kerbs as necessary to permit safe handling to and from collection and storage points.

For further information and advice on refuse and recycling collection requirements please contact service centre who can then direct the enquiry to the appropriate Waste Management Officer:

- **01349 886603**