



Tackling litter together in Leeds - 1,000 new litter bins.

Guidance and FAQs

Introduction:

Leeds City Council currently has about 4,000 litter bins in the streets and neighbourhoods across the city. These are all serviced by the Council's Cleaner Neighbourhoods Team (CNT).

Utilising existing available capital funding, an order for a further 1,000 litter bins has been placed, which will increase the number of litter bins available for the public to use by 25%.

This guidance explains how the best locations for these new bins will be identified and agreed and provides answers to questions already raised.

We will use this increase in on-street provision as a catalyst for discussions on how littering can be further reduced, including how more people can be persuaded to use the litter bins now available to them, as well as taking litter home when still necessary. A public conversation will be launched in March to inform a new Anti-Litter Action Plan for Leeds.

What are the main criteria for deciding where a bin will be located?

- ✓ There is an existing litter problem within the vicinity.
- ✓ The land in which the bin is to be sited is owned by Leeds City Council and by/near the roadside.
- ✓ The location is safely accessible for council staff so the bin can be reliably emptied (for example, the collection crew must be able to safely park and exit their caged wagon nearby).
- ✓ The location is not isolated, as it will need to be included in a collection route serviced by the Cleaner Neighbourhood Team.

How will potential locations be gathered?

- From ward councillors (an email will be sent Councillors on how to do this).
- Online requests made by members of the public through leeds.gov.uk
- CNT operational staff.
- Litter Free Leeds volunteers and other similar environmental action groups.
- Contact from other sources such as Parish and Town Councils etc.

How will the decision be made on the final 30 locations per ward?

The service will make the final decisions on the 1,000 locations, using the above criteria to shortlist the suggestions that have been received and making a judgement on which locations will have the greatest impact in reducing littering. Ward Councillors will be fully consulted as part of the decision making process.

It needs to be stressed that the view of the front-line staff are extremely important in the decision making process, as they are the ones that will need to be able to access and empty the litter bins, and prevent a situation whereby we have 25% more litter bins but unable to reliably empty them all.

When will the new bins be delivered?

Our local contractor/supplier, Wybones, are able to produce up to 100 bins a week.

Once the list of 1,000 locations has been agreed, we will work with Wybone on a delivery plan. They will deliver the bins to the individual locations, and so we expect this to be done an area at a time for efficiency.

We will do this by completing each Community Committee area in turn. To avoid any feelings of favouritism we will decide the sequence through a random draw!

What do the new litter bins look like, where are they made and what from?

The new Eco-litter bins are made by Wybone at their factory in Barnsley. They are manufactured with 100% of the raw materials sourced from within 100 miles, including 25% recycled British steel and using energy and raw material saving construction processes.

The litter bins will come with the LCC logo, the message that dog waste is accepted and also with the Litter Free Leeds logo on to help promote their message and voluntary work across the city. Each bin will be numbered from 1 to 1,000. They will also come with the now standard cigarette stub tray on top.

Can we request a different size or specifications?

No, not as part of this order, as we have placed a bulk order for 1,000 litter bins as described above. The bin replacement budget is based on the cost of these.

However, requests for different size bins will be considered on a case by case and separately funded basis as per below.

Is there scope to order more bins?

Yes. If any Ward Councillors/Community Committees would like to fund the purchase of additional new bins to be added to this increase in provision, then we can discuss that with them. It would be subject to the same necessary consultation and agreement with local CNT

staff who will be responsible for ensuring that they can be added to an achievable collection route. This includes requests for larger size bins, which may require emptying, lining and maintaining differently.

Similarly, if any local businesses or organisation would like to sponsor a new bin(s) by paying for its purchase, we would be happy to discuss the options with them.

Can we request for any of these 1,000 new bins be located in parks?

The bins are primarily intended to help reduce on-street litter currently found within the streets and neighbourhoods. They will be emptied as part of collection routes managed by the Council's Cleaner Neighbourhoods Team, using their caged wagons. Where bins are located within parks and other green spaces these are not as easily accessed by CNT, and are usually left to Parks staff who are able to access and attend to them better and more efficiently. However, if ward councillors wish to use any of these new litter bins for location(s) in parks or other green spaces then, providing agreement is reached with the parks service to empty the bins, this will be supported.

What about the replacement of existing litter bins that are at end of use?

As part of the work to realign available capital funds, the annual replacement bin budget has been doubled. This means from 2026/27 we will have sufficient budget to replace each litter bin every 10 years (within the average life expectancy of the current litter bins). The service will review the existing bins and prioritise replacements accordingly.

However, if Councillors wish to prioritise the use of some of the 30 new litter bins to replace existing bins sooner than may otherwise happen, that request can be made.