

## **Bristol Waste Company's Proposal for a Pilot on Stapleton Road**

### **Summary and Recommendations**

Following our in depth review and analysis of the options, Bristol Waste Company recommend that the Neighbourhood Partnership approve the Stapleton Road Pilot for the 12 week period as detailed below.

### **Introduction**

The area surrounding Stapleton Road has been an area of high cleansing requirements prior to Bristol Waste Company (BWC) taking over the contract for Street Cleansing and Waste and Recycling Collections.

After taking over the contract BWC was approached by Tidy BS5 and local Councillors to help create a solution to revive the residential pride in the area and improve cleanliness of the area.

The following report details BWC's proposal to address issues on Stapleton Road such as fly tipping, cleanliness and to stop traders using the domestic waste system.

The level of fly tipping which is often found near communal and commercial bins in the area degrades the street scene and can cause public health issues due to the content of the rubbish attracting pests and flies as well as bad odours.

The proposal sets out our recommendations to remove the communal bins from the street and to provide the residents of the area with a full waste and recycling (where possible) service. We are asking within this report that the proposal is supported by the Neighbourhood Partnership.

### **Background**

As a result of the approach made to BWC, BWC attended a meeting hosted by Tidy BS5 group and subsequent meetings with various

stakeholders including the Stapleton Road Working Group in relation to waste, recycling and cleansing in the BS5 area.

BWC attended a walk about with Church Road Action Group, Tidy BS5, Up our Street and local Councillors to look at the issues in various parts of the BS5 area. BWC also met with Tidy BS5 and other local councillors where ideas were raised included the following:

- Painting the communal bins to improve the street scene and to see if this deterred people from fly-tipping and leaving side waste next to the bins;
- Adding communal recycling bins to encourage people to recycle and reduce waste going into the bins to see if this reduces the side waste problem and fly-tip issues;
- Increasing the frequency of emptying the existing bins;
- Removing the bins in favour of a different, unidentified collection methodology, although there was a push to get properties with suitable storage for wheelie bins onto a bin and box collection service in line with the majority of properties across the city.

BWC has assessed the amount of fly tipping incidents and other street cleansing occurrences that are happening in the area. Table 1 shows the incidents that have occurred within the Stapleton Road area being considered for this project, between January and August 2016.

We will monitor these figures during the trial to see the 'hoped' improvement in the street scene and the reduction in the number of fly tipping requests and Street Cleansing requests.

<b>Incidents</b>	<b>Jan – August 2016 Figures</b>	<b>Monthly Average</b>
Fly Tipping Requests e.g. web form or report phoned in via CSC	527	66
Ad Hoc Requests e.g. internal additional request	5	1
Street Cleansing Requests e.g. web form or request from CSC	224	28
<b>Total</b>		<b>95</b>

**Table 1 Cleansing Incidents in the 'Stapleton Road area'**

The current proposals have already been raised and discussed with the Neighbourhood Partnership Officers and Street Scene Enforcement team for the area, who introduced BWC to other key stakeholders. BWC has discussed options with Tidy BS5, Stapleton Road Working Group,

Up our Street, the Neighbourhood Partnership Officers and anyone that they recommended to liaise with.

Following these discussions, listening to further issues raised by the community and analysing BWC data we are proposing to trial a solution to improve the streets scene centred around the removal of communal bins in the area.

We shared our ideas at the Easton and Lawrence Hill Neighbourhood Forum on 7 September 2016 and there was broad agreement from the meeting with the need to change the existing waste management arrangements and pilot a new approach to resolving the littering and fly tipping issues.

BWC introduced the proposal to residents in the area in order to gain feedback from the community, to help them gain ownership of the system, to alleviate any concerns that they may have and to incorporate any changes that may need to be considered to the pilot.

## **Proposal**

BWC is proposing to remove all of the 1280ltr (euro bins) communal refuse bins from all 3 sections of Stapleton Road and 34 surrounding streets. The following map (Figure 1) illustrates the area that is being considered within this project.



**Figure 1 Project Area (highlighted)**

BWC propose to replace the existing Communal 1280ltr bin service with:

- A fortnightly 180ltr wheeled bin service for refuse and weekly recycling box collections where properties allow (BWC have undertaken a house by house study in order to determine which properties are able to accept this service level);

- A 3 times a week Monday/Wednesday/Friday (at designated time) **coloured** residual waste bag collection service where properties do not have space for bins and boxes. Those properties will receive a refuse service and we will also collect bailed cardboard.

The proposed trial will last approximately 12 weeks starting at the end of October.

Replacement solution summary:

- The area covered includes 1,359 properties;
- 1,005 to be given wheelie bins and recycling boxes, 324 to go onto a coloured bag refuse service;
- 175 communal bins to be removed.

Having considered the ideas put forward by the various community groups we discounted painting the bins as this would not remove the focal point for the fly-tipping or remove the opportunity for traders to use these bins.

In terms of adding communal recycling bins, this would increase the presence of bins on the street scene and increase the opportunity for fly tipping and trader use. This from experience does also not produce a very high standard of recycling as it is used as another deposit site for all waste. We therefore don't believe this would be the right solution.

Increasing the frequency of collections would, similarly, not address the root cause of the issues as the focal point for fly-tipping and opportunities for traders use would still be present. We feel this would just further allow these issues to continue although it may help reduce the side waste. We therefore developed the current proposal based on removing the communal bins.

## **Aims and objectives**

Bristol Waste Company wishes to improve the street-scene along Stapleton Road and surrounding streets and improve the recycling rate in the area. There is currently a large amount of fly tipping and trade waste entering our domestic collections resulting in ongoing issues around untidy streets and problems with seagulls and rodents which we also hope to reduce through our pilot.

Our project objectives are:

1. To offer a recycling service and similar bin collection service as the rest of the city where properties allow;

2. To listen to the complaints and dissatisfaction of residents in the area;
3. Implement solutions that don't attract fly tipping;
4. Reduce the opportunity for traders to use the domestic system;
5. To work collaboratively with the community and community leaders; and
6. To engage with the community for behaviour change and communicate about the service and its impact on the area and city.

BWC are making the above recommendations based on feedback from community groups, Councillors and council officers. BWC will therefore carry out the proposed pilot if approval is received from the Neighbourhood Partnership.

### **Supporting Actions:**

In order to be able to undertake this pilot successfully BWC require the support and cooperation of the BCC Enforcement Team to ensure that the traders within the area do not jeopardise its success. Within this trial we are certain that as long as there are large 1100/1280L sized bins on the street scene be they trader bins or communal bins, they will attract unwanted fly tipping. We are keen that Enforcement support our stance on this and work with us to remove the trade bins from the street scene.

Also in order to work on improving the street scene BWC will actively encourage the use of CCTV and enforcement action to reduce waste crimes, BWC are of the opinion that if a strong position is taken at the beginning of this trial, this will encourage residents and traders to take pride in their area and to reduce waste crime in the future.

### **Working in Partnership**

BWC has recommended that the Council's Street Scene Enforcement Team work with local traders and Commercial Waste providers to remove commercial bins from the pilot streets in favour of a sack collection service (which they should be able to get from their existing contractor) to remove other focal points for fly-tipping. We suggest that traders should be responsible for cleaning up the area outside of their stores and around their bins if the bin removal cannot be arranged.

BWC has worked with community groups and Council Officers, who have recommended contacts and action groups to discuss the proposal with in order to gain ideas from key stakeholders.

BWC has worked collaboratively with community groups who can help get messages about the pilot to everyone living and working in the area. This help includes:

- Distributing posters to local shops, schools and religious spaces;
- Putting leaflets through residents letterboxes; and
- Speaking with people in community centres and other meeting points.

By engaging with the community BWC aim to encourage good waste management practices including:

- Correct separation of recyclables;
- Stopping traders waste entering domestic collection streams;
- Reducing fly-tipping occurrences;
- Restore pride to the community.

Further to this there have been suggestions from Councillors that Bristol Waste could, as a joint effort with residents, community groups, traders and other stakeholders in the area, carry out a deep cleanse of the area when the bins are being removed. This could also include things like installing flower planters which could then be looked after by the community. One trader has offered to invest in such initiatives to help improve the area.

### **After the 12 week pilot**

All the properties that have been issued with a bin and boxes will continue on this scheme even after the 12 weeks. The area that we will be reviewing and focusing any further changes on is Stapleton Road itself.

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