

# Your Member guide to waste and recycling



In this handy guide you'll find information on bins, household waste recycling centres, fly-tipping and bulky waste



**BLACKBURN**  
with  
**DARWEN**  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

For more information visit:  
[www.recyclebwd.org](http://www.recyclebwd.org)



Dear colleagues,

Thank you for taking the time to read this new guide to waste, recycling and cleansing that we've created especially for Members.

It's part of our new campaign to help make it easier to recycle in Blackburn with Darwen.

We know from research that residents can sometimes find disposing of their waste in the right way confusing – this is the same right across the country.

In this short guide, you'll find information to help in case you're approached with a question about bins, recycling, our HWRCs, fly-tipping etc.

Of course, you can find lots of extra information on our new website – [www.recyclebwd.org](http://www.recyclebwd.org) – and on the waste section of [www.blackburn.gov.uk](http://www.blackburn.gov.uk)

If you can't find the answers in this new guide or online, the Environment Team are always happy to help so please do get in touch.

As a Council we are committed to increasing our recycling rates to 50% by 2025 and as members, we all have an important part to play in achieving that.

Thank you for your continued support.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'J Smith'.

Councillor Jim Smith  
Executive Member for Environment

# Your Member guide to our recycling bins including a quick guide to what goes where?

If your residents use bulk bins, we've created a special section just for them at: [www.recyclebwd.org](http://www.recyclebwd.org)

✓ Clean, dry cardboard & paper only

✓ Clean plastic, cans, containers, bottles & jars



✗ No takeaway boxes  
- put them in the burgundy bin

If your paper and cardboard isn't clean and dry -  
put it in your burgundy bin

✗ Shiny wrapping paper must go  
in your burgundy bin!

Important: Loose items please -  
no plastic bags

✗ No polystyrene  
- put in the burgundy bin

No paper or  
cardboard!

Please rinse  
and squash!

Important: Loose items please -  
no plastic bags



Food waste, nappies,  
polystyrene, plastic bags  
& general waste



What goes where?  
If in doubt,  
use the  
burgundy bin



Grass, weeds, clippings,  
plants, branches and  
animal bedding



Brown bins are emptied  
fortnightly March to November

Just £30 annual fee

Sign up or find  
out more

[www.blackburn.gov.uk/gardenwaste](http://www.blackburn.gov.uk/gardenwaste)

# Garden waste collection

## What we do

We provide a fortnightly collection of 'compostable' garden waste, from March to November, to any resident who subscribes to the service each year.

Residents can subscribe any time until August and the 2021 service costs just £30 per year (residents get a £5 discount if they sign up before 1st February).

Residents get a free brown bin (if they don't already have one) and a subscription pack including a sticker to place on their bin to show they're a current subscriber. The bins are collected on Fridays and Saturdays.

## Why does the Council charge for this?

Many Councils are forced to charge for this service because of budget cuts. Garden waste, whilst household waste, is waste that a charge can be made for. The charge covers the costs of running the service, which has around 14,000 subscribers.

## Useful to know...

- All the garden waste is recycled at a local composting site and supplied to local farmers.
- If a household has an old brown bin that they don't use anymore, please let us know and we will collect the bin and re-use or recycle it.
- If we legitimately miss a brown bin collection and it is reported to the Council on the following Monday, we will collect the bin as a one-off the following weekend.
- It can take up to 4 weeks after subscribing to the scheme to receive a garden waste pack with the collection details and bin sticker, so it's always advisable to subscribe early.

Sign up or find out more at:  
[www.blackburn.gov.uk/gardenwaste](http://www.blackburn.gov.uk/gardenwaste)



# Your Member guide to bins!

## Extra and larger bins

Residents can have as many free recycling bins as they need provided they're being used correctly.

They can also ask for a bigger burgundy bin if they are recycling all of their waste and have four or more people living in the house.

Residents can also apply to get a second standard sized burgundy rubbish bin, but they will only be granted following a waste audit. This is to make sure the residents are doing everything they can to manage their waste.

**Additional bins can be requested online at [www.blackburn.gov.uk/waste](http://www.blackburn.gov.uk/waste) or email [cleansing@blackburn.gov.uk](mailto:cleansing@blackburn.gov.uk).**



## Lost, missing and replacement bins

Please ask residents to check with their neighbours before reporting a bin as lost or stolen. Bins often reappear because someone has mistakenly taken the wrong one in after collection.

If a bin has been lost, stolen or damaged, residents can request a replacement at [www.blackburn.gov.uk/waste](http://www.blackburn.gov.uk/waste) in the 'bins' section or email [cleansing@blackburn.gov.uk](mailto:cleansing@blackburn.gov.uk).

We usually ask them to wait until after the next scheduled collection.

Residents should return their bin after collection, as soon as they can to their yard or garden, to reduce the risk of bins being lost or stolen.

Please note: there is an administration charge for replacing burgundy bins.



## Bins for new build and rented properties

Bins at new build properties can be provided by the property developer or the new householder. If the new householder is providing their own bins, they can order their bins after they have set up Council tax payments. There is a one-off payment which covers the cost of the bins.

If a resident has recently moved into a new rented property, bins should be provided at the start of the tenancy. If the resident doesn't have bins, they should contact their landlord.



# Your Member guide to bin collections!

## Bin collections

We hand-deliver a printed calendar to every house each year. Residents can also check their collection day and which bin will be emptied at: [www.blackburn.gov.uk/waste](http://www.blackburn.gov.uk/waste)



## Contaminated bins

If a resident's recycling bin hasn't been emptied, it could be because it is contaminated. This means that the wrong items have been put in the recycling bin.

We can't empty contaminated bins as our recycling partner may refuse the whole wagon load – undoing a lot of hard work done by all the residents who have recycled correctly.

A bin hanger will be left with full details about what they should do. The resident will also be left with bags for them to use for their recycling until the next collection. We won't be able to go back to empty it, but we do offer a 'fresh start' emptying service for £7.50 – this can be booked at [www.blackburn.gov.uk/waste](http://www.blackburn.gov.uk/waste) or email [cleansing@blackburn.gov.uk](mailto:cleansing@blackburn.gov.uk)

If a resident is unsure why the bin is contaminated, you can ask them to send pictures to: [contaminatedbins@blackburn.gov.uk](mailto:contaminatedbins@blackburn.gov.uk) for us to take a look at.



## Missed bins

If a bin has been missed, this can be quickly reported online. Visit [www.blackburn.gov.uk/waste](http://www.blackburn.gov.uk/waste) and click the 'bins' button or email [cleansing@blackburn.gov.uk](mailto:cleansing@blackburn.gov.uk)

## Help with bins for the elderly, disabled or infirm

Our crews will collect and return bins for residents who are elderly, disabled and/or infirm.

This free service is available where there is no-one living at the address who can help. Assisted collections can be arranged at [www.blackburn.gov.uk/waste](http://www.blackburn.gov.uk/waste) or email [cleansing@blackburn.gov.uk](mailto:cleansing@blackburn.gov.uk)



# Member guide to our

# HWRCs!

We have two household waste recycling centres available to residents in the borough – one in Blackburn and one in Darwen. The sites are run by SUEZ Recycling and Recovery UK and are free to visit.

## Please reduce, reuse and recycle!

If the resident's items are in good condition, they could be offered for sale, given to family and friends or donated to charity.



**The HWRCs are open all year round including:  
Bank holidays - except from Christmas Day,  
Boxing Day and New Year's Day.**

### Summer opening times

1st April to 30th September: 8am to 7pm

### Winter opening times

1st October to 31st March : 8am to 5pm

**Blackburn HWRC**  
3 George Street West  
BB2 1PQ  
Open every day except Wednesday

**Darwen HWRC**  
Spring Vale Road  
BB3 2ES  
Open every day except Tuesday

Permits must be obtained if a resident wants to visit the HWRC to get rid of construction/DIY waste or rubble/hardcore. Residents also need a permit if they want to visit the HWRC in a van or with a trailer attached to a vehicle.

**Residents can apply for a permit at [www.blackburn.gov.uk/waste](http://www.blackburn.gov.uk/waste) or email [cleansing@blackburn.gov.uk](mailto:cleansing@blackburn.gov.uk).**



# Member guide to reporting fly-tipping!

We get lots of calls from members reporting fly-tipping in their wards.

Fly-tipping is when rubbish is dumped illegally.



Sadly, since the start of the coronavirus pandemic, we have seen cases increase by more than

# 60%

If you are contacted by a resident who wants to report an incident of fly-tipping, please encourage them to report it online at [www.blackburn.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling/fly-tipping](http://www.blackburn.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling/fly-tipping) or email [cleansing@blackburn.gov.uk](mailto:cleansing@blackburn.gov.uk)



However, if the waste is hazardous, please ring 01254 585921 to speak to the Waste Team directly.



Please note, if the rubbish could be removed by a single person with a litter picker, this isn't classed as fly-tipping.

The Council also cannot remove fly-tipping that has been dumped on private land, but should resources allow, we can investigate this and try to identify the person responsible. The Council is also not obliged to remove fly-tipping from unadopted land.



If convicted for fly-tipping the fine is up to £50,000 or six months imprisonment or both. Members can reassure residents that it's not essential to provide an official statement when reporting fly-tipping but a statement is essential for prosecutions without video evidence.

Details of prosecutions are often shared at: [www.theshuttle.org.uk](http://www.theshuttle.org.uk) and with the local media to act as a deterrent.

Didn't find what you were looking for?  
Try looking in your other handy guide 'Member guide to street cleansing services' or call: 01254 585921 or email: [neighbourhood.health@blackburn.gov.uk](mailto:neighbourhood.health@blackburn.gov.uk)

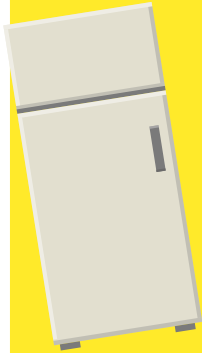
# Your waste, your responsibility



## Beware of 'man and van' and online waste collection services

If a resident is arranging for waste to be collected, they must make sure that the correct waste carrier licences are in place. You can find this information on the Environment Agency website. The resident could also take a picture of the vehicle and make a note of the registration number and date and time of collection, along with a receipt with the waste carrier's contact details.

Unfortunately, if rubbish is later found dumped, the resident could face a £200 fixed penalty or be prosecuted.



## If a resident captures evidence of fly-tipping on a mobile phone or CCTV what should they do?

The resident should email [cleansing@blackburn.gov.uk](mailto:cleansing@blackburn.gov.uk) with their contact details and information about what they have seen and the Waste Team will be in touch to obtain the footage.

## Bulky rubbish collection

### What is it?

The Council provides a low-cost reliable collection service for residents where the items to be disposed of cannot fit in their rubbish bins. It's perfect for things like old TVs, washers, furniture and excess waste.

### How does it work?

Residents can book and pay for this service online. They'll be given a collection day and Council staff will come to collect the items from outside their house.



**Prices start at just £7.50**

This service can also be used if residents have extra black bags of general waste that they need to dispose of and can't get to the HWRC.

Book now at [www.blackburn.gov.uk/waste](http://www.blackburn.gov.uk/waste) or email [cleansing@blackburn.gov.uk](mailto:cleansing@blackburn.gov.uk)

# How to become a volunteer!



We just couldn't do the work we do without the support of our hard working army of volunteers.



We are lucky to now have more than 1,700 Keep it Tidy volunteers across Blackburn with Darwen.

Despite the pandemic, this year they have worked even harder than ever - helping keep our borough looking spick and span.



If you're outdoors more, why not do a spot of litter picking while you're there?

Our Keep it Tidy volunteers tell us they really enjoy making a difference to where they live and they've seen health benefits too.



Sign-up now at:

[www.lancsvp.org.uk](http://www.lancsvp.org.uk)

and we'll send you everything you need to get started!

If you don't have the time to volunteer, you can help by carefully disposing of your rubbish.

Please don't litter - take it home with you or use one of our litter bins!



**Our hard working Environment Team is here to help you!  
If you're contacted by a resident with an issue about  
waste, recycling or cleansing, it's likely they'll be able  
to quickly report the issue online.**

Please direct them to:

**[www.blackburn.gov.uk/waste](http://www.blackburn.gov.uk/waste)**

where they can:

- Report fly-tipping
- Arrange a bulky item collection
- Check their bin collection dates
- Let us know if their bin has been missed
- Find out what to do if their bin is contaminated
- Subscribe to the garden waste collection service
- Report a lost, stolen, abandoned or damaged bin
- Report graffiti
- Arrange for bins at a new build property
- Request help with bin collections
- Highlight issues with litter bins
- Book pest control services

... **and more!**



**We've provided information on many of these  
services in this new leaflet to help you respond to  
resident's queries.**



There's also lots of helpful hints and tips about waste and recycling  
on our brand new website: **[www.recyclebwd.org](http://www.recyclebwd.org)** –  
if you haven't had a look at it yet, please do!

**If you can't find the information you need online please  
Ring: 01254 585921 Email: [cleansing@blackburn.gov.uk](mailto:cleansing@blackburn.gov.uk)**

# Check out our new recycling website now!



## [www.recyclebwd.org](http://www.recyclebwd.org)

It's packed full of useful hints and tips about waste and recycling in Blackburn with Darwen.

There's handy guides for each bin, A-Z lists of what goes where, help on what to do if a bin is contaminated and more!

The website can also be accessed in different languages too!



**BLACKBURN**  
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 Blackburn with Darwen Council

 @blackburndarwen

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For more information visit:  
[www.recyclebwd.org](http://www.recyclebwd.org)