



Reference: RFI 1710077

Request:

Numerous 'Wheelie Bins' (particularly the large commercial types which are usually emptied by private contractors such as 'Biffa' and O'Briens etc.) are a common sight, particularly in many back lanes behind retail outlets throughout the borough and are usually left out on the streets on a permanent or semi-permanent basis. The size or quantity of these bins often causes an obstruction, and when overfilled, encourages litter and the spread of vermin as well as presenting a fire hazard.

1. Do North Tyneside Council therefore have a policy relating to the use and storage of both commercial and residential type bins and if so, is the policy available to view?

We don't have a specific policy on this issue.

2. Does responsibility for the storage of bins lie with the user/retailer, or with the contractor that owns or empties the bins?

The responsibility lies with the bin user to make sure the bin is secured and locked.

3. If it is the retail outlet that has responsibility for storage, do North Tyneside Council permit, endorse or allow these bins to remain outside the curtilage of the premises on what appears to be either a permanent or semi-permanent basis, (particularly in back lanes)?

North Tyneside Council has to look at each business on its merits, some have more than one bin, but very limited or no internal yards to house the commercial bins.

4. If no such permission is granted, has any enforcement action, by way of cautions, prosecutions, penalties or charges been levied against any offenders during the past 3 years?

North Tyneside Council can use many tools to deal with this, not all are legal methods. When we use enforcement action we use the Community Protection warning, if issue persists we issue a Community Protection Notice and if that is breached, we then prosecute.

In last 3 financial years we have issues:-

- **11 CPN warnings**
- **2 CPN notices**
- **1 led to prosecution**

5. If not, please state reasons.

Do North Tyneside Council have any plans to take enforcement action, impose sanctions or deal with these matters in the future?

We continue to spot check back lanes in particular and where we can we will issue enforcement action, however, we are keen to work with businesses and make sure they have the correct waste removal contracts in place.

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