

## Proposed Criteria of Replacement and New Litter Bins

### Background

The capital budget for the replacement of litter bins has been delegated to the Locality Manager to manage across the East North-East area.

The current capital programme budget for ENE, and how much that works out for each ward (9 wards in ENE) is:

2011/12:	£22,100	=	£2,455 per ward = approx 8 bins per ward
2012/13:	£17,083	=	£1,900 per ward = approx 6 bins per ward
2013/14:	£ 0		

It is important to note that the budget is not delegated to area committee/ward level but the Locality Manager proposes to manage the use of the budget in an equitable way as set out above.

An audit of the litter bins across ENE is underway. This will map where they all are (current data is incorrect/way out of date) and assess condition. This is likely to show a significant percentage of litter bins need immediate replacement, and many close to end of life. According to current records there are 684 litter bins across ENE. Although this can not be regarded as accurate figure, it show the scale of the issue.

How the budget is used in ENE is at the Locality Manager's discretion – i.e. it can pay for replacement bins and/or bins for a new site.

### Proposed criteria for use of capital budget

Clearly, on its own, the amount currently allocated is not sufficient to meet the backlog of bins that already need replacing, are near to end of life and new site for bins that Members have already identified. So any criteria for use of the budget ideally needs to include maximising of match funding.

Therefore it is proposed that for every bin purchased (whether a replacement or new site bin) there is at least a 50% match funding. This maybe ALMO/ALMO Panel, a local residents group, local business or Wellbeing budget.

This criteria would guarantee a doubling of the amount of bins to be bought per ward in the current year to a minimum of 16 (and a further 12 in 2012/13).

The decision on the order of bins will ultimately remain with the Locality Manager, who will need to consider the demands on replacing existing end of life bins and where the focus on improving cleanliness is the greatest. However the priorities of the ward members will be a key consideration in that decision.

### **Longer term planning/solutions**

Once the audit of bins is completed, the Area Committee will be in a better position to judge how much will be required each year to replace bins at or approaching end of life.

One solution could be to work up proposals for Wellbeing budget, ALMO panel money and the capital replacement budget to pool resource and create a single pot for each ward in 2012/13, with decisions on replacement/new bins to be agreed through ward member meetings. This would cut down on bureaucracy and time spent on each individual bin seeking match funding, and ultimately lead to quicker delivery/installations.

Other approaches to be looked into is the potential for advertising income to pay for bins (or at least contribute) and whether income from local fixed penalty notices (FPNs) could be ringfenced for use in purchasing litter bins in the area the offence was committed.

### **Recommendations**

The sub-group is asked to agree the proposed criteria for purchase of future litter bins based on a minimum 50% match funding.

Views are sought on whether attempts should be made to create a single pot in 2012/13 bringing together locality, wellbeing and ALMO budgets.

Views on the potential for advertising income and ringfencing of FPN income are also asked for.

Finally, the sub-group is asked to note that currently there is no capital programme set aside from 2013/14 for replacement/new bins.

**John Woolmer**  
**Locality Manager**